

Modern Day Slave Trade: A Solution Based Approach to Ending the Global Menace

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Abstract

Growing up I only heard about slavery as a history predicated on the fact that the practice has long been abolished, am sure so many of my contemporaries share this view. Unfortunately, all over the world with no exception, the tradition has continued to thrive thanks to the ability of the perpetrators both at individual and group levels (organized crimes) modus operandi capable of concealing the “dehumanizing and criminal aspect” of their operations in order not to raise any form of suspicions. In 2017 however, Libyan slave trade became a massive fodder for news, and this undoubtedly aroused the consciousness of people all over the world especially in Africa that Slavery and Slave trade is still with us and the thought of it as “history” could be misleading.

In a 2001 interview granted The SUN, Kevin Bale a Professor of contemporary slavery and co-author of Global Slavery Index (GSI) averred that “slavery was one of the first globalized industries in the world.” Because world economy is becoming more globalized at an unprecedented pace, it will also be right to say that slavery has also become more globalized compared to the past. Slavery itself has been outlawed everywhere in the world but is yet to be eradicated. In other words, for all nations of the world, slavery is abhorred and termed ‘illegal,’ and no one or group of persons has the right to own anyone or group of persons, yet several millions of human beings world over are still subjected to various forms slavery. The recent Global Estimates on Modern Slavery (GEMS) as issued on 19th September, 2017 is a pointer that modern slavery has continued to be a viable source of criminal economic activity. It is advised that the report be interpreted conservatively due to limitations in available data especially from the Arab world and America. The report shows that every day in 2016, there was likely to be more than 40 million men, women and children who were being forced to work against their will under threat with the prevalence rate higher in Africa, Asia and the Pacific were available statistics indicates that there was 7.6 per 1000 people, 6.1 per 1,000 people and 3.9 per 1000 people respectively in Africa, Asia and the Pacific that were held as slave victims.

Slavery is any situation in which a person is exploited for the profit of another by force, fraud or coercion; receives no compensation other than the barest subsistence; and is unable to leave. Human Trafficking is one of the most tragic human rights issues in our time which is why “it is considered an insult to human dignity and an assault on freedom”.

This Essay is based on doctrinal research with the intent of proposing possible ways in which this ugly trend can be eliminated in this day and age. Given the vast scope of the subject matter, covering all of it cannot be achievable in one presentation hence the need to focus on the recent exposition of the “Libyan Slave Trade” as a case study about other such activities everywhere in the world. The Essay examined the historical side of slavery into the modern times. Going forward the security implications of leaving modern slavery unchecked/unabated as it relates to terrorism and ways in which we can have a safer world to live in by making the complete elimination of contemporary slavery a nonnegotiable priority was discussed.

Keywords: Slavery; Slave trade; Human trafficking; Terrorism; Crime

Introduction

The word ‘slave’ was adapted from Slav, originating from the time when the Germans supplied the slave markets of Europe with captured Slavs. Aristotle called slaves ‘human instruments’ signifying their use as tools while fifth-century Anglo-Saxons called their slaves ‘Welshman’, after the people they captured [1-7]. For W.O Blake in his 1860 publication titled: The History of Slavery and The Slave Trade; there was an insight into the fact that slavery dates back to earliest human history where wars among tribes and nations of the world was the main causative factor. In this case, the winner in any war sees human beings as part of commodities to be plundered in which case they were either killed, imprisoned or worse still retained and reduced to slaves [8].

It would be correct to state that slavery developed and consolidated based on three principal ideas – the concept of Personal property where human beings were categorized as no better than any other commodity that can be used and disposed at will; the awareness that just like domestic animals, human beings are also capable of improving

personal individual industries; and the principle of nations where the winning side of any battle showcases supremacy by taking citizens of fallen nations into slavery [9].

In Africa for example, slaves were used solely for domestic purposes instead of communal services. These slaves were prisoners of war, debtors, criminals’ et al and were considered a symbol of power, wealth, and status in the custody of their masters [9].

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Early slavery

Aside from the bible days where nations were taken into slavery after being conquered in wars, available records show that slavery can be traced to 6800 B.C in the city of Mesopotamia which is in present-day Iraq. As stated earlier, issues of land ownership and technology led to war where enemies were captured and forced to work as slaves. This trend continued in Egypt and Athens until 120 A.D where Roman military campaign was said to capture slaves in their thousands. The boom was in response to a shortage in labor which explains why it is on record that England entered the slave business after the Anglo-Saxons invasion of England in 500 with British natives held in servitude. It, therefore, became the usual practice in England's rural and agricultural economy [10]. By 1380, England had already become the largest slaving nation on earth despite coming onboard the trade late. It brought riches and power to everyone involved (royalty, parliamentarians, churchmen, and the celebrities of that age).

At this time slaves converged from all over the world especially North Africa and the Middle East, and by 1444 the Portuguese traders had established the Atlantic Slave Trade by buying the first large cargo filled with slaves to Europe all the way from Africa. The Atlantic Slave Trade was likely the most costly in human history in all of the global long-distance migration. It was extremely miserable for African slaves that were separated according to gender while ensuring that the men among them were chained for a more extended period. They were also packed in such a way that there were no spaces between them which explains why a substantial 12% of them died before making it to their final destination on voyage [11].

It is also imperative to note that the first Africans that settled in today's the United States of America were brought in as slaves by Spanish Explorers in 1526 while the state of Massachusetts legalized slavery in 1614 making it the first to take such legal measures in the United States. Just as the trade continued to boom in that era, British ships carried more African slaves in comparison to other maritime countries and an estimate of more than 3.1 million were crossed to America from the Atlantics. Sadly only an approximate figure of 2.7 million slaves made it to the United States [12]. Again the entire transactions and nature of operations from the ancient to medieval slave trade cannot be exhausted in this single presentation. Nevertheless, it is important to highlight some notable accounts in the abolition of slave trade and slavery in some cases keeping in mind that every subject matter expert on "slavery and slave trade" are in consensus that though there has been an abolition of the system, it is still happening everywhere in the world.

The first recorded account of abolition was in Ashoka in the Maurya Empire of India where the trade was abolished in 3rd century B.C with the status of "slave" still retained and everyone expected to treat slaves with dignity. In the medieval times, many of such abolitions came into force with the Magna Carta Clause 30 of 1215- a law which provided the platform for making laws against slavery in common English law. The King of Portugal eventually forbade the enslavement of Chinese people in 1624 and in 1794, France abolished slavery.

By 1834, the British slavery abolition Act came into force [13]. Subsequently, America officially ended slavery with the December 1865 ratification of the 13th Amendment Act [14]. In 1948 slavery was declared contrary to fundamental human rights in Article 4 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights (UNDHR) [14]. The UN declarations can be likened to the universal global abolition of slavery.

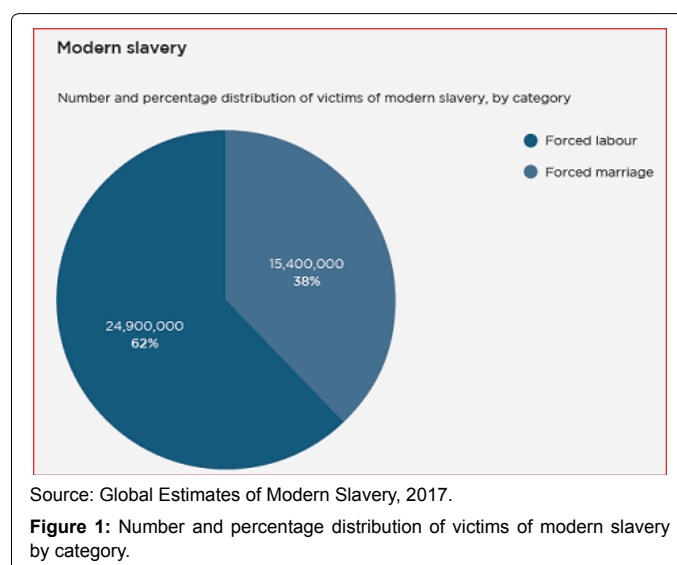
Modern slavery

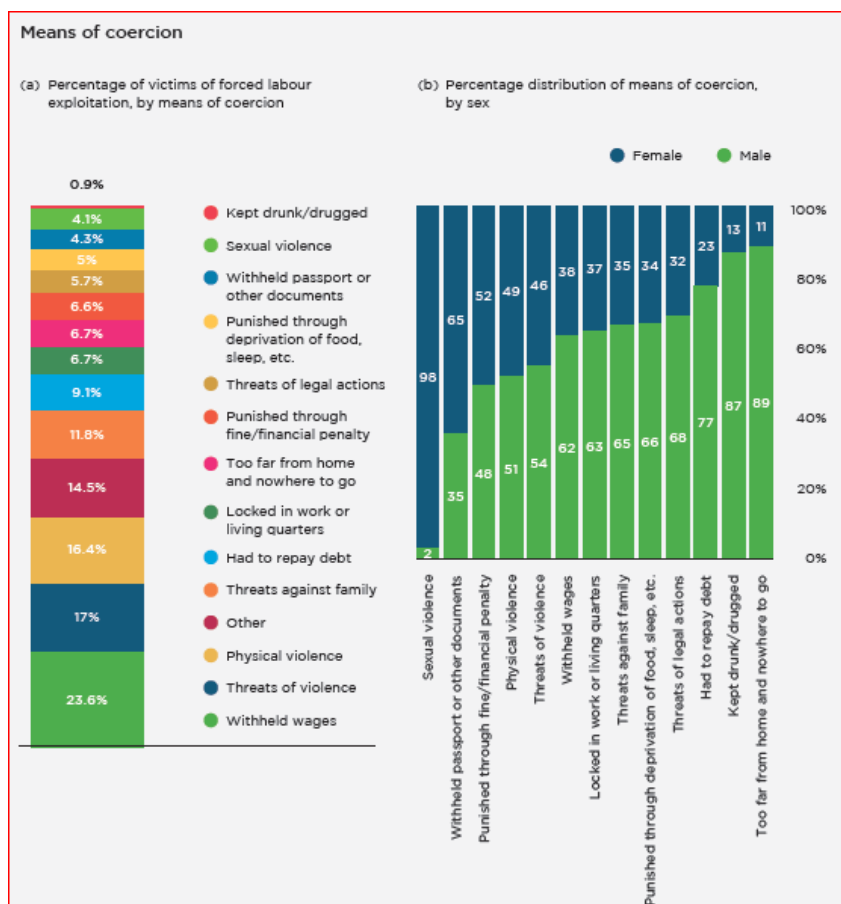
As noted previously, modern slavery is happening everywhere in the world, but available records show that it is more prevalent on the African continent [15]. Trafficking in persons" shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs (UN Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons especially women and children) [16].

Human trafficking is said to be the second largest criminal enterprise in the world, earning exploiters more than \$150 billion each year, this was according to a report released by the International Labor Organization in May 2014 [17]. It seems to have become a commonplace despite the fact that the price of slaves dropped from \$40,000 per slave in 1809 to \$ 90 in 2009 and \$400 in Libya in 2017 making human beings one of the cheapest commodities in recent times [18].

The prevalence of slavery in modern time is based on the fact that in 2016 alone an unimaginable 40.3 million men, women, and children were held in vassalage from across the globe. In other words, on a daily basis, an estimate of 40.3 million human beings are victims of modern slavery. Women constituted 71% as against 29% of males making women more vulnerable to modern slavery [19]. One out of every modern slave victims are children and also represents 20% of victims of sexual exploitation while 4.8 million women and girls were said to be exploited sexually on a daily basis.

Averagely, they were held captive for 23.4 months before escaping or being freed [20]. At every given time around the world 4.1 million people were victims of state-imposed forced labor (Figures 1 and 2). While some worked for years, others were meant to work for just a few weeks before regaining their freedom (Table 1). Forced marriage was not exclusive to women and girls as men and boys were also victims with women and girls amounting to 84% and the youngest victim being just nine year old when she was forced into marriage [20].





Source: Global Estimates of Modern Slavery, 2017.

Figure 2: Percentage distribution of means of coercion by sex.

			Total forced labour	Forced marriage	Modern Slavery
World		No. (Thousands)	24850	15442	40293
		Prevalence (per thousands)	3.4	2.1	5.4
Region	Africa	No. (Thousands)	3420	5820	9240
		Prevalence (per thousands)	2.8	4.8	7.6
	America	No. (Thousands)	1280	670	1950
		Prevalence (per thousands)	1.3	0.7	1.9
	Arab States	No. (Thousands)	350	170	520
		Prevalence (per thousands)	2.2	1.1	3.3
	Asia and the pacific	No. (Thousands)	16550	8440	24990
		Prevalence (per thousands)	4.0	2.0	6.1
	Europe and the Central Asia	No. (Thousands)	3250	340	3590
		Prevalence (per thousands)	3.6	0.4	3.9

Source: Global Estimates of Modern Slavery, 2017.

Table 1: Number and prevalence of persons in modern slavery, by category ,sex and age.

Case Report Analysis on Modern Day Slave Trade

On 7th March 2006, reports emerged of women of foreign nationals mostly from Eastern European states being sold in an auction as sex slaves by the notorious gang of violent Alabamians known as the controllers of the sex industry in the United Kingdom. While some of them gained access into the country with the aid of forged documents, others were smuggled, and some others were the legitimate tourist that never went back to their countries [21]. These immigrants were sold up

for up to E8, 000 to the highest bidder and were also expected to make at least E800 a day from working in brothels [22]. Many of them were often imprisoned in tiny rooms, abused, gang-raped and even meant to sleep with up to 40 men in a day [22]. What an outrage! In a 2017 CNN's exclusive report on Libya, human beings were said to be sold for as low as \$400 in a public auction at the full glare of people going about their normal activities with little children playing on the streets [23]. Libya is the main transit route for migrants trying to reach Europe by sea. 150,000 people have been able to gain entry into Europe through

the Mediterranean Sea from Libya in the last three years while 3,000 others died before getting to Europe. Detention camps in Libya are said to be overrun with an estimate of 400,000 to almost 1,000,000 persons now trapped in Libya [24].

Terrorist groups taking advantage of human trafficking to escalate insurgency

For various contemporary terrorist organizations, human trafficking serves three fundamental objectives- a tool for overcoming the enemy, a means of diversifying sources of revenue, and combatant Powers. To finance its operations, the moist terrorist group has been consistent in the merchandising of young girls from their country to India for child prostitution. In 2006 Iraqis and Syrians were arrested by German authorities for smuggling persons from their home countries believed to have links with the Ansar al Islam terrorist group [25].

Pakistani military once released videos of children training for terrorist operations. These children were alleged to have been recruited by one of the Taliban's leaders Mehsud who ends up selling each of them for \$6000 to \$12000 to other terrorist groups that may need their services upon completion of trainings [26]. Rebel groups in Africa also traded in children just to raise funds for their operations and also raised child soldiers that can beef up their military prowess. For ISIS, and some other terrorist groups, their major source of revenue is "oil" which is one of the reasons women and girls are sold for as cheap as \$25 after being sexually abused [26].

Finding a lasting solution to the menace of modern slavery

The most effective way of getting any problem solved is by first identifying the cause of the problem. This section of the Essay is essential since its approach at proposing/recommending solutions is based on selecting each of the forms in which modern slavery is exhibited and then exploring distinctive ways of ending each of them since human trafficking is not a problem to be managed but a crime to be stopped [27]. This is except smuggling of human organs which has become the latest form of slavery though is heinous, is yet to be established that it

has any direct links with "terrorism." It is therefore pertinent to treat modern slavery as an issue of International and national insecurity rather than isolate it as a social, political or economic problem alone.

Sex trafficking

The United States Department of States defined sex trafficking as when an adult engages in a commercial sex act, such as prostitution, as the result of force, threats of force, fraud, coercion or any combination of such means, that the person is a victim of trafficking [28] (Figure 3).

Solutions:

1) Information and Mass Media Campaign: This approach is in line with the provisions of Article 9 (2) of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children [29]. With the evolving means of effective communication through the media especial social media a substantial number of potential victims of sex trafficking can be reached And constant awareness created. There are limited barriers to the coverage of social media – a tool that aided the mobilization that led to the "Arab Spring" which shocked the world with its corresponding successful results. We all have a stake in using our entire social media platforms in creating awareness on this issue as individuals using the "hashtags".

We don't have to wait to become part of a civil society movement or an NGO to start speaking out. Taking the issues of sex trafficking personally is the way to go. See something unusual, say something! This approach will go a long way since most of these victims were exploited through their display of ignorance. It should be a useful tool for eliminating victimization through ignorance but may not do much for persons who understood the risks involved but decided to take a chance at it against all the odds. See every avenue as a means to speak about and against sex trafficking. You never know, you may be saving someone or a group of persons which makes the approach very impactful. In creating awareness, it is also imperative that all potential victims understood that:

a) All that glitters isn't gold;



Source: Global Estimates of Modern Slavery, 2017.

Figure 3: Modern Slavery and sex of victims.

b) Monies do not grow on trees either are they picked on the streets anywhere in the world. There are no easy monies anywhere as often portrayed by their recruiters;

c) They don't have to subject themselves to degrading inhuman practices for survival;

For this awareness to be termed holistic, residents of rural communities that may not have access to modern media which includes social media due of lack of electricity and internet facilities should be reached through other mediums i.e., community to community sensitization in the language and dialect they understand which includes advocacies championed by natives of such communities.

2) Commitment to good governance: Some of the evidence of good governance are in massive job creation through the absorption of local content, poverty reduction, security of lives and properties of citizens and all resident aliens, improved standard of living, reduced cost of living et al. Poverty, illiteracy and ignorance abound on the African continent underscoring available statistics that have shown that modern slavery is more prevalent in Africa. These are some of the reasons most victims are lured into sex trafficking which ends up ruining their lives.

Everyone has the right to seek better opportunities in life which is why human beings are termed rational but we must collectively see to it that vulnerabilities are not created since traffickers don't hesitate in exploiting any seen vulnerability. We must begin to develop workable and implementable policies that will ensure that the leadership of all nations is held accountable for protecting the dignity of human persons of all its citizens.

3) Incorporating sex trafficked victims' as part of the team to address the problem is one strategy for achieving massive results. This is because they can share firsthand information of how traffickers operate which will also guide policymakers in making relevant policies backed by law on modern slavery and also aid law enforcement agencies in their enforcement duties.

4) Sound Government Policies on the regulation of border controls to ensure effective monitoring and appraisal of immigrants both legal and illegal. Weak border controls have been one of the issues jeopardizing the fight against human trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa and other places where trafficking in persons have been identified. Measures should include joint border patrols by policing agencies of countries connected by boundaries and quick sharing of intelligence.

5) Securing Conviction of Traffickers through victims' confidence in the protection offered by the system - most times, cases that are supposed to be 'good' turn out bad due to lack of evidence. Unless we can show the victims that they will be protected beyond just the trial, it will be difficult for these victims to come up with evidence if it's going to put them at risk in the future due to government's unwillingness or inability to give them any guaranteed support and protection [30]. Unfortunately, 2012 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, shows that of the 132 countries covered, between 2007 and 2010, 16% did not record a single conviction for trafficking offences, and 23% recorded only less than 10 convictions [30]. One of the ways of winning this war is by apprehending offenders, prosecuting them, and also securing convictions. Until this starts happening, sex trafficking will continue to blossom. In the UK for instance, available records have shown that there was a decline in the rate of conviction for human trafficking offenses from 192 to 181 (6% decline) in 2015 to 2016 and 65.1% to 61.4% from 2016 to 2017 this is not good at all [31].

6) Efforts must also include both eliminating gender discrimination and curbing the demand for commercial sex [31].

7) Legislation: In countries like Norway, France, Canada, Northern Ireland, Sweden and Ireland sex trafficking has reduced drastically because their national laws were effective in criminalizing the buyers/patrons of sex and decriminalizing prostitution itself. As a result, street prostitution and sex trafficking has continued to dwindle since the business does not promise viability even for smugglers [32].

Child sex trafficking

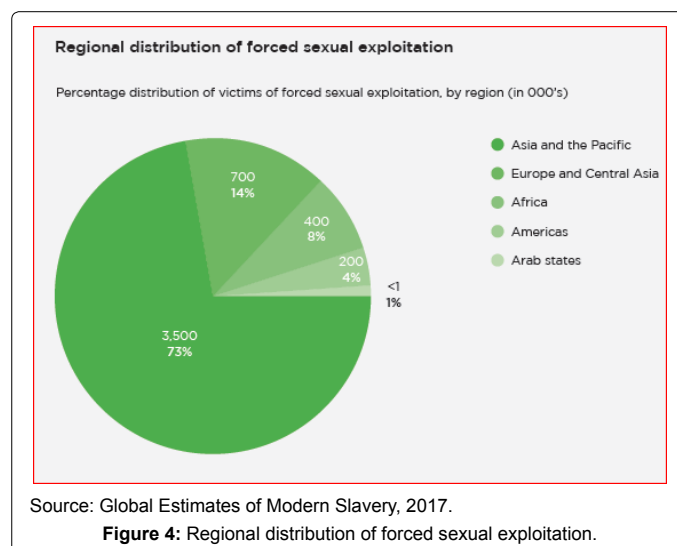
This is defined as when a child under 18 years is recruited, enticed, harbored, transported, solicited, or maintained to perform a commercial sex act. There is no need to prove anything for the offense to be prosecuted as human trafficking, and there is also no exception to this rule [32].

Solutions

Welfare support for identified vulnerable children in the society: So many children world over are exposed to exploitation for reasons ranging from being orphaned, being born into families tormented by extreme poverty, lack, and being out of school hence allowing ignorance and other kinds of deprivation (Figure 4).

Individual governments should strive to make provisions for this category of vulnerable children in all its fiscal years and also ensure that there are policies in place to take the homeless ones off the streets for good. Being responsible for their enrolment into primary schools should also constitute one of the fundamental objective principles of all governments.

The above requirement is underscored in the provisions of Article 19 (1) of the UN Convention on the Right of the Child that came into force in September 1990. It states that State Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual harassment, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the custody of the child. These measures are necessary for ensuring that children everywhere are not lured into commercial sex industry due to lack of care, guidance and extreme deprivation. There have also been instances in



the news were parents and legal guardians deliberately exploited their underage children sexually for their selfish gains – it is the duty of every responsible government to ensure that these criminal minded parents' losses custody of these children by every means possible.

Forced labour or labour trafficking

This encompasses the range of activities - recruiting, laboring, transporting, providing or obtaining – involved when a person uses force or physical threats, psychological coercion, abuse of the legal process, deception, or other coercive means to compel some to work. Even though, persons can be exploited in this manner in their countries of origin, migrant workers are most vulnerable to this type of exploitation and this negates the provision of Articles 10, 11 (1)(2) of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families which provides that -no migrant worker or member of his or her family shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; no migrant worker or member of his or her family shall be held in slavery or servitude; and no migrant worker or member of his or her family shall be required to perform forced or compulsory labour [33].

Solutions

1. Most migrant workers are treated savagely because they are oblivious of the fact that their rights are well protected under the law (nationally and internationally) and that they also have the right to seek redress for all forms of wrong or abuse they may have been subjected to in the cause of their employment with their exploiters. Educating them on this should be useful in curbing this menace because 'knowledge they say is power'.
2. Prosecution of exploiters of migrant workers without the necessary work permits- this is imperative because in most cases, migrant workers without work permits are more exposed to this kind of exploitation, and they continue to keep up with it for fear of being arrested and deported back to their country where they initially left in search of greener pastures.
3. For countries that indulge in state forced labor, the government of the victims' countries of origin must put diplomatic measures in place aimed at ensuring that the implicated states refrain from such act entirely.
4. By spotting and reporting the warning signs—workers not being in control of their own money or documentation, workers appearing to be abused or unsafe, the employment of children, and other indicators—any member of any community can play a critical role in combating human trafficking [33].

Caste based slavery and bonded labour

Forced and bonded labor is contemporary forms of slavery, and they are prohibited under international laws, including the UN Slavery Conventions of 1926 and 1956, and ILO Conventions. Bonded labour is defined in the 1956 UN Supplementary Convention on Slavery as "the status or condition arising from a pledge by a debtor of his personal services or those of a person under his control as security for a debt, if the value of those services as reasonably assessed is not applied towards the liquidation of the debt or the length and nature of those services are not respectively limited and defined" [34]. It is so disheartening that most people today, especially in India and other Asian countries, still work as bounded slaves just to offset the age-long debt of their forefathers running into unimaginable generations. Though this practice is more dominant in South Asian countries like

India and Nepal, some African countries of Mali, Chad, Niger, and Mauritania also practice similar forms of caste-based slavery where the slaves are subjected to degrading jobs of manual scavenging and forced prostitution [35].

Solutions:

One of the ways out of this is developing an internationally recognized enforcement mechanism at the United Nations level that will ensure that countries that are the signatory to international protocols and conventions on "human rights" do not just stop at domesticating these laws but going a step farther in developing effective enforcement procedures. This is because laws without appropriate sanctions are nothing but an exercise in futility. Understanding why these practices are still perpetrated in these identified regions can be overwhelming and calls for International diplomatic sanctioning of ailing nations where possible.

Domestic servitude

This is a distinct category in labor trafficking manifested in jobs like maids, housekeeping, child caregivers, care for the elderly, the sick, the infirm and other forms of servant-ship in a private setting. It constitutes the second highest incidence of labor trafficking in the US behind sex trafficking. One of the reasons this form of modern slavery has continued to thrive is because they happen in private residences outside public domain; the victims' visas usually required that they remained with their original employers or face deportation which makes it discouraging to report incidences for fear of deportation; and because work takes place in private, monitoring is also difficult [36].

Cases abound where parents practically sold their children for as low \$30 just because they have no means of sustenance. In western Nepal, as many as 25,000 young girls were sold into indentured servitude by their impoverished parents for as little as \$30. These girls' ended up being abused emotionally, psychologically and physically traumatized after being sold out for the worth of the most inferior commodity. Over a quarter of a million children especially girls are subjected to this kind of practice due to poverty especially in Haiti where the practice is virtually institutionalized. In Haiti, it is called "restaveks" while it is referred to as "Kamlaris" in Nepal. These destitute children from Haiti are sent by their parents to live in other peoples' homes with the hope that they would have access to education and food, but sadly these hopes are mostly dashed just as it is with most of all trafficked persons. In the populous nations of India and Pakistan, child domestic servitude and forced child labor are a rampant problem.

Solutions

Tackling the prevalence of poverty by governments at national and international level is one of the most effective ways of combating domestic servitude. It is clear from the information above that poverty and class barrier necessitated the many forms of domestic slavery examined. Every honest government and non-governmental organizations alike should start earmarking funds that will help the poor among them set up start-up businesses after training them on how to run their industry of interest. They can even be granted interest-free loans, this way, a majority of the population everywhere will have access to a primary means of sustenance. This is cheaper and more productive when we consider the number of monies, efforts and time involved in the prosecution of traffickers.

Unlawful recruitment and use of child soldiers

Child soldier is a manifestation of child trafficking when it involves

the unlawful recruitment or use of children through force, fraud, or coercion by armed forces as combatants or other forms of labour [37]. All over the world, thousands of boys and girls are recruited into government armed forces and rebel groups to serve as combatants, cooks, porters, messengers or in other roles.

According to Human Rights Watch children including boys and girls are recruited by government and rebel forces as combatants to fight in frontlines, going on suicide missions, acting as spies and lookouts. Some of them are as young as 8 years old hence the reason why most of them are able to finish executions for terrorist groups without understanding the implications of their actions as children [38]. All these are happening despite the warning by International Court of Justice that conscripting of children as soldiers is a war crime. ISIS is alleged to have recruited 1,100 child soldiers since 2015 [39].

Solutions

A campaign tagged “children no soldiers” was launched in 2014 by United Nations. The essence of the campaign was to engage both state and non-state actors in dialogues aimed at facilitating the demobilization of child soldiers. The result from the campaign was remarkable as it was reported that a year later in 2015 over 400 children were released from Myanmar’s national army. The campaign that was originally focused on Myanmar, Congo, Afghanistan, Somalia and South Sudan should also extend to Nigeria and other West African nations where Boko-Haram terrorist group is currently using children as suicide bombers to avoid detection. It should also be intensified until there are no more child soldiers everywhere in the world.

Discussions

This case study was undertaken for two purposes – firstly, it was aimed at investigating modern-day slavery from a historical perspective. Secondly, it analyzed available records on modern day slave in a bid to ascertaining the extent of the menace internationally, regionally, and nationally. These records were indicative that slavery is not just here with us, the activities in modern-day slavery are escalating within its supply chain.

This case report also revealed that slavery will continue to thrive until the majority of people everywhere regardless of race, gender, nationality, and perhaps social class begins to understand that the eradication of modern-day slavery is a collective effort that requires the commitment of the family, community, society, government (national and international), nongovernmental and civil society groups. This study like all others had its different limitations especially with regards to the availability of resource materials.

The British Prime Minister Theresa May has called slavery “the great human rights issue of our time” and has pledged to help eradicate the “barbaric evil” of human trafficking. But we must continue to match our words with commensurate actions since a critical report from Commons Work and Pensions Committee 2017 says that there was an “inexcusable” lack of support for the estimated 10,000 to 13,000 slaves in the UK [40].

This study is significant in two ways. Firstly, it conducted a case by case analysis of the themes within modern day slavery which is an invaluable addition to the already existing literature in this subject matter. Again, solution-based recommendations were made to assist policymakers’ world over in making effective policies targeted at winning the war against contemporary slavery.

Conclusions

There is no better time than now to strive for a world where every human being irrespective of color, race, creed, political affiliations & views, religious beliefs, country, region et al. are treated with dignity. It has been successfully established that though slavery was abolished so many decades ago, it still dominates today’s black economy. Available statistics on modern slavery is quite conservative because all the activities that constitute modern slavery are mostly black market activities. In other words, they do not appear on any country’s GDP because of their illegal/criminal nature despite being the second most lucrative criminal business today behind hard drugs.

The implication of this is that more people are subjected to slavery than even imagined since it generated over \$150,000,000,000 in 2014 alone at a time when slaves were sold for as cheap as \$9 to \$30. Studies have also confirmed that poverty and lack of livelihood opportunities play a significant role in increasing vulnerability to modern slavery. They also point to more profound social and structural inequalities that enable exploitation to persist – xenophobia, patriarchy, class, caste, and discriminatory gender norms.

Discrimination also traps migrant workers in inhumane working conditions in every continent. The control of women’s sexuality in many societies leads to forced marriage and commercial sexual exploitation. Hierarchical cultures continue to abuse the ‘lowest’ among them, perpetuating intergenerational exploitation [41].

If we must succeed in this war, we must come up with workable strategies that make human trafficking the riskiest business venture everywhere. It has continued to thrive because traffickers make lot of monies selling human beings or selling their services at the lowest possible risk when compared to arms and drug trafficking .

We must also note that we are all responsible for ending all forms of human trafficking. It is not a course that should be left for the government, NGOs, philanthropist and other campaigners alone. All countries must do everything they can to end this barbaric practice. We must intensify our efforts until the time when all those committing these despicable crimes are brought to justice and the victims treated with the respect and dignity they deserve. This is one of the fundamental ways we can succeed in the war against terrorism since some of the victims of human trafficking except for those trafficked for “organs” are easy tools in the hand’s terrorist groups everywhere. There cannot be guaranteed security in the face of unabated modern slavery. What then can we collectively come up with as a way of blotting away this age-long reproach from humanity?

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