**HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES**

The following are current statistics in five key areas of human rights abuse done by **Youth for Human Rights International.**

**Child abuse**—40 million children below the age of 15 suffer from abuse and neglect. (United Nations Children’s Fund, 2008)

**Gang violence**—100 percent of cities with populations greater than or equal to 250,000 reported gang activity. (US Department of Justice)

**Child labor**—246 million children, one in every six children aged 5 to 17, are involved in child labor. (International Labour Organization, 2002)

**Child soldiers**—UNICEF estimates that more than 300,000 children under 18 are currently being exploited in over thirty armed conflicts worldwide.

While the majority of child soldiers are between the ages of 15 and 18, some are as young as 7 or 8 years of age. (US Department of State, 2005)

**Human trafficking**—It is estimated that there are 27 million people in the world today who are enslaved.

Every year 600,000 to 800,000 persons are trafficked across international borders. (US Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report, 2006)

**In 2014, Amnesty International recorded and investigated human rights abuses in 160 countries and territories worldwide.**

Armed groups committed abuses in at least 35 countries, more than 20% of the countries Amnesty International investigated.

Almost three-quarters of governments (119 out of 160) arbitrarily restricted freedom of expression. There were crackdowns on press freedom in many countries, with newspapers being forcibly closed and journalists threatened.

More than a third of governments (62 out of 160) locked up prisoners of conscience – people who were simply exercising their rights and freedoms.

58% of countries (93 out of 160) conducted unfair trials. In unfair trials, justice is not served for the accused, the victim of the crime or the public.

82% (131 out of 160) of countries tortured or otherwise ill-treated people.82% (131 out of 160) of countries tortured or otherwise ill-treated people.

According to the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association, 78 countries have laws in effect that are used to criminalize consensual sexual relationships between adults of the same sex