

Thompson promoting fight against human trafficking

Thompson promoting fight against human trafficking

Human trafficking is on the rise, but making sure girls receive birth certificates can make it more difficult for them to fall victim to the crime, Emma Thompson said Tuesday.

"It's increasing big, big, big time - it's the third largest shadow economy after drugs and small arms," the 48-year-old actress-screenwriter told reporters in Vienna, Austria.

A U.N. human trafficking forum begins today. Thompson is the chair of the Helen Bamber Foundation, a Britain-based group that helps rebuild the lives of victims of cruelty.

"In many, many countries in the world, girls simply aren't registered, and they get lost and they get sold and they get used - and I know that because I've spoken to lots of them in lots of different countries," she said.

Concert fundraiser personal for Bon Jovi guitarist

Bon Jovi is headlining a concert series to raise funds for lung cancer research - a cause that became personal for the New Jersey rockers after bandmate Richie Sambora's father died of the disease last year.

The group dedicated the kickoff concert at the Hammerstein Ballroom in Manhattan, N.Y., on Tuesday night to the guitarist's father, Adam Sambora. It came days before the opening of the band's "Lost Highway World Tour."

Funds raised during the yearlong concert series will go to the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, where Sambora's father received treatment.

The series, organized by Stand Up for a Cure, also will feature performances by Jerry Seinfeld, Andrea Bocelli and other artists.

