

**The College Women's Club
of Montclair
AAUW**

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING
October 11, 2014**

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Scope of Presentation

This presentation is broken down
into three areas:

Prevention
Prosecution
Protection

President Obama Speaks

In September 2012, a few days after the
150th anniversary of the
Emancipation Proclamation,
President Obama devoted an entire
speech to the issue of human
trafficking - or -
modern day slavery.

What follows are excerpts of his speech.

What the President Said:

"When a man, desperate for work, finds himself in a
factory or on a fishing boat or in a field, working,
toiling, for little or no pay, and beaten if he tries to
escape—that is slavery.

When a woman is locked in a sweatshop, or trapped in a
home as a domestic servant, alone and abused and
incapable of leaving—that's slavery. When a little boy is
kidnapped, turned into a child soldier, forced to kill or
be killed—that's slavery."

The President : Father of Two Daughters

"When a little girl is sold
by her impoverished
family—girls my
daughters' age—runs
away from home, or is
lured by the false
promises of a better life,
and then imprisoned in a
brothel and tortured if
she resists—that's
slavery."



"Picture by Kay Chernush
for the U.S. State
Department."

Human Trafficking Definition

*"Trafficking in persons" and "human
trafficking" have been used as umbrella
terms for the act of:*

*recruiting;
harboring;
transporting;
providing, or
obtaining a person for compelled labor or
commercial sex acts through the use of
force, fraud, or coercion.*

Human Trafficking Definition (cont'd)

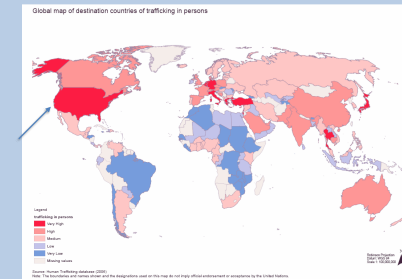
- Human trafficking can include but does not require movement.
- People may be considered trafficking victims regardless of whether they were born into a state of servitude, were transported to the exploitative situation, previously consented to work for a trafficker, or participated in a crime as a direct result of being trafficked.

Human Trafficking Definition (cont'd)

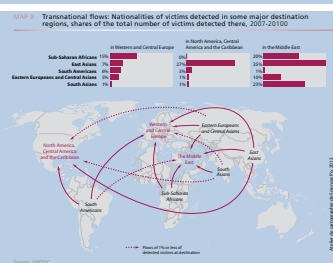


At the heart of this phenomenon is the traffickers' goal of exploiting and enslaving their victims and the myriad coercive and deceptive practices they use to do so.

Map From UN Office of Drugs and Crime - UNODC - Destination Country



Map Showing Source Country of Victims and Destination Country - UNODC



It Happens Here

IF YOU THINK IT DOES NOT HAPPEN IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, AND THAT IT DOES NOT HAPPEN TO OUR CHILDREN, YOU ARE WRONG.

July 29, 2013 - The FBI Announced:

The FBI announced that a nationwide operation over the weekend resulted in 150 arrests, with 105 children rescued. The ages of children rescued ranged from

13 to 17.

Overall, the three-day undercover roundup Operation took place in 76 cities and involved 230 law enforcement units.

July 2014

- The **FBI**, with assistance from local law enforcement and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, conducted Operation Cross Country VII, a week-long enforcement action addressing commercial child sex trafficking.
- Across the country, **168 children** were recovered and 281 pimps were arrested on state and federal charges.

Gathering the Numbers

Unfortunately, the only statistics are of cases investigated, which are a slight number in relation to the actual incidents of human trafficking.

Actual statistics are often unavailable.

United States Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics

Federal agencies were more likely to lead labor trafficking investigations (29%) than sex trafficking investigations (7%).

More than half (62%) of the confirmed labor trafficking victims were age 25 or older, compared to 13% of confirmed sex trafficking victims.

Four-fifths of victims in confirmed sex trafficking incidents were identified as U.S. citizens (83%), while most confirmed labor trafficking victims were identified as undocumented aliens (67%) or qualified aliens (28%).

Trafficking.org Statistics

Minor victims were sold an average of **10-15 times a day, 6 days a week.**

1 out of 5 pornographic images is of a child.

The sale of child pornography has become a \$3 billion dollar industry.

Over 100,000 websites offer child pornography. 55% of internet child pornography comes from the United States.

How Many People Are Actually Trafficked?

- The United States Department of State 2012 and 2013 Report on Trafficking in Person (TIP) states:
- It is estimated that as many as 27 million men, women, and children around the world are victims of "human trafficking" at any given time.
- The work that remains in combating this crime is the work of fulfilling the promise of freedom—freedom from slavery, for those exploited, and the freedom for survivors to carry on with their lives.

Estimates, not Statistics for the United States

The Congressional Research Service estimates that as many as 17,500 people are believed to be trafficked into the United States each year, and some have estimated that **100,000 U.S. citizen children** are victims of trafficking within the United States.

Incidence in the United States

trafficking.org estimate of underage domestic trafficking in the United States:

- There are 100,00 to 300,000 underage girls being sold for sex in America.
- The average age of entry into prostitution is 12 - 14 years old.
- 50,000 women and children are trafficked into the United States each year.
- 1 out of 3 teens on the street will be lured toward prostitution within 48 hours of running away from home.

Labor Victims

Victims of domestic servitude in the U.S. are most often foreign national women with or without documentation living in the home of their employer. Men and boys may also be victims, but these cases are less common.

Some other examples of domestic workers are:

Factory Workers
Gardening Workers
Nail Salon Workers
Others

Prevention

Education and awareness is an important component of prevention. This includes:

Human Trafficking Education in Schools
K-12 Curriculum
Higher Education Courses/Certificate Programs
Community Awareness and Education

Education in the Schools

A first step in addressing human trafficking in schools is to educate boys to respect girls, and for all children to respect each other. School age children need to be taught to be aware of the dangers of traffickers and how to protect themselves from traffickers' tactics.

Education

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men." -Frederick Douglass



Picture National Archives and Records Administration

Education empowers young people to raise awareness and find ways to combat human trafficking in their community.

Student Efforts

Project Stay Gold is a student abolitionist movement at Jefferson Township Middle and High Schools in NJ. It started in 2010 when a student asked how she and her friends could "do something" about human trafficking as they were learning about the Triangle Trade, slavery, and the Civil War with its connection to today.

They have created a curriculum which they teach to their peers, encouraging fellow students to become abolitionists, and inspiring curriculum development in other schools.

Student Efforts

1. Eighth graders present to sixth and seventh graders
2. The school guidance counselor speaks to eighth graders about personal safety and the warning signs of trafficking.
3. They raise awareness through social media by posting pictures and stories.
4. They make posters using appalling, surprising and impacting images.
5. They want peers to create an abolitionist club to help spread the word.
6. They want other students to educate themselves and tell their peers what they learned.

More Education

The US Fund for UNICEF has curricula on human trafficking on its website.

One curriculum is for grades 6 - 8, and one is for grades 9-12.

Human Trafficking Education Program in NYC Public Schools

The Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives, is leading an innovative Human Trafficking Education program in NYC Public Schools. The mission and the method of the program are to "Stop Human Trafficking in Our Communities By Educating Students and Empowering them to Take Action!"

Community Awareness

Most Americans have little - if any - awareness of human trafficking. Even those that have heard of human trafficking, are usually somewhat uninformed.

Some believe that incidents of trafficking might occur somewhere else in the world-- probably in some distant foreign country - not where they live or work. Not in the USA.

Community Awareness (cont'd)

- The belief is often held *that women from poor foreign countries choose to come to this country and work as prostitutes or in low paying jobs because it is better than the life they left behind.*
- The truth is that they are tricked, most often, into a slave trade. Men, women, and children are then exploited for both sex and labor. It most definitely exists in our neighborhoods and workplace, and might even involve our own children.

Community Awareness (cont'd)

- Most are horrified when they learn that people with whom they interact every day - a maid, a manicurist, a landscaper, a restaurant worker - may in fact be held against their will, exploited and abused.
- More people are enslaved today than ever were enslaved during the transatlantic slave trade of the past.

Prosecution & Protection Laws

I will focus now on existing anti-trafficking laws which deal with the prosecution of offenders as well as victim protection and services:

United States Law
New Jersey Law
International Law

United States Law

The Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act (TVPA) is a federal statute.

It created the first comprehensive federal law to address human trafficking, with a significant focus on the international dimension of the problem.

United States Law

The law provides a three-pronged approach:
Prevention through public awareness programs overseas - with a State Department-led monitoring and sanctions program;

Protection through a new T-Visa and services for foreign national victims, and

Prosecution through new federal crimes laws.

The States

Today, all 50 states have human trafficking laws. But the laws vary greatly in definition and areas covered.

The implementation of these laws is dismal, judging by the few cases brought to the justice system in proportion to the extent of the crimes.

Safe Harbor Laws

Bradley Myles, CEO, Polaris Project, emphasizes that:

It is still possible for child victims of sex trafficking to be arrested and prosecuted for prostitution in dozens of states. He urges more states to pass 'Safe Harbor' laws that provide support for these young victims of exploitation and abuse.

New Jersey Law

Human Trafficking Prevention, Protection, and Treatment Act

May 2013

New Jersey Law

The important provision of this legislation are:

Unjust convictions can be removed from a survivor's (victim's) record.

Victims will be able to testify against traffickers via closed circuit TV, so that she will not be further traumatized by in person confrontation.

Survivors of labor trafficking whose abuse left him with years of medical bills can sue his trafficker for cost.

New Jersey Law (cont'd)

The National Hotline number (a product of Polaris Project, an organization that works with victims) will be posted where victims are most likely to see it - a billboard campaign is underway on major NJ highways. **1-888-373-7888 or text BeFree (233733).** *(It is a national, toll-free hotline, available to answer calls and texts from anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year.)*

New Jersey Law (cont'd)

The law will also create a 15 member Human Trafficking Commission, criminalize additional activities, and increase penalties.

It will increase protection to victims from a Human Trafficking Survivor's Assistance Fund.

New Jersey Law (cont'd)

It would also provide for increased training and public awareness.

It would establish the Prostitution Offender Program, a "Johns' School," as well as mandating a fine, some of which would go into the Human Trafficking Survivors' Assistance Fund.

Existing Law - International

The Palermo Protocol is a protocol to the Convention* against Transnational Organized Crime - to date it has been ratified by 163 Nations.

The International Labor Organization Convention* Against the Worst Forms of Child Labor. (Was ratified by the US Dec 2, 1999.)

*Convention means Treaty.

Sweden's Example

Swedish law makes it illegal to buy prostitution services, but not illegal to sell services. This law was designed to prevent human trafficking for sex. The buyer (John) is subject to a jail term and to a fine. In addition, he may have to pay damages to the victim.

The reviews are somewhat mixed, but in general, it is said that trafficking has decreased greatly.

International Promises

The promise of freedom is not unique to the United States, but has become an international promise through Article 4 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Lured by Fairy Tale Promises, She Learned Not Every Prince is Charming.



“Sex Trafficking Awareness Poster”

http://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/blue-campaign/BC_8.5x11_Poster_Fairy_tale.pdf

From the 2014 US Department of State - TIP Report

“In the 14 years the United States has produced the Trafficking in Persons Report, the world has made tremendous progress in the fight against human trafficking. ... One fact will remain certain: what has happened to the victims of modern slavery can never be undone.

For those who have endured the exploitation of modern slavery, even the most effective justice system and the most innovative efforts to prevent future trafficking will not reverse the abuse and trauma that millions of trafficking victims have endured.”

Statement about Victims from 2014 US Department of State TIP Report

“With the right support and services, however, victims can move beyond their suffering and forward with their lives. With the right legal structures and policies, they can see justice done.

With the right opportunities, they can make choices about the lives they want and even use their experiences to help guide and strengthen efforts to fight this crime.

This process is unique for each victim, and each must take steps based on his or her own strength, agency, and determination.”

The Big Question - What Can We Do?

1. The First Step we can check off - Become aware of the problem. That is what we are doing here.
2. Attend more community forums that address human trafficking.
3. Follow legislation.
4. Advocate for stronger legislation.
5. Explore what is being done locally to find perpetrators.
6. Explore what is being done locally to help victims.
 - I. Help locally if we can.
 - II. If there are job training programs in the area for victims, find out if they need clothing for interviews and donate.

Want To Do More?

1. Work with local town council members to introduce tough regulation or to enforce existing regulation of certain massage parlors, nail salons, farms where trafficked workers may be working, or hair braiding salons.
2. Work with legislators on existing and new bills, advocating for tougher enforcement, and increased victim services and assistance.
3. Work with counselors and others who help trafficked victims start over; find out if they need donations (clothing/toiletries/baby clothes) or even temporary shelter.

More

5. Form new partnerships, e.g., School of Social Work, Women's Studies, Junior Leagues, the League of Women Voters, etc. and join together in raising greater awareness and education via co-partnered community forums.
6. Work closely with E.R. hospital rooms, women's shelters, domestic violence centers, women's prisons, etc. as trafficked victims are turning more and more to these places for help. Many of these organizations are seeing increased numbers of victims and want to help these victims.
7. Work with your state coalition against human trafficking and/or the state taskforce against human trafficking.

More

8. Visit Polaris Project: www.polarisproject.org and learn how to identify the signs of trafficked victims, the types of trafficking in the US, where your state stands on advocacy and legislation, as well as resources. Find books and short films/documentaries on the Polaris site that you can turn into an educative community event.
9. Visit ECPAT: www.ecpatusa.org: End Child Prostitution and Trafficking and partner with them to raise awareness to hotel managers via trainings about sex tourism.
10. Save this number to your cell phone: **National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC):**
1-888-3737-888 - reporting is anonymous. YOU CAN SAVE A LIFE.

Nobel Peace Prize Winners Malala Yousafzai and Kailash Satyarthi

"Not hundreds of thousands, but I am afraid millions of children are trafficked within the country every year." ¹⁴ -Kailash Satyarthi



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