

Choosing Fair Trade to End Human Trafficking

“Fair Trade is a trading partnership based on dialogue, transparency, and respect that seeks greater equity in international trade. It contributes to sustainable development by offering better trading conditions to, and securing the rights of, marginalized producers and workers.”

- World Fair Trade Organization

What is Fair Trade?

People who are impoverished are especially vulnerable to exploitation by traffickers. Fair Trade workers are **paid a living wage so that their children don't have to work to support their family and can attend school instead**. Profits from Fair Trade ventures are reinvested into the community with Fair Trade Funds that address social, economic, and environmental challenges in each community. Through a democratic system, each Fair Trade community determines how their funds will be used. Funds can be reinvested into their business, directed to empowering women, supporting education, protecting the environment, fighting poverty and providing health care. In addition, Fair Trade certification guarantees that **no child or forced labor was used** in the production of goods.

If you'd like to learn more about the impact of Fair Trade, please visit <http://fairtradeusa.org/resources/impact-reports> to read impact reports.

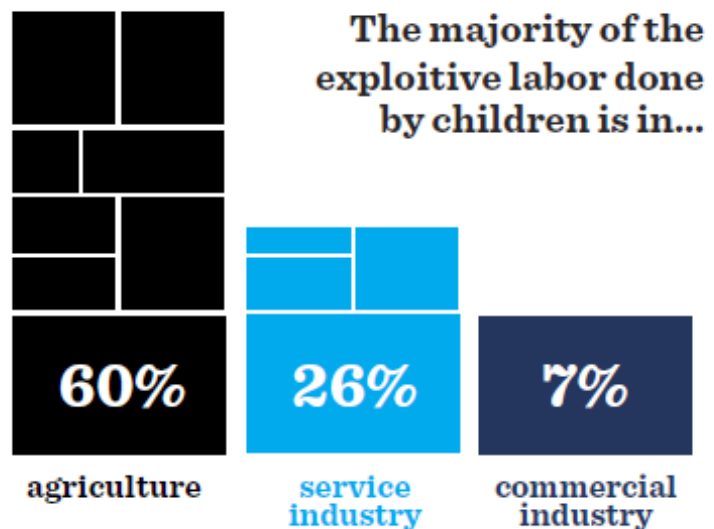
Products that use Child Labor

For a full report on the worst offenders in regards to forced and child labor, please see:

<http://www.dol.gov/ilab/reports/child-labor/findings/>

Demanding Ethically Sourced Products

Fair Trade does not necessarily create better working conditions for people caught up in forced labor, since those conditions do not meet Fair Trade standards. However, as more people begin to buy Fair Trade, the **demand for ethically sourced products increases**. As demand rises, more companies will begin to switch to Fair Trade certification and create better working conditions in order to meet the demand. As a result, more stores will start to supply those products.



Buying Ethically Sourced Products

If your favorite stores do not carry Fair Trade products, ask them to order some, and tell them why it's important to you. There are also mobile apps you can check out such as Fair Trade Finder that can be useful when looking for Fair Trade products. Here are examples of labels to look for:



Principles of Fair Trade (Fair Trade USA)

- **Empowerment:** Inclusive participation and transparency; Premium management; Focus on training and capacity building
- **Economic development:** Stable business partnerships; Pre-determined Premiums; Fair pricing and wages
- **Social responsibility:** No child labor; Health/safety measures in compliance with ILO standards; Community development premiums for greater access to/quality of healthcare and education
- **Environmental stewardship:** No GMOs; Responsible waste management; Reduction of energy and greenhouse gas emissions; Safe use of agrochemicals; Protection of soil/water biodiversity

5 Things You Can Do to Support Fair Trade

1. Host a Fair Trade Tasting where you offer samples of Fair Trade products such as coffee, tea, wine, and chocolate. Explain the benefits of buying Fair Trade.
2. Talk to companies about what they're doing to address slavery and forced labor in their supply chain. Visit www.slaveryfootprint.org for pre-written letters!
3. Make your town, school, or workplace Fair Trade! Visit <http://fairtradecampaigns.org> for more information.
4. Choose Fair Trade chocolate when buying candy for holidays such as Halloween, Christmas, and Easter. Buy products made by survivors of trafficking to give as gifts!
5. Download the app Free2Work and become a conscious consumer! <http://www.free2work.org/>

Resources on Fair Trade

1. Fair Trade USA: <http://fairtradeusa.org/>
2. Fairtrade America: <http://fairtradeamerica.org/>
3. World Fair Trade Organization: <http://www.wfto.com/>
4. Fair Trade Federation: <http://www.fairtradefederation.org/>
5. Equal Exchange: <http://www.equalexchange.coop/>