



What have the churches in Scotland been doing?

Learning and networking:

- exchanging information with key stakeholders by hosting Round Table meetings.

Awareness raising:

- giving talks and running workshops. To arrange a speaker, call Action of Churches Together in Scotland on 01259 216980.
- producing information leaflets
1: Human Trafficking: The Human Stories
2: Human Trafficking, What are the Indicators?
http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/speak_out/social_issues/human_trafficking
- the Church of Scotland has prepared information and study resources (e.g. To be Silent is to be Unfaithful, http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0015/3840/To_be_silent_is_to_be_unfaithful.pdf)

Being politically engaged:

- through membership of the Cross-Party Group on Human Trafficking at Holyrood.
- responding to Government and consultations on human trafficking, the criminalisation of the purchase of sex, and licensing venues for sexual entertainment.

What help is available?

Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance (TARA) - offers support, advocacy, and advice to trafficked women in Scotland

www.saferglasgow.com/what-we-do.aspx

Tel: 0141 276 7729

Police Scotland - information at:

www.scotland.police.uk/whats-happening

To report suspicion of human trafficking call 101.

Migrant Help - provides support and safe accommodation across the UK:

www.migranthelp.org/human-trafficking

Tel: 07766 668 781

Scottish Guardianship Service - supports trafficked children and young people.

Email: guardianship@aberlour.org.uk

Tel: 0141 4458659

The Salvation Army - manages the support for victims on behalf of the government in England & Wales.

www.salvationarmy.org.uk/uki/humantrafficking

Tel: 0300 3038151

Hope for Justice - provides advice on human trafficking.

Email: info@hopeforjustice.org.uk

Tel: 0845 519 7402

▶ If you see something suspicious,
call Crimestoppers on

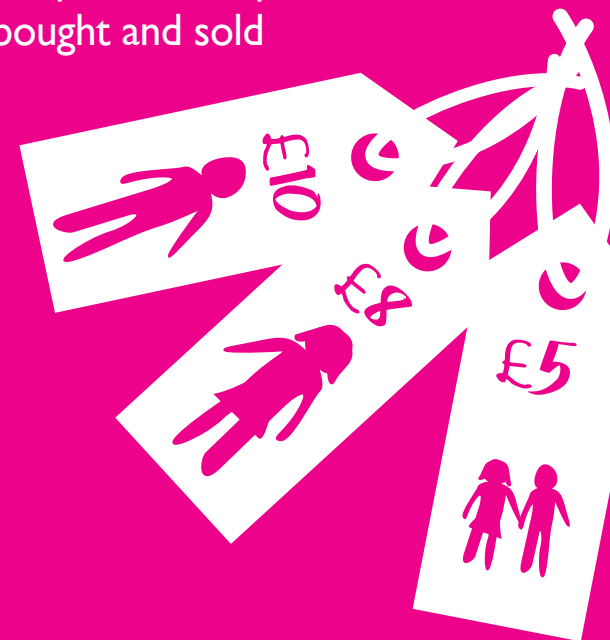
0800 555 111

or contact Police Scotland by calling 101, or
the UK Human Trafficking Centre Tactical Advice Team
on 0844 778 2406

Human Trafficking:

The Human Stories

People are too precious to be
bought and sold



acts

Action of churches together in Scotland

Scottish Charity Number: SC000295



Human Trafficking: The Human Stories

What is human trafficking?

Human trafficking is an appalling crime in which people are bought and sold, moved as commodities across the world or within their own country. While this crime lines the pockets of the trafficker, those who are trafficked find themselves trapped and forced to work for long hours in poor conditions for little or no pay.

They do not choose this life for themselves. They may have been forcibly abducted, sold by a family member or deceived into willingly accompanying a trafficker. All are unaware of the dangers that lie ahead, and all are kept against their will, imprisoned either physically or through fear and psychological pressure. People who are trafficked are forced into illegal activities such as prostitution, bonded labour, domestic servitude, benefit fraud, shoplifting and pick pocketing, or cannabis cultivation.

The scale of human trafficking

The International Labour Organization estimates that at present over 20 million people are victims of forced labour worldwide. This includes many who have been trafficked. During 2013 the UK authorities recorded 1,746 individuals as potential victims of trafficking into this country. Given the covert nature of this criminal activity, this is probably a huge under-estimate. Stop the Traffik suggests that the true figure for the UK is nearer 10,000 to 20,000 per annum.

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Experiences of victims in Scotland

'I was kept in a locked room with my daughter: When men came the trafficker would unlock the door and take my daughter away, she would tell me to get myself ready ... When the men came in the room they would tell me what they wanted. I just did it because I had to ... While I was with these men I could hear my daughter crying in the other room. It was terrible. When the men were finished they would use the bathroom and then leave. I never saw any money.'

(Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance, 2014)

'I felt so miserable. My dreams did not come true. I was imagining it differently. Picking berries from the early morning until late evening ... bending down on the fields for many hours is a very hard work. By lunchtime we were worn out: legs, arms and back were hurting a lot. My age added to it as well. The supervisors shouted at us, swore at us ... did not call us by our names, we were called by numbers. They treated us like slaves. We were paid in envelopes, we had a lot of deductions for the caravan, for transport, to pay our debt and percentage on top of it and some other unexplained deductions, so we had nearly nothing left. But we did not have a choice as we did not have our passport and very little language knowledge.'

(Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2012)

'I was delivering leaflets and collection bags ... for charity ... Save the Children written on the back [but not really for them] ... illegal distributors ... picking up bags ... I was paid £15 a week'.

(Equality and Human Rights Commission, 2011)