



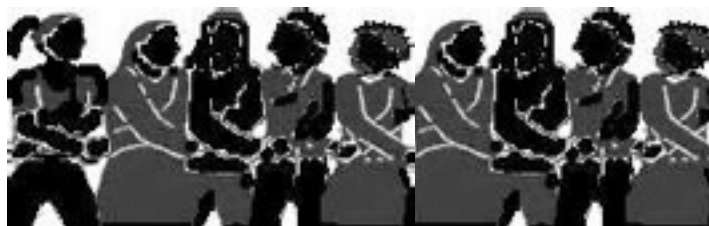
Women's International League  
for Peace and Freedom

## Toolkit to End Human Trafficking

### Purpose and Policy

### What is Human Trafficking?

### Root Causes of Human Trafficking





Women's International League  
for Peace and Freedom

[wilpfus.org](http://wilpfus.org)

## Local Event Toolkit

### Purpose and Policy

### Jan 2014 Human Trafficking Prevention Month

[President Obama's Proclamation](#)

### Feb 2, 2014 Intercept Human Trafficking Campaign





Women's International League  
for Peace and Freedom

### **Human Trafficking Subcommittee Policy Statement:**

Human trafficking is any practice or system that enslaves women, men and children to a life of deprivation and degradation. In fact, it is often referred to as modern-day slavery where those in power profit from the control and exploitation of others. As defined under U.S. federal law, victims of human trafficking are: children involved in the sex trade; adults (age 18 or over) who are coerced or deceived into commercial sex acts; and anyone forced into different forms of 'labor or services,' such as domestic workers held in a home or farm-workers forced to labor against their will.

Human trafficking is in violation of the United Nations Charter, the U.S. Constitution, the U.S. Bill of Rights, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Since its inception in 1915, WILPF has asserted and maintained that peace and freedom are indivisible. It challenges the root causes of oppression: poverty, racism, sexism, heterosexism, male supremacy, militarism, economic disparity, and personal disempowerment. WILPF is determined to end the injustice and violence tragically inured in this form of slavery by educational and political means, creating a foundation upon which anti-slavery actions can stand.



# Local Event Toolkit

## to end Human Trafficking

### What is Human Trafficking?

Human Trafficking is more accurately called Modern Day Slavery. Children, women and men are coerced into labor to profit the traffickers or criminals who ensnare them. For a complete definition see US State Department [Trafficking in Persons Report 2013](#)

### Mythbusters

The tragic consequences of myths, are that they directly impede a persons ability to judge suspicious Human Trafficking activity and act upon it. See the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services [Myth Busters](#) for Human Trafficking.

### [Polaris Project](#)

- Monitors US and Global Hotline #s

### Resources

- [Letter writing, Blogs, Op-Eds](#)
- [Download](#) Brochures, PSAs, Posters, Cards
- Host [Film](#) viewings and discussion groups
- Host [Book](#) discussions
- [Demonstrate/Vigil](#) Join the [Intercept Campaign on Super Bowl 2014](#)
- Social Media Photo of you with NO Slavery Sign. Make it your new profile picture! Send to WILPF US Facebook
- Post an Event on Facebook or other Social Media
- Advocate and Fund Raise for victim assistance and more shelters!
- Know the [Indicators of Modern Slavery](#)
- Get to know your neighbors!**



To get help, report a tip, or request information or training, call The National Human Trafficking Resource Center at: **1-888-373-7888 or send a text to BeFree (233733)**



# Root Causes of Human Trafficking

## **Denial: Not in my Backyard**

A Northeastern University study found that between 73-77% of local, county, and state law enforcement think trafficking is rare or non-existent in their communities. As a result, less than 1% of all cases of U.S. trafficking are charged. Even fewer traffickers are convicted.

## **Discrimination Against Women**

Women are more vulnerable to exploitation by human traffickers, because they do not have equal access to economic and social resources, including educa-

tion, employment opportunities, and adequate healthcare.

## **Internal Displacement**

After the disastrous earthquake in Haiti, 1.3 million people were displaced. The U.S. State Dept.'s "Trafficking in Persons Report 2010" found that the number of domestic child slaves Port-au-Prince had risen over 600%, from 126 to 816.

## **Instability**

Following Hurricane Katrina's political, social, and economic devastation, 100 victims of sex trafficking, all under 18,

were identified by victim protection services in the Baton Rouge/New Orleans area. For more information, visit [shared-hope.org](http://shared-hope.org).

## **Poverty and Wealth**

The Institute for Trafficked, Exploited, and Missing Persons finds every reduction of \$1000 in a country's GDP makes the country 12% more likely to be an origin of international trafficking victims. Every \$1000 increase in GDP makes a country (or region) 10% more likely to be a destination for these victims.

# Impacts of Militarism and Conflict

Regions of conflict and post-conflict experience noticeable and often profound increases of sex trafficking. Why?

- Conflict creates long-term breakdowns in economic systems, leaving few formal economic opportunities for both women and men. Sex trafficking becomes one of the few viable economic options, so the number of people who traffic women for sex grows, as does the number of women trafficked.

- The number of people trafficked for the purpose of sex rises in concert with the increase of men with money and power.

Most often, these are uniformed men—peacekeepers and soldiers alike.

- International actors, like peacekeepers, often have immunity from the crimes of human trafficking. The idea behind the phrase "boys being boys" further excuses those who seek out sex trafficked women.

- Militarized areas, where large presences

of uniformed men are found, promote a culture of violence. When violence becomes a part of daily life, violence, particularly violence against women, becomes more acceptable.

- Few women are able to participate in post-conflict reconstruction. Because women are excluded and marginalized, women's human rights continue to be violated and their economic and social needs disregarded.

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## How Can I Recognize Human Trafficking Victims?

Most trafficking victims will not readily volunteer information about their status because of fear and abuse they've suffered at the hands of their trafficker. They may also be reluctant to come forward with information from despair, discouragement, and a sense that there are no viable options to escape their situation. Even if pressed, they may not identify themselves as someone held in bondage for fear of retribution to themselves or family members.

Because trafficking in persons is usually an "underground" crime, it can be difficult for law-enforcement personnel, the public, or service providers to readily identify a trafficking victim and/or a trafficking scenario. There have been cases of victims escaping and reporting the situation to the police. However, many are physically unable to leave their work sites without an escort and are not free to contact family, friends, or members of the public. There are many factors that can tip off the general public, law enforcement personnel, or service organizations that a trafficking scenario may be taking place locally.

### People forced into indentured servitude can be found in:

- \*Sweatshops (where abusive labor standards are present);
- \*Commercial agricultural situations (fields, processing plants, canneries)
- \*Domestic situations (maids, nannies)
- \*Construction sites (particularly if public access is denied); and
- \*Restaurant and custodial work

### People victimized by sex trafficking:

These victims (often very young prostitutes) may be found in the streets or working in establishments that offer commercial sex acts, e.g., brothels, strip clubs, pornography production houses. They may operate under the guise of: Massage parlors, Escort services, Adult bookstores, Modeling studios, Bars/strip clubs.



### How Do People Get Trapped Into Sex or Labor Trafficking?

No one signs up to become a slave. Traffickers frequently recruit victims through fraudulent advertisements promising legitimate jobs as hostesses, domestics, or work in the agricultural industry. Trafficking victims of all kinds come from rural, suburban, and urban settings. Victims are kept in bondage through a combination of fear, intimidation, abuse, and psychological controls. They are usually kept under surveillance when taken to a doctor, hospital or clinic for treatment; trafficker may act as a translator. While each victim will have a different experience, they share common threads that may signify a life of indentured servitude. Trafficking victims live a life marked by abuse, betrayal of their basic human rights, and control under their trafficker. The following indicators in and of themselves may not be enough to meet the legal standard for trafficking, but they indicate that a victim is controlled by someone else and, accordingly, the situation should be further investigated. Sources from Donna Hughes, ECPAT USA & IOFA 2003 and the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence

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The NHTRC is monitored by Polaris Project

## Books

*Forgotten Girls* by Kay Marshall Strom and Michelle Rickett

InterVarsity Press (2009)

All over the world, women and girls face starvation, displacement, illiteracy, sexual exploitation and abuse. These pages hold their stories of deep pain and suffering, inspiring courage and incredible hope.

*Girls Like Us* by Rachel Lloyd

HarperCollins (2011)

A deeply moving story by a survivor of the commercial sex industry who has devoted her career to activism and helping other young girls escape "the life."

*Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide* by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn (2011)

Pulitzer Prize winners Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn as our guides, we undertake an odyssey through Africa and Asia to meet the extraordinary women struggling there, among them a Cambodian teenager sold into sex slavery and an Ethiopian woman who suffered devastating injuries in childbirth.

*The Road of Lost Innocence* by Somaly Mam

Random House (2008)

Recounting her childhood experience of being sold into sexual slavery and shuffled around Southeast Asia for a decade, Somaly Mam's life story illustrates triumph over unthinkable adversity. She is now the founder of Somaly Foundation based in NYC and continues to work to free enslaved children.

*Sex Trafficking: Inside the Business of Modern Slavery* by Siddarth Kara

(2010) *In this book, Kara provides a riveting account of his journey into this unconscionable industry, sharing the moving stories of its victims and revealing the shocking conditions of their exploitation. He draws on his background in finance, economics, and law to provide the first ever business analysis of contemporary slavery worldwide, focusing on its most profitable and barbaric form: sex trafficking. Kara describes the local factors and global economic forces that gave rise to this and other forms of modern slavery over the past two decades and quantifies, for the first time, the size, growth, and profitability of each industry. Finally, he identifies the sectors of the sex trafficking industry that would be hardest hit by specifically designed interventions and recommends the specific legal, tactical, and policy measures that would target these vulnerable sectors and help to abolish this form of slavery, once and for all.*

## ***Books Continued***

*The Slave Next Door* by Kevin Bales and Ron Soodalter

University of California Press (2010)

This book explains that slaves are all around us, hidden in plain sight; the restaurant dishwasher, the man sweeping the floor of the local department stores. Weaving together a wealth of voices this book is a call to action to finally bring an end to this horrific crime.

*Sold* by Patricia McCormick

Hyperion (2008)

Though desperately poor, 13-year-old Lakshmi's life in a small village in Nepal is full of simple pleasures. When a monsoon washes away the family's crops and Lakshmi's stepfather says she must take a job as a maid in the city to support her family, she is glad to help. Then she learns the unthinkable truth: she has been sold into prostitution.

*The True Cost of Low Prices* by Vincent Gallagher

Orbis Books (2006)

As transnational corporations increase profits by reducing costs, laborers in Latin America, Asia, Africa and here in the United States work long hours but remain poor, hungry and subject to abuse.

*The Whistleblower: Sex Trafficking, Military Contractors, and One Woman's Fight for Justice*

by [Kathryn Bolkovac](#), [Cari Lynn](#)

"When Nebraska police officer and divorced mother of three Kathryn Bolkovac saw a recruiting announcement for private military contractor DynCorp International, she applied and was hired. Good money, world travel, and the chance to help rebuild a war-torn. She was assigned as a human rights investigator, heading the gender affairs unit. The lack of proper training provided sounded the first alarm bell, but once she arrived in Sarajevo, she found out that things were a lot worse. At great risk to her personal safety, she began to unravel the ugly truth about officers involved in human trafficking and forced prostitution and their connections to private mercenary contractors, the UN, and the U.S. State Department. After bringing this evidence to light, Bolkovac was demoted, felt threatened with bodily harm, was fired, and ultimately forced to flee the country under cover of darkness—bringing the incriminating documents with her. Thanks to the evidence she collected, she won a lawsuit against DynCorp, finally exposing them for what they had done. This is her story and the story of the women she helped achieve justice for."



# Films

**[The Whistleblower](#)** Inspired by actual events, Kathy (Academy Award® winner Rachel Weisz) is an American police officer who takes a job working as a peacekeeper in post-war Bosnia. Her expectations of helping to rebuild a devastated country are dashed when she uncovers a dangerous reality of corruption, cover-up and intrigue amid a world of private contractors and multinational diplomatic doubletalk. Directed by first time filmmaker Larysa Kondracki, the film also stars Academy Award winner Vanessa Redgrave, Monica Bellucci and Academy Award nominee David Strathairn.

## **Truckers Against Trafficking**

<http://www.truckersagainsttrafficking.org>

## **Call + Response (2008)**

[www.callandresponse.com](http://www.callandresponse.com)

An exploration of modern global slave trade with commentary from prominent cultural and political figures in the US.

## **Cargo: Innocence Lost (2008)**

[www.cargoinnocencelost.com](http://www.cargoinnocencelost.com)

A documentary that explores how sex trafficking has become a \$9 billion a year industry in the United States, including interviews from victims' advocates and from some of the victims themselves.

## **Dreams Die Hard (2005)**

[www.freetheslaves.net](http://www.freetheslaves.net)

A look into the modern slave trade in the United States, told through the stories of domestic servants and farm laborers.

## **I Am Slave (2010)**

Screenings available in the United States for schools, universities, nonprofits and churches  
12-year-old Malia is kidnapped during a raid on their Sudanese village. Sold into slavery, she spends the next six years working for a Sudanese family before being sent to work in London. Stripped of her passport and living in terror of what might happen to her family should she speak out, Malia is trapped in an unforgiving, alien environment. Despairing of the life to which she has been condemned, she calls on her strength to make a dramatic escape back to Sudan and to the father who never gave up hope she was alive and who never stopped searching for her (synopsis from [www.aifilms.com](http://www.aifilms.com)).

## **Lives for Sale (2006)**

[www.livesforsale.com](http://www.livesforsale.com)

An investigative documentary that looks at harsh realities of Mexico–U.S. immigration and the growing illicit trade in human beings.

## **Not for Sale (2007)**

[www.notforsalefilm.com](http://www.notforsalefilm.com)

This international documentary, filmed on five continents, explores the role activists play in ending human trafficking.

## Films Continued

### **The Price of Sex (2010)**

[www.wmm.com](http://www.wmm.com)

An unprecedented and compelling inquiry into a dark side of immigration so difficult to cover or probe with depth, this film sheds light on the under- ground criminal network of human trafficking and experiences of trafficked Eastern European women forced into prostitution abroad (synopsis from [www.wmm.com](http://www.wmm.com)).

### **The Price of Sugar (2007)**

Screenings available in the United States for schools, universities, nonprofits and churches. Prices vary.

[www.thepriceofsugar.com](http://www.thepriceofsugar.com)

This Oscar-shortlisted documentary tells the story of modern slavery in the Dominican Republic, where Haitian immigrants are lured across the border and into indentured servitude on sugar plantations.

### **Stolen Childhoods (2005)**

[www.stolenchildhoods.org](http://www.stolenchildhoods.org)

Stolen Childhoods is the first feature documentary on global child labor ever produced. The film features stories of child laborers around the world, told in their own words. It shows best practice pro- grams that remove children from work and put them in school so that they have a chance to develop as children and also have a chance of making a reasonable living when they grow up (synopsis from [www.stolenchildhoods.org](http://www.stolenchildhoods.org)).

### **Very Young Girls (2007)**

[www.gems-girls.org/shop](http://www.gems-girls.org/shop)

Very Young Girls is an exposé of the commercial sexual exploitation of girls in New York City as they are sold on the streets by pimps and treated as adult criminals by police. The film follows barely adolescent girls in real time, documenting their struggles and triumphs as they seek to exit the commercial sex industry. The film also uses startling footage shot by pimps themselves, giving a rare glimpse into how the cycle of exploitation begins for many women (synopsis from [www.gems-girls.org](http://www.gems-girls.org)).

### **Trade of Innocents**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DGQAz2EBw9Y&list=PLE7F573D35B3CFDCD>

### **The Peacekeepers and the Women (2003)**

[www.wmm.com](http://www.wmm.com) <http://www.wmm.com/filmcatalog/pages/c651.shtml>

Winner of the Arte-Documentary Award for Best German Documentary, this chilling investigation examines the booming sex- trafficking industry in Bosnia and Kosovo and boldly explores the disturb- ing role of the United Nations peacekeeping forces and the local military in perpetuating this tragic situ- ation (synopsis from [www.wmm.com](http://www.wmm.com)).