

JAN. 2023

THE RED CORD

ISAIAH 61:1



**YOU READ THE HEADLINES.
ALMOST EVERY DAY, YOU CAN FIND THESE STORIES:**

- **MIGRANTS ARE POURING OVER THE MEXICAN BORDER EVERY DAY.** THOUSANDS OF THEM. EVERY DAY. (APPROXIMATELY 2 MILLION IN 2022 [HTTPS://DAILYCALLER.COM/2022/12/26/JOE-BIDEN-ILLEGAL-IMMIGRATION-SOUTHERN-BORDER/](https://dailycaller.com/2022/12/26/joe-biden-illegal-immigration-southern-border/)) SOME OF THEM BRING ILLEGAL DRUGS WITH THEM. THOUSANDS. EVERY DAY. BILLIONS OF DOLLARS HAVE EXCHANGED HANDS IN HUMAN SMUGGLING FEES. THE ONLY THING THAT'S MAKING MORE MONEY THAN HUMAN SMUGGLING IS SMUGGLING DRUGS.
- **SOME OF THESE MIGRANTS ARE WORKING** AT ILLEGAL MARIJUANA GROW PLANTS IN SW OKLAHOMA. OWNERS OF THESE PLANTS ARE BEING CHARGED WITH LABOR TRAFFICKING. [HTTPS://WWW.OKLAHOMAN.COM/STORY/NEWS/2021/07/19/LABOR-TRAFFICKING-SUSPECTED-IN-OKLAHOMAS-BLACK-MARKET-CANNABIS/7918167002/](https://www.oklahoman.com/story/news/2021/07/19/labor-trafficking-suspected-in-oklahomas-black-market-cannabis/7918167002/)
- **MANY OF THE MIGRANTS ARE CHILDREN WHO HAVE NO LEGAL PAPERS** TO PROVE THEIR BIRTH, OR WHOM THEY BELONG TO ONCE IN THE USA. THE CHILDREN ARE POURING INTO THE UNITED STATES, ONE OF THE TOP COUNTRIES TO DEMAND ILLICIT SEX WITH CHILDREN AND ONLINE CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIAL. THE CRIME ORGANIZATIONS KNOW THIS AND WILL EXPLOIT A PERSON OR CHILD IN SEVERAL DIFFERENT WAYS TO MAKE MONEY.

IT'S NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH. THE ABOVE HEADLINES ARE JUST FOR THE MEXICAN MIGRANT SITUATION. WE KNOW THAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS A GLOBAL PHENOMENON. [HTTPS://NATIONALTODAY.COM/NATIONAL-HUMAN-TRAFFICKING-AWARENESS-DAY/](https://nationaltoday.com/national-human-trafficking-awareness-day/) [HTTPS://HOPEFORJUSTICE.ORG/NATIONAL-SLAVERY-AND-HUMAN-TRAFFICKING-PREVENTION-MONTH/](https://hopeforjustice.org/national-slavery-and-human-trafficking-prevention-month/) (CONT.)

The public may never know the true number of persons enslaved today, **because modern slavery is a hidden crime**. Estimates of the number of slaves globally could be approximately 40 million.

<https://theconversation.com/fact-check-how-many-people-are-enslaved-in-the-world-today-107078>



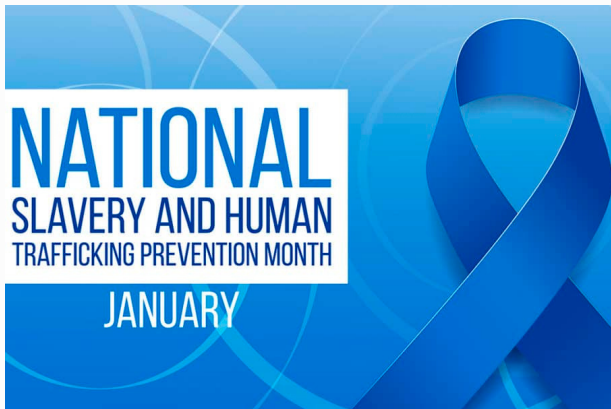
STOP!

It's too much. The human trafficking problem is too enormous and out of control for an average person to do anything about.

Do you think that's true? If so, please read on for more specific information and three specific ways you can take action.

The facts

First, some definitions.



Human Smuggling: The Department of Homeland Security defines this as “importation of people into the United States involving deliberate evasion of immigration laws,” including moving irregular migrants across national borders as well as “unlawful transportation and harboring” of irregular migrants already in the United States. Some human smuggling victims will then be forced or frauded into human trafficking once over the border.

Billions of dollars exchange hands in human smuggling fees. The only thing that's making more money than human smuggling is smuggling drugs.

Human trafficking: While transportation does occur in many human trafficking cases, it does not require movement. The defining characteristic of human trafficking centers on commercial exploitation (slavery). Specifically, human trafficking is defined in U.S. law as: Sex trafficking is when a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or recruitment, (cont.)

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harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.

Irregular migrants are particularly vulnerable due to their undocumented status, and may suffer human trafficking en route to or after arrival in the destination country. Some smuggling networks overlap with trafficking networks or deliver irregular migrants to traffickers. Migrants who voluntarily enter a country outside regular channels are sometimes saddled with huge “debts” by the smugglers, who then force them into debt bondage—a form of human trafficking.

<https://www.csce.gov/international-impact/human-smuggling-and-human-trafficking-distinction-makes-difference>



cont.

Now what do we do? Do these 3 things:

1. Be an Informed Consumer. Think before you shop. Find out more about who picked your tomatoes or made your clothes at <https://www.responsiblesourcingtool.org/> or check out the Department of Labor's List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor.

2. Get Involved in Our Community. We have many organizations in SW Oklahoma that help vulnerable populations. Think: boys and girls club, big sister, little sister programs, M28, Lovesick Ministries, Hungry Hearts, All About Understanding, and many more. Getting involved with organization that help reduce vulnerabilities will also help reduce the amount of people traffickers can target. Reach out to volunteer and support local efforts!

3. Spread the Word. Raise awareness of human trafficking through social media platforms and by sharing and displaying human trafficking resources from Raise awareness of human trafficking through social media platforms and by sharing and displaying human trafficking resources from The Red Cord <https://theredcord.org/get-the-facts/>, HHS Look Beneath the Surface <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/partnerships/look-beneath-surface> and DHS Blue Campaign <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/share-resources>.

For more ideas about ways you can help fight human trafficking, please see the DHS Blue Campaign <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/partnerships> HHS Office on Trafficking in Persons <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/about/ways-endtrafficking> and the DOS Office to Monitor & Combat Trafficking in Persons <https://www.state.gov/20-ways-you-can-help-fight-human-trafficking/>



January 2023 Blog

Ahsha Morin, The Red Cord President



Human Trafficking Awareness month is so critical, because it is very difficult for trafficking victims to come forward. As we become more aware, we can help them be seen and heard. They often find themselves physically and socially isolated in an unfamiliar culture, unable to speak or understand the language, without valid immigration papers and intimidated by their traffickers. For these reasons, they fear reaching out to law enforcement officers, health providers or others who would be able to help them.

It is important to understand that human traffickers target vulnerable people of all ages and genders. Human Trafficking is not biased to any one type of person. Traffickers target these people in these ways:

- They take the wages of large numbers of victims in fields and factories and enslave workers in the hotels we stay in.
- Traffickers mislead skilled or educated adults facing chronic unemployment with the false lure of higher paying jobs.
- Traffickers buy or coerce children from families facing poverty and economic desperation.

Having a month where we can spotlight this horrific crime and help people understand the true nature of this crime is the basis of The Red Cord. (cont.)

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(cont.)

This year, **our hope is to reach more communities** and schools with the resources and education we offer. We specifically want to **help parents and educators**, those who work with children and teens every day, to help identify a potential problem and stop it. **We will offer more parenting seminars** and community events. As always, all our training and education resources are free! Anyone can request a training by going on our website and completing the form

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSciHs8EqitMqotxh4kS9AuFelq72s_dYAC5Ll3Nf66QAFysnA/viewform

You can be a person who decides to make a difference locally and globally in the world of human trafficking. Here's how:

1. Do the three specific actions listed under the heading, "Now What Do We Do?"

2. Plan to be involved in one of the training opportunities this month. They are listed on the website under the Events tab.

<https://theredcord.org/upcoming/> Attend the Annual Candlelight Vigil on Jan. 20th.

3. Commit to pray. Use the prayer guide to pray specifically. <https://theredcord.org/prayer/>

Ashsha Morin



JANUARY EVENTS

·Parker Point- Girls Home (closed training)

·Foster/Adoption support group, Thursday, January 12th, 6:30 – 7:30pm,
Crossroads Baptist Church 11423 NE 75th St, Elgin, OK 73538

·Temple Public Schools, Monday, January 16th, 10:00am – 12:00pm, 206 School
Road Temple OK, 73568

·SCORE Student Program, Friday, January 20th, 8:00am – 3:00pm, Great
plains Votech

·Annual Candlelight Vigil, Jan 20th, 6pm, Lawton City Hall (pending
approval)

·Comanche Sheriffs- CLEET Training, Wednesday, January 25th, 8:30am –
12:00pm, 315 SW 5th ST. Lawton, OK 73501