

Comprehensive Healthcare: On the Lookout for Victims of Human Trafficking

Project to End Human Trafficking

www.endhumantrafficking.org

Topics Addressed

- ✓ The Millennium Development Goals
- ✓ What is human trafficking?
- ✓ Forms of human trafficking
- ✓ Who is trafficked?
- ✓ Conditions faced by trafficking victims
- ✓ International efforts to combat trafficking
- ✓ Federal efforts to combat trafficking
- ✓ How can I get involved?

Millennium Development Goals

- In September 2000, at the United Nations Millennium Summit, there was agreement to a set of time bound (2015) and measurable goals for combating poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and discrimination against women.
- Placed at the heart of the global agenda, they are now called the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
- The MDGs provide a framework for the entire UN system to work coherently together towards a common end.
- The UN Development Group (UNDG) will help ensure that the MDGs remain at the center of those efforts.

Millennium Development Goals

1. Eradicate Extreme Hunger & Poverty
2. Achieve Universal Primary Education
3. Promote Gender Equality
4. Reduce Child Mortality
5. Improve Maternal Health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria (& other diseases)
7. Ensure Environmental Sustainability
8. Develop a Global Partnership for development

Human Trafficking Defined

Trafficking in humans refers to all acts related to the recruitment, transport, sale, or purchase of individuals through force, fraud or other coercive means for the purpose of economic exploitation (UN Protocol on Trafficking, 2000).

Human Trafficking as Defined by the TVPA of 2000

The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of persons for:

- ✓ the purpose of a commercial sex act, in which the act is induced through force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person forced to perform the act has not yet reached 18 years of age; OR
- ✓ for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion, for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.

Trafficking versus Smuggling

Human Trafficking	Smuggling
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Victims do not consent to being trafficked➤ Ongoing exploitation of victims generates profits for traffickers➤ Trafficking can occur within one country	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Migrants consent to being smuggled➤ The smuggling relationship usually ends at border or when payment is made➤ Smuggling always involves crossing a border

Historical - Transatlantic	Current Slavery
Legal ownership asserted	Legal ownership avoided
High purchase cost	Low purchase cost
Low profits	High profits
Long-term relationship	Short-term relationship
Slaves maintained	Slaves disposable
Ethnic differences important; limited # of potential slaves	Ethnic differences not important; surplus of potential slaves

Trafficking in Comparison to Other Criminal Industries

- Trafficking in persons is the ***fastest-growing*** and ***second largest criminal industry*** in the world today.
- It is second only to drug trafficking and fluctuates from being the second largest criminal industry to sharing that spot with the illegal arms industry.

Common Forms of Human Trafficking

o Labor Trafficking

- o Domestic servitude
- o Agricultural labor
- o Sweatshop labor
- o Janitorial services
- o Food service industry
- o Begging

o Sex Trafficking

- o Street work
- o Brothels
- o Massage parlors
- o Dancers
- o Pornography
- o Spas

Global Perspective on Labor Trafficking

- Approximately 15-20 million in bonded labor in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, & Nepal (Bales, 1999).
- The remaining (of the estimated 27 million) are primarily in Southeast Asia, Northern & Western Africa, and parts of North & South America (Bales, 1999).

Global Perspective on Sex Trafficking

- Countries of origin primarily in South Asia, Southeast Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, former Soviet republics, Eastern Europe, and Africa.
- Countries of destination primarily include United States, Japan, Canada, and many countries in Western Europe.

Sex Trafficking

- A study conducted by Free the Slaves in Washington, DC and the Human Rights Center at the University of California, Berkeley estimates that sex trafficking is the most common form of human trafficking in the United States.

* Hidden slaves: Forced labor in the United States

How Many People are Victims?

- Statistics about instances of human trafficking vary widely.
- The United States Department of State estimates that 600,000 to 800,000 individuals are trafficked across international borders each year (TIP, 2007, 2008).
- Of these, 14,500 to 17,500 are trafficked into the United States each year.

Other Statistics

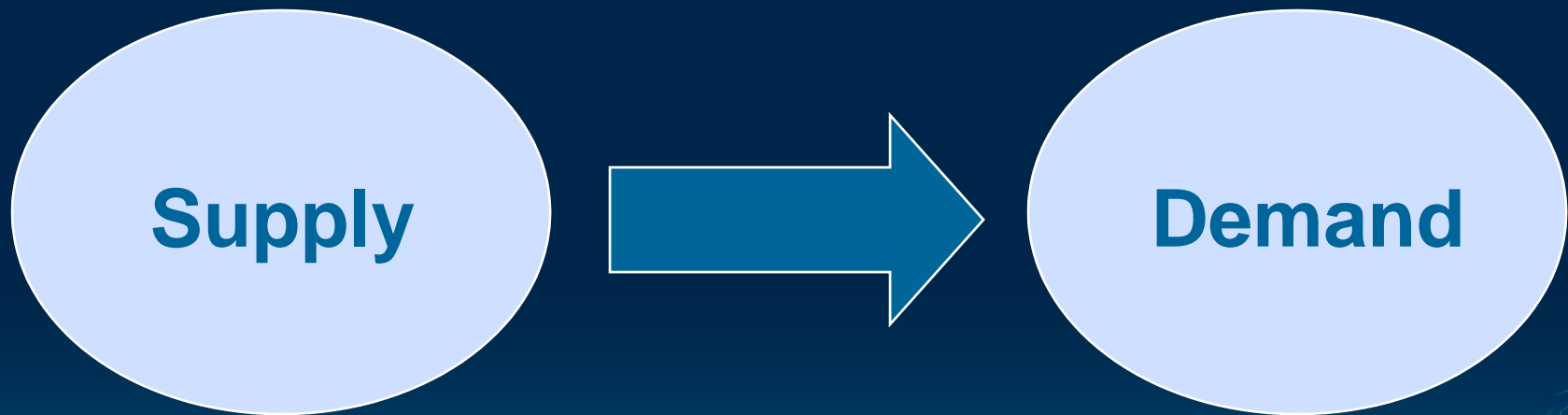
- The International Labor Organization (ILO) estimates there are 12.3 million people in forced labor, bonded labor, forced child labor, and sexual servitude at any given time.
- Research by Kevin Bales indicates that 27 Million people are enslaved worldwide at any given time (2004).
- Kathryn Farr's research shows that 4 million people are enslaved worldwide at any given time, 1 million of whom are in sex slavery (2005).

Who is Trafficked?

- Data suggest that women and girls comprise 80% of the individuals trafficked across national borders.
- Approximately 70% of victims are trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation.
- Data does not include the millions of individuals who are trafficked within their own countries.

2005, 2006 TIP Report

The Economics of Human Trafficking



Supply Factors

- ✓ Poverty
- ✓ Political instability
- ✓ Social unrest or armed conflict
- ✓ Real or perceived opportunity for a better life
- ✓ Absence of social safety net
- ✓ Absence of employment opportunities
- ✓ Violence against women and children

Demand Factors

- ✓ Demand for sex work
 - ✓ Demand for prostitution and other aspects of the sex industry is high throughout the world.
- ✓ Demand for cheap labor
 - ✓ Corporations seek to produce their product at the lowest possible cost.
- ✓ Potential profits are very high
 - ✓ Trafficked persons can be bought and sold many time.

Methods of Control

- Finances
- Identification Documents
- Isolation
- Physical Harm or Threat to Harm
- Additional Psychological/Physical Methods

Federal Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking

- ✓ The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 and 2003 (TVPA)
 - ✓ Defined “severe forms of human trafficking”.
 - ✓ Made human trafficking a federal crime.
 - ✓ Created sentencing guidelines for traffickers.
 - ✓ Gave victims of human trafficking access to federal benefits and immigration relief.

Considerations in Healthcare Setting

- Speak with patient without the presence of whomever accompanied her/him to hospital.
- Interpreter
- Question indirectly (as with any potentially sensitive issue)
- Avoid use of technical jargon (e.g., human trafficking)

Screening Questions

- Are you able to leave your job or living situation if you want to?
- Are you able to come and go as you please?
- Have you been threatened against trying to leave?
- Have you been physically harmed in any way?
- Can you describe your working conditions?
- Can you describe your living conditions?
- Where do you sleep and eat?
- Do you sleep in a bed, on a cot or on the floor?
- Have you ever been deprived of food, water, sleep or medical care?
- Do you have to ask permission to eat, sleep or go to the bathroom?
- Are there locks on your doors and windows that prevent you from leaving?
- Has anyone ever threatened your family?
- Do you have possession of your identification or documentation papers?
- Is anyone forcing you to do anything that you do not want to do?

Assistance

- Hospital Case Management/Social Work
- Local efforts – safety net
- The U.S. Trafficking Information and Referral Hotline (1.888.373.7888)
- www.endhumantrafficking.org

Websites for More Information

- Fact sheets and print materials:
 - www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking
- Papers and fact sheets:
 - www.protectionproject.org
- Toolkits and databases:
 - www.polarisproject.org
 - www.humantrafficking.com
- Other websites:
 - www.justice.gov/trafficking
 - www.usccb.org/mrs/traffickingweb.htm
 - www.endhumantrafficking.org

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