

# Human Trafficking: Overview

“The illegal movement of people, typically for the purpose of forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation.”

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING MYTHBUSTER

www.LIRS.org/eht

**myth**  
Human trafficking is just another word for prostitution

worldwide

**4.5 million people** are trafficked into sex work  
**16.4 million people** suffer from other forced labor

COMMON TYPES OF LABOR TRAFFICKING IN THE U.S.

FARM WORK DOMESTIC SERVITUDE FACTORY WORK

78%

sex trafficking other forced labor

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### Ways We can All Help:

- Call National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1-888-373-7888 to connect with a service provider in your area.
- Report a tip with information on potential human trafficking activity.
- Take Human Trafficking awareness training.

<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/training/index.htm>

- Organize a fundraiser or donated items to anti-trafficking organizations in your area.
- Spread the word within your community! Ask to include Modern Day Slavery in school curriculums and/or activities.

### A Story:

Down in Florida there was a young girl named Keisha who ran away from her foster family after being sexually assaulted. In an attempt to find her biological family she teamed up with an older man who would help her. However to pay for her expenses she would have to engage in commercial sex with customers of his choice. The man took Keisha back to Florida insisting she had not earned enough money. Here he continued to physically abuse her, threaten her, and use her for commercial sex. Soon Keisha was arrested and then returned to her foster family. However she ran away again, and feeling as if she had no choice returned to the man and again engaged in commercial sex. She was arrested again, and this time fortunately she was able to get the help she needed from a group called *Polaris*. Keisha is now well on her way to completing her GED.

Unfortunately not all victims are able to escape their situa-



## Facts About Human Trafficking:

1. At least 12.3 million people are trafficked worldwide.
2. More than 1 million children are victims of trafficking.
3. Women and girls make up over 95% of the population being trafficked
4. People are trafficked in 161 countries, including the United States.
5. Human trafficking is a \$32 billion industry worldwide.
6. On average, only 1 person is convicted for every 800 trafficking cases worldwide.

## Vulnerable Populations/ Situations that Lead to Trafficking:

- Poverty
- Lack of resources
- Lack of social standing
- Corrupt government and police forces

## What is Done:

Deals with the recruitment, transportation, transfer, and receipt of persons being trafficked

## How it is Done:

Refers to the threat of, or use of force, abduction, abuse of power, as well as the payment of a person in control of the trafficked victims.

People are...

- Lured away from their homes with promises of money, land, and legitimate job opportunities.
- Or taken from their homes by force, and sent to places with hundreds of others, where



## Why it is Done:

For the prostitution, forced labor, or slavery of others.

Two primary purposes for which women are trafficked include:

- Sexual exploitation
- Domestic servitude

Jobs may include:

- Working in sweatshops
- Working as servants in homes
- Prostitution

