

“Our lives begin to
end the day we
become silent about
things that matter.”

- MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Human Trafficking

Human Trafficking

- Human trafficking happens in **all 50 states**
- It happens **HERE!**





By staying alert,

watching what is
happening around you,

and speaking up and
reporting tips...

- you are doing your part to help law enforcement rescue victims
- and YOU MIGHT SAVE A LIFE

**TRAFFICKING IS PREVENTABLE AND IT'S A BATTLE
WE MUST CONTINUE TO FIGHT**

What is Human Trafficking?

- Human trafficking is modern-day slavery and it involves the use of **force, fraud or coercion** to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act.



The Secret Crime



- About 800,000 (mostly women and children) are trafficked across national borders
 - Many times, victims do not report their status because of **fear, intimidation, abuse** and **psychological controls** they've suffered, including **threats of retribution**
 - It's a hidden crime—victims rarely seek help because of **language barriers, fear of the traffickers**, and/or **fear of law enforcement**

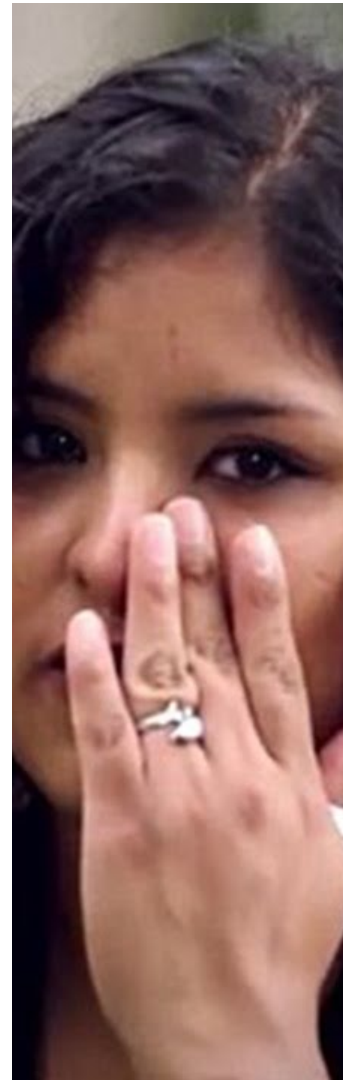
A Money-driven Crime

- Generates **billions** of dollars of profit every year
- Second only to drug trafficking as the most profitable form of transnational crime
- Tied for 2nd place with the illegal arms industry in profits
- Fastest growing illegal industry today



Traffickers look for **susceptible people**, such as those:

- with psychological or emotional vulnerability
- suffering from economic hardship
- lacking a social safety net
- who are victims of natural disasters
- living in political instability (immigration)



Two forms of *Human Trafficking

(*The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining a person...)

I. Labor Trafficking

Person obtained for the purpose of labor through use of force, fraud, coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.

Found working in

- sweatshops
- commercial agriculture
(fields, processing plants)
- domestic situations
(maids and nannies)
- construction sites
- restaurants
- custodial work



Two forms of Human Trafficking

2. Sex Trafficking

Person obtained for the purpose of commercial sex through use of force, fraud, coercion or the victim is forced to perform such an act under the age of 18.

Found working in
sweatshops
on the streets
in establishments such as

- massage parlors
- escort services
- adult book stores
- modeling studios
- bars/strip clubs



Tricks and Traps of Trafficking:



FORCE

Rape, beatings and confinement of victims. Used in the early stages of victimization to break the victim's resistance and make them easier to control.

FRAUD

False offers that induce people into trafficking situations. For example, women and children reply to ads promising jobs as waitresses, maids and dancers in other countries then, once there, trafficked into prostitution.

COERCION

Threats of serious harm to, or physical restraint of, any person; any scheme, plan or pattern intended to cause the person to believe that failure to perform an act would result in harm to or against any person; or threatened abuse of the legal process.

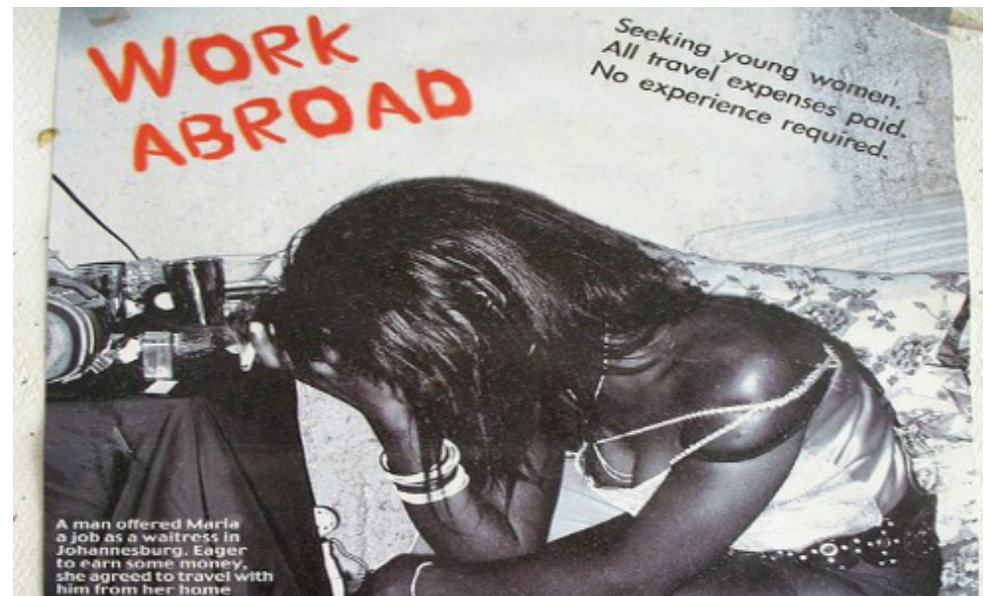
DEBT BONDAGE

Usually in the context of paying off transportation fees to the destination countries. Often threatened with injury or death or the safety of the victim's family back home. Traffickers take away victims documents and isolate them to make escape difficult.



STORIES: WHAT DOES TRAFFICKING LOOK LIKE?

- Victims don't realize that their "deals" are illegal and unenforceable
- In many cases, victims are trapped in "debt" for living and travel expenses
- In sex trafficking, most victims rarely see the money they are supposedly earning to pay off their "debt"
- It is difficult for them to find help because of language, social and physical barriers that keep them from obtaining assistance



STORIES: WHAT DOES TRAFFICKING LOOK LIKE?

Journey Fatal for 9 Migrants Found in Truck in a San Antonio Parking Lot



San Antonio police officers at a Walmart parking lot on Sunday with the tractor-trailer where eight people were found dead. Eric Gay/Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — The authorities here discovered eight bodies in a tractor-trailer in a Walmart parking lot early Sunday morning in what they said was a human trafficking crime that underscored the perils facing migrants trying to enter the United States by any means available.

By Sunday afternoon, another person had died at a hospital, according to a spokesman for Immigration and Customs Enforcement. All of the dead were men.

The eight people whose bodies were initially found were believed to have died from heat exposure and asphyxiation, a spokesman for the San Antonio Police Department said.

In a statement, Mayor Ron Nirenberg of San Antonio called the episode “tragic,” adding that it “shines a bright light on the plight of immigrants looking for a better life and victims of human trafficking.”

Smuggling migrants in the backs of trucks is a common form of human smuggling in the region, and it has claimed lives in the past.

STORIES: WHAT DOES TRAFFICKING LOOK LIKE?

Horrific Human Trafficking Case Unfolding In Detroit

July 2016 DETROIT, MI — The FBI got a tip from local police Thursday that led them to a southwest Detroit home where two teenagers and three suburban women had been held in locked rooms, drugged, forced into prostitution and beaten, if they didn't perform well, according to a case unfolding in U.S. District Court. Richard Jackson, 67, was charged with multiple felonies related to a sex ring after the raid on his home on South Electric Street. Three adult women, two of them 21, the third 31 and all from the Downriver area, were rescued, but the two teens — one 14 and the other thought to be between 12-15 years — are missing after one of the victims helped them escape through a bathroom window, according to media reports.



Detroit police responded to the house on South Electric about 1 p.m. Thursday after getting a 911 call that someone inside had been hit. While there, they talked to a woman who said she was being held against her will and had been forced into prostitution, according to the police report. "My sister's in the basement. You've got to get to her. He's going to kill her," the woman told police, according to a report in the Detroit Free Press.

The federal complaint paints a horrifying picture of what they endured, both inside in an upstairs room secured with a large padlock and steel gate and outside, where they were forced to "walk the tracks" as prostitutes at Michigan and Livernois Avenues.

Key indicators of Human Trafficking

- Behavior Indicators:

1. Does the person appear disconnected from family, friends, community organizations or houses of worship?
2. Has a child stopped attending school?
3. Has the person had a sudden or dramatic change in behavior?
4. Has a juvenile engaged in commercial sex acts?
5. Is the person disoriented or confused or showing signs of mental or physical abuse?



Key indicators of Human Trafficking

- **Physical Indicators:**

1. Does the person have bruises in various stages of healing?
2. Is the person fearful, timid or submissive?
3. Does the person show signs of having been denied food, water, sleep or medical care?
4. Is the person often in the company of someone to whom he or she defers? Or someone who seems to be in control of the situation, e.g., where they go or who they talk to?
5. Does the person appear to be coached on what to say?



Key indicators of Human Trafficking

- Environmental Indicators

1. Is the person living in unsuitable conditions?
2. Does the person lack personal possessions and appear not to have a stable living situation?
3. Does the person have freedom of movement? Can the person freely leave where they live? Are there unreasonable security measures?

Not all indicators listed above are present in every human trafficking situation, and the presence or absence of any of the indicators is not necessarily proof of human trafficking.



What About Legislation?



- The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000
 - **First comprehensive federal law** to address trafficking in persons, including both sex and labor trafficking.
 - Intended to **prevent** human trafficking overseas, **increase prosecution** of human trafficking in the United States, and protect victims and **provide** federal and state **assistance** to victims to rebuild their lives in the U.S. (Non-citizens can receive benefits and services through the TVPA to the same extent as refugees).

What About Legislation?



- **Michigan's Human Trafficking Law**
 - In **2014**, Governor Snyder signed a package of legislation which was inspired by a 2013 report by the Michigan Commission on Human Trafficking.
 - There are two types of bills in this legislation:
 - **Strengthens punishments** – makes trafficking punishable by imprisonment for life
 - **Provides support for victims** – permanently creates the state Human Trafficking Commission in the Attorney General's office

What About Legislation?



- **Michigan's Human Trafficking Law**

- In **2017**, Governor Snyder signed legislation that allows more victims of human trafficking to have their criminal records dismissed.
- Removes restriction that a victim is only eligible for deferral or dismissal of criminal charges if they had no prior convictions.
 - Victims previously weren't eligible for dismissal or deferral of charges if they had previous prostitution related charges on their record.
- Was made to help lead victims to rebuild better lives.

The Theresa Flores Story

- The Michigan bills were inspired partially by the Flores story.

Theresa Flores was just 15 years old, white, all-American, Catholic, and a virgin when she was trafficked by a fellow classmate. For two years she was blackmailed into sexual slavery from her suburban Detroit home and only saved when her father's job moved her family to a different state.

This is the unseen reality of human trafficking in America, and according to the FBI, 100,000 kids are being trafficked in this country right now.



Who Are the Traffickers?



Examples of traffickers may include:

- Fake massage or brothel business owners
- Employers of domestic servants
- Gangs and criminal networks
- Growers and crew leaders in agriculture
- Intimate partners or family members
- Labor brokers
- Factory owners and corporations
- Pimps

THE TRAFFICKERS

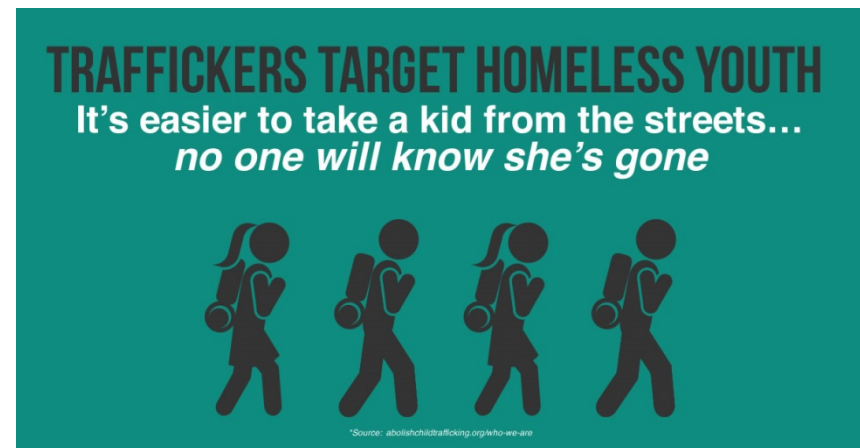
Who Are The Traffickers?

- There is no one consistent face of a trafficker. They include a wide range of criminal operators:
 - Pimps (men and women)
 - Small families or businesses
 - Loose-knit decentralized criminal networks
 - International organized crime syndicates
 - Gang members



Who Are The Traffickers?

- Traffickers advertise the availability of commercial sex using online escort ads and social media sites, such as Backpage.com or Craigslist.
 - Victims might innocently connect with a predator and be unable to “disconnect.”
- Traffickers prey on the most vulnerable in our society.



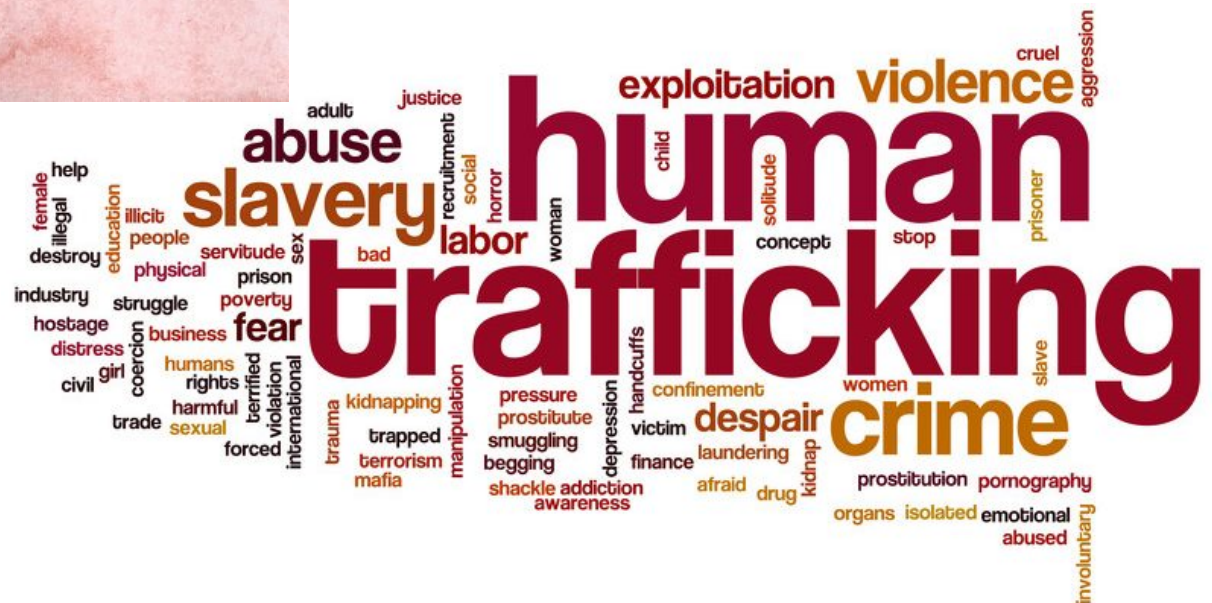
In Our Homes

- Most Americans have worn, touched or consumed a product of slavery at some point, often without knowing it.
Products can include ...
 - coffee...chocolate...rice...fresh produce...gold jewelry...clothing or athletic shoes



ACTIONS

Let's stop reading
Statistics and
Start changing
them.



ACTIONS

- Engage in advocacy and build awareness about the issue and how it can be addressed
 - Continue to become well informed
 - Contact legislators
[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(ebmho0mdolr0jehjilyqytjv\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=legislators](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(ebmho0mdolr0jehjilyqytjv))/mileg.aspx?page=legislators)
 - Provide direct assistance to victims – connect with local coalitions and ask about a Safe House in your area and offer support
 - Talk to peers, friends, family about the issue
 - TraffickCam <https://traffickcam.com/about>
 - Wendy's



ACTIONS

- Be A Voice

- Talk to your children. Especially if you are a man speak to your boys about respecting girls/women. Make sure your children know how they could be at risk.
- Sponsor an event: Dresseember; Tea-Party; Walk to End Human Slavery
- Find your local and state coalition and participate in actions
- Report anything that looks suspicious to local law enforcement or call the national hotline



“It ought to concern every person, because it’s a debasement of our humanity. It ought to concern every community, because it tears at the social fabric. It ought to concern every business, because it distorts markets. It ought to concern every nation, because it endangers public health and fuels violence and organized crime. I’m talking about the injustice, the outrage, of human trafficking, which must be called by its true name – modern slavery.”

President Barack Obama
September 25, 2012



Organizations

- Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. CLINIC, <https://cliniclegal.org/> 301-565-4800
- Shared Hope: <https://sharedhope.org/>
- U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking
<http://www.sistersagainsttrafficking.org/>
- Polaris-freedom happens now - 25 types of human trafficking – escort services, travel sales crews, <https://polarisproject.org/>
- Telephone National Trafficking Hotline: 1-888-373-7888
 - Help to determine if you have encountered a victim of human trafficking
 - Help you coordinate with local social services and organizations
 - Help protect and serve victims so there can begin a process of restoring their lives.

Media: Video / YouTube:

- Look Beneath the Surface, 13 Minutes, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Sex and Labor Trafficking in the U.S. and Internationally, Prayer Service, Discussion Questions
- CHOSEN, protect your child from being CHOSEN, 22 Minutes, Shared Hope 2 Discussion Questions and Guide along with CHOSEN trailer and CHOSEN Feature Film
- The Mask You Live In, 90 Minutes, Virgil Films, Documentary-ultimately illustrates how we, as a society can rise a healthier generation of boys and young men.
- Not My Life, 64 Minutes, World Wide Documentary-a film about human trafficking and modern slavery. A story about the way the world is.
- Webinar, Peace and Justice Center ipjc@ipjc.org Human Trafficking Webinar Multi-School Workshop for 7th-8th Grade Students
- Story Line: Healing Action Network, St. Louis
<http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/new-nonprofit-helps-women-who-have-left-sex-trade-recover#stream/0>
- A True Story of Survival <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NqRsrlAISEE>
- A Story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pr4xnVWaIR2M>

The safety of the public as well as the victim is paramount. **Do not attempt to confront a suspected trafficker directly or alert a victim to any suspicions.** It is up to law enforcement to investigate suspected cases of human trafficking.



Edmund Burke

“The only thing necessary
for the triumph of evil
is for good people
to do nothing.”