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FREEDOM HOUSE 5TH ANNUAL GALA

**Journalist Julian Sher to be Featured Speaker
Saturday, May 17, Crowne Plaza Hotel**

We are honored to announce that award-winning investigative journalist Julian Sher, a leading expert on the topic of the sexual exploitation of children, will be our featured speaker at this year's Gala. His latest book **Somebody's Daughter: The Hidden Story of America's Prostituted Children and the Battle to Save Them**, "is a thorough, deeply affecting study... [that] strikes a rare balance between revealing trauma and hope," according to Publishers Weekly.

Julian Sher is the Senior Producer of CBC's **the fifth estate**, Canada's premier investigative television program, which is similar to **60 Minutes**. He is a veteran TV documentary writer and director, and the author of six widely acclaimed books. He has been a journalist for Canada's two major newspapers **The Toronto Star** and **The Globe and Mail**. His powerful message will ignite the fire in many of our modern-day abolitionists.

In addition, a graduate of The Monarch will give her personal testimony as she makes her debut as an advocate. Gala proceeds benefit both Freedom House residential shelters: The Monarch for women in San Mateo County and The Nest for girls, ages 12 to 17, in Santa Clara County.

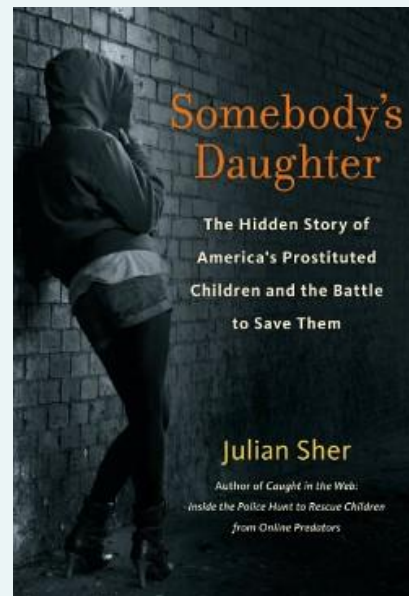
Gala tickets are available online though www.FreedomHouseSF.org/Events. Individual tickets are \$150 per person and tables of ten begin at \$1,500 per table. If you would prefer to pay by check, please send your payment to Freedom House at PO Box 2065, Burlingame, CA 94011.

Donate a Gala Auction Item

There still is time to contribute a gift certificate or a special item to the charity auction being held during the Gala on May 17th. For information, please contact FreedomHouseAuction@gmail.com.

JAIDA IM NAMED "WOMAN OF THE YEAR"

California State Assemblyperson Kevin Mullin honored Freedom House founder Jaida Im as District 22's "Woman of the Year" at a ceremony held on the Assembly floor of the State Capitol in Sacramento on March 10. "Jaida Im is a phenomenal person, and it's a privilege to highlight her work in our community to help victims turn their lives around," commented Mullin. Pictured with honoree Jaida Im are Assemblyperson Mullin, Assembly Speaker John Perez and Assemblymembers Bonnie Lowenthal and Connie Conway.



PRO-BONO SERVICE PROVIDER
Collin Youn Lee, Kobuksan Construction

Collin has come to the rescue of the residents at The Monarch on several occasions, as he provides general construction services, including emergency plumbing and maintenance. He first learned about Freedom House from board member Tommy Lee, who knew about Collin's desire to use his God-given skills to care for those who have been victimized. He enjoys making things easier for those who have had a hard time, serving alongside the in-house staff. Collin considers it "a blessing to be a part of a community of heart-driven people." In addition to Kobuksan Construction, he and his wife Mina (pictured) own and operate the BeanStalk Cafe, located at 724 Bush Street, between Powell and Mason, in the Nob Hill area. Collin also serves a church start-up ministry called San Francisco Gospel Ministries, which is non-denominational. Collin and Mina have been married for 14 years and have three children.



ADVOCATE VOLUNTEER
Mary Doering

Mary joined the Freedom House family of volunteers after hearing Cheryl Hock, The Nest co-founder, discuss plans to open a shelter for girls at a presentation at Community Christian Church in Campbell. She has been involved with the Sierra LaMar search team for two years. Knowing about exploited children "is a gut-wrenching feeling that takes my breath away and makes me fall down on my knees and pray. How could I NOT get involved?" she comments. Mary currently serves on the Community Engagement team as a Freedom House Ambassador, introducing the non-profit to businesses and organizations and building key relationships. Her passion also extends to the political arena, where she is active with the Values Advocacy Council, Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women, The Conservative Forum and Capitol Resource Institute. Mary also assists with feeding the homeless in Santa Clara County.



ADVOCATE AND SHELTER VOLUNTEER
Alisan Ainslie

If you are attending this year's Gala, chances are you will meet Alisan, who is serving as the registration committee lead. She is the friendly volunteer who is asking ticket holders to submit their meal preferences and names of any guests. Alisan was first exposed to the injustice of human trafficking while she was a student at San Jose State University. She joined the SJSU Response Coalition as a leader in 2009, which promoted anti-human-trafficking awareness on campus. She heard Jaida Im speak about Freedom House in its very beginnings at a Response Coalition variety show. After graduating in 2011 with a B.S. in Recreation, Alisan's heart continued to ache for the victims, remembering Freedom House and wondering how she could practically give her time and resources to help. In March 2013, she completed the 40-hour training and became a shelter volunteer, working with survivors at The Monarch, and soon will transition to The Nest. Alisan currently is working on her Certificate in ParaLegal Studies through UC Berkeley. Some of her favorite activities include singing, dancing, hanging out with her family and friends, and spending time with her sweetheart golden retriever. If you have any Gala ticket questions, please contact Alisan at FreedomHouseGala@gmail.com



About Freedom House:

Located in the San Francisco Bay Area, Freedom House is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization (Tax ID #27-0248325), with a mission to bring hope, restoration, and a new life to survivors of human trafficking by providing housing and long-term aftercare services. In August

2010, Freedom House launched The Monarch, the first safe home and aftercare program of its kind in Northern California for adult female survivors. The Nest, located in Santa Clara County, is one of the few residential shelters in the country dedicated to helping girls ages 12 to 17. Through its pioneering aftercare model, Freedom House is breaking the cycle of human exploitation and creating new futures for survivors. Please visit: www.FreedomHouseSF.org

For more information:

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