

# PENTECOST NOVENA



## Stiffer State Laws Against Trafficking

**Do you agree that stiffer state laws against trafficking in human beings would help curb the problem?**

**All states have *some* laws that can be enforced against traffickers.** But a "stand-alone" felony statute sends a message that the residents of the state are angry about human trafficking and are determined to do something about it. (Stand-alone means that the law is written specifically for one purpose; the idea of trafficking is not appended, for example, to a law against prostitution.)



To find out if your state has stand-alone laws against human trafficking go to: <http://www.trendtrack.com/texis/cq/viewrpt?event=49f99ef0e9>

If you live in Maryland, Washington State, California, Florida or the District of Columbia, this site will be useful :<http://www.sharedhope.org/what/marylandlobbyday2010.asp>. Legislation is *pending* and **Shared Hope International** is supporting it.

**State officials get many fewer phone calls and e-mails than US representatives.** Sponsors of anti-trafficking laws will be happy to know they have the support of Sisters of Notre Dame.

## **FOR REFLECTION:**

Our foundress, St. Julie Billiart, used to say, "Just give me twelve women. If I have twelve women, we can make a difference."

*(quoted by Sister Mary Daniel Turner in the introductory video at the exhibit of "Women and Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America.")*

*Denise Curry, SND de Namur*