



IF YOU CAN'T SHOW  
WHAT YOU DID ON VACATION,  
MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T DO IT.

SEX WITH A MINOR  
IS A MAJOR CRIME  
WHEREVER YOU ARE.



INTERNATIONAL  
BUREAU  
FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

## CHILD SEX TOURISM

Child Sex Tourism (CST) is defined as the commercial sexual exploitation of children by men and women who travel from one place to another to engage in sexual acts with children under 18 years old. Offenders do not have a unique profile and can travel abroad for various purposes: business, tourism, leisure or even humanitarian work. They come from all backgrounds and all ages, and can be men as well as women.

The majority of the population ignores the consequences of sexual exploitation on the lives of affected children. Most of the time, sex offenders take advantage of children coming from disadvantaged backgrounds (poverty, ethnic minorities, dysfunctional families, etc.). These crimes have severe repercussions on the victims, such as:

- Long-term psychological (e.g. loss of self-esteem) and physical trauma
- Health risks (especially HIV-AIDS and other STDs)
- Stigmatization by family and close community
- Economic difficulties which generate a vicious circle leading back to prostitution

## CST IS A CRIME, WORLDWIDE

Many Canadian citizens are involved in Child Sex Tourism cases. Many travelers are not aware that since 1997, the Canadian extraterritorial law allows Canada to prosecute its nationals who sexually abuse children abroad. These crimes carry maximum sentences of 14 years in prison. Some Canadians have already been convicted under this law:

- Donald Bakker, sentenced in 2005 to 10 years in jail
- Armand Huard, sentenced in 2008 to 3 years in jail
- Denis Rochefort, sentenced in 2008 to 2 years in jail and 3 years' probation
- Kenneth Klassen, sentenced in 2010 to 11 years in jail

Many other countries have adopted similar extraterritorial laws in order to fight CST. Almost all countries have laws that prohibit the sexual exploitation of children. According to international standards, CST is a crime, worldwide.

## EVERYBODY CAN HELP PROTECT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Options for reporting a suspected CST incident:

- Report the incident to the local police service. You can also contact a local children rights NGO; for a list, visit [www.ibcr.org](http://www.ibcr.org).
- If the incident involves a Canadian citizen, you can also contact the closest Canadian embassy or consulate.
- If the case involves a Canadian citizen, contact [www.cybertip.ca](http://www.cybertip.ca) either while at your destination or after you have returned.

For more information, visit our website: [www.ibcr.org](http://www.ibcr.org)

