

# Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery

by Marie Koh

In this incredible age of the internet where the purchase of goods online is but a click away from a lap-top, a virtual world of the indulgences of the flesh emerges; it is one of a much darker kind — the cybercrime of child sex trafficking.



This heinous criminal activity of ‘selling and buying’ of online sex trafficking has found its way into the home of almost anyone who possesses a computer device. This underworld of internet perpetrators operates in broad daylight every day under the guise of dating agencies, video game chat rooms, forums, and websites of all kinds. A perpetrator has the ability to reach a child without the consent of a parent or being recognized as a threat. In addition to this, pedophile rings circulate in rich and poor neighborhoods alike, they can pose as a ‘friend,’ relative or neighbor. They can be living on your street, work at your local food store, school, a favorite charity organization, and many times, they just look like regular folks.

Tragically, human trafficking is big business. It generates a staggering \$150 billion dollars per year in revenue, second only to drug and weapon trafficking worldwide. A trafficker can earn up to \$250,000 per trafficked person, a highly profitable enterprise with low risks to the perpetrator. Approximately 25 million people around the world have been deprived of their rights and freedom due to human trafficking. For too long, traffickers have been allowed to move and exploit humans with impunity, even within their own country of residence where it is estimated that 77% of victims come from and are exploited.

Veteran Navy SEAL “DEVGRU,” Sniper, Graig “Sawman” Sawyer, founder of [vets4childrescue.org](http://vets4childrescue.org) explains that child sex trafficking makes more revenue annually than Netflix and YouTube, and warns society that there is a thriving epidemic of child sex trafficking happening in the United States and around the world. His documentary, [Contraland](#), exposes the proliferation of pedophile rings across states and what can be done to end this cycle of terror in our communities.

## **What Does Human Trafficking Look Like?**

The United States regards “trafficking in persons,” “human trafficking,” and “modern slavery” to be interchangeable umbrella terms that refer to both sex and labor trafficking. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, as amended, and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime describe this compelled service using a number of different terms, including involuntary servitude, slavery, debt bondage, and forced labor.

The Palermo Protocol defines “trafficking in persons” as:

*The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of*

*others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.*

Child soldiering is also considered a form of human trafficking when recruited unlawfully through force, fraud, or coercion to work as messengers, guards, medics, cooks, or porters. Many child soldiers are used for combat in rebel groups and are often sexually abused.

### **Top Nations for Human Trafficking**

This is what Geoff Rogers, co-founder of the *United States Institute Against Human Trafficking*, said in an interview with Fox News. “We have a major issue here in the United States. The United States is the number one consumer of sex worldwide. So we are driving the demand as a society.”

He goes on to say, “ We’re also driving the demand with our own people, with our own kids, so there are tremendous numbers of kids, a multitude of kids that are being sold as sex slaves today in America. These are American kids, American born, 50% to 60% of them coming out of the foster care industry.”

A report by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services shows that more than 300,000 of America’s youth are vulnerable to sex trafficking, an estimated 199,000 cases arise within U.S. Borders every year.

The most disturbing fact about human sex trafficking is that age holds no boundaries - Brook Bello, founder of [More Too Life](#) from Florida says, “ We work with victims that are 3 years old and up. The average victim that we work with, that’s over 18, started being raped at three. Trafficking in America, if you are trafficked in the United States, 85% of victims that are trafficked here are from here.”

According to Fox News, the State Department reported, the top 3 nations of origin for victims of human trafficking in 2018 were the United States, Mexico, and the Philippines.

Human trafficking also targets countries plagued with poverty, war, and oppression such as:

Bangladesh - where forced prostitution, forced labor, organ, and ova egg selling is the norm. People are trafficked to India, China, and other countries. Some of the worst human rights abuses occur.

Brazil - women are trafficked into prostitution for tourists’ demand. Men are trafficked into forced labor with low pay.

Haiti - is a tourist attraction who come from the U.S. And Europe. Human trafficking is huge, there are various forms of slavery and prostitution with girls as young as 12 who are paid \$1 in exchange for sex with a tourist. Orphanages are vulnerable to human trafficking and foster care systems and homes.

Pakistan - bonded labor is common where trafficked people work in factories, industries, mines, or farms. Prostitution rates are high.

India - forced labor, prostitution, forced organ selling is very high. Many girls are forced to become surrogate mothers and child trafficking is frequent. They are forced into the workforce, street begging, and child sex trafficking.

Sri Lanka - for prostitution and military forces. Children often used in war, sexual exploitation, or domestic labor.

Nepal - almost 10,000 Nepali women and girls are trafficked into India each year. Children are often used in the labor force. Nepal has many human trafficking routes that connect to countries around the world.

Uganda - Poverty drives rebels into trafficking young boys into the military where sexual slavery of girls and organ selling is common.

Ghana - Ghana is poor but has many mines rich in gold. Trafficked children are forced into hard labor in the mines, fishing, agriculture, and or prostitution.

China - The urban-rural gap is huge in China and human trafficking is used for forced labor or prostitution. Poor people are paid very little for their labor and are often exploited overseas. In recent years organ selling has become prevalent as well as human rights abuses in prison camps.

It cannot be denied that human trafficking and child sex trafficking, in particular, have a catastrophic impact on society at large. The physical and psychological damage caused is often irreversible and can lead victims to self-deprivation and ultimately, suicide. Human trafficking undermines national security, especially, in countries with 'open border' policies with globalist and socialist agendas; it skews markets and promotes transnational crimes and terrorism.

Human trafficking is a global problem and because governments across the globe are reluctant to address the issue when it happens in their own country, the exploitation of adults and children continues to grow. If domestic laws are not applied and enforced the business of human trafficking in all its forms will continue to thrive.

In ending, I want to take a moment to thank all individuals, charity organizations, Christian churches, patriots, first responders, and the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, and his team for committing to saving the unborn and the vulnerable among us.

President Trump's declaration when he joined office:

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD, TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by the virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim January 2020 as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, culminating in the annual observation of National Freedom Day February 1, 2020. I call upon industry associations, law enforcement, private-businesses, faith-based and other organizations of civil society, schools and families, and all Americans to recognize our vital roles in ending all forms of modern slavery and to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities aimed at ending and preventing all forms of human trafficking.*

*"Our country will not rest until we have put these vile organizations out of business, and rescued every last victim - and we will not stop until we have stamped out the menace of human trafficking once for all."*

Links

<https://www.state.gov/reports/2019-trafficking-in-persons-report/>

<https://www.state.gov/20-ways-you-can-help-fight-human-trafficking/>

[The Dangers of Globalism](#)