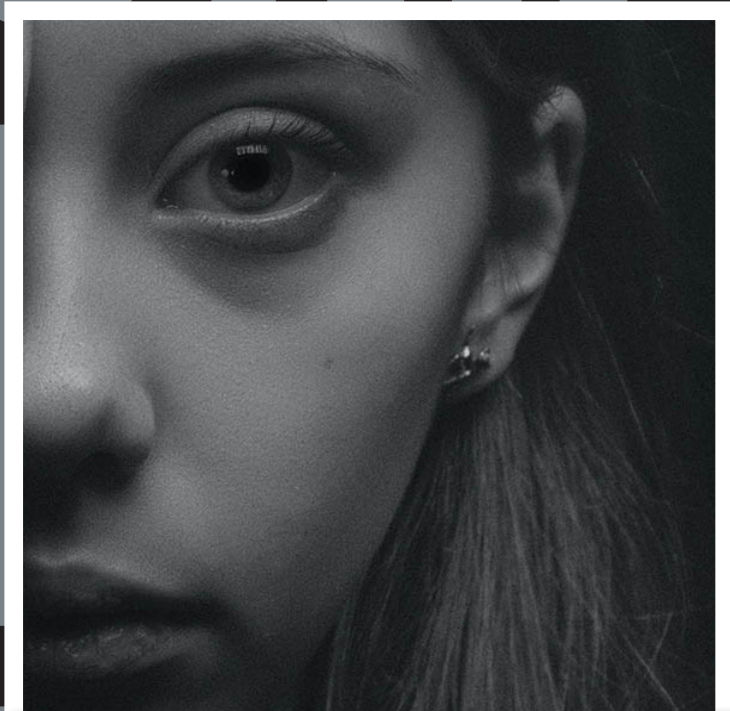


HUMAN TRAFFICKING



Kayla, Age 13 Richmond, VA



HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS SLAVERY

RESOURCE GUIDE

Human trafficking is slavery. It's the illegal trade of human beings. It's the recruitment, control, and use of people for their bodies and for their labor, through force, fraud, and coercion. People everywhere are being bought and sold against their will – right now in the 21st century.

Human trafficking can take different forms, such as forced labor, sex trafficking, organ trafficking, child soldier, child marriage and debt bondage. There are 40.3 million people currently enslaved around the world. Statistics say that 71% of them are women, 29% men, and 25% are children. It is a \$150 billion dollar industry and is the fastest-growing criminal industry in the world.

Traffickers don't fit just one stereotype and aren't necessarily strangers to their victims. These exploiters have been found to be family members, peers, romantic partners, educators, employers, community leaders, and clergy.

ACGC's Department of Women's Ministries is seeking to raise awareness and encourage our ministries to get involved in the fight against human trafficking. Engaging in education, supporting prevention initiatives and victim care can bring hope and relief.

We will soon provide education and material with pertinent information, facts and statistics about human trafficking. In this booklet, you will find a list of reputable organizations in the U.S. that are making an on-going and positive impact nationally and globally and that have been found to be fiscally responsible. You will also find a list of books and movies on the topic. Join us in the fight to stop human trafficking.

Statistics from www.A21.org

40

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ORGANIZATIONS

LOCAL AND NATIONAL

The Wellhouse (Odenville, AL) www.The-wellhouse.org - provides residential, therapeutic programs to female victims of human trafficking who have been sexually exploited, offering medical, spiritual, mental, and emotional care.

4theONE Foundation (Denton, TX) www.4theone.org - is dedicated to the location and recovery of missing and exploited teens.

Refuge For Women (Lexington, KY) www.refugeforwomen.org - provides specialized long-term care for women who have escaped human trafficking or sexual exploitation. With multiple locations across the U.S., Refuge for Women offers up to twelve months of safe housing, at no charge to the resident, with around the clock care as clients progress through evidence-based, trauma-informed programming.

Let My People Go (Chicago, IL) www.lmpg.org - dedicated to building a network of well-equipped churches capable of loving those most vulnerable in their churches and communities. Practically, this "love" is evidenced throughout the congregation as the church identifies, empowers, protects, and includes those who traffickers would normally target.

The Wellhouse website is also home to their on-line shop where supporters can purchase handmade jewelry made by survivors. Purchases directly benefit this organization's fight against sex trafficking.

Poiema Foundation (Rockwall, TX) www.poiemafoundation.org - educates the public and raises awareness in order to prevent sexual abuse, sex trafficking, and other methods of sexual exploitation. We also facilitate the restoration journey of survivors by providing for their physical, psychological, emotional, and spiritual needs.

Thistle Farms (Nashville, TN) www.thistlefarms.org - dedicated to helping women survivors recover and heal from prostitution, trafficking, and addiction by providing a safe place to live, a meaningful job, and a lifelong sisterhood of support.

Street Grace (Norcross, GA) www.street-grace.org - a faith-driven organization collaborating with faith, business and community leaders providing a comprehensive path to end the sexual exploitation of minors.



ORGANIZATIONS

INTERNATIONAL

A21 (Santa Ana, CA) www.A21.org - driven by a radical hope that the tragic cycle of human trafficking can be broken by reaching (education & awareness), rescuing (partnering with authorities to secure the freedom of victims and the conviction of human traffickers), and restoring (empowering survivors of human trafficking on their unique journey toward restoration and independence).

International Justice Mission (Washington, DC) www.ijm.org - IJM rescues children, women and men by disrupting the slave trade. At IJM, they work with local governments to rescue victims and throw their oppressors in jail.

Agape International Missions (Roseville, CA) www.aimfree.org - to rescue, restore, and reintegrate survivors of sex trafficking through Christ's love and Gospel. To prevent sex trafficking by protecting, equipping and empowering vulnerable and exploited communities, reducing demand and equipping the local church to do the same worldwide.

Hope For Justice (Nashville, TN) www.hopeforjustice.org - Hope for Justice exists to bring an end to modern slavery by preventing exploitation, rescuing victims, restoring lives, and reforming society.

Rahab's Rope (Gainesville, GA) www.rahabsrope.com - exists to provide alternatives to sex work and restore hope and purpose to the lives of women and children in India.

Shared Hope International (Vancouver, WA) www.sharedhope.org - dedicated to bringing an end to sex trafficking through our three-pronged approach – prevent, restore, and bring justice.

Tim Tebow Foundation (Jacksonville, FL) www.timtebowfoundation.org/ministries/anti-human-trafficking - In partnership with organizations in both the US and abroad, the Foundation is actively fighting against human trafficking in three ways. First, they are proactive. This foundation believes that the implementation of programs designed to preserve and strengthen a healthy family unit is key to lowering the trend. Secondly, they are reactive. Working in conjunction with rescue organizations on the front lines, they are actively involved in the literal rescue of those who are enslaved. And finally, they are committed to supporting the survivors' long-term recovery through relationship by providing them with comprehensive resources needed for healing, including sharing with them the life-changing message of the Gospel, so they may overcome the vicious trauma and abuse they have suffered.

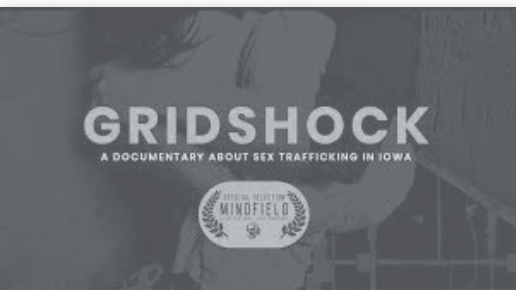
Love146 (New Haven, CT) www.love146.org - journeys alongside children impacted by trafficking today and prevents the trafficking of children tomorrow.

MOVIES/DOCUMENTARIES

Gridshock (2019) – Warning - this documentary is very graphic, but informative.

Priceless (2016) PG-13 – a Christian drama depicting the rescue of a young woman who is being sold into slavery

8 Days (2015) – a drama about a teen girl with an overprotective mother who was kidnapped and put into service and rescued eight days later; filmed in cooperation with Homeland Security and is a very realistic scenario



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BOOKS

Find Your Way Home: Words from the Street, Wisdom from the Heart

By Women of Magdalene with Becca Stevens (Abingdon Press, 2008)

This 119-page book is an easy read about the Magdalene residential community for women who have survived lives of prostitution, violence, and abuse. It highlights the 24 rules they live by in the home and includes excerpts from the women about how those rules have impacted their lives and promoted healing.

Forgotten Girls: Stories of Hope and Courage

By Kay Marshall Strom and Michele Rickett (Intervarsity Press, 2009)

This is a collection of stories from real-life girls around the world about surviving violence, abuse, discrimination and injustice and how God had a hand in turning their lives around and giving them hope. It is a good book for a group to read together and includes discussion guides.

Slave Stealers: True Accounts of Slave Rescues Then and Now

By Timothy Ballard (Shadow Mountain Publisher, 2018)

Review by Dawn Rutan: "I was drawn to this book because I've read several biographies from the Civil War era, including the biography of Harriet Jacobs who was

featured in this book. Modern child-trafficking has many parallels with the slave trade, preying on innocent victims for immoral purposes. As in the 1800s, we need to raise awareness of what is really happening in the world around us so that we can be motivated and take action to put an end to it. I would encourage others to read this book in order to put a face on the issue and get engaged in this modern civil war."

For further information from Dawn, see her blog post: <https://bit.ly/2XkQclg>

The Water Keeper

By Charles Martin (Thomas Nelson, 2021)

The Water Keeper is an action packed novel of a former priest involved in rescuing girls from human traffickers. The characters draw you in and make it an engaging read even though the subject matter is dark. The author helps to highlight the dangers and complications of trafficking and its many costs for the victims and rescuers.