

January 11

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress supports the goals and ideals of observing the National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness on January 11 of each year and all other efforts to raise awareness of and opposition to human trafficking.

Adopted by The United States Senate
June 22, 2007

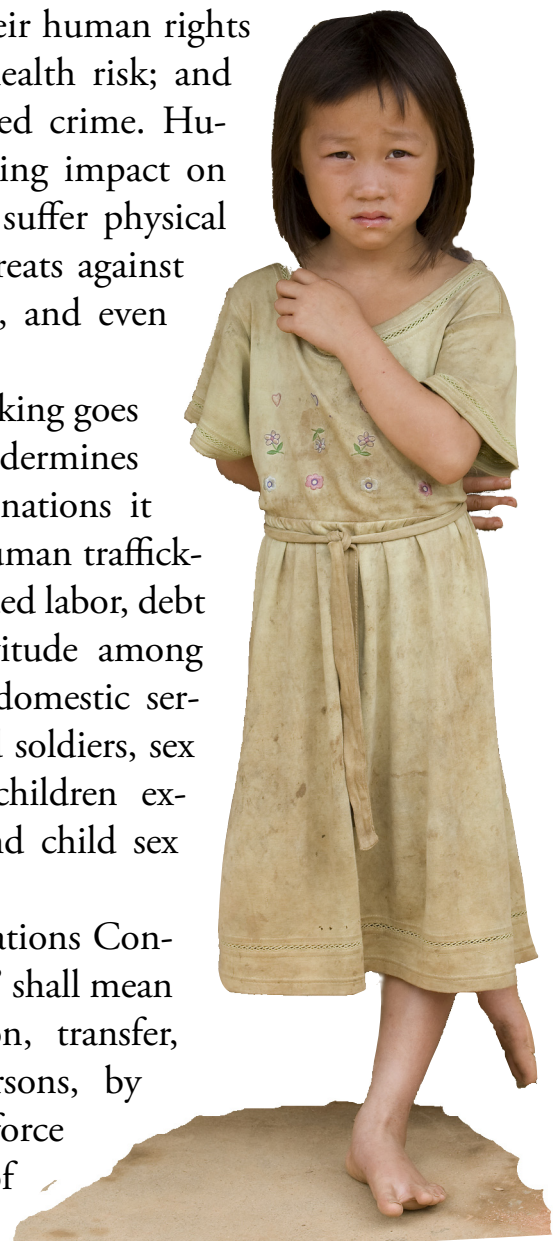
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Trafficking in persons is modern-day slavery, involving victims who are forced, defrauded or coerced into labor or sexual exploitation. Annually, about 600,000 to 800,000 people — mostly women and children — are trafficked across national borders. And that figure does not count millions trafficked within their own countries.

Human trafficking is a multi-dimensional threat: it deprives people of their human rights and freedoms; it is a global health risk; and it fuels the growth of organized crime. Human trafficking has a devastating impact on individual victims, who often suffer physical and emotional abuse, rape, threats against self and family, passport theft, and even death.

The impact of human trafficking goes beyond individual victims; it undermines the safety and security of all nations it touches. The major forms of human trafficking include: forced and/or bonded labor, debt bondage and involuntary servitude among migrant laborers, involuntary domestic servitude, forced child labor, child soldiers, sex trafficking and prostitution, children exploited for commercial sex, and child sex tourism.

According to the United Nations Convention “Trafficking in persons” shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of decep-



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tion, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery

or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation shall be irrelevant where any of the means have been used; the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered “trafficking in persons”.

The policies of The Episcopal Church regarding Human Trafficking

◆ **General Convention 2000: Resolution A057**

Recognize Problem of and Support Efforts to Stop Trafficking of Women, Girls, and Boys

Resolved, That the 73rd General Convention recommend that every diocese bring to the attention of its members the domestic and international problem of trafficking in women, girls, and boys, and Resolved, that the Convention support non-violent efforts to stop this abuse, to protect the victims, and prosecute the perpetrators of this injustice.

◆ **General Convention 2003: Resolution A057**

Condemn Sex Trafficking

Resolved, That the 74th General Convention condemn domestic and international trafficking in all persons for sexual purposes as an affront to human dignity and human rights; and be it further Resolved, That the Executive Council request the appropriate Standing Committee to set up national and international plans of action for The Episcopal Church to prepare an educational campaign for parishes and dioceses on the topic of sex trafficking, and to prepare a model for a church initiative bringing together faith-based people with nongovernmental organizations, government, and law enforcement officials to create a victim-centered approach to anti-sex trafficking operations, finding ways to meet the medical, psychological, legal, and spiritual needs of persons who have been brought out of these horrendous circumstances; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be sent to every Province in the Anglican Communion.

What else can be done?

Visit www.episcopalchurch.org/women.htm
and click on “Advocacy” for more information and action items.

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