How Parents Can Protect Their Children From Trafficking

Presentation by Bukola Oriola



What Human Trafficking is

- Human trafficking is modern-day slavery and involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act.
- It can be in the form of prostitution, domestic servitude, or other types of forced labor.
- ❖ Victims are found in legitimate and illegitimate labor industries, including sweatshops, massage parlors, agricultural fields, restaurants, hotels, and domestic service.

Types of Human Trafficking

There are three main types of human trafficking:

- Labor: Exploiting people for their labor.
- Sex: Exploiting people for their body.
- Organ: Exploiting people, either living or dead, for their body parts, organs, and/or tissue.

How Human Trafficking Happens

Human trafficking occurs in three main ways. It can happen as a result of:

- Force: When someone is beaten or forced through other forms of violence to comply.
- Fraud: When someone is promised a good life, job, marriage, etc. but did not fulfil the promise, rather the person's wage is being garnished or the person is subjected to become a sex slave, etc.
- Coercion: When someone's family or loved ones are being threatened if victim does not comply.

Statistics

- In 2012, the United Nations reported that 2.4 million people are trafficked around the world.
- The U.S. Department of State has estimated that between 600,000 and 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders each year.
- ❖ The International Labor Organization (ILO) estimates that approximately 12.3 million people at any given time are victims of human trafficking.
- The Department of State also estimates that between 14,500 and 17,500 people are trafficked into the United States each year.

Child Sex Trafficking

- According to the Polaris Project, Child Sex Trafficking occurs when a person under the age of 18 is induced into commercial sex act.
- The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children also showed that approximately 100,000 children are at risk in the United States.
- The entry age into sex trafficking is 12 to 14.
- Minnesota is ranked #13 by the FBI in the U.S.

The National Human Trafficking Resource Center 2013 Statistics

The data provided by the NHTRC showed that it received:

- ❖31,945 phone calls
- 1,669 Online Tip Forms
- ❖ 1,488 Emails
- 787 SMS Threads (Launched on March 28, 2013)
- Victims demographics showed that there were 1,638 minor victims of human trafficking identified.

How To Protect Your Children From Trafficking

These are some of the ways that you can protect your children from becoming victims of trafficking.

- Spiritual Nurturing
- Open Communication
- Use of Technology
- Using school's PTO to create human trafficking awareness in schools.

Spiritual Nurturing

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

And thou shall teach them diligently unto thy children, and shall talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

- Deuteronomy 6:6-7

Spiritual Nurturing Contd.

- The Word of God: Teaching children the word of God is a great "tool for teaching them how to overcome their enemies – Satan, the world and the flesh..."
- The Power of Prayer: Praying is an effective way of showing children how to trust God for protection against all evil, including human trafficking.

Open Communication

Creating an open communication funnel is a way to know a lot about your children. Give them the chance to ask you questions. Let them know it is okay to ask any question.

- Know your children's friends and family: Who is your child's friend at school? Do you know his/her families?
- Talk about human trafficking at home, in the car, during play time, etc. Make use of every possible opportunity to educate your children about human trafficking.

Use of Technology

Use technology to your advantage to protect your children from pimps and traffickers.

- Install tracking GPS apps on their phones or a monitoring system on your phone, where you can actually track what they do, or where they are.
- ❖ Talk about the social media safety. How they can use Facebook or other social media sites without falling prey into the hands of traffickers who are posing as friends online. Help or show them how to set up their privacy settings such that someone will not use their pictures for crime online.

Use of Technology contd.

"Know your child's screen names and passwords, even if you have your child write them down and put them in a sealed envelope. If anything happens, you will be able to access your child's accounts to trace who he or she has been communicating with."

Using School's PTO to Create Human Trafficking Awareness

Using the school system to create awareness will keep your children and their friends both educated and safe outside of school. You can advise the PTO to:

- Organize human trafficking awareness in school by inviting a local organization to talk to the children.
- Encourage teachers to incorporate human trafficking awareness in the school's curriculum, either as part of the class activity, a filed trip to an awareness event, advocacy event at the capitol, or a visit to a local organization's location.
- Encourage PTO to send little snippet of information home through the school's newsletters.

Other ways to protect your children

- Encourage your kids to stay in the group at public places.
- Avoid Acceptance for short term employment from strangers.
- Pay attention to marks such as tattoos on their bodies.
- Find out where they got the gifts that you did not buy for them.
- Pay attention to their emotions.

Take Action Now: Visit http://www.take25.org/



Sources

- Polaris Project
- ❖ National Human Trafficking Resource Center
- Book, Raising Godly Children by Pastor Faith Oyedepo
- My News 13

Sources' Links

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Thank You!

The Enitan Story is a nonprofit in Minnesota with a mission to advocate for victims and empower survivors, www.enitan.org

Imprisoned Show is a local TV show set out to educate the public about human trafficking featuring expert opinions, advocates, organizations and emphasizing the help available to victims, www.imprisonedshow.com

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