Criminalization of Trafficking Victims

Submission to the United Nations Universal Periodic Review of
United States of America

Second Cycle
Twenty Second Session of the UPR
Human Rights Council
April - May 2015

Submitted by:
International Women’s Human Rights Clinic, City University of New York Law School
Trafficking Victims Advocacy Project, Legal Aid Society of New York

Contact Name: Cynthia Soohoo

Contact Phone/Email: 01.718.340.4329/cynthia.soohoo@law.cuny.edu

The Trafficking Victims Advocacy Project addresses the comprehensive needs of victims of human trafficking who are arrested and prosecuted for prostitution, and other criminal offenses, across New York City. TVAP provides specialized legal advocacy and representation for victims of trafficking. It also works to create greater access to post-conviction relief for trafficking survivors to mitigate the devastating collateral consequences of prior criminalization.

Widely recognized for its expertise and contributions to gender jurisprudence and human rights practice, the International Women’s Human Rights Clinic advocates before international and regional human rights bodies and national and local courts and legal institutions. The Clinic works to combat gender discrimination and sexual violence, advance reproductive and sexual rights and economic and social rights, and promote women's participation and empowerment.