



# The Orphan Crisis

- *There are 143,000,000 orphans in the world*
- *There are an additional 20,000,000 “displaced children” in the world*
- *The combined count of these categories makes the orphan population the 7<sup>th</sup> largest nation on the planet – slightly larger than the population of Russia*
- *In Eastern Europe, less than 50% of the orphan population will live to see their 20<sup>th</sup> birthdays*
- *In Eastern Europe, of the orphans that survive their 20<sup>th</sup> birthdays, 50% will end up in organized crime, drugs, or prostitution*
- *In Africa, homeless children are armed and used for war*
- *In Africa, there is a concerted effort to extend children’s lives beyond 5 years of age*
- *In the US, 25,000 children will leave the foster care system without families*
- *25% of these foster children become homeless,*
- *56% of these emancipated foster care children enter the unemployment ranks*
- *27% of the emancipated male children in foster care end up in jail*
- *30% of the emancipated females in foster care experience early parenthood*
- *30,000 children in foster care are simply dropped from state care because they have run away*
- *In the US, most young adults ages 18 – 24 still live at home with their parents, while approximately 25,000 children are annually released at age 18 from the foster care system without families to support them.”*