

Human Trafficking

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Preface

The United Nations defines human trafficking as, "The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation" (Cullen-DuPont 9).

Slavery is believed to no longer exist because of its worldwide abolishment. However, behind a curtain of propaganda, disbelief, and denial, there exists a tragic truth; the truth is that proves that the chains of enslavement still remain strong. This reality is played out by Third World countries, but is not isolated to their borders. With the transnational operation called human trafficking, slavery remains alive and thriving. No country can say that their borders are not affected in some way by trafficking. Canada is no exception. It is estimated that 800 people are trafficked into Canada each year (Cullen- DuPont 7).

Human trafficking may seem like an invisible issue. But truly human trafficking is happening everywhere! It is an issue that not only concerns the country or place from which these people are taken, but also the country or place to which they are trafficked.

Human trafficking is a violation of human rights. It forces people to do something they do not want to do, which is takes away individual freedoms and rights. According to the Trafficking in Persons report of 2009, "88% of victims of human

trafficking are women and children,” and “It is the second largest criminal activity worldwide, after arms and drugs” (ILO). Every year, according to the United Nations, between one million and four million people are trafficked around the world.

Human trafficking is also called “trafficking in persons”. Human trafficking happens for many different reasons: some want a better life, some need money and some are tricked into it. Many people agree to leave their home country in hopes of a better life. They are tricked into leaving and end up with large debts that they cannot pay off without doing their new “jobs”. These jobs can range from hard labour to sexual exploitation. Unfortunately sexual exploitation is the largest reason for human trafficking. It accounts for almost half with 46%; the next highest reason is domestic servitude with 27% (Cullen- DuPont 259). (See Appendix I.)

Many of the victims of human trafficking are women and girls. The most at risk victims are women who face poverty, or are widowed, abandoned or orphaned. In some cases families who live in poverty sell their children to be trafficked as a means to survive. On a global scale, the inhabitants of this world create a necessity for human trafficking. The clients of human trafficking could be anyone. If there were no misuse of power over other people, and no demand for it, human trafficking would not exist.

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Summary

The objective of this report is to inform and create an understanding of human trafficking . This report will look into the reasons behind human trafficking in different parts of the world. Also, it will look into why this issue is more prevalent in some countries than in others, how it affects other countries, and to what extent. Human trafficking will be looked at in three countries in different regions of the world, to try to create a better understanding for readers of what is really going on with human trafficking. After thoroughly examining this issue, it is hoped that the reader finishes with a better knowledge of the issue and a curiosity to look into it further.

This report contains insight into aspects of the crime human trafficking. It looks at different aspects of the issue which have been compiled from many sources including: books, newspaper and magazine articles, web sites and films. There is also an interview with Hayley Shutter, researcher from the organization "Free the Slaves". This report explains the definition of the issue of human trafficking and why it is a significant world issue. It covers the history of slavery and the background of the issue. This report includes information by a Canadian expert, Benjamin Perrin, and his contributions to the issue. The role of control is explored through two views: the person/ people who have it and the person/ people who need it. Who should be concerned about the issue is also explained. The views of slavery by different religions are also explored.

Case studies from Thailand, Russia and Nigeria are also looked into. International organizations such as the United Nations and others will be examined, and their contributions to the issue will be investigated. This report also contains Canada's role in the issue, where we stand and what we are doing to help. In conclusion, this report offers possible solutions to human trafficking and plans for prevention. In general, this report will provide information to further expand the reader's knowledge of human trafficking.

Background

The real history behind human trafficking is unknown, but the misleading of people into slavery has been going on for centuries. The history of slavery traces back to before the 16th century. Sadly, the misleading of people has repeatedly occurred in our history as well. The trans-Atlantic slave trade started because European countries needed people to work in their "New World" (North and South America). These people were Africans who became slaves and worked as servants or labourers in cotton plantations and much more. The trans-Atlantic slave trade also brought about the "Triangular Trade" (Boddy-Evans).

The first stage of the Triangular Trade involved taking manufactured goods from Europe to Africa: cloth, spirits, tobacco, beads, cowrie shells, metal goods, and guns. The guns were used to help expand empires and obtain more slaves (until they were finally used against European colonizers). These goods were exchanged for African slaves. The second stage of the Triangular Trade (the middle passage) involved

shipping the slaves to the Americas. The third, and final, stage of the Triangular Trade involved the return to Europe with the produce from the slave-labour plantations: cotton, sugar, tobacco, molasses and rum (Boddy-Evans). (See Appendix I)

These people were worked very hard and were paid no money. Also, female slaves were often forced to sleep with their owners, or forced into sleeping with other slaves to create the next generation of hard working people which the owner did not have to pay. Sexual exploitation existed then as women slaves were being used, much like in today's society with human trafficking. Although slavery is thought to have been abolished worldwide many years ago, it still exists today, as human trafficking (Boston).

Another example of our world's past and its ties to human trafficking happened during the Second World War. The mistreatment of Jews in the Holocaust was a tragedy that can be closely linked to human trafficking. Adolf Hitler decided at the Wannsee Conference in 1942 to create a plan he called the "Final solution", which was to get rid of the Jewish population. To do so the Jews were forced by Hitler to leave their homes and were told they were going to be moved to "new camps". The new camps were often work camps where the Jews were stuck doing forced labour. Many could not survive as they were not given enough water or food. This relates to human trafficking because it shows the misleading of Jews into the camps and ghettos. Also, extreme amounts of forced labour with no pay, little or no food and poor housing, is much like the conditions of most victims of human trafficking.

Human trafficking is a large worldwide issue. It has existed since people were able to easily move from continent to continent. The reason that it still occurs is demand. Demand for women and girls for sexual exploitation and for hard-working men that receive very little pay. The logic of the employers is, "Why hire a person from my own country, when I can get trafficked people and pay them little to nothing?"

As previously mentioned, human trafficking is the second largest worldwide crime, after the illegal drug trade. United Nations estimates that every year worldwide "the total market value of illicit human trafficking [is] \$32 billion (USD), about \$10 (USD) billion derived from the initial "sale" of individuals, with the remainder representing the estimated profits from the activities or goods produced by the victims of this barbaric crime" (Cullen- DuPont 5).

Trafficking in persons brings in billions of dollars every year. As mentioned earlier, demand is a large aspect of the problem. In the U.S 2005 TIP report the connection between consumer demand and global sex trafficking is stated very bluntly: "Market demand - especially from male sex buyers - creates a strong profit incentive for traffickers to entrap more victims, fuelling the growth of trafficking in persons " (Cullen- DuPont 28).

The reason for victims to get trapped into this crime is almost the same everywhere. People in poverty-stricken countries are always looking for a better life. As life in their home country gets worse, the number of people trafficked rises. Whether these victims are sold by their parents or tricked into leaving, they all leave for the

same reason: a better life. Human trafficking has progressed with worldwide poverty into a horrendous crime.

One recent major step forward in this issue was the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children. It states that:

Sixty-three percent of the 155 countries with laws against human trafficking are addressing the major forms like sexual exploitation and slave labour. Fifty-four percent of these countries have dedicated a special anti-human trafficking police squad to plan and deal with this issue. In November 2008, eighty percent of these countries now have a specific offence for those who are caught in the human trafficking business. There were 91 countries with at least one prosecution, 73 with two, 47 with at least ten prosecutions, and 15 making more than fifty. (Office)

The Blue Heart campaign was started after the agreement of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons. The Blue Heart Campaign raises awareness of the problem and inspires those with decision-making power to effect change. The Blue Heart represents the sadness of those who are trafficked while reminding us of the cold-heartedness of those who buy and sell fellow human beings. The use of the blue UN colour also demonstrates the commitment of the United Nations to combatting this crime against human dignity (Blue Heart).

The Expert

There has not been a winner of The Nobel Peace Prize for the prevention of human trafficking. There have been a few Nobel Peace Prize winners who have been human rights activists, but none specifically linked to the issue of human trafficking. A renowned expert on this issue is Benjamin Perrin of the University of British Columbia, who is the founder of the non-governmental organization "The Future Group" (Perrin).

Benjamin Perrin is a Canadian lawyer and activist. He is an assistant professor at the University of British Columbia and also a researcher there. The Future Group is an organization that hopes to raise awareness of human trafficking and the child sex trade. The Future Group works to: prevent human trafficking by working with source countries to address root causes including deterring the demand side of the industry; protect trafficking victims including rescue, rehabilitation and, when appropriate, repatriation and reintegration efforts; and, prosecute traffickers and commercial sex-users in criminal proceedings (Perrin).

Perrin studied human trafficking in law school. He was shocked at how little Canada was doing and the lack of protection for these victims. Finally, in 2006, Perrin's voice was heard and Citizenship and Immigration Canada started a database to help track human trafficking cases. Perrin also teaches university students about international criminal law. He states, "I teach the next generation, in hopes that something will change. Awareness is the key and Canada needs to step up and take part because we, too, play a role in human trafficking" (Perrin).

Perrin tried very hard to get the attention of the Canadian government but was getting nowhere. In 2006, he wrote a small report comparing Canada to countries we are considered comparable to, like the United Kingdom and Australia. It showed how Canada was failing in our efforts against human trafficking. Perrin got the attention of the Canada's Foreign Affairs minister and, within two months, was able to get temporary residence permits for trafficking victims in Canada. Perrin has been actively trying to help victims of trafficking through the government and his own organization. Perrin also wrote a book called Invisible Chains: Canada's Underground World of Human Trafficking, which talks about the harsh realities of human trafficking in Canada (Perrin).

Perrin has also served as senior policy advisor to the Honourable Monte Soleburg, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. He completed a clerkship at the Supreme Court of Canada under Madam Justice Marie Deschamps. In 2009 Perrin was recognized by the United States Department of State as a "hero in the fight against modern-day slavery" for his efforts and works in human trafficking (UBC).

Role of Control

The main people with control in this issue are the traffickers themselves. They are the ones making the money after selling the victims to other countries for sexual exploitation or for work. The chiefs of human-trafficking operations make enormous amounts of money by doing this. The UN predicts that annually \$10 billion comes from

the selling of people, which means either the traffickers themselves or their bosses are making a lot of money. They are considered the “bad guys”.

These “bad guys” can be anybody. They can be anyone from high school dropouts to PhDs. The interest is the same for all of them: making money off of the selling and trading of people. As seen in the movie Human Trafficking, in Europe the easiest way for traffickers to get young women is by pretending to be a modeling agency. This does not just happen in movies, but in real life as well. The traffickers will often tell these young women that they can become models in America, but once they get to America, they are used as sex slaves.

Although being the trafficker is a shameful and sad job, the consumer is also guilty of human trafficking. If there were no people who paid to have sex with these women and employed these underpaid people then human trafficking would not exist. These consumers are often from developed countries like Japan where prostitution is illegal but somehow loopholes are found and these victims become prostitutes there.

“Who needs control?” is a question that is hard to answer. The obvious answer is the victims, but the problem with this answer is that without the help of governments all over the world, these people will not get the information they need. It is not only the victims that need control, but countries need more control in the immigration and investigation of human trafficking. Even if one country is covering its borders, it does not protect them from the possibility that their people could be trafficked in or out of their country every day.

Every year 800,000 people are trafficked around the world. Out of 192 countries, the UN believes 161 are involved with human trafficking. There are many human rights activists who are supporters of the prevention and raising the awareness of human trafficking. The problem is there are not enough people or countries that see human trafficking as a crime (Cullen- DuPont 28).

The reality is people are dying from being trafficked and worked too hard. It is hard to say how many exactly die from human trafficking, but the causes of death are clear. Amongst women and girls in the sex trade, catching HIV/ AIDS or any other sexually transmitted diseases is common. There are more health risks such as alcohol or drug addiction, physical injuries, and a form of traumatic brain injury. In both victims of forced labour and sexual exploitation, malnutrition leads to diseases such as malaria and sometimes death.

Much like in our history where slaves were breeding more slaves, often in brothels children are born into the industry. Many of the women in the brothels are victims of human trafficking. There are generations being raised without seeing the outside world. Unfortunately, if a child born into a brothel, it is nearly impossible to get out.

The people who care about human trafficking the most are the survivors. Victims that have survived have created an organization called "Made by Survivors". This organization creates jewellery, bags, wallets and clothes to sell. With the profits they

gain from their sales, they use the money to help other victims. They also raise awareness by speaking out about their experiences (Made).

It is evident that someone must care and do something about this issue. The question is: whose problem is it? The answer is: everyone's. No country can say they're innocent, or that they do not play a role in the issue. People are being misled, tricked, malnourished, catching diseases and dying every day. Approximately 2192 people are trafficked every day. Of those 2192 people, roughly 1755 are women and children, and almost all of the 2192 will catch some form of disease within the first year of work. Anyone that believes that slavery is wrong, should care about human trafficking. Human trafficking is the modern day slavery of the 21st century. It is no longer a question of race or colour; it is now a question of vulnerability (Cullen-DuPont 237).

Religious and Spiritual Views

Religion does not have a great effect on human trafficking. In many cases victims of human trafficking lose faith in their religion. They do not understand why they bother praying, if nothing is going to change. These people may have been quite religious before, but over time, lose faith in their own religion.

In the Hinduism practiced in India, the caste system and slavery are closely connected. It is not only Hinduism but also other religions such as Christianity and Islam which use the caste system as well. The caste system puts people in groups or rankings. The highest ranking caste in India is the Brahmins who are the middlemen between god and man. In the lowest ranking are the Shudras and Chandalas, who are

the labour workers. These people are treated as slaves and even worse are considered "untouchable" and are not allowed to sit in religious rituals with higher class people.

The only way to climb higher in the caste system is to marry into a higher class. The only problem is that people of the lowest classes cannot marry anyone higher than themselves. This leaves these lower class people stuck working for the higher class people. Much like in cases with victims of human trafficking, the victims are vulnerable and usually lower class, poor people. Once the victims find themselves in a hole, it is very hard for them to get out. This is similar to how the lower class the "untouchables" were never able to obtain a higher ranking (Jayaram).

In Buddhism, the logic of karma and reincarnation are the main reasons that justify slavery. They believe that to become a slave the person must have made poor decisions in their previous life which has put them in this position. A religious figure of this religion is the Dalai Lama who says, "Peace can only last where human rights are respected, where the people are fed, and where individuals and nations are free." With this it is clear that the Dalai Lama is against slavery, but some believers of the logic of karma may still exist (Free).

Slavery is disapproved of in the Islamic faith. In the Quran in Sura 90 it states that the path to righteousness involves "the freeing of slaves". They are opposed to the slavery of Africans and debt bondage; which is a practice where people sell themselves or their children to pay off debts. A religious figure of this religion, Muhammad Ali, once said,

""There are three categories of people against whom I shall myself be a plaintiff on the Day of Judgment. Of these three, one is he who enslaves a free man, then sells him and eats this money" (Free).

Case Studies

Thailand

Every year an estimated 2.5 million people around the world are forced into hard labour and sexual exploitation as a result of human trafficking. Asia and the Pacific have the largest number of people forced into labour. Out of 2.5 million people trafficked, an estimated 1.4 million are from this area. This means that a little over half (56%) of human trafficking occurs in parts of Asia and the Pacific. For example, Thailand is a country of source, a transit point, and a destination country for human trafficking (Thailand).

It is said that human trafficking and prostitution in Thailand grew extensively after 1960. The reason for this is believed to be because many American soldiers went to Thailand on leave while fighting in the Vietnam War. A number of these soldiers stayed in Thailand even after the war was over. It is believed it was the American men that fuelled the human trafficking and prostitution industries (Thailand).

The power of this issue itself lies in the hands of many people. These people are the traffickers, the brothel owners, employers of slaves and the corrupt government employees. The traffickers because they are selling and using the innocent people, and the brothel owners for prostituting the women and children. Between 300,000 and 2.8 million females are prostituted due to human trafficking. One third of these are children

and minors. The employers of victims have power because they fuel the trafficking to the country. The employers are the ones looking for people that they can use for cheap labour. Lastly is the corruption in the government officials. Many police and other government workers are known to take bribes when dealing with these types of issues. These are the officials that allow the victims to enter or leave the country. They are also the officials that see the brothels but get bribed not to do or say anything about it. These officials are often policemen (Thailand).

Human trafficking is a large issue in Thailand but it is also a main reason that the economy still moves. The employers in Thailand depend on the victims of trafficking. It is also true for brothel owners. Everyone depends on these people. It is unknown how many people die from being overworked victims. What is known is that brothel owners simply replace women as needed when the existing women catch HIV/AIDS or even die. The industry continues, which then involves even more of the society.

As a source, many Thai women and girls are trafficked to Japan, Malaysia, and South Africa, Bahrain, Australia, Singapore, Europe, Canada and the United States for sexual and labour exploitation. Many Thai are lured to Taiwan, Malaysia, the United States, and the Middle East by labour recruiting agencies and are forced into involuntary servitude because of the high debt owed to the agencies. These women are not only trafficked for sexual exploitation but also for sweatshop labour. Men are also trafficked for commercial fishery, farm, industrial and construction labour (Thailand).

Thailand is the perfect place as a transit country. Because of the fact that it is accessible by water and it is also in the centre of many other Asian countries, Thailand

is a preferred place for transit. A number of women and girls from Burma, Cambodia, and Vietnam transit through Thailand's southern border to Malaysia for sexual exploitation, primarily in Johor Bahru, near Singapore. Burmese, Khmer, Lao and ethnic minority girls/young women have been reported trafficked into major urban centres through Thailand to countries such as Malaysia, Japan and destinations in Europe and North America (Thailand).

Thailand is also a destination country for men, women, and children who are trafficked from Burma, Cambodia, Laos, People's Republic of China, Russia, and Uzbekistan for sexual and labour exploitation. Children are trafficked for commercial sex and forced labour in begging, fishing, and fish processing. Sometimes entire families are trafficked for forced labour in sweatshops. Part of the reason this occurs is that employers can pay trafficked people much less and the victims will do the same work as their regular workers. Therefore forcing these people to work as their employees is convenient and less expensive (Thailand).

A large issue in Thailand, is that victims of trafficking have very few rights. For example, male victims are not included in the protection against trafficking under Thai law. Therefore employers see no problem with forced labour, as the male victims are not protected. Children are often sold to companies or operations for the sex industry. About 10% of the people in Thailand live below the national poverty line, so families that require money often sell off their oldest daughters into the trade (Thailand).

Thailand and its trafficking is a never-ending cycle. There are always people

escaping their homeland in search of a better life. These people work at the jobs that either the Thai people don't want or that the employer wants done cheaply. The Thai people often leave in search of a better life and end up in countries like Japan, Europe and North America. Hundreds of victims pass through Thailand as a path to reach their destination. Many argue that Thailand is a destination for human trafficking because of its relative affluence in the Greater Sub-Mekong Region (Thailand).

The Thai Government was placed in Tier 2 in the 2009 U.S. Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report for not fully complying with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act's minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking; however, the government is making significant efforts to comply. The government has also agreed to the 1997 Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Women and Children Act, which criminalizes trafficking for sexual exploitation. This act created penalties which range from imprisonment for a year to life, and fines of \$50 to \$1000. Penalties for trafficking of children between the ages of 15 to 18 range from 3 to 15 years of imprisonment, and a fine. Penalties for trafficking children under the age of 15 range from 5 to 20 years of imprisonment, and a fine (Hughes).

The first thing that should be done is to provide protection for victims of human trafficking. Although females and children are protected by the law, this does not seem to be enforced. Men and victims from abroad also need protection. Forced labour needs to be addressed as an issue, and sex tourism needs to be strictly banned. Tighter immigration laws may help this situation. It is not only Thailand that needs these laws and restrictions; for it to be successful the surrounding countries such as Malaysia and

Laos also need to create these laws as well. In order to assure all the surrounding countries will also tighten their immigration laws, a treaty could be signed to assure the participation of all countries.

Another thing that will help significantly is awareness. This is already starting to occur. In 2008 a large seminar was held in Bangkok on the protection that children should have from trafficking and sexual exploitation. At this seminar were multiple UN agencies and other NGO's. It is believed that if victims can see the danger and know it is coming, it becomes more avoidable (Hughes).

Nigeria

Nigeria has acquired a reputation for being one of the leading African countries in human trafficking, with both cross-border and internal trafficking. Trafficking of persons is the second largest crime after the drug trade. The policy paper on human trafficking in Nigeria has stated that:

decades of military regimes in Nigeria have led to the institutionalized violation of human rights and severe political, social and economic crises. This negatively impacts the development of community participation, especially of women and children, despite international institutions designed to advance their causes. In addition, the oil boom in the 1970s created opportunities for migration both inside and outside of the country. This created avenues for exploitation, for international trafficking in women and children, for forced labour and for prostitution. (Human Trafficking in Nigeria)

Nigeria is listed by the United Nations as among the world's top 11 origin countries for modern-day slaves. The Women's Consortium of Nigeria, a Nigerian based Women's rights organization states that, "the most donating African country to the global sex industry is Nigeria." It is also estimated that each year 45,000 Nigerians, mostly women and girls, are trafficked to Europe alone. In Italy more than 60 percent of prostitutes are found to be Nigerian, and many of these women are believed to be trafficking victims. In Great Britain, more than 80 percent of African trafficking victims are found to have come from Nigeria (Cullen- DuPont 77).

West African destination countries for trafficked Nigerian women and children are The Republic of Benin, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, Gabon and Guinea. In these countries most trafficked persons are destined to work as domestic servants and on farm plantations. In Europe, trafficked Nigerian victims usually end up in countries like Germany, Belgium, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. These victims usually become domestic servants (Human Trafficking in Nigeria).

As a transit country, Nigeria is the centre of distribution to West Africa and to Cameroon and Gabon. As a destination, Nigeria receives Togolese women, as well as young girls and children from Benin, Liberia, Mali, Burkina Faso and Ghana. Over the years Buzu women from the Niger Republic have been trafficked into homes in northern Nigeria to serve as household helpers (Human Trafficking in Nigeria).

In many cases children, usually girls, are sold to traffickers by their parents. Orphans are also at great risk because they are living alone on the streets and can

be easily lured into the business. For example, in Awaka Ibo State of Nigeria, 120 people were killed due to a witch hunt and the aftermath of this event left many children without parents. These children were then known as the “witches” or “wizards”. With no one taking care of them and no one keeping track of these children, they were easily kidnapped into the hands of the traffickers (Wedam).

Power in Nigeria is an unusual case. Like in many countries, the government and immigration have much to do with power. The lack of laws and procedures is a problem. What is unlike other countries is that husbands will sell or send off their wives to be trafficked. In Nigeria it is common for girls as young as 15 to marry a man 12 years older. The problem with this is that these young girls have no idea what they are getting into. They are not generally asked to provide consent, nor are they informed about reproductive matters. Once they are married, they are at extreme risk for complications of pregnancy. Because they are so young, their bodies have not had time to grow. Poor nutrition, early pregnancy, and lack of medical care during pregnancy and childbirth are risk factors for obstetric fistula. Obstetric fistula causes women to be unable to control bladder and/or bowel functions. This is when they are sold by their husbands because they are seen as defective. It is hard to believe that trafficking is in the hands of men, or as they see it, owners of women.

The high profits and low risks of punishment for human trafficking make it an easy, attractive business. African traffickers face low risk of arrest, prosecution or other negative consequences. They have exploited the lack of the rule of law, the non-implementation of existing anti-slavery laws, and the corruption of judicial systems.

These lapses allow perpetrators to go unpunished. Prosecutions are rare and fraught with difficulties (Human Trafficking in Nigeria).

The lack of penalties for human trafficking in Nigeria is what makes it an easy business. The first thing that should happen is to create laws or punishments against trafficking. This will also increase the amount of human rights for the country. Also, awareness would help the situation. WOTCLEF (Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation) works to create awareness in Nigerians and the international community of the effects on women of trafficking and child labour migration. If more people knew what was going on, more could be done to prevent it. (Human Trafficking in Nigeria).

Russia

Russia is a very difficult country to detect human trafficking, simply because the government does not see it as being a problem in their country. In fact there are no laws identifying that human trafficking is a crime. Yet Russia is said to be in the top 10 countries worldwide of origin of victims of human trafficking.

Russia is mostly known as a country of source. The people most at risk are young women. Internally Russia has a known problem with prostitution and brothels. Usually the women working as prostitutes are the main targets of human traffickers. The statistics of human trafficking in Russia are hard to find because of its lack of acknowledgment by the government (Chance).

All that is known is that women are usually lured into sexual exploitation by large

agencies. Many of these agencies claim to be in the entertainment business (modeling and acting). Women sign up to leave their lives in Russia to move to the United States or other countries. When these women arrive at their destination countries, their passports and other valuable possessions are taken away, making it impossible to escape or return home (Russia).

As a destination country, it is hard to say how many people are brought into Russia. In many cases women have said they thought they were going to Moscow (Russia's capital) to receive education, but instead were put into brothels with other women (Russia).

The lack of basic laws for victim's rights is what causes human trafficking to be so successful in Russia. In order for Russia to get out of being in the top ten countries for human trafficking, it must create laws and regulations against prostitution and tighter enforcement on immigration laws. People need to be aware of these agencies and what happens when you fall into their traps. The government needs to want to change, and also their acknowledgment of the issue would help significantly to the efforts towards a solution (Russia).

International Organizations

There are many different organizations around the world today who are dealing with the issue of human trafficking. Some deal with the aspect of help for the victims, while others are more focused on the awareness aspect of the issue. Perhaps the most well known non-governmental organization is the United Nations. Since 1997, the

United Nations office on Drugs and Crime has been helping with, "achieving health, security and justice for all by tackling threats from illicit drugs, organized crime and terrorism worldwide" (United Nations).

The goal of the United Nations is, to ensure from the outset of any peace operation, that human trafficking, as a serious form of exploitation and abuse, is given due attention and is managed appropriately as a problem that can undermine core UN and peacekeeping objectives (United Nations).

Their two major objectives are:

1. To establish a system to monitor, prevent, minimize, investigate and punish involvement of peacekeeping personnel in activities that support human trafficking and other sexual exploitation and abuse, in support of the Secretary-General's zero tolerance stance; and
 1. Where mandated, have available the tools to establish and support national efforts to prevent and counter human trafficking in post-conflict environments, in particular through rule of law activities.
(United Nations Peace)

The United Nations have created three protocols against human trafficking: the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children; the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air.

The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially

Women and Children, was adopted by General Assembly resolution 55/25. It entered in to force on 25 December 2003. It is the first global legally binding instrument with an agreed definition on trafficking in persons. The intention behind this definition is to facilitate convergence in national approaches with regard to the establishment of domestic criminal offences that would support efficient international cooperation in investigating and prosecuting trafficking in persons cases. An additional objective of the Protocol is to protect and assist the victims of trafficking in persons with full respect for their human rights. (UNODC)

The Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, adopted by General Assembly resolution 55/25, entered in to force on 28 January 2004. It deals with the growing problem of organized criminal groups who smuggle migrants, often at high risk to the migrants and at great profit for the offenders.

A major achievement of the Protocol was that, for the first time in a global international instrument, a definition of smuggling of migrants was developed and agreed upon. The Protocol aims at preventing and combatting the smuggling of migrants, while protecting the rights of smuggled migrants and preventing the worst forms of their exploitation which often characterize the smuggling process.

(UNODC)

The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children was signed by 117 countries. Also, countries were placed into tiers according to their compliance with the TVPA (Trafficking Violence Protection Act). Tier 1 is complete compliance with the TVPA; Tier 2 is some efforts towards TVPA; and Tier 3 is no efforts to comply with the TVPA. Unfortunately many countries are still in Tier 3, therefore many countries are still not doing anything to help solve the issue. Although the United Nations tries very hard, without more support of other countries these protocols and protection acts will not work (Victims).

The Future Group

The Future Group is a non- governmental organization which is dedicated to combatting human trafficking and the child sex trade. This organization is Canadian-based, and created by Benjamin Perrin. It works to:

1. Prevent human trafficking by working with source countries to address root causes including deterring the demand side of the industry;
2. Protect trafficking victims including rescue, rehabilitation and, when appropriate, repatriation and reintegration efforts;
3. Prosecute traffickers and commercial sex-users in criminal proceedings.

The Future Group works in West Africa, Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America to help get at the roots of the issue. They work to educate the public about the causes of trafficking, and help relieve poverty in source countries to try and

lower the number of people in danger of being trafficked. Another one of its objectives is to support families that have someone taken from them and also any victims they can find and provide shelter and support (Future).

In 2002, this NGO launched a project called YOUWILLBECAUGHT.com. The purpose of it is to raise awareness of what is going on with human trafficking and the child sex trade around the world. It encourages law enforcement and has information on where countries stand on the issue. It also has a spot to report offenders which is helpful for those who need help but cannot get it anywhere else. It is encouraged that if you suspect that you, or someone around you, is in danger of being a victim, to report it to YOUWILLBECAUGHT.com so they can arrest the offender (YOU).

The Polaris Project

The Polaris Project is said to be one of largest anti- trafficking organizations in all of the United States and Japan. The Polaris Project was created to help victims with outreach programs, social service programs and transitional housing. This NGO also operates a National Human Trafficking Resource Centre serving as a central hotline on human trafficking. This NGO encourages people of the community to participate in local and national grassroots efforts . On April 30th, 2010 the Polaris Project commends the Alabama legislature and Governor for enacting Alabama's first comprehensive state anti-human trafficking legislation (Polaris).

Free the Slaves

Free the Slaves is a non-governmental organization that is trying to put an end to slavery. The organization started in 2000 and has grown to be a worldwide grassroots organization. It helps liberate slaves all over the world so they can rebuild their lives. Some victims need to be coached from the beginning simply because they have never been free. Often these slaves are victims of human trafficking. Free the Slaves states that human trafficking is the slave trade of the 21st century (Free).

Stop the Traffik

STOP THE TRAFFIK is a growing global movement of individuals, communities and organisations fighting to prevent the sale of people, protect the trafficked and prosecute the traffickers.

STOP THE TRAFFIK was set up in 2006 to:

- **Educate:** raise awareness and understanding of human trafficking and what can be done about it
- **Advocate:** engage with communities and professionals to create an environment where it is harder to traffik, hide and exploit people
- **Fundraise:** financing STOP THE TRAFFIK projects and anti-trafficking activities around the world which work with advocates, those vulnerable to and those who have been, trafficked. (STOP)

STOP THE TRAFFIK now has more than 1000 member organizations in 50 countries, and tens of thousands of activists all over the world. STOP THE TRAFFIK was created to raise awareness about the selling and buying of people. STOP THE TRAFFIK states that half of the victims of human trafficking are under 18. They would like young people to help in either raising awareness or donating money. Their saying is , "Think about it, Learn about it, Help stop it" (Stop).

Relations to Canada

Canada is mainly a destination country for human trafficking. The RCMP has estimated that roughly 800 foreign trafficking victims are brought into Canada each year. These victims do not only live in the big cities but are a well-hidden population. According to Canada's leading researcher of human trafficking, Benjamin Perrin, Romania, the Philippines, Moldova and China are the top four countries of origin of victims in Canada. Of the 31 foreign nationals flagged to immigration officials as potential human trafficking victims between May 2006 and 2008, four were minors. Also, twelve were granted temporary residence permits, seven were refused, and one victim's permit was cancelled. Furthermore, one of the victims went missing, and the 10 remaining people had their cases pending or obtained another form of immigration status. Perrin said these cases likely represent only a small number of the actual cases of human trafficking, since many victims won't come forward due to threats, violence and coercion (Growing).

Trafficking in persons only became a *Criminal Code* offence in November 2005. The lack of human trafficking prosecutions related to foreign victims is a startling gap in Canada's efforts to combat this problem, particularly given that law enforcement agencies continue to bring forward such victims. While victim protection is dominant, only prosecuting their traffickers successfully confronts this problem (Perrin).

"The RCMP is starting to have some success in identifying foreign victims," says Perrin. "However, none of their traffickers has been brought to justice. These

transnational criminals continue to operate with impunity." Perrin gave high marks to British Columbia and Alberta for spending money on victim services, but said Ontario and Quebec have done very little to help human trafficking victims. He faulted the federal government, however; for failing to create a national action plan to deal with the problem in Canada — "despite the efforts of a federal working group that has long promised such a strategy," Perrin said (Global).

Although Canada was one of the first countries to sign the United Nations protocol in 2000, our country has yet to do anything to help this issue. When victims are caught they are usually deported back to their home countries. Canada has been very late in combatting human trafficking and still lacks a national strategy to do so, despite the federal government's promise of one for years (Perrin).

Possible Solutions

There are many different solutions to this problem. Some of these solutions include:

- A) Do nothing
- B) Raise Awareness
- C) Increase funding for law enforcement
- D) Increase funding for victims of trafficking

Doing nothing is, sadly, what Canada has been doing. The more we, as a nation and as a world, choose to ignore the issue, the higher it will escalate. Without doing anything the problem will become bigger, making it even harder to handle. The longer we wait doing nothing, the greater the issue will become.

For many NGO's, raising awareness is possibly the best and simplest solution. When more people around the world are well-educated on the issue, the greater will be

the chance they can help to prevent it. Also, when educated about the issue, it may provoke more people into finding a solution.

There is a group, which was created strictly for the purpose of raising awareness about human trafficking; it is called the Human Trafficking Awareness Partnership Inc. It was started in June 2004 by a group of women in Florida. This group holds seminars and meetings for the public to learn more about human trafficking. The group highly recommends young people to join because they will be the ones who will be dealing with a greater issue if it is not addressed now (Awareness).

If more students took Global Issues as a class in school, awareness of more problems would become more relevant. By doing this we could lower the level of ignorance for following generations. Although it may seem like a harsh course, students will learn about these things sooner or later. The sooner people learn, the less of a problem it will be in the future.

The United Nations has created a campaign for raising awareness of human Trafficking called "The Blue Heart Campaign". "The Blue Heart Campaign"

represents:

the sadness of those who are trafficked while reminding us of the cold-

heartedness of those who buy and sell fellow human beings. The use of the blue

UN colour also demonstrates the commitment of the United Nations to

combatting this crime against human dignity.

In the same way that the red ribbon has become the international symbol of

HIV/AIDS awareness, this campaign aims to make the Blue Heart into an international symbol against human trafficking. By wearing "the Blue Heart" you will raise awareness of human trafficking and join the campaign to fight this crime. (Blue Heart)

In order to fund laws against human trafficking, there must be a law against it. Many countries still do not have any set rules against the issue. Also, countries like Canada, which do have laws, need more help enforcing the rules. This means that more people with power, such as the police and immigration officials need to be more aware of the issue.

In order to teach people about human trafficking, training will be necessary. Police and immigration officers do not know what they are looking for, therefore few people are arrested or caught at the border. In order to train them or get new equipment to help prevent victims from getting into or out of countries, money will be needed. Most likely this money will come from taxes. This is probably why funding for law enforcement has not yet occurred. People do not see human trafficking as an issue that governments should spend money on, therefore in many cases nothing is being done.

In many countries victims of human trafficking are seen as illegal immigrants. The UNOCD has come out with programs worldwide to identify illegal immigrants who are victims of human trafficking. These people are given support and are then usually returned to their home country. Some programs work against

re-victimization of the previous victims. For instance there are apprenticeships that the victims can apply for where they can learn a new trade and continue with their lives (Protecting).

Victims are encouraged to file lawsuits, if possible. During the trial, the victims and families are given great protection. It is also very necessary that victims receive all available aid, such as healthcare, and psychological care, due to the fact that the victims may not recover from the damage that has occurred during their time enslaved. Victims and their families can also go into the witness protection program and be located to a safe house (Protecting).

Although relief for victims is available, many cannot get out. This is because they are most likely stuck in situations where if they seek help, it will put their lives in danger. Many voices of victims go unheard and unseen because they cannot seek help. This could be a reason why most countries do not fund for victims, simply because they cannot see them (Protecting).

Conclusion

Human trafficking affects every country in the world. Whether it is as developed as the United States or as poverty-stricken as Nigeria, human trafficking occurs everywhere. It is a billion dollar industry and is the second largest international crime of the 21st century.

Women are mostly trafficked for sexual exploitation. They are put into brothels or are forced to work on the streets. These women usually catch a sexually transmitted

disease, which eventually they can die from. Female victims are often too afraid or are unable to reach out for help. In developed countries such as the United States, help is available; however, help is very limited in countries like Russia.

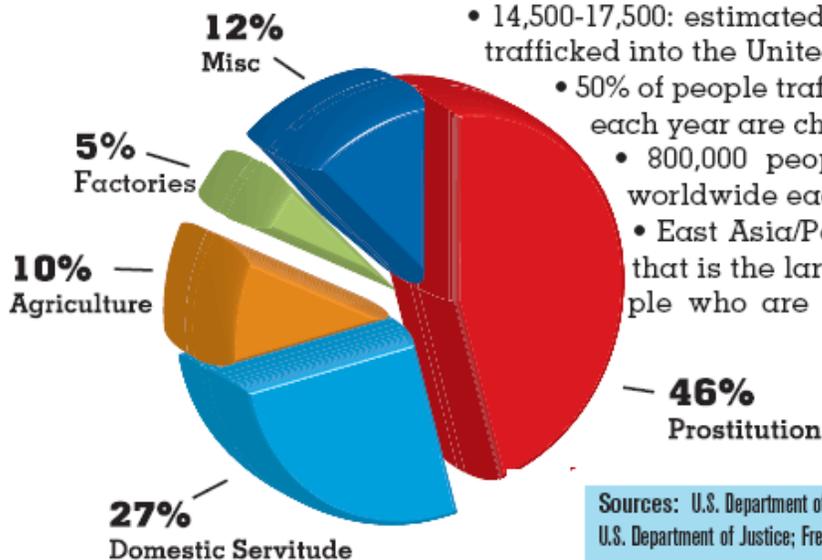
This is why many non-governmental organizations are determined to raise awareness, help victims, and prosecute the guilty. They want to raise awareness to help prevent this issue. If more people in danger of poverty were educated about human trafficking, then many people could be saved from facing this problem. Helping existing victims is the key to try and get them back to living their own lives. Finally, the prosecution of all that are involved and guilty of this horrific crime is very important.

Although there are many organizations working to do all the things mentioned above, the issue of human trafficking is far from being resolved. Governments all over the world need to acknowledge that this is an issue. It is an issue that cannot be stopped unless all countries agree and work together to find a solution.

Human trafficking will continue if it is not stopped. If victims cannot come out to be saved, free global citizens must be the ones to go and find them. If everyone in the world who knew about the issue told someone else and the word spread, the world would be one step closer to finding a solution. Making sure people who are in danger of being trafficked get warned and educated will make a difference. Human trafficking only exists because the people of this world let it happen and choose not to do anything about it.

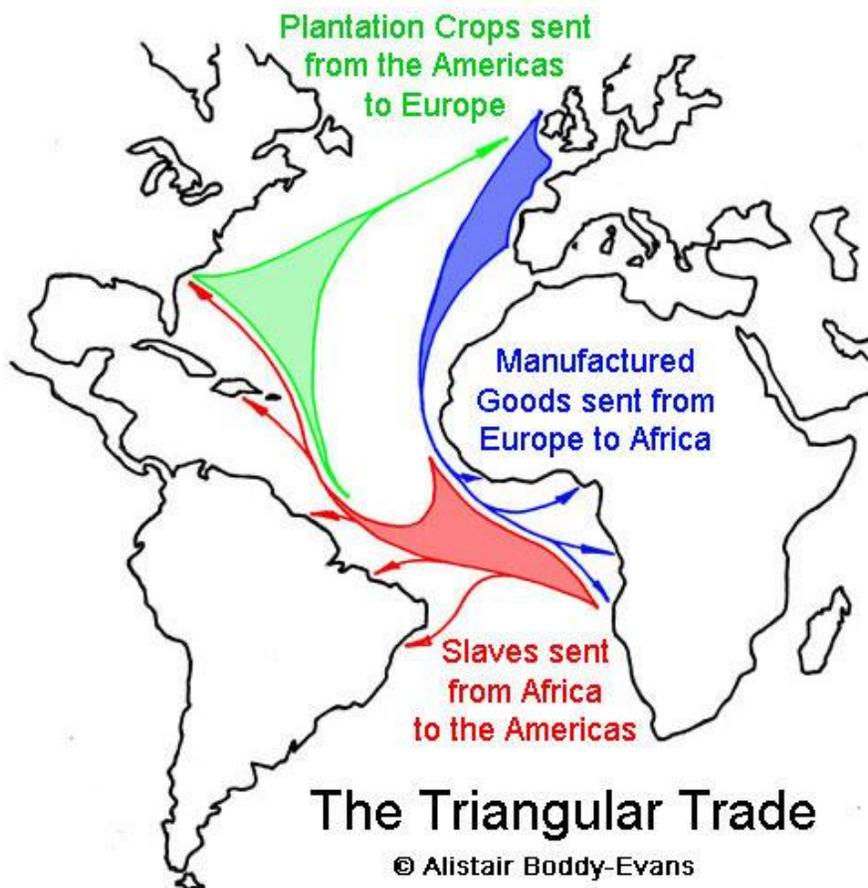
Appendices

Appendix I:



- 14,500-17,500: estimated number of people trafficked into the United States each year
- 50% of people trafficked into the U.S. each year are children
- 800,000 people are trafficked worldwide each year
- East Asia/Pacific is the region that is the largest source of people who are trafficked into the U.S. each year.

Sources: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
U.S. Department of Justice; Free the Slaves



Appendix II: Email Interview with Hayley Shutter from Free the Slaves

What is your definition of human trafficking?

There is no agreed upon standard definition of human trafficking and modern day slavery, however Free the Slaves defines as slave as “men, women and children forced to work without pay, under the threat of violence and unable to walk away.”

How long do think human trafficking has existed?

It is impossible to pinpoint an exact date or year in which human trafficking began. Transnational human trafficking by Europeans began as early as the sixteenth century; however, it is very likely that human trafficking could rival prostitution as the world’s oldest economic institution.

Why do you think human trafficking occurs?

Slavery is, in most instances, due to economic circumstances. The trafficker is in search of cheap labour and those trafficked are looking for work. Additionally, poverty is one of the major instigators of human trafficking. Impoverished people are less likely to be educated on the risks and signs of human trafficking and thus are more likely to fall into the traps and false promises traffickers provide.

What is the difference between human trafficking and human smuggling?

Human Trafficking	Smuggling
Must contain an element of force, fraud, or coercion	The person being smuggled is generally cooperating
Forced labor or exploitation	There is no actual or implied coercion
Persons trafficked are victims	Persons smuggled are violating the law, they are not victims
Enslaved, subjected to limited movement or isolation, or had documents confiscated	Persons are free to leave, change jobs, etc.
Need not involve the actual movement of the victim	Facilitates the illegal entry of persons from one country into another
No requirement to cross an international border	Smuggling always crosses an international border
Person must be involved in labor/services or commercial sex acts, i.e. must be ‘working’	Person must only be in country or attempting entry illegally

Can victims of human trafficking seek help? If yes, how?

Yes. In nearly every country there are resources for human trafficking victims to use. Unfortunately, these resources are typically underutilized. Trafficking victims are often isolated from outside people and are not aware of these resources. When trafficking victims become aware of the resources and ready to leave their situation (which can often be the most difficult barrier) the shelters and resources help trafficking victims to become reacclimated into society and often are given life skills and educational training.

Are there any countries making extensive efforts to fight against human trafficking?

Many countries are making extensive efforts to fight against human trafficking; similarly there are some countries that are not genuinely working to end human trafficking. Australia and Poland are good examples of countries that are working hard to fight the issue. Malaysia, Chad and Burma are amongst the countries that are not showing any signs of doing anything towards the issue.

What do you think the best solution to human trafficking is and why?

Education. From all sides I believe education is the biggest component to eradicating human trafficking. The general public must be educated on modern day slavery and human trafficking. Most people are not aware of the prevalence of slavery in the modern world. Additionally, consumers should be aware of what they are buying. Consumers should educate themselves on products that they typically use and buy and determine if those products are slave-tainted or at risk for being slave-tainted. Additionally, manufactures and companies need to educate themselves on the dangers of utilizing slave labour in their factories and the economic consequences this practice creates worldwide. Finally, victims and persons at risk of being trafficked must have the opportunity to gain in education. Educating victims and potential victims would not only provide them the opportunity to recognize the signs of human trafficking but would also give them life skills that they could use to build a life in which they would not be tempted to give in to the false promises of traffickers.

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