



Combating Trafficking In Nepal



Photo: USAID/Nepal

Our Daughter/Our Pride - a women's group participates in an orientation class to combat trafficking.

Fourteen-year-old Urmila Tamang (name changed to protect her privacy) is from a small village in Chitwan, Nepal. A woman from a neighboring district approached Urmila's unsuspecting parents in 2002 with promises of a lucrative circus job for their daughter in Varanasi, a city in northern India. Ignorant about human trafficking, they sent Urmila without enquiring further about the nature of the job. There, Urmila endured a year of labor exploitation and sexual harassment as an acrobat and tight rope walker.

The woman who had lured Urmila away from her family was encouraged by her success and contacted two other girls to entice them with similar tales of riches and luxury. Fortunately, the girls participated in USAID's non-formal education literacy class and anti-trafficking training. They recognized these overtures as trafficking and shared this information with their facilitator who subsequently notified the police. Consequently, the woman was arrested and confessed that she had taken many girls to the circus for undue personal gain.

Knowledge about human trafficking among the community members saved Urmila from being further exploited. She was rescued, and is now an active member of a youth group to raise awareness against human trafficking.

Photo & Caption

