

Sex Traffic King



violation of

HUMAN RIGHTS

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DEMI VONN
'2013

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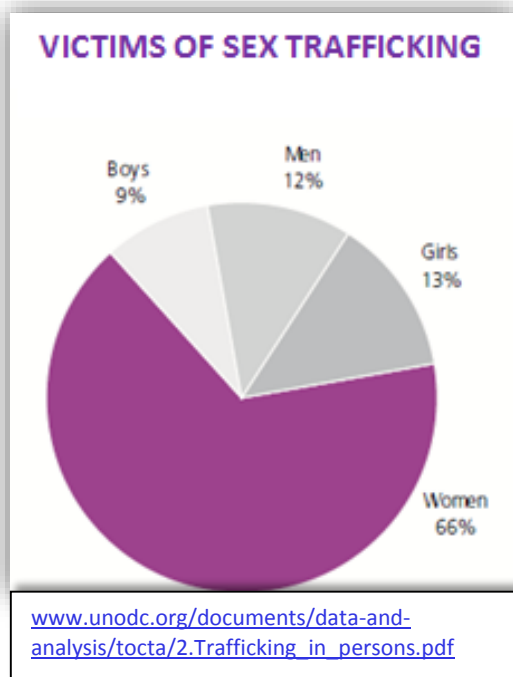
True Story

Nadia, a young, poor mother from Moldova, met Katrina at the local bar. After talking for a while, Katrina told Nadia that a friend of hers could offer her a job in Italy, but as the positions had to be filled quickly, Nadia would have to leave within some days. One week later Nadia said the painful goodbye to her 6 year old son, who wondered if his mother was mad at him. "No, I'm just going to make some money, I'll be right back." She said. At Katrina's house she met 6 other girls who all together went on a long car drive through several countries. "A guide" kept Nadia's passport, so it wouldn't get lost. After some days without food, the hungry and tired girls arrived at a house in the middle of nowhere. They had to undress themselves to check whether they were healthy. Next, they were appointed to their employees who took them. "You cost me a lot of money, give good sex to these men, it's your job until we move to Italy" her employee said. When Nadia refused, a blade was pressed against her throat. Clients abused and tortured her. At the age of 22, she was put upon a rubber raft, and got dumped 20 meters from the Italian shore. Where she was left lonely and disoriented. "In Italy they don't mind old hens." He said.¹

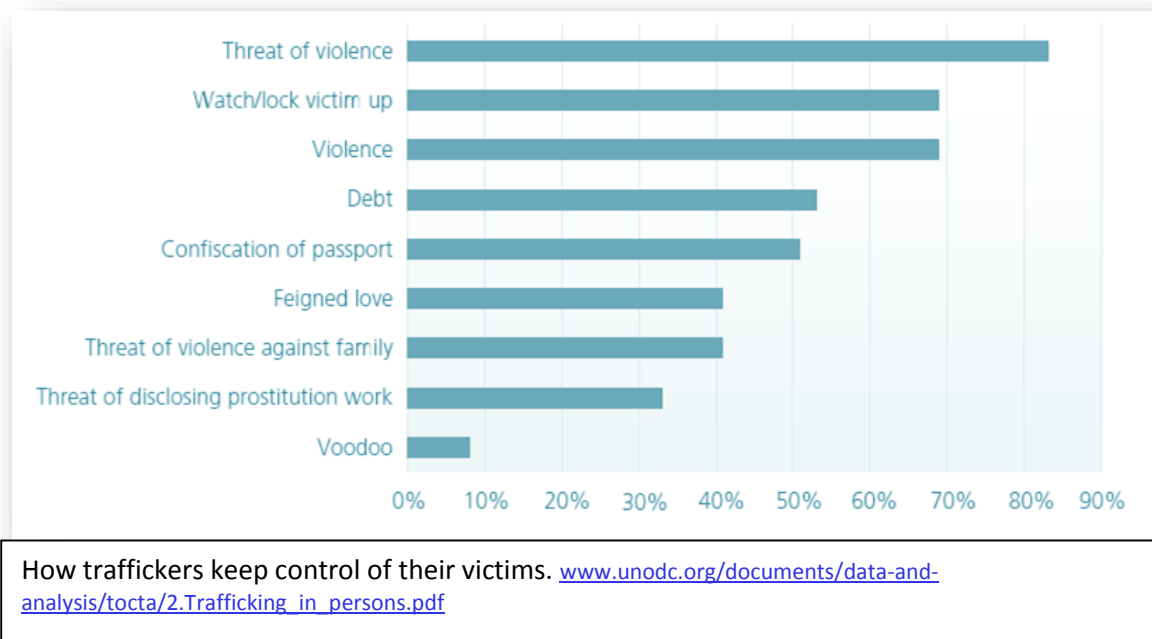
Nadia is a former victim of sex trafficking. Every year, thousands of women are being trafficked all over the world. They all have their own, hideous story ...



¹ <http://www.notforsalecampaign.org/about/slavery/real-stories-from-europe/>



Most victims of sex trafficking are vulnerable, poor people, seeking for a better future.²³ Traffickers promise these people a job in another country, saying that positions have to be filled quickly. This is done to prevent them from having time to think about consequences. Desperate for a better future, their agreements are impulsive. Quickly after accepting the job opportunity, victims are transported to places all over the world. Victims never get their promised job, instead they are forced into prostitution. Traffickers push their weak victims further down by means of manipulation, insulting, threatening, and even using physical violence.⁴ This is done until the victim loses the will to escape or seek for help. Traffickers take their victims to many different countries, to make them confused and disoriented, they also keep their victim's passport to make sure she can't flee to another country.



² www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/ittmigdev2005/P15_IOMelaniuk.pdf

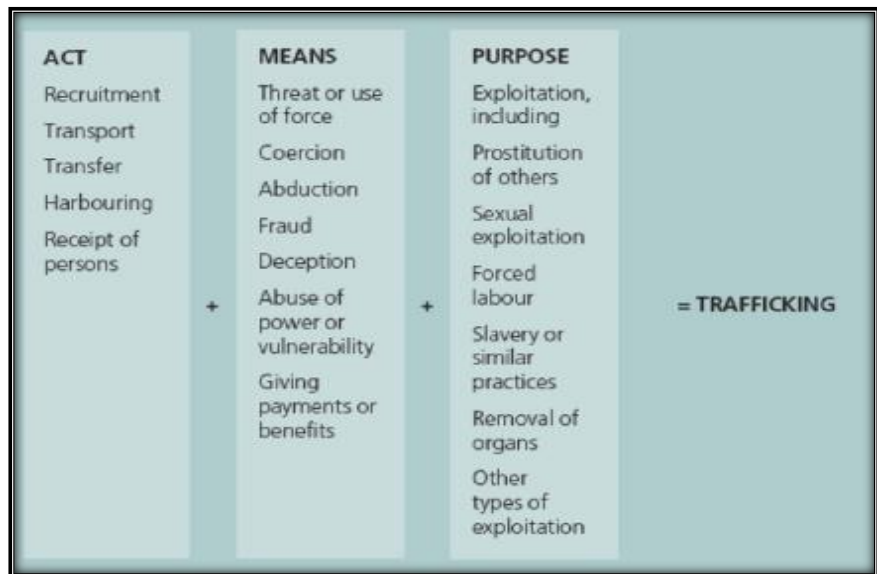
³ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-19984615>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ClOpws3XgwY>

⁴ <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/search.html?q=human+trafficking+anually&site=unodc&btnG=Search&site=unodc&proxyreload=1&ulang=&sort=date%3AD%3AL%3Ad1&entqr=0&entqrm=0&ud=1>

Sex trafficking on global scale

Human trafficking has many different purposes which are best described in the box on the right. Sex trafficking is one of the purposes of human trafficking.⁵

The ILO (International Labor organization) estimates there are about 2,450,000 victims of human trafficking in general. 79% of this number involves sexual exploitation, which means that there are 1,935,500 victims of sex trafficking worldwide. These victims make up the €20.0 billion industry⁶. Another UN report⁷ identifies 127 countries of origin (where victims come from) and 137 destination countries (where victims are transported to)(see page 6 for maps). The fact that so many countries are involved in this business, shows that sex trafficking is a global problem. Even though information comes from reliable sources, it is hard to say whether data and statistics are precise, because the collection of data is extremely complicated as seen as many governments are hiding information. (read causes and effects).⁸



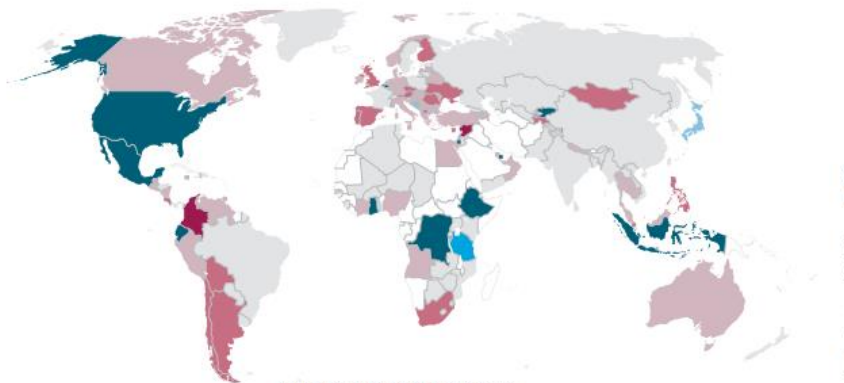
⁵ <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/what-is-human-trafficking.html>

⁶ www.unodc.org/documents/publications/TiP_Europe_EN_LORES.pdf

⁷ [http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/Trafficking in Persons 2012_web.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/Trafficking_in_Persons_2012_web.pdf)

⁸ <http://www.stopthetraffik.org/the-scale-of-human-trafficking>

MAP 4: Main forms of exploitation, by proportion of detected victims, by country, 2007-2010



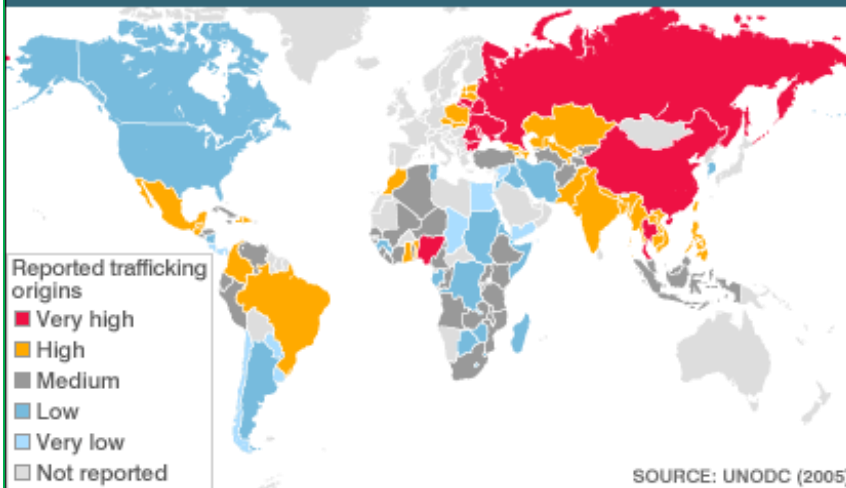
According to a British study, the highest demand for prostitution lays in Europe. This is because Europe is quite rich compared to the remaining part of the world. And therefore, they can afford visiting brothels.

http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/Trafficking_in_Persons_2012_web.pdf

Most frequently detected forms of exploitation

- sexual exploitation
- sexual exploitation and forced labour
- sexual exploitation and other forms
- forced labour
- forced labour and other forms
- other forms of exploitation
- no data
- countries not covered

COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING



http://thewe.cc/weplanet/news/people/sex_for_money/tens_of_thousands_of_young_women.htm

The flow of sex trafficking



www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tocta/2.Trafficking_in_persons.pdf

Causes and effects

Sex trafficking is a multicausal problem. One of the main causes is demand, which has increased since there are far more men than women in some parts of the world. (As I learned from this interview →)

You are correct in saying that demand is a root cause. In fact, is demand has been increased by the epidemic of gendercide taking place globally. As the female population has been systematically eliminated, the man to woman ratio has been skewed dramatically in some parts of the world, increasing the demand for trafficking.

A British research showed there should be about 9 million people working in the sex industry, having 3600 clients a year, to meet the global demand.⁹ To meet the global demand, 7,000,000 more women are needed in this sector. Therefore, sex trafficking becomes an increasing problem. Due to corrupt governments there is an increase in poverty as well. Poverty is an important cause for poor people to become traffickers, and for women an important push factor to be led straight into the arms of traffickers.¹⁰ Once they enter the trafficking circuit, it's hard to get out. To escape from further exploitation, former victims become traffickers as well.

Another cause is the lack of public awareness.¹¹ Media, such as movies,¹² make prostitution look glamorous and voluntary, therefore many people do not seem to realize a big part of prostitution involves involuntary prostitution/sex trafficking.¹³

Governments play another role in the increase of sex trafficking. Reliable data is necessary to take measures, but several governments are hiding information because they do not want to acknowledge they are involved in this issue as well. Having as a result that organisations and governments who *are* willing to take responsibility can not fight the problem effectively, because of the lack of reliable global data.

The "Tier to watch-list" ranks governments on how well they are dealing with sex trafficking¹⁴. Tier 1 countries represent responsibility, and take adequate efforts to deal with the problem.

Tier 2 countries make efforts to deal with the problem, although they do not fully comply with the minimum standards.

Tier 2-watch countries make efforts to deal with the problem, but as there is an increasing number of victims, they should be watched.

Tier 3 countries, are countries whose governments do not comply with the minimum standards, and do not take efforts to deal with the problem.



A trafficker earns up to €4,050 per week, per women. Victims only earn one tenth of the minimum wage.¹⁰ If a victims exceeds in escaping, they have no money, and thus it's hard for them to get their life back on track.

⁹ www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tocta/2.Trafficking_in_persons.pdf

¹⁰ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/2012/nov/27/benin-poverty-child-traffickers>

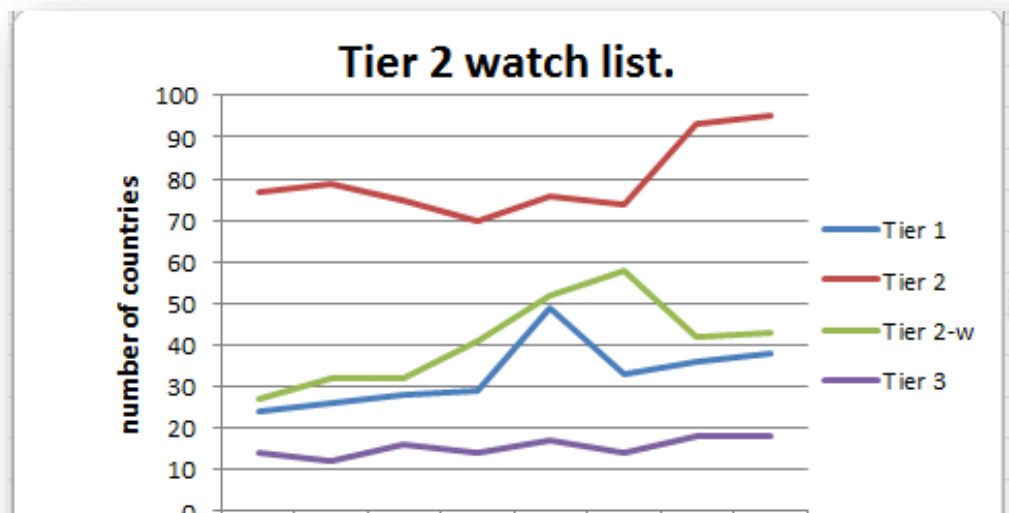
¹¹ http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/northern_ireland/8675275.stm

¹² <http://www.screened.com/prostitution/27-178/movies/>

¹³ http://www.uri.edu/artsci/wms/hughes/prostitution_spain_july04.pdf

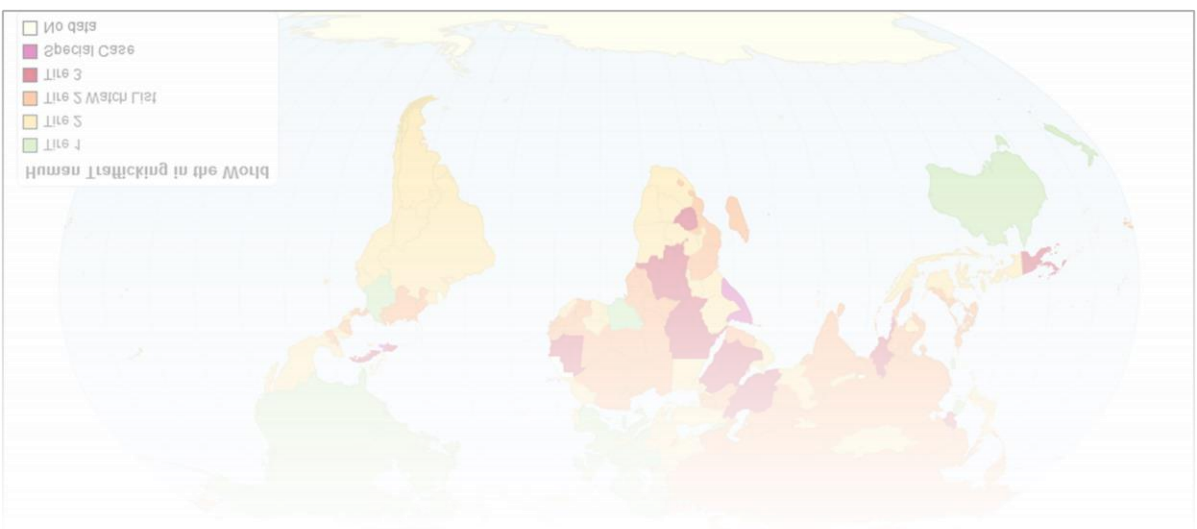
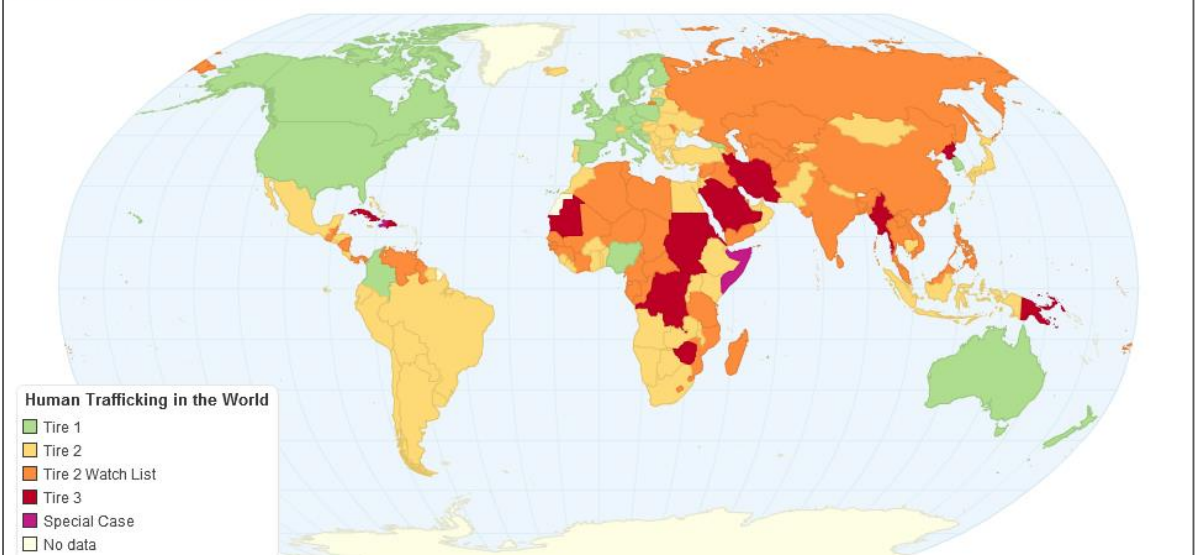
¹⁴ https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/print_2196.html

This graph → shows countries placement in the “Tier-2-watch-list” throughout the years. (made using ¹⁵ reports.)



Countries and their current ranking on the “Tier-2-watch-list”¹⁶

Human Trafficking in the World



¹⁵ <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2009/123132.htm>

¹⁶ <http://chartsbin.com/view/548>

Not enough is being done against this issue in the past years and sex trafficking became the world's fastest growing international crime. Every minute people are being sold, including children¹⁷

And we, as a society, should care about this issue because sex trafficking has a terrible effect on the mental, emotional and physical well-being of victims. Victims suffer from emotional stress, fear and shame. Sometimes they even suffer from suicidal thoughts and depressions¹⁸. Trafficking tears down whole families because victims are separated from their relatives for a long time. Even if victims return to their families, their past will always influence their behavior. It happens quite regularly that former victims end up in other illegal circuits as well, such as drug trafficking, because drugs might help them to forget about their past for some time.

Sex trafficking also violates several human rights:^{19 20}

Article 3.

- Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

Article 4.

- No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.

Article 5.

- No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 12.

- No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Article 13.

- (1) Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state.
- (2) Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 23.

- (1) Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.
- (2) Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.
- (3) Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection.
- (4) Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.

Article 25.

- (1) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.
- (2) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

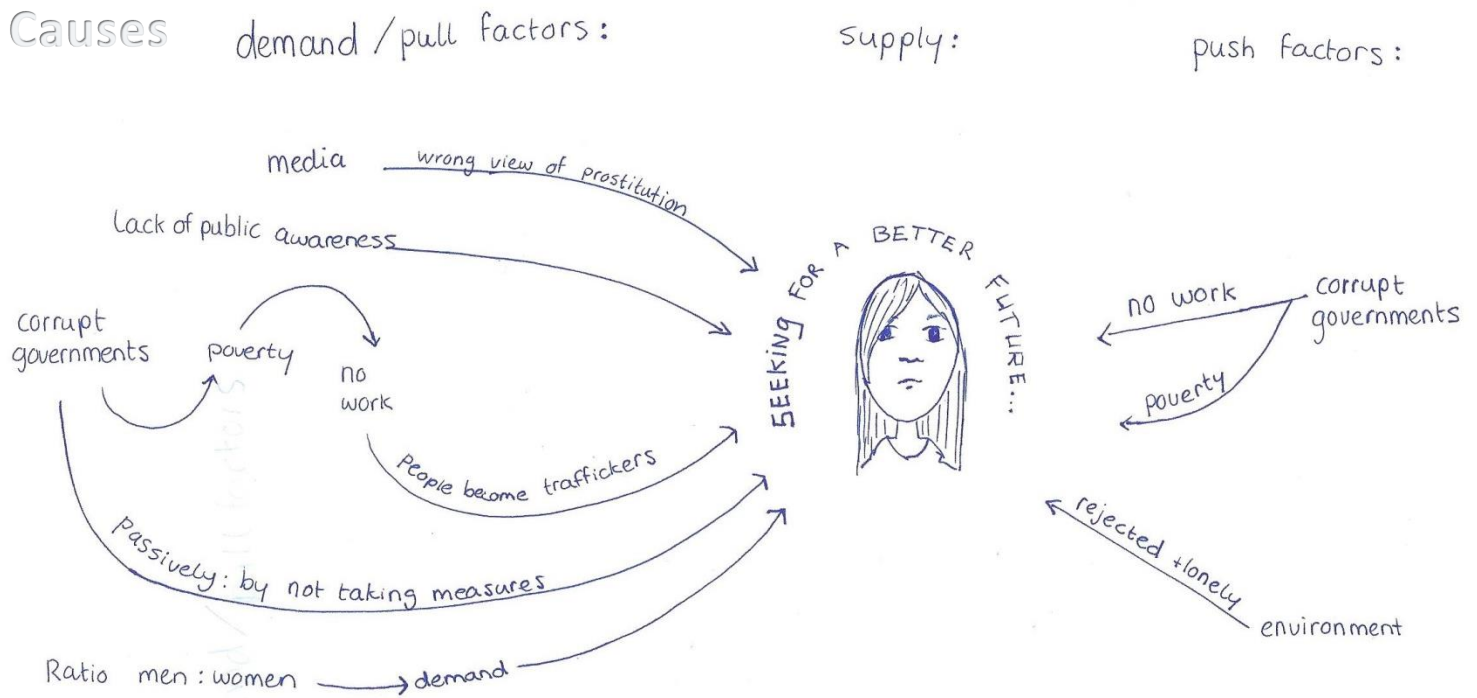
¹⁷ <http://www.financeagainstrafficking.org/>

¹⁸ <http://www.purpleteardrop.org.uk/human-trafficking/what-is-the-impact-of-sex-trafficking/>

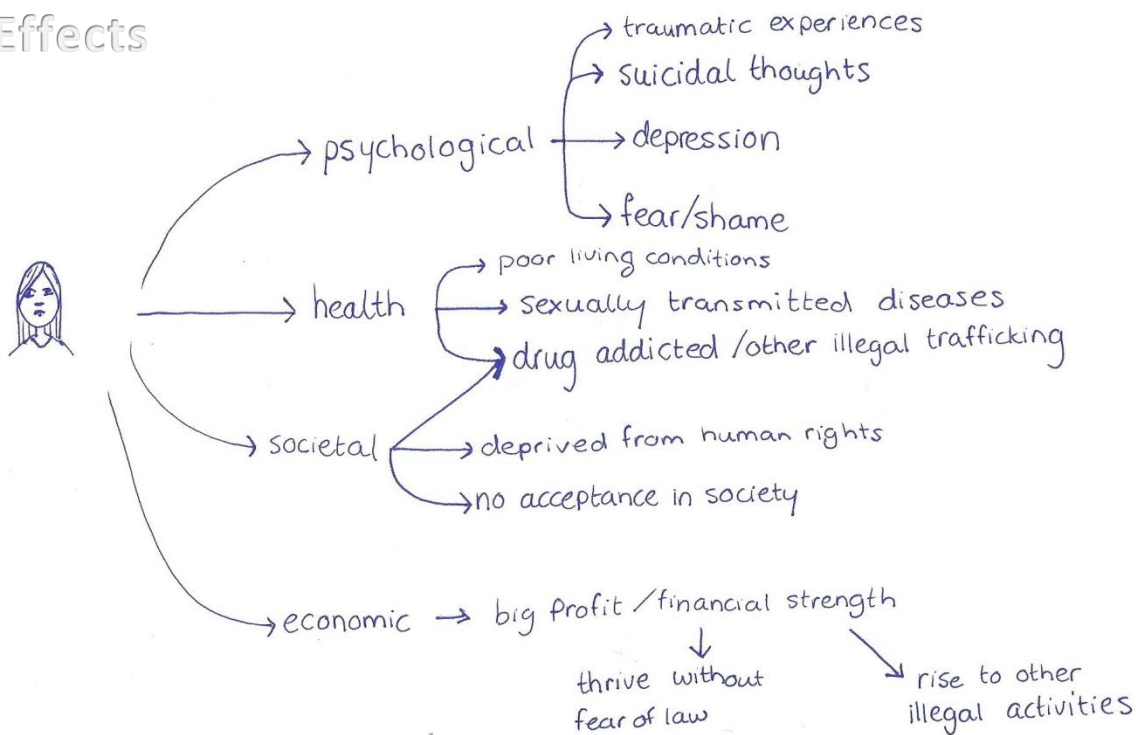
¹⁹ <http://www.ungift.org/docs/ungift/pdf/knowledge/Human%20Rights%20and%20Trafficking%20in%20Person.pdf>

²⁰ <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml>

Causes



Effects



²¹ made using all the information collected from all the sources mentioned.

Solutions

My opinion;

Because of the lack of reliable data, solutions are hard to find.

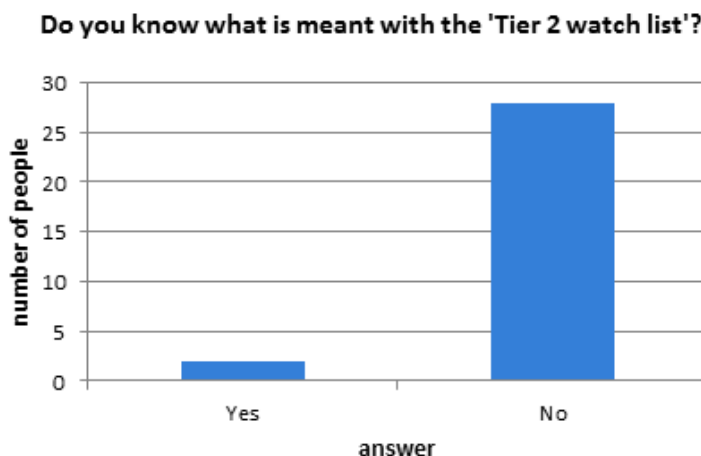
In my opinion we have to look for short term solutions, and long term solutions.

Many organizations work by means of online activism and education on sex trafficking and its dangers(see appendix for emails), but I believe we should also start at the components of demand. It's impossible to wipe out the first component of demand (clients). The demand for sex will always be present because it's inherited. I think we have to change the supply from involuntary to voluntary. With the fast developing technology I think a future solution would be that we create massive numbers of women-like robots who can be used for prostitution. Then, organizations can spend money on local projects in poor countries. They could, for example, set up a business where unemployed people can work and earn money. If everyone has got money there is no reason for men to become traffickers, and no reason for women to do involuntary work.

For now I think we have to start at creating global awareness. As seen as media makes prostitution look like something glamorous and voluntary, many people do not realize a big part of prostitution involves sex trafficking.²² If people would be informed better about sex trafficking, clients might choose for a voluntary prostitute at licensed brothels.

Furthermore, we could use social media to tell the whole world about governments inaction. The more people know about the issue, the more pressure we can put on governments. The "Tier-2-watch-list", which is quite unknown to many people²³ (see graph), should get widespread.

Governments should be ashamed of themselves not taking this problem serious, and people should know about this. If everyone knows about the "Tier-2-watch-list" governments feel even more pressure and might eventually take steps. They should check brothels and license the ones with voluntary workers. I also believe traffickers should be punished harsher, as seen as the current, average prison sentence is only between 4 and 12 years,²⁴ while football hooligans can get death sentences in some countries.



²² <http://www.hrw.org/audio/2012/03/02/price-sex>

²³ Own research

²⁴ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-18144333>

According to professionals

Most organizations work by means of online activism and education on this issue²⁵ (read emails in appendix) , but Nicholas D. Kirstof (New York Times) thinks we should start at the traffickers.²⁶;

There are no easy solutions to sex trafficking. I think the most important single step is for prosecutors to focus more on pimps and johns. Closing down the leading Web site used by

UNODC has started an online database to collect information on human trafficking prosecutions and convictions. More information means more reliable data and might help organizations to take effective measures.²⁷

www.stopthetraffik.org asks people to tell everyone about human trafficking and its effects, in order to create global awareness.²⁸

Experts agree that there is no *best* solution, different things should be done in order to tackle a multicausal problem.

”

Human rights organizations say a variety of approaches are needed to tackle the issue, including information campaigns to help prevent trafficking.

Experts and survivors agree that more work must be done to provide legal assistance and protection for the victims – and to make sure that perpetrators are the ones who are prosecuted and punished for their crimes.

”

Lisa Schlein- DW Akademie

²⁵ <http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/overview>

²⁶ <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/01/opinion/sunday/kristof-financers-and-sex-trafficking.html>

²⁷ <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/publications.html>

²⁸ <http://www.stopthetraffik.nl/wat-kun-ijj-doen>

Conclusion

I learned a lot about sex trafficking. Before starting this assignment I read stories about sex trafficking, but never understood the reasons behind certain actions. Now I do. I wanted to interview a victim myself, so I would understand the topic better. Getting in contact with former victims is extremely difficult. I tried several things, like sending emails to people who actually had the chance to interview them, but nothing worked out. Then I came across an article about interviewing former victims and realized that it would be a hard task to find a victim who is willing to be interviewed by a untrained interviewer/random person.

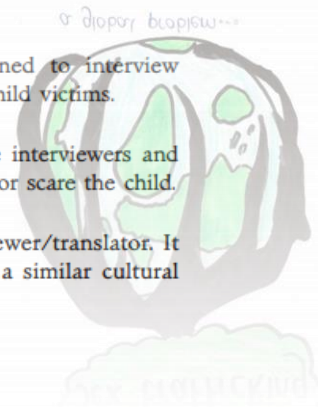


Who should interview the victim?

In all trafficking cases it is desirable that interviewers specially trained to interview vulnerable people are used. This is even more important in the case of child victims.

Build trust with one or two interviewers and translators. Do not change interviewers and translators unless it is absolutely necessary. Changes are likely to confuse or scare the child.

Look for signs from the child indicating distrust or fear of the interviewer/translator. It is good practice to use interviewers and translators from the same or a similar cultural



I also learned that sharing your knowledge is important to improve certain circumstances in the world.

"It ought to concern every person, because it is a debasement of our common humanity. It ought to concern every community, because it tears at our social fabric. It ought to concern every nation, concern every business, because it distorts markets. It ought to concern every person, because it endangers public health and fuels violence and organized crime. I'm talking about the injustice, the outrage, of human trafficking, which must be called by its true name -- modern slavery."

– President Barack Obama

<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/> 1



Demi Vonk

11-03-2013

Langeraar, The Netherlands