



"A woman sits outside the South African Parliament on September 21, 2011 in Cape Town, demonstrating against human trafficking and calling for the adoption of the South African Prevention and Combating in Trafficking in Persons (TIP) bill." (The Associated Press, 2012)

# Sex Trafficking Around The World

## GLOBAL SYSTEMS

### System Inputs:

- \* Demand—driven by the trafficker by greed or money
- \* Demand—driven by the consumer by sexual desires
- \* Individuals feeling lost or thrown out by society (victims)
- \* Most women and children are lured by the prospect of an easy and comfortable life connected with high reward.

*"There is an endless supply of victims"*  
(Kotrla, K., 2010, pp. 183)

### System Outputs:

- \* "Stigma suffered by trafficked returnees... perpetuates the socio-economic inequality that leads to trafficking, including dire poverty, lack of economic opportunity and gender bias" (Vijayarasa, R., 2010, Pp.93)
- \* Extreme mental, physical, and emotional harm to victims
- \* Increased spread of HIV/AIDS
- \* Increased various other criminal activities (drug or weapons trafficking)

### Sex Trafficking in the Czech Republic:

- \* The Czech Republic is one of the most popular destinations for sex trafficking
- \* Czech government complies with only the minimum regulations for eliminating sex trafficking
- \* Sex trafficking is the only form of trafficking that is currently punishable by law.
- \* Lack of criminal liability is an influential factor to trafficking - it is difficult to prove the exploitation of women in night clubs, massage parlors, etc.
- \* With open borders trafficking into the Czech Republic is easier than ever.
- \* Trafficking education is stressed in major cities to help improve the chances of knowing when a person is being trafficked.
- \* There are over 200 brothels in Prague, Czech Republic and over 800 in the Czech Republic as a whole.
- \* There are hundreds of websites allowing Czech Republic visitors to schedule appointments and buy sex acts before they even leave home.

*"There was no possibility of escape."* (PBS, n.d.)

### Sex Trafficking in the United States

- \* The United States maintains a "culture of tolerance" within communities primarily through social media (such as the television show "pimp my ride" and song "P.I.M.P") therefore glamorizing pimping and prostitution.
- \* "There is an endless supply of victims in this country." (Kotrla, K., 2010, pp.183)
- \* Around 500 teens are working as sex slaves every day in King County, Washington.
- \* "One out of three teens on the streets will be lured into prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home." (Seattle Human Services Department, n.d.)
- \* On average girls first become victims between the ages of 12-14, for boys and trans identified youth this average is 11-13 years old.
- \* It is most common for a pimp to show power and control over the victim through tactics like affection, attention, threat, force, coercion, drug use, or violence.

*"Over 50 million women are trafficked in the United States every year."*  
(Sex Trafficking, n.d.)

### Sex Trafficking in Vietnam:

- \* The Vietnam government considers sex trafficking to be a "pressing problem, badly affecting the society customs, tradition, social morals, government laws, destroying family happiness, increasing the risks of HIV/AIDS transmission, and resulting in potential impacts on national and social security." (Vijayarasa, R., 2010, Pp.89)
- \* Underlying causes of sex trafficking in Vietnam include gender inequality, domestic violence, sex-selective abortion, selective family level decision making.
- \* Traditional moral standards in Vietnamese culture consider sex trafficking to be a social evil that will bring bad consequences to the family and society it exists in.
- \* Vietnam government has reevaluated common language when referring to sex work in hopes of decreasing the stigmatization of victims.

*"2 million children are forced into prostitution every year. Half of them live in Asia."*  
(Sex Trafficking, n.d.)

### Global Sex Trafficking:

- \* Sex trafficking is the fast growing criminal enterprise.
- \* Sex trafficking is: "threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or giving payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim" (Equality now, n.d., pp.1)
- \* "161 countries are reported to be affected by human trafficking by being a source, transit or destination country." (PBS, n.d.)
- \* Russia has become one of the largest exporters of women and children as having exploited no less than half a million people since the collapse of the soviet union.
- \* Since the sexual revolution, Russia has made sexual tendencies more public and therefore violence against women has increased and so has sexual exploitation and slavery.
- \* Sex trafficking becomes an increased risk around the world as social media continues to glamorize sexual tendencies.

### Current Services:

- \* International Agreement for the Suppression of White Slave Traffic (drafted in 1902 and shortly thereafter was ratified by 12 countries around the globe).
- \* Mann Act (passed in 1910 by the United States and "forbids transporting a person across state or international lines for prostitution or other immoral purposes." (sex trafficking, n.d.)
- \* Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others (drafted in 1949 and adopted by 49 countries)
- \* William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act established in 2008, provides funding and services for U.S. victims of human trafficking. This act granted \$5 million in 2009, \$7 million in 2010, and \$7 million in 2011.
- \* "Under Senate Bill 5563, teachers in Washington would be trained to recognize sexual exploitation by traffickers and would be required to report suspected victims." (Thomas, L., 2013)
- \* "Bill 5488 would impose an additional fine of \$5,000 above existing penalties where an Internet advertisement led to sexual abuse of a minor." (Thomas, L., 2013)
- \* The Bridge Program (3 year pilot program for prostituted youth, which provides counseling, support groups, life skills training, health education and medical care, support for GED or high school completion, assistance in preparing for college, job readiness training and employment placement / internships.



### Statistics:

- \* Sex Trafficking is primarily women and children
- \* "only one out of 100 victims of trafficking is ever rescued." (The Associated Press, 2012)
- \* "One out of every four girls is sexually abused before the age of eighteen. For boys, the number is one out of six. This means out of every four women at the grocery store, at the bank, at the mall, in the pew at church, and everywhere in 'normal' life have had this traumatic experience." (Bowley, M. F., 2012)
- \* "Sex traffickers use a variety of ways to "condition" their victims, including subjecting them to starvation, rape, gang rape, physical abuse, beating, confinement, threats of violence toward the victim and victim's family, forced drug use, and shame." (Skinner, E.B., 2008)
- \* On average a victim is forced to have sex with 25-48 men. (Polaris Project, n.d.)

### Possible Solutions:

- \* Elimination of derogatory terms such as prostitute, slut, whore, or sex worker being used to describe victims.
- \* Reduce the negative stigmatization of victims as a "social evil." (Vijayarasa, R., 2010)
- \* State and family reintegration program specifically designed for sex trafficked victims
- \* "Efforts must include both eliminating gender discrimination and curbing the demand for commercial sex."
- \* Criminalizing those who purchase sex instead of the prostituted persons; therefore holding buyers accountable and providing second chances for victims.
- \* Increased awareness of how to work with sex trafficking victims for Human Services professionals.
- \* Increased awareness and knowledge of sex trafficking in the United States to the general public.

*"Because youths who have been involved in illegal activities, including those in commercial sex industries, have traditionally been viewed as offenders or delinquents, there are still some who fail to see these individuals as victims."* Kotrla, K., 2010, pp. 184)