

## Critical Analysis of Human Trafficking

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When one listens to the word human trafficking the only thing or the first thing, they understand is the trade of humans for sexual slavery or commercial sexual exploitation. But there are some factors that are linked with each other that gives rise to human trafficking.

Economic instability (poverty), lack of education, corruption, lack of job opportunities, lack of human rights (many people do not know what rights do they have and to which extent they could use it) are some of the reasons as to why human trafficking happens. If we take a look at these factors, we can understand that human trafficking is not only sexually oriented but it also leads to forced labour and fraudulent sale of the organs.

The victims of trafficking can be of any gender and age, where in the woman and children are often used for sexual exploitation where as men are used for forced labour. Children are also exploited for some other purposes like forced begging, child pornography, child labour, etc.

Human trafficking is happening everywhere. It is a domestic (within the country) and an international (victims are trafficked to other countries and continents) crime. It is sometimes confused with kidnapping because in both the crimes they illegally take someone away against their will but in kidnapping they take the person to get ransom where as in trafficking they sell the person for commercial gain.

Human trafficking is one of the largest international crime industries in the world. It earns profit of roughly \$150 billion per annum for traffickers, says the ILO (international labour organisation), 2014 report.

When coming to our country, although human trafficking is illegal in India it still remains a significant problem. To eradicate this issue the legal system of India has taken many steps. So here is a list of laws made against human trafficking.

1. Under article 23(1) of Indian constitution, trafficking of human beings or persons is prohibited.
2. Section 370 and 370A of Indian penal code provides for comprehensive measures to counter the menace of human trafficking. [this came into force by the criminal law amendment act, 2013]

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3. Protection of children from sexual offences (POSCO) Act, 2012.
4. Sections 372 and 373 of Indian penal code deals with buying and selling of minors for prostitution or illicit intercourse.
5. There are many other specific legislations related to trafficking like bonded labour system (abolition) act, 1976; child labour act (prohibition and regulation), 1986; transplantation of human organs act, 1994; prohibition of child marriage act, 2006; etc.

The government of different states have also enacted some specific legislations to deal with the issue.

#### **EFFECTS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (on people)**

1. Human trafficking leaves both mental and physical impact on the people. He mental issues includes PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder), anxiety and of course depression.
2. People who are forced into trafficking are at a higher risk of getting affected with STD's (sexually transmitted disease) like HIV (human immuno-deficiency virus), AIDS (Acquired immune deficiency syndrome), PID (pelvic inflammatory disease), etc., which may not be curable after a certain stage.
3. Isolation from their families and communities.
4. Restricted movement and reduced opportunities for personal development.
5. It also compromises with the fundamental rights given to us.

#### **STATISTICS RELATED TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

The countries that have the most trafficking going on are New York, Florida, California, Texas, etc. basically its more prevalent in the US. In India the highest amount of cases on human trafficking were reported in West Bengal, Rajasthan, Gujrat, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

According to data from UN, 51% of victims trafficked are women and 20% are girls making 71% of victims trafficked as females.

According to united nations office on drugs and crimes 2016 global report on trafficking in persons, 54% of the victims trafficked in 2014 were trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation, 38% for forced labour and 8% for other forms of trafficking.

#### **SUGGESTIONS TO ERADICATE HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

1. The documents like passports must be carefully issued because in many cases we can observe that people are being trafficked using fake ID's.
2. Children are too innocent to know or understand what is right or wrong. So, I think we should try to include modern slavery into their curriculum so that they could be aware of how school children get targeted for being trafficked.
3. Awareness programs or campaigns are to be conducted so that even the uneducated people get to know about these crimes and their safety measures.
4. We must start some donation camps so that we can sponsor their medical and psychological fees.
5. We must open low cost rehabilitation centres which will counsel the victims and help them overcome from the mental stress.

It is very disheartening to know that even after implementation of many laws the rate of human trafficking is going on increasing. I know that a change cannot be brought easily and all of sudden but as a responsible citizen we all must start taking baby steps towards eradication as we all know that a journey starts with a single step. If we all work for it together, one fine day not only our country but also the world may become free from human trafficking, I can say this surely because THE WORLD RESTS ON HOPE.