

# ICT S.O.S.

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**House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee  
In support of Senate Bill 61  
Testimony of Jennifer White, Founder  
ICT S.O.S.**

March 4, 2013

Chairman Rubin and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to share our support of Senate Bill 61.

I am writing on behalf of the board and many community volunteers of ICT S.O.S. in support of SB 61 regarding human trafficking legislation.

ICT S.O.S. was founded in March of 2011 in response to an article in the Wichita Eagle about the trafficking of a local 13 year old girl. After reading the story, I contacted the reporter with one question, "How do we help?" Unfortunately at the time there wasn't an organized way for the public sector to be involved. While we had wonderful agencies and law enforcement working diligently, there was also a growing concern from the community and people wanted to feel like they could have a role in ending this heinous crime against our children.

For the past 2 years ICT S.O.S. has worked in partnership with local law enforcement, social service agencies, and the members of the Anti-Sexual Exploitation Roundtable for Community Action (ASERCA). We have held awareness events, an educational conference with the U.S. Attorney's office, donation drives for many local agencies and a 5k race to raise funds to expand housing and services at Carpenter Place.

Our members represent a cross section of our community. Social workers, medical personnel, educators, churches, college students, business owners and stay-at-home moms participate in our events and volunteer with local agencies. As a group of passionately concerned citizens, we support this bill and the changes it will bring to our state in the way of victim services, prevention and a change in language we use. We look forward to continued support of, and partnership with, those working in our area to combat human trafficking.