

## The Issue

Each year, there are approximately 600,000 to 800,000 victims trafficked across international borders throughout the world. The U.S. government estimates that between 14,500 and 17,500 of those victims are trafficked into the United States.<sup>3</sup> Many more are subjected to trafficking within the United States. Traffickers are often violent individuals who use force, fraud, or coercion to control their victims. The grooming process for victims often includes rape, physical abuse, starvation, confinement, beatings, forced drug use, and threats to both the victim and the victim's family<sup>4</sup>.

## Demand Change

### Everyday Actions

1. Stay updated on international sex trafficking in the news by reading traditional media sources, such as newspapers, as well as accessing new mediums such as blogs and e-newsletters. For examples see Call and Response, [www.callandresponse.com](http://www.callandresponse.com); and Not For Sale, [www.notforsalecampaign.org](http://www.notforsalecampaign.org).
2. Lawyers can make a big difference in advocating for legal investigation and prosecuting perpetrators. Download the training manual on civil litigation and trafficking from the American Bar Association website: [www.abanet.org/domviol/tipRaiseAwareness](http://www.abanet.org/domviol/tipRaiseAwareness).
3. Join in local awareness-raising initiatives such as the "Rescue and Restore" campaign: [www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking).
4. Use your skills to raise funds and awareness about international human trafficking. For example, host

an art show, facilitate a benefit concert, or organize a 5K to engage community members.

### Volunteer

5. Go on an international volunteer trip to learn more about the issue globally and to provide direct service to victims. Even when traveling for pleasure, try to connect with a local anti-trafficking organization to learn more about its work.
6. Identify anti-trafficking organizations in different countries and donate money or supplies based on their needs.
7. Help collect and pack medical supplies and equipment to be sent to shelters for survivors. Contact the Polaris Project for places to donate, [www.polarisproject.org](http://www.polarisproject.org).
8. Volunteer to help local organizations that address international trafficking as part of their missions, such as the STOP-IT Initiative through the Salvation Army, [www.sa-stopit.org](http://www.sa-stopit.org).

### Advocate for Change

9. Lobby for international airline carriers to provide training manuals to all their flight attendants on how to identify trafficking victims. A manual is available at [www.innocentsatrisk.org](http://www.innocentsatrisk.org).

### Keep Learning

10. Keep learning about the issue and ways to get involved by viewing the resources under the International Sex Trafficking section in the index.

<sup>3</sup>US Department of Health and Human Services

<sup>4</sup>National Immigrant Justice Center