HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS SURVEY RESULTS

3 OCTOBER 2016, SOUTH AFRICA
“Human trafficking is trade in people. We are faced with an enormous challenge, and one that will require time, effort, dedication, and financial investments.”

Mr. Richard Ots,
Chief of Mission,
IOM South Africa.
Human trafficking awareness survey
acknowledgements

• This study was completed in part through funding from the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), South Africa.

• Many thanks to the Strategic Communication students from the University of Johannesburg (UJ) who participated in the photo shoots, designing and starring in scenarios to educate the public about human trafficking. As well as the students that collected the data that made this presentation possible.

• The survey was created by UJ lecturers Caroline Azionya and Anna Oksiutycz. It was based on the IOM SACTAP factsheet.

• This report was authored by Caroline Azionya
The study was conducted in the second quarter of 2014. As part of their applied project, second year students from the Department of Strategic Communication had to collect quantitative data on the levels of awareness of Trafficking in Persons in South Africa.

Most of the data was collected in the Gauteng province amongst a predominantly young sample (87.8% were between 12 –35 years). The vast majority grew up in the city (46%) versus 16.4% in a rural area.

A sample of 993 was drawn from projects that demonstrated excellence. An important part of any preventative strategy is to engage in research to evaluate pre and post campaign awareness levels.
## Key Demographics

### Age and Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 to 18</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 to 25</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 to 35</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 to 45</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 and above</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 and above</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gender Distribution**

- **Female:** 55.5%
- **Male:** 44.5%
South Africa is mainly a ...

- Source country for trafficking: 18%
- Transit country for trafficking: 28%
- Destination country for trafficking: 10%
- All of the above: 30%
- None of the above: 14%
Key findings

• Although the majority (29.6%) correctly identified South Africa as a source, transit and destination country for trafficking, 28% believed it is a transit country.

• Only 8% believed people are most trafficked from the SADC region. However, they believed that most victims are from Central Africa (19.3%) and Asia (16.1%). Respondents are not aware that most victims of trafficking in South Africa are South Africans.

• They are aware that trafficking is not limited to poor people (57%)

• 82.6% and 71% believe people are more likely to be trafficked for ritual and medical organ removal than labour trafficking in fisheries (56%) or sweat shops (63.2%).
Our role as educators is to **inspire** our students to make the world a better place by **reflecting** on issues such as human trafficking.”

**Prof Sonja Verwey**

Head of Department of Strategic Communication, University of Johannesburg
Domestic servitude
Can a person who is trafficked end up as a ...?

- **Yes** Domestic worker 72.2%
- **Yes** Farm labourer 70.4%
- **Yes** Construction worker 54.4%
Those that migrate legally cannot be victims of trafficking

- Not all victims of trafficking are brought into a country illegally. Some travel legally and willingly into the destination country using valid work visas.
- However, once in the destination country, their identity documents are taken away by traffickers.
Only uneducated people are trafficked

“All groups of people are trafficked. For instance, in some parts of the world, highly educated women are at risk because there are a few opportunities available to them where they live and they seek out other opportunities.”

Southern African Counter Trafficking Assistance Programme
Eight months after I had given birth to my third child, my mother in-law, whom we had been living with told me she could no longer feed all us and suggested she had found employment for me in Gauteng. We lived in rural Lesotho, and the idea of working in the "city of Gold" seemed ideal. I was promised free transportation back home every three months to see my children and my husband. I arrived in Pretoria and worked all day and late night. The house was like nothing I've ever seen before. The many large rooms, endless stairs and the unruly children I had to take care of, made conditions unbearable, because I knew I was here for my children, I held on.

Month end came and I expected the promised R3 000, instead my boss told me she had already payed the money to my mother in law and gave me R200 instead to buy my own food as she would no longer feed me. I had no cell phone to contact my mother in law and could not afford to go back home. I thought I should remain patient, as I would be taken home after three months, however as the third month came to an end, I was told the trip was postponed until the July school holidays. The trip never occurred and I had to escape without a single clue as to where I was going.

Story Author - Rethabiseng Phasumane
Strategic Communication Student, University of Johannesburg.
Child trafficking
Can a person who is trafficked end up as a ...?

Yes Drug Mule 93.4%
Yes Street beggar 76%
Yes Street vendor 56.7%
• Boys are forced to work in street vending, food service, begging, criminal activities, and agriculture. Many children, including those with disabilities, are exploited in forced begging.

US State Department 2016 Report. Trafficking in Persons (TIP)
Non-consensual and illegal ukuthwala, the forced marriage of girls as young as 12 to adult men, is practiced in some remote villages in the Eastern Cape province, exposing some of these girls to forced labour and sex slavery.

US State Department 2016 Report. Trafficking in Persons (TIP)
All victims of trafficking are abducted

South African children are recruited from poor rural areas to urban centres where girls are subjected to sex trafficking and domestic servitude.

US State Department 2016 Report. Trafficking in Persons (TIP)
I’m an 18-year old girl from rural Kwa-Zulu Natal. When my grandmother died there was no money for food or anyone to look after me or my siblings. At 12-years old I went into town looking for a job. I met a man who said he knew of jobs for me in Johannesburg. He gave me a lift to Johannesburg but took my clothes and ID and I was forced to take drugs and have sex with men who paid the man and his friends that brought me there. There were girls from all over SA in the house with us. Once I was hooked on drugs, I was allowed out of the house.

Story Author - Amber Seedat
Strategic Communication Student, University of Johannesburg.
This year’s collaboration has given me an opportunity to create a space where students were activated to become the solution. They have become passionate activists for the cause.

Caroline Azionya,

Project director
Strategic Communication lecturer - UJ
Sexual exploitation
Can a person who is trafficked end up as a …?

Prostitute 93.7%

- There was a strong belief that trafficked people end up in prostitution.

Prostitutes cannot be victims of trafficking

- strongly agree 17%
- agree 9%
- neutral 11%
- disagree 35%
- strongly disagree 28%
All people are trafficked for sexual exploitation

- Forced labour is the most dominant type of trafficking in South Africa.
- The mining and agricultural sectors in South Africa are prone to labour trafficking.
- Victims are used in fruit, vegetable and wine farms in the Western Cape.

US State Department 2016 Report, Trafficking in Persons (TIP)
Men cannot be trafficked

- Trafficking in persons is not just limited to women and children.
- Men are trafficked for forced labour.
- Foreign and South African LGBTI persons are subjected to sex trafficking.

US State Department 2016 Report, Trafficking in Persons (TIP)
Current estimates of the number of slaves around the world range between **15 and 30 million people**. That is more than in any point in history. ”

Mr. Richard Ots
Chief of Mission, IOM South Africa
My name is Kaone Baitsile, I grew up in Ngwaketse West (Botswana), in a village called Kutuku. Kutuku is one of the poorest places in Botswana, it is a place where nothing ever grows, an infertile land. As a young girl I helped bring food to the table by braiding people in the village but I have always dreamt of a place far greater than this, a place with limitless opportunities. When I turned 18 years old, a friend of mine told me she could get me a well-paid job in Johannesburg as a waitress and I could train to become a professional hairdresser. She introduced me to an agent who kindly paid for my passport and travelling costs to South Africa.

When I arrived I met with Ibu, whom I was told by the agent would help me settle in the city of gold. He took my passport and brought me to a place where two other foreign women lived in the house. Shortly I discovered that my job was to provide sexual services for men on a daily basis. Some nights, when my soul would ache from all the abuse and I objected, Ibu would beat me up, rape me and then lock me in a dark room for hours to “think things through”. Ibu warned me that I was an illegal immigrant and that he had my passport. He also reminded me that I owe him R15 000 for my travel costs and said that my family would suffer if I didn’t earn that money back. Some of Ibu’s clients demanded unprotected sex, others associated sex with violence and at times I was beaten to a pulp. I’ve been feeling myself sliding into a state of severe depression, life is not worth living anymore. I feel trapped and tied down. I am imprisoned by agony and endless fear, constantly praying for a way out, even if that way out is death...

Story Author - Nhlawulo Shikwambane
Strategic Communication Student, University of Johannesburg
For the IOM photo shoot I portrayed the image of a girl forced into being a prostitute. I did not know that they are tortured, drugged and even put inside car boots as they are belittled and made to feel like commodities. That day changed me. I feel that we have an obligation ... help others equip themselves with as much knowledge about this brutality so that instead of simply acknowledging and moving on, one will take the time to be vigilant and report. This simple act could save a life.

Reflection by Nqobile Zwane
Strategic Communication Student,
University of Johannesburg.
“Trafficking arguably is the most important human rights battle of our days. Trafficking is often referred to as modern slavery, which I think offers us the correct perspective.”

Mr. Richard Ots
Chief of Mission,
IOM South Africa
0800 222 777

Call the toll free helpline to enquire about or report suspected cases of trafficking
For more information and media interviews please contact

IOM

Mapula Tloubatla
mtloubatla@iom.int

or

Lerato Tsebe
ltsebe@iom.int

UJ

Caroline M. Azionya
cazionya@uj.ac.za

(011) 559 3617