

What is human trafficking?

Human trafficking is the illegal trade in human beings for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation or forced labor; a modern-day form of slavery. It is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world, tied with the illegal arms industry as the second largest, after the drug-trade.

Human trafficking is:

- An international human rights crisis,
- 3rd largest criminal industry in the world, outranked only by arms and drug dealing,
- The U.N estimates that HT generates \$7 to \$10 billion annually for traffickers,
- A crime that occurs much more as a process rather than as an event.

Characteristics of HT

- Violence
- Force
- Threat
- Deprivation of freedom of movement
- Confiscation of identity papers
- Confiscation of travel documents
- Deceit
- Debt bondage

The methods used to recruit people:

- People are lured with promises of employment or educational opportunities abroad,
- Deception and false promises,
- Some victims respond to advertisements in the belief that they would secure a job in a new place.
- Lover boy approach
- Others are sold by family members, friends, or a family friend into the modern equivalent of slavery,
- Traffickers usually make use of advertisements in which they offer work at, e.g. a health club or restaurant,
- Traffickers pay for women's travel expenses and accommodation,
- On arrival at the place of destination, they are informed that they will be required to pay back these costs,
- Passports and other travel documents are taken away,
- No option but to work in the sex industry,

- The recruitment of teenage girls between 15 and 18 years of age into the sex industry happens through newspaper adverts such as the following:
- Actors/ dancers/ singers wanted. Experience not necessary (telephone number provided)

Causes of HT

- Lack of economic opportunities,
- Gender discrimination, particularly, in access to employment and education,
- Tolerance of gender-based violence
- Conflict
- Breakdown in law and order
- Growth of global, commercial sex industry,
- Unregulated labor markets that enable exploitive practices to flourish to flourish
- Global demand for:
 - Slave labor
 - Child labor
 - Sex trafficking (prostitution)
 - Child soldiers

Targeted Groups/ People/ Businesses

- Poverty
- Unemployment
- High government corruption
- Political instability
- Organized crime
- Armed conflict
- Prostitution
- Brothel
- Immigration related
- Strip clubs
- Night clubs
- Gentleman's clubs

Prevention of Human Trafficking

- No matter who offers you a job, whether a friend, family member, or employment agency, make sure the offer is real.
 - Check that the employer is a registered company with a physical address and a landline.
 - Try to contact them before accepting the offer.
 - If you have relatives or friends in the area of the job, give them the physical address and ask them to check it out for you.
 - Make sure that you sign a legal contract with terms that you have agreed to, such as hours or work, wages to be paid, working conditions etc.
 - If possible seek legal advice regarding the contract or ask someone you know with understanding of contracts to look over the contract with you.
 - Make sure you have a valid passport and a work permit for the country you will be travelling to.
 - It is illegal for an employer or any person to keep your passport.
 - Familiarise yourself with the Basic Conditions of Employment Act and the rights of a worker in a foreign country, before you go.
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- If your future employer offers to pay for your travel your contract should state the amount you will owe and how long it will take you to repay and what happens if you fail to pay.
 - Call a friend or family member regularly, once you arrive at your destination, call them with your exact location, they will know something is wrong if you don't get in touch with them.
 - If the job is situated overseas, speak to the embassy of the country you are going to.

An embassy can:

- Provide you with emergency contact numbers for their country.
- Help you obtain the correct documents to work legally in their country.
- Give you information regarding their laws on immigrant workers.

SA- Law and What is being done

- The new SA amendments allow for clients to be prosecuted
- Penalty: 20 YEARS
- The Human Trafficking Co-ordinator, SAPS Provincial Office is

Attention: Superintendent Anton Booysen

031-3254744

031-3254779

0823738849

- The KZN Provincial Inter-Sectoral Task Team on Human Trafficking, Prostitution, Pornography and Brothels (HPPB)

IOM 0800 555 999

- The Department of Community Safety and Liaison through its Victim Empowerment Programmes incorporate Human Trafficking education and awareness.