



Virginia General Assembly
Commission on the Prevention of Human Trafficking
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The Project to End Human Trafficking
www.endhumantrafficking.org

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Overview of Presentation

- Human Trafficking Defined
- International Framework
- Overview of Human Trafficking: What We Know
- Combating Trafficking at State and Community Levels in Virginia
- The Project to End Human Trafficking
- Collaboration

Human Trafficking is Slavery

Trafficking in humans refers to all acts related to the recruitment, transport, sale, or purchase of individuals through force, fraud or other coercive means for the purpose of economic exploitation.

(UN Protocol on Trafficking, 2000)

An International Framework

- In September 2000, at the United Nations Millennium Summit, there was agreement to a set of time bound (2015) and measurable goals for combating poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation and discrimination against women.
- Placed at the heart of the global agenda, they are now called the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
- The MDGs provide a framework for the entire UN system to work coherently together towards a common end.
- The UN Development Group (UNDG) will help ensure that the MDGs remain at the center of those efforts.

Millennium Development Goals

- 1. Eradicate Extreme Hunger & Poverty**
- 2. Achieve Universal Primary Education**
- 3. Promote Gender Equality**
- 4. Reduce Child Mortality**
- 5. Improve Maternal Health**
- 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria (& other diseases)**
- 7. Ensure Environmental Sustainability**
- 8. Develop a Global Partnership for development**

An Overview of Trafficking: What We Know

How Many People are Enslaved?

- International Labor Organization (ILO) estimates there are 12.3 million people in forced labor, bonded labor, forced child labor, and sexual servitude.
- Research by Dr. Kevin Bales indicates that 27 million people are enslaved worldwide at any given time (1999).
- Dr. Kathryn Farr's research shows that 4 million people are enslaved worldwide (2005).

In the United States

- o The United States Department of State estimates that 600,000 to 800,000 individuals are trafficked across *international* borders each year (TIP, 2006, 2007, 2008).
- o Of these, the State Department reports that 14,500 to 17,500 people are trafficked into the United States each year.

Who is Trafficked into Slavery?

- Data suggest that women and girls comprise 80% of the individuals trafficked across international borders.
- Approximately 70% of victims are trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation.

TIP Report (2005, 2006, 2007, 2008)

Human Trafficking in Contrast to Other Criminal Industries

- Trafficking in persons is the ***fastest-growing*** and ***second largest criminal industry*** in the world today.
- It is second in size only to drug trafficking and (fluctuates from 2nd to 3rd along with the illegal arms industry).

Forms of Human Trafficking/Slavery

Labor Trafficking

Domestic servitude

Agricultural labor

Sweatshop labor

Janitorial services

Food service industry

Begging

Sex Trafficking

Street work

Brothels

Massage parlors

Dancers

Pornography

State Level Anti-Trafficking Laws

- 35 + states have passed anti-trafficking measures
- 33 state laws include criminal provisions
- *A minority* of state laws include crucial victim protection and prevention measures

Human Trafficking – Virginia

➤ Four Washington, DC NGOs have identified 42 cases in Virginia since December 2006

➤ The FBI has identified the Washington DC area including Northern Virginia as one of the 14 major child sex trafficking centers in United States

Community Level Action: Spotlight on Hampton Roads

- Hampton Roads is home to the third largest port on the east coast and home to one of the world's largest military bases
- Norfolk International Terminals
 - Since January 2008 over 1.4 million tons of cargo has transported through the terminals (6.6% increase since 2007)
- Norfolk Southern Railway - Operates 21,300 miles of track in 22 states
- South Eastern Virginia is unique in that it includes rural, urban and suburban characteristics
- Virginia Beach has a growing Eastern European student population
- The Central American gang MS13, as reported by the FBI, have been increasing their presence in South Eastern Virginia

Human Trafficking Virginia

The Report Card on State Action to Combat International Trafficking issued by the Center for Women Policy Studies

Criminalization: F

Victim Protection and Assistance: F

Statewide Task Force/Assessment: F

Regulating International Marriage Brokers: F

Regulating Travel Service Providers That Facilitate Sex Tourism: F

Moving Forward in Virginia: Suggestion I

- Pass Alcohol Beverage Addendum
- Example in Houston Texas: SB1287 (9/1/2007)
Requires posting of national human trafficking hotline number in English and Spanish in certain licensed premises if they don't hold a food and beverage certificate: beer on- or off-premises, beer and wine on- or off-premises, mixed beverage, private club, excursion boats and railroad cars.

Moving Forward in Virginia: Suggestion II

- Mandate Training for
 - All Emergency Personnel
 - All Levels of Law Enforcement Personnel
- Sample Curriculum Outline:
 - Define slavery and human trafficking
 - Describe the types of HT
 - Identification/Screening
 - Specifics of assisting HT victims/survivors
 - What particular evidence is needed to prosecute offenders, beyond victim testimony

Moving Forward in Virginia: Suggestion III

- Create State-Wide and Community-Based Coalitions
- Create Law Enforcement/Emergency Personnel Task Forces
- **Sample Members**
 - Non-government orgs - Government orgs
 - Faith-Based groups - Immigrant/Refugee orgs

Moving Forward in Virginia: Suggestion IV

- Raising Awareness in the Community
 - Communicate HT information to all lower level civic administrations: City Courts & Councils; District Courts & Magistrates; Local Officials
 - Collaborate with Community Groups
 - Advertise HT Info and Hotline Numbers Commercials; Billboards; Radio Stations; Local Talk Shows; Churches

The Project to End Human Trafficking

- Involved in anti-slavery movement for the past five years
- Work nationally and internationally
- Involved in coalition building, supervision of victim services and educational outreach
- Our model

Collaboration

- Pass Alcohol Beverage Addendum for Virginia
- Example:
 - **Houston Texas: SB1287** (9/1/2007) Requires posting of national human trafficking hotline number in English and Spanish in certain licensed premises if they don't hold a food and beverage certificate: beer on- or off-premises, beer and wine on- or off-premises, mixed beverage, private club, excursion boats and railroad cars.
- Next Steps?

In Closing

- Virginia has the opportunity to lead the way for other states
 - Pass legislation requiring posting of national hotline number
 - Mandate comprehensive training for law enforcement & legal personnel
 - Statewide & community coalition building
 - Victim Service Provision – MOAs
 - Statewide initiative to Raise Awareness
 - Provide increased attention on areas of VA with unique vulnerability (e.g., southeastern region)