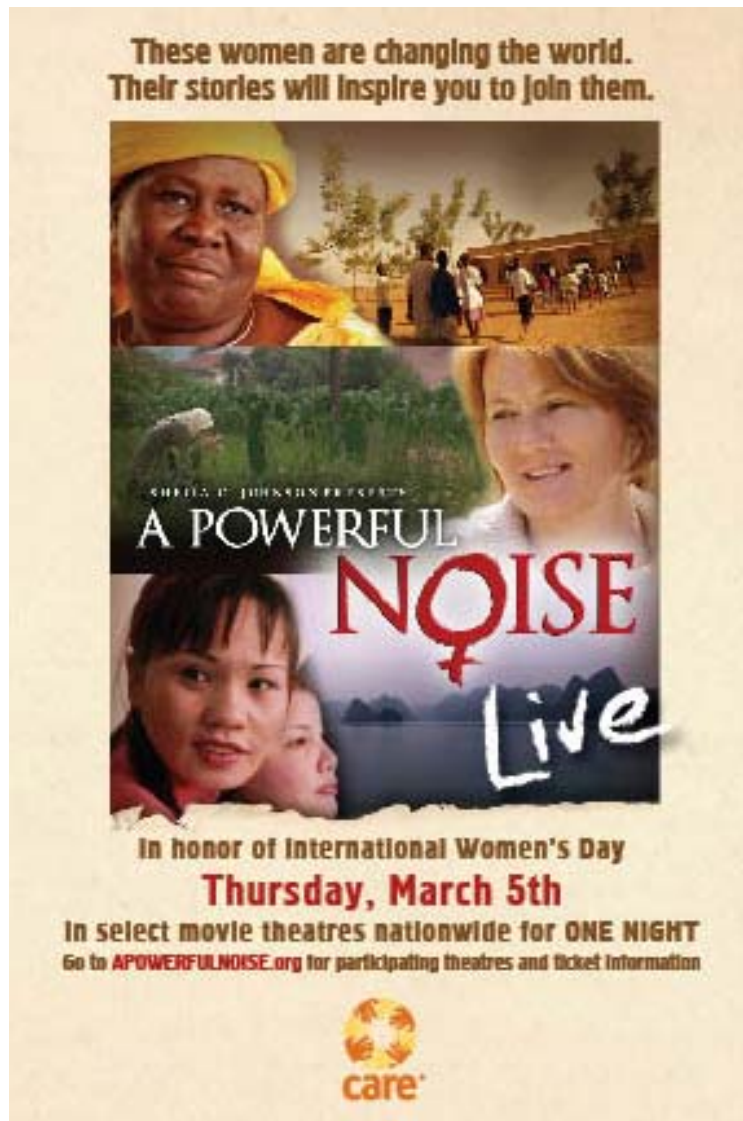


March 8th is International Women's Day



A Powerful Noise LIVE

A Powerful One Night Event - March 5, 2009

Fathom, CARE and ONE are proud to present a one-night event featuring the acclaimed documentary “A Powerful Noise,” followed by a live town hall discussion with leading humanitarian experts and activists. The event celebrates International Women’s Day and highlights the important role that women play in bringing lasting solutions to global poverty and related conditions of child trafficking. Broadcast live from New York City, this inspiring event will take place in select movie theatres nationwide on Thursday, March 5, 2009 at 7:30PM ET/6:30PM CT/5:30PM MT and tape delayed at 8PM PT and 7PM in Hawaii.

One of the stories in the film follows Jacqueline Dembele, an activist in the West African country of Mali. Jacqueline fights forced labor practices and illiteracy in the slums of Bamako, Mali. “Many children who make their way to the capital city of Bamako end up becoming one of the city’s ‘street kids.’ The average age of these children is 15, and they have no form of adult supervision. While the literacy rate in Mali is altogether very low, the female literacy rate is much lower than that of males. So girls are less able to handle life on the city streets and are more susceptible to being forced into domestic servitude. In Africa, 85 percent of child domestic workers are girls.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S ACTION NETWORK

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Domestic servants are discriminated against, often contracted unwillingly to employers, and are worked long hours for little to no pay. Lack of governmental oversight subjects domestic servants and girls working on the street to unchecked sexual harassment and abuse. There are a number of laws to curb the exploitation of child labor and the trafficking of children, but enforcement is virtually non-existent. Unless, there are significant measures to enforce those laws, the same heartbreaking story will play over and over for domestic servants and other ‘street kids.’” (from www.apowerfulnoise.org Press Materials)

Executive produced by Sheila C. Johnson, “A Powerful Noise” takes you inside the lives of three women from different countries to witness their daily efforts to fight HIV/AIDS, champion girls’ education and unite ethnically divided communities. The presentation will conclude with a live panel of renowned advocates discussing how women, equipped with proper resources, have the power to help families and entire communities escape poverty.

Resources:

The William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 was passed by Congress in December of 2008. It provides significant enhancements to the tools available to prosecute traffickers. The legislation also increases protections and services for U.S. citizens and foreign victims in the United States. For further information on the issue of trafficking read the Women’s Division Human Trafficking Fact Sheet by visiting our website at <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw/news/action-alerts/>

To find out more about the documentary *A Powerful Noise* and to see a list of participating movie theaters please visit <http://www.apowerfulnoise.org/>

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