

# *Reproductive Health for Refugees*

## *RHR Consortium*

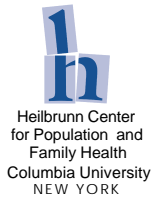
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### **Media Advisory**

#### **CONFERENCE 2000: FINDINGS ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED POPULATIONS**

**WASHINGTON, DC**

**DECEMBER 5-6, 2000**



- *In one camp in Kenya, more than a quarter of women interviewed reported that they had experienced sexual violence since becoming a refugee.*
- *A study of Burmese migrant workers on the Thai/Burma border revealed that very few Burmese women had ever seen a condom.*
- *Pregnancy complications and other reproductive health problems were the leading causes of death among Afghan refugees surveyed in camps in Pakistan.*

The majority of the 50 million refugees and displaced people worldwide still have no access to basic reproductive health care: family planning, treatment for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), emergency contraceptives, care for life-threatening problems during pregnancy, and medical or counselling services after rape.

“Conference 2000: Findings on Reproductive Health Care of Refugees and Displaced Populations” will bring together some of the world’s foremost reproductive health care experts to present new research on STDs (including HIV/AIDS), family planning, safe motherhood and sexual violence in refugee settings.

Delegates from 27 countries including Sierra Leone, Pakistan, Thailand, Colombia and Sudan will attend presentations on such topics as:

- adolescent sexual health in Tanzanian refugee camps
- revitalizing health services after the war in Kosovo
- improving family planning services for displaced people in Sri Lanka.
- reproductive health needs of Afghan refugees in Pakistan

The findings reveal an increase in reproductive health services for refugees over the last five years, while still emphasizing the acute need for basic reproductive health care for populations in crisis throughout the world.

The research will help relief organizations and refugee agencies to tackle HIV/AIDS, unsafe abortion, pregnancy complications and other health emergencies faced by refugee populations.

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**CONFERENCE 2000:  
FINDINGS ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH OF REFUGEES  
AND DISPLACED POPULATIONS**

### **MEDIA BRIEFING**

All media representatives are invited to attend a media briefing  
at the conference venue:

10:30 a.m.  
Monday, December 4, 2000

The Capitol Room  
Hotel Washington  
515 15<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20004-1099

For more information or to schedule interviews with presenters:

Rachel Watson, Media Liaison  
Tel: 212-551-0959 Fax: 212-551-3180  
Email: [rachelw@intrescom.org](mailto:rachelw@intrescom.org)

### **CONFERENCE CO-HOSTS:**



***The Global Health Council***

*The RHR Consortium comprises: American Refugee Committee (ARC), CARE, the Heilbrunn Center for Population and Family Health, International Rescue Committee (IRC), JSI Research and Training Institute, Marie Stopes International (MSI) and the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children.*

*The RHR Consortium aims to increase access to a broad range of high quality, voluntary reproductive health services for refugees and the displaced around the world.*

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*For additional information, please visit [www.rhrc.org](http://www.rhrc.org)*