

Press Release

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For Immediate Release

BRINGING THE STORY BACK HOME

Former Education Reporter, Bukola Oriola is joining forces with the National Agency for The Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP) to educate Nigerians at home about the ordeal of human trafficking in the United States. In her 2015 Lagos upcoming week-long tour of public and private colleges, tagged, *Bringing The Story Back Home*, Oriola hopes to enlighten higher institution students as they are the armor bearers in the community. The event is planned to help them understand travelling abroad does not necessarily mean a better life or greener pasture, but that they should be aware of the challenges they or their loved ones may face in search of a better life. “The reason I have chosen this audience is because they are the youth and they are armor bearers in the community. They form the perfect niche to spread the message to the younger generation and also leverage it to the older folks in the community. More so, they are passionate and are talented, always looking for opportunities within and outside the country. It will be of immense help to this sub-group to understand the fact that going abroad by visa lottery, marriage, further education, or other means can be a potential trafficking trap,” Oriola stated.

Oriola, who is a survivor of labor trafficking has chronicled her experiences in form of a book entitled, *Imprisoned: The Travails of a Trafficked Victim* to both expose one of the ways that a person can become a victim and how victims can reach out for help. This tour, scheduled for September 2015 is not set to discourage the Nigerian youths from pursuing their dreams of finding opportunities abroad, but to equip them with adequate knowledge that will prevent them from becoming victims or finding help if they become victims of human trafficking.

Oriola is Founder, The Enitan Story/Producer, Imprisoned Show. The Enitan Story is a local nonprofit organization in Minnesota, United States with a mission to advocate for victims and empower survivors of human trafficking. Imprisoned Show is one of the organization’s programs dedicated to educating the public about human trafficking around the world. Since the launch of Imprisoned Show at one of the local TV stations in Minnesota, she has produced over 20 episodes featuring expert opinions, events, public presentations, students, members of the local law enforcement, nonprofit organizations, attorneys and advocates to help victims reach out for help. “I believe that education is the greatest tool for preventing this heinous crime in our communities. One of the episodes on Imprisoned Show featured the Hubert Humphreys fellows

at the University of Minnesota from Malaysia, Vietnam, and Nepal. Evaluating and discussing various forms of providing services, in addition to advocacy, will further help both government and nongovernmental efforts to effectively combat the crime. It was also documented as President Barak Obama's accomplishments in fighting human trafficking in the United States in 2013.

Oriola is a consultant for the Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) and was among the 20 survivors' forum at the White House in January 2014, which was the National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention month in the United States. The event, which was put together by the Office For Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVCTTAC) was the first of its kind event by the federal government to effectively engage the voices of survivors in its program to provide a better life for victims and survivors of human trafficking in the United States. The government has rolled out a five year strategic plan which was made public on January 14, 2014 at the Forum and Listening Session. A documentary featuring Oriola among other survivors was completed recently and will be used to train service providers, federal and state agencies, nongovernmental organizations and the general public about the issue, using real life people and not actors to pass the message across in a way that will fully engage everybody.

You can learn more about Oriola's by watching some of the episodes of Imprisoned Show online at www.imprisonedshow.com. The Enitan Story's website is www.enitan.org, and her official website is www.bukolaoriola.com. You can even find out more about her using Google. You can contact for questions at Bukola@bukolaoriola.com.

Thank you.