

**Child Rights Survey: Are you Aware?**  
 Conducted by the ECPAT-USA Youth Committee  
 October 2007

The ECPAT-USA Youth Committee is a group of young people ages 14 to 17 years old who have met together in New York City since the Spring of 2007. In October they conducted a Child Rights Survey of their peers in the New York City school system to learn whether their fellow youth were aware of their rights as children. They received 104 responses. The results demonstrate that the respondents have little information about the Convention on the Rights of the Child and about child trafficking.

Ages of Respondents: 14 years old: 13 %  
 15 years old: 10%  
 16 years old: 27%  
 17 years old: 49%

Question	Percent
1. What constitutes a child?	
Under 18 years old	46
Age 5-10	33
Age 10-14	9
Age 15-17	16
2. Have you ever heard of the CRC?	
Never heard of it	91
Heard of it	8
3. Are you aware of any action the government is taking to inform you of the rights of a child?	
Yes	5
No	94
4. Check off the rights from the CRC you are aware of	
The state must take any actions available to protect a child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse	27
Each child under the jurisdiction of the state, regardless of the child's or his or her parent's or legal guardian's race, color, sex language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status, must be guaranteed the rights named in the CRC	25
When social welfare institutions, courts of law, administrative authorities or legislative bodies take action concerning children, the child's best interest will be a primary concern.	15
In cases where a child is illegally deprived of some or all of the elements of his or her identity, the state must provide necessary assistance and protection, with the intent to quickly re-establish his or her identity	11
Know of no rights	16
5. Have you ever heard of the term "child trafficking"?	
Yes	30
No	70
6. Did you know that child trafficking often leads to child prostitution, child pornography and sex tourism?	
Yes	23
No	77
7. Child trafficking involves and is not limited to abuse of children, lack of health care,	

unhealthy working areas, and begging. Do you think it happens in the USA?	
Yes	56
No	44
8. Do you know who are the most vulnerable to the child trafficking trade?	
Yes	20
Correctly identified the most vulnerable	11
No	80
9. Are you aware of how children are brought into the child trafficking trade?	
Yes	11
Correctly identified the most vulnerable	3
No	89
10. Why do you think child trafficking occurs?	
Could not think of one reason	20
Believe it occurs because of poverty/money	25
Others reasons such as social environment, illness, etc.	55
11. How many children do you believe are trafficked into the U.S. each year?	
Over 100	4
Over 1,000	29
Over 1,000	24
Over 100,000	5
Could not answer	39
Do you believe the number of trafficked children is higher or lower in other countries?	Higher 39% Lower 12%
12. Do you think that the U.S. has/is taken action to stop child trafficking?	
Yes	29
No	71
13. If yes, what do you think the U.S. has done/is doing to stop child trafficking?	
Enforcing/creating laws	14
Other	49
No response	37
14. Do you believe that the general public is sufficiently aware of the child trafficking laws?	
Yes	5
No	95
15. Do you feel that you are well educated about this issue?	
Yes	3
No	97
16. Would you consider becoming involved in youth organizations that address child trafficking and sexual exploitation of children?	
Yes	88
No	12
17. Do you have suggestions for how youth should be informed of the problems occurring regarding sexual exploitation and trafficking of children in the U.S.	
Suggestions: Conference, brochures given out at school, many others.	