



The Centre

for Children and Young People's Participation

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Seminar Series 2014: Children and Social Justice (continued)

**Wednesday 12 November 2014
4-5.30pm, Harrington Building Room 223**

Missing and trafficked children in Nepal, Bangladesh, and India: A technological solution?

Professor Edward Halpin
Leeds Metropolitan University

In recent years, the trafficking of South Asian children has expanded beyond national borders, with trafficking between countries now commonplace. India can be characterised as a trafficking destination, while Nepal and Bangladesh are two major source countries. Estimates of the number of girls trafficked to India annually vary from 5,000 to 20,000, and of the 2 million women and girls involved in sex work in India it is thought that almost 100,000 come from Nepal and Bangladesh. This seminar reports on research undertaken to assess the feasibility of a technologically enabled system to help tackle cross-border child trafficking in South Asia, commissioned by Plan International's Missing Child Alert programme. Interviews were conducted with more than 50 organisations and individuals including police, child welfare officials, government and non-governmental organisations, and technology providers. The findings relate to the legal and political landscape, information management and child protection, technical development, stakeholder involvement and governance, and the long-term vision for the Missing Child Alert programme.

Eddie Halpin has a background in politics, community development and social informatics/information management. He has worked as an expert on human rights information for the European Parliament Scientific and Technical Options Unit, the Child Rights Information Network and the Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Arts and an associate Schumann Fellow of the European University in Florence. He is Chair of the Geneva-based Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International, an international NGO helping human rights organisations use information technologies and documentation methods to maximise the impact of their advocacy work. He is currently an Expert Panel member of the Cambridge University Governance Laboratory.

The seminar is free and refreshments are provided. Seminars usually finish by 5.30pm and are followed by an informal meeting of The Centre, at which all are welcome. To reserve a place go to Eventbrite at – <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-centre-seminar-missing-trafficked-children-a-technological-solution-tickets-13065648707> Your reservation will assist us with ordering refreshments and notifying you of late changes. For other queries email thecentre@uclan.ac.uk