

Holly Smith

Holly is a survivor of child trafficking and an advocate against all forms of human trafficking.

In November 2011, Holly appeared on the Dr. Oz show to raise awareness for the issue of domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST), along with Tina Frundt (founder of Courtney's House), Lisa Ling (American journalist and advocate), and Kevin Perkins (Director of the FBI's Innocence Lost project). Holly was also featured in the August 2011 issue of Cosmopolitan magazine, along with survivors, Carissa Phelps and Minh Dang.

Holly submitted joint testimony to Congress in September 2011 with labor trafficking survivor, Ima Matul (CAST Advisory Caucus member), in support of the reauthorization of the Trafficked Victims Protection Act (TVPRA). She also addressed the Virginia General Assembly in February 2012 in support of Senator Adam Ebbin's bill SB 259, which will require the Board of Education to provide awareness and training materials for local school divisions on human trafficking, including strategies for the prevention of trafficking children.

Holly has provided testimony to several colleges, including the University of Pennsylvania, Howard University, and the University of Richmond; and she has been invited to press conferences with Virginia Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli and New Jersey A.G. Jeffrey S. Chiesa. In addition to working as a training consultant for the AMBER Alert Program, Holly is requested on a regular basis to provide testimony and input to law enforcement officials, social service providers, human trafficking task forces, and journalists. Most recently, Holly was invited to be the keynote speaker at the Trafficking in Persons Symposium in Salt Lake City, UT, an event hosted by the United States Department of Justice.

Holly works with survivors and anti-human trafficking organizations across the country. The recently-released film, *Finding Faith*, is based on portions of Holly's story. When she isn't speaking, Holly is writing for her weekly column, Speaking Out, with the Washington Times Communities and working on a book about child sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children in America. Holly earned a B.A. in Biology with a Minor in Writing from the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. She currently lives in Richmond, VA with her husband and their Miniature Schnauzer.

For additional information or to follow Holly's progress, please visit:

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