

Your Meninadança church representative is:



MAKING A NOISE FOR THE VOICELESS

Meninadança hit national headlines in Brazil last month after we reported how girls as young as eleven were being offered as prizes in raffles in a remote country town.

After coming across rumours of this horrific practise while visiting Cândido Sales, a town on the BR-116 where we are to begin our next project, our investigation was published in the Daily Mail's online news website, MailOnline.

The story was quickly picked up by national and local media, and for a week was the subject of intense reporting and debate all over Brazil. But while we expected that the exposure would encourage the local authorities to act to stop the abuses, we instead came under attack for having spoken out.

Local police issued warnings to media outlets threatening

them with prosecution if the claims were repeated, the local prosecution service which had investigated the case tried to make light of the allegations, and people who had revealed details were put under pressure to issue denials.

Despite efforts to cover up the story, however, the state government Human Rights Secretariat took the courageous decision to act on our report and begin their own investigation. They quickly uncovered that the story was true, and that the raffles of girls in the town involved "at least 100 men", with virgins fetching a higher price. They have vowed to find all the men involved, protect the victims, and bring those responsible to justice.

Meninadança will continue to speak out for the young girls of the BR-116 whose suffering so often goes unseen and unheard.



PINK HOUSE GIRLS REACH FINAL

The girls of the Pink House in Medina recently competed in the Calouros dance festival, against dance groups from all over the region.

Their group impressed judges so much they went on to the semi-finals, and then made the finals on October 10! Everytime they dance they also bring a message encouraging other girls to speak out against abuse.

PARTNER CHURCHES

OCTOBER 2015

Meninadança is a charity working with at-risk young girls in communities along the BR-116, Brazil's 'Exploitation Highway'. Bringing hope and changing lives through the power of dance.

DON'T MISS 'THIS LIFE'

In the first two weeks of November, churches around the UK will be putting on premieres of the moving documentary about our Pink House, *Esta Vida (This Life)*.

Don't miss the chance to see this award-winning film, directed by Lyttanya Shannon, and hear from Meninadança's founders Matt Roper and Warlei Torezani, who will be over from Brazil to present the film.

Check out below where there is a film showing near you...

CROYDON, SURREY | West Croydon Baptist Church | Saturday October 31, 7pm | Info: ros.coles@talktalk.net

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY | Kingsgate Church | Sunday November 1, 10am and (film showing) 6pm | Info: office@kingsgatechurch.org.uk

LIVERPOOL | Maghull Baptist Church, Maghull | Sunday November 1, 6.30pm | Info: clarkefamilyclarke@btinternet.com

MANSFIELD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE | St John's Beacon Centre | Monday November 2, 7pm | Info: dave.roper70@gmail.com

WATFORD, HERTS | St Mary's Church, Watford | Wednesday, November 4, 7.30pm | Info: collins_frances@hotmail.com

BLACKHEATH, LONDON | Blackheath & Charlton Baptist Church | Thursday, November 5, 7pm | Info: revmartinbcbc@gmail.com

WEYMOUTH, DORSET | Home of Jonathan & Sarita de Kretser | Friday November 6 | Info: jdekretser@btinternet.com

WARRINGTON, CHESHIRE | Life Church | Sunday, November 8, 10.30am | Info: lukasdewhirst@hotmail.com

CHESTER, CHESHIRE | St Mark's Church, Saltney | Sunday, November 8, 6.30pm | Info: joparishsec@aol.com

CROYDON, SURREY | New Life Christian Centre | Monday, November 9, 7.30pm | Info: simonepetrahall@gmail.com

SEVENOAKS, KENT | Bessels Green Baptist Church | Tuesday, November 10, 8pm | Info: (01732) 454921

BIRMINGHAM | Ort Café | Wednesday November 11, 7.30pm | Incl. music from Brazilian singer Luiza Fernandes | Info: brendan.j.oneill@gmail.com

LONG BUCKBY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE | Long Buckby Baptist Church | Friday November 13, 7pm | Info: kathywhite16@gmail.com

SAFFRON WALDON, ESSEX | Saffron Walden Baptist Church | Saturday November 14, 7pm | Info: minister@sw-bc.org

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE | Bromsgrove Baptist Church | Sunday November 15, 10am | Info: pl@bromsgrove-baptists.org.uk

BIRMINGHAM | Riverside Church | Sunday November 15, 6pm | Info: abigailcrocker@hotmail.com

PHOTOS OF THE MONTH

1. Custard pie game to help with school exam revision 2. Girls and team at the Pink House 3. Pnk House girls taking part in a regional youth conference



HOW CAN WE PRAY?

Please pray as we begin to form a team who will start our new project in Cândido Sales, and for a breakfast meeting with the town's authorities we will be holding later this month.

Please pray for Danaca, 15, who terminated her pregnancy last month by doing an abortion herself, for physical and emotional healing.

Please pray for the Pink House team as they approach the the subject of women's health with the girls this month, which is breast cancer awareness month.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

There's still time to host a showing of *Esta Vida (This Life)* in your home, group or church during the first two weeks of November. Contact us at: office@meninadanca.org

Kidnap the vicar and demand £116 for his return! It's been done before and it's a fun and unforgettable way of getting people to donate!

Become a monthly giver! This is the best way to really make a difference in girls' lives, as it allows us to cover our monthly running costs. Contact us for more details.