

HUMAN TRAFFICKING WITHIN THE UNITED STATES

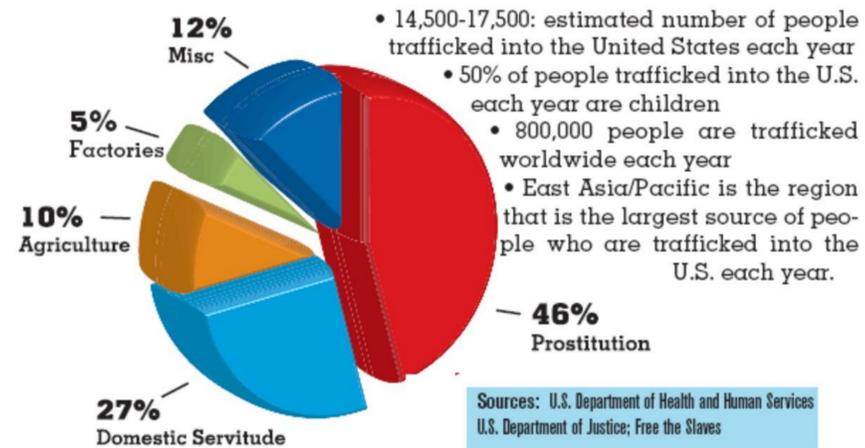
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What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking means "the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of 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, for the purpose of exploitation" (United Nations, 2019). A great amount of those trafficked are minors, or under eighteen years of age. A lot of the victims are female (Baglivio et al, 2017).

Sadly, this is not only a world issue, but a super important and current issue in the United States.



<http://holliamea.wordpress.com/2010/12/07/40/>

Methods of Human Trafficking

The kidnapers, or people who "steal" other people for work or sex trades, often trick the people into going. They promise money or some sort of reward for going with them. An example of this is when Samirah and Enung agreed to going to America for money and work (Hunt et al, 2009). "Samirah and Enung were recruited from their home in Indonesia by a wealthy family to work in America;" the two women were paid between \$100 and \$200 a month to work for this family (Hunt, Logan, Walker, 2009). These women were threatened and beaten for a long time while living in America. The women "worked upwards of 21 hours a day, slept on mats, and were rarely allowed to leave the house. These two women were around 50 years of age (Hunt et al, 2009). They "barely knew English even after living in the United States for about two years" (Hunt et al, 2009).

The kidnapers often target those affected by abuse or poverty within their communities or at home. They target those who will do anything to get out of an awful life (USC, 2018). However it does not matter what social class a person is in, how old they are, or what they are doing with their life; anyone can fall victim to trafficking (USC, 2018).

How Human Trafficking is Portrayed in the Media

The topic of Human Trafficking has been getting attention in the media lately. There have been movies made about the topic, such as *Taken*. In the movie, Liam Neeson's character's daughter is kidnapped by Albanians and he must do everything he can do get her back.

"In *Taken*, the "promiscuous" young woman dies, and the "pure" young woman lives, after being rescued by her father" (AmandaOfHappiness, 2014). This does not accurately portray real Human Trafficking. It does not matter if the victim is promiscuous or not; the kidnapers do not care. In real life, there also is not someone who comes right to the rescue. It's harder to spot Human Trafficking in real life, making it difficult for victims to get help quickly.

Aftermath of Trafficking

Along with Human Trafficking comes family separation and trauma for the people involved. It takes a long time for people affected by Human Trafficking to go back to their "normal" life (Juabsamai & Taylor, 2018).

Victims of Human Trafficking sometimes have a hard time going from crisis back to balance. Some people definitely have more resilience than others when it comes to getting back to normal life (Juabsamai & Taylor, 2018).

Sometimes reuniting with family does not mean the end of trauma for the victim. Sometimes it is just another type of pain.

Often times, the family needs to get used to each other again. Sometimes that is hard because the victim has been through so much being trafficked (Juabsamai & Taylor, 2018).



<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2019/03/16/fia-arrest-three-suspects-involved-in-human-trafficking/>

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Pie Chart Picture source: <http://holliamea.wordpress.com/2010/12/07/40/>

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Who is being targeted picture source: <https://humantraffickingcenter.org/problem/>

Human trafficking picture: <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2019/03/16/fia-arrest-three-suspects-involved-in-human-trafficking/>

Who is Being Trafficked?

Traffickers tend to target women. The targeted women are often have lower Social Economic Status and/ or have fallen victim to abuse. There are a lot of minors trafficked as well. The majority of those trafficked are young, but not necessarily minors.



<https://humantraffickingcenter.org/problem/>