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What is Human Trafficking?

FBI
http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/civilrights/human_trafficking/human_trafficking
The FBI has compiled extensive research on human trafficking and works together with local and state law enforcement to combat the exploitation of victims who are forced into labor and prostitution. Working together with local law enforcement, the FBI has assisted with arrests and raids on many major human trafficking rings.

Innocence Lost
http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/vc_majorthefts/cac/innocencelost
The FBI launched their Innocence Lost Task Force in 2003 and aimed it at addressing domestic sex trafficking of children in the United States. Since its implementation, the groups and subcommittees the task force created have successfully rescued over 1,000 children and have convicted over 600 pimps, madams, and other associates.

Polaris Project
http://www.polarisproject.org/
The Polaris Project, a national organization located in Washington D.C., is one of the largest organizations working to combat national and international human trafficking. The organization runs the National Human Trafficking Hotline and has conducted extensive victim outreach programs. Additionally, Polaris Project's website lists many human trafficking resources, including training and technical assistance programs, as well as national statistics on pending legislation.

The State of Human Trafficking in Texas
http://childrenatrisk.org/research/child-trafficking
The Center to End the Trafficking and Exploitation of Children (CETEC) at CHILDREN AT RISK produced *The State of Human Trafficking in Texas*, a comprehensive report that includes an overview of human trafficking in Texas; anti-trafficking policy on a global, national, and statewide scale; the fight against human trafficking; and several case studies, both domestic and international.

Federal Response

Department of Health and Human Services
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/
The Department of Health and Human Services initiated the Rescue and Restore Victims of Human Trafficking campaign in order to identify and assist victims of human trafficking in the U.S. The campaign has increased the number of identified victims. It has also helped to provide these victims the benefits and care they need to live safely within the U.S., as well as the rehabilitation they need to live independently. The Rescue and Restore Campaign has established *Rescue and Restore* coalitions in 24 cities, regions, and states.

Department of Homeland Security – Blue Campaign
http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/humantrafficking.shtm
The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is a component of the Department of Homeland Security and works to help dismantle the global infrastructure of human trafficking through their Blue Campaign. The Blue Campaign has endeavored to inform people nationwide of the prevalent nature of trafficking through billboard campaigns, public service announcements, and cards they distribute at the airport in multiple languages. The use of different languages has proven to be of great benefit to the campaign.

U.S. Department of State – Trafficking in Person's Report 2010
http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2010/
For the first time, this report included the United States on its list of countries in outlining the challenges posed by trafficking around the globe. This report holds the United States to the same standards to which other countries are held. The report additionally is broken down into many different chapters that highlight victims' stories, policy priorities, country narratives, and the prevention and termination of human trafficking.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
http://www.ice.gov/predator/
Operation Predator was initiated by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to safeguard children and arrest people who are exploiting and trafficking children. Operation Predator has created a National Child Victim Identification System, and ICE agents now work with foreign governments, Interpol, and other agencies to better coordinate services to apprehend criminals who cross borders.

Get Involved

Local Rescue and Restore Coalitions
http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/coalition_list.html
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is responsible for initiating many local responses to human trafficking, and the Department lists a number of coalitions that exist within cities and states throughout the nation. This is a great resource for people who want to get involved with their local coalition.

National Human Trafficking Resource Center – Polaris Project
http://nhtrc.polarisproject.org/
The Polaris Project is in charge of the National Human Trafficking Hotline that is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year. This hotline is available to report a tip, to connect with anti-trafficking services in your area, and to request training and technical assistance. The hotline has been operated by the Polaris Project since 2007 and receives around 1,000 phone calls per month.

Office for Victims of Crime
http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/grants/index.html
There is federal funding available for domestic minor trafficking victims, both male and female, and for all forms of trafficking including both sex and labor. OVC issued funding to three organizations to launch comprehensive program services for domestic minor trafficking victims. The three programs that were funded are located in Chicago, San Francisco and New York. These grants are three-year pilot programs that include funding for housing.

Salvation Army
http://www.salvationarmyusa.org/trafficking
Salvation Army USA's anti-trafficking efforts focus on four core areas: legislative and policy initiatives, awareness-raising and training (Anti-Trafficking Training Manual, Initiative Against Sexual Trafficking, Faith Alliance Against Slavery and Trafficking), prevention efforts, and development and provision of trafficking survivor services. The Salvation Army provides direct service programs in the US, including Anne's House, PROMISE, STOP-IT, Wellspring, New Community, ALERT, and NEWS.

Trafficked Persons' Assistance Program (YMCA)
http://www.ymcahouston.org/ymca-international/trafficking
TPAP works to identify and assist foreign national victims of human trafficking, and seeks to improve the quality of life for victims of human trafficking through culturally competent case management, to raise awareness in the community through outreach and education, and to collaborate with law enforcement and other social service providers. Their website includes information on trafficking victims' experience, signs of trafficking and different ways to report trafficking.