Guidance For Teachers: Anti-Slavery Day

Introducing Anti-Slavery Day

The 18th October, 2010 was the first official Anti-Slavery Day in the UK. Now, every 18th October is a day of awareness for Anti-Slavery Day, to acknowledge that millions of men, women and children continue to be victims of modern day slavery, a violation of their human rights.
Whilst the Transatlantic Slave Trade might have been outlawed over 200 years ago, people are still being deceived or coerced into exploitation, often reffered to as modern day slavery or *human trafficking.* On Anti-Slavery Day, we raise awareness that nearly 21 million people are trafficked around the world, and this crime has an estimated $32 billion dollars in profits annually[1].

The Transatlantic Slave Trade

Throughout history, people have been bought and sold as slaves. The Transatlantic Slave Trade exceeded in both numbers and brutality of organised forms of slavery that had previously taken place.

- Historians debate how many Africans were forced across the Atlantic during the four centuries that were the slave trade. A database suggests that over 11 million people were forced into the Transatlantic Slave Trade[2].
- The total number of Africans taken from the continent's east coast and enslaved in the Arab world is estimated to be between 9.5 million to 14 million.
- In total, up to 25 million people were forcibly removed from the African continent[2].
- European slave traders followed the 'Triangular Route', setting off from Europe for Africa where they traded goods for human beings. These individuals were loaded onto ships and kept in cramped and inhumane conditions. Captured people were provided with minimal food and water for the trip across the Atlantic (the Middle Passage). Once they had reached their destination, the people were sold to dealers and plantation owners, who loaded the ships with sugar, rice, rum and coffee and took it back to Europe[3].

The End of the Transatlantic Slave Trade

The foundation of the anti-slavery movement lies with William Wilberforce in the UK. The movement emerged in Britain in the 18th century, seeking to put an end to the buying and selling of human beings[4]. Due to activists like William Wilberforce, the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act was eventually passed in Parliament, becoming law in 1807[4], making it illegal to engage in the slave trade throughout the British colonies.

1 http://fieldnotes.unicefusa.org/infographic-global-look-human-trafficking
2 http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/abolition/africa_article_01.shtml
3 http://www.bl.uk/learning/histcitizen/campaignforabolition/abolitionbackground/abolitionintro.html
4 Information from the 'Abolition of the Slave Trade', National Archives: http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/blackhistory/rights/abolition.htm

Parliament had, the year before, banned British ships from carrying slaves to the colonies of France and its allies, wiping out 'most of the British slave trade already' [5].

The end of slavery came in 1833, when a piece of legislation to free slaves in the British Empire passed through the House of Commons.

Who was William Wilberforce?

William Wilberforce's Christian faith prompted him to become interested in social reform, including the improvement of factory conditions in Britain. William Wilberforce was influenced by other abolitionists of the time, including Thomas Clarkson. Thomas Clarkson and others were campaigning for the end of the Transatlantic Slave Trade, in which black slaves from Africa were carried by British ships, in terrible conditions, to be bought and sold in the West Indies.

For 18 years, William Wilberforce ensured that anti-slavery was discussed in Parliament, to try and end the slave trade through legislation. His campaign was supported by many other abolitionists who raised public awareness through rallies and petitions[6]. He was helped by Thomas Clarkson to introduce the final bill, or legislation, that would see the ending of the Transatlantic Slave Trade; Clarkson went round the country, encouraging people to petition towards Parliament for the end of slavery.

William Wilberforce died in 1833, days after the legislation to free slaves in the British Empire passed through Parliament[6].

Modern Day Slavery

Modern-Day Slavery is known as human trafficking. Throughout presentations for KS3 ans KS4, the term used should be 'human trafficking'. STOP THE TRAFFIK is an anti-human trafficking charity, aiming to build communities that are resilient to human trafficking. To discover more about who STOP THE TRAFFIK are, and what STOP THE TRAFFIK do, watch this clip or visit STOPTHETRAFFIK.org.

Human Trafficking is...

- Movement or recruitment, by coercion or deception, for the purposes of exploitation.
- It is important to note that children (a younger person under the age of 19) do not need to be coerced or deceived to be considered a victim of human trafficking.
- Human trafficking can include: sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, organ harvesting, street crime, cannabis cultivation and forced labour.
- Men, women and children are trafficked within their own countries and across international borders. Trafficking affects every continent and every country[7].

5 http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/abolition/william_wilberforce_article_01.shtml
6 http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/wilberforce_william.shtml
7 http://www.stopthetraffik.org/what-is-human-trafficking

- It is argued that there are now more victims of human trafficking/ modern day slavery than ever before[8].
- It is the world's fastest growing crime[9].
- According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) 20.9 million men, women and children around the world are victims of human trafficking[10]. People are still bought and sold today.

Workshop Guidance

For KS1 and KS2 pupils, workshops can be conducted with the whole class. The Facilitator's Notes outline sections where pupils will need to be divided into groups or, in one case (the Carousel Activity), where class rearrangement is needed to facilitate an activity.

For KS3 pupils, workshops can be conducted with the whole class for the Make Fashion-Traffik-Free lesson. Where appropriate, the Facilitator's Notes for this lesson indicate where pupils should work in partners or groups.

For Modules 1, 2 and 3 the size and gender of the group does differ depending on the module. *Module 1: Introduction to Human Trafficking* is a mixed gender workshop, for pupils aged between 11-18 years. *Module 2: Human Trafficking and Healthy Relationships* is a workshop that targets females, aged between 11-18 years. *Module 3: Human Trafficking and Online Safety* is a mixed gender workshop, for pupils aged between 11-18 years.

Teacher Presence

For workshops that are delivered by STOP THE TRAFFIK, it is kindly asked that teachers remain in the room while the workshop is delivered. Teachers are requested to remain responsible for pupils' behaviour so all students can benefit from the workshop.

Language

- Prostitute – alternatively use a woman/man working within the sex industry, such as 'woman/girl/man/boy who was (pressurised/coerced/manipulated/forced) to sell sex'.
- Victim – Use woman/man/person/child in front of using the word 'victim', for example, 'a woman/man/child who became a victim of trafficking', in order to retain a person's sense of humanity and identity.
- Pimp – alternatively use trafficker, controller, boyfriend/girlfriend or agent.
- Prostitution – alternatively use 'sex industry'.

8 http://www.bbc.co.uk/ethics/slavery/modern/modern_1.shtml
9 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=le-yQRUu9xc
10 http://www.antislavery.org/english/slavery_today/what_is_modern_slavery.aspx