

Media Journal – Entry 1

Jaiden Veal

The article “Human Trafficking Helps Terrorists Earn Money and Strategic Advantage” highlights the failed attempts of universal pledges to abolish the crime of human trafficking. Seen as a threat to human rights and global stability, terrorist groups, crime networks, and repressive regimes, ‘modern slavery’ is affecting many on a global basis. While the concerns of both labor and sex trafficking have long lasting affects for both the individual trafficked and in some cases communities as a whole, prioritizing prevention and prosecution as a means to end human trafficking, will allow us to advance towards a ‘more peaceful and secure world.’

a. How is human trafficking represented?

- Represented as ‘modern slavery’
- A direct tactic of war (generating profits/advancing strategic aims)
- “Grace affront to human rights and dignity”
- Notes it as both labor/sex trafficking
- Seen as a “support to abusive regimes”

b. What definition of human trafficking is used?

- There is no clear-cut definition used to describe human trafficking but is referenced as ‘modern slavery’ several times throughout the article.

c. What beliefs are reflected?

- That terrorist organizations use trafficking to **“expand this power and capabilities, thereby prolonging conflict.”**
- The problem of human trafficking is only getting worse, and much of that has to do with **“global challenges”** such as forced migration.
- Governments should do more to put an end to criminal networks and terrorist groups
→ **“while prioritizing the prevention and prosecution of human trafficking”**
- Travel bans should be applied as well as any asset freezes on human traffickers.
- **“Pursue trafficking and sexual slavery charges against Islamic State Officials.”**
- Collect intelligence on human trafficking in locations that are already being watched for ‘drug/arm trafficking’
- Human trafficking is a threat to human rights and the overall global stability

d. What evidence are claims based on?

- The 120 countries that joined together to agree on a universal definition of human trafficking, aiming to recommit themselves to the matter is based on:
→ **The United Nations Treaty Collection**
- The claim that human trafficking and modern slavery are affecting more than 40 million people worldwide is based on:
→ **Global Estimates of Modern Slavery**
- The claim that rebel groups from central Africa’s Lord’s Resistance Army have used captives to expand on military capabilities and support operations is based on:

→ **Global Report on Trafficking in Persons – 2018**

- Ransom payments amounting to (\$35-\$45 million) that were extracted by the Islamic State is based on:
 - **United Nations Security Council Report**
- End of 2018, more than 70 million people had been forcibly displaced by (violence, conflict, persecution) is based on:
 - **UNHCR – Refugee Agency Report**
- Traffickers generate between \$50 million - \$100 million annually is based on:
 - **Mixed Maritime Movements in South-East Asia – UNHCR 2015 Report**
- The U.S. State Department estimate on the North Korean government having close to 100,000 forced laborers working abroad is based on:
 - **Trafficking in Persons Report – June 2019**
- The link between peacekeeping missions and military installations contributing to an increase in human trafficking is based on:
 - **Sage Journals Publishing: (Human Trafficking: The Unintended Effects of United Nations Intervention)**
 - **Countering Trafficking in Persons in Conflict Situations – Thematic Paper**

e. **What do you know about the background of the author or the source that is publishing the material?**

The author **Jamille Bigio** has expertise in:

Women and Women's Rights – Peacekeeping – Conflict Prevention – Diplomacy and International Institutions – Global Governance – Sexual Violence - Refugees & Displaced Persons

- Has worked to strengthen disaster management in Africa and the Middle East.
- Jamille is a senior fellow in the Women and Foreign Policy Program
- Under the Obama administration, she serves as the director for human rights and gender on the White House National Security Council
- Advised the White House Council on Women and Girls
- Served as a senior advisor to U.S. ambassador-at-large for global women's issues.
- Graduated from the University of Maryland; received her master's from the Harvard Kennedy School
- Currently writes on gender/security, women's leadership, and economic development.
- Has presented to congressional committees and lectures on peace and security at: (*Harvard University, the UN Foundation, and the American Society of International Law*)

The Webpage **Foreign Policy**:

- American news publication, founded in 1970 by a Harvard professor Samuel Huntington...focuses on global affairs, current events, and domestic/international policy.
- 2003 the FP magazine won a National Magazine Award for General Excellence and again in 2007 and 2009.
- In September 2008, Foreign Policy was purchased by the Washington Post Company one of the 'world's most respected media organizations'

f. What kinds of ‘experts’ are referenced and what are their credentials?

Jamille’s colleague was mentioned **Rachel Vogelstein**:

- Rachel is a senior fellow/director of the Women and Foreign Policy Program
- A professor of gender and U.S. foreign policy at Georgetown Law School
- Her research is focused on the relationship between women’s advancement and prosperity, stability, and security.
- Author of Ending Child Marriage, Women’s Participation in Conflict Prevention and Resolution, etc.
- Served as a senior advisor on women’s issue for the Hilary for America campaign
- Graduated from Columbia University’s Bernard College and Georgetown Law
- Currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Women’s History Museum, Planned Parenthood Global, and chairs the Board of trustees of the National Child Research Center

g. What does the author do well and what needs improvement?

Overall, I think the author does a pretty good job at depicting the ‘realness’ of human trafficking. Jamille starts off by acknowledging the efforts of 120 countries that joined together to agree on the universal definition of human trafficking, as well as committing themselves to tackling the issue. Quickly after, she notes although there was some form of effort there, it clearly was not enough, due to the fact that it’s still affecting many worldwide. I think that it’s important to acknowledge something like this, because it brings accountability back onto the table for the 120 countries. The author’s choice of words throughout the article is also something to note. She ended the article saying, “ignoring its spread (human trafficking) undermines our collective efforts to advance a more peaceful and secure world”, which is a reality many have yet to come to terms with. When considering the main topic of the article, I also think she did a good job at depicting the realities of trafficking on a global spectrum. One thing I would say may need improvement, depending on how reliable the figures are would be the statistics throughout the article, because I am not very familiar with the reporting piece of trafficking this would be my only criticism.

Conclusion:

This article seems to be very careful with its choice of words, using the terms human trafficking and noting there are two main forms labor/sex trafficking. It avoids survivor stories, although pinpointing several specific cases of trafficking, so may be a danger or re-victimization. The article also points out more internationally based stories, providing us with information on their vulnerabilities and what that’s so. Lastly, there are quite a few number statistics throughout the article, that from looking see to be reliable sources, but again finding reliable statistics on human trafficking is very difficult.

Works Cited

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Media Journal – Entry 2

Jaiden Veal

The article “Hawley Introduces bill to document scope of human trafficking in America” is focused on the importance of wide-scale studies on the demographics of trafficking victims and what this information can provide the general population with as well as researchers.

a. How is human trafficking represented?

- “it’s more than a problem, it’s an epidemic”
- “men, women and children are being sold/held against their will
- “all types of trafficking, which could include forced labor...”
- “modern-day slavery”

b. What definition of human trafficking is used?

There really was no clear-cut definition of human trafficking mentioned in this article, but it did not that human trafficking comes in various forms, which I think is important to note.

c. What beliefs are reflected?

- Josh Hawley believes it’s important to push Congress to fund they surveys that are already supposed to be taking place under the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005, as well as surveys to account for trafficking victims.
- Hawley thinks it’s important that people know the ‘scope of the problem’ because it truly is more than just a problem.
- The studies will be helpful in that it will provide people the necessary information to understand the depths of human trafficking, but the data will help people realize the problem does exist, as many believe it doesn’t.
- Michael Shively believes that the studies do not need to relay precise information, but that “if you’re talking about thousands of victims, or hundreds of thousands, or a million, that matters.”
- Shively also adds that these studies will provide “more than just a number” it will provide regional differences of trafficking, economic backgrounds, etc.
- Data will provide information on who the victims are:
 - who victims are and what makes them victimizable
 - who perpetrators are and their methods

d. What evidence are claims based on?

- The law passed by congress in 2005 that mandated comprehensive research and statistical review/analysis of severe forms of trafficking in person every two years is based on:
 - **Trafficking Victims of Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005**

e. What do you know about the background of the author or the source that is publishing the material?

→ The author **Tom Jackman**:

- Received his education from the University of Notre Dame (BA in English and American Studies)
- Has been covering crime/courts for the Washington Post since 1998
- Wrote 'Rites of Burial'
- 2016 he launched the 'True Crime' blog that focusses on criminal justice issues and important cases locally/nationally

Honors & Rewards

- **Pulitzer Prize for breaking news coverage of Virginia Tech shooting, 2008**

→ **The Washington Post**

- Founded in 1877 by Stilson Hutchins, to promote the agenda of the Democratic Party
- Specializes in national politics
- Won more than 50 Pulitzer Prizes as well as other prestigious journalism awards
- Purchased by Jeff Bezos for \$250 million in 2013
- Based in Washington D.C.

f. What kinds of 'experts' are referenced and what are their credentials?

→ **Kevin Malone**

- President of the U.S. Institute Against Human Trafficking
- Retired from MLB in 2001 after a 17-year career
- Committed to 'eradicating the sex trafficking of children'

→ **Michael Shively**

- Senior Advisor to the National Center on Sexual Exploitation
- Former official of the National Institute of Justice
- Founded Demand Forum, a website that documents prevention tactics

g. What does the author do well and what needs improvement?

I think the author does a pretty good job at highlighting the importance of conducting research and doing surveys on human trafficking, and what the information can provide us with. One thing I think the author needs improvement on is on the 'experts' he used and quoted in his article. I found very little to no information and credentials on Malone and Shively, which is something that needs to be considered when publishing an article.

Conclusion:

Overall, I think the author met the media's best practice. When considering the language, he used, it was pretty consistent. For example, he only mentioned those trafficked as victims and did not use both the terms survivor/victim, which could be misleading. He also described human trafficking as having many forms, which is important to note, because he didn't just focus on one specific branch of trafficking. The article did not focus on survivor stories, but there was a study mentioned that misrepresents human trafficking, because of the specific definition used in the study to describe trafficking as a whole.

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Media Journal – Entry 3

Jaiden Veal

The primary focus of “How a GBMC Nurse is Helping Stop the Cycle of Human Trafficking” is on the educational gap that healthcare providers at GBMC have in relation to identifying human trafficking survivors as well as providing the necessary services.

a. How is human trafficking represented?

- related to commercial sex
- underrepresented in the healthcare world
- higher prevalence in Maryland/Baltimore than anticipated
- the lack of knowledge about trafficking in the healthcare world is seen as a problem that needs to be addressed

b. What definition of human trafficking is used?

There is no clear definition that is described in this article, but human trafficking is described in a broader sense and as commercial sex.

c. What beliefs are reflected?

- Ashley McAree believes there is a lack of training on how to properly treat human trafficking victims.
- Teamwork between departments in the hospital are what make polices such as those relating to human trafficking successful.
- Ashley believes that because Maryland is such a “condensed state with lots of sporting events and conventions, the large influx of people will raise the demand for commercial sex”.

d. What evidence are claims based on?

- Prevalence of human trafficking in the Maryland and Baltimore area is based on
→ **Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) program**
- 88% of human trafficking survivors reported contact with someone in the health care system, but were not identified is based on:
→ **(2014 study that is not mentioned in the article nor is it cited)**
- Majority of human trafficking victims seek healthcare is based on:
→ **(research that is not mentioned nor cited)**

e. What do you know about the background of the author or the source that is publishing the material?

→ The author **WBFF Fox 45**:

- Maryland based stations (FOX affiliate) that is owned by Sinclair Broadcast Group
- Sinclair is one of the largest broadcasting companies in the country
- Owns and operates 163 tv stations in 77 different markets
- Includes FOX, ABC, MyTV, CW, NBC, Univision, and Azteca affiliated

- Aiming to broaden recruiting outreach by communicating effectively to the broadcasting community
- WBFF department managers attend job fairs at local colleges to recruit candidates interested in the field
- Have tours at the station for schools

f. What kinds of ‘experts’ are mentioned and what are their credentials?
(there are no specific ‘experts’ mentioned in this article but there was a program mentioned)

Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) program:

- The safe program at GMBC collaborates with the Baltimore County Police Department, the Baltimore County State’s Attorney’s Office, local universities, and sexual assault/domestic violence service providers to ensure victims have the proper care
- The program does outreach and educational presentations in high schools, colleges, and at other community organizations
- A SAFE examination allows documentation of evidence and the collection of evidence of sexual assault, as well serves as a medical evaluation and provides treatment
- Free and confidential services offered to patients, costs are covered by the state
- The nurse examiners are specifically trained to care for victims of sexual assault, rape, child abuse, domestic violence/intimate partner violence, and human trafficking
- Nurses complete a full health assessment of the patient
- SAFE also provides on-call assistance with crisis counseling, emotional grounding, safety planning, and danger assessment → they also provide referrals for counseling/legal/shelter services

Greater Baltimore Medical Center (GBMC):

- Founded in 1965, 352 bed medical center located in Maryland
- Provides primary/afterlife care (Gilchrist)
- Gilchrist provides patients/families with medical care, counseling/support during each stage of a serious illness

GBMC Physicians

- Has around 1,100 physicians on their staff, making it one of the largest community hospitals in the Mid-Atlantic region

GBMC Nurses

- Includes 1,110 medical nurses and 120 hospice nurses
- Average length of employment is 10 years

GBMC Staff & Volunteers

- Currently has around 3,900 people both located in the clinical/non-clinical areas, making it one of the largest private sector employers in Baltimore County
- 1,030 community volunteers who help with both medical services and Gilchrist services

GBMC Health Partners

- Includes more than 300 primary care providers, specialists, advanced practice clinicians, and support staff members.
- Work together to meet the needs of all individuals associated with GMBC

g. What does the author do well and what needs improvement?

The author depicts the issue at hand pretty well from the perspective of the GMBC employee. What I believe the author needs to work on would be the way they reported the media. Although they included a direct quote from the nurse regarding the “demand of commercial sex” and its overall relation to human trafficking, this provides an inaccurate representation of human trafficking and further information should have been included. The author also included statistics that the nurse had mentioned from a study but failed to back up these statistics with further research and or mentioning the study that she was referring to. Reliable statistics in relation to human trafficking are difficult to come by, so it’s important to include some form of reference.

Conclusion:

Overall, considering the few media practices that were highlighted in this article I do not believe the author has met them. The two significant ones were only highlighting half of the story and playing the numbers game. The author only highlights half of the story by only highlighting one form of trafficking. Although it was a direct quote from an employee information on other forms of trafficking should have been included to make the story more well-rounded. This article also plays the number game in a sense, because a study and statistics were included, but there were no references in relation to either. Both of these play a critical role in how human trafficking is portrayed by the public and can be problematic if not represented correctly.

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Media Journal – Entry 4

Jaiden Veal

a. How is human trafficking represented?

- Represented as sex slavery
- Forced labor
- Described as a crisis
- Forced domestic work
- Forced prostitution (**described as such by the women and girls involved**)
- Exploitation

b. What definition of human trafficking is used?

There is no clear definition described in this article, but several terms are used throughout the article that are worth noting such as ‘sex slavery’, forced prostitution, forced labor, and forced domestic work.

c. What beliefs are reflected?

- Dismantling the network associated with the trafficking of women and young girls has become difficult due to the money sources and the strong connection between Europe and Nigeria
- There needs to be more of an emphasis on the ‘human trafficking crisis’ as times like these require a global and unified ‘all-hand-on-deck’ approach
- All available resources need to be pooled to deal with the causes of ‘frantic migration and human trafficking’
- The world is not doing enough until the conditions that make young women want to escape their homelands are addressed

d. What evidence are claims based on?

- Nigerian women form the highest percent of victims from Africa that are trafficked to Europe is based on:
 - **The research article “Why is Nigeria a Hub for Human Trafficking?”**
- The 50 secret societies that are involved in the trafficking of young girls and women is based on:
 - **The African Travel and Tourism News Source (source now invalid)**
- Women and girls who claimed to be “exploited, forced into prostitution and various forms of forced labor, including domestic work, and sexual exploitation” as well as “being physically, sexually, and psychologically abused” is based on:
 - **A report by Human Rights Watch “You Pray for Death: Trafficking of Women and Girls in Nigeria”**
- Nigeria stepping up its efforts to contain the trafficking situation at hand is based on:
 - **The introduced anti-trafficking laws and the establishment of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP)**

- The 600% rise in the number of sex trafficked victims who arrived in Italy by sea compared to two years earlier with 80% of them arriving from Nigeria is based on:
→ **2017 report by The International Organization for Migration (IOM)**

e. What do you know about the background of the author or the source that is publishing the material?

→ The author **Bob Koigi**:

- Holds a master's degree in International Studies and an undergraduate degree in journalism and media studies
- Kenyan journalist who had reported on agriculture, food security, rural development, climate change, and environment across radio, TV, print, and online for multiple international media outlets
- Has won multiple awards for his work

→ The webpage **Fairplanet**:

- Founded in Berlin in 2014
- Has 18 colleagues located in 14 countries on 5 continents
- Global coverage
- Their approach is to protect human rights, the biosphere, and support Sustainable Development Goals across the globe
- Funded through grants, projects, and donations

f. What kinds of 'experts' are mentioned and what are their credentials?

→ **Stephanie Linus (Nigerian Award-Winning Actress)**

- Earned a reputation as Africa's foremost actress in Nollywood (Nigerian Film Industry)
- Stared in more than 100 films
- In 2010, she was featured on the CNN documentary "50 years of Nigerian Independence"
- By special invitation from the Queen of England, she attended the 2015 Queens Young Leaders Award in Buckingham Palace
- Passionate about women's rights and advocated against early child marriage
- Has a foundation called "Extended Hands" where she has done extensive work in the field of Vesicovaginal fistula
- Awarded Nigeria's fourth highest award Member of the Order of the Federal Republic
- She's the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Regional Ambassador on Maternal and Reproductive Health for the western and central Africa

g. What does the author do well and what needs improvement?

I think the author did a really good job portraying the hardships young Nigerian girls and women are facing in relation to human trafficking. Although there was no clear-cut definition of human trafficking mentioned in the article, there were several terms used that are often associated with human trafficking that would allow the readers to have a fair understanding, but this could also result in the readers being misled. The author also supported their evidence from outside sources by including the references, which is an important element to consider.

Conclusion:

Overall, the author did a considerable job regarding the media's best practices. The language used by the author generally speaking was good, where I would raise question would be the multiple terms used to describe human trafficking. Although the author is not necessarily at fault for this, because the direct quote came from the trafficking survivors included in the Human Rights Watch report, I think in this case it could be beneficial to include a general definition of trafficking as well as the words of the survivors to give readers a thorough background. The author does not tell half of the story, play the numbers game, or misconstrue the survivor stories that were included.

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Media Journal – Entry 5

Jaiden Veal

The article “The Cost of COVID-19 Lockdown: Rise in Bonded Labour and Human Trafficking in India” focuses on the preparation needed to counter bonded labour and trafficking due to the increased demands for mass production

a. How is human trafficking represented?

- Bonded labor
- Humanitarian crisis
- Organized crime network
- Slavery
- Commercial sexual exploitation

b. What definition of human trafficking is used?

There is no clear definition of human trafficking described in this article, but there were multiple terms used to describe it such as a form of bonded labor, an organized crime network, a form of slavery, and commercial sexual exploitation.

c. What beliefs are reflected?

- The issues of human trafficking could become a humanitarian crisis
- Planning must be underway to tackling the impact of the crisis at hand
- The safety of the most vulnerable children needs to be considered
- The government must assess the existing laws on trafficking and their ability to meet the needs of victims
- Inspections of factories and manufacturing units is essential to limit the use of child labor
- Budgets for law enforcement and victim rehabilitation need to be increased
- There needs to be a regulation of loan and moneylending systems to limit exploitation
- The use of online child sexual abuse material needs to be curbed and the platforms needs to be held accountable
- There needs to be a wide-spread safety net in vulnerable areas of trafficking such as in schools, communities, and religious authorities/local administration need to both recognize and control trafficking/bonded labor

d. What evidence are claims based on?

- “Over 39 crores of unorganized and migrant workers on the fringes or outside the socio-economic security umbrella, are the most vulnerable”
→ **No reference mentioned**
- According to government data of (2007), there are approximately 30 lakh women and 12 lakh girls (below 18) involved in sex work
→ **No reference mentioned**
- Pornhub, has been a 20-time jump in India, from 0.9% (February 24th) to 18.1% as of (March 16th)

→ Although I have seen something similar in another article, there was no reference associated with these statistics

e. What do you know about the background of the author or the source that is publishing the material?

→ The author **Niharika Chopra**:

- Attended the University of Sussex – MA in Childhood and Youth Studies – Social Work
- Conducted child/sexual health hygiene awareness sessions with women and children in the Mawaiyya slum
- Participated in daily rescue operation at the Lucknow Railway Station for lost and separated children
- Created the ‘Safe City Campaign’ for children in Lucknow
- Intern at the National Human Rights Commission of India
- Assistant teacher and community outreach worker

→ The webpage **Outlook – The Fully Loaded Magazine**:

- First issued in 1995
- Features contents from politics, sports, cinema, and stories of broad interests
- English cased new magazine published in India

f. What kinds of ‘experts’ are referenced and what are their credentials?

There are no ‘experts’ mentioned in this article.

g. What does the author do well and what needs improvement?

I think the author does a good job addressing the rising issues of trafficking that India could face due to COVID-19. The author gives a pretty strong argument as to how the government should prepare to counter the effects of bonded labor and trafficking, which an emphasis on the safety of the most vulnerable children, who could fall victim to both bonded labor and trafficking. Where the author is coming up short would be that she failed to cite any of the resources although she mentioned what seems to be credible statistics.

Conclusion:

When considering the media practices that were displayed in this article, I would say the author did not meet the media’s best practices, but in a broader sense she did. The practice that I would question would be the numbers game and reporting responsibly. The author failed to include any references to the statistics she included and therefor did not report responsibly. When looking at the overall picture, she did not report half of the story, there were no issues associated with re-victimization, and the overall use of language was good.

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Concluding Analysis (636 words)

The sources used for my media journal integrate a few different topics such as the effects of trafficking on a global basis, the importance of wide-scale studies on the demographics of trafficking victims, human trafficking in the healthcare world, and the most current issues of human trafficking associated with a global pandemic.

When considering trafficking from a global stance, the first conversations associated with human trafficking did not arise until twenty years ago during the U.N convention, where global leaders from 120 countries came together to agree on a universal definition of human trafficking. During this year the United States also implemented the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) in an effort to eradicate the crime of human trafficking, although human trafficking was not considered a public health issue until 2015. As laws and definitions were being implemented the scale of the problem continued to grow due to various global challenges such as forced migration, economic insecurity, housing insecurity, and educational gaps. Another considerable factor associated with the growing issues of human trafficking is extremist groups using trafficking as a direct tactic of war as mentioned in one article. By using trafficking, groups such as these are able to generate profits and expand their military capabilities.

Although the implementation of various laws occurred twenty years ago, the exact incidence rates as well as prevalence of human trafficking both in the United States and on the national level are still unknown. This is due to the lack of victim recognition by authorities, differences in sampling methods, the lack of a common database for case tracking, and so on. As mentioned in my second article, it is crucial that we first address the estimated number of perpetrators of all types of trafficking and their demographics, as well as determining the number of trafficking related cases. The second study deemed essential would focus on sex trafficking to determine both the number and types of perpetrators as well as the overall worth of the commercial sex industry, and associated crimes. Another considerable factor is related to the language and culture barriers associated with trafficking. This barrier limits the views of public health sectors making it nearly impossible to identify trafficked persons.

Due to the lack of information that we currently have on human trafficking, there has been a considerable gap in the services provided for human trafficking survivors. In relation to the healthcare world, many medical providers are often not properly trained on how to identify possible trafficking victims as well as providing the necessary support. In my third article, a program was implemented at a hospital in Maryland that would provide nurses and medical staff with the proper education to identify and assist trafficking survivors, after a woman who had been a nurse for ten years realized she had no background knowledge on human trafficking. This educational gap is often seen within other crucial service provider positions such as law enforcement and NGO's. Human trafficking cases are often handled by the discrepancy of the law enforcement official associated with the case, which can result in the proper resources and supports not being provided to survivors among other issues.

The ongoing issues associated with human trafficking are apparent. A new problem at hand is associated with the current global pandemic. The last article I included is primarily focused in India, although the problem at hand with the demands of mass production and the trafficking of individuals could very well become a reality for many vulnerable countries. In order to prepare for the possible increases of bonded labor and human trafficking government officials need to take the necessary measures to establish a plan to counter the impacts of the

crisis. Tackling the problems of human trafficking has to be a collective effort in order to protect the lives of the most vulnerable.