human trafficking is modern day slavery

As defined in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, the legal definition of “severe forms of trafficking in persons” is:

- Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age or

- The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery (polarisproject.org)
HY SHOULD WE CARE?

it happens in the United States!

Hundreds of thousands of minor US citizens are estimated to be at risk of commercial sexual exploitation (polarisproject.org)

National Human Trafficking Resource Center (calls for tips on human trafficking):

- The US is principally a transit and destination country for trafficking persons. 14,500 to 17,500 people (women and children) are trafficked to the US annually (humantrafficking.org)

- Cases of human trafficking have been reported in all fifty states (ungift.org)
Why should we care?

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National Human Trafficking Resource Center (calls for tips on human trafficking):

- In 2010, there were 11,874 calls; 205 of which were from PA
- Of those calls from PA: 5 were from Allentown, 1 from Bloomsburg, 8 from Erie, 8 from Harrisburg, 3 from Hershey, 46 from Philadelphia, 23 from Pittsburgh, 9 from Reading, and 6 from York
Between 12.3 million and 27 million people are enslaved in forced or bonded labor, child labor, sexual servitude and involuntary servitude at any given time

- The estimated global annual profits of human trafficking and slavery is $31.6 billion (US)
- In 2006, there were only 5,808 prosecutions and 3,160 convictions throughout the world
- For every 800 people trafficked only one person was convicted in 2006
after drug dealing, human trafficking is tied with the illegal arms industry as the second largest criminal industry in the world – and it is the fastest growing (acf.hhs.gov)

- Slaves are forced to work, are owned or controlled by another person, are dehumanized and treated as commodities, and are physically or psychologically constrained and unable to escape

- 161 countries are reported to be affected by human trafficking by being a source, transit or destination (ungift.org)
Sex slavery is caused by gender inequality that allows the demand for sex slaves to flourish - the belief that there is no harm to purchasing the bodies of women and girls.

- 79% of human trafficking victims are women and girls, also 79% of the victims of trafficking end up in sex slavery (soroptimist.org)

- Women work 2/3 of the world’s working hours but earn only 10% of the world’s income, and own less than 1% of the world’s property (soroptimist.org)
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

WOMEN AND CONTEMPORARY SLAVERY

According to a recent report, of the 600,000 - 800,000 people trafficked across international borders annually, 80% are female.

- Because of the prevalence of gender discrimination, harmful practices such as female genital mutilation, female infanticide and pre-natal sex selection are still widespread. Additionally, the devaluation of women leads to girls and women being sold into human bondage and sexual slavery.

- 43% of victims are used for forced commercial sexual exploitation, of whom 98% are women and girls (Ungift.org).

(soroptimist.org)
Children and contemporary slavery

Traffickers target 12-17 year old children as their choice candidates, because they have a longer shelf life - meaning that they can get more years out of the victim

- 1.2 million children are trafficked each year
- Traffickers target children most commonly from communities that lack social power, at times with consent of the parents
- Parents often sell their children to recruiters for a cash profit, even though they know the child will be used for forced labor or sexual exploitation
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

CHILDREN AND CONTEMPORARY SLAVERY

 Traffickers target 12-17 year old children as their choice candidates, because they have a longer shelf life - meaning that they can get more years out of the victim

• Because trafficking is masked as prostitution, the general public does not feel outraged

• The children are perceived to be criminals or sexual deviants; or at best, victims of their environment: desperate for survival, the kids “choose” to sell their bodies for profit (ungift.org) (hagarusa.org)
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

HOW DO THE SLAVEHOLDERS GAIN POWER OVER THEIR VICTIMS?

Traffickers remove recruits from their home community and shift them to a destination where they will get no support from community or law.

- Oftentimes, the victims are taken to different countries so they don’t speak or understand the language and have no resources for escape.
- Slaveholders seek control over every aspect of the victim’s life so that escaping becomes unthinkable.

(hagarusa.org)
*HUMAN TRAFFICKING*

**How do the slaveholders gain power over their victims?**

Trafficers remove recruits from their home community and shift them to a destination where they will get no support from community or law.

- Slaveholders use violence as a means to reinforce their control and ensure compliance.
- The recruiters often offer money to a victim’s parents in exchange for the child (hagarusa.org).
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

WHAT CAN WE DO?

it’s simple, and anyone can do it!

• Become a member of an anti-slavery organization (like the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center)

• Educate yourself about contemporary slavery/human trafficking

• Educate family, friends, neighbors, community organizations, churches, schools, local leaders, etc.

• Organize community events to address contemporary slavery (i.e. freedom walks, candlelight vigils, etc.)
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

WHAT CAN WE DO?

it’s simple, and anyone can do it!

• Create public awareness and letter-writing campaigns in your communities for local media to highlight the issue

• Fundraise for anti-slavery organizations that are combating contemporary slavery worldwide through public awareness and victim assistance

• Volunteer your time – intern, and/or donate your skills to assist anti-slavery organizations (i.e. website assistance, bookkeeping, etc.)

• Be a conscious shopper and purchase fair-trade and slave-labor-free products from socially responsible businesses. Visit TransFairUSA for more information
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

WHAT CAN WE DO?

act locally!

- Contact community leaders (i.e. mayor, police chief, councilmen, etc.) and ask if they have policies and procedures in place to assist victims who are identified. If there are none, start a community campaign to request them

(freedomcenter.org)
WHAT CAN WE DO?

act locally!

• Contact state legislators to support or introduce state-level anti-slavery legislation to supplement federal laws against contemporary slavery/human trafficking
  • Honorable David R. Millard
    240 Market Street
    Bloomsburg Regional Technology Center
    Bloomsburg, PA 17815
    (570) 387-0246
    Fax: (570) 387-4288
  • Senator John R. Gordner
    603 West Main Street
    Bloomsburg, PA 17815
    (570) 784-3464

(freedomcenter.org)
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

HELP AND REPORTING

National Human Trafficking Resource Center 1-888-373-7888

All information for this site was gathered from these sites:
- polarisproject.org
- humantrafficking.org
- soroptimist.org
- ungift.org
- acf.hhs.gov
- hagarusa.org
- freedomcenter.org