

Facing the Monster

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An invisible, growing monster roams the street, preying on millions of young victims in the United States and overseas. The monster is child slavery and it is woven into the fabric of our daily lives. Its existence can no longer be denied; it must—and can be—fought.

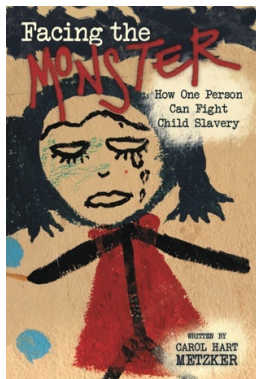
In the newly-released book, *Facing the Monster: How One Person Can Fight Child Slavery* (Open Book Editions, 2012), author Carol Hart Metzker narrates the stories of rescued child slaves and reveals a poignant picture of the world's children who live a life of modern slavery. The story of her quest to find hope, to help end slavery and to aid survivors beckons readers into her travels as far as children's shelters in remote villages of India and as close as a special home just miles from her front door in Pennsylvania.

"Meeting an 11-year-old girl rescued from slavery opened my eyes to a dark, hidden world," said Metzker, a writer, speaker, Quaker, and Rotarian. "My conscience wouldn't let me sit back and wait for other people alone to solve the problem. The experience led to an ongoing journey to make change and to ask people for help."

There are an estimated 27 million slaves worldwide and many of those are children, according to Kevin Bales, cofounder of Free the Slaves, a Washington, DC-based organization whose mission is to end slavery. According to UNICEF, as many as 2 million children are subjected to commercial sexual exploitation in the global sex trade. Increasing numbers of U.S. shelters, crime victim centers, government and nonprofit agencies, and grassroots organizations are working to aid victims and survivors.

Metzker's inspiring chronicle, *Facing the Monster*, tells truths about child slavery, provides solutions to fight it, and gives hope to move forward and end it. The book is available through Amazon, Barnes and Noble and other booksellers.

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Cover image – A girl crying, painted by survivors of child slavery on a wall at a shelter in India.

Photo by Carol Hart Metzker.