

# KNOW human trafficking

# 1-800-655-4095



anonymous  
SoCal  
hotline



**Modern-day slavery lives around us...  
Be alert. Be aware. Learn more...  
Make the call. Free a life...**

## More About Trafficking in Humans and Modern Slavery

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services explains that “human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery. Victims of human trafficking are subjected to force, fraud, or coercion, for the purpose of sexual exploitation or forced labor. Victims are young children, teenagers, men and women.” Trafficking is a federal crime but its very nature makes it difficult to detect.

Public awareness is crucial. Church members, students and others who have been educated about slavery have helped rescue slaves by using anonymous trafficking hotlines to alert authorities about suspected problems.

## Signs of Slavery

A person who becomes enslaved by traffickers loses control over his or her life. Some indicators are that he or she:

- can not change employers
- does not control his or her earnings
- is being held against his or her will
- is afraid to discuss himself or herself in the presence of others
- lives on or near the workplace, possibly under guard
- has injuries from beatings or signs of torture like cigarette burns or branding
- suffers from malnourishment

Traffickers often confiscate passports and other documents, overestimate unenforceable debts, and threaten the lives of a victim’s family members.

## What You Can Do

Everyone can participate in the fight to end modern slavery. Here are a few suggestions:

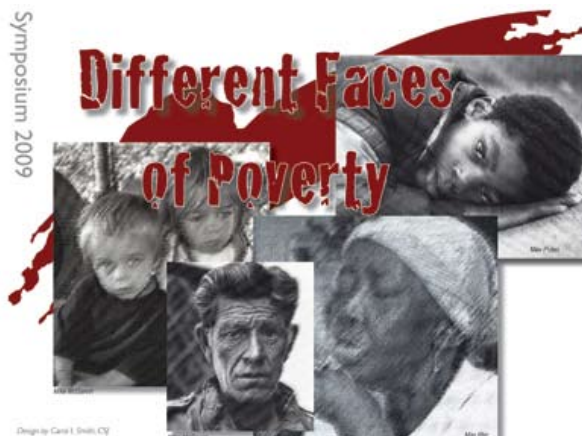
- Recognize the signs of slavery and call the trafficking hotline if you believe you have seen or met a person who is enslaved. Hotline numbers are 1-800-655-4095 in Southern California or 1-888-3737-888 nationally.
- Sign up at [sndca.org/trafficking](http://sndca.org/trafficking) to educate yourself and others about the issue of trafficking in humans and modern slavery by receiving our awareness newsletter.
- Make the Freedom for Everyone pledge at [sndca.org/freedom](http://sndca.org/freedom) and encourage others to live the pledge with you.
- Minimize opportunities for exploitation by supporting fair trade and anti-poverty programs.
- Support organizations like Catholic Relief Services, the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST), and Free the Slaves that are working to raise awareness, prevent human trafficking and restore survivors of slavery to freedom and the fullness of life.

## Learn More at

**Symposium 2009 - February 14, 2009**

**Different Faces of Poverty**

**Mount St. Mary’s College, Doheny Campus**



Sponsored by the Southern California Partners for Global Justice, CAST, the Office of Peace and Justice, and PAX Christi’s Southern California and Los Angeles Chapters.

**Keynote Speaker: Simone Campbell, SSS, Executive Director of NETWORK.** Contact Zonia at 323-887-8821, ext. 220 for more details or download brochure at [sndca.org/trafficking](http://sndca.org/trafficking).

**For more information, contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Facts & Resources

The United Nations currently estimates human trafficking to be the fastest growing criminal enterprise in the world, second only to drug trafficking in terms of illicit money. Experts believe that 27 million people around the world live in slavery, and between 14-17,000 people are brought to the United States for exploitation as domestic servants, restaurant workers, janitors, agricultural workers, seamstresses, factory workers or in the commercial sex trade. Runaway children in the United States are at high risk of being exploited by pimps and other criminals who find it easy to manipulate, dominate and coerce minors.

### Online

CAST - Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking  
[castla.org](http://castla.org)

Catholic Relief Services  
[crs.org](http://crs.org)

Free the Slaves  
[www.freetheslaves.net](http://www.freetheslaves.net)

U.S. Bishops' Statement and Resources on Human Trafficking  
[www.usccb.org/mrs/trafficking/resources.shtml](http://www.usccb.org/mrs/trafficking/resources.shtml)

### Books and Films

#### Suggested Reading:

*Ending Slavery*, Kevin Bales

*Not for Sale*, David Batstone

*A Crime So Monstrous*, E. Benjamin Skinner

#### Documentaries available on DVD:

*Lives for Sale* - [livesforsale.com](http://livesforsale.com)

*Stolen Childhoods* - [stolenchildhoods.org](http://stolenchildhoods.org)

#### Some fictional films are widely available:

*Trade*, starring Kevin Kline

*Human Trafficking*, starring Mira Sorvino

*Crash*, Oscar Winner, Best Motion Picture

## Prayers & Spiritual Resources

### *Some Suggestions:*

Meditate on the hymn *Amazing Grace*, which was written by John Henry Newton, a former slave ship captain. Where is there slavery in your life? How can your choices lead to freedom and dignity for everyone?

Read Matthew 25:31-36 and consider how we are called to respond to the least of our brothers and sisters, including people who are enslaved.

### *Prayer to End Human Trafficking*

Heavenly Father, we pray for the release of the millions of innocent children, teenagers, women and men who have been drawn into prostitution, sweatshops and domestic servitude by human trafficking. Increase our awareness of this terrible injustice. May the compassionate people who seek to help these victims be blessed in their efforts to free them from captivity and to provide safe shelters for them. We confidently ask all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

### *Intercession for Mass or during Liturgy of the Hours*

For freedom for everyone  
and for an end to human trafficking  
of millions of children and adults  
and for blessings on those who assist in their release, we pray...

--Sr. Antonine Manning, SND

**For more information, contact:** \_\_\_\_\_