

Captions :

## **QUICK MONEY**

### **Trade in Nigerian women on the roads of Naples**

by  
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Photo 01 -

To be able to leave Nigeria to come to work on the roads of Italy, young women take on a debt of between 50.000 and 70.000 euros. This debt is sometimes made official by a notarial act, drawn up between the girl's family and the organisation. Magic voodoo rituals performed before departure seal the girls' submission.

Castelvoturno, Caserta, August 2007



Photo 02 -

It can be very difficult to guess the exact age of the young women who arrive in Europe and who must work for a Madame as prostitutes. Some of them, still minors, use make-up as a veritable protective mask.

Casalnuovo Road, Naples, August 2007



Photo 03 -

On arrival in Europe, the young women are immediately put out to work on the street to pay back a debt, currently at 50.000 euros. They understand very quickly that it will be difficult to reimburse the debt. Reduced to slavery, these young women must sometimes work twenty hours a day on roads out of town, whatever the weather.

Casalnuovo, Naples, August 2007



Photo 04 -

Once in Europe, the young Nigerian girls are caught up in an infernal routine where every detail is managed by the organisation which has the power to put pressure on the girl's family if she refuses to pay her debt. Most are resigned to this and prefer to keep a low profile, hiding their situation for fear of reprisals.

Casalnuovo Road, Naples, August 2007



Photo 05 -

A.... and her friends have fitted out this ruined cabin as a place to receive their clients more comfortably. Some of the girls supply drugs coming from the Nigerian mafia, which has an agreement with the local Camorra mafia. The Camorra controls the area and subcontracts prostitution and the sale of drugs here.

Casalnuovo, Naples, August 2008



Photo 06 -

Nigerian women offer the lowest prices to Italian clients on the small, isolated roads around Naples. A pass costs between 5 and 10€. Working conditions are very difficult.

Casalnuovo Road, Naples, August 2007.



Photo 07 -

Keeping warm in winter thanks to a brasero.

Casalnuovo Road, February 2008



Photo 08 -

A prostitute tries to tempt a passing motorist while another organises a rendez-vous by telephone. In Campania, a pass with a Nigerian costs 10 euros.  
Casalnuovo Road, January 2008



Photo 09 -

The young Nigerian women work in groups of two or four for safety, with a fire providing the only light.  
Capua Road, Naples, August 2008



Photo 10 -

The prostitutes work in extremely difficult conditions. Often stationed on minor roads on the periphery of towns, they run the risk of robbery, car accidents, physical aggression and rape.  
Casalnuovo Road, Naples, August 2007



Photo 11 -

An Italian association, "en Maraude", works on the terrain to inform the young women about their health and provides free access to care in different dispensaries in the region.  
Casalnuovo Road, Naples, August 2007



Photo 12 -

F..... was bought from the slave-drivers by a 60-year-old retired Italian. He wanted to marry her and have her help with the daily household chores. Instead of going back out onto the roads, she cooks and spends her days watching Nigerian films on television.  
Caserta, August 2008

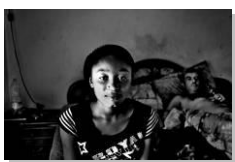


Photo 13 -

F..... came to Italy with the help of an « aunt ». Once in Europe, it is almost impossible to escape from prostitution, whatever the form. Those who can't stand it disappear without trace in a country where they have no friends and know no-one. They must also cut off all ties with their families in Nigeria, who are then menaced by the organization.



Photo 14 -

I....., most likely a former prostitute risen to the status of Madame. Many Nigerian women, after having paid off their debts, are exhausted after so many years of exploitation and cannot get back to a “normal” existence. For the organisation, and for the young women under her control, becoming a Madame is the route to freedom and the best way to earn money quickly.

Caserta, August 2008



Photo 15 -

Every Sunday the Madames go to church. They play an important role in the Nigerian community because of their financial contribution to the diaspora and to their families in Nigeria.

Villa Literno church, Caserta, August 2008



Photo 16 -

The faithful exchange envelopes full of euros for a blessing from the priest. It is not unknown for priests to contribute to sexual exploitation by preaching obedience to the prostitutes of their parish.

Villa Literno Pentecostal church, Caserta, August 2008



Photo 17 -

J.... without wig nor makeup, getting ready to go out after a day's work on the roads. The young Nigerian women never speak of prostitution; for them, it is a task to be done discreetly and with resignation.

Like most of her fellow victims, J.... has no official residency permit. She longs to change her way of life but doesn't know how. Her mother back in Nigeria is seriously ill and she must often send her money to pay for emergency operations at the hospital.

Caserta, May 2008



Photo 18 -

P....claims to be twenty years old. She arrived in Italy two months ago and became pregnant by accident, as happens frequently. The Madames take care of the abortion but this added "benefit" increases the girls' debt, so they try to abort secretly by whatever means possible, often at great risk to their health.



Photo 19 -

L... and S.... work the same road and live together with their Madame. They finish the day's work exhausted, and fall asleep in their shared bedroom watching Nigerian soap operas.

Caserta, May 2008



Photo 20 -

In the provinces of Naples and Caserta, the young prostitutes often work in illegal dumps. Sometimes they are used as by the Camorra as sentries to cover dumping of toxic waste on the roadside.