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Honorable Chairman, members of this committee: My investigation in China began last September 27, 2001. With two translators and a photographer, my investigation lasted four days.

I volunteered for this assignment, and sought no assistance from the PRC. Had such assistance been sought, the PRC government would likely have obstructed our investigation, or influenced the testimonies provided by the victims in this UNFPA county program.

We interviewed over two dozen victims and witnesses of coercion in this so-called model county program. During primary interviews, some choked back tears as they spoke of the abuse they suffer. Others flocked to tell us their stories of coercion.

Interviews were recorded in notebooks, on audio and videotape. Additional photographic evidence was obtained. The abuses we documented are recent, rampant and unrelenting. And they exist in a program where the UNFPA claims that women are free to determine the timing and spacing of pregnancy.

On the first day, we interviewed women about a mile from the office desk of the UNFPA representative in Sihui, at the Dasha Hospital. A 19-year-old there told us she was too young to be pregnant according to the law. While she was receiving a non-voluntary abortion in an adjacent room, her friends told us that she desired to keep her baby, but she had no choice, since the law forbids.

In a residential area, within this UNFPA so-called model county program, a woman testified that she became pregnant despite an earlier attempt by family planning officials to forcibly sterilize her. She was forcibly sterilized a second time. Had she refused, she told us on videotape, family planning crews would have destroyed her house.

We asked: "What happens if you want to give birth to another child? Would someone come... and take you in by force for an abortion? She responded: "yes." "And if you don't go?" we asked. "They would tear down my house," she said, adding, "Right now things are very strict"

We were told that many women hide their pregnancies, so they can give birth to a child they desire, and escape retribution from officials. We asked a group of women in another residential area, within this UNFPA county program, about 5 miles from the Sihui Office of Family Planning: "Do you know of anyone whose houses have been destroyed for not following an order to have an abortion?"

"Yes, many," was the response.

We were told of the punishments inflicted on those who wish to freely determine the timing and spacing of pregnancy.

We were told of the forced use of IUDs, and mandatory IUD exams. In another residential area, we asked a couple: "Do they tell you that you have to go in regularly to have your IUD checked?" The woman responded: "Yes, absolutely... We have to have it checked four times a year.... The birth control workers come and tell you 'it's time.'" We asked this couple: "If someone in the village had more than one child, would there be consequences for the entire village?" The man told us: "Those who have additional births will be fined... Whether the birth control work is done well effects how much money the village birth control workers get...."

In another residential area, we interviewed a victim had heroically escaped forced abortion by hiding in a nearby village. As punishment, three people in her mother's family, and six people in her mother-in-law's family, were thrown into prison. They were released after four months, only after a crippling fine -- of 17,000 RMB, (about \$2,000 US), equal to about three year's wages) -- was paid to family planning officials. Today this woman's "black child" is about 14 months old now, and she must pay another 17,000 RMB before her child can be legally registered.

Of the family planning workers who extracted the fines, this woman said: "Those people embezzle the money. They are corrupt. The district family planning officials... take the money back home.... The majority [of the women] have their children without proper spacing, and suffer consequences."

When this woman's relatives were in jail, the Office of Family Planning sent a crew of officials to their homes, and they destroyed their homes and belongings with jackhammers.

One of her relatives testified, quote: "The whole family was arrested. Everything in the house was stolen. The houses were completely emptied. We didn't have anything left inside."

All interviews were conducted within a few miles from the desk of a UNFPA representative, in a county where UNFPA contends that coercion does not exist.

Through contact made with local officials, we located the County Government Building. Within this building, we located the Office of Family Planning. And within the Office of Family Planning, family planning officials showed us the location of the UNFPA office desk. We were told that a UNFPA representative works with, in and through the Sihui Office of Family Planning. We photographed the UNFPA office desk, which faces -- in fact touches -- a desk of the Chinese Office of Family Planning.

All of the locations of the interviews that were conducted fell within this County and

under the governance of the County bureaucracy housed in the County Government Building.

Prior to my arrival in China, research had been done to reveal that voluntarism does not exist in at least two more UNFPA so-called model counties in China: in Korla, Xianjiang Province, and in Jianou, Fujian Province. But due to the information already obtained, and mindful of potential risks and dangers to the individuals interviewed, it was decided that I should return home.

Honorable Chairman, members of this committee: in this county where UNFPA operates -- where UNFPA insists that only voluntarism exists -- we were told by victims of coercion themselves that there is, in fact, no trace of voluntarism in this county. There is only coercion, in abundant supply, in this county where UNFPA operates -- from within the Office of Family Planning.

Thank you.