

## Human Trafficking

Name

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In the modern context, the act of human trafficking is considered as a particular form of slavery where there is unlawful exchange of people with products of other forms of economic gains. According to Merrill (2013), there has been the prevalence of human trafficking targeting children and adults. Young girls and women are in more danger of being trafficked as compared to their male counterparts. It is a form of crime that is conducted in discrete and concealed manner which makes it hard for the authorities to stop it. During human trafficking, the communication between the victims is cut to ensure that they don't raise the alarm and put the trafficker in the danger of being caught and apprehended. Deception and coercion are known to be prevalent forms of gaining control over the unsuspecting victims before ferrying them for miles to where the trafficker is expected to deliver them. Human trafficking leaves serious psychological and sometimes physical injuries to the victims should they be lucky enough to be rescued. As this essay confirms, one of the major reasons as to why human trafficking is prevalent is high level of poverty that place people in desperate situations.

Poverty can be described as the lack of essential needs or unequal distribution of resources or jobs which leaves some groups of people with adversities that can be hard to overcome. The scarcity of necessities compel people to engage in crimes such as human trafficking. Besides, the role of women in terms of facilitating family expenses has become integral in the current society. There is, thus, excessive pressure that is bestowed on women as they are expected to step up and take care of the family when the man is incapacitated to do so. For that reason, they become vulnerable and traffickers view as favorite victims.

There is overreliance on social security schemes by poor people in efforts to try and salvage themselves from the shackles of poverty. The schemes are not as helpful as they should because they are not rooted to the neediest people in the society. The lack of jobs has also been a factor resulting to increased levels of poverty. In cases where people can secure jobs, many of them are underpaying and cannot cater for basic needs. What can prevent such people from engaging in criminal activities such as human trafficking? There is only one answer to such a question, nothing. Therefore, the urge to pull out of poverty compels men and women to engage in human trafficking, either as the traffickers or as the victims.

Besides, the same issues that compel women to fall victims to human trafficking affect the young men who have unrealizable or no source of income. As they seek for sustainable livelihood, the despair takes them to the hands of traffickers who take advantage of the situation without hesitation. There are lured through lucrative promises for job opportunities that could change their lives forever. In the end, they discover that it was just a plan to exploit their desperate situation to be trafficked.

Lastly, it is evident poverty in Utah has significantly played part in the increase of human trafficking. The increased level of unemployment in the regions, especially for the youths and women has contributed to increased levels of poverty. Thus, human traffickers lure them through lucrative jobs that can transform their lives and make it better whereas they want to kidnap them for trafficking. To curb the issue of human trafficking, the stakeholders must address the issues of poverty because it is by far the major weakness drugs trafficker exploit to get their targets.



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