



# ping pong-a-thon

*'every child deserves a life free from sexual exploitation'*

In January 2010, I, (Adrian Rowse) spent two weeks in Thailand seeing firsthand the horrendous injustice associated with the prostitution and exploitation of children and teenagers. I returned home knowing that I had to do 'something' in response but feeling overwhelmed with the vastness of the problem. In the months that followed I became more and more convinced of the vital role that men have to play in being part of the solution to a problem that is fuelled by the lust and greed of men.

The *Ping-Pong-A-Thon* concept is designed to engage the hearts of men on issues of injustice and to help men take action as advocates on behalf of children who are vulnerable to exploitation. The event is being piloted in November 2011 with the view to it being offered to groups of men, (of all ages) from churches, community groups, schools, workplaces throughout Australia and beyond in 2012.

## FAQ

### How does a Ping-Pong-A-Thon work?

Teams of 8-10 guys commit to participate in a 24 hour table tennis marathon, (minimum of 2 guys playing throughout a consecutive 24 hour period). Each guy gathers sponsors from their network of family and friends with funds raised being directed to organisations working in child prostitution prevention and/or aftercare. Throughout the event, guys are provided with information and resources that equip them for further engagement/advocacy on issues of injustice within their sphere of influence.

### How can I participate in a Ping-Pong-A-Thon?

There are a handful of positions available for guys who are keen to participate and gather sponsors for the November 2011 event. Please contact us if interested. You can also participate in this event by making a donation or sponsoring the team. If you are interested in getting a group of guys on board for a Ping-Pong-A-Thon in 2012 please email us at [pingpongmarathon@gmail.com](mailto:pingpongmarathon@gmail.com)

### Why is this just for guys?

The event has been designed particularly with the aim to engage men on issues of injustice. Men tend to connect and bond with each other by doing an activity together and we believe that the event will result in the fostering of community among men as the result of it being an event simply for men. There is no reason why women can't participate in a future ping-pong-a-thon. Our attention at present will however be focused on the participation of men. We would love to see women encourage, sponsor and support men in becoming advocates on behalf of children in need.

### Who is behind these events?

Adrian Rowse came up with the Ping-Pong-A-Thon concept. Adrian has spent the last sixteen years, communicating, resourcing and supporting Australian young people. From 2004-2011, Adrian was founder/director of Roundabout Ministries Inc, communicating to boys/men throughout Australia on issues largely related to sexuality/spirituality.

Unshackled, (a Melbourne-based movement devoted to raising awareness on issues related to slavery and trafficking), is distributing funds raised through these events to The Sold Project and Urban Light.

### Who will be the recipient of the funds raised?

#### [www.thesoldproject.com](http://www.thesoldproject.com)

The SOLD Project's mission is to prevent child prostitution in Northern Thailand through culturally relevant programs for vulnerable children and to share their stories to empower creative, compassionate people to act.

#### [www.urban-light.org](http://www.urban-light.org)

Urban Light are dedicated to rebuilding, restoring and empowering the lives of boys who are victims of sex-trafficking, child prostitution and commercial sexual exploitation in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

### For more information or to donate online visit:

[www.adrianrowse.com.au/site/pingpong](http://www.adrianrowse.com.au/site/pingpong)

*Donations are not tax deductible.*