



STOP THE TRAFFIK

PEOPLE SHOULDN'T BE BOUGHT & SOLD

STOP THE TRAFFIK YOUTH GROUP SESSION

AIM

To introduce the issue of trafficking and **STOP THE TRAFFIK** to young people.

There are some things to be aware of as you do this session:

- Some of the case studies talk about people who are trafficked for sexual exploitation. Decide whether it is appropriate to use these, based on the age and maturity of your group.
- The Transatlantic Slave Trade involved Black Africans being transported, sold and inhumanely treated by white slave traders. When discussing slavery and trafficking, be aware of the ethnicity of people in your group and the feelings that may arise because of this history.
- Language is very important and powerful. Many organisations working in this field prefer to use the term 'those enslaved' rather than 'slaves' to avoid labelling and defining people by what is done to them by others. Decide which term you want to use with your group.

YOU WILL NEED

- **STOP THE TRAFFIK** films, downloadable from the website, and the means to show them. We suggest that you use **STOP THE TRAFFIK** Film Parts 1, 2 and the virals.
- Six or seven items that you have bought recently with a note of how much they cost, for example a chocolate bar, a pint of milk, a CD, a DVD, an item of clothing, a loaf of bread, a book.
- Two dry-wipe memo boards with pens and erasers, or paper and pens.
- Trafficking Stories sheet, downloadable from the website.
- Fundraising Ideas sheet downloadable from the website
- Petition sheets downloadable from the website.
- If you have access to them a video camera, voice recorder, digital camera—these are all optional
- Paper and pens.
- Large map of the world, large candle, tealights.
- If you have a Christian group, download from the website the 'Youth Group Session: Appendix for Christians', which gives a bible study and prayer suggestions.

ICE-BREAKER

If your group like energetic games, play Stuck in the Mud, an old favourite. One person is 'it'. Everyone else runs around in a defined area. If they are touched by 'it', they have to stand with their legs apart, stuck in the mud. They can only move after they have been set free by one of the other players crawling through their legs. Change the person who is 'it' every so often. See if anyone can get everyone else stuck!



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Or, ask for two teams of two to take part in a quiz using the items you have bought recently. Give each team a memo board and pen. Show them the first item—the chocolate bar. Ask them to guess how much you paid for it and write that amount on their boards. Get them to show their amounts to everyone else at the same time and give a point to the team who is closest to the correct total. Continue with the other items.

Introduce a final item for them to guess the price of—a member of the youth group! (It may be more appropriate to choose a male volunteer.) Ask them to say how much they think someone would pay for him. Discuss how you would put a price on a human being. Perhaps on the actual retail value of the elements that go to make up a body—in which case he would be worth a few pounds. Perhaps on the value of the work that you want him to do. Perhaps on the price that you know someone else would pay for him. Thank your volunteers and get them to sit down. You could give the chocolate bar to the team who got the most points in the quiz. Say that it seems inconceivable that we should put a price on a person, as if they were something to be bought and sold. But in the 17th and 18th century, millions of people were bought and sold in the transatlantic slave trade. And today, millions of people are still being bought and sold in the miserable trade that is human trafficking.

DISCUSSION

Play **STOP THE TRAFFIK** film Part 1 and or the virals. Use the films and these facts to introduce the theme of trafficking.

- Human trafficking is the taking of people by deception or violence from their homes for exploitation.
- At least 12.3 million people are victims of forced labour (slavery) worldwide.
- 2.4 million of these are as a result of human trafficking.
- An estimated 1.2 million children are trafficked each year.
- People are trafficked into prostitution, begging, forced labour, military service, domestic service, forced illegal adoption, forced marriage and so on.

DISCUSS WITH THE GROUP

- What do you know about human trafficking? Where else have you heard about it? Are you surprised by these figures?
- Why do people become traffickers, buying and selling other human beings? What motivates them? How must they view the people they are buying and selling?
- What would you lose if you were trafficked to another country? Encourage them to think of as many things as possible—your freedom, your dignity, your home, your family, your ability to make decisions, your possessions, your future,
- your friends.



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ROLE-PLAY

Play Part 2 of the **STOP THE TRAFFIK** films. Explain that we need to hear the stories of people who have been trafficked to understand what their lives are like. Get people into small groups of two or three. Cut up the Trafficking Stories sheet, and give one story to each small group. Invite them to read the story and prepare a sketch or monologue that tells that person's story to the rest of the group. (In the case of Prjua and Ajay, they may want to tell the story from the point of view of one of their parents or a care worker from the Asha Deep Day Centre). If you have access to multi-media equipment, young people could record a video diary, create a photo story, make an audio recording of the story, do a PowerPoint presentation and so on. If not, they can just act out the stories to each other. Give them some time to prepare and then let them see each other's presentations.

Discuss the stories afterwards. What do these stories have in common? How do they make you feel?

TAKING ACTION

Many young people want to do something when they encounter issues of injustice such as human trafficking. Explain that **STOP THE TRAFFIK** has three goals—education, advocacy and fundraising.

- Education is important so that we have accurate information about what is happening. The more people that know about trafficking and **STOP THE TRAFFIK** the better.
- Advocacy means speaking up on someone's behalf. We need to let people in power know that we want to stop human trafficking so they can do something about it. Writing letters to your local MP or the Prime minister do have an impact and show that people are concerned about the issues.
- Fundraising enables the organisations that are working in this area to help more people. Have a look at the projects pages of the **STOP THE TRAFFIK** website to see what organisations are doing, and how much money they need.
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- Get young people's ideas about what they could do in these areas. You could get them into groups of about three or four and get them to write down all their ideas. They should be asking themselves the questions: how can we let people know about this and how can we find out more? How can we let people in power know what we think, and who should we write to? How can we raise money and who do we want to give it to? Then get them to feedback their ideas to the whole group, writing them up on a flipchart and collecting together similar ideas. This encourages everyone to contribute, not just the more vocal ones.

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In particular we suggest these ideas:

SIGN THE PETITION

Our target was to get 1 million signatures to the UN Conference in 2008. We SURPASSED that figure and we are still going strong! Getting people to sign the petition is a great way for them to show public support to **STOP THE TRAFFIK** and the fight against trafficking. You can get people to sign in two ways:

- online at:
www.stopthetraffik.org/getinvolved/declaration.aspx
- Print copies of the petition from the website and hand out after the lesson
www.stopthetraffik.org/getinvolved/resources.



If you are gathering people's signatures we request that you collate the data onto an excel sheet (using the format given below).

E-mail it to info@stopthetraffik.org. And send hard copies to the **STOP THE TRAFFIK** office.

First name	
Last name	
Mobile number	
Country	
Receive news	
Under 18	
Enabled	
E-mail	

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FREEDOM WALL

Create a Freedom Wall. The website has more information, but in essence, a Freedom Wall displays the words of the **STOP THE TRAFFIK** petition and has symbols of support around it. The petition says:

People trafficking is wrong. I support **STOP THE TRAFFIK** in its call to:

PREVENT THE TRADE OF PEOPLE
PROTECT THE TRAFFICKED
PROSECUTE THE TRAFFICKERS

Symbols of support can be children's handprints, written messages, examples of the work they have done during these activities. Create the wall in a public place in the school and have petitions available for adults to sign and add to the wall. Take a photo of your Freedom Wall and send it to us to put up on our website. When you take down the wall, send the petitions to **STOP THE TRAFFIK** so we can add them to the million already joining the fight.



Write to your local MP or the Prime Minister about trafficking. It is most effective if people communicate in their own words rather than copying a standard letter. They also need to write about a specific issue, rather than trafficking in general. Encourage young people to write about what they have learnt about trafficking and mentioning **STOP THE TRAFFIK**. To find out the name of your MP visit one of these websites and enter your postcode: www.locata.co.uk/commons or www.theyworkforyou.com

The address to write to is: Your MP's name, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.