



Dear Friend,

Victory! On April 4th, the **Associated Press** decided to end the use of the term 'child prostitute' in reference to trafficked and exploited children. The revised AP Stylebook now instructs writers to avoid using the word "prostitute" when a child is involved. The AP made this decision following a several year campaign led by Rights4Girls: "No Such Thing As a Child Prostitute." The campaign included a Change.org petition penned by Survivor Advocate Withelma "T" Ortiz Walker Pettigrew to the AP urging the organization to cease using the phrase. The petition garnered more than 150,000 signatures. Read more about our victory [here](#).

On April 13, Rights4Girls Executive Director Yasmin Vafa was **honored by the Congressional Victims Rights Caucus** as the 2016 recipient of The Lois Haight Award for Excellence and Innovation for her work on behalf of victims of trafficking and gender-based violence. The honoree is a professional whose efforts have had a significant impact on local, state, national or international public policy development and implementation that promote dignity, respect, rights and services for victims of crime. Congressman Ted Poe described Yasmin as "a fearless fighter against injustice." Read [more](#).

On March 17, Rights4Girls discussed the condition of U.S. sex trafficking victims at the **UN Commission on the Status of Women** as part of a panel entitled, *Economic and Sexual Violence as Barriers to Sustainable Development*. Rights4Girls' Yasmin Vafa presented alongside panelists representing perspectives from Kenya, India, and Ireland.

Other Updates:

- Rights4Girls staff attorney Maheen Kaleem presented on the abuse to prison pipeline at the [Know Her Truths Conference](#) on girls of color at the Anna Julia Cooper Center at Wake Forest University;
- Rights4Girls was selected to host panel at the SxSW Interactive Festival on how the internet is fueling the sexual abuse to prison pipeline for girls of color in the U.S.: [Web Trafficked: From Victim to Inmate](#);
- [Photo of our billboard](#) outside this year's Super Bowl in California;
- Rights4Girls' Yasmin Vafa presented on racial disparities for girls in the juvenile justice system at the Rutgers-Camden girls of color convening [Bright Futures](#).

As always, thank you for [your continued support](#).

Yasmin Vafa
Executive Director
Rights4Girls



(From left to right) **Victims' Rights Caucus** Co-Chairs **Representative Jim Costa** and **Representative Ted Poe** presenting Rights4Girls Executive Director **Yasmin Vafa** with the **Lois Haight Award for Excellence and Innovation** at the 10th Annual Victims' Rights Caucus Awards; Rights4Girls' **Maheen Kaleem** with **Melissa Harris-Perry** at the Know Her Truths conference in Wake Forest; Rights4Girls' **Yasmin Vafa** at the UN for #CSW50 with **Ashley Judd** and others.

[Donate to Rights4Girls](#)

Rights4Girls is a human rights organization focused on gender-based violence against vulnerable young women and girls in the U.S. We advocate for the dignity and personhood of young women and girls - so that every girl may possess the right to be safe and live a life free of violence and exploitation. Based in Washington, D.C., Rights4Girls works to make the lives of U.S. young women and girls a human rights priority.

www.rights4girls.org

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