



# SPARK NOTES



## What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking, also known as trafficking in persons (TIP), is a modern-day form of slavery. It is a crime under state, federal and international law. It is currently the second largest type of criminal activity, exceeded only by the illegal drug trade.

This crime occurs when a trafficker uses force, fraud or coercion to control another person for the purpose of engaging in commercial sex acts or soliciting labor or services against his/her will.

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*I JUST WISH THAT GIRLS EVERYWHERE  
GET A CHANCE TO LIVE THE WAY THEY  
WERE MEANT TO – IN DIGNITY AND  
FREEDOM.*

*DEEPTI, HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVOR  
FROM SOUTH ASIA*

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## What You Need To Know

- Human Trafficking is a \$150 billion world market that impacts an estimated 50 million people worldwide.
- The horrific injustice of human trafficking can affect people of any race and background-- though people of color are disproportionately affected.
- Victims of human trafficking are hidden in our neighborhoods. They are being recruited from our schools. They are growing our food, working in our nail salons, and they are there when we go on vacation and stay in hotels. They are hidden in plain sight.
- Human trafficking is the fastest-growing criminal industry in the world. It is the second most lucrative and is soon expected to surpass the illegal drug trade. Drugs can be sold once, but people can be sold multiple times, with many victims being sold 15 to 30 times a day.
- Child online sexual exploitation is rampant. Furthermore, it's hard to detect, threatens lives, especially of the most vulnerable, and if unaddressed, will have daunting and irreversible impacts on families and society.



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## LET US PRAY

*Creator God,  
God, help us see that human trafficking  
affects all of us. Show us what is ours to do  
to increase awareness of human trafficking  
so that people do not become victims. Help  
us become more aware of how social media,  
poverty, homelessness, immigration status  
may make children and others vulnerable to  
exploitation. Enlighten us on how our  
obsession with consumerism serves to feed  
the demand for cheap labor. Help us to  
commit to incorporate one action in our  
lives that will serve to stop the demand and  
help people not become victims of human  
trafficking.*

*Amen.*



## HOW WE CAN HELP

### WEBINAR RECORDING – Human Trafficking and Major Sporting Events

With the Superbowl, World Cup, and other sporting events on the horizon, we invite you to watch a 90-minute webinar dedicated to exploring the intersection of human trafficking and major sporting events. His Excellency Oscar Cantú, Bishop of San Jose, California, led an opening prayer and offered thoughts on the Church's role in combating human trafficking.

Please watch the recording [HERE](#) –  
password: qh5@?h#E



Traffickers thrive where vulnerability is high; where people are desperate and their options are limited or nonexistent. People on the move and recent immigrants are at particular risk of exploitation by traffickers because of their precarious social and economic circumstances. The International Immigrants are in great danger of being trafficked; Right now, Congress is negotiating additional funding for the Department of Homeland Security. We can stop this if we raise our voices together. Please click [HERE](#) to send a message to your Senators