

## US STATE DEPARTMENT TRAFFICKING CATEGORIES

- 1) **Forced Labor:** High unemployment, poverty, crime, discrimination, corruption, political conflict or cultural acceptance of forced labor leaves workers vulnerable to exploitation by unscrupulous employers. Involuntary servitude is often the tragic result.
- 2) **Sex Trafficking:** Refers to any adult who, through force or deception, is coerced into prostitution or prevented from leaving. All who recruit, transport, harbor, receive, or obtain a person for the purpose of prostitution have committed a trafficking crime.
- 3) **Bonded Labor:** Workers around the world fall victim to debt bondage when traffickers or recruiters unlawfully exploit an initial debt the worker assumed as part of the terms of employment. In more traditional systems of bonded labor, workers may also inherit debt from others.
- 4) **Debt Bondage among Migrant Laborers:** Contract abuse and hazardous conditions do not necessarily constitute human trafficking. However, a temporary worker's legal status is often tied to the employer, rather than to local laws. Illegal charges made to the worker may increase the burden of debt, and the laborer is left with few options.
- 5) **Involuntary Domestic Servitude:** Domestic workers fall prey to a unique form of forced labor. Where workplaces are informal and connected to off-duty living quarters, workers may be socially isolated and vulnerable to exploitation. In addition, authorities are not able to inspect private property as easily as they can more formal workplaces.
- 6) **Forced Child Labor:** Most international organizations and national laws allow for child labor to some degree. However, the consensus is growing to eradicate the bonded and forced labor of children. A common scenario: A non-family member is given custody of a child, whose labor then financially benefits the custodian, and the child is not free to leave.
- 7) **Child Soldiers:** The unlawful recruitment, through force, fraud, or coercion of children as combatants, laborers or for sexual exploitation by armed forces. Perpetrators may be government forces, paramilitary organizations, or rebel groups. Both male and female child soldiers are often sexually abused and are at high risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases.
- 8) **Child Sex Trafficking:** According to UNICEF, as many as two million children are prostituted in the global commercial sex trade. International covenants, protocols and U.S. and other nations' laws prohibit the commercial sexual exploitation of children. No exceptions, no cultural or socioeconomic rationalizations can be allowed to prevent the rescue of children from sexual servitude.