

What can you do?

If you know someone who may be a victim of human trafficking, or if you want to know more about human trafficking, please contact

Help & Shelter

Homestretch Avenue, Georgetown

Telephone: 227 3454, 225 4731, 227 8353

Email: hands@networksgy.com

Ministry of Human Services & Social Security

Lot 1 Water & Cornhill Streets, Georgetown

Telephone: 227 4082, 227 4083

Email: counter_tip@yahoo.com

Any police station

Be a voice

report human trafficking

Produced by:



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Homestretch Avenue
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Telephone: 227 3454, 225 4731, 227 8353

Email: hands@networksgy.com

Website: <http://www.schnp.org.gy/hands>

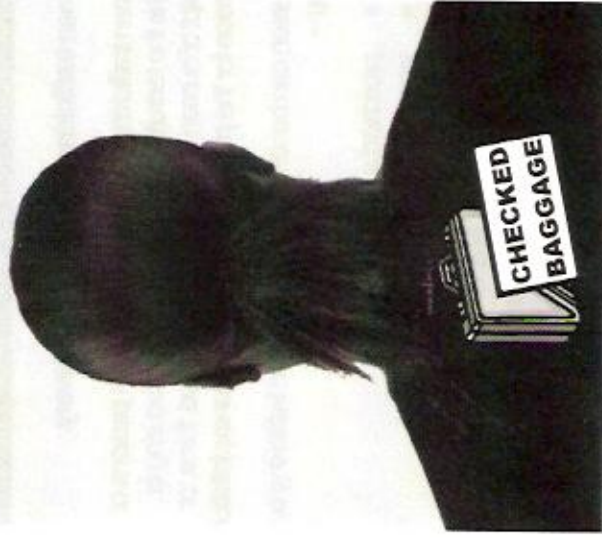
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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

This leaflet is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of Help & Shelter and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.



stop trafficking in women



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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

What is human trafficking?

Human trafficking is modern day slavery.

Human trafficking (also called trafficking in persons or TIP) is the recruitment, transportation, harbouring or receipt of human beings by means of fraud, force, or coercion for the purpose of sexual or labour exploitation.

A person can become a victim of human trafficking by being –

- promised a good job
- promised education
- promised marriage
- sold by parents, husbands, boyfriends
- kidnapped by traffickers

Traffickers exploit victims for –

- commercial sex – prostitution, stripping, pornography, live-sex shows
- forced labour – as domestic, sweatshop factory, mine, restaurant and farm workers

Traffickers will harm victims and their families to keep them under control.

After drug dealing, human trafficking ties with illegal arms dealing as the second largest criminal industry in the world today, and it is the fastest growing.

Who are the victims of human trafficking?

Victims of human trafficking are young children, teenagers, men and women.

It is estimated that:

- approximately 900,000 people are trafficked annually worldwide
- 80% of victims are women and girls

Who are human traffickers?

Traffickers are not always strangers.

People are often 'trafficked' by someone they know -

- a relative
- a neighbour
- a friend or acquaintance

Traffickers will promise employment, education or marriage and will offer to pay the travel and other costs.

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Why are women vulnerable to human trafficking?

Among the many reasons why women are more vulnerable than men to being trafficked are:

- unemployment or poverty. It is estimated that two thirds of the world population living in poverty are women
- lack of education and professional opportunities
- persisting discrimination against women
- high demand for women's sexual and labour services

Don't women choose to take these risks?

Women often choose to migrate in search of work and a better future, but their choices are very limited due to poverty, lack of education and poor socio-economic conditions. They are willing to take risks in order to improve their living conditions.

But this does not mean that women should have their fundamental rights and freedoms violated.

What kind of lives do trafficked women have?

Trafficked women -

- ♦ are isolated – locked in a room or house with no outside contact
- ♦ have their ID cards, passports and other documents taken away
- ♦ are subjected to debt bondage (made to work to repay a debt they are told they owe for travelling and living expenses)
- ♦ are starved, beaten and raped
- ♦ are forced to take illegal drugs
- ♦ are threatened with violence to themselves or their families

What can be done to combat human trafficking?

Human trafficking is a serious criminal offence.

Under the 2004 Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act

- ✓ all forms of human trafficking are prohibited
- ✓ traffickers can be imprisoned for 3 years to life
- ✓ traffickers' property can be forfeited
- ✓ victims can receive full restitution
- ✓ victims can receive protection and help to return home

In order to prevent and stop human trafficking -

- The police are prosecuting traffickers
- The Government, Help & Shelter and other NGOs are
 - warning people about human trafficking
 - protecting and supporting victims
 - encouraging people to report human trafficking