

# Liberate



# Modern Slavery West Midlands Police



ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SLAVES IN THE WORLD TODAY:

# 10-30 MILLION



CNN ILLU/GOOGLE EARTH

Data source: ILO and Kevin Bales, [Freetheslaves.net](http://Freetheslaves.net)



# In the UK...

- ▶ In 1833, Slavery was abolished in England.
- ▶ Nearly 200 years later, it is still happening.
- ▶ The Home Office Chief Scientific Adviser estimated that in 2013 there were between 10,000 and 13,000 potential victims of modern slavery in the United Kingdom.



# In the West Midlands....

- ▶ There have been over 200 Modern Slavery offences recorded in the last 12 months.
- ▶ The number has doubled since the year before.
- ▶ These are just the ones we know about!

**MODERN  
SLAVERY  
IS CLOSER  
THAN YOU  
THINK**



# Recorded Crime

- ▶ Over 100% increase in recorded offences during last 12 months, compared to previous 12 months.

Modern Slavery Recorded Crimes								
	BIR	CV	DY	SH	SW	WS	WV	Total
1st June 2015 - 31st May 2016	24	7	5	2	45	18	2	103
1st June 2016 - 31st May 2017	105	16	4	9	60	7	9	210

- ▶ Birmingham and Sandwell locations for greatest volume of recorded offences.



# What is Modern Slavery?

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 prohibits:

- ▶ Slavery
- ▶ Servitude
- ▶ Forced or compulsory labour.

Regard may be had to personal circumstances, increasing vulnerability, like:

- ▶ Being a child
- ▶ Family relationships
- ▶ Mental or physical illness



# What is Human Trafficking?

In order to prove an offence of Trafficking, three elements need to be proven:

The **ACT** (What is done)

- ▶ Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons

The **MEANS** (How it is done)

- ▶ Threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of powers or vulnerability, giving payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim

The **PURPOSE** (Why it is done)

- ▶ For the purpose of exploitation, which includes sexual exploitation, forced labour, domestic servitude, criminal exploitation, sham marriage and the removal of organs.

IN THE CASE OF CHILDREN (UNDER 18) THE MEANS ELEMENT DOES NOT NEED TO BE PROVEN, JUST THE ACT AND THE PURPOSE.





# Slavery

- ▶ Slavery is described as the status or condition of a person over whom any, or all, of the powers attaching the right of ownership are exercised.
- ▶ Characteristics of ownership and indoctrination need to be present for a state of slavery to exist.



# Sexual Exploitation

This type of exploitation includes the intention to commit sexual offences. For example, this can include:

- ▶ Women and children being trafficked from abroad and put to sex work in the UK
- ▶ UK resident children trafficked within the UK for the purposes of being passed between sexual exploiters.



# Labour Exploitation

**“All work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily.”**

This can occur in many different industries, such as:

- ▶ Agriculture
- ▶ Building
- ▶ Car washes
- ▶ Nail bars
- ▶ Fisheries
- ▶ Cleaning
- ▶ Catering



# Domestic Servitude

As a household servant.

This can include a spouse being treated this way by their partner or partner's family.



# Criminal Exploitation

This is when a slave master makes a person carry out crime such as:

- ▶ Cannabis cultivation
- ▶ Selling illegal goods
- ▶ Drug running
- ▶ Begging
- ▶ Shoplifting
- ▶ Benefit fraud



There is a defence for victims of slavery in relation to a number of crimes, if they were forced to commit them.



# Organ Harvesting

This is the rarest form encountered in the UK, but does occur and has included:

- ▶ Trafficking to provide transplant organs
- ▶ Mandatory egg-donation by a domestic slave



# Sham Marriages

People are generally trafficked from the EU to marry non-EU citizens so that treaty rights to remain in the UK can be claimed.



# Why are we discussing this?

National estimates suggest up to 3/4 of victims still remain unidentified.

2 key reasons are:

- ▶ Victims fear of the consequences of being identified
- +
- ▶ Victims and others are unaware of options for reporting

This means victims will continue to suffer and be exploited.





# Why do victims fear reporting?

**Fear reprisals from abusers and controllers.**

**Fear of being deported.**

**Fear of discrimination from community and families.**

**Fear of engaging with law enforcement agencies due to lack of trust in their home countries.**

**Situation is temporary and see it as stepping stone to a better future.**

**Feel isolated due to being in an unfamiliar environment.**

**Relevant agencies do not always recognise victims due to the lack of awareness.**



# What happens when a potential victim of trafficking is identified?

- ▶ The primary concern is always the welfare of the victim.
- ▶ The child will be referred into the 'National Referral Mechanism', The NRM is the mechanism by which people who may be the victims of modern slavery are identified, referred, assessed and supported by the Government
- ▶ They will then received a tailored package of support, to include such elements as health, education, accommodation and welfare support.
- ▶ They will be offered the opportunity to assist with a criminal investigation into their mistreatment, but this remains their choice.



# How would I know? Some Indicators

Illegal entrant

No passport or ID

Limited social contact

Bonded by debt

Restriction upon movements

Lack of access to medical care

Poor accommodation

Money deducted from salary for food/accommodation

Unexplained injuries

Dependent on others

Found working within location likely to be involved with exploitation

Poor language skills

Vulnerable individual, e.g. homeless, substance dependency

Being controlled by another

Threats of being handed over to the authorities

Unable or reluctant to provide details of accommodation or work address



# What can I do?

- ▶ If somebody is in immediate danger, dial 999.
- ▶ 101 to report non-emergency cases to the police.
- ▶ The Modern Slavery Helpline: 08000 121 700 or online at <https://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org>
- ▶ Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111 or online at <https://crimestoppers-uk.org>

If you are not sure: Report it.

You can do so anonymously if you prefer.

It might be nothing- but it might be something.

