Modern-Day Slaves

Ursuline Commission for Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation
Working against human trafficking is within our charism. We need to do so as part of our commitment.

We are challenged to bring awareness of how to respond to the chapter’s call and go beyond our borders to each member of the institute.
It is a global issue!
What is Human Trafficking?

Trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery. These victims, predominately women and children, are forced into unpaid labour, debt bondage, coerced prostitution or sexual servitude, often under the direction of international organized crime rings.

The trafficking of human beings is the third largest source of profit for international organized crime, after drugs and arms, with revenue amounting to billions of dollars each year.
Trafficking Overview

Annually in the world:

- 4 million people are trafficked
- 2 million girls between age 5 - 15 brought into the sex industry (UN).
- The vast majority of trafficking victims, some 80%, are women and girls.

Anti-trafficking poster from Eastern Europe reads, “They are not toys.”
5,000 child sex slaves in UK

AN ‘IoS’ SPECIAL INVESTIGATION

::: Exclusive: Young children sold into prostitution by criminal gangs in Britain

By Sepideh Goodchild and Jonathan Thompson

More than 5,000 children are being forced to work as sex slaves in the UK, including thousands trafficked to this country by criminal gangs. The Independent on Sunday can reveal.

An important study of global slavery exposes Britain as a major transit point for the movement of child slaves across the world. Commissioned by social research charity the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the report paints a shocking picture of an international web of gang masters exploiting children as young as 12.

England’s bruising date with history

Ireland beat Wilkinson’s
The Trafficking Process

Euro 70,000

$2000
In the trafficker’s mind: Profit
Human beings are a commodity.
They are forced to be sex workers!
And the Lord said:

“We created humans in our own image...God created humans in His own image, both males and females.”
Poverty

Typical causes:
lack of education and skills.
A desire to find opportunities in other countries.

Limited education
In 1994, the UN estimated illegal and illicit crime, including narcotics and the sex trade, had an annual value of US$7.5 billion.

The UN estimates there are between 700,000 – 1,000,000 victims every year.
Globally, the most common means used to bring victims into the human trafficking trade is face-to-face, most often by known and trusted persons.

- Strangers
- Acquaintances
- Neighbors; family friends
- Friends
- Spouse
- Parents
- Relatives
HOW?

- Fraudulent documentation
- Fake marriages
- Promise of jobs
- Jobs as sex workers: Singapore, Japan, Thailand
- Use females to recruit
- Give money to parents
- Befriend: Bahrain June 2007
- Do a contract: debt bondage, threaten safety of family.
- Summer course
- Kidnapping
Kidnapping

- A report from Lithuania:
  An average of two female students disappear from every high school annually. In 2001, the figures were 1,200 disappearances from 600 high schools.

- Many times, the victims report they were kidnapped, rather than deceived.
Enticements used to persuade victims (ranked by incidence)

- Jobs
- Educational opportunity
- Marriage
- Business partner
- Working in entertainment venue (dancers, “partners”, etc.)
- A combination of enticements
It is sometimes a time-consuming process, even sometimes taking many years.
Enticements and inducements

- A job agent offers a non-existent position
- Acquaintances claim jobs or educational opportunities are available.
- Kidnapping or rape by a relative or friend
- Parents sell daughter
In the destination country or en route, victims may seek livelihood in the following ways:

- Prostitution
- Agricultural work
- Factory work
- Maid
- Waitress
- Entertainment venue: dancer, etc.
- Sex industry
- Self-employment
Physical abuse, if try to flee
Attempting to flee results in severe suffering
In various parts of the world, victims seek livelihood in the following ways:

- In Europe, Israel, and Asia, entering the sex trade is the most common.
- In the US and Central America, the most common work is as a maid, in a factory, or in agriculture, but also in the sex industry.
Previous trafficking routes
In more recent times, smuggling has increased, as countries enforce immigration rules more strictly. Crime syndicates have changed their routes, creating secret networks, making it difficult to determine countries of origin, transit, or destination.
Thailand, Japan, Malaysia, Europe, S. Africa, Bahrain, Australia, Singapore, Canada, and the US

Sex oppression
Thailand

Transit route for

Cambodia
Burma
Laos

Ethnic minorities

Sex oppression
Thailand  Destination  Cambodia  Burma  Laos

Begging, fishing crews, cheap labor, maids
Thai Rath newspaper (9/9/05):
Thailand’s human trafficking is 1 million

A meeting of international organizations was held in Bangkok 8 – 9 September 2005 as part of a project in the Mekong Subregion to counter trafficking of children and women by suppressing human trafficking and to prevent mistreatment of transborder labor.

Ms. Tetis Manggahas, director of the Program to Counter Trafficking of Children and Women in the Mekong Subregion, reported that Thailand is a major transit country for international human trafficking to Japan, Australia, Taiwan, etc. Most of the victims are children and women from Laos, Burma, Cambodia, and Vietnam.

The UN estimates the number of victims is between 700,000 – 1,000,000.

(Continued)
In Thailand, human trafficking is done in many ways: forced to provide sex services; forced to beg; kidnapping to impress into illegal activities; etc. These kinds of activities have decreased, because of greater caution and less illegal activity. As a result, the process of human trafficking has adapted, using brutal practices: forced labor, oppression, and exploitation. Thailand has illegals numbering around 1,200,000.
Destination countries
Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children: USA Routes


Routes represent at least one documented case of trafficking of persons. See individual country reports for additional information.

Source: © The Protection Project, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies
Created by Neha Mathur
March 2002
Human trafficking in Germany

- Incountry destination sites (many)
- Entry points (many)
- Big domestic business
Estimates

1.2 million a day patronize prostitutes

In Germany

12 million patronize prostitutes

Of the 400,000 prostitutes, most are non-German.
Countries with potential victims of human trafficking
Columbia: A source country

Most of the sex industry is based in Cartagena City and other resort areas on the Caribbean that serve as departure points for Latin America, the US, and Europe.
A transit point and destination

- Sex exploitation as prostitutes
- Enslavement as cheap labor
Factors contributing to a rising trend:

- An increase in demand for child prostitutes among Asian men
- Neglect by legislators and enforcement personnel
- An epidemic of corruption over the past decade, as Cambodia recovers from the ravages of war
- A major attraction for foreign tourists

In 2005, the US-based Asia Foundation reported that approximately 20,000 Cambodian children were being exploited by the sex industry.
How to respond?

State and private

Provide temporary shelter
Develop prevention

Strengthen the economy, the society, and ethics.
Change relocation laws
Make it possible for minorities to obtain valid citizenship
Laws

Provide shelter

Obtain legal nationality for minorities

Laws governing migration

Information dissemination

Strengthen the economy, society, and morality

Establish networks

Provide protection

State, private, and church initiatives to prevent human trafficking.
How are sisters responding to this problem?

- Dissemination of information
- Translate documents for better understanding
- Provide training in the value of human beings
- Provide vocational training
- Provide counseling and support when victims are recovering
Approaches suggested by Dr. Saisuree Chuthikul, former director of the National Youth Council for 20 years

The 3 Ps and the 3Rs for combating human trafficking:

- **P**rosecution
- **P**rotection
- **P**revention
- **R**escue
- **R**epatriation
- **R**ecovery
A number of networks have been established in response to human trafficking both within and among RL Congregations, government, NGOs, and Church groups at the local, national, and international levels.
The recovery period

During the recovery period, many victims are afraid to start a new life, because they fear society will reject them.
Income generating
Weaving, Pottery, Sewing, Cards, etc.
Global Trading Circles
Vocational Training

Community Development

Provide support for finding a new occupation
Economic & social awareness

Provide a range of training opportunities

Human Trafficking

HIV/AIDS
Language Classes, Vocational Training
flower pot making
fabric painting
etc.

Vocational short courses
LEARN & EARN

Socializing & relaxation

Cooking

Meditation

Recreation

Yoga

Socializing & relaxation
Staff training
CONCLUSION

- We have a special energy among us to carry out this ministry.
- We have a profound understanding that God is leading us, as we work to free enslaved people in every country.
Thank You

References:

Thai Rath Newspaper
Bangkok Post Newspaper
Trafficking kit by UISG
Reports from various countries to UISG
Reader’s Digest
U.S Embassy Document
As Ursulines, we are disciples of Christ.

*How can we best respond to this problem?*
How can we best respond to this problem?

Activities

Put up signs to stimulate greater awareness of this problem and create a logo or symbol that portrays the key point that every human being has value.