Overview

What is Human Trafficking?

Birds eye-view – Interconnectedness of the US and the World
Moral Dimension of the issue and Moral requirements to act
Father Olivieri frequently traveled to Alexandria, Egypt on mercy missions and purchased [referred to as ransoms] many young slave girls of African, Arabic, and Egyptian descent from the marketplace and delivered them to the House of the Good Shepherd in Angers, France until African houses could be established.”
It is a debasement of the human person. We understand trafficking as a grotesque injustice rooted in the dynamics of our global world and current global economy.

"Structures and systems which increase extreme poverty of the vulnerable, support patriarchal hierarchies, and give priority to economic profit above the value of the human person render untold women and children vulnerable to being trafficked for labor and for sexual exploitation. (GS Position Paper)"
Every country is affected by human trafficking, whether it's an origin country, a transit country or a destination country. There are about 30 million of people trafficked around the world. Men, women and children are trafficked. The infographics below summarize that the activities that RGS carry on around the world to prevent this form of modern slavery, or support those who have been trafficked.
Good Shepherd Sisters seeks to address root causes, examining and unmasking the links between trafficking and policies related to economic justice, violence against women, discrimination against the girl child, inadequate migration and refugee systems, and the social acceptance of the prostitution of women and girls. Genuine implementation of human rights-based policies is an antidote to victimization at the hands of traffickers.
"The underlying systemic causes of trafficking for sexual exploitation are misogyny, patriarchy, power imbalances and male privilege. We stress that the issues of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation cannot be relativized to other forms of trafficking."

“United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (Vienna)
The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 is the first comprehensive federal law to address trafficking in persons. The law provides a three-pronged approach that includes prevention, protection, and prosecution. The TVPA was reauthorized through the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) of 2003, 2005, 2008, and 2013.

Latest Legislation:
- FOSTA – Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act (House Bill)
- SESTA Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act (Senate Bill) April 2018
Elements of Human Trafficking from the Palermo Protocol

"International legal definition"

"Three constitutive elements"

i) The Act – what is done

ii) The Means -how it is done

iii) The Purpose – why it is done
i) Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons

ii) Threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or giving payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim
“For the purpose of exploitation, which includes exploiting the prostitution of others, sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or similar practices and the removal of organs.”
People are trafficked for many exploitative purposes:

- Child soldiers
- Forced labour
- Forced begging
- Sexual exploitation
- Removal of organs
- Selling children
- Forced marriage
The drivers of human trafficking include poverty, gender inequality, gender-based violence, discrimination, and the existence of prostitution. This is where abuse of power or vulnerability come in. The purpose include not just sexual exploitation but exploiting the prostitution of others but labour trafficking, forced marriage, child soldiers. Most traffickers leverage an element of vulnerability to attract victims.
Eliminate DEMAND!

Two central issues that are trafficking are the recognition and committing to eliminating DEMAND. Girls and children are disproportionately affected, and the intensification of efforts to eliminate DEMAND.
“Mindsets that turn a blind eye to the links between human trafficking, the sex trade, gender-based violence, and cheap labour in favour of profit, sex, a good bargain or a human organ facilitate this exploitation permitting traffickers to become legitimate business people and sexually exploited girls and women to be commodified, instrumentalized and objectified.”
Trafficking flows

Domestically, sub-regionally, regionally and globally

Origin – Transit and Destination
“Human Trafficking is a Global Phenomenon that Happens in every country in the world. Most trafficking flows are not of a global dimension and trafficking in persons remains largely a regional and local phenomena. Happens in your ‘back yard’.”
Main destinations of transregional flows and their significant origins, 2012-2014

Source: UNODC.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
MAP 1  Share of detected victims who were trafficked domestically, 2012-2014

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Dashed lines represent undetermined boundaries. The dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. The final boundary between the Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined. A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).
Trafficking victims can be women, men, boys and girls

Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.
Share of children among detected victims of trafficking in persons, by gender, selected years

Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.
Trends in the forms of exploitation among detected trafficking victims, 2007-2014

- Trafficking for other forms
- Trafficking for sexual exploitation
- Trafficking for forced labour

Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.
5.2 Global Partnership

By the Numbers: Trafficking of Women and Girls

71% of detected trafficking victims are women and girls.²

72% of detected female trafficking victims are sexually exploited.²

Women and girls trafficked for forced labour frequently suffer sexual violence and/or exploitation.³

UNODC Global Trafficking in Persons Report 2016
I HAVE A VOICE
Trafficked women – in their own words
Angela Reed & Mamottte Lekeno

STOP

Woman Trafficking
“A promising model is the Optimal Life Course Conditions, authored by Dr. Angela Reed of the Mercy International Association. This approach recognizes that the interplay between the personal life story and systemic oppression renders persons vulnerable to human trafficking.

The model acknowledges cumulative disadvantage and addresses vulnerabilities across the life course, including the systemic causes of economic, social, and gender disparity and discrimination.

The Optimal Life Course Conditions could be fully realized with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, eliminating vulnerabilities to traffickers and restoring dignity and hope to already-exploited persons.”
“Trafficking into prostitution must be addressed, and demand for prostitution as a root cause of trafficking must enter the dialogue. An exploitative, consumerist economy is the antithesis of human rights and human dignity.”
To Conclude

“Our culture’s current lack of understanding of women as full human beings must evolve into a conviction that indivisible rights include freedom from unfettered male sexual access, from female genital mutilation to child marriage; from reproductive health to sexual violence; from sexual harassment to prostitution. Achieving equality depends on it”

Taine Bien Aime, Executive Director, Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW)
Winifred Doherty
Good Shepherd International Justice Peace Office, NY
winifreddohertyrgs@gmail.com
Tel 1 9178681843

Thank You!