

<b>Title</b>	<b>NZ trio lure Thai women into sex slavery</b>	<b>Case No.</b>	<b>99-A</b>
<b>Type</b>	<b>Human trafficking / sex slavery</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Thailand/UK/USA/Australia/Canada/Hong Kong</b>
<b>First Known</b>	<b>April 1999</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Unknown – Ongoing?</b>

### **Who it happened to**

Multiple Thai and Chinese women

### **Who the perpetrators were**

“Taranaki couple Bruce and Raewyn Langslow and former Auckland Kristina Andersen” [Ref 3]

### **How victims were obtained**

“[Andrew Drummond] and his team had spoken to victims of the trade, including one woman who had been offered a job in a Thai restaurant in London. She was taken on a sightseeing tour of London and photographs were sent back to Thailand to encourage other women to follow her. [Ref 2]

### **What happened to them**

"The following day she was locked up and then taken to Soho, where she was sold on the spot for sterling 20,000 [\$58,600]. She was told her job would be to sleep with men and she would have to sleep with 500 to pay off that debt." [Ref 2]

“In recent weeks Thai girls had fled brothels in London, claiming that on arrival in Britain their passports had been confiscated and they were forced to work for nothing for six months just to pay off the costs of getting there.

Some claimed, including one pregnant women, that they were told they were going to work in restaurants and they had identified a Chinese man known as Boon Tam, who was the man sending them from Bangkok. They said they were beaten if they did not service clients sexually.” [Ref 1]

“Within a couple of days [Andrew Drummond] was able to track down Boon Tam (left) to an inner city travel agency and he also found two of his foreign agents, New Zealanders Bruce Langslow and Glenn McKenzie.

Langslow was running his own bar in the city’s Sukhumvit 23. McKenzie ran an English language school. But they had both supplemented their income by ‘riding shotgun’ – running Thai girls abroad posing as their boyfriends.” [Ref 1]

### **How they were made to stay**

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## **How it ended**

“Police rescued some 8 girls from massage parlours like the Solitaire in North East London. Sadly the producers sent Andrew Drummond the script only after the programme was cut. They were unable or unwilling to make some very obvious corrections.

On the day of broadcast C4’s promotions department leafleted thousands of homes in Britain with the flyer ‘Is Thai Sex Slavery coming to Britain?’

Moreover when the programme was aired it was clear the producers had broken their promises not to identify the the girls.

Andrew Drummond supported a complaint by Sudarat Sereewat to the Broadcasting Standards Commission, which preceded Ofcom. The complaint was upheld.

Andrew Drummond also wrote the article ‘How Channel 4 Dispatches Betrayed My Trust’ for Times 2 (It is virtually unheard of for a programme maker to complain to the BSC about his own programme and then condemn it in his own paper)

In the meantime Sudarat had to arrange for the victims to be moved out of their homes to ‘safe houses’ because in almost all cases the traffickers take the house documents of the girls, so if anything goes wrong, they know they can seek retribution – and that can get violent.” [Ref 1]

## **Judicial outcome**

“Lobby group Ecpat New Zealand, which is trying to eliminate trafficking into the sex industry, said a similar case last year was never prosecuted, and it was concerned the same could happen again.

Last year’s case, reported in the Herald, involved three New Zealanders who were filmed by journalists in Bangkok allegedly trafficking young women into the sex slave trade.

The New Zealanders are former Taranaki couple Bruce and Raewyn Langslow and former Aucklander Kristina Andersen.

A spokeswoman for Ecpat, lawyer Denise Ritchie, said the organisation had lobbied unsuccessfully in New Zealand and Thailand to have the trio charged.

She said it was possible to prosecute under slave dealing provisions of the Crimes Act, which could be punished with 14-year prison sentences.

It was disappointing that New Zealand sex trade traffickers appeared to be getting a soft message from authorities here.

A police spokeswoman, Noreen Hegarty, said she was unaware of any prosecutions in the case, but the lack of charges might have been because of a lack of evidence.

She said an earlier, similar, case had been thrown out of court by a judge because of a lack of witnesses.

Police acknowledged sex trafficking was a problem, but it was hard to know to what extent it occurred in New Zealand.

The Human Rights Commission is urging other victims of sex-trade trafficking to contact it on 0800 4 YOUR RIGHTS (0800 496 877) or visit its Auckland office.” [Ref 3]

Bruce Langslow appears to still be running his tour business in Bangkok

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/bruce-langslow-32956156/?originalSubdomain=th>

<https://www.thailandtourscenter.com/aboutus.php>

### **Fate of the victims**

Some were rescued. Others presumably have not been. The extent of the offending and whether it is ongoing is unknown.

### **References**

1. <https://www.andrew-drummond.com/2007/06/12/the-sex-slave-trade-lwt-for-channel-4/>
2. [https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=7234&ref=bebo](https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=7234&ref=bebo)
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