

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: PROBLEMS, SOLUTIONS, AND LITERATURE REVIEW

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Annotation:

Human trafficking remains one of the most critical global human rights issues of the 21st century. It involves the illegal trade and exploitation of individuals through force, fraud, or coercion for purposes such as sexual exploitation, forced labor, and organ trade. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), millions of people, especially women and children, fall victim to trafficking networks each year. This paper explores the causes, consequences, and potential solutions to human trafficking while analyzing contemporary literature on the topic.

Keywords: Human trafficking, exploitation, human rights, global slavery, prevention strategies.

Methods and Literature Review: Recent studies (Zimmerman et al., 2020; Shelley, 2019) emphasize that human trafficking is driven by poverty, gender inequality, weak governance, and limited law enforcement. The Global Slavery Index (2023) reports that more than 50 million people are living under modern slavery conditions. Scholars highlight that traffickers exploit globalization and migration routes, making transnational cooperation essential. Legal frameworks such as the Palermo Protocol (2000) and national legislation in many countries have provided important definitions and guidelines for prosecution and victim protection.

Results and Discussion: Despite international efforts, challenges persist due to corruption, insufficient victim identification, and lack of rehabilitation programs. Studies indicate that victims often experience severe physical and psychological trauma, leading to long-term social exclusion. The literature also stresses the need for data-driven policymaking, awareness campaigns, and stronger socio-economic support systems to reduce vulnerability.

Conclusions and Recommendations: To combat human trafficking effectively, a multidisciplinary and multi-stakeholder approach is required. This includes strengthening international cooperation, enhancing border control, empowering at-risk populations through education and employment, and providing long-term rehabilitation

for survivors. Moreover, digital technologies can be used to detect trafficking networks and assist law enforcement. Future research should focus on evaluating the impact of prevention programs and integrating victim-centered approaches in policy formulation.

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