



HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Combating modern-day slavery as Catholics



Trafficking in humans refers to all acts related to recruitment, transport, sale or purchase of individuals through force, fraud or other coercive means for the purpose of exploitation.

(UN Protocol on Trafficking, 2000)



A multimillionaire couple were arrested by federal agents on charges of keeping two Indonesian slaves in their Long Island home for five years and torturing one of them frequently for disobedience. *Newsday*

HOW MANY SLAVES?

27 million people worldwide

800,000 per year trafficked across international borders

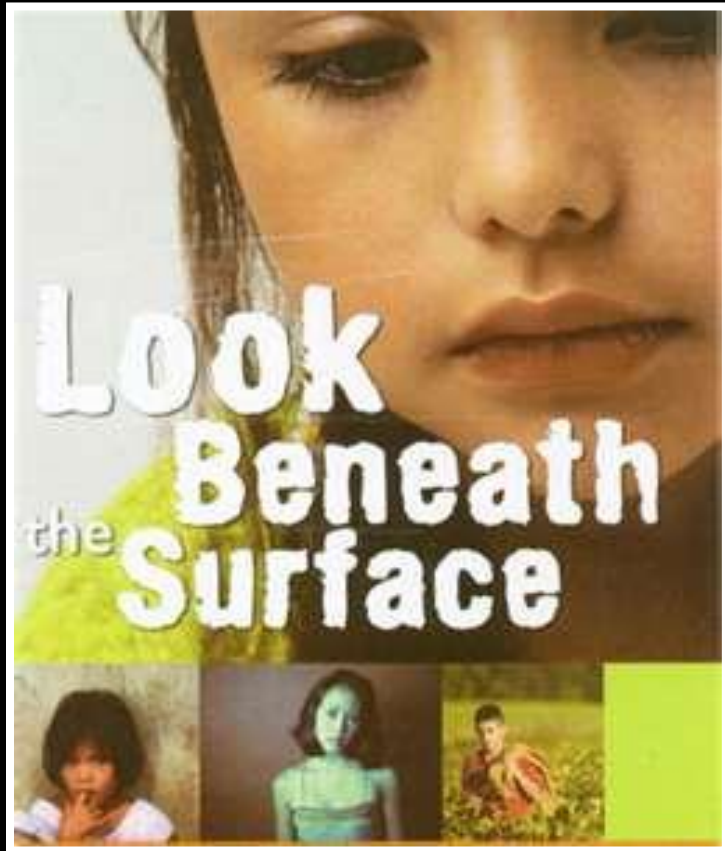
14,500 to 17,500 people trafficked into the U.S. each year

100,000 children exploited in the U.S. commercial sex trade every year

\$32 billion in profits

U.S. State Dept.

Federally funded task forces opened 2,515 investigations between January 2008 and June 2010.



- 62% of labor trafficking victims were age 25 or older, compared to 13% of confirmed sex trafficking victims.
- Sex trafficking victims were more likely to be white (26%) or black (40%), compared to labor trafficking victims, who were more likely to be Hispanic (63%) or Asian (17%).
- Four-fifths of victims (83%) in confirmed sex trafficking incidents were identified as U.S. citizens, while most confirmed labor trafficking victims were identified as undocumented immigrants (67%).

POPE JOHN PAUL II

“Trafficking in human beings - especially women...flourishes where opportunities to improve their standard of living or even to survive are limited. It becomes easy for the trafficker to offer his own “services” to the victims, who often do not even vaguely suspect what awaits them.

What contributes to trafficking?

Political instability/armed conflict

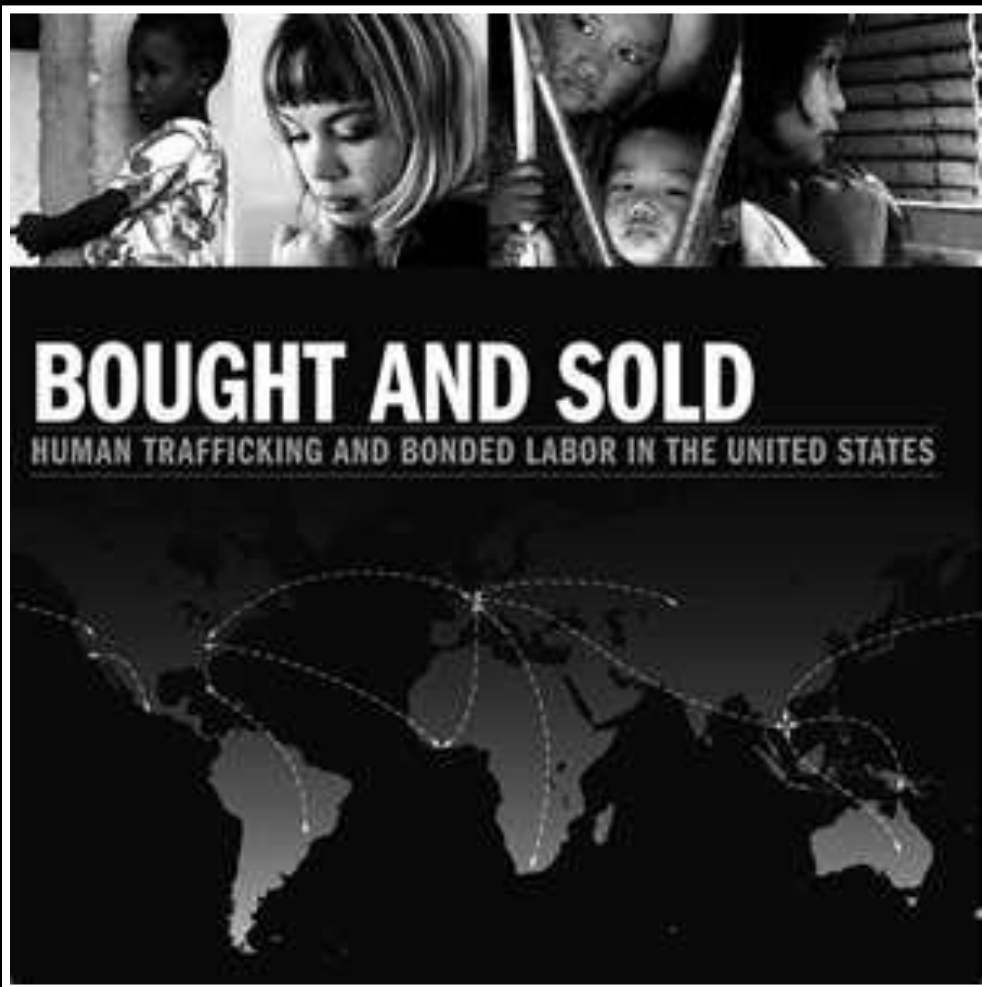
A real or perceived opportunity for a better life offered by the trafficker

No social safety net

No employment opportunities

Limited or ineffective legal protections for women and children





CATHOLIC RESPONSE

“Human trafficking will never be truly defeated without eliminating the consumerism that feeds it and prosecuting those actors in receiving countries, including our own, that benefit because of the exploitation of vulnerable human beings.” *USCCB*

The Scope of the Problem

Designer Tee

L/XL

Made in a sweatshop.

14 hour work day,

7 days/week

\$2.00/hour

XXX MAG

WARNING:

Some women and children pictured here were held in debt bondage, coerced into bringing these photos to you to reduce their debate.

Chocolate

Serving Size: 1 bar

Calories: 350

Ingredients: cocoa beans

Picked by kidnapped boys of the Ivory Coast

Beaten if bag is dropped

Paid nothing

Sweatshops produce half of all clothing sold in the U.S.

46% of all trafficking cases involve the sex trade.

M&M, the largest chocolate producer, makes about \$16 billion a year. A cocoa farmer makes 5¢ per 75¢ bar.

OUR RESPONSE

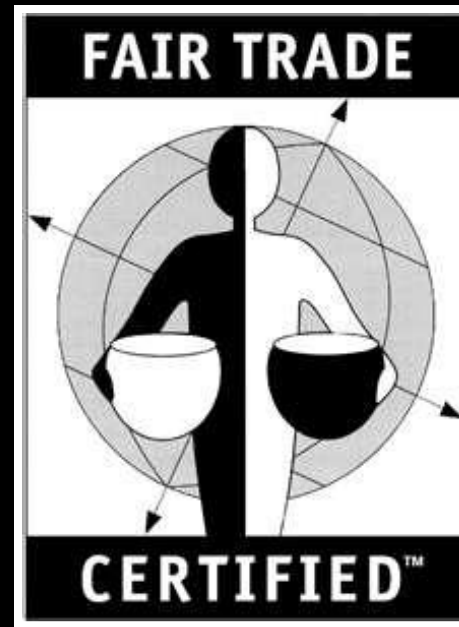
Spread the Word

Increase awareness of trafficking, help identify victims



Micro-Lending

Addresses causes w/in country of origin— providing employment, means out of poverty



Fair Trade

Addresses causes w/in country of origin— providing employment, means out of poverty

Direct Service

Providing social services to meet needs of victims (housing, health care, legal assistance, ESL, work training, etc.)



RESOURCES

USCCB: www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/human-trafficking/index.cfm

Catholic Relief Services: www.crs.org/public-policy/trafficking.cfm

Stop Trafficking Newsletter www.stopenslavement.org

Breaking the Snares Parish Packet www.sdssisters.org



God of hope and freedom,
we pray ...

For young girls and women exploited and
objectified in the commercial sex industry.

For those forced to become soldiers, especially
children who are made into tools for violence.

For those in bonded labor in agricultural fields,
mines and factories.

For conversion of heart for the perpetrators and
organizers of human trafficking.

For governments, corporations, and consumers,
that we will address the systems that make
human trafficking possible.

For the success of efforts to stop the demand for
human trafficking.

Inspire us in our work to loosen the chains of
human trafficking in our world.

Strengthen us so that like St. Josephine
Bakhita, we may stand firm in our resolve to
create a slave-free world.

Amen