

Human Trafficking

Student's Name

Institution Affiliation

Human Trafficking

Statement of the Problem

Historical context and perspective

The trafficking can happen within the borders of a country or may involve movements across various countries. Women, children, and even men are trafficked for various reasons, ranging from exploitative and forced labor in factories and farms, sexual exploitation in households, clubs, streets, to forced marriages (US Department of State, 2020). Trafficking is done in almost all parts of the globe. Human traffickers usually prey on the members of the society who are weak, inferior, or isolated. Inequalities among countries, very restrictive policies on immigration, an ever-increasing high demand for cheap and unregulated labor are also among the causal factors. Other factors that increase the victims' vulnerability include violence, political instability, poverty and discrimination, and aspiring to have certain lifestyles. Most of the trafficked victims report that migrations due to labor are widespread in their home areas. This shows a relationship between either being trafficked or one being from a region that labor migration is common or even being trafficked and having a perception that labor migration is a prevalent practice in your region.

The exploitation of people for economic and other social gains through human trafficking has a very long history. The global efforts in addressing the issue can be traced to at least a century or so ago, just before the emergence of the existing human rights system. At that period, the world moved away from human exploitation through anti-slavery campaigns and the outlawing of involuntary servitude (US Department of State, 2020). Although the slave chattel came to an end, modern-day slavery, human trafficking began. In this new form of slavery, there is no master-servant relationship but legal ownership. Instead, there is an illegal system of

control and practices such as forced labor, forced prostitution, and forced marriages are enforced. A wave of mail order brides emerged, and marriage agencies emerged as a tool for recruiting women. Women and children became more vulnerable as this intersected with traditional notions about sex, marriage, and the female gender. However, it is only during the last couple of decades that human trafficking became a major concern.

Elevate your papers with pro help!

- ✓ Expert-written content – no AI involved.
- ✓ Strict adherence to your instructions and academic standards.
- ✓ On-time delivery, even for urgent tasks.



Amelia D. | Sydney, AU

Skilled writers, excellent communication and they deliver on time. 5/5!!!



(12,000 reviews)



Description of the current scope, magnitude, distribution of problem/issue

In the modern social system, sexual exploitation is the most common form of human trafficking, with victims being predominantly underage girls and women. Besides, the women themselves make up the most significant percentage of the traffickers. This is an unfortunate occurrence, since in a typical situation, women are expected to defend and stand for each other. In some parts of the globe, women trafficking has become a norm (Donna et al. 2010). However, human trafficking prevalence in and within the United States is challenging to determine and estimate for several reasons. First is because of the activity's covert nature, accurate information on the prevalence, nature, and geography of the human trafficking activities is difficult to calculate. Their traffickers very closely guard victims who have been trafficked. Most international victims do not have any valid immigration documents, and the domestic servants who have been trafficked always remain very much invisible in the private homes. These

servants have been trained and forced to remain invisible to world. Those with valid immigration documents are confiscated by their employers as a way to exercise power, movement limitations and control over them. Besides, private, and even unregulated businesses usually act as a front for the back-end operations of trafficking, making the crime very hard to identify. Also, the available data is in most instances non-comparable, has duplicate counts, is limited to specific groups of people, has inconsistency in its recording due to belief differences regarding the human trafficking problem.

According to the international labor organization data, about 80% of the internationally trafficked victims are younger than 18 years. Half of these are mostly girls who are trafficked into the prostitution and sex industry (US Department of State, 2020). The international labor organization (ILO) also estimates that there are about 12.3 million victims who have been trafficked into forced labors or in involuntary servitudes around the globe at any given period. In the US, the country's youths are considered more vulnerable to trafficking and sexual exploitation. However, regardless of immigration status, gender, age, or citizenship, labor, and sex trafficking victims are prone to coercion, fraud, misuse, and force.

Current social and political perspectives, stakeholders, parameters of debate.

Human trafficking has resurfaced as the modern form of slavery. Government, religious organizations, societies, and other stakeholders have a hard task in searching the origins of the vice and ending it for good (American Civil Liberties Union, n.d). The modern form of slavery, human trafficking, brings a trafficker victim relationship . The victims are regarded as objects instead of a subject, as a commodity and not as a fellow human being. The victims are dragged into an endless cycle of toil, hardship and

struggle, making their freedom an impossibility. These victims are denied all the basic human rights in such a way that they start viewing them as privileges. They are denied freedom of expression, freedom of speech and free will.

A human rights approach to the issue and other UN human right driven initiatives for the same course. Regional and international bodies have emphasized human rights and other legal measures in their approach to dealing with human trafficking issues (American Civil Liberties Union, n.d). From a social, political, and stakeholders' perspective, there has been a recent surge of interest in human trafficking. This has led to a broader scope on its engagement from the initial focus on criminal characteristics and human rights to other incremental concerns like border security, business, and economic concerns.

RESPONSES AND STRATEGIES

Historical context/evolution of policy and practices

The human trafficking concept was introduced in the judicial discourse for the first time in the 20th century. It reappeared again with a much greater force in the late 19th century. Having no distinction between a diverse range of reasons involved in human trafficking, most governments and other stakeholders for the previous few decades have pointed out a few issues concerning human trafficking in response to a collection of different issues (US State Department, 2020). These include the international migration of labor, victimizing children and women, the effects of conflicts on vulnerable groups of people, and refugee-related issues.

Notably, the trafficking of humans was first introduced in the United States as a white slavery context. Laws and agreements such as the white slave traffic convention of 1910 all used the word trafficking in denoting forced movements of women and girls across the border for commercial sexual exploitation purposes. For over a decade now, the US congress has been actively engaging in the legislations that counter any domestic human trafficking activities (US State Department, 2020). In the 20th century, the human trafficking issue slightly shifted its focus. An international convention on the suppression of trafficking on girls and women omitted references to the white slave trade and thus recognizing that human trafficking victims could be of any race, gender, except for male adults, and thereby expanding the definition of human trafficking. In a different convention, the trafficking and suppression of full-age women again limited human borders' definition to only across the borders. The gendered conception of victims of human trafficking and human trafficking typecasting as a smuggling act that involved sexual exploitation was also cultivated. In around 2000, the human trafficking concept was broadened. It thus became a term that is now similar to modern-day slavery in general as opposed to the initial white slavery of children and women across the national borders for commercial sexual exploitation.

However, there are meaningful divisions in how human trafficking is analyzed and studied, envisioned, understood, and finally combatted. Trafficking activities have continued to mean different things to diverse groups of people, NGOs, and governments (US State Department, 2020). Thus, the different groups manufacture and circulate different data on human trafficking that reflects how they understand the term. Such a division creates and also encourages misunderstandings about the nature of the topic,

how human trafficking operates, and the ideal ways of developing the best anti-human trafficking policies to fight the problem.

The current scope and state of policy and practice

Issues about human trafficking have been raised and discussed in different high-profile international conferences, including the United Nations general assembly, the global conference on human rights in Vienna, and the global conference on women in China. In response to the issues raised about human trafficking, the United Nations came up with a UN protocol to prevent, punish, and suppress Trafficking in Persons, mostly underage children and women, in 2000. That UN protocol became a global tool used to define and give a foundation for the coordination of the international anti-human trafficking policies.

The US government has made several critical steps to combat the trafficking of humans both locally and internationally. For instance, in 2000, a trafficking victim Protection Act (TVPA) was enacted into law. The Act was later amended in 2003 to a Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (Siskin et al. 2015). This Act is very innovative since it motivates the victims of human trafficking to look for some assistance from the United States' authorities and get some potential protection in running away from the servitude. Besides, the government also through the aid of the victims can bring the human traffickers to justice. The Act does not need on to cross the national borders for trafficking. It gives an expanded definition of the crime, including a very high sensitivity to generally rough working conditions like debt bondage as well as other types of forced labor. In addition, the Act also goes ahead and gives the definitions of coercion for the cases relating to human trafficking.

TVPA has been reauthorized twice and the US Justice Department report give a summary of the changes that have been made via the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization ACT of 2008. The first change includes the creation of other crimes for the people who obstruct any investigations and prosecutions that relate to the human trafficking (Siskin et al. 2015). The second change is the lowering of some specific criminal intent requirements in facilitating of the prosecution of forced trafficking and the trafficking of minors. Others include the increasing of penalties for conspiring to commit any human trafficking crime and also broadening the definitions of serious harm as well as use of force.

Besides, the US government has created new mandates about anti-trafficking in several of its departments. Some of these departments include that of justice, homeland security, health and human services, and labor. Other than the strengthening of its internal anti-trafficking policies, the United States government is also embarking on different programs that are designed to curb trafficking around the world (Siskin et al. 2015). For instance, the state departments' trafficking in persons report looks for data on trafficking around the globe and ranks every county in relation to the practices of trafficking in the country. Thus, this report is used to draw the attention of the degree of trafficking practiced in certain countries and then come up with local or regional anti human trafficking policies and legislations then encourage them on their implementations. The report specifically aims at diagnosing the efforts of the world to implement the polices that help in the prevention, protection, and prosecution of human trafficking. Hopefully, more policies will be put into place to carb this horrible vice so that women and young girls can be saved from forced prostitution and sex trafficking. More institutions should

also use the already existing data to predict future human trafficking trends, which gives countries a step ahead of the traffickers thus preventing rise in trafficking cases.

OZessay

References

American Civil Liberties Union. (n.d.). Human Trafficking: Modern Enslavement of the

Immigrant Women in the United States. <https://www.aclu.org/other/human-trafficking-modern-enslavement-immigrant-women-united-states>

Finklea, K., Fernandes-Alcantara, A. L., & Siskin, A. (2015). Domestic human trafficking legislation in the 114th Congress.

Territo, L., & Kirkham, G. (Eds.). (2010). International sex trafficking of women & children: Understanding the global epidemic. Looseleaf Law Publications.

US State Department. (2020). Trafficking in Persons Report. <https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020-TIP-Report-Complete-062420-FINAL.pdf>

OZessay
Australian Student's Choice

Get your paper written by a professional today!

OZessay has helped several generations of students achieve academic excellence and can help you, too.

[Get started](#)



Expert-written content – no AI involved.



On-time delivery, even for urgent requests.



Strict adherence to your instructions and academic standards.



Polished, plagiarism-free content based on credible sources.