

End Trafficking Toolkit

This toolkit is designed to help you gain a basic knowledge of human trafficking as it occurs in the United States and around the world. In addition to learning about the problem, you will also learn about efforts to fight human trafficking, and how you can take action within your community.

Get Informed: What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking has been likened to modern-day slavery that subjects children, women, and men to force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of exploitation. This horrific practice can include prostitution, pornography, and sex tourism as well as domestic servitude, factory work, and migrant farming. Human trafficking is not the same as smuggling; it does not require movement across borders.

The Numbers

Around the world today, it is estimated that there are 21 million victims of trafficking and forced labor (International Labor Organization). 5.5 million are children.

Forms of Child Trafficking

Child victims of trafficking are often exploited for sexual purposes or forced labor including prostitution, pornography, sex tourism, forced marriage, sweat-shop work, begging, armed service, and migrant farming.



- ----- prostitution
- ----- pornography
- ----- sex tourism
- ----- forced marriage
- ----- sweat-shop work
- ----- begging
- ----- armed services
- ----- migrant farming

Who Are the Traffickers?

Traffickers include a wide range of criminal operators, including pimps, small families or businesses, and organized crime networks. They entice children and unsuspecting families with material goods, promises of employment and a better life, and false marriage proposals.

Supply and Demand

Human trafficking operates on principles of supply and demand. Trafficking and forced labor are extremely profitable, generating an estimated \$150 billion in yearly profits (ILO). Traffickers make high profits and run low risks thanks to weak legislative policies, loopholes, corruption, and lack of enforcement. The incessant demand for commercial sex and cheap labor puts children throughout the world at risk of becoming the “supply.”

Impact on Children

Human trafficking of any kind violates a child’s rights to be protected, grow up in a safe family environment, and have access to an education. Victims often suffer from inhumane living conditions, neglect, poor diet and hygiene, and physical, sexual, and emotional abuse.

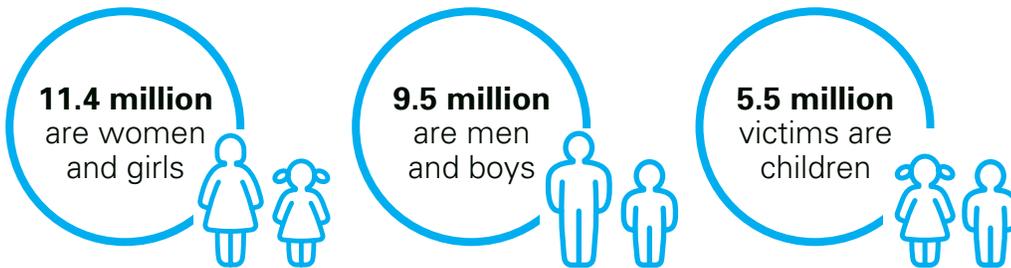
Is It Really Happening in the U.S.?

There have been reports of human trafficking in all 50 U.S. states (National Human Trafficking Resource Center). The U.S. is a source and transit point for trafficking, and is considered one of the major destinations for trafficking victims. Anyone can be trafficked regardless of class, education, gender, age,

Trafficking of children is a grave violation of their rights, robbing them of their childhood, their well-being, and the opportunity to reach their full potential. No country is untouched by human trafficking as a source, transit point, or destination.

— DR. SUSAN BISSELL,
CHIEF OF CHILD PROTECTION, UNICEF

An estimated 21 million children, women, and men are victims of trafficking and forced labor:



or citizenship when lured by false promises and the desire for a better life.

Sex Trafficking in the U.S.

In the U.S., more citizens are victims of sex trafficking than labor trafficking (National Human Trafficking Resource Center). Pimp-controlled prostitution is one of the most common forms of sex trafficking. It also occurs at truck stops, massage parlors, residential brothels, and through escort agencies and online solicitation. The Internet is also becoming a “marketplace” for sex trafficking where pimps can easily avoid the authorities, facilitate transactions, and lie about the age of their victims. In the U.S., victims of sex trafficking often share risk factors, including: child sex abuse, parental neglect, parental drug use, emotional and/or physical abuse by a family member, and poverty.

Labor Trafficking in the U.S.

Child labor trafficking can occur in restaurants, bars, tourist industries, and in janitorial and agricultural work. Other areas include begging rings, traveling sales crews, and domestic servitude.

The Products We Buy

The coffee, wine, and tea we drink, the food we eat, the cotton we wear, and the bricks in our buildings may all be products that are harvested or produced by slave labor. There are 128 “worst offenders”— goods that are

most commonly produced by child labor or forced labor. Some goods that have the highest rates of child labor are: gold, sugarcane, coal, cotton, rice, tobacco, cocoa, diamonds, garments, coffee, bricks, and carpets.

UNICEF and Child Protection

Active in child protection in more than 150 countries, UNICEF is the primary UN agency focusing on the rights of children and approaches trafficking as a serious violation of these rights. UNICEF works closely with governments at the national and local levels to combat child trafficking. UNICEF focuses its child protection efforts on:

- Reaching the most vulnerable children, including girls, orphans, children living on the streets, and children affected by conflict and natural disasters.
- Facilitating community educational activities to change social norms, attitudes, and behaviors that make children vulnerable to exploitation.
- Promoting gender equality and ensuring that anti-violence policies, programs, and services are implemented from a gender perspective, while engaging men and boys.
- Supporting comprehensive services for children and their families, including access to health, social protection and welfare services, psychosocial support, and legal assistance. ▶

“If we are going to end modern-day slavery, governments, non-government organizations, law enforcement, service providers, communities of faith, businesses and corporations, individuals, all have to work together. The reality is traffickers make up such a small fraction of the human race. Then there are the rest of us.”

— **ROB MORRIS,**
PRESIDENT AND
CO-FOUNDER, LOVE146

Take Action: How Do I Get Involved as an Individual, Group or UNICEF Club Member?

Now that you've learned about the issue and what organizations around the world are doing to combat human trafficking, you may be wondering what you can do to help. The good news is that there's a lot you can do! Following are 21 ways to get involved.

1 Join or start a UNICEF Club at your high school or college. Dedicate a week to raising awareness about human trafficking. Visit: unicefusa.org/highschool or unicefusa.org/campusinitiative to get involved.

2 Post the National Human Trafficking Hotline (Call 1-888-3737-888 or Text "BeFree" 233733), around your neighborhood, school, or workplace. The hotline handles calls from anyone, including witnesses, potential victims, service providers, community members, and people hoping to learn more. It is toll free, and can be reached anywhere in the U.S., 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. You can download a flyer for free at polarisproject.org/resources/outreach-and-awareness-materials, or download our Hotline Postcard from our Resources page at unicefusa.org/endtrafficking. Please ask permission before posting flyers in coffee shops, restaurants, business locations, etc.

3 Teach your students about human trafficking. Check out our K-12 educator resources for lesson plans and activities for your students at teachunicef.org.

4 Find out how the work of exploited people has a direct effect on your life. Visit the Slavery Footprint website to take an online survey that helps you determine how many slaves touch the products you buy.

Through the site's action center and mobile app, consumers are invited to take action and call for ethically sourced products. Visit: slaveryfootprint.org.

5 Learn how to spot the signs of human trafficking by visiting: polarisproject.org/signs.

6 A child's vulnerability to trafficking can be greatly reduced by the consistent presence of a caring adult. Invest in the life of a young girl or boy in your community by volunteering as a tutor or mentor. Get connected to an organization near you at mentoring.org.

7 Host a panel discussion. Speakers could include local experts in the field, a professor knowledgeable on the subject of human trafficking, a member of law enforcement, or a survivor of trafficking.

8 Keep learning. Sign up for Google alerts about human trafficking or a newsletter from an anti-trafficking organization like the Polaris Project or International Justice Mission.

9 Write an article about human trafficking for your local or school newspaper or community blog. Don't feel comfortable writing it yourself? Write to the editors of the paper and ask them to do a piece on it.

10 Change the conversation by working within your social circles. A "pimp" is not a cool guy, but someone who abuses and exploits women. A "prostitute" is often a victim of sexual exploitation. Help your friends rethink their choice of language. For tips on how to talk about these issues, visit: againstourwill.org/how-to-talk-about-it.

11 Volunteer your skills. Do pro bono legal work, promote products made by survivors, or create an artistic piece to raise awareness about human trafficking. ▶

We could eradicate slavery. The laws are in place. The multi-nationals, the world trade organizations, the United Nations, they could end slavery, but they're not going to do it until and unless we demand it.

— KEVIN BALES,
FREE THE SLAVES

12 A Call to Men: Men have an important role to play in ending human trafficking. “A Call to Men” shares ways for men to speak out against domestic violence, rape, and human trafficking, visit acalltomen.org. Also, check out Man Up at manupcampaign.org.

13 Walk for freedom. Join or organize a walk in your city to raise awareness about human trafficking.

14 Organize a fundraiser to benefit UNICEF’s word to protect children. For tips and ideas on how to fundraise, sign up as a UNICEF volunteer at unicefusa.org/actioncenter and fill out an event application form at unicefusa.org/fundraiser.

15 Host a screening of *Not My Life* or another film focused on the issue of human trafficking. Facilitate a discussion afterward about ways to take action. E-mail endtrafficking@unicefusa.org to learn how you can get a copy of *Not My Life* along with a discussion guide.

16 Petition the President of the United States. Ask the President to sign the Convention on the Rights of the Child. This international treaty recognizes that children are not possessions, but people who have human rights. Visit: unicefusa.org/advocate to learn more.

17 Switch to Fair Trade brands, and/or host a Fair Trade Party. Fair Trade certified products are produced without slave or child labor. Profits from Fair Trade products support farmers and laborers

involved in production and ensure that they are paid fairly and work under safe conditions. To learn more, visit: fairtradeusa.org. Download our Fair Trade Event Kit from our Resources page at unicefusa.org/endtrafficking.

18 Dedicate a sporting event to raising awareness about human trafficking. Get the team involved, have proceeds from the game go to a local anti-trafficking organization. Feature an info session at halftime and show a short video clip, have a guest speaker, or read a survivor’s story. For video suggestions visit mtvU’s Against Our Will campaign againstourwill.org/videos.

19 Purchase products made by survivors of human trafficking. From jewelry and handbags to lotion and soccer balls — purchasing survivor-made products helps to support sustainable employment and rehabilitation programs for survivors. Start shopping. Visit: polarisproject.org/take-action/raise-awareness/buy-products-made-by-survivors.

20 Be a child-safe tourist. Children in tourist areas are especially vulnerable to physical, emotional and sexual abuse. Learn how to take simple actions to minimize harm to children at childsafetourism.org.

21 Advocate for state laws addressing human trafficking. Visit: polarisproject.org/what-we-do/policy-advocacy/state-policy. Advocate for victims by visiting change.org’s human trafficking petition page. ■

Learn More

For more ways to take action, visit:

unicefusa.org/endtrafficking

Call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or Text “INFO” or “HELP” to 233733

For more info on the End Trafficking project contact

endtrafficking@unicefusa.org

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