

Human Trafficking Bulletin Quotes

On Human Trafficking: “The alarming increase in the trade of human beings is one of the pressing social, political and economic problems associated with the process of globalization. It presents a serious threat to the security of individual nations, and a question of international justice which cannot be deferred.”

Letter of Pope John Paul II May 2002

On Human Trafficking: “Slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children, and disgraceful working conditions, where people are treated as instruments of gain, rather than as free and responsible persons,...[this practice] poisons human society, debases their perpetrators, and constitutes a supreme dishonor to the Creator.”
Second Vatican Council - The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World

On Human Trafficking: “I did not come to the United States to be a prostitute. I came to find a better future for my family. No woman or child would want to be a sex slave, and endure

the evil that I have gone through.....Please help us and do not let this happen to anyone else.”
A trafficking survivor speaking to Congress

On Human Trafficking: “Trafficking in persons, in which men, women and children from all over the globe are transported to other countries for the purpose of forced prostitution or labor, inherently rejects the dignity of the human person, and exploits conditions of global poverty.”
Strangers No Longer: Document of US and Mexico Bishops – November 2002

On Human Trafficking: At least 12.3 million people world-wide are currently held in modern-day slavery. “Viewed through the lens of Catholic social teaching, human trafficking is a crime against the most basic aspects of human dignity and human rights. It preys on the poor and vulnerable and exploits their labor.”
From “*Catholics Confront Global Poverty*,” United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Prayers to End Human Trafficking

O God of every family on earth,
loving and compassionate God,
we come before you in prayer,
unable to fully comprehend the horror
of women and men and children
transported to unknown places
to be exploited and abused
because of greed and profit.

We are people of many creeds, united in our
sadness and our anger.

We cry out together against the degrading practice
of human trafficking.

Our hearts are saddened and our spirits angry that
their dignity and rights are being transgressed
through threats, deception, and force.

Give us the wisdom and courage to stand up
against the evil that makes it possible
for people to buy and sell and trade others.
Give us the wisdom and courage to stand in
solidarity with the victims, that together
we will find a way to the freedom
that is your gift to all of us.

We pray for it to end. AMEN

O God, our words cannot express
what our minds can barely comprehend
and our hearts feel when we hear
of women and girls deceived
and transported to unknown places
for purposes of sexual exploitation and abuse
because of human greed and profit
at this time in our world.

We cry out against the degrading practice of
trafficking and pray for it to end.
Strengthen the fragile-spirited and broken-hearted.
Make real your promises to fill these, our sisters
and brothers, with a love that is tender and good,
and send the exploiters away empty-handed.

Help us to overcome our reluctance, our divisions,
and our feelings of powerlessness,
so that we may stand as one in solidarity
with our brothers and sisters in the human family.
Together, open our hearts and hands
and our minds
to find a way to the freedom that is your gift
to every child, every woman, and every man.

We pray for it to end. AMEN