



CARES

C.A.R.E.S. 101 SMALL GROUP CURRICULM

TRAFFICKING HOPE

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CARES

C.A.R.E.S. (COALITION, AWARENESS, RESCUE, EDUCATION, SERVICES

Is our holistic approach to combating human trafficking

Table of Contents

Lesson 1: Welcome	3
Lesson 2: Overview	7
Lesson 3: Below the Surface	17
Lesson 4: Enslaved by Evil.....	27
Lesson 5: Stolen Innocence	37
Lesson 6: Prevention and Protection	45
Lesson 7: Breaking Free	55
Lesson 8: Restoring Hope	63
Lesson 9: Who C.A.R.E.S.? You Do!.....	71



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Lesson 1 – WELCOME

C.A.R.E.S. 101 Small Group Curriculum

LESSON 1 INTRODUCTION – Human Trafficking is Modern Day Slavery

This isn't going to be an easy semester. It will be a tense time talking about the injustice and perversion that is human trafficking, specifically sex trafficking of all races, all ages, all genders, all communities. The topic is awkward and violent and may seem far removed from our everyday problems. You may want to cover your ears and pretend it doesn't exist, just put on some music or TV and enjoy another slice of pizza. None of those things are inherently bad, but let's not allow our attractions to become our distractions from actually living out a Gospel message concerned with Godly justice.

Your participation in this small group is a testament to your resolve. No more turned heads. No more fingers in ears. No more pretending. This small group can be a catalyst for change. It can open your eyes to just how widespread the problem is. It's not a Third World problem that exists in some seedy underbelly of society. It exists in our First World communities as well.

And with your new awareness comes the responsibility for action. In the words of William Wilberforce, the great abolitionist of the 19th century: "You may choose to look the other way but you can never say again that you did not know."¹

This small group will provide a guided process for you to become informed, passionate, and engaged in the fight against sex trafficking.

VISION FOR THIS SEMESTER

To eradicate sex trafficking around the world while helping local churches fight on the frontline of their city, community, and neighborhood.

"Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked." (Psalm 82:3-4 NIV)

"Once we saw the problem firsthand, it became impossible to stand by and idly do nothing." Lee and Laura Domingue, founders Trafficking Hope.

PURPOSE OF THIS SMALL GROUP

- To have your eyes opened to the global, national, and local nature of sex trafficking
- To gain foundational knowledge of human trafficking to increase your awareness and education
- To be resourced with tools and approaches for battling human trafficking
- To identify areas where you are gifted to serve and next steps you can take in this journey
- To recognize the power of prayer as a weapon
- To be part of a community of believers in agreement about the injustice of sex trafficking and to have your heart opened to see the God of justice

THIS PURPOSE WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY

- 1) Teaching, equipping, empowering local churches and non-profit organizations in five critical areas: Coalition, Awareness, Rescue, Education, and Services (the C.A.R.E.S. initiative).
- 2) Sharing this journey with others in groups to enhance understanding of human trafficking and encourage the practice of what is being learned together.
- 3) Empowering individuals to identify specific gifts, abilities, personality traits, and sphere of influence in order to focus their efforts through prayer and the C.A.R.E.S. initiative.

¹ Speech before The House of Commons May 12, 1789. Cited in Kay Marshall Strom, *Once Blind: The Life of John Newton* (Chicago: IVP, 2008) 255.

DEFINITIONS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

To begin understanding what human trafficking is, here are brief definitions:

- 1) Forced Labor – forcing a person to work in captivity for little or no pay (includes child labor)
- 2) Bonded Labor/Debt Bondage – forcing a person to work for low wages to pay back an excessive amount of debt (possibly ancestral debt)
- 3) Domestic Servitude – forcing a person to work and live in the same place for little or no pay
- 4) Forced Child Labor – forcing a child to perform work that benefits someone else and does not allow the child to leave
- 5) Unlawful Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers – forcing a child to participate as an armed militant
- 6) Trafficking for tissue, cells and organs – the use of coercion, including the “abuse of a position of vulnerability” (economic disadvantage), for organ removal to sell
- 7) Commercial sexual exploitation of children in tourism – traveling for the purpose of sexually exploiting a child
- 8) Sex Trafficking – the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act and induced by the use of force, fraud, or coercion against an adult (over 18)
- 9) Child Sex Trafficking – when a child (under 18) is recruited, enticed, harbored, transported, provided, obtained, or maintained to perform a commercial sex act (proof of force, fraud, or coercion not necessary for legal prosecution in the U.S.)

**These definitions are a summary from several sources including the International Labor Organization, the U. S. State Department, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, Department of Homeland Security’s Blue Campaign, Shared Hope International, Polaris Project, Interpol, ECPAT International, and Trafficking Hope. If a specific definition is used elsewhere for a specific purpose, the exact citation will be provided.*

Victims may be subjected to multiple types of trafficking or a trafficking situation may be intertwined with other criminal activity. For example, someone subjected to involuntary domestic servitude may also be a victim of sexual abuse, or a victim of sex trafficking may also be selling and/or using drugs.

REMEMBER

Prayer focus this week: that God will raise up an army of His righteous people who will join Him in seeking justice for the weak and defeating evil.

“Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.” (Psalm 32:3-4 NIV)

Throughout this semester “... you will be invited into prayerful practices for daily life that will not only guide you into knowing what action God calls you to take in the face of injustice but will help you, like the person in Psalm 1, to lay down deeper roots of trust in the Lord that will sustain your justice passion through all manner of trials, distractions, struggles and the sheer need to persevere in the face of evil.”²

² Bethany H. Hoang, *Deepening the Soul for Justice* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2012), Page 10.

CHALLENGE

- 1) Take the Slavery Footprint Survey at <http://slaveryfootprint.org/> and review your results. We will discuss your results next week. From the home page, be sure to click on the links in the lower right for “Our Story” and “Your Story” to see how slaves are used to produce much of what we eat, wear, and use today.
- 2) Watch:
 - Our Prayers Matter to God (Gary Haugen of International Justice Mission) (17:29)
<https://youtu.be/sNErcVAv0xA>
- 3) Read through the following verses, then select one that speaks to you about the battle against human trafficking and pray it out loud this week. Be ready to share which verse you chose and what God revealed to you through it.
 - Psalm 1:6
 - Psalm 10:14, 17-18
 - Psalm 22:24
 - Psalm 72:12-14
 - Psalm 103:6
 - Psalm 106:3
 - Psalm 112:10
 - Psalm 146:7-9
 - Psalm 147:3
 - Ecclesiastes 4:1
- 4) Micah 6:8 (ESV) says, “He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness (mercy), and to walk humbly with your God?”

Within the context of all of Chapter 6 and what God is saying to the children of Israel, what are the Israelites bringing Him and what is He actually asking for?

In Luke 4:17-19, what does Jesus say He was sent to do? How does His sacrifice give us a foundation “to do justice”?

- 5) Read Lesson 2

We’ll spend this semester equipping, empowering, and resourcing you with tools to join the fight against the injustice of sex trafficking. Each session will look at a different aspect of sex trafficking, providing factual information as well as spiritual insight into this issue that touches millions of lives in many ways.

Through the next several weeks, we’ll help you determine your most strategic and intentional opportunities based on personality, gifts and sphere of influence.

You are encouraged to educate yourself outside the group with the resources listed and other research.

PRAYER

Father, thank You for bringing me to this group so we can learn how to join You in the fight against the injustice of human trafficking. Open our hearts to what breaks Yours, and call us to protect the weak, the exploited, and the defenseless. Protect us from the attacks of the evil one as we bring light into his darkest places. We pray for release from bondage, physical and spiritual, for those that are enslaved. We pray for healing for those that have been rescued. We ask forgiveness and mercy for those that prey on the weak, and ask that You open their eyes to the truth. Amen.



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Lesson 2 – OVERVIEW

C.A.R.E.S. 101 Small Group Curriculum

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE UNITED STATES

GET HELP for you or someone you know:
CALL: 1-888-3737-888 TEXT: #BeFree

Talk to a Professional, Get Connected to
Services, Help A Child Break Free!

Human trafficking is people enslaving or exploiting other people and it happens in every state in the US and it is happening right now. Victims can get recruited into human trafficking through force, fraud or coercion. It often involves the promise of a better life in one way or another. Human trafficking is under-reported for a number of reasons so precise numbers are difficult to come by, but the following estimates and extrapolations give an idea of the scale of this horrific crime in the US.

400,000+ People in Modern Slavery

A rate of 1.26 victims for every 1,000 U.S. citizens, which is greater than the population of New Orleans in 2017

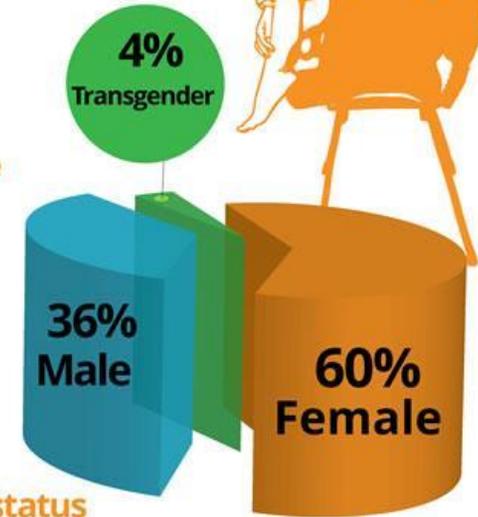


U.S. Human Trafficking Breakdown

Number of At-Risk Children

The number of children at risk for Human Trafficking in the US is likely hundreds of thousands but unknown. Children experiencing the following circumstances are at risk:

- ✓ Homelessness
- ✓ Domestic violence
- ✓ Foster care
- ✓ Substance abuse
- ✓ Poverty
- ✓ LGBTQ+ status
- ✓ Refugee/migrant status



Gender Breakdown (U.S. Youth Victims)



For more info on these stats please visit [unitas.ngo/humantrafficking101](https://www.unitas.ngo/humantrafficking101)

¹ "Human Trafficking 101, How big is trafficking in the U. S.?", Unitas, <https://www.unitas.ngo/human-trafficking-101>, para 3, access January 13, 2021. Sources cited in graphic:

* 400,000+ People in Modern Slavery: A rate of 1.26 victims for every 1,000 U.S. citizens — (Global Slavery Index, 2018): <https://www.globallslaveryindex.org/2018/data/country-data/usa/>

* U.S. Human Trafficking Breakdown — (Polaris Project, 2017): <https://polarisproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2017NHTHStats-1.pdf> (Page 5)

* Gender Breakdown (U.S. Youth Victims) — (Center for Court Innovation, 2016): https://www.courtinnovation.org/sites/default/files/documents/Youth%20Involvement%20in%20the%20Sex%20Trade_3.pdf (Page viii)

Lesson 2 – OVERVIEW

REVIEW

After following links on the Slavery Footprint page, you should have a better understanding of how supply chains utilize slaves to produce goods. The Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) maintains a list of goods and their source countries which it has reason to believe are produced by child labor or forced labor in violation of international standards. The *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor* comprises 155 goods from 77 countries.²

BIG PICTURE

The pervasive problem of human trafficking grows all around us.

- In 2016, the International Labour Organization estimated there were 40.3 million people are in modern slavery, including 24.9 million in forced labor (labor trafficking, sex trafficking, state labor trafficking).
- The International Labour Organization estimates that there are 4.8 million victims of sex trafficking globally.
 - 99% of them are women and girls.
 - 20% of them are children.
 - 4% were exploited in the Americas.
- The International Labor Organization estimates that forced labor and human trafficking is a \$150 billion industry worldwide.³
- Of the nearly 26,500 runaways reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in 2017, 1 in 6 were likely child sex trafficking victims.⁴ **16%** of the children who ran from the care of social services and were reported missing to NCMEC in 2019, were likely victims of child sex trafficking.⁵

Lee and Laura Domingue first learned about human trafficking in the United States in 2007. They witnessed firsthand the atrocities in Europe and then discovered human trafficking was an epidemic in the United States. They began Trafficking Hope as an awareness campaign and expanded it into Alabama in 2015.

Trafficking Hope has also launched an initiative to teach, equip, and empower local churches and non-profit organizations in five critical areas: Coalition, Awareness, Rescue, Education, and Services (C.A.R.E.S.). This curriculum is an outgrowth of that initiative.

EXPLORE/DISCUSS

Human trafficking is not a crime of movement, but rather the dehumanizing practice of holding another person in compelled service using whatever means necessary, whether physical or psychological. People who are subjected to involuntary servitude are held against their will and forced to work, frequently under threat of violence to themselves or their families.⁶

All nationalities and ethnic groups are vulnerable to human trafficking. Any given country may be a source of forced labor, a place of transit, or a destination.

² “*List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor*”, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, DOL, as of Sept. 30, 2020, <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/reports/child-labor/list-of-goods>, accessed January 13, 2021

³ “*Global estimates of modern slavery: forced labour and forced marriage*”, International Labour Organization, Walk Free Foundation and International Organization for Migration, 2017, Page 5, https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_575479/lang-en/index.htm, accessed January 13, 2021 (these numbers have not been updated)

⁴ “*Child Sex Trafficking*”, NCMEC, accessed January 13, 2021, <https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/trafficking>

⁵ “*Children Missing from Care*”, NCMEC, accessed January 13, 2021, <https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/cmfc>.

⁶ “*Human Trafficking Awareness Training Print Version*”, U. S. Department of Homeland Security, Page 6.

The U. S. State Department⁷, Interpol⁸, and ECPAT International⁹ use the following definitions:

- Forced Labor
Forced labor, sometimes also referred to as labor trafficking, encompasses the range of activities—recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing, or obtaining—involved when a person uses force or physical threats, psychological coercion, abuse of the legal process, deception, or other coercive means to compel someone to work. Once a person’s labor is exploited by such means, the person’s prior consent to work for an employer is legally irrelevant: the employer is a trafficker and the employee a trafficking victim. Migrants are particularly vulnerable to this form of human trafficking, but individuals also may be forced into labor in their own countries. Female victims of forced or bonded labor, especially women and girls in domestic servitude, are often sexually exploited as well.
- Bonded Labor or Debt Bondage
One form of coercion used by traffickers in both sex trafficking and forced labor is the imposition of a bond or debt. Some workers inherit debt; for example, in South Asia it is estimated that there are millions of trafficking victims working to pay off their ancestors’ debts. Others fall victim to traffickers or recruiters who unlawfully exploit an initial debt assumed, wittingly or unwittingly, as a term of employment. Traffickers, labor agencies, recruiters, and employers in both the country of origin and the destination country can contribute to debt bondage by charging workers recruitment fees and exorbitant interest rates, making it difficult, if not impossible, to pay off the debt. Such circumstances may occur in the context of employment-based temporary work programs in which a worker’s legal status in the destination country is tied to the employer so workers fear seeking redress.
- Domestic Servitude
Involuntary domestic servitude is a form of human trafficking found in distinct circumstances—work in a private residence—that create unique vulnerabilities for victims. It is a crime in which a domestic worker is not free to leave his or her employment and is abused and underpaid, if paid at all. Many domestic workers do not receive the basic benefits and protections commonly extended to other groups of workers—things as simple as a day off. Moreover, their ability to move freely is often limited, and employment in private homes increases their isolation and vulnerability. Labor officials generally do not have the authority to inspect employment conditions in private homes. Domestic workers, especially women, confront various forms of abuse, harassment, and exploitation, including sexual and gender-based violence. These issues, taken together, may be symptoms of a situation of domestic servitude. When the employer of a domestic worker has diplomatic status and enjoys immunity from civil and/or criminal jurisdiction, the vulnerability to domestic servitude is enhanced.
- Forced Child Labor
Although children may legally engage in certain forms of work, children can also be found in slavery or slavery-like situations. Some indicators of forced labor of a child include situations in which the child appears to be in the custody of a non-family member who requires the child to perform work that financially benefits someone outside the child’s family and does not offer the child the option of leaving, such as forced begging. Anti-trafficking responses should supplement, not replace, traditional actions against child labor, such as remediation and education. When children are enslaved, their exploiters should not escape criminal punishment—something that occurs when governments use administrative responses to address cases of forced child labor.
- Unlawful Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers
Child soldiering is a manifestation of human trafficking when it involves the unlawful recruitment or use of children—through force, fraud, or coercion—by armed forces as combatants or other forms of labor.

⁷ “2020 Trafficking in Persons Report”, U. S. Department of State, accessed January 13, 2021, <https://www.state.gov/reports/2020-trafficking-in-persons-report/>, Page 18.

⁸ “Types of Human Trafficking”, Interpol, access January 13, 2021, <https://www.interpol.int/Crimes/Human-trafficking/Types-of-human-trafficking>.

⁹ “Human Trafficking 101, Difference between labor and sex trafficking”, ECPAT USA August 2019, accessed January 13, 2021, <https://www.ecpatusa.org/blog/2019/8/23/human-trafficking-101-what-is-the-difference-between-labor-and-sex-trafficking>.

Perpetrators may be government armed forces, paramilitary organizations, or rebel groups. Many children are forcibly abducted to be used as combatants. Others are made to work as porters, cooks, guards, servants, messengers, or spies. Young girls may be forced to “marry” or be raped by commanders and male combatants. Both male and female child soldiers are often sexually abused or exploited by armed groups and such children are subject to the same types of devastating physical and psychological consequences associated with child sex trafficking.

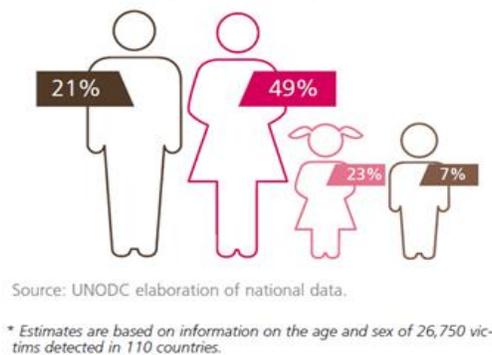
- Trafficking for tissue, cells and organs

Trafficking in humans for the purpose of using their organs, in particular kidneys, is a rapidly growing field of criminal activity. In many countries, waiting lists for transplants are very long, and criminals have seized this opportunity to exploit the desperation of patients and potential donors. The health of victims, even their lives, is at risk as operations may be carried out in clandestine conditions with no medical follow-up. An ageing population and increased incidence of diabetes in many developed countries is likely to increase the requirement for organ transplants and make this crime even more lucrative.

- Commercial sexual exploitation of children in tourism

Acts of sexual exploitation of children embedded in the context of travel, tourism or both.

FIG. 11 Shares of detected victims of trafficking in persons, by age group and sex*, 2016 (or most recent)



10

As mentioned in Lesson 1, while all forms of human trafficking are evil and should be abolished, the focus of this group will be on child/sex trafficking. For the purposes of this group, we will use the following definitions from the U. S. State Department:¹¹

Sex Trafficking

When an adult engages in a commercial sex act, such as prostitution, as the result of force, threats of force, fraud, coercion or any combination of such means, that person is a victim of trafficking. Under such circumstances, perpetrators involved in recruiting, harboring, enticing, transporting, providing, obtaining, patronizing, soliciting, or maintaining a person for that purpose are guilty of sex trafficking of an adult. Sex trafficking also may occur through a specific form of coercion whereby individuals are compelled to continue in prostitution through the use of unlawful “debt,” purportedly incurred through their transportation, recruitment, or even their “sale”—which exploiters insist they must pay off before they can be free. Even if an adult initially consents to participate in prostitution it is irrelevant: if an adult, after consenting, is subsequently held in service through psychological manipulation or physical force, he or she is a trafficking victim and should receive benefits outlined in the Palermo Protocol and applicable domestic laws.

Child Sex Trafficking (also known in the U.S. as Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking)

When a child (under 18 years of age) is recruited, enticed, harbored, transported, provided, obtained, patronized, solicited, or maintained to perform a commercial sex act, proving force, fraud, or coercion is not necessary for the offense to be prosecuted as human trafficking. There are no exceptions to this rule: no cultural or socioeconomic

¹⁰ “Global Report on Trafficking in Persons”, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2018, Pages 25, 34.

¹¹ “What is Modern Slavery?”, U. S. Department of State, accessed January 13, 2021, <https://www.state.gov/what-is-modern-slavery/>.

rationalizations alter the fact that children who are exploited in prostitution are trafficking victims. The use of children in commercial sex is prohibited under U.S. law and by statute in most countries around the world. Sex trafficking has devastating consequences for children, including long-lasting physical and psychological trauma, disease (including HIV/AIDS), drug addiction, unwanted pregnancy, malnutrition, social ostracism, and even death.

Commercial Sex Act

This term means any item of value (monetary or other compensation such as shelter, food, drugs, etc) is traded for any sexual service (prostitution, pornography, or sexual performance).

Why do we care?

“If you are in Christ and Christ is in you, you cannot be okay with suffering or injustice or starvation. Why? Because His heart is in you. **And His heart beats for the suffering, the victim, the poor, and the needy.** If you are a Christ follower, then you have been drafted into an army of compassion that knows no enemy but those things that break the heart of God. And it’s not okay to not do something about them.”¹²

The Bible provides the very basis for justice. “Justice” is often paired with “righteousness” in the Old Testament and refers to having right relationships. The words translated “justice” and “righteousness” in the New Testament Greek come from the same root.

Throughout His Word, God describes Himself as a God of justice and demonstrates His willingness to act on behalf of those who are suffering through the abuse of power. For example:

- Psalm 9:16 – God declares He is known by His justice.
- Psalm 10:17-18 – God says He hears the desire of the afflicted, encourages them and listens to their cry; He defends the fatherless and the oppressed.
- Psalm 11:7 and 33:5 – God says He is righteous and He loves justice.
- Psalm 68:5-6 – God introduces Himself as a father to the fatherless, defender of widows, He sets the lonely in families and leads forth the prisoners with singing.
- Psalm 89:14 – God says righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.
- Psalm 103:6 – God declares He works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.
- Psalm 146:7-9 – God upholds the cause of the oppressed, gives food to the hungry, sets prisoners free, gives sight to the blind, lifts up those who are bowed down, watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow.
- Luke 4:17-18 – Jesus reads from Isaiah’s prophecy declaring He was sent to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed.

*See also Deuteronomy 10:18, Psalm 33:5 and 140:12

And throughout His Word, God calls His people to justice. For example:

- Deuteronomy 24:14-15, 17-18 – God tells His people to pay a hired man his wages or he may cry to the Lord and you will be guilty of sin, and not to deprive the alien or the fatherless of justice or take the cloak of the widow as a pledge.
- Isaiah 1:17 – God tells the rebellious to stop doing wrong, seek justice, encourage the oppressed, defend the fatherless and plead the case of the widow.
- Proverbs 29:7 – We are told the righteous care about justice for the poor.
- Zechariah 7:9-10 – We are instructed to administer true justice, show mercy and compassion, not to oppress the widow or the fatherless, the alien or the poor.
- Matthew 23:23 – Jesus calls the Pharisees hypocrites because they have neglected justice, mercy and faithfulness.
- James 1:27 – We are told the religion that God accepts is to look after orphans and widows in their distress.

*Also see Psalm 112:5, Proverbs 21:15 and 28:5, Amos 2:7a, Jeremiah 22:3, and Hosea 12:6.

¹² Mark Batterson, *Primal: A Quest for the Lost Soul of Christianity* (Colorado Springs, CO: Multnomah Books, 2009), Page 20.

Where do we start?

“Seeking justice doesn’t begin at the door of a brothel. Seeking justice begins with seeking the God of justice. ... When we seek justice without first, and throughout, seeking the God of justice, we risk passion without roots. And passion without roots cannot be sustained.”¹³

We begin by seeking the God of justice, who also gives us a biblical framework of hope. Christ’s sacrifice on the cross is the ultimate demonstration of God’s compassion and heart for justice. When we experience the grace of Christ and think through the implications of the Gospel, we will be drawn to justice in all aspects of our lives. As Micah 6:8 (ESV) says, “He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness (mercy), and to walk humbly with your God?”

How do we start?

We seek Him with prayer and cultivating a love for God’s Word. In Ephesians 6:17-17 we are told to take up the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, and to pray in the Spirit because the battle is spiritual and must be fought with spiritual weapons and God’s strength. These practices are how we seek the God of justice, sustain our passion (not temporary bursts of action) and discern our role (which may look very different than we imagine right now).

The importance of prayer cannot be overemphasized in this fight to abolish human trafficking. We don’t *just* pray when we don’t know what else to do. We don’t jump into whatever we perceive to be action. Prayer is the first action step we take and we take it repeatedly. We cannot allow ourselves to be distracted from pursuing the very activity that unleashes spiritual weapons in this spiritual battle.

However, as we do consider other action steps, we will be using the C.A.R.E.S. initiative created by Trafficking Hope. Each week we will introduce an element of C.A.R.E.S. and explore how it fits into the overall anti-human trafficking strategy. And at the end of the semester, we will explore your gifts and talents and the direction God is leading you to see which area is an area of action for you to join.

REMEMBER

Prayer focus this week: that the reality of human trafficking is revealed to the world.

Luke 12: 2 (NIV) “For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be made known.”

CHALLENGE

1. Pray for the Fight Against Human Trafficking
 - a. To have a heart that breaks for the things that break God’s heart (Jer 8:21; Luke 5:32, 19:41-42)
 - b. Having the proper understanding of justice and mercy (2 Chron 20:12; Micah 6:8)
 - c. Wisdom to know how to become involved in the fight (Prov 24:11-12; Isaiah 1:17; James 1:5)
2. What story from the Bible speaks to you of God’s character of justice or demonstrates His heart for justice?
3. Think through your beliefs about human trafficking. Are there some things you’ve heard in this small group or elsewhere, that you doubt or think is untrue or exaggerated? What have you heard others say about human trafficking? Do those around you believe it exists, or it exists here, or is as widespread?
4. Watch:
 - Facts About Human Trafficking (Crime Time/Oxygen)(1:51) <https://youtu.be/Mgn7CA-WGGg>
 - Human Trafficking: Lives Bought & Sold (a BBC report) (18:30) <https://youtu.be/JpsxAjuye7I>
5. Read Lesson 3, and Welcome Letter from the Founders of Trafficking Hope (at the end of this lesson)

¹³ Bethany H. Hoang, *Deepening the Soul for Justice* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2012), Page 7.

PRAYER

Lord, You are the Protector of the innocent, Avenger of the wronged. We know You value people, so we value people. God, You are passionate about justice, so we are passionate about justice. Your Word says You are known by Your justice, You are a God of justice, and You encourage us to maintain justice. We are called to the darkness because our light is more effective in the dark. You protect us as we venture into the darkness, and we have no fear for You are with us. This is not a battle against flesh and blood but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realm. With the authority given us by Jesus, Your Son, who has authority over everything under Heaven and Earth, we push aside the forces of darkness that would prevent us from joining the fight for the oppressed, poor, and needy. We ask for wisdom and insight from the Holy Spirit to show us our strength and gift that can be used in this battle. Open our hearts, our eyes, and our minds. In Jesus' Holy name, Amen.

Welcome Letter

Dear Friend,

People frequently ask us why we give so much of our time, energy, and resources to the war on human trafficking. Our response is simple. Once we saw the problem firsthand, it became impossible to stand by and idly do nothing. We are the co-founders of Trafficking Hope, a non-profit organization with a mission to eradicate sex trafficking around the world. We are so excited to take this next step with you! This semester will teach you more about human trafficking on a global, and national scale, and how you can get involved. God has equipped each of us with unique talents and gifts, and it is our goal for you to use them to help reach those trapped in this modern day slavery.

Like many people, we did not realize that human trafficking existed in the United States. We thought this was a third-world issue. We saw sex trafficking first hand when we were on a mission trip to Europe, and upon our return, and much to our surprise, we discovered that human trafficking was in our own backyard, which led us to found Trafficking Hope.

Trafficking Hope was created to help equip and empower local churches and non-profits to fight human trafficking in their own community in five areas: Coalition, Awareness, Rescue, Education, and Services, which is what this small group name, C.A.R.E.S., stands for. We believe we can leverage your God-given gifts in one of these five areas so you can make an eternal difference in the fight against human trafficking.

Each week we will study different areas of human trafficking from a facts- and faith-based perspective. We will use short video clips, key points to process, Bible verses to study, discussion questions, and other interactive materials to put into practice what you are learning. You'll not only gain information about human trafficking and its impact, but you'll see how God is a God of justice and He is using His people to shed light on this issue.

You are in this small group for a reason, and we pray that as you become more aware of this issue, you would become involved in whichever area you're called. We leave you with this mandate from the book of Psalms:

Vindicate the weak and fatherless

Do justice to the afflicted and destitute Rescue the weak and needy

Deliver them out of the hand of the wicked.

(Psalms 82:3-4)

Thank you and God bless,

Lee & Laura Domingue

Founders, TRAFFICKING HOPE



CARES

Lesson 3 – BELOW THE SURFACE

C.A.R.E.S. 101 Small Group Curriculum

WEEK 3 – BELOW THE SURFACE

REVIEW

Last week we explored various definitions for the types of human trafficking, most specifically the definitions of sex trafficking, child sex trafficking, and a commercial sex act. In prosecuting sex trafficking cases, the use of force, fraud, or coercion must be proved; however, no such proof is required in a case involving victims under the age of 18. Items of value traded for a commercial sex act include not only money, but food, shelter, drugs, etc.

We also discussed why we as believers and followers of Christ care about abolishing this injustice. We care because God describes Himself as a God of justice and demonstrates His willingness to act on behalf of those suffering through the abuse of power. Throughout His Word God calls His people to justice, and we start by seeking the God of justice with prayer and cultivating a love for His Word.

BIG PICTURE

In John 8:44 Jesus tells us lying is consistent with the evil one's character for he is a liar and the father of lies. One way for the evil one to steal and destroy God's creation is to distort the truth and keep us blind to the reality of human trafficking.

Human trafficking is no longer a problem in far away, developing countries. The problem has grown to epidemic levels around the world, including the United States. Revealing some of the darkest levels of the human heart, sex trafficking is a topic that makes us uncomfortable. But in order to end its grip on so many lives, we must confront the truth about this terrible evil and bring God's justice into the darkness.

EXPLORE/DISCUSS

On the surface, human trafficking may look like a third world problem, prostitution may seem to be a choice, pornography is looked at as victimless recreation, and victims are assumed to be poor or only from certain ethnic populations. These are lies meant to keep God's children from knowing the truth and keep millions enslaved by injustice.

In 2017 an estimated 25 million persons were enslaved worldwide in multiple types of slavery.¹ These estimates are from countries across the globe and include every race, ethnicity, socio- economic and educational background. Slavery has not ended.

Here are some myths and facts identified by the Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign² with additional follow up information from various organizations.

Myth: Human trafficking does not occur in the United States. It only happens in other countries.

Fact: Human trafficking exists in every country, including the United States. It exists nationwide—in cities, suburbs, and rural towns—and possibly in your own community.

Follow up: In 2019, the FBI launched Operation Independence Day, a revamp of their previous initiative in the recovery of child trafficking victims and prosecution of traffickers. The initiative relied on more than 400 law enforcement agencies working on FBI Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking Task Forces in each of the Bureau's 56 field offices. The sweep included 161 undercover operations and has led to the opening of 60 federal criminal investigations. Agents and analysts at FBI Headquarters and in the field worked closely with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) to identify young runaways, missing kids, and juveniles who may have been subjected to human trafficking. In all, 103 juveniles were identified or recovered and 67 suspected traffickers were arrested.³

¹ "Facts and Figures", International Labour Organization and Walk Free Foundation, Geneva 2017, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-labour/lang--en/index.htm>.

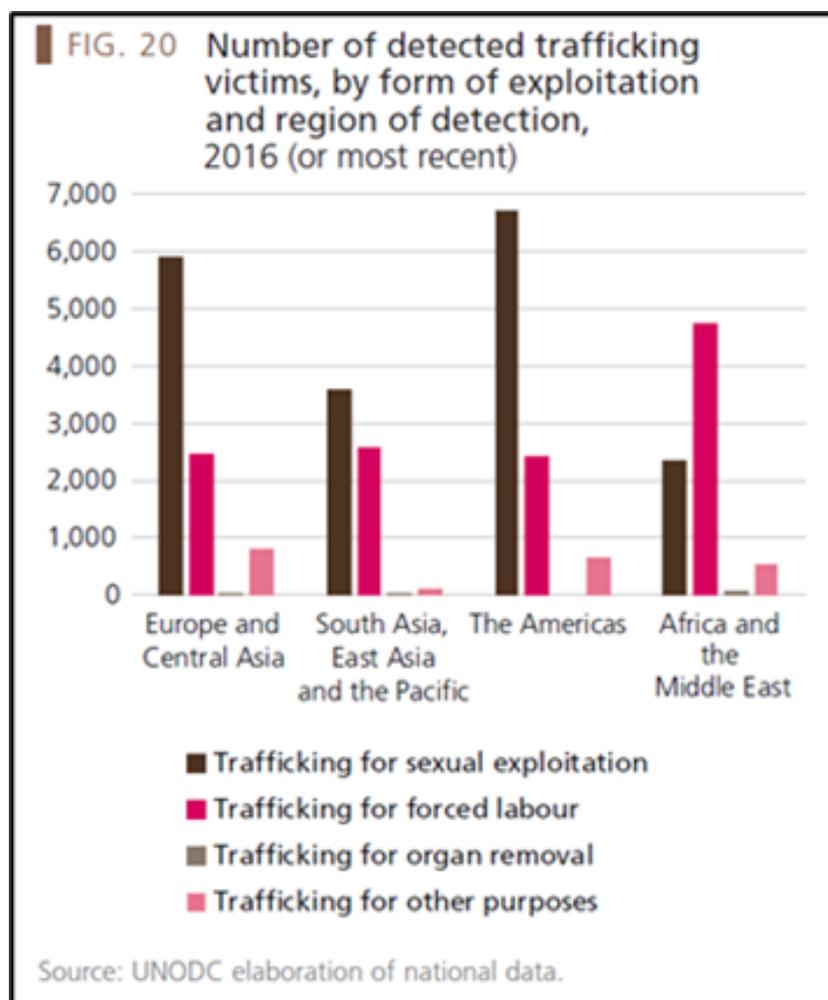
² "Myths and Misconceptions", Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/myths-and-misconceptions>.

³ "Operation Independence day", The Federal Bureau of Investigation, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/operation-independence-day-2019>.

Myth: Human trafficking victims are only foreign born individuals and those who are poor.

Fact: Human trafficking victims can be any age, race, gender, or nationality. They may come from any socioeconomic group.

Follow up: “As reported over the past five years, human traffickers exploit domestic and foreign national victims in the United States, and traffickers exploit victims from the United States abroad. Human trafficking cases have been reported in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Traffickers compel victims to engage in commercial sex and to work in both legal and illicit industries and sectors, including in hospitality, traveling sales crews, agriculture, janitorial services, construction, landscaping, restaurants, factories, care for persons with disabilities, salon services, massage parlors, retail, fairs and carnivals, peddling and begging, drug smuggling and distribution, religious institutions, child care, and domestic work. Individuals who entered the United States with and without legal status have been identified as trafficking victims. Victims originate from almost every region of the world; the top three countries of origin of federally identified victims in FY 2019 were the United States, Mexico, and Honduras. Individuals in the United States vulnerable to human trafficking include: children in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, including foster care; runaway and homeless youth; unaccompanied foreign national children without lawful immigration status; individuals seeking asylum; American Indians and Alaska Natives, particularly women and girls; individuals with substance use issues; migrant laborers, including undocumented workers and participants in visa programs for temporary workers; foreign national domestic workers in diplomatic households; persons with limited English proficiency; persons with disabilities; LGBTI individuals, and victims of intimate partner violence or domestic violence. Advocates reported a growing recognition of trauma bonding in human trafficking cases, which occurs when a trafficker uses rewards and punishments in cycles of abuse to foster a powerful emotional connection with the victim. Some U.S. citizens engage in child sex tourism in foreign countries.”⁴



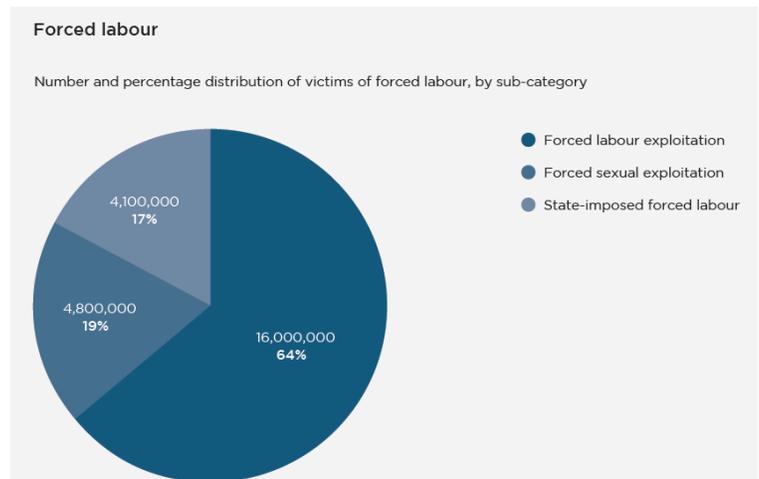
⁴ “*Trafficking in Persons Report*”, U. S. Department of State, 2020, Page 523.

⁵ “*Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*”, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2018, Page 29.

Myth: Human trafficking is only sex trafficking.

Fact: Sex trafficking exists, but it is not the only type of human trafficking. Forced labor is another type of human trafficking; both involve exploitation of people. Victims are found in legitimate and illegitimate labor industries, including sweatshops, massage parlors, agriculture, restaurants, hotels, and domestic service.

Follow up: Of the nearly 25 million estimated forced labour victims, 4.8 million were in forced sexual exploitation; the remainder were in the private economy (debt bondage, domestic workers, construction, manufacturing, agriculture/fishing) and 4 million were in forced labour imposed by state authorities (economic development, military conscripts, communal services, prisoners).⁶



The National Human Trafficking Hotline (NHTH) is a national anti-trafficking hotline and resource center serving victims and survivors of human trafficking and the anti-trafficking community in the United States. The toll-free hotline is available to answer calls from anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year in more than 200 languages. Help can be accessed by phone, web, email, text, and live chat. Following are hotline statistics from 2019.⁷

A Closer Look



SEX TRAFFICKING

Situations of sex trafficking:
8,248

Individual victims and survivors of sex trafficking:
14,597

Top 3 Identified Sex Trafficking Types

Escort services **1,278**
 Illicit massage, health, and beauty⁴ **1,247**
 Pornography **733**

LABOR TRAFFICKING

Situations of labor trafficking:
1,236

Individual victims and survivors of labor trafficking:
4,934

Top 3 Identified Labor Trafficking Types

Domestic work **218**
 Agriculture and animal husbandry **108**
 Traveling sales crews **107**

SEX AND LABOR TRAFFICKING

Situations of sex and labor trafficking:
505

Individual victims and survivors of sex and labor trafficking:
1,048

Top 3 Identified Sex and Labor Trafficking Types

Illicit massage, health, and beauty⁴ **123**
 Illicit activities **81**
 Bars, strip clubs, and cantinas **43**

⁶ "Global Estimates of Modern Slavery", International Labour Organization and Walk Free Foundation, Geneva 2017, https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/publication/wcms_575479.pdf, Figure 7, Page 29.

⁷ "2019 Statistics from the National Human Trafficking Hotline", Polaris Project, 2020. <https://polarisproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Polaris-2019-US-National-Human-Trafficking-Hotline-Data-Report.pdf>, Page 3.

Myth: Individuals must be forced or coerced into commercial sex acts to be victims of human trafficking.

Fact: Under U.S. federal law, any child under the age of 18 who is induced to perform commercial sex acts is a victim of human trafficking, regardless of whether he or she is forced or coerced.

Follow up: See the definitions of Sex Trafficking and Child Sex Trafficking in Lesson 2.

Myth: Human trafficking and human smuggling are the same.

Fact: Human trafficking is not the same as smuggling. “Trafficking” is based on exploitation and does not require movement across borders. “Smuggling” is based on movement and involves moving a person across a country’s border with that person’s consent in violation of immigration laws. Although human smuggling is very different from human trafficking, human smuggling can turn into trafficking if the smuggler uses force, fraud, or coercion to hold people against their will for the purposes of labor or sexual exploitation. Under federal law, every minor induced to engage in commercial sex is a victim of human trafficking.

Follow up: “In contrast to human trafficking which can take place both domestically and internationally, migrant smuggling is a crime that takes place only across borders. It consists in assisting migrants to enter or stay in a country illegally, for a financial or material gain. Smugglers make a profitable business out of migrants’ need and/or desire to enter a country and the lack of legal documents to do so.”⁸

Myth: Human trafficking victims will attempt to seek help when in public.

Fact: Human trafficking is often a hidden crime. Victims may be afraid to come forward and get help; they may be forced or coerced through threats or violence; they may fear retribution from traffickers, including danger to their families; and they may not be in possession of or have control of their identification documents.

Follow up: Every trafficking situation is unique and self-identification as a trafficking victim or survivor happens along a continuum. Fear, isolation, guilt, shame, misplaced loyalty and expert manipulation are among the many factors that may keep a person from seeking help or identifying as a victim even if they are, in fact, being actively trafficked.⁹

Human trafficking is the business of stealing freedom for profit. In some cases, traffickers trick, defraud or physically force victims into selling sex. In others, victims are lied to, assaulted, threatened or manipulated into working under inhumane, illegal or otherwise unacceptable conditions. It is a multi-billion dollar criminal industry that denies freedom to 24.9 million people around the world.¹⁰

Other myths people may believe include prostitutes have chosen their lifestyle, they get paid, and it’s a choice, or pornography is just fantasy, it’s victimless, and no one is actually having sex or getting hurt. A child, by law and lack of maturity, cannot give consent to any commercial sex act, including pornography. The child was hurt psychologically, and may well have been hurt physically in the taking of pictures and will suffer trauma during and afterwards. Distributed photos remain in circulation for many years, continuing the trauma. Any adult under force, fraud, or coercion is not making a choice to prostitute or have photos taken. Both are victims.

The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation is irrelevant where any of the means set forth in the Trafficking in Persons definition (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) have been used.¹¹

Further complicating the reality of human trafficking are the intricate ties to drugs, gangs, violence, abuse, weak governments, corrupt politics and law enforcement, natural disasters, refugees, big events (sports), societal myths (prostitution is chosen, porn is victimless). More on this will be covered in a later lesson.

⁸ “Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling”, United Nations Office on Crimes and Drugs, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://www.unodc.org/e4j/en/secondary/human-trafficking-and-migrant-smuggling.html>, Para 4.

⁹ “Human Trafficking Myths”, Polaris Project, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://polarisproject.org/myths-facts-and-statistics/>

¹⁰ “Human Trafficking”, Polaris Project, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/>.

¹¹ *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Section 1 Article 3(a)(b)*, United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, accessed January 24, 2021, <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/ProtocolTraffickingInPersons.aspx>.

But there's more. Beneath the surface of sex trafficking as a global, national, and local injustice, beneath the surface of every commercial sex act or pornographic picture, beneath the surface of drugs and gangs and corruption, is a man, woman, or child enslaved by traffickers and the evil one to kill, steal, and destroy (John 10:10).

Plenty of data exists to reflect the severity of the problem of human trafficking in our country and around the world. However, this issue is not about numbers – it's about people enduring unspeakable crimes no one should ever have to experience. It's about lives shattered by brutal violations and souls poisoned by crippling shame. It's about homes destroyed and families torn apart. It's about a war on the human heart.

Psalm 10:14, 17-18 says, "But You, O God, do see trouble and grief; You consider it to take it in hand. The victim commits himself to You; You are the helper of the fatherless. You hear, O Lord, the desire of the afflicted; You encourage them, and You listen to their cry, defending the fatherless and the oppressed, in order that man, who is of the earth, may terrify no more."

So how can we, in this specific time and place, address a \$150 billion business that enslaves millions of people? It seems overwhelming. Until we put a face to it . . . one that will pierce your heart, one you can't forget.

In his book *Primal*, Mark Batterson says:

"Are you okay with this? That question can be and must be asked of all suffering and every injustice. Are you okay with this?"

Most of us are okay with it. And we're okay with it simply because it's an issue without a name or face. We've never held someone who is starving to death. No one in our family has needlessly died from contaminated water. We don't know anybody who has been kidnapped and sold into slavery. And none of our family members sleeps on the streets. But once the issue has a name and a face, it changes everything, doesn't it? God knows each of those names. God knows each of those faces. And it breaks His heart.

So let me ask the question: are you okay with this?"¹²

How do we put a face to it? As you educate yourself, search for a face, a name that will imprint on your heart and stay with you. It may be a survivor's story, a picture and story in the newspaper or magazine, a television news segment, a movie, or a book.



A story like Brianna's: When she was 16 years old, Brianna decided to run away from home with an older girl she had become friends with.

Soon after, they both realized that they needed money to survive. Vulnerable and alone, Brianna's friend convinced her that the only way to make money was to become a prostitute.

If a child (under the age of 18 years old, or some states say under age 19) is in prostitution, by law they are considered a human trafficking victim. There is no requirement for the use of "force," "fraud," or "coercion" to define a human trafficking victim until they are over the age of 18 or 19.

Brianna would wait at truck stops and gas stations along I-95 for potential "customers" to drive up. However, Brianna had no idea how devastating this initial introduction into sex work would be for her life.

Brianna felt ashamed and embarrassed with herself, and tried to cover this up with drugs.

Eventually, Brianna fell into the hands of a trafficker.

¹² Mark Batterson, *Primal: A Quest for the Lost Soul of Christianity* (Colorado Springs, CO: Multnomah Books, 2009), pg 18, 19, 20.

She faced constant beatings and was forced to have sex multiple times a day. If she did not obey her trafficker, her abuse would be worse. "I felt like I had no choice but to listen. I had nowhere to live, and at that point my family was fed up with my choices and bad behavior," Brianna said.

Being cut off from her family and having no money of her own, Brianna felt trapped with nowhere and no one to turn to.

Brianna's life changed when she met a woman while she was in jail. This woman worked for an organization that helps inmates find rehabilitation programs that meet their specific needs. After hearing Brianna's story, the woman told her about The WellHouse.

Soon after, Brianna was on a plane bound for Alabama.

Brianna is now safe and living in the residential housing on The WellHouse campus. She is experiencing healing and growth through counseling and trauma-informed therapy as a part of her stay.¹³

Utilize the Resource List of this curriculum and search for a person's name, a child's face, a human story that will not let you go. Here are a few places to find survivor stories:

- Stories (The Wellhouse) <https://www.the-wellhouse.org/blog>
- Human Trafficking in Alabama <https://youtu.be/k70llyTLAI>
- Stories (International Justice Mission) <https://www.ijm.org/stories/>
- Rebecca Bender's Story <https://youtu.be/jHcoEY6gJJ0>
- Survivor Stories (Polaris Project) <https://polarisproject.org/blog/survivor-stories>
- Stories of Hope (Shared Hope International) <https://sharedhope.org/what-we-do/restore/stories-of-hope/>

C.A.R.E.S. Focus

Our focus this week has been on Awareness: informing the community of the horrendous crime of human trafficking.

Raising public awareness about human trafficking also helps enhance victim identification. Traffickers maintain control over victims through violence and coercion, threats of harm to them or their families, false promises of future pay for work already done, threats of arrest or deportation with no pay and crippling debt, manipulation of an individual's disability, or alcohol or drug dependency. Victims are often kept hidden away behind locked doors or chained fences, but they also sometimes come into contact with the public when they are exploited in less confined settings, such as begging on the street or laboring in fields, restaurants, hotels, or construction sites. When the public is aware of the indicators of human trafficking and whom to contact if they see such indicators, victims can more readily be identified and helped. Countless survivors in many countries have been discovered because an interested person recognized their circumstances and contacted authorities. This person can be a neighbor, a school official, or a store owner. And as unsettling as it may be, sex trafficking victims have been helped to leave brothels and strip clubs because a client saw an anti-trafficking message and decided to do the right thing. Public awareness can help break the information monopoly that helps traffickers keep their victims isolated and enslaved.¹⁴

¹³ "Survivor Story – Brianna", The WellHouse, posted October 2020, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://www.the-wellhouse.org/blog/2020/7/30/survivor-story-brianna>.

¹⁴ "Victim Identification: The First Step in Stopping Modern Slavery", Trafficking in Persons Report 2013, U. S. Department of State, Page 18.

Awareness can be raised through:

Research the issue of human trafficking and its impact on your city and state	Engage with other people who have a passion to stop human trafficking and brainstorm ways to work together
Get family and friends together to watch movies or read books	Develop a Serve Day project or ministry opportunity
Use social media to promote awareness, provide education, or promote special days/activities	Man an information booth at public events
Write blogs, paint pictures, record podcasts and videos, start a website, host a movie night, make crafts to sell	Create a media campaign using billboards, radio spots, print media, public forums
Coordinate/participate in a fundraising event (e.g., Race to the Heights)	Communicate with individuals, groups, and agencies to increase your own awareness as well as the awareness of others

REMEMBER

The pervasive problem of human trafficking grows all around us. What once seemed to be an exotic issue halfway around the world now thrives in our own backyard. As uncomfortable as it may be, we must expose human trafficking and face its impact on our neighborhoods, communities, schools, office, and homes. The evil one would like to distract us from the truth, that this is a spiritual battle that requires spiritual weapons. No earthly tactic in this battle will be successful unless we have first engaged the enemy in the spiritual realm (Ephesians 6:12 NIV).

Prayer focus this week: for strategies to raise awareness.

“If a man shuts his ears to the cry of the poor, he too will cry out and not be answered.” (Prov. 21:13 NIV) “He who has ears, let him hear.” (Matt 11:15 NIV)

CHALLENGE

1. Pray for Global Awareness
 - a. The reality of trafficking is unveiled (Mark 4:22; Luke 12:2; Ephesians 5:13)
 - b. For strategies to raise awareness (Psalm 25:4; Proverbs 3:5-6; Isaiah 55:9)
 - c. For people to be stirred to action (Isaiah 58:6-7; James 1:22; James 2:16-17)

2. Visit the web site of at least one of the following organizations that you are unfamiliar with, spend time learning about them, and come prepared to share at least one fact about them:
 - Trafficking Hope (<https://www.traffickinghope.org/>)
 - A21 (<http://www.a21.org>)
 - International Justice Mission (<https://www.ijm.org/>)
 - Mountain Child (<https://mountainchild.org/>)
 - Shared Hope International (<http://sharedhope.org/>)
 - Polaris Project (<https://polarisproject.org/index.php>)
 - U. S. Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign (<https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign>)
 - End It (<https://enditmovement.com/>)
 - National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (<https://www.missingkids.org/home>)
 - Operation Underground Railroad (<http://ourrescue.org/>)

3. Watch:
 - Not in My Backyard (Urban Institute) (6:35), (<https://youtu.be/vO9dDndhGxc>)
 - Core Issue 2-Trafficking (MountainChild) (4:52), (<https://youtu.be/MGVRQQXS350>)
4. What is the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/laws/>, <http://polarisproject.org/current-federal-laws>)? How many times has it been reauthorized?
5. Read Lesson 4

PRAYER

Father, we thank You that Your Son Jesus Christ has already overcome the powers of evil and forces of darkness through His death on the cross and resurrection. We claim His power in winning the war on human trafficking and setting free all those held captive by its chains. We pray for the release of victims everywhere and for the righteousness and justice of our Holy God to prevail. In Your Son's Name, Amen.



Lesson 4 – ENSLAVED BY EVIL

C.A.R.E.S. 101 Small Group Curriculum

LESSON 4 – ENSLAVED BY EVIL

REVIEW

Last week we looked beneath the surface of myths and misconceptions about human trafficking to discover the truth of this \$150 billion criminal enterprise that enslaves millions of people. It's not a third world problem; it's a global injustice. Human trafficking affects every ethnic and socioeconomic sector, including male/female/transgender/gay as well as children. And leaving is not as simple as walking out the door.

BIG PICTURE

How do we stop the traffickers and rescue those enslaved by them? What organizations currently investigate cases, rescue victims, and prosecute human traffickers?

This week we want to look at some of the structures that govern and oversee human trafficking internationally, nationally, and locally. This includes both government and non-government organizations (NGO).

EXPLORE/DISCUSS

Human trafficking is a fast-growing criminal enterprise with very high profit and very little risk. However, there are organizations that recognize the need for action and are working to enact change on international, national, and local levels. This is a sampling of those groups.

INTERNATIONAL

Strong safeguards must be present in order to disrupt, dismantle and eradicate the criminal networks that engage in human trafficking.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC): Established in 1997 through a merger between the United Nations Drug Control Programme and the Centre for International Crime Prevention, UNODC operates in all regions of the world to fight against illicit drugs and international crime. It is the only U.N. entity focusing on the criminal justice element of these crimes. UNODC is mandated to assist Member States in their struggle against illicit drugs, crime and terrorism and has resolved to intensify efforts to fight transnational crime in all its dimensions.

The U.N. Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) is a multilateral treaty against transnational organized crime. The Convention was adopted by a resolution of the U.N. General Assembly on 15 November 2000. It is also called the Palermo Convention, and its three supplementary protocols are called the Palermo Protocols.

All four of these instruments contain elements of the current international law on human trafficking, arms trafficking and money laundering. *The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children* entered into force in 2003. It is the first global legally binding instrument with an agreed definition on trafficking in persons.¹ This *Protocol* also sets out an explicit link between human trafficking and forced labor.

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/index.html>

International Labour Organization (ILO): The only tripartite U.N. agency, since 1919 the ILO brings together government, employer and worker representatives of 187 Member States, to set labor standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men. International labour standards are legal instruments drawn up by the ILO's constituents (governments, employers and workers) and setting out basic principles and rights at work. They are either conventions, which are legally binding international treaties that may be ratified by member states, or recommendations, which serve as non-binding guidelines. In many cases, a convention lays down the basic principles to be implemented by ratifying countries, while a related recommendation supplements the convention by providing more detailed guidelines on how it could be applied. Recommendations can also be autonomous, i.e. not linked to any convention.²

<http://www.ilo.org/global/lang-en/index.htm>

¹ "Human Trafficking FAQs", United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/faqs.html>

² "Conventions and Recommendations", ILO, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://www.ilo.org/global/standards/introduction-to-international-labour-standards/conventions-and-recommendations/lang-en/index.htm>, Para 1.

International Justice Mission (IJM): IJM is an NGO. Founder Gary Haugen envisioned a new kind of human rights organization: a group that would leverage the skills of criminal justice professionals to protect the poor from violent oppression. IJM is now a global team of nearly 600 lawyers, social workers, investigators, community activists and other professionals collaborating with local authorities to rescue thousands of victims of everyday violence and put hundreds of violent criminals behind bars.

IJM first finds victims, then supports local police in rescue operations and meeting victims' urgent needs. Next IJM works with local law enforcement in Investigating, arresting and charging slave owners with crimes. And IJM goes after root causes . . . justice systems that don't work, making sure laws are enforced making it legally and financially impossible to stay in business.

www.ijm.org

A21: A21 is also an NGO. Founded by Nick and Christine Caine, A21 exists to abolish injustice in the 21st century. They believe we will see human trafficking end in our lifetime. A21 works to:

- Reach: reduce vulnerability by engaging people to prevent slavery
- Rescue: support law enforcement in operations, identifying victims, assist in prosecution and represent survivors, and collaborate with governments and other NGOs to eradicate slavery
- Restore: empowering survivors with care based on needs such as housing, medical treatment, counseling, education, employment, and repatriation

www.a21.org

Operation Underground Railroad (O.U.R.): O.U.R. is another NGO. Founded by Timothy Ballard, O.U.R. has gathered experts in extraction operations and in anti-child trafficking. O.U.R.'s Underground Jump Team consists of former CIA, Navy SEALs, and Special Ops operatives that lead coordinated identification and extraction efforts. These operations are always in conjunction with law enforcement throughout the world.

Team members assess the feasibility of rescue, research the location, design a strategy, take action, recover victims, then work to arrest, try, and convict the perpetrators. Once victims are rescued, a comprehensive process involving justice for the perpetrators and recovery and rehabilitation for the survivors begins.

O.U.R. jump teams are not deployed domestically. They provide tools and resources to law enforcement to help them combat child trafficking and child exploitation.³

<https://ourrescue.org/>

NATIONAL

One of the critical components of prevention is legislation that recognizes trafficking as a crime and the subsequent laws that punish traffickers and protect survivors.

U. S. Department of State: The U.S. Department of State leads the United States' global engagement to combat human trafficking and supports the coordination of anti-trafficking efforts across the U.S. government. Within the Department of State, the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (TIP Office) partners with foreign governments, international organizations, other federal agencies, civil society, the private sector, and survivors of human trafficking to develop and implement effective strategies to confront modern slavery.

The TIP Office was established in accordance with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000. The TIP Office upholds the "3P" paradigm of prosecuting trafficking cases, protecting victims, and preventing trafficking. One of the office's section's, The Reports and Political Affairs (RPA) section, primary role is to work with U.S. embassies to engage foreign governments regarding human trafficking issues and to prepare the annual Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report.

The TIP Report is the U.S. government's principal diplomatic and diagnostic tool to guide engagement with foreign governments on human trafficking. It is also the world's most comprehensive resource of governmental anti-trafficking efforts and reflects the U.S. government's commitment to global leadership on this key human rights and law

³ "About Us", Operation Underground Railroad, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://ourrescue.org/about#process>.

enforcement issue. Through the TIP Report, the Department of State assesses countries based on their governments' efforts to meet the "minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking" found in Section 108 of the TVPA. Since 2010, the TIP Report has also ranked the United States government's anti-trafficking efforts using the same standards.⁴
<https://www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-civilian-security-democracy-and-human-rights/office-to-monitor-and-combat-trafficking-in-persons/>

U. S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS): The *Blue Campaign* is the unified voice for the U.S. DHS efforts to combat human trafficking, working in collaboration with law enforcement, government, non-governmental and private organizations.

Through the *Blue Campaign*, DHS raises public awareness about human trafficking, leveraging partnerships to educate the public to recognize human trafficking and report suspected instances. The *Blue Campaign* also offers training to law enforcement and others to increase detection and investigation of human trafficking, and to protect victims and bring suspected traffickers to justice.

DHS is responsible for investigating human trafficking, arresting traffickers, and protecting victims. DHS also provides immigration relief to non-U.S. citizen victims of human trafficking. DHS utilizes a victim-centered approach to combat human trafficking, which places equal value on identifying and stabilizing victims and on investigating and prosecuting traffickers. Victims are crucial to investigations and prosecutions; each case and every conviction changes lives. DHS understands how difficult it can be for victims to come forward and work with law enforcement due to their trauma. DHS is committed to helping victims feel stable, safe, and secure.

<https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign>

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI): Under the human trafficking program, the Bureau investigates matters where a person was induced to engage in commercial sex acts through force, fraud, or coercion, or to perform any labor or service through force, coercion, or threat of law or legal process. Typically, human trafficking cases fall under the following investigative areas:

- *Domestic Sex Trafficking of Adults*
- *Sex Trafficking of International Adults and Children* (domestic juvenile sex trafficking is handled by the FBI's Violent Crimes against Children Section.)
- *Forced Labor*
- *Domestic Servitude*

FBI investigators participate or lead task forces and working groups in every state within the U.S. In partnership with local, state, federal, and now international law enforcement agencies and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC), the FBI also conducts Operation Cross Country as part of the Bureau's Innocence Lost National Initiative. (See Lesson 3)

<https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/civil-rights/human-trafficking>

Polaris Project: Named after the North Star that guided slaves to freedom in the U.S., Polaris systemically disrupts the human trafficking networks that rob human beings of their lives and their freedom. Their comprehensive model puts victims at the center of what they do – helping survivors restore their freedom, preventing more victims, and leveraging data and technology to pursue traffickers wherever they operate. Polaris has initiatives addressing sex trafficking from Latin America, illicit massage businesses, survivor support, global safety net, temporary visas, children and youth, hotels, sales crews, and supply chains.

Resources available on their web site include a comprehensive model law that can guide state legislatures when drafting legislation to combat human trafficking in the United States, information on how to strengthen state laws on individual issues, copies of the foundational federal anti-trafficking laws, information about laws Polaris is actively supporting, and fact sheets on trafficking in various industries. Polaris also operates the National Human Trafficking Hotline and BeFree Textline.

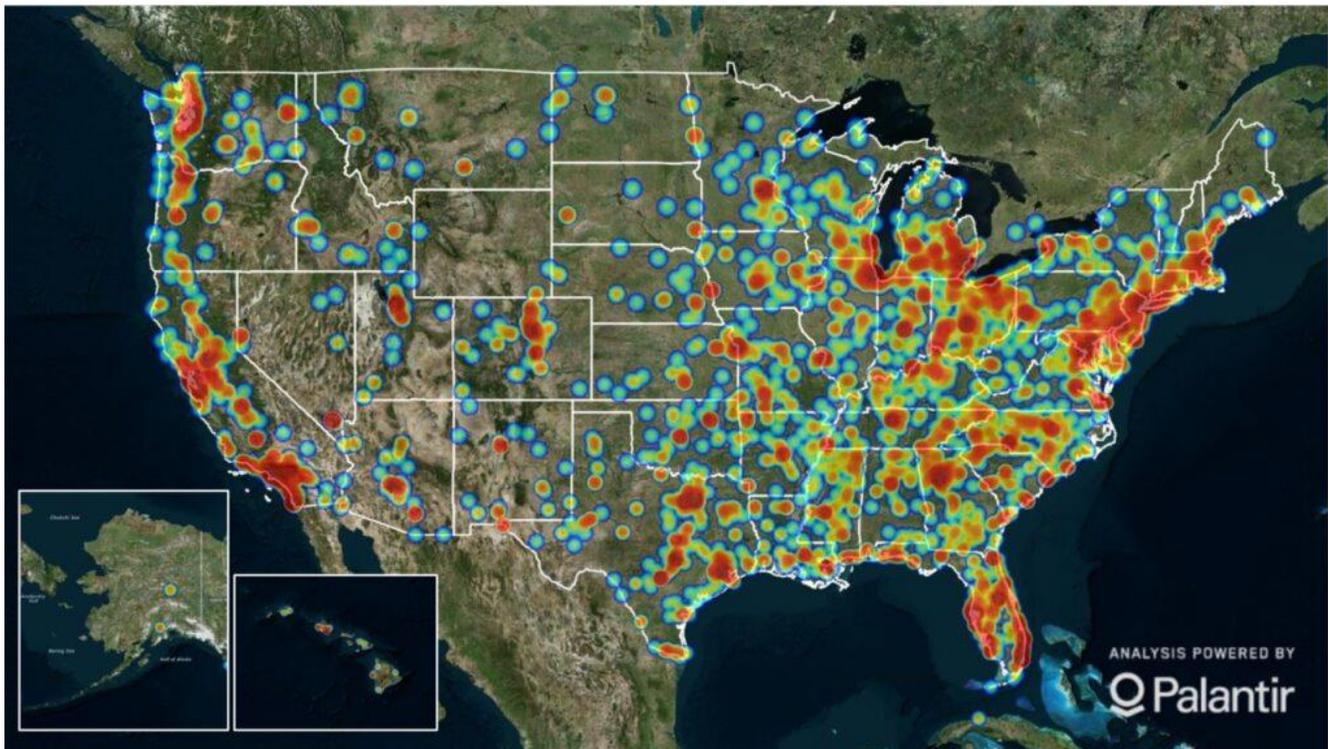
<http://polarisproject.org/>

⁴ "Looking Back on Twenty Years of the Trafficking in Persons Report", Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, U. S. Department of State, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://www.state.gov/reports/2020-trafficking-in-persons-report/>.

National Human Trafficking Hotline (NHTH): NHTH connects victims and survivors of sex and labor trafficking with services and supports to get help and stay safe. The Trafficking Hotline also receives tips about potential situations of sex and labor trafficking and facilitates reporting that information to the appropriate authorities in certain cases.⁵

- More than 60,000 total cases of human trafficking have been reported to the Hotline since 2007.
- The Hotline annually receives multiple reports of human trafficking cases in each of the 50 states and D.C.
- The Hotline receives an average of 90 calls per day.⁶

Locations of Human Trafficking Situations in the U. S.



Impact at a Glance

22,326	11,500	4,384	1,912
TRAFFICKING	SITUATIONS OF	TRAFFICKERS	SUSPICIOUS
VICTIMS &	HUMAN		BUSINESSES
SURVIVORS	TRAFFICKING		

8

The toll-free hotline is available to answer calls from anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year in more than 200 languages. The NHTH can be accessed by

- Calling 888-373-7888
- Texting 233733
- Online <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/report-trafficking>
- Live chat at <http://www.humantraffickinghotline.org/chat>
- Emailing help@humantraffickinghotline.org

<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/>

⁵ "National Hotline Overview", National Human Trafficking Hotline, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/national-hotline-overview>.

⁶ "2019 U. S. National Human Trafficking Hotline Statistics", NHTH, <https://polarisproject.org/2019-us-national-human-trafficking-hotline-statistics/>

⁷ ibid

⁸ ibid

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC): Established in 1984, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children is the leading nonprofit organization in the U.S. working with law enforcement, families and the professionals who serve them on issues related to missing and sexually exploited children. NCMEC’s national toll-free hotline, 1-800-THE-LOST© (1-800-843-5678), has received more than 4.7 million calls. NCMEC has circulated billions of photos of missing children, assisted law enforcement in the recovery of more than 277,000 missing children and facilitated training for more than 377,000 law enforcement, criminal/juvenile justice and healthcare professionals.⁹

As the Internet has become a primary tool for sexually exploiting children, NCMEC established the CyberTipline, a centralized mechanism for the public and electronic service providers to report suspected child sexual exploitation. Since 1998, the CyberTipline has received more than 37 million reports of suspected child sexual exploitation, and the Child Victim Identification Program has reviewed more than 249 million child pornography images.

Since launching their first safety programs, NCMEC has worked to put in place the policies, educational initiatives and public-private partnerships to prevent the victimization of children. That work continues through:

- Team Adam, providing rapid, on-site assistance in critical missing children cases
- Secondary distributor of Amber Alerts
- KidSmartz program (real world safety)
- NetSmartz Workshop (online safety)
- Notifications to electronic service providers regarding websites of suspected child sexual abuse images
- Age-progressed photos and facial and skull reconstructions
- Project ALERT, technical assistance and outreach on long-term missing cases
- Assistance in tracking noncompliant sex offenders

(<https://www.missingkids.org/home>)

Shared Hope International (SHI): SHI was established to provide hope to the hopeless women Washington State Congresswoman Linda Smith found enslaved in the brothels of Mumbai in 1998. As SHI became established leaders in the international movement to end slavery, eyes were opened to the scourge of sex trafficking in the U.S. SHI could not ignore this injustice and expanded their impact to bring hope to American women and children victimized in the commercial sex industry. Today, SHI leads prevention strategies, restoration programs and justice initiatives to combat trafficking in the U.S. and abroad. Their vision is to coordinate a national U.S. network of protection to improve the response to victims of trafficking. SHI works for every survivor to be surrounded by trained professionals, an alert community, just law and policy, knowledgeable service providers and appropriate shelter options.

The Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking are a re-envisioning of Shared Hope International’s Protected Innocence Challenge Report Cards. As the past 10 years have led to new research and opportunities to listen to survivors and the field, what we have heard, and responded to, is a call to raise the bar for states...to build on the foundation of progress by further improving protections for child sex trafficking victims. The Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking will continue to support states’ efforts to improve their existing legal protections for child sex trafficking victims by focusing more deeply on survivor-centered and trauma-informed approaches for responding to children and youth who have been exploited, while encouraging meaningful and sustainable prevention efforts.¹⁰

<http://sharedhope.org/>

STATE

Although a federal response is necessary, the states also have a significant role to play in this effort via laws and legislation. Each state structures their laws and responses differently, utilizing legislation, task forces, collaborations with other agencies/organizations, fusion centers, and initiatives.

⁹ “About Us/Key Facts”, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, accessed January 24, 2021, <http://www.missingkids.com/footer/keyfacts>.

¹⁰ “Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking”, Shared Hope International, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://sharedhope.org/what-we-do/bring-justice/reportcards/>.

ALABAMA

Alabama State Legislature: House Bill 432, Alabama's first anti-human trafficking legislation, passed and was signed in to law in 2010. The bill provides extensive protection for victims of labor and sex trade. The bill creates new human trafficking crimes and penalties, provides mandatory restitution for victims, allows victims to sue their traffickers, and provides for asset forfeiture.

Alabama's Safe Harbor Law, HB 433, passed and was signed in to law June 9, 2016. This bill protects underage victims and increases penalties for purchasers of sex. Minors selling sex will not be treated as a criminal by the courts, and targets those marketing and soliciting the minor for sex. Solicitation is moved from municipal to district court.

In March 2018 HB 305 was passed and signed in to law, which increased both protections for survivors of child sex trafficking and accountability for offenders by: (1) removing the requirement that a minor (under 19) was coerced or deceived into being trafficked; (2) creating a new buyer-applicable CSEC offense; (3) creating a new child sex tourism offense; and (4) prohibiting buyers from raising a mistake-of-age or consent defense in a prosecution for soliciting or engaging commercial sex with a minor.¹¹

<http://www.legislature.state.al.us/aliswww/default.aspx>

Alabama Human Trafficking Task Force: This task force was formed by state resolution in March 2014 and has quarterly public meetings at the Alabama State House. 15 members meet four times a year. The Executive and Legislative Branches of State government along with the Huntsville-Madison County and Central Alabama Human Trafficking Task Forces are represented on the Statewide Task Force. Annual Summits are held that are open to the public.

The purpose and agenda of the Alabama Human Trafficking Task Force includes all of the following:

- 1) To combat all aspects of human trafficking, including sex trafficking and labor trafficking.
- 2) To pursue a comprehensive response to crimes of human trafficking.
- 3) To coordinate strategies to provide necessary services for victims of human trafficking.
- 4) To focus prevention efforts to end the demand for human trafficking and create awareness through education and community initiatives.
- 5) To develop legislation to prevent, intervene, and treat human trafficking.

<http://www.enditalabama.org/>

Regional Human Trafficking Task Forces include:

- North Alabama Human Trafficking Task Force <http://stnow.org/>
- Cullman <https://www.facebook.com/Cullman-County-Human-Trafficking-Task-Force-870585096352748/>
- Middle District of Alabama United States Attorney's Office (MDAL-USAO) <https://www.justice.gov/usao-mdal/human-trafficking-task-force>
- West Alabama Human Trafficking Task Force https://www.facebook.com/westalabamahumantraffickingtaskforce/?ref=py_c
- Alabama Anti Human Trafficking Alliance (formed January 2021)

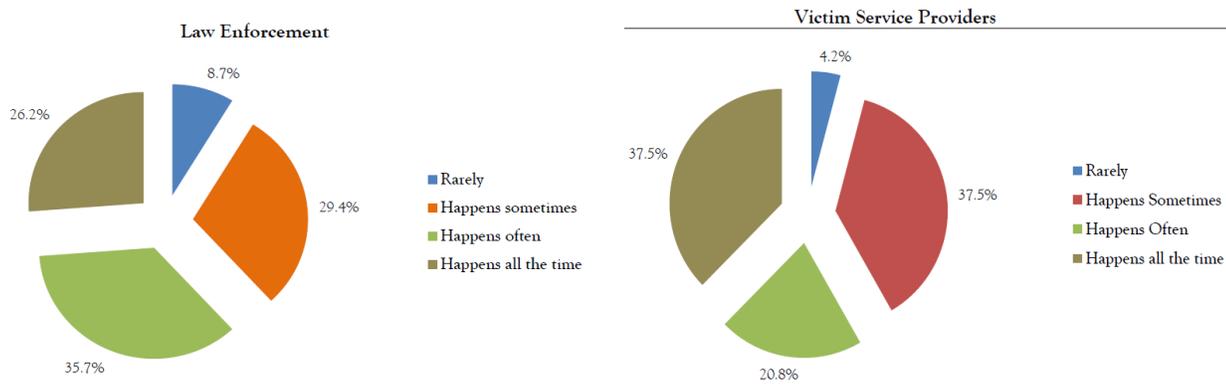
The Alabama Fusion Center: The mission of the Alabama Fusion Center (AFC) is to collect, evaluate, analyze, and disseminate information and intelligence data regarding criminal and terrorist activity in the state that support the efforts of state and local law enforcement to prevent and investigate crime in our local communities and address our most pressing national challenges such as gangs, border violence, narcotics, homicides and terrorism. Fusion Centers receive information from a variety of sources, such as state and local tips and leads, and federal information and intelligence. Through blending or "fusing" information and applying human analysis, the Fusion Center creates analytic products that are timely and relevant.

¹¹ "Stop the Injustice", Shared Hope International, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://sharedhope.org/what-we-do/bring-justice/legislative-action-center/state-action/>

In 2014 the Alabama Fusion Center conducted surveys with law enforcement officers and victim service providers across the state to collect information on the current status of human trafficking in Alabama. Auburn Montgomery Outreach analyzed the data and summarized the findings.

<http://www.alea.gov/Home/>

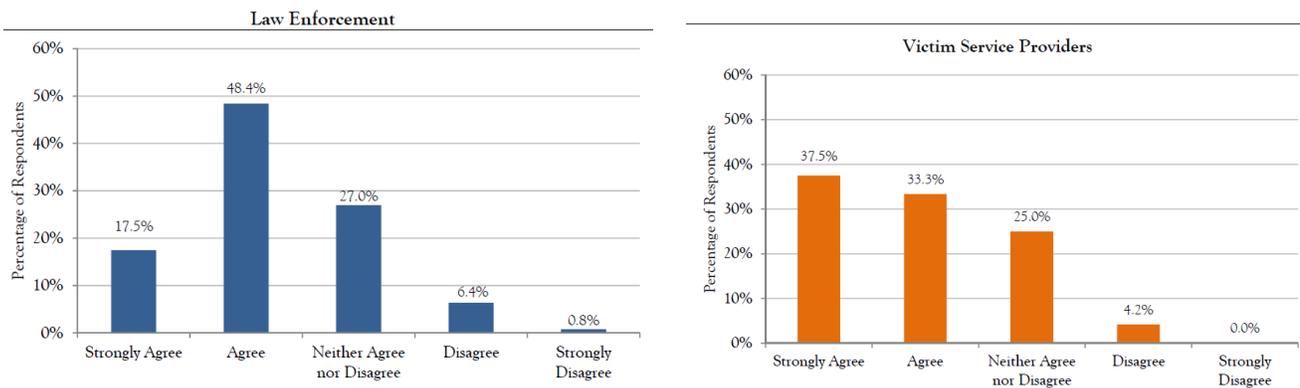
How often would you say that Human Trafficking (both sex and labor trafficking) occurs, not just in your area/jurisdiction, but throughout Alabama?



12

Based on your personal experience, please rate the following statement:

“Human Sex Trafficking is a significant problem in Alabama.”



13

Trafficking Hope: The mission at Trafficking Hope is to eradicate sex trafficking across the nation while helping empower local churches and organizations in their own city and state. C.A.R.E.S. (COALITION, AWARENESS, RESCUE, EDUCATION, SERVICES) is our holistic approach to combating human trafficking. Our goal is to expand our C.A.R.E.S. Initiative to every state. The C.A.R.E.S. Initiative includes:

- Coalition - Partnerships are critical as no one group can possibly make enough of an impact to bring about the needed change. Together we are better!
- Awareness - Public awareness campaigns through the use of billboards, radio spots, print media, and public forums.
- Rescue - Rescue efforts through partnering with law enforcement, healthcare providers, outreach teams, and social services.
- Education - Education and prevention-focused training to various schools, businesses, and organizations to recognize signs and potential victims.
- Services - Provide transitional, short- and long-term care for victims of sex trafficking through The Wellhouse (AL).

<https://www.traffickinghope.org/>

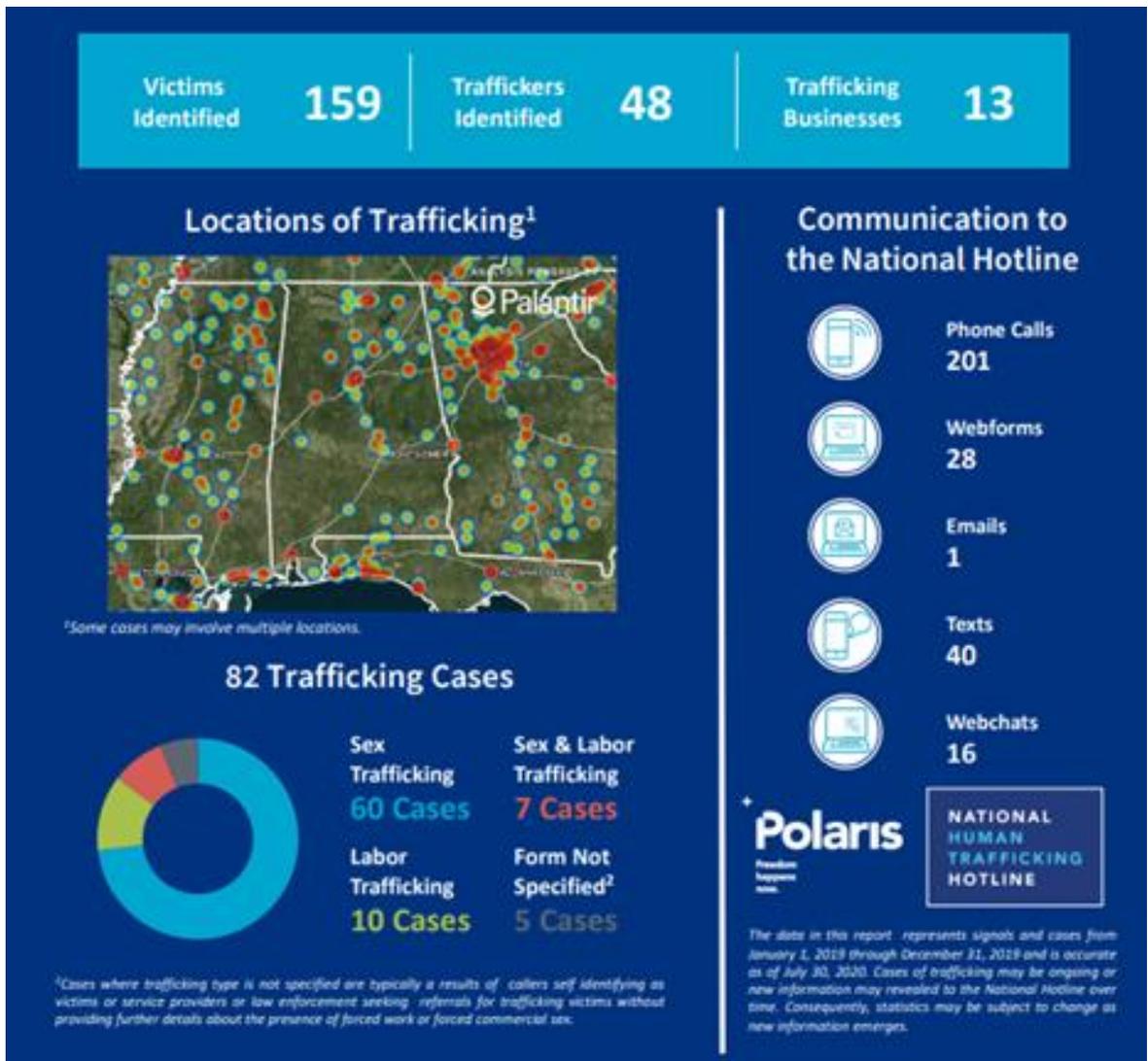
¹² “The 2014 Alabama Fusion Center Human Trafficking Surveys”, Auburn Montgomery Outreach, Page 4.

¹³ “The 2014 Alabama Fusion Center Human Trafficking Surveys”, Auburn Montgomery Outreach, Page 6.

How is Alabama Doing?



(*note, Shared Hope Intl has reinvisioned the Protected Innocence Challenge State Report Cards, beginning in 2020 the initiative is known as The Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking and focusing more deeply on survivor-centered and trauma-informed approaches for responding to children and youth who have been exploited, while encouraging meaningful and sustainable prevention efforts)



¹⁴ "Alabama Report Card 2019", Shared Hope International, accessed January 24, 2021, <https://sharedhope.org/what-we-do/bring-justice/reportcards/2019-reportcards/>

¹⁵ "National Hotline 2019 Alabama State Report", National Human Trafficking Hotline, accessed January 24, 2021, https://humantraffickinghotline.org/sites/default/files/2019%20Alabama%20State%20Report_0.pdf

C.A.R.E.S. Focus

Our focus this week has been on Coalition: partnering with those in your area who already have skills, resources, man power, and tools to impact your community. Partnerships are critical as no one group can possibly combat sex trafficking alone.

Governments, law enforcement, non-profits and other organizations are on the frontlines of the war on trafficking. Building bridges and forming partnerships with those already involved can be an effective and responsible way of stewarding resources. It is important to first identify what services are available and where resources are lacking before starting something that may be redundant.

To form coalitions, consider these potential steps:

Identify agencies, programs and ministries in my area that offers assistance to victims of human trafficking	Collaborate with other groups and agencies for stronger support
Lead a committee, small group, fundraiser, or public awareness campaign	Build an antislavery perspective into government policy by participating in hearings, forums, etc.
Identify your city and state officials and legislators and advocate to improve government responses	What training needs or resources might health care providers in your area need to identify/help victims
Participate in programs to train law enforcement and other first responders	Sign electronic petitions or make phone calls as suggested by Polaris Project, IJM, and others
Hold corporations accountable by researching their supply chains and sending a message of	Connect with others who want to create partnerships
Advocate to put fairness in the VISA program	Start your own mercy movement

REMEMBER

Prayer focus this week: for people to be stirred to action.

James 2:16-17: "If one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and well fed', but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

CHALLENGE

1. Pray for Governments:
 - a. For corruption to cease (Deuteronomy 16:19; Amos 5:12; Zechariah 8:16)
 - b. For implementation of just legislation (Proverbs 8:15 and 29:4; Nehemiah 9:13)
 - c. For discernment in forming alliances (1 Kings 3:12; Proverbs 3:21; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)
2. Send a letter/email to Alabama legislators to thank them for supporting anti-trafficking legislations; or sign an electronic petition favor of new legislation (Polaris Project, Shared Hope, International Justice Mission post these on their web sites).
3. TIP / Shared Hope – in their annual reports, look up one country and/or state you have visited or would like to, find their rating, what they do well and what they still need to do.
4. Watch:
-- Demand (Shared Hope International) (16:41), (<https://youtu.be/5PUxpSVPUDs>)
5. Read Lesson 5.

PRAYER

Father, You are able to convict and convince lawmaking bodies all over the world, in every nation, to enact righteous laws that protect the poor, the enslaved, and the disenfranchised. We ask that You move upon the hearts of all those in authority to address the issue of the victims of human trafficking in a righteous way that corresponds with Your law and Your truth. We pray that You will convict those who are responsible for enforcing the laws to refuse bribes and expose unrighteousness. We pray for justice to be done, in the Name of Jesus, Amen.



CARES

Lesson 5 – STOLEN INNOCENCE

C.A.R.E.S. 101 Small Group Curriculum

Lesson 5 – STOLEN INNOCENCE

REVIEW

Last week we looked at entities that govern and oversee human trafficking internationally, nationally, and locally, including both government and non-government organizations. We also discussed coalitions, what they are, which are potential partners, and how they might function.

BIG PICTURE

This week we want to look at the business of human trafficking, including methods traffickers use to lure and indoctrinate their victims and the signs you can look for if you suspect trafficking.

As we've seen, the problem of sex trafficking is complex and multi-faceted. It encompasses many diverse issues and criminal offenses. It's not just about traffickers buying and selling human beings and forcing them into slavery. We may imagine human traffickers as mobsters and villains, but most consider themselves businessmen simply meeting the ever-growing demand in the sex trade industry. And their clients are not pedophiles and strangers but people we probably know and see every day.

EXPLORE/DISCUSS

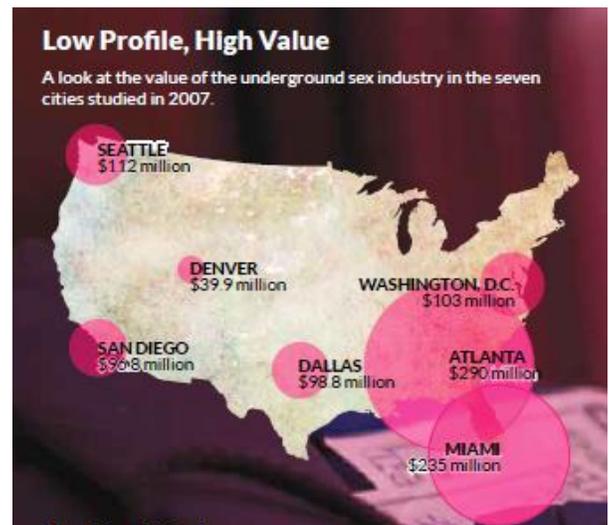
The Business of Trafficking

Human trafficking is a business with a lot of money to be made. It is a commercial transaction and people are willing to pay. Maximized investment requires maximum transactions.

In 2014, the Urban Institute studied the underground commercial sex economy in eight U. S. cities and estimated that in 2007 this illicit activity generated between \$39.9 million and \$290 million in revenue depending on the city. With this potential for earnings, sex trafficking is considered a low-risk, high-reward endeavor.^{1,2}

The economics of human trafficking illustrates a basic supply and demand model. As long as individuals and businesses can make money by selling humans for labor, for sex, and for other criminal enterprises, trafficking will continue to exist in some form. As long as consumers continue to watch porn, go to strip clubs, frequent places of prostitution, and pay for sexual massages, trafficking will continue. As long as businesses focus only on their profits and not their ethics, they will pay as little as possible without asking the source for such cheap labor and trafficking will continue.

Social, political, and economic layers also play into this complicated web. For example, some cultures consider it acceptable for children to be sold or prostituted in order to provide for their parents. Some countries' political leaders turn blind eyes to businesses running covert trafficking schemes or even participate by taking bribes or sexual favors. And some reputable businesses around the world often buy goods and services without realizing the products purchased directly result from some form of trafficking.



¹ Dank, M., et al. (2014) "Estimating the Size and Structure of the Underground Commercial Sex Economy in Eight Major US Cities." The Urban Institute, Pages 30, 279.

² Dank, M., et al. (2014) "The Hustle, Economics of the Underground Commercial Sex Industry". The Urban Institute, Page 2.

Traffickers utilize a wide variety of fronts and venues as a business model.³

In 2017 Polaris Project identified 25 types of modern slavery, including escort services; illicit massage; health, and beauty; outdoor solicitation; residential; domestic work; bars, strip clubs, and cantinas; pornography; traveling slaves crews; restaurants and food service; peddling and begging; agriculture and animal husbandry; personal sexual servitude; health and beauty services; construction; hotels and hospitality; landscaping, illicit activities; arts and entertainment; commercial cleaning services; factories and manufacturing; remote interactive sexual acts; carnivals; forestry and logging; health care; recreational facilities. “Each one has its own business model, trafficker profiles, recruitment strategies, victim profiles, and methods of control that facilitate human trafficking.”⁴



“Per capita profits are highest in forced sexual exploitation, what can be explained by the demand for such services and the prices clients are willing to pay, by low capital investments and by the low operating costs associated with this activity.”⁵

“While gangs have historically focused on drug trafficking and illegal weapons trade, gang involvement with human trafficking—as one of the world’s fastest growing criminal enterprises—continues to increase. While gang-related offenses typically include violent and property crimes and drug sales, gangs have adapted and continue to evolve by engaging in more clandestine-type criminal activities, such as human trafficking and prostitution, to evade the ever-changing law enforcement and criminal justice landscape. Victims of sex trafficking are often coerced and intimidated into silence to keep the risk of detection at a minimum and profitability at a maximum. With the ease of technology, gangs commonly use the Internet to lure youth into commercial sexual exploitation.”⁶

How Victims Are Recruited



Victims are targeted based on their vulnerability. And any vulnerability can be used – homelessness, abuse, unemployment, lack of adequate finances, poverty, child abuse or neglect, legal problems, substance abuse, transitional periods, medical and mental issues, abandonment, cognitive and physical disabilities.

7

Traffickers also take advantage of tragic circumstances and kidnap lost or orphaned children after a parent’s death, natural disaster, or war.

Predators then use deception to lure and manipulate victims into a tragic situation of exploitation.

8

“Overwhelmingly, it seems that perpetrators view them as easier to coerce – because they seem easier to deceive. Physically compelling someone into a brothel or commercial sex operation where they are going to be raped or molested is difficult, so perpetrators use various deceptions to induce cooperation and reduce resistance.



Top 5 Recruitment Tactics

SEX TRAFFICKING

- Intimate Partner/Marriage Proposition **1,067**
- Familial **981**
- Job Offer/Advertisement **515**
- Posing as a Benefactor **438**
- False Promises/Fraud **353**

³ Graph recreated from data, “2018 Federal Human Trafficking Report”, Human Trafficking Institute, Page 9.

⁴ “The Typology of Modern Slavery”, Polaris Project, 2017, Page 5.

⁵ “Profits and poverty: The economics of forced labour”, Executive Summary, International Labour Office, 2014, Page 5.

⁶ “Gangs and Human Trafficking — 1/31/2020 Blog”, National Gang Center, accessed January 30, 2021,

<https://www.nationalgangcenter.gov/Blog/47/Gangs-and-Human-Trafficking>

⁷ “2019 Federal Human Trafficking Report”, Human Trafficking Institute, Page 21.

⁸ “2019 Data Report”, National Human Trafficking Hotline, Page 4.

The poor are especially susceptible to these schemes of deception because the desperation of their economic situation makes them (and their parents or caretakers) more willing to suspend their disbelief, set aside their suspicions, and take greater risks.”⁹

Traffickers look for “soft targets” (those who will offer less resistance), take as few risks as possible, and isolate their victim. They then engage in a variety of recruitment tactics in order to deceive and create dependency. These include:

- **Promises**

Traffickers offer promises aimed at addressing needs such as education, employment, safety, sense of family, paying off debt, providing for family/children, medical care. This tactic works whether the promise is given to a struggling family in a third world country hoping to improve their child’s future or to a shy neglected teenager shopping at the mall wondering if she has any worth.

- **Survival Sex**

The phenomenon of “survival sex”, as it’s called, sees far more victims render services in exchange for food and shelter than for drugs or money. This tactic can be especially effective with runaways, juvenile offenders, drug addicts, and those with cognitive impairments or physical disabilities. In a 2017 study of 641 homeless and runaway youth, 68% of the youth who had either been trafficked or engaged in survival sex or commercial sex had done so while homeless and 19% of all youth interviewed had engaged in survival sex solely so that they could access housing or food.¹⁰

- **Lover Boy**

“Teenage girls, especially those who’ve already been abused, who are living in poverty, who come from fractured families, are relatively easy to lure and manipulate. . . . It doesn’t take a lot: a good nose for sniffing out vulnerability, a little kindness, a bit of finesse, paying attention to the clues she gives away about her family, her living situation, her needs. . . . She thinks he cares. She wants to please him. It doesn’t really matter how he introduces the topic, whether he gets her drunk and takes her to a strip club, cries broke and asks her to do it ‘just this one time,’ beats her into total submission, has his other girls encourage her that it won’t be that bad, or spins the promises of a better future, money, security, being ‘wifey,’ the end result will be the same. He knows that once she crosses that line for the first time, it’ll be hard to go back.”¹¹

- **Familial Trafficking**

“Many children fall victim to being sold by their own family members in exchange for cash, drugs, to pay off debt, or even for food. . . . In some cases, family members will guilt the child into a sense of duty to provide income and support the family. In other cases, a child may be threatened with violence or death against herself or other family members. Emotional attachments to younger siblings can create fear in a child that if she leaves, her siblings will be forced into trafficking in her stead.”¹²

- **Kidnapping**

“Abduction-related trafficking cases typically differ from other child abduction cases in that the majority of trafficking cases involve some type of ‘setup.’ The setup is the initial luring of the victim under false pretenses. The ‘lurer’ can be a known party . . . or it can be a stranger. Initially the setup likely will be non-confrontational. However, once a victim recognizes the potential danger and attempts to leave, often she will be threatened with physical violence and forced to stay.”¹³

- **Blackmail and Shame**

Predators also threaten to show or post photos, videos or sexts of victims, and shame them with the knowledge that family, friends, or strangers will see the images and/or threaten to sell the images online.

⁹ Gary A. Haugen & Victor Boutros, *The Locust Effect: Why the End of Poverty Requires the End of Violence* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015), Page 61.

¹⁰ “Labor and Sex Trafficking Among Homeless Youth” Executive Summary,, Loyola University New Orleans & Modern Slavery Research Project, Page 6.

¹¹ Rachel Lloyd, *Girls like Us: Fighting for a World Where Girls Are Not for Sale, an Activist Finds Her Calling and Heals Herself* (New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2011), Page 72, 73.

¹² Alisa Jordheim, *Made in the U.S.A.: The Sex Trafficking of America’s Children* (Dallas, TX, United States: Higherlife Development Services, 2014), Page 63, 64.

¹³ Alisa Jordheim, *Made in the U.S.A.: The Sex Trafficking of America’s Children* (Dallas, TX, United States: Higherlife Development Services, 2014), Page 173, 174.

How Traffickers Control

Control of a victim involves complicated power and control dynamics.

“Whatever role they may play – intimate partner, family member, employer, and abductor – traffickers create intense emotional attachments with their victims. The process of ‘grooming’ or ‘seasoning’ is the systematic destruction of a girl’s will, independence, and identity. Its primary aim is to control her both physically and emotionally through a combination of physical, mental, and emotional abuses.”¹⁴

Control is achieved through methods such as:

Deprivation – withholding food, water, healthcare, drugs, sleep, money

Isolation – foreign country, taking of identification, constant relocation, no contact with family

Threats – “I’ll kill your parents,” “I’ll get your sister”

Traumatic bonding – Stockholm Syndrome, emotional abuse, renaming the victim

Violence – rape, beatings, starvation, confinement, burning, branding

“The women/girls we see on the street corner may give every appearance of freely choosing to be there, while the unseen forces that condition her to be there are every bit as real as if they were made of yards of barbed wire. Moreover, if a girl in Cambodia can be conditioned into prostitution, why can’t an American woman or girl? Given the conditioning that occurs, how then can any casual observer judge whether someone is a forced prostitute or a voluntary one! If someone who was forced into prostitution becomes conditioned to the life, and accepts their fate, are they now a voluntary prostitute?”¹⁵

“Deception is such a major part of forced prostitution that many lose sight of the violent force that always lies at the critical core of forced prostitution. So to be clear: Eventually every deceptive trafficking scheme is exposed, and the victim is presented with the customer who has paid money to have sex with the victim. In that moment, if the victim is unwilling (as almost all are) the perpetrator must use force or the threat of force to compel compliance, and the transaction has become a commercial rape – and a serious violent crime. All of the work on the deceptive scheme is completely wasted if the perpetrator cannot compel compliance with violence – and so violence becomes the final defining feature of the transaction.”¹⁶

Rules 2 Da Game of Hoez!!!!

Handwritten rules from the leader of a prostitution ring.

- 1) Always make them need and depend on you so you have power over them. (Power is control)
- 2) Make them understand that you don’t need them, they need you, and they are replaceable. Never let them no if you need them deep down inside . .
- 3) Never let no 1 get away with sneakin anything, cause once they feel they can get away they will always scheme.
- 4) No matter how much you like or care for 1 or any of them, don’t trust none of them. (Like Scarface who do I trust?? Me that’s who . .)
- 5) Always stay 2 step’s ahead of the game you have them playin . .
- 6) Don’t let them no all you plan’s, but always try 2 no there’s.
- 7) Make sure you own there mind’s, body’s, and souls (N test it out every often 2 make sure).
- 8) Keep your bi on the low as possible when it come’s 2 family and hater’s. (cause you can’t trust none of them)
- 9) Always try 2 no whatz goin on. (Make them tell on each other).
- 10) Give respect when respect’s due . . (follow these rule’s and you should b Gucci.)

Campbell, Andy. “Pimp Rules: List For ‘Da Game Of Hoez’ Seized During Arrest Of Steve McDaniel, Sandra Russell”. Huffington Post, Aug 15, 2012.

¹⁴ Alisa Jordheim, *Made in the U.S.A.: The Sex Trafficking of America’s Children* (Dallas, TX, United States: Higherlife Development Services, 2014), Page 141.

¹⁵ Theresa L Flores and PeggySue Wells, *The Slave Across the Street: The True Story of How an American Teen Survived the World of Human Trafficking* (United Kingdom: Ampelon Publishing, 2010), Page 154.

¹⁶ Gary A. Haugen & Victor Boutros, *The Locust Effect: Why the End of Poverty Requires the End of Violence* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015), Page 61.

In the fight against human trafficking, it is important to remember that, while in control and inflicting evil on vulnerable victims, pimps/traffickers are in need of God’s love, mercy, and salvation.

“... the idea of a “pimp” is complicated, and reducing the conversation to pimp as perpetrator and youth as victim is unhelpful, especially when the “pimp” is also a youth growing up facing issues of poverty:

‘While the girls didn’t necessarily choose this life, the pimps didn’t necessarily choose it either, and many of them are young men from the same family situations, and they were groomed just like the girls were, just for a different role. But nobody is talking about them as needing help, they are just thought of as criminals.’¹⁷

C.A.R.E.S. FOCUS

Our focus this week has been on Education: educational and prevention-focused training to various schools, businesses, and organizations to recognize signs and potential victims.

Education plays a key role in creating normative social pressures on those who still use or condone the use of trafficked victims, leading to a decline in the demand. It also counters the poverty and vulnerability elements experienced by most victim, potentially decreasing the supply of people that are at risk for being trafficked.

Through Education we purpose to: 1) prevent the exploitation of children and young adults by educating them about the dangers and possible warning signs of human traffickers; 2) develop different kinds of educational materials for specific opportunities to educate others about the problem of human trafficking; and 3) empower others to apply their unique gifts, skills, knowledge and opportunities to overcome this issue.

What can we do to educate our community?

Train schools, businesses, organizations, law enforcement, and medical facilities to identify potential trafficked victims, equip them with knowledge and tips	Encourage schools and teachers to teach human trafficking curriculum and internet safety
Educate others about buying products that are guaranteed to be slave free or made by survivors	Share information in our church through brochures, articles, bulletins, and social media
Lead a C.A.R.E.S. small group	Join or create a neighborhood watch or interest group
Encourage researchers to do more studies on human trafficking, especially locally	Keep yourself informed and up to date

Consider the connections you have within your sphere of influence, where education is needed, and how you can participate in preventing trafficking situations and protecting the vulnerable.

REMEMBER

Prayer focus this week: to interrupt the schemes and tools of the evil one.

“The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but He frustrates the ways of the wicked” (Psalm 146:9 NIV).

CHALLENGE

1. Pray for the traffickers and johns:
 - a. For conviction, repentance and salvation (Isaiah 55:7; Romans 5:6-8; 2 Timothy 2:25)
 - b. For criminal networks to dismantle (Psalm 7:9, 37:17, 20)
 - c. For the oppressors to be arrested and prosecuted (Isaiah 16:4; Jeremiah 22:3; Amos 5:15a)

¹⁷ Rachel Swaner, et al. “Youth Involvement in the Sex Trade, A National Study”, Center for Court Innovation, 2016 (New York), Page 77.

2. Review the Signs for Trafficking information. Consider places in your neighborhood where you do business and trafficking may exist, such as the nail salon, home services (housecleaning, landscape), hotels, grocery store (do you know who picked those tomatoes?). Is there a situation that may require you to pay more attention?
3. Watch:
 - Hidden in Plain Sight – Slavery in Your Community (TEDxChico talk by Dr. Kate Transchel) (19:27) <https://youtu.be/Sm3UfctR5ZA>
 - Be Careful What You Share Online (National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (Sextortion 90 Second PSA) <https://youtu.be/a440H146l14>
4. Children and teenagers are vulnerable to deceptions found in any online media with an interactive component, such as Facebook and Snapchat. Visit the NetSmartz Workshop web site (created and operated by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at <http://www.netsmartz.org/Parents>) and be prepared to share one area you found informative.
5. Read Lesson 6

PRAYER

Father God, we thank You for raising our awareness within this group, helping us see the dire needs of those men, women, and children trapped in human trafficking. We pray that You would rescue more and more each day, providing the right people and the right tools to investigate, capture, and arrest traffickers. Give each of us wisdom about our role in fighting trafficking and lead us to those relationships and opportunities where we can minister most effectively. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

Indicators of Human Trafficking

Recognizing key indicators of human trafficking is the first step in identifying victims and can help save a life. Here are some common indicators to help recognize human trafficking.

- Does the person appear disconnected from family, friends, community organizations, or houses of worship?
- Has a child stopped attending school?
- Has the person had a sudden or dramatic change in behavior?
- Is a juvenile engaged in commercial sex acts?
- Is the person disoriented or confused, or showing signs of mental or physical abuse?
- Does the person have bruises in various stages of healing?
- Is the person fearful, timid, or submissive?
- Does the person show signs of having been denied food, water, sleep, or medical care?
- 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?
- Does the person appear to be coached on what to say?
- Is the person living in unsuitable conditions?
- Does the person lack personal possessions and appear not to have a stable living situation?
- 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.¹⁸

To request help or report suspected human trafficking, contact:

National Human Trafficking Hotline

Call 1-888-373-7888

Text 233733

Chat via www.humantraffickinghotline.org/chat

Submit a tip online at <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/report-trafficking>

Department of Homeland Security

Call 1-866-347-2423

¹⁸ "Indicators of Human Trafficking", Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign, accessed January 30, 2021, <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/indicators-human-trafficking>.



CARES

Lesson 6 – PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

C.A.R.E.S. 101 Small Group Curriculum

Lesson 6 – PREVENTION and PROTECTION

REVIEW

Last week we looked at the business of human trafficking, ways victims are deceived/coerced, traffickers' control tactics, and signs to look for in recognizing victims. We explored strategies of deception and the use of violence to control victims.

BIG PICTURE

This week we will be exploring the role of supply and demand in human trafficking, some root causes of the issue and potential opportunities to change outcomes, along with ways to prevent trafficking situations and protect the vulnerable.

Historical slavery treated humans as property, but property that was a valuable commodity, an investment to be maintained. Contemporary slavery considers human lives cheap and disposable. If a trafficking slave gets sick or injured, they can be dumped or killed with minimal financial loss because they can so easily be replaced.

EXPLORE/DISCUSS

You'll recall human trafficking encompasses any act in which an individual is threatened, deceived, or forced to perform it. These acts may include hard labor, sexual activities, drug smuggling, and organ harvesting. Victims are chosen for being defenseless and vulnerable. Many of these acts overlap with other criminal pursuits, making it difficult to come up with effective strategies to fight the problem.

Stronger measures of prevention and protection are needed in the fight against human trafficking. Human traffickers prey on the weak, vulnerable, and innocent to advance their greed, lust, and pursuit of power. While counselors, doctors, educators, law enforcement, and judges are key figures, ultimately the responsibility comes down to us—the choices we make, the attitudes we change, the deliberate actions we take.

Supply and Demand

Supply and demand is one of the most fundamental concepts of economics and the backbone of a market economy. The idea can be defined as the amount of a commodity, product, or service available and the desire of buyers for it, considered as factors regulating its price.

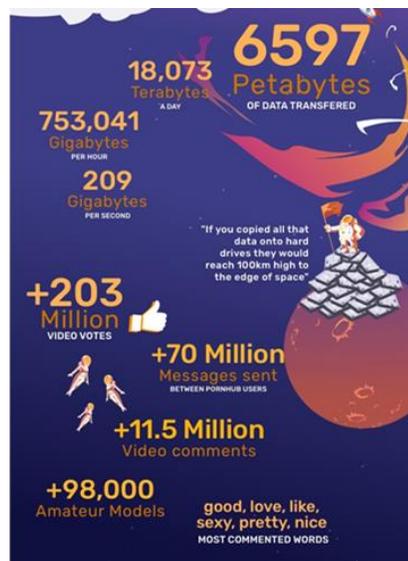
Unfortunately, supply and demand is also the backbone of human trafficking. Buyers have a desire for commercial sex acts, cheap labor and domestic workers, organs not available through a healthcare system, soldiers in a war, adult entertainment. As long as there is a demand from buyers, and a supply provided by traffickers, there will be a transaction.

Let's take a look at two areas of sex trafficking and consider how they are driven by supply and demand.

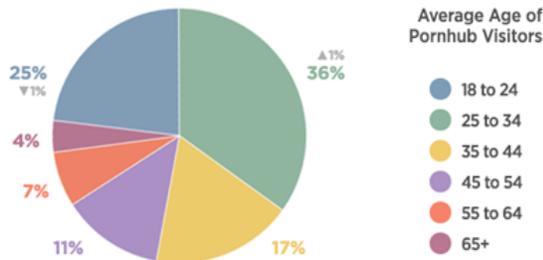
Pornography by the Numbers

Pornography is a form of sex trafficking and is often considered normal and accepted. It is estimated to be a \$100 billion industry worldwide. Technological advances such as smart phones, streaming videos, virtual reality with interactive sex toys and sex robots with artificial intelligence cultivate new sexual tastes. Fantasies become increasingly brutal, both physical and verbal. Multiple research studies have shown the harmful effects of pornography, to the extent several states have declared it a public health crisis or harmful to the public.

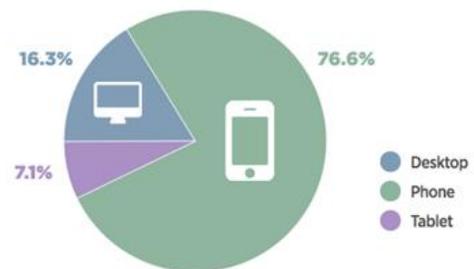
Pornhub, the world’s most popular porn website, Annual Report shows the following statistics from 2019 alone:



Age of Pornhub Visitors



Traffic by Phone, Desktop & Tablet



1

Production, searches and sharing of images and videos depicting children are also on the rise. A January 2016 study released by the Canadian Centre for Child Protection Inc reviewed close to 152,000 reports and examined 43,762 unique images and videos classified by Cybertip.ca as child pornography over eight years. Some key findings include:

- 78.29% of the images and videos assessed depicted very young, prepubescent children under 12 years old
- 63.40% of those children under 12 years old appeared to be under 8 years of age
- 6.65% of those children under 8 years old appeared to be babies or toddlers
- 77.05% of the children’s faces were visible in the images and videos
- 50.00% of the images and videos involved explicit sexual activity/assaults and extreme sexual assaults²

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children operates the CyberTipline, a national mechanism for the public and electronic service providers to report instances of suspected child sexual exploitation. In 2019 the CyberTipline received more than 16.9 million reports, most of which related to:

- Apparent child sexual abuse material.
- Online enticement, including “sextortion.”
- Child sex trafficking.
- Child sexual molestation.

¹ “The 2019 Year in Review”, Pornhub Insights, accessed January 30, 2021, <https://www.pornhub.com/insights/2019-year-in-review#2019>

² “Child Sexual Abuse Images on the Internet: A Cybertip.ca Analysis”, Canadian Centre for Child Protection Inc, January 2016, accessed September 2, 2018, <https://www.protectchildren.ca/en/resources-research/child-sexual-abuse-images-report/>

In 2019, reports to the CyberTipline included 69.1 million files with 27,788,328 images, 41,280,816 videos, and 89,053 other files.³

“Furthermore, victims of child pornography suffer not just from the sexual abuse inflicted upon them to produce child pornography, but also from knowing that their images can be traded and viewed by others worldwide. Once an image is on the Internet, it is irretrievable and can continue to circulate forever. The permanent record of a child’s sexual abuse can alter his or her life forever.”⁴

The term “child pornography” is often used in legal statutes and literature. However it does not reflect the gravity of the issue and the fact that a child cannot consent to their own abuse. The term “child sexual abuse” is now being used, yet still does not describe the horror countless children suffer.

The fact that a buyer never had contact with the person in the pornographic image does not mean this is a victimless crime. Many models/actors were deceived, coerced, and/or faced violence in the production of that image, i.e., they were trafficked. Even after being rescued, the victimization continues as long as those images are available for sale/download.

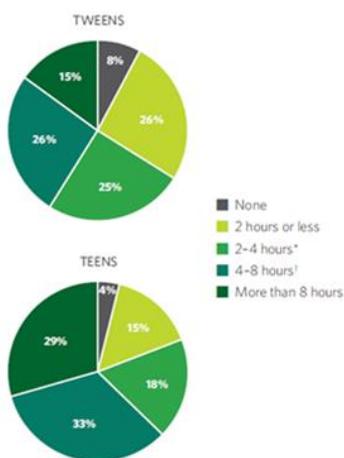
With the advent and proliferation of social media, it has become easier than ever for teens and young adults to find themselves pulled into the world of sex trafficking, whether that’s actual full-blown trafficking, viewing pornographic materials, or sexting.

Sexting

Sexting is sending and receiving sexually explicit messages using digital tools or platforms, i.e., smart phones, webcams. The person sending the image may be motivated by a desire for a relationship, to be liked, or because they are being pressured in to it. It is another form of human trafficking, one that trafficks in photos and videos. Those images are also used to blackmail the originator for more images or other “favors”, a common grooming technique used by traffickers.

Over 9 months in 2019, the parenting app Jiminy analyzed over 54,000,000 text messages and 1.5 million hours of phone usage protected by their app. Some of the findings include:

- 14.8% of children owning a smartphone sent or received a sexual message by age 10; nearly 40% by age 13
- Nearly 60% of sexting is mutual, between the ages of 10 and 17



Online Activity

By age 11, a majority (53%) of kids have their own smartphone, and by 12 more than two-thirds (69%) do. Smartphone ownership has risen dramatically, even among the youngest tweens. In fact, nearly one in five 8-year-olds (19%) have their own smartphone.

On average, 8- to 12-year-olds in this country use just under five hours’ worth of entertainment screen media per day (4:44), and teens use an average of just under seven and a half hours’ worth (7:22)—not including time spent using screens for school or homework.⁵

The easy availability of technology with access to online activity, leaves our children open to risks they are not equipped to handle.

³ “Exploited Children Statistics”, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, accessed January 31, 2021,

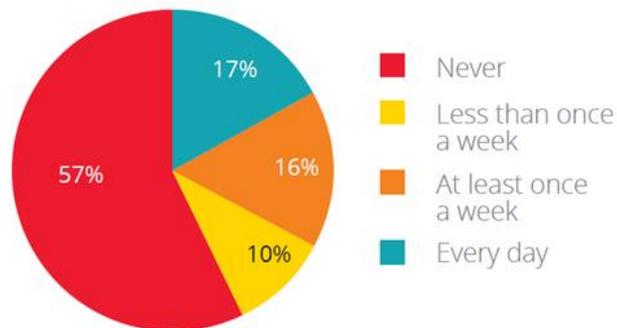
<https://www.missingkids.org/footer/media/keyfacts#exploitedchildrenstatistics>

⁴ “Child Pornography” section, U. S. Department of Justice, accessed September 2, 2018, <https://www.justice.gov/criminal-ceos/child-pornography>, para 10.

⁵ Rideout, V., and Robb, M. B. (2019). *The Common Sense census: Media use by tweens and teens, 2019*. San Francisco, CA: Common Sense Media, Page 3, 5

CyberSafe Ireland found in a survey of almost 4,000 children aged between eight and thirteen that 43% are speaking to strangers online, with a third of them speaking to strangers every day or at least once a week. A high proportion of boys, including 36% of 8-year olds boys and 43% of 10 year old boys, are playing over-18s games and being exposed to violent and sexual content that is not appropriate for their age.⁶

Frequency of 8 - 13 year olds chatting to strangers online



Having posted videos and images stolen is a high risk as they can be re-transmitted without the originator’s consent or copied and uploaded to any website. The Internet Watch Foundation conducted studies in 2012, 2014, and 2017 analyzing over 18,000 images and videos and found 88%-100% were redistributed from their original upload location.”⁷

“The many available ways of using the internet makes it easier for traffickers to identify and get in contact with victims, and at the same time avoid detection by limiting physical interaction.”⁸

Root Causes

In order to prevent sex trafficking, we must explore the root causes, and the results of those root causes, (the situation created) that create vulnerability and make at-risk persons susceptible to traffickers.

Any vulnerability can be used to recruit: homelessness, abuse, unemployment, lack of adequate finances, poverty, child abuse or neglect, legal problems, substance abuse, transitional periods, medical and mental issues, abandonment, cognitive and physical disabilities, anyone with a poor or non-existent support structure, being orphaned, natural disaster, war.

PRE-EXISTING VULNERABILITIES AMONG VICTIMS IN NEW CRIMINAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES IN 2019



Top 5 Risk Factors/Vulnerabilities

SEX TRAFFICKING

- Substance Use Concern 510
- Runaway Homeless Youth 473
- Recent Migration/Relocation 416
- Unstable Housing 366
- Mental Health Concern 334

9

10

Let’s look at one root cause.

Homelessness

The Institute of Medicine found in a 2013 study that homelessness is the largest risk factor for commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of minors.¹¹ Nationwide research by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago in 2017 found over 4 million American youth and young adults experience homelessness in a 12-month period,

⁶ “Annual Report 2018”, CyberSafeIreland, Page 23.

⁷ “Study of Self-Generated Sexually Explicit Images & Videos Featuring Young People Online”, Internet Watch Foundation, 2012, Page 5; “Emerging Patterns and Trends Report #1 Youth-Produced Sexual Content”, Internet Watch Foundation, 2015, Page 11; “Trends in Online Child Sexual Exploitation: Examining the Distribution of Captures of Live-streamed Child Sexual Abuse”, Internet Watch Foundation, 2018, Page 12.

⁸ “Global Report on Trafficking in Persons”, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2018, Pages 38.

⁹ “Global Report on Trafficking in Persons”, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2018, Page 21.

¹⁰ “2019 Data Report”, National Human Trafficking Hotline, Page 4.

¹¹ Institute of Medicine and National Research Council. 2013. *Confronting Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Sex Trafficking of Minors in the United States*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/18358>.

including 700,000 unaccompanied youth ages 13-17.¹² Two studies researching the link between homelessness and human trafficking in 2017 interviewed 941 Covenant House youth. Key findings included:

- Nearly one in five (19.4%) of the 911 interviewed youth were victims of human trafficking, with 15% having been trafficked for sex, 7.4% trafficked for labor and 3% trafficked for both.
- 21% of young women and 10% of young men interviewed had been trafficked for sex
- 27% of LGBTQ youth reported experiences consistent with the U.S. federal definition of sex trafficking
- 32% of the youth interviewed had engaged in some way in the sex trade at some point (41% of young females, 25% of young men and 56% of transgender youth)¹³

Runaways are potential victims within 48 hours of running away. In 2020, nearly 26,500 runaways were reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children; one in six was likely a victim of child sex trafficking.

Homeless youth are often “criminalized” by being arrested for loitering or stealing food. Fear of being reported to child welfare or law enforcement keeps them from seeking services. Involvement with the justice system can cause young people to be rejected for housing, schooling, and employment. All of which creates at-risk youth and vulnerability for being lured into survival sex or grooming for other types of sex trafficking.

Prevention opportunities to impact the root cause of homelessness include enhanced child welfare systems to meet needs, non-judgmental law enforcement, additional shelters, education, jobs, free services, family-based interventions. At-risk youth need caring and involved adults around them. Mentoring is one prevention anyone can participate in and has been proven to keep kids in school and guide them through troubling family situations.¹⁴

Protection

Any location is a potential recruiting ground, including ones we typically assume are “safe”: malls, bus stops, parks, playgrounds, schools, restaurants, truck stops, youth shelters, detention centers, multiple internet social media sites with an interactive component, disaster relief areas, refugee camps, and unprotected villages. One location has become increasingly used by traffickers to recruit and groom potential victims ... social media.

The internet is a useful tool for many legitimate activities like homework, research, staying connected with family and friends. However, when a child has access to interactive social media (cell phone, video game, internet connection), they have access to the world without the maturity or experience to navigate hazards such as inappropriate content, cyberbullying, and online predators. Without warning, an online search can lead to porn, an angry friend takes revenge online, and predators pose as a child or teen to remain hidden.

Top 5 Apps/Platforms Flagged for Severe Sexual Content

- 1  Kik
- 2  Spotify
- 3  Tumblr
- 4  Pinterest
- 5  SMS/iMessage

Not all social media is bad. However, it is important parents and caregivers monitor for apps related to messaging, hookups, friend finders, video chat, live streaming, vault, and gaming, any app with an interactive capability. New apps and video games are introduced every day. A simple Google search for “apps parents need to know” will bring up multiple sources with good information.

There are many tools parents and caregivers can purchase or download to help them. Yet the most important protection children need are engaged, involved parents/caregivers, who are willing to have conversations, monitor, and take precautions to protect them and prevent unwanted and dangerous online activity.

15

¹² “Missed Opportunities: Youth Homelessness in America, National Estimates”, Chapin Hall and Voices of Youth, 2017, accessed August 28, 2018, <http://voicesofyouthcount.org/brief/national-estimates-of-youth-homelessness/>.

¹³ “Labor and Sex Trafficking Among Homeless Youth”, Covenant House, accessed January 31, 2021, <https://www.covenanthouse.org/homeless-issues/human-trafficking-study>

¹⁴ “Why Mentoring Matters”, We “R” Listening, Inc, accessed September 2, 2018, <http://www.werlistening.org/mentoring-matters/>.

¹⁵ “Annual Report: 2020 Research on Children and Technology”, Bark, accessed January 31, 2021, <https://www.bark.us/annual-report>.

Also, take your child seriously if he or she reports an uncomfortable online exchange. Call the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at (800) 843-5678 if you're aware of the transmission, use, or viewing of child pornography online. Contact your local law enforcement agency or the FBI if your child has received child pornography via the Internet.

Prevention

How do we address vulnerability in order to prevent trafficking situations? With our practical daily choices, our cultural choices, and our spiritual choices.

Practical Daily Choices

So how do we prevent sex trafficking? First, we understand what we feed the flesh impacts the soul and the spirit, and consequently, we refuse to partake in those things that support—directly and indirectly—sex trafficking. Many people have the perception that they can only make an impact against trafficking if they are directly involved with rescuing the victims or punishing the traffickers. Making an impact does not have to be complicated. You can identify actions to incorporate abolishing trafficking in your daily routine:

- Stop patronizing strip clubs
- Don't consume pornography
- Spread the word – take some time to learn the facts and get the word out
- Use your talent – write a blog, paint a picture, write a song, create a short film, host an event
- Monetarily partner with ministries and other organizations
- Lobby politicians and write for rights – lobby local/state/national politicians through letters, emails, phone calls, signing petitions
- Mentor an at-risk child – after school, Big Brothers Big Sisters, GirlsInc
- Sponsor those at risk – sponsor a child in need or woman seeking small business opportunity
- Adopt or become a foster parent – adopt a child or become a foster parent to local children
- Educate yourself and stay current – stay up to date, follow organizations, research resources (books, movies, videos, toolkits)
- Host an event to raise awareness or money
- Accessorize and be a billboard – accessorize your attire with Fair Trade or organizational items and start a conversation about human trafficking
- Write a letter – write notes of encouragement to survivors, or those on the front lines of rescue
- Share the National Human Trafficking Hotline number
- Send stuff – purchase gifts to help survivors

Cultural Choices

Without a doubt, certain activities must stop immediately to mitigate the threat to those who are most vulnerable. It's easy to say pornography, strip clubs, massage parlors, and prostitution are obvious areas to avoid. But to truly make a heart change that can be an example to all those around you is more challenging. It's much harder to look at cultural choices such as allowing girls to dress like the TV role models they see on a daily basis; instilling the concepts of chivalry and gentlemanly conduct in our sons; teaching our daughters self-worth and respect that doesn't sexualize them; deciding what age is truly appropriate for a child to have a cell phone with the ability to connect to the internet, take pictures, or access Facebook; and making the decision to not watch TV shows that degrade the moral fiber of family values. These decisions have the strength to make long term strides toward depriving sex traffickers of demand. Here are some other cultural choices to consider:

- Challenge the glamorization of pimps
- Confront the belief that prostitution is a "victimless crime"
- Tackle male chauvinism and sexism
- Support laws and other efforts to end sex tourism
- Support anti-human trafficking policies
- Support creation of "John Schools"
- Support survivors – buy products made by survivors

- Buy fair trade products – support those companies who have reviewed and changed their supply chains
- Incorporate the corporate – partner with nonprofit organizations for employee giving back (matching funds, etc)
- Educate at-risk groups – identify and seek opportunities to share information
- Demand no demand – human trafficking leaves a footprint, be aware of what you purchase (take the Slavery Footprint survey, share with family/friends and encourage them to take the survey)

Spiritual Choices

We must ask ourselves what we have allowed to define our identity, a worldly lens or a Godly lens? When our cultural identity is pushed away from God, our sexual identity becomes distorted and sinful opportunities emerge that seemingly promise ways to provide glamor, pleasure, and power. We see this happening in movies, hear it in music, see it in video games, and find it reinforced by the clothes and role models we choose. This constant bombardment coupled with a deteriorating family structure creates a heightened sense of need in some and increased vulnerability in others.

By marketing sex in a way that appeals to core needs, it becomes a part of people’s identities. And we are all participants in this process—either by our action or our inaction.

Proverbs 4:23 says, “Guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.” So ask yourself, what are you feeding your heart? Does it result in honor, generosity, and courtesy? Or is it something else?

Proverbs 25:28 explains “Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls.” What does this mean to us? Why must the starting place for change be internal?

Here are some spiritual choices we can make to end human trafficking:

- Fast one day a month and pray for an anti-trafficking organization or project
- Challenge oppression and instill that lifestyle in your children
- Start an awareness group – lead a small group
- Men – treat the women in your life respectfully, give them encouragement, and build strong relationships
- Women – do not use sexuality to draw attention or use as a control mechanism, confront the men in your life when they are disrespectful

C.A.R.E.S. FOCUS

Our focus this week has been on prevention and protection, which are not individual areas of the C.A.R.E.S. initiative but are part of both Awareness and Education.

REMEMBER

Prayer focus this week: for divine prevention strategies.

“But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one” (2 Thessalonians 3:3).

CHALLENGE

1. Pray against root causes and vulnerability
 - a. Against poverty (Proverbs 14:21; Isaiah 58:7, 61:1)
 - b. Against lies and deceptions (Psalm 140:4-5, 142:3b-7a; Proverbs 2:6-15)
 - c. Against lack of protection (Psalm 18:17-20, 68:6; Proverbs 24:11-12)
2. From the daily, cultural, and spiritual choices lists, what can you realistically do to combat human trafficking in your life? Review your slavery footprint for other ideas.
3. Who in your life might be in need of prevention and protection strategies? What resources are available to them? How can you address that need?

4. Watch:

-- ABC Exclusive - U.S. Team Rescues Child Slaves (Operation Underground Railroad) (8:27)
(<https://youtu.be/GUC303TijDk>)

-- 'Walking Dead' actress takes down predators (HLN) (5:22)
(<https://youtu.be/nOnxe6zFRvU>)

5. Read Lesson 7.

PRAYER

Father, we give You our deepest thanks for sending Your Son, Jesus, to live as a man and to suffer and die on the Cross in order to pay for our sins. We pray for ways to end and to prevent human trafficking, and we ask that You would burden our hearts with the role that we can play and the steps we can take in our daily lives. Please protect us even as You guard those men and women on the front lines of rescuing victims from the evil one's grip. Allow us to further Your kingdom by bringing light to all the places of darkness where trafficking grows. In the Name of Jesus, Amen.

PROTECTING YOUR KIDS ONLINE 2.0

CONNECT

Set some ground rules.

Establish clear guidelines like what types of sites kids can visit, apps they can download, and when they can have access to electronics. Consider “blackout” periods that require disconnection.

Research before you buy.

It’s important to learn about a device’s capabilities before you buy. Will it allow unknown people to communicate with my child? Will this allow children to make unchecked purchases?

Go beyond safeguards.

Installing monitoring software doesn’t guarantee your child will be safe online. Time, attention and active conversation are the best tools to protect them.

REPORT!

If your kids are dealing with cyberbullies or potential online enticement, report it to the website, cell phone provider, law enforcement or CyberTipline.org

LEARN

Know the platforms.

Online enticement happens across all platforms, so be aware of the sites, games and apps your children frequent. Ask them to show you how they use them.

Be proactive.

Teach your kids to spot common tricks used by online offenders. In NCMEC CyberTipline reports, the most common tactics used to entice a child online were:

- Engaging the child in sexual conversation/roleplay as a grooming method.
- Directly asking the child for sexually explicit images of themselves, or offering to mutually exchange images.
- Developing a rapport with the child through compliments and other supportive behaviors such as “liking” their online posts.
- Sending unprompted sexually explicit images of themselves.
- Pretending to be younger.
- Offering incentives for explicit content.

Spot the Red Flags.

A child who is experiencing online enticement may be:

- Spending increasing time online.
- Getting upset when he or she is not allowed on their device.
- Taking extra steps to conceal what they are doing online.
- Receiving gifts from people you don’t know.

ENGAGE

Talk about It!

Your kids might not tell you everything, but ask anyway. Regular conversations about safety can go a long way in increasing trust and communication.

Get involved.

Challenge them to a duel. If you have kids who like to play online games, ask if you can play, too. When you respect their interests, they’re more likely to respect your rules.

Don’t pull the plug.

Taking away internet access because they may have made mistakes online doesn’t solve the problem. Talk to them about protecting themselves and respecting others online.

NetSmartz[®]

For more resources, visit MissingKids.org/NetSmartz

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A program of the





CARES

Lesson 7 – BREAKING FREE

C.A.R.E.S. 101 Small Group Curriculum

Lesson 7 – BREAKING FREE

REVIEW

Last week we looked at the economics of supply and demand, root causes of victim vulnerability, and prevention and protection measures.

BIG PICTURE

“When you walk into a brothel holding the hand of a little girl, the power of evil will nearly knock you down. But when you walk out of a brothel holding the hand of a little girl, the power of God will send you to your knees in worship.”¹

When first learning of the evil and injustice of human trafficking, many concerned people want to rush in to kick down doors. However not everyone has the training, experience, or resources to be directly involved in physical rescue of victims. This week we will focus on the difficulties associated with the rescue of trafficking victims and ways for lay persons to assist. We will also look at factors in prosecuting predators.

EXPLORE/DISCUSS

Most sex trafficking victims are afraid to identify as victims. Sometimes this is because they understand they are engaging in illegal activities, or because they are scared of those controlling them, or because they’ve been conditioned to feel they deserve what is happening to them.

The deception and coercion used to control victims into compliance is also exerted to keep them enslaved, both physically and psychologically. The threat and reality of violence and a perceived inability to escape keep many victims with their captors, even though the door to leave may be wide open. Traffickers work long and hard to create certain perceptions in the minds of those they traffick, none of which include seeing themselves as victims in need of a way out. Stockholm Syndrome, trauma bonding, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other psychological dependencies convince victims they are unable to leave. As a result, they often lose all hope. Trafficked persons need to know and believe they have options, resources, opportunities, and the support needed for a different life. Without hope, victims remain enslaved, feeling more trapped than ever.

“ . . . [R]escuing these girls, or any victims of injustice, means overcoming the deception and coercion of the oppressor.”²

“Make no mistakes about the viciousness of the people who buy and sell children, particularly if they are making enormous amounts of money doing it. Whoever threatens that flow of cash into their pockets had better be very careful, and they’d better be ready for a serious fight. Really, what is one more life worth to these people?”³

Traffickers present very real dangers. Human life means little. They use deception and coercion, frequently in the form of violence, to control their victims. An investment has been made, there is a supply of money coming in, and anyone else trying to interfere with their business will face the same violence and evil inflicted on victims. This is why the physical rescue of victims is best handled by the professionals trained to deal with the perpetrators of trafficking.

Even given the complexities of sex trafficking, there are opportunities for assistance that can make a difference in the lives of victims.

¹ Gary A. Haugen and Gregg Hunter, *Terrify No More* (Nashville, TN: W Pub. Group, 2005), Page 45.

² Gary A. Haugen, *Good News about Injustice: A Witness of Courage in a Hurting World* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1999), Page 144.

³ Gary A. Haugen, *Good News about Injustice: A Witness of Courage in a Hurting World* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1999), Page 210.

Trafficking Indicators

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Is the victim in possession of identification and travel documents; if not, who has control of the documents? <input type="checkbox"/> Was the victim coached on what to say to law enforcement and immigration officials? <input type="checkbox"/> Was the victim recruited for one purpose and forced to engage in some other job? <input type="checkbox"/> Is the victim's salary being garnished to pay off a smuggling fee? (Paying off a smuggling fee alone is not considered trafficking.) <input type="checkbox"/> Was the victim forced to perform sexual acts? <input type="checkbox"/> Does the victim have freedom of movements? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Has the victim or family been threatened with harm if the victim attempts to escape? <input type="checkbox"/> Has the victim been threatened with deportation or law enforcement action? <input type="checkbox"/> Has the victim been harmed or deprived of food, water, sleep, medical care, or other life necessities? <input type="checkbox"/> Can the victim freely contact friends or family? <input type="checkbox"/> Is the victim a juvenile engaged in commercial sex? <input type="checkbox"/> Is the victim allowed to socialize or attend religious services?
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Report Suspicious Activity: **1-866-DHS-2-ICE** (1-866-347-2423)
www.dhs.gov/bluecampaign BC-IC1-xx 07/14

Observe and report

“The eye does not see what the mind does not know.” – Anonymous

Everyone can learn the signs of human trafficking, the appropriate questions to ask, and ways to report any situation requiring further investigation. It starts by doing research and being vigilant. Consider the places you visit and businesses you interact with regularly. It could be the nail salon, the children selling magazines in your neighborhood, the dry cleaners, restaurant, etc. Pray, open your eyes and mind, and see if any situation sends up red flags. Carefully ask questions to learn more about the person serving you. Gather specific details about who or what you saw, when you saw it, where it occurred, and why it's suspicious.

Questions to Ask

Assuming you have the opportunity to speak with a potential victim privately and without jeopardizing the victim's safety because the trafficker is watching, here are some sample questions to ask to follow up on the red flags you became alert to:

- ◆ Can you leave your job if you want to?
- ◆ Can you come and go as you please?
- ◆ Have you been hurt or threatened if you tried to leave?
- ◆ Has your family been threatened?
- ◆ Do you live with your employer?
- ◆ Where do you sleep and eat?
- ◆ Are you in debt to your employer?
- ◆ Do you have your passport/identification? Who has it?

⁴ “Indicator Card”, Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign, Page 2.

⁵ “Identify and Assist a Trafficking Victim” U. S. Department of State, accessed January 31, 2021, <https://www.state.gov/identify-and-assist-a-trafficking-victim/>

Then contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline. The NHTH can be accessed by

- Calling 888-373-7888
- Texting 233733
- Online <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/report-trafficking>
- Live chat at <http://www.humantraffickinghotline.org/chat>
- Emailing help@humantraffickinghotline.org

You can also report suspected crimes of online sexual enticement and exploitation committed against children to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's website at www.cybertipline.com.

Smart phones are perhaps the most underutilized but most effective resource available to us. *AMBER ALERT* (iOS & Android), the official app of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, provides real-time feed of active Amber Alerts. *TraffickCam* allows travelers to upload four photos of their hotel room to a national database used by law enforcement to match locations with pornography images. There is a *Truckers Against Trafficking* app for truckers and travel plaza employees and a *Busing on the Lookout* app for those in the busing industry. Stop the Traffik's app, *STOP*, allows global reporting of a situation linked to human trafficking or modern slavery.

Use these tools to report suspicious behavior, people, places, or events with possible ties to sexual exploitation and human trafficking.

Victims of sex trafficking routinely interact with front-line professionals who are in positions to provide assistance. There is a great need to train these individuals to identify victims and offer assistance to positively impact a victim's ability to leave their trafficking situation.



Law Enforcement or Criminal Justice System: when law enforcement agents understand the dynamics of sex trafficking situations and recognize victims as victims and not perpetrators, they are able to assist in removing them from the trafficking situation, connecting them to services. Unfortunately, many victims are arrested for crimes like prostitution or offenses connected to narcotics or domestic violence and as such are re-victimized and returned to the hands of their trafficker.

Healthcare Providers: Victims who become sick, are hospitalized after assault incidents, or become pregnant interact with healthcare providers. When these professionals are able to identify victims and connect them with social workers, alternatives such as medical care and safe housing become possible. Many hospitals are initiating training for staff and instituting protocols for handling potential victim interaction. As of June 2018, the ICD-10 included 29 codes for multiple human trafficking situations.

Child Welfare System: The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) reports that 16% of the children who ran from the care of social services and were reported missing to NCMEC in 2019, were likely victims of child sex trafficking.⁷

⁶ "2019 Data Report", National Human Trafficking Hotline, Page 4.

⁷ "Children Missing from Care", National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, accessed January 31, 2021, <https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/cmfc#bythenumbers>.

If you are one of these professionals, then actively seek training, adequate screening tools and resources necessary to help you reach out to trafficking victims and offer them hope of rescue and healing.

Organizations such as Our Underground Railroad (O.U.R.), have volunteer opportunities for qualified individuals to support and participate in local, state, national, and international enforcement agencies. Other lay persons can participate in the training of law enforcement and other professionals in the identification and support of trafficking victims.

Prosecution

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 is the federal law that allows legal protections for any victim of severe forms of human trafficking regardless of citizenship. Increased penalties and protections have been added to each of the four TVPA’s re-authorizations.

All 50 states have laws against human trafficking, with varying degrees of protections and penalties.

Therefore, prosecutors and attorneys must take a number of factors into consideration, including other crimes, in order to file charges based on whichever claim has the strongest evidence and highest penalty. In many cases, federal laws carry the severest penalty.

The Human Trafficking Institute reviewed the U. S. federal court system in 2019 analyzing criminal and civil human trafficking cases. State prosecutions, state civil suits, and unreported human trafficking case data was not included. Criminal matters made 606 active cases, of which 145 were cases filed in 2019. Of those, 575 were sex trafficking cases and 31 were forced labor cases. The 575 active criminal sex trafficking cases included 993 defendants and 334 convictions. There were 43 new civil suits filed.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING CHARGES FILED AGAINST NEW DEFENDANTS IN SEX TRAFFICKING CASES IN 2019

HUMAN TRAFFICKING OFFENSE	DEFENDANTS CHARGED	COUNTS CHARGED
18 U.S.C. § 1591: Sex Trafficking	165	370
18 U.S.C. § 1594(c): Sex Trafficking Conspiracy	97	100
18 U.S.C. § 1594(a): Attempted Sex Trafficking	22	27
18 U.S.C. § 1952: ITAR to Commit Sex Trafficking	13	25
18 U.S.C. § 1591(d): Obstructing Enforcement of Sex Trafficking	10	10
18 U.S.C. § 371: Conspiracy to Commit Sex Trafficking	7	7
18 U.S.C. § 1962: RICO to Commit Sex Trafficking	2	4
18 U.S.C. § 2: Attempt to Commit Sex Trafficking	1	2

HUMAN TRAFFICKING CONVICTIONS IN SEX TRAFFICKING CASES IN 2019

HUMAN TRAFFICKING OFFENSE	DEFENDANTS CONVICTED	COUNTS OF CONVICTION
18 U.S.C. § 1591: Sex Trafficking	117	189
18 U.S.C. § 1594(c): Sex Trafficking Conspiracy	84	85
18 U.S.C. § 1952: ITAR to Commit Sex Trafficking	19	30
18 U.S.C. § 1594(a): Attempted Sex Trafficking	14	17
18 U.S.C. § 371: Conspiracy to Commit Sex Trafficking	8	11
18 U.S.C. § 1962: RICO to Commit Sex Trafficking	5	5
18 U.S.C. § 1591(d): Obstructing Enforcement of Sex Trafficking	4	4
18 U.S.C. § 1592: Unlawful Conduct with respect to Documents	1	1
18 U.S.C. § 1590: Trafficking for Peonage, Slavery, Involuntary Servitude, or Forced Labor	1	2

⁸ “2019 Federal Human Trafficking Report”, Human Trafficking Institute, 2019, Page 84

“Two additional laws commonly used by prosecutors when bringing charges against sex traffickers are the Mann Act and the RICO statute (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations). The Mann Act, passed in 1910, stipulates litigation as it applies to the transportation of minors or adults with the intent to engage in any illicit sexual activities. The Mann Act also includes coercion and enticement as they apply to prostitution or any criminal activity. Unlike the TVPA, the Mann Act does not require proof of force, fraud, or coercion, but only proof that transportation with the intent of a sexual encounter occurred.

The RICO statute, which added human trafficking to the list of 27 federal crimes categorized as racketeering, was originally enacted to eliminate ‘the infiltration of organized crime and racketeering into legitimate organizations operating in interstate commerce.’ In practice, this statute allowed prosecutors to charge members of organized crime who had not physically committed the crime, but had either ordered it or had some part in arranging the circumstances of the offense. The RICO statutes also allowed the prosecution to seize assets gained through a racketeering offense, helping to defund criminal organizations. Because sex trafficking is a common practice among organized criminal networks, this statute has allowed prosecutors to bring charges against anyone who participated in or facilitated trafficking. Anyone who can be linked in some way to the incidence of trafficking, such as hotel owners or truck drivers, are able to be charged and have their assets seized.”⁹

NON-HUMAN-TRAFFICKING CONVICTIONS IN SEX TRAFFICKING CASES IN 2019

HUMAN TRAFFICKING OFFENSE	DEFENDANTS CONVICTED	COUNTS OF CONVICTION
18 U.S.C. §§ 2421-2423: Mann Act	69	86
18 U.S.C. §§ 2251-2252A: Child Pornography	35	38
Drug-Related Offense	23	34
18 U.S.C. § 1952: ITAR	21	32
18 U.S.C. § 1956: Laundering of Monetary Instruments	18	18
18 U.S.C. § 371: Conspiracy to Commit Non-Human-Trafficking Offense	14	14
18 U.S.C. § 922(g): Felon in Possession of Firearm	8	8
18 U.S.C. § 1512: Witness Tampering	6	6
18 U.S.C. § 4: Misprision of Felony	6	6
18 USC § 924(c): Possession of a Firearm (Crime of Violence)	4	4
18 U.S.C. § 2425: Use of Interstate Facilities to Transmit Information about a Minor in Connection with Criminal Sexual Activities	1	1
18 U.S.C. § 2260A: Penalties for Registered Sex Offenders	1	1
18 U.S.C. § 2243: Sexual Abuse of a Minor or Ward	1	1
18 U.S.C. § 1959: Violent Crimes in Aid of Racketeering Activity	1	1
18 U.S.C. § 1503: Obstruction	1	1
18 U.S.C. § 1029: Fraud and Related Activity in Connection with Access Devices	1	1
18 U.S.C. § 1001: Statements or Entries Generally (False Statements)	1	1
18 U.S.C. § 2: Misprision	1	1
8 U.S.C. § 1324: Alien Harboring	1	1

10

C.A.R.E.S. Focus

Our focus this week has been on Rescue: Rescue is a vital part of seeing human trafficking eradicated. Through collaborating with law enforcement and the legal system, learning about what they are already doing, and coming alongside them in whatever they need, we are able to train, equip, and empower them to rescue victims. Once victims are properly identified, law enforcement officials can rescue a trafficked person. These victims will have immediate and critical needs (temporary shelter, medical and psychological care, food, clothing, etc).

⁹ “Ten Years of Sex Trafficking Cases in the United States.” National Human Trafficking Resource Center, 2016, Page 1.

¹⁰ “2019 Federal Human Trafficking Report”, Human Trafficking Institute, 2019, Page 85.

Consider the following steps related to Rescue:

Work to get traffickers off the street by supporting law enforcement and in the case of interception and rescue of trafficked persons, the aftercare service	Determine if there are existing shelters in your community and volunteer
Volunteer your church/small group as a search team when an abduction occurs in your community	Activate <i>Amber Alert</i> and other reporting applications such as <i>TraffickCam</i> on your phone
Contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline at (888) 373-7888 to report suspicious behavior, people, places, or events with possible ties to sexual exploitation and human trafficking	Establish connections with law enforcement, set up training with them to educate with facts and signs, offer other needed resources to enable them to do the job they are trained for
Advocate to eliminate slave labor from government contracts and give labor rights to workers	

REMEMBER

Prayer focus this week: to increase the number of, protection for, and favor on those who are trained and actively involved in the rescue of victims.

“Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.” (Isaiah 1:17 NIV)

CHALLENGE

1. Pray for those who rescue
 - a. For divine favor (Psalm 5:12, 90:17; Luke 2:52)
 - b. For divine wisdom (Proverbs 4:7, 16:16; James 1:5)
 - c. For divine provision (Deuteronomy 28:12; Psalm 111:5; 2 Corinthians 9:8)
2. Identify and interview someone in your community actively involved in the rescue of trafficking victims.
3. Where in your life might you come in contact with a (potential) victim? Nail salon, restaurant, your place of employment, truck stop, etc.? What details do you need to gather, what questions can you ask to determine if this is a situation to be reported to the National Human Trafficking Hotline?
4. Watch/read:
 - Stories (The Wellhouse) (21:48) <https://youtu.be/EiVNkz8fwaE>
 - Human Trafficking in Alabama (3:15) <https://youtu.be/k70llyTLAI>
 - Stories (International Justice Mission) (3:45) <https://youtu.be/wKXSKJrOxbl>
 - Survivor Stories (Polaris Project) <https://polarisproject.org/blog/survivor-stories>
 - Stories of Hope (Shared Hope International) <https://sharedhope.org/what-we-do/restore/stories-of-hope/>

Search for other stories. Look for clues to what kept hope alive during the survivor’s enslavement.
5. Read Lesson 8

PRAYER

Father, we ask that You send more workers into this harvest field. We pray for those currently involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of victims of the sex trafficking industry; that You will provide the right people and the right tools to investigate, capture, arrest, and prosecute traffickers. We pray that You make them wise as serpents and innocent as doves. We pray that You hide them from the evil one. We ask You, O God, to give them YOUR compassion, YOUR energy and stamina, YOUR wisdom and discernment. And Father, we pray most of all that You will rescue more and more each day those enslaved by this unspeakable evil, in the Name of Jesus, Amen.



CARES

Lesson 8 – RESTORING HOPE

C.A.R.E.S. 101 Small Group Curriculum

Lesson 8 – RESTORING HOPE

REVIEW

Last week we looked at the difficulties associated with rescuing of trafficking victims and ways for lay persons to assist. We also looked at factors in prosecuting predators.

BIG PICTURE

The after effects and trauma that trafficked victims face often necessitates a long period of recovery as they walk through physical, emotional, and spiritual healing.

EXPLORE/DISCUSS

Why do we need to provide services to rescued victims? “A study done by Dr. Melissa Farley of 475 people in the commercial sex industry in five different countries found that 67 percent of them met the criteria for PTSD, a figure that rivals that of combat veterans. Traumatic responses can look different for different people. Some girls are numb, so accustomed to pushing down feelings and ignoring their own needs that it’s hard for them to feel anything at all. Others are consumed with anger that’s built up over time, a rage that’s directed at no one and everyone. Some girls struggle with trauma reenactment, a compulsion to re-create the same situations over and over, continually putting themselves in danger, trying to have a different outcome this time. Other girls crave some level of danger just to feel ‘alive.’ It’s the emotional equivalent of going from living in Technicolor to living in black- and-white. . . . Once the immediate danger has passed, we can begin to truly feel all the pain and trauma that our minds and bodies have suppressed in order to function. For commercially sexually exploited girls who’ve experienced constant trauma, constant danger, their bodies and minds have been in a continual high alert with little respite to process the experiences they’ve had to suppress. It’s not until things calm down that their feelings surface, and it can be overwhelming, especially if you’re not expecting them or don’t understand why they’re happening to you.”¹

Victims may not immediately appreciate assistance. “Although appreciation may occur in some instances, it is not the common response. Victims often do not self-identify as trafficking victims for many reasons and may deny needing help. For good reason, many victims are terrified of receiving help. Victims may have been threatened with violence or violence to their families and friends if they report to law enforcement. Victims frequently report witnessing violence against other people who displeased or disobeyed the trafficker. This is used by the trafficker as a form of manipulation. International victims, minor victims, and many adults may not know or understand the laws and are often told by their traffickers they will be arrested if discovered by law enforcement. For many, this has already occurred in the past. Victims may not realize they are victims. This is especially common in commercial sexual exploitation where victims may have a significant traumatic bond with their traffickers.”²

“There are not enough resources currently available to meet the needs of trafficking victims, and the resources that are available are often unspecialized and woefully inadequate. Experts estimate that 18 to 24 months of services are required for most victims to adequately recover from the trauma of being trafficked (Clawson, Dutch, and Williamson 2008; Shigekane 2007; Williamson and Prior 2009). In a 2012 report, Polaris Project documented 1,644 shelter beds, with only 529 of those designated specifically for trafficking victims, available in the United States for trafficking victims. Some states have no available beds; others have beds only for a specific type of victim. Domestic victims are eligible to apply for social services, but in many states those resources are already strained. International victims may be certified for a T- Visa, but those are limited as well. Trafficking victims need significant and specialized services. Immediate needs include housing, food, medical treatment, safety, and security. Long-term needs include mental and physical healthcare, education and life skills training, alcohol and drug treatment, income assistance, and legal assistance. Failure to provide appropriate short- and long-term services will likely result in a victim being trafficked again.”³

¹ Rachel Lloyd, *Girls like Us: Fighting for a World Where Girls Are Not for Sale, an Activist Finds Her Calling and Heals Herself* (New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2011), Pages 180-183.

² Dorthy S. Halley, Sharon L. Sullivan, and Jennifer Rapp, “Providing Effective Services to Victims of Human Trafficking: Theoretical, Practical, and Ethical Considerations”, in *Combating Human Trafficking, A Multidisciplinary Approach*, ed. Michael J. Palmiotto (Florida: CRC Press/Taylor & Francis Group, 2015), Page 234.

³ Dorthy S. Halley, Sharon L. Sullivan, and Jennifer Rapp, “Providing Effective Services to Victims of Human Trafficking: Theoretical, Practical, and Ethical Considerations”, in *Combating Human Trafficking, A Multidisciplinary Approach*, ed. Michael J. Palmiotto. (Florida: CRC Press/Taylor & Francis

“Trauma is an emotional response to a terrible event. Most people have experienced some degree of trauma over the course of their lives, but every person responds to a traumatic event differently. A range of stress responses may be exhibited after experiencing a traumatic event; many individuals recover without lasting consequences while others experience long-term effects, including depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and suicidal ideation.

Survivors of trafficking often experience complex trauma, which is the exposure to multiple traumatic events, often of an invasive, interpersonal nature, with wide-ranging and long-term effects. Trafficking survivors also frequently have experienced polyvictimization, where they endure multiples types of victimization or community violence—including emotional, physical, or sexual abuse from various actors. Research indicates complex trauma changes how one thinks, what one thinks about, and the brain’s ability to store and make memories, experience healthy attachments, and develop trust.

Trauma disrupts the rational thought process and impairs the ability to handle stress, perceive when a threat is in the past, and manage emotions. Victims often experience re-traumatization when they are “triggered” or have flashbacks or intrusive thoughts that replicate the experience of their initial trauma. A survivor who may appear to be uncooperative, combative, or difficult could be experiencing such overwhelming symptoms related to trauma. A sense of stability and security must be attained before the individual can be expected to engage constructively with any systems or services. It is also important to recognize that maladaptive behaviors, including risky behaviors such as drug or alcohol abuse, can be part of an individual’s survival mechanisms.

All those engaged in anti-trafficking work must understand the vast impacts of trauma and incorporate a trauma-informed approach to their work to more effectively support victims of trafficking. Law enforcement officials, prosecutors, service providers, and other allied professionals will likely observe a wide range of reactions related to trauma during the course of their work with survivors. Understanding the reason behind a survivor’s actions will contribute immensely to building rapport and trust, whether preparing a victim-witness for trial or providing appropriate services.”

CHECKLIST FOR A TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH TO INTERACTIONS WITH SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING*

- » Be aware if the individual appears shut down or disconnected; this may be a sign that the person is overwhelmed.
- » Have materials available that may support regulation of affect and impulses during meetings, conversation, or testimony.
- » Check in to make sure the survivor is hearing and understanding your statements or questions and provide frequent breaks.
- » Be aware that changes in memory do not necessarily indicate falsehood or storytelling, but may be indicative of a trauma response.
- » Try to hold interviews or other key conversations at a time when the survivor feels most stable and safe.
- » Help break down tasks concretely; assume that even small tasks may feel overwhelming. Support the survivor in accessing help with task completion.
- » Focus on the facts of experiences, rather than getting caught up in the individual’s emotional response or perception of events in making determinations about criminality.
- » Be aware of the often confusing nature of the individual’s relationships with the perpetrators; be conscious of not making assumptions.
- » Don’t take strong reactions personally; be very aware of managing your own emotional responses.
- » Provide opportunities for control and empowerment whenever possible.
- » Be aware of the importance of physical as well as emotional supports.

* Adapted from Justice Resource Institute, Utilizing Trauma-Informed Approaches to Trafficking-related Work. http://www.traumacenter.org/clients/projectreach/H-0%20Trauma-Informed%20Case%20Study_final.pdf

Great care must be taken not to re-victimize those who have been trafficked. Victims who are not recognized as human trafficking victims are often treated as criminals, complete with arrest, charges, prosecution, incarceration, and criminal records, and so further victimizes a human trafficking victim. If criminal records remain with the victim, it can profoundly impact future schooling, job opportunities, etc. and open the door to return to a life of slavery.

Rescuing victims is a vital part of the anti-trafficking effort, and helping them transition back into complete personal health is just as important. After a period of recovery, former victims will need to be reintegrated back into society. They need mentors and teachers, counselors and friends. Providing adults with a viable livelihood, housing, transportation and a supportive community is crucial to their full recovery and social re-integration.

“‘Rescuing’ trafficking victims may sound like a fantastic idea, but talk to any service provider who works with these children and youth, whether in India, Cambodia, Ukraine, Atlanta, or Brooklyn, and you’ll hear that the reality is a little more complex. Victims rarely rush gratefully into your open arms; they’re not immediately compliant with shelter regulations; they don’t trust the people trying to help them. They’re tired and traumatized and hurting and lonely and depressed and scared and to them, missing the life is as normal as breathing. Healing is a messy, complicated process that’s rarely linear. Girls need intense amounts of support, love, and patience. Without someone around to understand and explain that their feelings are a ‘normal reaction to an abnormal situation,’ without practical resources such as food, shelter, and clothing, without constant reassurance that leaving was the right thing to do and that it’s going to get better eventually, and without counseling or even psychiatric care for depression, and PTSD, and the support of people who truly ‘get’ it, girls struggle, and the alternative seems more and more attractive every day. Sometimes even with services, support, love, and patience in place, it’s just not enough to break the trauma bonds the first time around, or the second, or the third. But that doesn’t mean we should stop trying, or that girls don’t want help.”⁵

Spiritual Healing

Spiritual healing includes taking hold of Truth instead of deception, making the choice of forgiveness in the face of unspeakable evil, allowing God to heal the hurts and release negative behaviors, and breaking vows made in self-protection.

“Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:32 NIV)

“Ah, Sovereign Lord, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for You.” (Jere 32:17 NIV)

“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagining, according to His power that is at work within us.” (Eph 3:20 NIV)

“There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread.”⁶

Throughout His ministry on earth, there were times when Jesus met a physical need before a spiritual one. He did not address every circumstance with a single approach. Jesus touched people where they were, with His infinite creativity and love.

It is the same in the case of sex trafficking victims. Some organizations, like Bombay Teen Challenge-Project Rescue, conduct church services for victims in brothels and provide night-time child care for their children. Other organizations, like A21 and International Justice Mission, are involved in the physical rescue, legal prosecution, and aftercare of victims. We must not focus on any one need to the neglect of the others. Whatever need is addressed first – physical, emotional, or spiritual – Christ desires to heal completely. And we are the unconditional love of God demonstrated to the vulnerable.

Whether sold by their families, kidnapped, abandoned, runaway, lured by the promise of money and affection or

⁵ Rachel Lloyd, *Girls like Us: Fighting for a World Where Girls Are Not for Sale, an Activist Finds Her Calling and Heals Herself* (New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2011), Pages 180-183.

⁶ Mahatma Gandhi, accessed January 31, 2021, <http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/m/mahatmagan103624.html>.

coerced against their will, victims are considered nothing more than commodities for human traffickers. The realities of what victims endure every day are beyond painful. However, these individuals are God’s precious creation, someone’s child, sibling, spouse, or loved one. They suffer in ways most human beings never will, and those rescued experience a slow road to recovery, an uphill climb out of the pit of their darkness.

In order to end trafficking of any kind, it not only requires law enforcement, organizations, and charities to work together. It requires members of every local church to take responsibility, and through the power of Jesus Christ, use their unique talents and resources to ransom those held captive. Engaging and equipping local churches is perhaps the most powerful way to end human trafficking and to deal with the shattered lives in need of healing.

Eva's Survivor Story (August 13, 2020)

Names and places have been changed to protect the victim.

Eva moved from Russia to the United States in the hopes of having a better life. However, finding a job in a new country was much harder than she had anticipated. She was scouring newspapers for any open position when she noticed an advertisement for a job as an “escort.”

The listing claimed that an escort could make \$20,000 in one month.

Alone in a foreign country and quickly running out of money, Eva called the number in the advertisement and set up a meeting with the man running the “agency.”

In a matter of weeks, she was being trafficked.

She began as a “housegirl” (house slave or servant), and it escalated into her being sold for sex.

“I didn’t want to do what they asked of me, but I felt I had no other option,” Eva says. “Eventually, I started using drugs to numb my feelings.”

Eva was in jail when her Public Defender gave her the name of a woman who worked with The WellHouse. They set up a meeting at the courthouse and the woman told Eva about the residential and counseling programs The WellHouse provides to victims of sex trafficking.

As soon as she was released from jail, Eva was transported to The WellHouse campus and began her journey to recovery.

Today, Eva is healing from her trauma and building healthy relationships with her other WellHouse residents. She says, “I’ve learned to trust women and myself. I’m learning how to set boundaries for myself.”

Eva is also working on speaking fluent English and getting her GED online. She hopes that one day her family will be able come to the United States from Russia so that they can be reunited.⁷

C.A.R.E.S. Focus

Our focus this week has been on Services: The after effects and trauma that trafficked victims face often require a long period of recovery, and walking people through emotional and spiritual healing is just as important as physical recovery. There is also a need for stronger measures of prevention and protection in the fight against human trafficking.

Services can include:

Provide transitional, short, and long-term care for victims of sex trafficking through facilities (i.e., The Wellhouse)	Partner with organizations that focus on the prevention of children from being trafficked by addressing vulnerabilities (i.e., Girls Inc., Big Brother
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⁷ “Eva’s Survivor Story”, The WellHouse, accessed January 31, 2021, <https://www.the-wellhouse.org/blog/2020/8/13/evas-survivor-story>

Partner with dentists, OB/GYN, family doctors, ER nurses, trauma care, mental health care, physical fitness instructors for possible donated services	Contact victim care facilities and ask them what their needs are or how you can best serve
Sponsor programs through donating money, clothes, equipment to aftercare facilities and service	Volunteer with or donate to local, regional, state, or international organizations involved in this fight
Buy Fair Trade/survivor-made goods	Offer your language or professional skills

REMEMBER

Prayer focus this week: for survivors to find complete healing through the work of the Holy Spirit

“I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow My decrees and be careful to keep My laws.” (Eze. 36:25-27 NIV)

“Do not be afraid; you will not be put to shame. Do not fear disgrace; you will not be humiliated. You will forget the shame of your youth and remember no more the reproach of your widowhood.” (Isa 54:4 NIV)

CHALLENGE

1. Pray for Victims

- a. To be found (Luke 19:10; Isaiah 42:21-22; Psalm 82:3-4 and 138:7)
- b. To be freed (Psalm 10:17-18; Psalm 22:23-24)
- c. To be healed (Psalm 139:7-20; Isaiah 40:29 and 61:1-3; Jeremiah 30:17)

2. Watch:

-- Faces of Human Trafficking: Effective Victim Services (Office for Victims of Crime, US Dept. of Justice) (5:55)
<https://youtu.be/V4bga2CnZnc>

-- Faces of Human Trafficking: Now That We Are Free (Office for Victims of Crime, US Dept. of Justice) (7:04)
<https://youtu.be/JWZghUmeXTY>

(There are a total of 9 videos in this series, each with a different focus; some are available with subtitles or in other languages; there is also a 60 second PSA for the series; visit YouTube.com and do a search for “Faces of Human Trafficking”)

3. Take time each day this week to prayerfully consider and complete the Vision Survey; include thought on what you believe are your Next Steps in the fight against the injustice of human trafficking. Make notes, search for scriptures, do research, ask select others for their input as well.

4. Read Lesson 9

PRAYER

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of His will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of His holy people in the kingdom of light. For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (Colossians 1:9-14) in the Name of Jesus, Amen.

C.A.R.E.S. SMALL GROUP VISION SURVEY

Pray. Ask God for His vision.

What is my personality type? _____ Spiritual gifts? _____

What is my sphere of influence? _____

What am I passionate about/what moves me? _____

What do I do that is effortless to me but other people think is hard? _____

Is there someone else who shares my passion/vision that I could partner with? _____

What "BIG VISION" has God given me to make an impact against human trafficking?

What are some potential practical next steps for me?

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____



CARES

Lesson 9 – WHO C.A.R.E.S.? YOU DO!

C.A.R.E.S. 101 Small Group Curriculum

Lesson 9 – WHO CARES?

The Fight Against Human Trafficking

REVIEW

Last week we looked at the after effects and trauma trafficked victims face that often require a long period of recovery, and walking people through physical, emotional and spiritual healing. We also explored the spiritual healing necessary to restore hope.

BIG PICTURE

“Recalling her rescue, Nandi only asked, ‘Why didn’t you come sooner?’ Her downcast eyes spoke volumes about why every day counts, for every day the oppressor had hurled an assault against her body, rolled the dice with her immune system, beat lies against her soul, and in no small way, unleashed a fistful of fury against her very Maker”.¹

“No! Sonia could not believe all this. It was too good to be true. She knew all about promises too good to be true. The risk of allowing hope to reenter her life, only to see that hope dashed again, was too much. Her anguish turned back to anger, and she pushed back from the table. ‘If what you are telling me is true,’ she yelled, ‘if what you say about your God is true – then where were you?’ Where have you been? Why didn’t you come sooner?”²

Millions remain enslaved in darkness today. Their suffering is cruel and unnecessary. So where do we begin?

EXPLORE/DISCUSS

Human trafficking is quite simply, a big problem that is perceived to be very far away, involving socioeconomic factors, social stigmas, misunderstandings, legal and legislative issues, and an overwhelming sense of complexity. It may be understandable to ask: “Where is the God of Justice in the midst of this suffering?”

We have a Father who has been faithful to His covenant with His people throughout history, has rescued and redeemed His children in the midst of their wandering and sin, and came to live among us to suffer and die that we might know life. He is where He has always been, doing what He says He will do in His Word.

The better question is “Where are God’s people?” We have always been His plan to bring light to the world He loves. He has rescued and called us for that very reason. So why aren’t we moved to action?

In his book “Just Courage”, Gary A. Haugen suggests three reasons:³

1. Ignorance – we are simply not aware of the massive, urgent need for rescue in the world.
2. Despair – we know the need but have no idea what we can actually do about it.
3. Fear – we may already be scared of so many things and rescuing the enslaved sounds uncomfortable, frustrating, exhausting, possibly dangerous, unknown and out of our control.

Participating in this small group has removed any ignorance about sex trafficking. There is no need to despair; good intentions and daily prayers can be transformed into action. And the struggle for justice is a pathway for God to transform His children with courage and peace.

We must be willing to risk our investment of time, energy, and money while leaving the results to God for the glory of His Kingdom. We must be willing to ask questions and make sacrifices. We must be willing to be uncomfortable and persistent.

“The challenge for good and thoughtful people is to not merely consume information but learn how to act and engage with what we learn.”⁴

¹ Gary A. Haugen and Gregg Hunter, *Terrify No More* (Nashville, TN: W Pub. Group, 2005), Page 204.

² Christine Cane, *Undaunted: Daring to Do What God Calls You to Do* (Grand Rapids, Mich: Zondervan, 2012), Pages 21-22.

³ Gary A. Haugen, *Just Courage: God’s Great Expedition for the Restless Christian* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2008), Pages 31-34.

⁴ Shayne Moore and Kimberly McOwen Yim, *Refuse to Do Nothing: Finding Your Power to Abolish Modern-day Slavery*, (Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 2013), Page 26.

This is not the first time there has been a fight against the evil of slavery. In her book “The Great Silent Army”, Julie Roy Jeffrey tells stories of women who worked tirelessly, in the face of their daily life demands, and fought to end slavery over 150 years ago. They:

- Prayed in belief slavery could be ended
- Formed sewing circles and made things to sell and raise money
- Created/organized fairs to raise awareness and get others involved
- Spread the word by writing, traveling and speaking
- Boycotted products produced by slaves

C.A.R.E.S. Review

C.A.R.E.S. was created as a holistic approach to combating human trafficking. By organizing activities into five areas, individuals are empowered to leverage their unique gifts and talents in a meaningful and powerful way.

Individual sessions throughout this study have focused on each area of the C.A.R.E.S. initiative – Coalition, Awareness, Rescue, Education, and Services. You’ve been encouraged to think through your gifts, talents, time and other resources. Now we will look at how you can apply them in the war against human trafficking. To help you focus your fight, think about what upsets you most about human trafficking. Many times the very things you loathe, you are called to correct. Which of the following appeal to you or sound like something you would be good at doing?

Coalition: (Lesson 4)

It is important as an organization to partner with those in your community who already have skills, resources, man power, and tools to impact your community. Partnerships are critical as no one group can possibly combat it alone. This could include local government, civic groups, churches, ethnic/immigrant groups, women’s organizations, labor organizations, immigration organizations, community health providers, faith-based organizations, law enforcement, and social service agencies.

Spiritual gifts:

Leadership, knowledge, hospitality, teaching, apostleship, administration, faith, exhortation

Consider:

- 1) Have you heard of groups that oppose human trafficking? What is the group, and what do they do?
- 2) Are you aware of any local legislation related to human trafficking?
- 3) Do you know of any human trafficking program or task force that is operational in your area?

Potential activities:

Identify agencies, programs and ministries in my area that offers assistance to victims of human trafficking	Collaborate with other groups and agencies for stronger support in the battle against human trafficking
Lead a committee, small group, fundraiser, or public awareness campaign	Build an antislavery perspective into government policy by participating in hearings, forums, etc.
Identify your city and state officials and legislators and advocate to improve government responses	Who are the health care providers in your area, what training needs or other resources might they need to identify/help victims
Participate in programs to train law enforcement and other first responders	Sign electronic petitions or make phone calls as suggested by Polaris Project, IJM, and others
Hold corporations accountable by researching their supply chains and sending a message	Connect with others who want to create partnerships
Advocate to put fairness in the VISA program	Start your own mercy movement

Awareness: (Lesson 3)

Communities need to be informed of the horrendous crime of human trafficking. This includes sharing indicators of human trafficking and whom to contact if they see suspicious situations. Awareness helps break the hidden nature of trafficking and tactics traffickers use to keep their victims isolated and enslaved.

Spiritual Gifts:

Leadership, prophecy, intercession, teaching, wisdom

Consider:

- 1) Have you seen ad campaigns or public service announcements about human trafficking? What did you think?
- 2) Were you aware of the types of and pervasiveness of human trafficking locally?
- 3) If a teenager, not local to your neighborhood, came to your door selling magazines, what would you do?_

Potential activities:

Research the issue of human trafficking and its impact on your city and state	Engage with other people who have a passion to stop human trafficking and brainstorm ways to work together
Get family and friends together to watch movies or read books	Develop a Serve Day project or ministry opportunity
Use social media to promote awareness, provide education, or promote special days/activities	Man an information booth at public events
Coordinate/participate in a fundraising event (e.g., Race to the Heights)	Create a media campaign using billboards, radio spots, print media, public forums
Write blogs, paint pictures, record podcasts and videos, start a website, host a movie night, make crafts to sell	Communicate with individuals, groups, and agencies to increase your own awareness as well as the awareness of others

Rescue: (Lesson 7)

Through various avenues, the goal of rescue is to not only remove victims from the circumstance surrounding their captivity, but to allow them to return home – healthy and whole.

Spiritual Gifts:

Leadership, apostleship, faith, discernment, healing, prophecy, miracles, pastor/shepherd, evangelism, hospitality, craftsmanship, knowledge, wisdom, helps, service, faith, missionary, mercy

Consider:

- 1) What does the word, “rescue,” mean to you? What images come to mind?
- 2) What you think about being arrested and put in jail as a rescue?

Potential activities:

Work to get traffickers off the street by supporting law enforcement and in the case of interception and rescue of trafficked persons, the aftercare service providers	Determine if there are existing shelters in your community and volunteer
Volunteer your church/small group as a search team when an abduction occurs in your community	Activate <i>Amber Alert</i> and other reporting applications such as <i>TraffickCam</i> on your phone and/or other anti-trafficking related apps

Contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline at (888) 373-7888 to report suspicious behavior, people, places, or events with possible ties to sexual exploitation and human trafficking	Establish connections with law enforcement, set up training with them to educate with facts and signs, offer other needed resources to enable them to do the job they are trained for
Advocate to eliminate slave labor from government contracts and give labor rights to workers	

Education: (Lesson 5)

Education plays a key role in creating normative social pressures on those who still use or condone the use of trafficked victims, leading to a decline in the demand. It also counters the poverty and vulnerability elements experienced by most victims, potentially decreasing the supply of people that are at risk for being trafficked.

Spiritual Gifts:

Leadership, faith, administration, wisdom, knowledge, prophecy, pastor/shepherd

Consider:

- 1) Have you ever been exposed to an anti-human trafficking education program?
- 2) Are you aware that many first responders have not been trained in recognizing or dealing with human trafficking victims?
- 3) What do you think about petitioning local school boards to include awareness programs in elementary and middle school curriculum?

Potential activities:

Train schools, businesses, organizations, law enforcement, and medical facilities to identify potential trafficked victims, equip them with knowledge and tips on how they can prevent and intervene	Encourage schools and teachers to teach human trafficking curriculum and internet safety
Educate others about buying products that are guaranteed to be slave free or made by survivors	Share information in our church through brochures, articles, bulletins, and social media
Lead a C.A.R.E.S. small group	Join or create a neighborhood watch or interest group
Encourage researchers to do more studies on human trafficking, especially locally	Keep yourself informed and up to date

Services: (Lesson 8)

The after-effects and trauma that trafficked victims face often require a long period of recovery and walking people through emotional and spiritual healing is just as important as physical recovery. There is also a need for stronger measures of prevention and protection in the fight against human trafficking.

Spiritual Gifts:

Leadership, administration, helps, service, healing, pastor/shepherd/ exhortation, discernment, intercession, mercy, hospitality

Consider:

- 1) Do you know of any services or support programs in the local area for victims of trafficking?
- 2) Can you name programs your local church supports for victims?
- 3) Serving at our C.A.R.E.S. victim services provider (in Alabama – The WellHouse).

Potential Activities:

Provide transitional, short, and long-term care for victims of sex trafficking through facilities (i.e., The Wellhouse)	Partner with organizations that focus on the prevention of children from being trafficked by addressing vulnerabilities (i.e., Girls Inc., Big Brother Big Sisters)
Partner with dentists, OB/GYN, family doctors, ER nurses, trauma care, mental health care, physical fitness instructors for possible donated services	Contact victim care facilities and ask them what their needs are or how you can best serve
Sponsor programs through donating money, clothes, equipment to aftercare facilities and service providers	Offer your language or professional skills
Buy survivor-made goods	Volunteer

What can you do? Let what you are passionate about lead you into what you can do.

REMEMBER

PRAYER FOCUS: Taking Action

“If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.” (James 1:5 NIV)

CHALLENGE

Review the Potential Activities listed. Research suggested ways to get involved on organizational websites. Then consider your Next Steps in the fight against human trafficking.

Identify one to three vision steps, determine specific action steps towards that vision, set a deadline for each action step, share with your small group members, and then take at least one step this week. For example:

Vision Step	Practical Steps	Deadlines
Raise awareness of sex trafficking during Human Trafficking Awareness Month (January)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Post/repost something on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc. 2. Ask three friends to join me for dinner and during the conversation ask them what they know about sex trafficking, have 1-3 facts to share with them 3. Purchase/borrow a copy of “Chosen” from Shared Hope International and watch with my middle/high school children 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daily in January 2. by January 15th 3. by January 30th

PRAYER

Lord, thank You for the gift of this small group and the fellow believers I have been in community with this semester. Thank You that You are the God of Justice, Who is close to the brokenhearted, rescues all of us from whatever miry clay we were in, Who heals and heals completely. You alone can give us direction, discernment, and wisdom in this fight against the evil of human slavery. Remind us this is not a physical battle we fight with physical tools, but a spiritual battle against the principalities and powers of this dark world and it requires spiritual armor. Call us, equip us, and send us. In Jesus’ Holy name, Amen.

Who C.A.R.E.S.? You Do!

What area(s) do I feel God is calling me to take action in?

_____Coalition

_____Awareness

_____Rescue

_____Education

_____Services

My vision steps, practical next steps and deadlines to accomplish are

Vision Step	Practical Steps	Deadlines
	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.
	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.
	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.