

[MISSION](#)[TRAFFICKING](#)[How Can I
Help?](#)[HOME](#)[RESOURCES](#)

Help Abolish CHILD SLAVERY & FORCED LABOR

Follow Us On:

[PARTNER](#)[Share](#) |[DONATE](#)

SECRET SLAVERY EXISTS in the AMERICAS Including the United States... Maybe in Your Own Backyard!

The demand for cheap labor, the sex trade industry and child exploitation services can be linked to existing migration patterns, as immigrant community infrastructures have emerged from the lack of a safe and legal means of migration into the United States. Sex trafficking also appears to be closely linked to migrant smuggling enterprises run by Asian, Mexican, and Eastern European organized crime networks, among other organized crime factions and gangs found here in the U.S. domestically.

Migrant laborers in the American continents will regularly travel from state to state looking for work as it becomes seasonally available. Most often the conditions of this life style are very harsh and difficult. Added to this can be long hours, unsafe work environments and relentless owners. Dishonest labor managers, corrupt officials and criminal Human Trafficking brokers frequently get involved, who then cheat and rob these workers of what little dignity and money they have left. Like the indentured servants (or slaves) of the past, these poor people most often cannot simply walk away. They have lost complete control of their lives and are being exploited and brutalized in terrible ways we cannot begin to imagine.

"The dangers faced by these people can not be overstated, they are at risk from traffickers, state forces, kidnappers, drug gangs and the journey itself."

"Many people, including children as young as six years old, are forced to migrate to seek seasonal employment in conditions that are close to slavery on toxic farms..."

(Slave Labour in Mexico-Migrate or Die: [Mexico's Hidden Crisis of Migration](#)-Indy Media Ireland-2009 by Sarah C.-Independent Witness)
[Amnesty International USA - 2009 Annual Report for Mexico](#)



When Human Traffickers disguise themselves as legitimate recruiters or employment brokers with a promise of paying jobs, many people are willing to sign on in an effort to escape poverty and have greater freedom. They are not aware that instead of true freedom, they are actually trading away their lives and being entrapped into a system of forced bondage and a life of permanent slavery.

Most immigrants will usually attempt to enter the U.S. and follow their dreams because someone has approached them and offered a job or regular employment. Each year, thousands of slaves are trafficked into the United States. These slaves are then put to work in fields, brothels, homes, mines, restaurants - anywhere that slave owners can feed their greed. (Kevin Bales - Free the Slaves: [Slavery Still Exists](#))



Slavery happens in nearly every country in the world and the U.S. and Europe are not immune. In addition, there may be **people held in slavery right in YOUR OWN community**. Research conducted with the University of California, Berkeley - found and documented an alarming number of slavery and Human Trafficking cases in more than 90 cities across the United States of America. (Kevin Bales - Free the Slaves: [Hidden Slaves](#))

Human Traffickers tend to prey on impoverished people who live in countries with little access to education, health care or jobs. Their victims have often left regions with collapsed economies or where a lack of opportunities for earning a living exists. They are often tricked into slavery through promises of a better life and a chance that they can send money home.

The basic rule for this global traffic in slaves is that victims flow from poorer regions into those areas that have richer economies. A recent study found the citizens of more than 35 countries enslaved in the United States, with the greatest numbers coming from China, Mexico, and Viet Nam. While it is

true that most slaves in the United States are trafficked in from other countries, U.S. citizens are also even forced into slavery in various locations.

These new forms of slavery are directly connected to the global economy. From the impoverished sectors of the world this exploited labor flows into our own economy and into our daily lives. There are many organisations and local agencies which are working hard to liberate people from slavery but the task is more often overwhelming than not. YOU can however make a difference and [help change all this](#).

How Can WE identify the Slaves in Our Own Communities?

The person might be a domestic worker, work in a restaurant, on a farm, in a shop, in a factory, or even as a prostitute. Watch for the following signs of slavery. The worker is likely to be enslaved if he or she:

- is working or being held against his or her will.
- is not free to change employers.
- do not control their own earnings.
- has been cheated into the payment of debt upon arrival.
- has had their passport or other documents taken away.
- are unable to move freely or is being watched or followed.
- are afraid to openly discuss themselves in the presence of others.
- has been assaulted, or have been threatened with assault for refusing to work.

If any of these apply, that person might be a victim of modern-day slavery. Modern slavery happens where workplaces are not monitored, worker wage and safety laws are not enforced, or where the work is not completely legal. In the American continents and the United States, Human Trafficking and forced labor have occurred most often in the following industries: *Prostitution, Domestic Services, Agriculture, "Sweat Shop" style manufacturing facilities, Food Services, Entertainment, larger factories, and Landscaping.*



The [FREE the SLAVES Campaign](http://www.not2bused.org/slavery-3.html) has identified a number of factors why victims of Human Trafficking cannot simply walk away from their exploitative situations, such as:

- **Fear** – Most victims have been coerced, threatened and abused.
- **Threats to family members in home country** – Oftentimes traffickers threaten to abuse or murder family members if a victim refuses to work or attempts to run away.
- **Sense of obligation** – Some victims feel obligated to pay off their “debt”, even though it may be bogus and illegal.
- **Sense of loyalty to the abuser** – This may take place as a result of brainwashing or traumatic bonding. Some victims are made to feel that they themselves have done something wrong, and that the trafficker deserves to punish them.
- **Language and social barriers** – Extremely limited contact with the outside world leaves many victims isolated and many times without any understanding of the language or their location.
- **Sense of shame** – Some victims feel such an acute shame about the activities they have been forced into that they fear exposing themselves, and their secrets to anyone.

- **Fear of police and immigration officials** – Police corruption experienced in the victim's home country is often exploited by traffickers who terrify their victims with stories of what the police in the US may do to them.

"DREAMS DIE HARD" - Free the Slaves Campaign

People around the globe need to become more aware of these issues and actually begin to start taking action against this growing problem. Communities should get involved and individual citizens can become more watchful of the warning signs listed above and report suspected offenses to the proper civil and domestic authorities. If we do not become more proactive and take a moral stand against this blight it will continue to fester in the side of our society. Even YOU can [Help in the War vs. Slavery!](#)

[TOP of PAGE](#)
Forced Labor Work Camps-->
[NEXT PAGE](#)

What Can Each Individual Do to Have an Impact on this Crisis?

We need YOUR help and support to become proactive and take a moral stand against these issues. **We can help YOU learn what measures can be taken to ensure the protection of YOUR OWN children and help you become a good steward toward others.** Learn what [YOU CAN DO NOW!](#)

[PARTNER](#)
[Share](#) |

[DONATE](#)
[MISSION](#)
[TRAFFICKING](#)
[How Can I
Help?](#)
[SLAVERY](#)
[RESOURCES](#)
[Terms of Use](#)
[Warning and Disclaimer](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)

The FAITH NETWORK - Copyright © 2010 - CVM Enterprises