

# STUDENT TOOL KIT





# How to use this toolkit

We at Oasis USA are constantly looking to find new ways to get the word out about the terrible crime of human trafficking. So, get creative!

Please use this resource in the way that suits you best, depending on your leadership style and the group that you are involved with.

We do suggest that you have two leaders running your club, so if one of you has a deadline the other can take the reins!

If you have any questions or need any resources, you can call us at 626-584-0800 or shoot us an email at [info@oasisusa.org](mailto:info@oasisusa.org).

## What is Oasis USA and the **STOP THE TRAFFIK Campaign?**

STOP THE TRAFFIK is a global movement working to combat the fastest growing global crime: people trafficking. Around the world men, women and children are being treated as commodities—something to be bought, sold, and enslaved.

STOP THE TRAFFIK has more than 1,000 member organizations in 50 countries & a grassroots following of everyday activists around the world. Some of us sign petitions, wear symbols of the campaign, spread the message, and show our support through adapting our lifestyles.

We believe that when people act, things change.

Oasis USA is based on the West Coast and has many initiatives to end human trafficking from Traffik Free Communities to Freedom Bags. To learn more visit [www.oasisusa.org](http://www.oasisusa.org)

We are working together in areas of **education, advocacy** and **fundraising**.

- **Education:** Spreading the message, creating awareness and understanding of human trafficking.
- **Advocacy:** Engaging those who have the power to minimize trafficking.
- **Fundraising:** Financing anti-trafficking work around the world working with the most vulnerable potential victims as well as survivors.

# The **TOOLKIT** check list

## **1. The problem**

Human Trafficking  
Global and Local  
DVDs/ Books

## **2. Shop 'til it drops**

Intro to fair trade  
How we can help  
Fundraising ideas  
Writing letters  
DVD's/ Tony Chocolonely

## **3. Next door**

Global sex trade  
How to recognize and report it

## **4. At home**

Situation in the U.S.  
How can we get involved?

## **5. Chocoholics: unite**

Let's do something  
Holiday time  
Give to raise awareness and funds  
Sell fair trade, give fair trade

## **6. Ahem... Speak up!**

Who can we tell?  
What will we do... where we are, with our resources?

## **7. Where to, next?**

What now?  
Interns, volunteering, overseas opportunities, giving

# Your club, your style

We want you to decide what your Oasis USA/ STOP THE TRAFFIK club looks like. You can meet at a house, a local coffee shop, somewhere on your campus; it's totally up to you.

We do recommend you begin your gatherings by introducing the focus points for the meeting and what you are looking to achieve.

## **For example:**

### **Introductions**

Getting to know each other/ finding out what each other already knows about human trafficking

### **What the focus of the meeting is**

Chocolate/ local outreach/ international focus, etc.

### **Share information from Oasis USA/ STOP THE TRAFFIK**

Talk about how you as a group could **help to end Human Trafficking**

### **Organizing events**

Film Screening, booth at campus fair, chocolate sale in the cafeteria

### **Questions/ suggestions/ Discussion**

### **Next gathering info**



# Part 1 - The problem

## **Suggested resources:**

A movie to watch together like: *Trade*, *Taken*, *Fields of Mudan*, *Cargo: Innocence Lost*, *Amazing Grace*, *Lilja 4 – Ever*.

**There are 27 million people held in slavery in the world today.**

## **Historical rundown of slavery, in the last couple centuries**

**1807** marked the year that England finally admitted the evils of colonial slavery. People like politician William Wilberforce and former slave Olaudah Equiano challenged the economic status quo, leading the developed world into an eventual overturn of what we traditionally consider slavery.

While this halted a huge global atrocity, slavery morphed and continued to be a twisted force well into the twentieth century. In **1948** the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stated, “No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms” (Article 4). This was defined more explicitly in **1989**, when the UN convention on the Rights of the Child committed to “Prevent the abduction of, the sale of or traffic in children for any purpose or in any form” (Article 35).

If that wasn't enough, in **2000** the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons (aka the 'Palermo Protocol') set an agreed upon international definition of human trafficking and the dislocation of someone by deception or coercion for exploitation. It addressed general prevention, prosecution of traffickers and protection of victims.

This is what we mean when we talk about what modern-day slavery is.

In separate forms, it looks like:

**Sex Trafficking:** *Any commercial sex act induced by force, fraud or coercion. Any minor under 18 involved in prostitution, stripping and/or pornography production is automatically a victim. Victims can be found working in massage parlors, brothels, strip clubs and escort services.*

**Labor Trafficking:** *Using force, fraud or coercion to recruit, harbor, transport, obtain or employ a person for labor or services in involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery. Victims can be found in domestic situations as nannies or maids, sweatshop factories, janitorial jobs, construction sites, farms, restaurants, traveling circuses and shows, or on the streets begging.*

**Child Soldiers:** *Recruitment, even if voluntary, of kids under 18 for armed conflict.*

**Forced organ donors:** *Forced giving of body parts or organs for anyone.*

Does trafficking mean someone has to leave their home country? Nope, that's **smuggling**, which is the transfer or travel of any trafficked person from one place to another, across state, national and/or international borders.

The U.S. State Department estimates that at least **17,500 people** are “trafficked” against their will into the U.S. every year- this excludes the thousands of Americans trafficked within the United States.

It's also the **fastest growing** of the top three **illegal world trades**, alongside arms (weapons) & drugs.

***Human trafficking is the second largest criminal industry in the world and is worth \$9.5 billion.***

Trafficking affects virtually every country, and particularly those who are vulnerable or poor.

In some countries, parents sell children for as little as **\$30**.

“Traffickers” circle natural disaster sites for orphans, as was the case during the Thailand/India Tsunami.

**Your chocolate** may have come from West African cocoa farms, where trafficked children are often used. **12,000 children have been trafficked into cocoa farms** along the Ivory Coast of West Africa.

**Your clothes** may come from sweatshops, where women and children work in slave like conditions for 12-14 hours a day. Pay for them is sometimes as little as **\$9 a month!**

**So if this has already been addressed from the top, historically and recently, what is the deal?**

Why is slavery still around?

The International Labor Organization (ILO) suggests,  
“Whilst many countries have signed and ratified the [UN Protocol] Convention, few have effectively implemented it, and it is only when local residents be the change that they want to see in their communities that the traffic will be stopped” (page 56 of Stop the Traffik Book)

As you begin learning about this subject, we encourage you to dive in head first into discovering the ugly truths, the faces behind the numbers.

We suggest you pop some popcorn, get as many people together as you can and watch one of the mentioned films. Make sure you have enough time after to

debrief and discuss what people are experiencing and what you as a group want to do to be a part of Oasis USA and STOP THE TRAFFIK!

There are some great books listed below. Choose one as a group, try reading at least a few chapters, then get together and discuss what you've learned. Aim for reading so much of the book so often (like one chapter a week), and discuss it each time you hang out together.

## Books to read:

Disposable People - Kevin Bales

Terrify No More - Gary Haugen

Not for Sale - David Batstone

Ending Slavery: How we Free Today's Slaves - Kevin Bales

Stop the Traffik- Steve Chalke



## Part 2 – Shop ‘til it drops: Buying habits that stop the spread of slavery

### Suggested resources:

#### Fair trade chocolate or coffee to taste and enjoy

America is the world’s largest chocolate consumer. In **2000**, the US imported **729,000** tons of cocoa beans/ processed products, ate **3.3** billion pounds and spent **\$13** billion on it.

An estimated **12,000** children have been trafficked into cocoa farms in Cote D’Ivoire

“If you eat chocolate that isn’t traffic free, then you’ve got **blood on your teeth.**”

Rhys Ifans

An 11 year old boy abused and worked on an Ivory Coast chocolate plantation, when interviewed for the movie *Slavery: A Global Investigation*, stated, “When you eat **chocolate**, you eat my **flesh.**”

At least **12.3** million people are victims of forced labor worldwide. Of these **2.4** million are as a result of Human Trafficking. (A global alliance against forced labor, ILO, 2005)

For more chocolate resources, visit [www.stophetraffik.org](http://www.stophetraffik.org)

### What is fair trade?

The fair trade system ensures that people along every step of the supply chain receive fair wages; that workers and communities are treated with dignity; and that artisans and producers take steps to preserve the environment.

The fair trade economy is based on justice, dignity, empowerment, transparency, and respect for people and the planet.

## **Fair Trade vs. Free Trade**

The two terms are often confused, but mean very different things.

“Free” trade, by definition, is survival of the fittest companies in business. Adam Smith, the famous economist known for promoting free trade, encouraged economies unrestricted by government intervention and policies.

Unfortunately, history repeatedly shows that without regulations to ensure minimum respect for people, animals and earth, many people will choose what most benefits them even if at the expense of others.

In the “free” market, small producers are especially vulnerable to commodity price fluctuations. The “free” trade model can also have devastating impacts on the environment.

Fair trade is about calling out corporations that willingly commit human rights atrocities by abusing their workers. It promotes others that raise ethical standards and labor practices.

To find out more about Fair Trade:

[www.coopamerica.org](http://www.coopamerica.org)

[www.transfairusa.org](http://www.transfairusa.org)

[www.fairtradefederation.org](http://www.fairtradefederation.org)

## How we can help

There are many ways that we can get involved with this issue.

First, it's important to say that we do not want you to boycott chocolate, sugar, coffee or anything else. Countries' entire economies depend on these products, so boycotting can have a larger and potentially worse impact on economic, political and social structures beyond what we may initially think.

But... we CAN buy them from sources that we know are ethical. In our consumerism we can make a difference to people all around the world.

## GET WRITING!

Letters utilize the pressure of the public demand, which is a huge force on what stores supply. Go to [www.oasisusa.org](http://www.oasisusa.org) and follow the chocolate links to find templates for downloading, then send them to grocery stores asking for more Fair Trade options.

## Fundraising ideas

For the chocoholics out there, there's no need to halt your love affair in the name of social justice. Buy fair trade chocolate, found online and in stores, instead!

Personalize it: melt and mould into hearts, cubes or anything else you can imagine to share or sell.

You can then use that money earned to help us build a Safe House for children that have been rescued from cocoa farms in Africa.

Check out Tony Chokolonly, the Dutch man who got himself arrested for eating chocolate made with slave labor- [www.chocolonly.com](http://www.chocolonly.com) (in English, <http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=nl&u=http://www.chocolonly.com>)

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Watch the film 'The Fair Trade,' available at - [www.thefairtrademovie.com](http://www.thefairtrademovie.com)



## Part 3 – Next door

### Suggested Resources:

**A globe; awareness cards from Oasis/ Stop the Traffik to give out to people on your campus with keys to identifying victims; business cards with contact info, the movie *Born into Brothels***

UNICEF reports that across the world, there are over **one million children entering the sex trade every year** and that approximately **30 million children have lost their childhood through sexual exploitation** over the past **30 years**.

In **India**, more than **2.3 million girls and women** are believed to be in the sex industry, and experts believe that more than 200,000 persons are trafficked into, within, or through the country annually. There are approximately 3 million trafficking victims in the country, but **only 2,000 rescues a year**. Women's rights organizations and NGOs estimated that more than 12,000- and perhaps as many as 50,000- women and children are trafficked into the country annually from neighboring states specifically for commercial sexual exploitation.

According to an International Labor Organization (ILO) estimate, 15 percent of the country's estimated 2.3 million prostitutes were children, while the UN reported that an estimated **40 percent of prostitutes were below 18** years of

age. Tribal persons made up a large proportion of the women forced into sexual exploitation.

Prostitution in the **Philippines** is an arguably legal industry, now the fourth largest moneymaker/ source of GNP for the country. 300,000 sex tourists from Japan alone are believed to visit the Philippines every year.

The sex industry in the **Netherlands** is estimated to make almost **\$1 billion each year**. It is a major Western European destination country for trafficked women with 2,000 brothels and numerous escort services, using an estimated 30,000 women. Moreover, 68-80% of women in its sex industry are from other countries, a factor highly indicative of sex trafficking.

Tens of thousands of women and children are trafficked from **Bangladesh** each year. One of the poorest countries in the world, poverty provides traffickers with people who have no alternatives for survival. They trust the **offers of work or marriage** abroad, which **promise security but instead lead to slavery**.

Every month an estimated 200-400 Bangladeshi women and children are trafficked to **Pakistan**; an estimated 10-15,000 are trafficked to **India** annually. Large numbers of boys, as young as four, are abducted or their parents are tricked into sending them to the **United Arab Emirates** and **other Gulf States** to be camel jockeys.

Human trafficking affects a wide range of people. **West African** young children are forced to work in markets or as domestics, women from **Eastern Europe** are trafficked into Western Europe's sex industry, and **Brazilian** men are sent to isolated estates in Amazonia.

Although some people know the work they will be doing, none are aware of the conditions in which they will be kept. Or that they will be forced to work long hours, denied their freedom, and in many cases not be paid. Leaving is rarely an option- usually passports, birth certificates and important IDs are kept by employers.

Primarily, it is poor countries and poor areas that supply the rich. **Poverty lies at the root of this problem;** in order for it to end, the conditions which make it flourish need to be addressed. Laws specific to this abuse also need to be developed and implemented. In many countries, including the UK (still true?), there are no laws which prohibit trafficking. Instead, the **victims** are treated as illegal immigrants and **imprisoned or deported**. The **traffickers**, however, often **go free**.

One of the ways traffickers lure girls into work is through marriage. They offer parents who are too poor to give their daughter a dowry-free marriage. In this way, many are forced into prostitution, factory work and domestic labor.

### **What to look for when you travel:**

- Children soliciting sex
- Work places designed to prohibit escape
- Evidence of workers being controlled
- Workers' inability to leave a job through physical or psychological control
- Bruises or other signs of physical abuse
- Inexperienced sex worker
- Lack of compensation for work

Here are some questions that may help you

**Determine if you are talking with a victim of human trafficking:**

- What type of work do you do?
- Are you being paid?
- Can you leave your job if you want to?
- Can you come and go as you please?
- What are your working and living conditions like?
- Where do you eat and sleep?
- Do you have to ask permission to eat/ sleep/ go to the bathroom?
- Are there locks on the doors/windows so you cannot get out?
- Have you or your family been threatened?
- Has your identification or documentation been taken away from you?



If you see something suspicious when traveling, you can report through this website: [www.businesstravelersus.org](http://www.businesstravelersus.org). They will then contact relevant non-profits agencies or local law enforcement when possible to investigate.

**Your eyes could mean freedom for someone.**

At the end of this session, pass out 'How to Identify Cards' to family and friends and teach them the signs of human trafficking (contact [info@oasisusa.org](mailto:info@oasisusa.org) for some).

## ACT!



Contact Oasis USA for **materials and hand them out** on campus to resource other people on how to STOP THE TRAFFIK!

Get a group together to watch *Born into Brothels*, *The Day my God Died* or *Fields of Mudan*.

## Part 4 - At home

### Suggested Resources:

**U.S. State Department Trafficking in Persons Report 2007**

<http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/>

What is the situation in the U.S.?

***The average age of an American female trafficked for sexual exploitation is  
13***

Join the 13 Campaign, committing to giving \$13 a month to raise awareness that the average age of an American girl trafficked for sex is 13.

## ACT!

### How can we get involved?

STOP THE TRAFFIK and Oasis USA are working together in areas of **education, advocacy, fundraising and intervention.**

**Education:** Spread the message, creating awareness and understanding of people trafficking. Ask for opportunities to speak to your church, small group, work place... Tell people what you've learned and what they can do about it. Contact [info@oasisusa.org](mailto:info@oasisusa.org) for power-point slides to use at speaking events.

**Advocacy:** When people act, things change. Engage with those who have the power to minimize the trafficking of people. Get people writing letters to the government and companies, keeping focus on the issue.

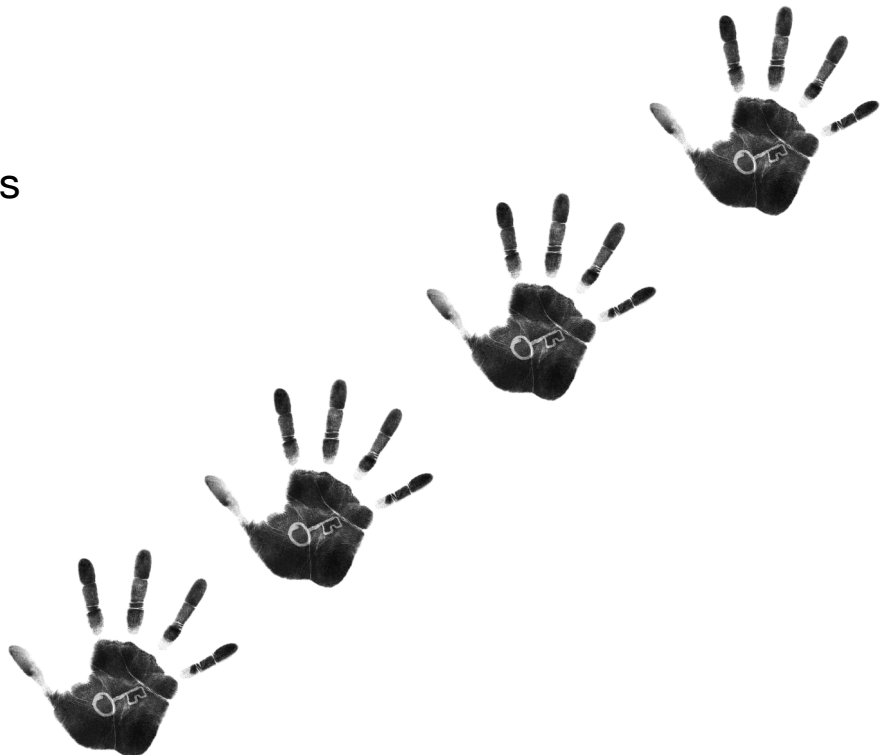
**Fundraising:** Finance anti-trafficking work around the world, working with those vulnerable to and those who have been trafficked. Think of fun ways to raise money, check out the 'ideas for action' section on the STOP THE TRAFFIK website at [www.stopthetraffik.org](http://www.stopthetraffik.org)

**Intervention:** We teach people what to look for and how to report human trafficking, because we know that it's John or Jane Doe that has the eyes to spot slavery both domestically and internationally.

Get your group together **to go out into your local community** and make sure people are informed.

Contact Oasis USA for outreach kits for some of these places:

- Hotels/ Motels
- Medical Clinics
- Emergency Rooms
- Day Laborer Sites



# Part 5 – Chocoholics: Unite

## Suggested Resources:

Fair Trade Chocolate, Good Chocolate Guides (available from [www.oasisusa.org](http://www.oasisusa.org)), Coop America Magazines (available from [www.coopamerica.org](http://www.coopamerica.org))

## ACTION



Our holidays seem to always have some kind of chocolate element...

...is there one approaching?

Take the opportunity to spread the word about fair trade chocolate.

Use your time together as a group to plan a chocolate activity and how you might make it happen.

**For Valentine's Day** - Tell people you love them with slave free chocolate. Have a stand and sell fair-trade chocolate at your school or church.

**For Easter** - Use the poster campaign found on the STOP THE TRAFFIK website to teach people about child slaves on cocoa plantations.

**For Halloween** - Join in the annual Reverse Trick or Treating with STOP THE TRAFFIK and Global Exchange, [www.reversetrickortreating.org](http://www.reversetrickortreating.org)

**For Christmas** - Give fair trade and make sure you give some information on why it's the better gift to give!

If it's too late for cheesy hearts and too early for gigantic chocolate bunnies, have a **Chocolate Fondue party!** Find the organizers pack online at [www.oasisusa.org](http://www.oasisusa.org).

## Part 6 – Ahem... Speak up!

### **Suggested Resources:**

**There are a mass of resources available. You can order free resources from the Rescue and Restore Campaign from the Department of Health and Human Services: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/>**

**Stop the Traffik also has key-chains, hoodies and shirts available - contact [info@oasisusa.org](mailto:info@oasisusa.org) for prices and sizes.**

Hold an event on campus (whatever suits your group best). Spend one hour handing out information brochures, put up posters, give away free fair trade chocolate, tell people about what they can do end trafficking...

Have a movie screening night, ask people to pay \$5 to see an anti-trafficking movie and donate the money to the cause...

Invite an Oasis USA speaker to come and present on the issue...

Anyways, you can tell as many people as possible...

# Session 7 - Where do we go from here?

Finally- you know what's happening, you've got involved, now what?

## **Volunteer**

Even if you only have 1 spare hour a week. Email [info@oasisusa.org](mailto:info@oasisusa.org) for volunteering opportunities and referrals to nearby organizations.

## **Internship**

Oasis USA is always looking for interns!

Check out [www.oasisusa.org](http://www.oasisusa.org) for Internship descriptions or email us.

## **Become a regular giver**

We depend on the generosity of others to keep doing what we're doing. Join the 13 Campaign, committing to giving \$13 a month to raise awareness that the average age of an American girl trafficked for sex is 13. Pledge to give \$10, \$20, \$50 a month and help us continue to STOP THE TRAFFIK! Visit [www.oasisusa.org](http://www.oasisusa.org) to set up an easy automatic donation.

## **Stay informed**

Keep reading, researching and being aware of the issue, sign up for the Oasis USA newsletter and learn how you can stay involved. Follow us on Twitter @oasisusa and fan us on facebook!

## **Club competition**

Tell your friends at other schools to get involved with the issue and start their own club!

## **Wear it**

Rock STOP THE TRAFFIK gear to show your support for the campaign. Tell us your ideas of how you have been helping to STOP THE TRAFFIK. It's your innovation, creativity and unique suggestions that really fuel the movement.

**You're ready. Now get out there and rally for those whose voices aren't heard, and enjoy!**