

HANDBOOK ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING FOR STUDENTS.

**THIS BOOK COVERS THE KEY ASPECTS,
INCLUDING DEFINITIONS, TYPES,
CAUSES, SIGNS, CONSEQUENCES, AND
PREVENTION STRATEGIES.**

**THIS CONDENSED VERSION WILL SERVE
AS A VALUABLE RESOURCE FOR
UNDERSTANDING THIS COMPLEX ISSUE,
AS IT CONTAINS QUESTIONS AND
ANSWERS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING.**

**A HANDBOOK ON HUMAN
TRAFFICKING FOR STUDENTS**

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FOREWORD

It is an honor to introduce this Handbook on Human Trafficking for Students, a crucial resource from the Blue North Initiative for the Prevention of Human Trafficking.

The tragedy of human trafficking, a modern form of slavery, casts a long shadow over our world. It is a crime that preys on vulnerability, exploiting the hopes and dreams of millions for profit. I founded the Blue North Initiative with a singular mission: to shine a light into this darkness, to educate our communities, and to empower every individual to become an active participant in the fight against this heinous crime.

This handbook, with its 100 questions and answers, is designed to be a starting point for that empowerment. It aims to demystify human trafficking, breaking down complex issues into clear, understandable language. By equipping you, our students, with knowledge, we are

giving you a powerful tool. You will learn to recognize the signs, understand the risks, and know how to seek help. This knowledge is not just for your own safety, but for the well-being of your peers, your family, and your community.

As the founder of this initiative, I believe that our greatest hope for a future free from human trafficking lies in education and collective action. By reading this book, you are taking the first step. You are joining a growing movement of informed and compassionate people determined to make a difference. Let us work together to build a world where every person's dignity and freedom are not just protected, but celebrated.

Thank you for being part of this vital mission.

Mr. Calistus Ekenna

Founder, Blue North Initiative for the Prevention of Human Trafficking

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Understanding Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is a grave violation of human rights. It's a form of modern-day slavery that affects millions of people globally, including many children and young adults. This handbook aims to equip students with the knowledge to recognize, understand, and combat this crime. By learning about human trafficking, you can become an advocate for change and help protect yourself and others from exploitation.

What is Human Trafficking? Human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to exploit a person for labor or commercial sex. It's important to distinguish it from human smuggling. Human smuggling is about illegally

moving a person across a border with their consent. Human trafficking is about the exploitation of a person, regardless of whether they crossed a border legally or illegally.

The Palermo Protocol defines human trafficking as:

The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, 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 labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude, or the removal of organs

CHAPTER 2

The Different Types of Human Trafficking

While sex and labor trafficking are the main categories, human trafficking can manifest in various forms.

Sex Trafficking: This is often what people think of when they hear "human trafficking." Victims are forced into prostitution, pornography, or other forms of commercial sexual exploitation. Traffickers often use a combination of manipulation, threats, and physical violence to control their victims.

Labor Trafficking: This involves forced labor in various industries, such as agriculture, domestic work, construction, manufacturing, and hospitality. Victims are often subjected to

grueling hours, unsafe working conditions, and little to no pay. They're often trapped by debt bondage, where they are told they must work to pay off a fabricated debt.

Domestic Servitude: A specific type of labor trafficking where a person is forced to work as a domestic servant in a private home. Victims are often isolated, have their passports or IDs confiscated, and are not allowed to leave the premises. They are often subjected to physical and psychological abuse.

Forced Criminality: Traffickers may force victims to engage in illegal activities, such as drug trafficking, theft, or forced begging. This is a tactic used to further control the victim, as the threat of being reported to law enforcement is a powerful tool.

Organ Trafficking: This is the illicit trade of human organs for transplantation.

Victims are often deceived or coerced into having their organs surgically removed.

Who Are the Victims?

Anyone can be a victim of human trafficking, regardless of their age, gender, race, or socioeconomic background. However, some populations are more vulnerable than others.

Vulnerability Factors

- **Poverty:** Individuals and families struggling with poverty are often lured by false promises of well-paying jobs and a better life.
- **Lack of Education:** Limited access to education can make individuals more susceptible to deceptive recruitment tactics.
- **Instability:** People in unstable situations, such as those who are homeless, runaways, or displaced by conflict or natural disasters, are at a higher risk.

- **Social Isolation:** Individuals who lack a strong support system of family and friends are easier for traffickers to isolate and control.
- **Previous Abuse or Trauma:** A history of physical, emotional, or sexual abuse can make a person more vulnerable to exploitation.

CHAPTER 3

The Traffickers' Profile

Traffickers can be anyone: a stranger online, a new friend, a romantic partner, or even a family member. They often present themselves as caring and trustworthy, using a tactic called "grooming" to build a relationship and gain a victim's trust before revealing their true intentions. They prey on the vulnerabilities of their victims, promising a better life, a romantic relationship, or a job opportunity that seems too good to be true.

The Recruitment Process: The Lure of Deception

Traffickers are masters of manipulation and deception. They use various methods to recruit their victims.

Common Recruitment Tactics:

- **The "Loverboy" Method:** This is a common tactic in sex trafficking. A trafficker, often a young man, builds a romantic relationship with a young person. They shower the victim with attention, gifts, and compliments to gain their trust. Once the victim is emotionally invested, the trafficker slowly begins to isolate them from their friends and family and introduces them to the world of commercial sex.
- **Job Scams:** Traffickers advertise fake jobs with high pay and great benefits, especially online. When the victim arrives, they are told the conditions have changed, they are in debt, or their documents have been seized, trapping them.

- **False Promises of a Better Life:** Traffickers promise victims, especially those from low-income or war-torn countries, a chance to escape poverty and live a life of luxury.
- **Kidnapping and Abduction:** While less common than other methods, some victims are physically abducted and forced into exploitation.

The Signs of Human Trafficking: What to Look For

Recognizing the signs of human trafficking is crucial for helping victims. The signs can be subtle and may vary depending on the type of trafficking. Physical Signs

- **Signs of physical abuse:** Unexplained bruises, burns, or other injuries.
- **Malnutrition or poor hygiene:** The person may appear underweight, unkempt, or neglected.

- **Signs of poor health:** Lack of medical care for obvious illnesses or conditions.
- **Tattoos or branding:** The person may have a tattoo or brand indicating ownership by a trafficker.

Behavioral and Psychological Signs

- **Fear and anxiety:** The person may appear fearful, nervous, or jumpy.
- **Submissive or withdrawn behavior:** They may be hesitant to speak, make eye contact, or interact with others.
- **Signs of control:** A person may be controlled by a partner, friend, or "family member" who speaks for them, restricts their movements, or holds their documents.
- **Lack of personal possessions:** They may not have their ID, phone, or money.

CHAPTER 4

Working Long Hours for Little or no Pay

Living in a shared or overcrowded space that seems unsuited for the number of people living there.

What You Can Do: Prevention and Action

As a student, you have a vital role to play in the fight against human trafficking.

Educate Yourself and Others

Share this information with your friends and family. The more people who are aware of the signs, the more likely a victim will be identified and helped.

Follow reputable organizations on social media and support their awareness campaigns.

Be Cautious Online

Be wary of unsolicited messages from strangers on social media, especially those that promise jobs, money, or a romantic relationship.

Never share personal information with people you don't know and trust.

Do not meet a stranger you've met online in person without telling a trusted adult.

Conclusion: A Call to Action

Human trafficking is a global crisis that requires a global response. By educating yourself and your peers, you are taking the first step in becoming a part of the solution. Remember the power of awareness and the importance of acting with compassion and courage. Together, we can work towards a world where no one is subjected to the horrors of modern-day slave

100 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS TO UNDERSTANDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

1. What is human trafficking?

It's the illegal trade of human beings for forced labor, sexual exploitation, or commercial sexual exploitation, where the victim is coerced, deceived, or forced into a situation.

2. What's the difference between human trafficking and human smuggling?

Smuggling is about illegally crossing borders, which ends once the person arrives at the destination. Trafficking involves exploitation after arrival.

3. Are all forms of human trafficking the same?

No, it can be for forced labor, sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, child soldiery, or even organ harvesting.

4. Who are the main victims of human trafficking?

Anyone can be a victim, but vulnerable groups like children, women, migrants, and displaced people are often targeted.

5. Is human trafficking only a crime if it involves crossing an international border?

No, it can also happen within Nigeria's borders (internal trafficking).

Trafficking in Nigeria: Facts and Figures

6. Is Nigeria a source, transit, or destination country for human trafficking?

All three. Nigeria is a major source and transit country for people trafficked to Europe, and also a destination country for people trafficked from other West African nations.

7. Which parts of Nigeria are most affected by trafficking?

Edo, Delta, Kano, and Lagos are often cited as high-prevalence areas, but it's a nationwide issue.

8. What are the common destinations for Nigerian victims of human trafficking?

Europe (especially Italy, Spain, and Germany), other West African countries, and the Middle East are common destinations.

9. Why do traffickers target Nigerians?

They exploit factors like poverty, unemployment, lack of education, and the desire for a better life abroad.

10. Are there different forms of human trafficking in Nigeria?

Yes, including sexual exploitation, forced labor (especially in agriculture and mining), and domestic servitude.

Tactics of Traffickers

11. How do traffickers recruit their victims?

They use various methods like false job offers, scholarships, marriage proposals, or promising a better life abroad.

12. What is "deception" in the context of human trafficking?

It's a key tactic where traffickers lie about the nature of the work, the destination, or the living conditions.

13. What is a "debt bondage"?

It's when a trafficker forces a victim to work to pay off an alleged debt, which is often inflated and impossible to repay.

14. What is "grooming"?

It's a manipulative process where a trafficker builds a relationship with a potential victim to gain their trust before exploiting them.

Warning Signs

15. What are some red flags in job offers?

Unrealistic salaries, no clear job description, a need for an immediate departure, and being asked to pay for travel or visa fees upfront.

16. What should I be cautious about when dealing with a recruitment agent?

Verify the agent's license and credentials. A legitimate agent won't ask you to lie about your purpose of travel.

17. What are signs that someone I know might be a victim of trafficking?

They may have new, expensive belongings without a clear source of income, seem withdrawn or fearful, have injuries, or be unable to communicate freely.

18. How can I identify a fake travel agency?

They often operate without a physical office, have no online presence, and provide vague or incomplete information.

19. Is it a red flag if someone promises to handle all my travel documents for me?

Yes, it is. A legitimate process requires your direct involvement. Legal Framework in Nigeria

20. What is the main law against human trafficking in Nigeria?

The Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act, 2015.

21. What is NAPTIP?

The National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons, a government agency responsible for combating human trafficking.

22. What are some of NAPTIP's functions?

Investigating cases, prosecuting traffickers, rescuing victims, and raising public awareness.

23. Is human trafficking a bailable offense in Nigeria?

No, it's a non-bailable offense under the law.

24. What is the penalty for human trafficking in Nigeria?

It varies, but it can include long prison sentences, life imprisonment, and fines.

Safety and Prevention

25. What should I do if I suspect someone is a victim of human trafficking?

Contact NAPTIP, the police, or other relevant authorities. Do not confront the trafficker yourself.

26. What's the NAPTIP hotline number?

070 3000 0203

27. How can I protect myself from being trafficked?

Be skeptical of offers that seem too good to be true, verify all information, and never hand over your documents to a stranger.

28. What are some safe ways to seek a job abroad?

Use licensed recruitment agencies, apply for jobs directly with the company, and ensure you have a valid visa and work permit.

29. What is "due diligence" when applying for a job abroad?

It means thoroughly researching the company, the recruiter, and the country you're going to.

Victim Support and Recovery

30. What kind of support is available for victims of human trafficking in Nigeria?

NAPTIP and other NGOs provide rescue, shelter, medical care, psychological counseling, and rehabilitation services.

31. What is a "safe house"?

It's a secure location where victims are taken for protection and support after being rescued.

32. Can a victim of human trafficking be prosecuted for crimes they were forced to commit?

Under the law, victims are not prosecuted for offenses committed as a direct result of being trafficked.

33. How long does the rehabilitation process take for a victim?

It varies, but it can be a long and complex process involving therapy, skill acquisition, and reintegration into society.

34. What is "reintegration"?

It's the process of helping a victim return to their community and live a normal life.

Sexual Exploitation

35. What is trafficking for sexual exploitation?

It's forcing someone into prostitution, pornography, or other sexual acts against their will.

36. Are all sex workers victims of trafficking?

No, but many are. The key element is coercion, force, or deception.

37. *How do traffickers control victims in the sex trade?*

They often isolate them, take their money, and threaten to expose their situation to their families.

38. *What is "pimping"?*

It's the act of recruiting and controlling sex workers for a profit.

39. *Can men also be victims of sexual exploitation?*

Yes, although women and girls are the most common victims.

Forced Labor

40. *What is trafficking for forced labor?*

It's forcing someone to work through violence or threats, often ...

41. *What are some industries where forced labor is common?*

Agriculture, mining, construction, domestic work, and factories.

42. Is domestic servitude a form of human trafficking?

Yes, if the person is forced to work against their will with little or no pay, and is unable to leave.

43. What are the signs of forced labor in a workplace?

Workers who are isolated, have restricted movement, live in poor conditions, or are not being paid.

44. What's the difference between a bad boss and a trafficker?

A trafficker uses force, fraud, or coercion to exploit labor, while a bad boss might be demanding but doesn't unlawfully restrain you.

Child Trafficking

45. What is child trafficking?

It's the recruitment, transport, or transfer of a child for the purpose of exploitation.

46. Why are children particularly vulnerable to trafficking?

They are less aware of the risks, more easily manipulated, and have less power to resist.

47. What are some forms of child trafficking in Nigeria?

Child labor, child marriage, child prostitution, and forced begging (almajiri).

48. What is "baby farming"?

It's the illegal trafficking of babies, often for sale to childless couples.

49. Is it a crime to traffic a child even if the child's parents consented?

Yes, a child cannot legally consent to being trafficked.

Technology and Trafficking

50. How do traffickers use the internet?

They use social media platforms, online dating sites, and fake job portals to recruit victims.

51. What are some online red flags?

Job offers with vague details, requests for personal information, and pressure to make a quick decision.

52. How can I protect myself online from traffickers?

Be cautious about who you connect with, don't share personal details, and verify all information.

53. What is cyber-sex trafficking?

It's when traffickers force victims to perform sexual acts online for a fee.

54. Can social media platforms help combat trafficking?

Yes, they can. They work with law enforcement to identify and remove accounts used by traffickers.

The Role of the Student

55. How can students help in the fight against human trafficking?

By raising awareness, volunteering with NGOs, and educating their peers.

56. What are some awareness campaigns students can run?

Social media campaigns, poster contests, and school events to inform others about the risks.

57. How can I get involved in anti-trafficking efforts in Nigeria?

You can join or start an anti-trafficking club at your school, or volunteer with NAPTIP or a related NGO.

58. Is it okay to share stories of trafficking victims on social media?

Yes, but be careful not to reveal the victim's identity without their consent.

Anonymity is important.

59. What is the most important message for students to spread?

"If an offer seems too good to be true, it probably is. Be vigilant and verify everything."

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS:

60. What is the role of corruption in human trafficking?

Corruption among law enforcement and border officials can facilitate the movement of traffickers and victims.

61. What is "supply chain transparency"?

It's a process where companies ensure that their products are not made using forced labor.

62. What is the "demand" that drives human trafficking?

The demand for cheap labor, commercial sex, and illegal services.

63. Can human trafficking be connected to terrorism?

Yes, some terrorist groups use trafficking for financial gain or to recruit child soldiers.

64. What is the role of gender in human trafficking?

Gender inequality makes women and girls more vulnerable to exploitation, especially for sexual purposes.

Glossary

65. What is "coercion"?

Using force, threats, or blackmail to make someone do something against their will.

66. What is "exploitation"?

Taking advantage of someone for one's own benefit.

67. What is "vulnerability"?

A state of being exposed to physical or emotional harm.

73. What is "trafficker"?

A person who engages in human trafficking.

74. What is "victim"?

A person who has been harmed, injured, or exploited.

Case Studies & Scenarios

75. Scenario: A family friend offers to take a young girl to Lagos to be a domestic worker, promising she will be paid well. What's the risk?

The girl could be trafficked for domestic servitude and never paid.

76. Scenario: A recruiter promises a student a scholarship abroad but asks for money for "processing fees." Is this a red flag?

Yes, a legitimate scholarship program won't ask for money up front.

77. Scenario: You see a young child hawking on the street late at night. Could this be a form of trafficking?

Yes, it could be a case of child labor or forced begging.

- 78. Scenario: A young man is promised a job in Europe, but his passport is taken by the recruiter upon arrival. What is happening?**

He is being held in debt bondage or forced labor.

- 79. Scenario: A friend goes to a foreign country to work as a cleaner, but is now forced to work at a bar and do other jobs she wasn't told about. Is this trafficking?**

Yes, this is likely trafficking for forced labor and sexual exploitation.

- 80. How can poverty contribute to human trafficking?**

Poverty drives people to seek opportunities elsewhere, making them vulnerable to traffickers who promise a better life.

81. What is the psychological impact on a trafficking victim?

Victims often suffer from PTSD, depression, anxiety, and other long-term psychological issues.

82. What is the difference between an informal and a formal recruitment agent?

Formal agents are licensed and regulated by the government; informal ones are not.

83. How can a victim's family unknowingly aid a trafficker?

By encouraging a family member to take a questionable offer out of desperation for money.

84. What are some international laws against human trafficking?

The Palermo Protocol, which is a UN protocol against trafficking in persons.

QUESTIONS 85-102: QUICKFIRE

True or False: Human trafficking is a crime against humanity.

True.

- 85. What's the best way to get a visa for a foreign country?**

Through the official embassy or consulate.

- 86. What does "exploitation" mean in a trafficking context?**

Using someone for one's own gain, through force or deceit.

- 87. Can a trafficker be a family member?**

Yes.

- 88. What is the first step to take if you are a victim of trafficking abroad?**

Contact the Nigerian Embassy or Consulate.

- 89. What's the main motivation for most traffickers?**

Financial profit.

90. What does the acronym NAPTIP stand for?

National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons.

91. What is the core difference between smuggling and trafficking?

Exploitation.

92. What is "modern slavery"?

A term for human trafficking and other forms of slavery in the modern world.

93. Why are girls and women often trafficked for sexual exploitation?

Due to gender inequality and high demand for commercial sex.

94. What is the most important thing to do before accepting a job abroad?

Verify the job, company, and recruiter.

95. What is the NAPTIP slogan?

"Human trafficking is a crime against humanity."

96. What is a "push factor" in human trafficking?

Poverty, conflict, and lack of opportunity make people leave their homes.

97. What is a "pull factor"?

The promise of a better life, education, or employment in another location.

98. What's the biggest barrier to reporting human trafficking?

Fear of the trafficker and lack of trust in authorities.

99. Can human trafficking be an act of war?

Yes, in the form of child soldiery and sexual slavery in conflict zones.

100. What is the role of technology in prevention?

It can be used to spread awareness and report suspicious activity.

101. Can someone be trafficked without being moved?

Yes, if the exploitation occurs within their own country.

102. What is "trauma-informed care"?

A form of support that recognizes and addresses the trauma a victim has experienced.

Final message: What should every Nigerian student remember? *Be informed, be vigilant, and never believe that an opportunity is worth risking your life and freedom.*

Handbook on Human Trafficking for Students