

In Preparation for the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons – 30 July 2019

SEE: “The vile crime that feeds on inequalities, instability and conflict. Human trafficking profits from peoples’ hopes and despair. They prey on the vulnerable and rob them of their fundamental rights.”
(UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres 2018)

‘Modern Slavery Ring’ ensnared 400 people who’d been living in desperate straits in Poland, often homeless and suffering from addictions. So when the call came to get free housing and well-paid jobs in Britain, hundreds decided to make the move. (2019)



SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

This is the most common crime within human trafficking. It represents 59% of the cases worldwide.



CHILD TRAFFICKING

Every day, 4,000 children are victims of trafficking.



FORCED BEGGING

This is one of the industries that absorbs trafficked children. 13% of the victims of trafficking in southeastern Europe are taken with this kind of modern slavery in mind.



FORCED MARRIAGE

There are 15.4 million people throughout the world who live in forced marriage. 37% of the victims are less than 18 years old.



FORCED LABOR

Today, there are 24.9 million people on the planet carrying out forced labor. 7 of every 10 of these people are from the regions of Asia and the Pacific.



CHILD SOLDIERS

Currently, there are an estimated 300,000 male and female child soldiers in armed conflicts throughout the world.



ORGAN TRAFFICKING

Of the more than 100,000 transplants that take place in the world each year, the WHO estimates that 8% of them are performed using organs that come from the black market.

Queensland Industrial Relations Minister has welcomed an **Australian-first conviction of a labour hire provider** who supplied workers to a business without a licence to do so. A & J Group Services Pty Ltd was found guilty and fined \$60,000 in the Stanthorpe Magistrates Court in Queensland. (June 2019)

We’ve learnt of a number of elderly Chinese people arrested for **begging on the streets of Melbourne**. Was trafficking involved in any of this activity? (July 2019)

Children as young as six years old are being forced into child marriage in Australia, and more than 100 cases of forced child marriage are currently being investigated by the Australian Federal Police. (February 2019)

JUDGE: Each person deserves to be respected and have their rights upheld.

“I have come so that all may have life and have it in all its fullness.” Jesus

“Among so many open wounds in our world, one of the most troubling is the trade in human beings, a modern form of slavery, which violates the God-given dignity of so many of our brothers and sisters.” (Pope Francis 2016)

“No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.”
#4 UN Declaration of Human Rights (1948)

ACT:

What action are you planning for 30 July – World Day Against Trafficking in Persons?



Today let's renew our commitment to pray for an end to human trafficking & to respond to issues of prevention, protection & prosecution, in partnership with others.

* We pray and act on behalf of children, young people, migrants and refugees who are especially vulnerable. **ALL: May our lives reflect understanding and kindness**

* We pray and act on behalf of women and girls who are targeted again and again.

ALL: May our lives reflect understanding and kindness

* We pray and act on behalf of young people forced into marriages and other forms of abuse.

ALL: May our lives reflect understanding and kindness

* We pray and act on behalf of workers trapped in exploitative work especially in market gardens, orchards and mines, or the construction and fashion industries.

ALL: May our lives reflect understanding and kindness

* We pray and act for an end to the appalling trade in human organs.

ALL: May our lives reflect understanding and kindness

* We pray for ourselves, our staff and all members of ACRATH as well as for our supporters, donors and all engaged in raising awareness about human trafficking and taking action to eliminate it.

ALL: May our lives truly reflect understanding and kindness. Amen

