

A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE STATE OF MODERN SLAVE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Peter Mwemezi

Eckernfotde Tanga University, United Republic of Tanzania
mwemepetro@yahoo.ca

Article Info:

Submitted:	Revised:	Accepted:	Published:
Aug 27, 2023	Aug 31, 2023	Sep 2, 2023	Sep 05, 2023

Abstract

The study critical examines slavery in the modern day with focus on examination of contemporary slavery in Africa. The phenomenon of slavery can be traced from the dawn of time and it banned in the 19th century. However, millions of people are still suffering under what called modern day slavery. The results of this study is basically based on secondary data sources. It is revealed that forced labor, sex slavery, practice of debt bondage and trafficking in human beings, all these are types of modern slavery. This human tragedy has become most effective business in the 21st century, although it is illegal around the world as well recognized as a violation of one's human being. The impacts of this is tremendous as well contrary to the modern civilized community. The study reveals that modern day slavery in the 21st century compose a complete breaches of fundamental human rights together with a global blackmail to democracy, peace as well sustainable development.

Keywords: Modern Slavery, Sex Slavery, Contemporary, Trafficking in Person, Debt Bondage

INTRODUCTION

Each person has entitled to live free from slavery, yet today, modern slavery has become a global phenomenon, when over 40 million people are approximated to be confined in an ongoing forms of slavery among other forced labor and sexual exploitation. As maintained by global recognition, one in four trafficked of current types of modern day slavery are children and 71 percent of victims are women and girls (UNDP, 2021). More than 60 years ago the General Assembly of the United Nation embraced the Universal Affirmation of Human Rights, started that each person is entitled to safety, liberty of movement, as well universal declaration of human rights (Simkhada, 2021).

The term Slavery has been frequently applied since time immemorial (Hochschild, 2005). Herewith, it means slavery is at their age as man. The notion of slavery has been in the courtyard of human being since the dawn of time. That is why, slavery remains a hot topic of dialogue in our contemporary among academic community. This barbaric plague which was put an end around the world in 1888 with Brazil being the final nation to complete that, yet, pervades human endurance up to now. Meanwhile, many nations around the world have passed laws opposing slavery as well any form of it, the new mode of slavery which is practiced around the world generated to the notion of trafficking in persons.

In 1981 it was declared an end of slavery, when Mauritania was the last country to ban legal accredited of the possession of individuals. Up to now, 42 years later, modern slavery is still exist in the form of human trafficking, slavery, domination as well as forced labor (Niethammer, 2020; US Department of Justice, 2020). Trafficking in person together with modern slavery have become major public issues in the past three decades. Virtually, many nation has authorized laws illegalizing human trafficking, and international institutions, governments, together with Non-Government Organizations finance a large diversity of projects to brake trafficking along with slavery. Trafficking in person seem to be an issue for many nations. Its cases have been found in nations around the world.

Miserably, even among governments together with international institutions, there is no mandatory operation of the term human trafficking as well as no general agreement on what the term relates to issues of slavery, forced marriage, servitude, forced labor and exploitation. Plenty of people link human trafficking with forced trade in the first world countries, and, in fact, the term was used for the first time publicly at the beginning 1990s in the press coverage on the adultery of women from Eastern Europe in Western Europe.

At the same time, cases of sex trade with trafficked child prostitutes in South East Asia, then became more detectable. As community based organizations took note and established their own inquiry, cases of migrant exploitation developed in sectors apart from the sex industry, for instance agriculture, construction, horticulture together with manufacturing.

Today, contemporary slavery known as trafficking in person is a tragedy as well crime, yet it is not merely a secret criminal enterprise. It is entwined into the fabric of the contemporary world economy. Slavery has contained in each civilization as well had been usual practice in several societies. The re-occurrence of the enslavement that was officially outlawed in the 1880s is distressing, as well considered as one of the pressing issue disturbing many several countries in the 21st century.

Nowadays, slavery trade is not anymore a word that is related with the past, in reality, it is an extremely commercial transaction in the twenty-first century, and undoubtedly after hundred years from its termination, and several people continue suffer from trafficking in person. Certainly, slavery within their own nations, and several Africans, for instance, profess to be victims trafficking in person within their own nations' territories. In spite of the fact that, modern slave is prohibited across the world, also trafficking in person on the other side of the Atlantic is regarded as a criminal offences against humanity along with an infringement of fundamental rights, it is usual practice in several nations now days (Hakkoumi, 2021).

Human trafficking can be referred keeping a person in an exploitative situation for profit. In fact, they are not free as well they are exploited for profit frequently. It is a criminal offence according to the international law. As well documented, trafficking in person contravene natural rights, reject people fundamental and widely accepted individual freedoms. Moreover, trafficking has wide economic, social together with cultural impacts. With respect to criminal act, trafficking contravenes the rule of law, violates national jurisdictions as well international order. Victims of trafficking as it may be men, women and children. This take places in several locations including on fishing boats, in factories, on construction sites, on farms, in brothels, as well in private residences.

As international community struggle to solve the controversy of human trafficking, the meaning of the term migrates from specifically multinational sexual exploitation to exploitation in a great general sense. Interested groups, such as religious groups and

community organizations contributed to the dialogue on trafficking in person as well extended its definition to involve other forms of exploitation for instance slavery, forced marriage, forced labor, bonded labor and child labor. The interpretation was more expanded when it became clarified that there was no account to ignore forms of exploitation that do not include movements beyond national frontiers. Nowadays, it has been generally acknowledged that at the core of trafficking in person is based in the exploitation of people.

According to the international law trafficking in person can be referred as procedure of intimidating or entice human beings into exploitation. Specifically, it is the business of exploitation. Since trafficking in person incorporate, but is not restricted to the movement of people in the interest of exploitation, trafficking in person as prescribed by international law is considered as umbrella term for all types of coerced, in other words, disaffection as an exploitation, remarkably slavery together with forced labor. Therefore, The widespread of current exploitation of human being is objectionable to people of moral virtue across the globe.

In spite of the illegal of trafficking in person that makes it challenging to know the accurate number of human trafficking, there are more trafficking in person currently in excess of any time in human record with the latest global estimates show that more than 50 million people are living in situation of modern day slavery, either forced to work against their will or in a marriage that they were forced into. These slaves are usually used for work that is simple as well traditional, many of them work in a farm, shops as well clear forests with little pay. The issue of trafficking in person leaves no nation unharmed. Whatsoever, you are there are trafficking in person as long as; available evidence suggests, there are human trafficking in every country across the world.

METHODS

The research methodology is based on a desk-data interpretation approach, to closely explore and illustrating the core of the problem of modern day slavery in the 21st century, based on its emergence, and to assess the results of the phenomenon on present communities. The results of this study is the outcome of secondary data sources.

DISCUSSION

Theoretical Trend of Modern Day Slavery

There are various theoretical inferences that can be best referred to the contemporary trend to slavery around the world not long ago. In this study, the Marxian standpoint has been selected to enlighten the matter in hand. Basically, Karl Marx considers human endeavor, exploitation, dispute and even development in financial affairs which is rooted in the production procedures. This regulated who earns what, when as well how. Marx dragged a collateral line between the two categories of people which he commented that form the society. These are the bourgeoisie (haves) and the proletariat (have not). Marx noted that the haves class normal subjects, exploit as well sustain constant control on the proletariat. Moreover, Marx argues that these categories of classes are described by dispute as the oppressed class to breach out of their state together with the exploiters do whatever it takes to maintain the existing conditions, as to control and proceed with the dominance as well exploitative.

This theory is applied in understanding the trend of modern day slavery, through conceptualizing the globe into economic terms. Economic is considered as the substructure that controls the superstructure. This is based on understanding why both the demand and the supply sides of slaves is continuously increasing in the present-day world.

Trend of Modern Day Slavery

Shortly before the mid and eventual part of the 19th century, slavery started to drop its popularity as many countries around the world started to add more value to the dignity of the human. The trend proceeded till in 1888 when Brazil abolished slavery. After a while, powerfully international agreements were accredited as well effected to abolish slavery trade. Among important treaties includes; the establishment of the United Nations organization in 1945, the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 that ban slavery together with the establishment of Human Rights Watch in 1978 (Masci, 2004). Also, many nations around the world have laid down the laws against slavery trade, companies also start to implement such laws. Yet, slavery has built a rebellion by conceiving mechanisms through which its existence proceeds to swing around the world. Such shifting techniques of slavery in the modern society are the focal point of this part.

It is a shocking fact, that while many people think the slave trade was put an end when slavery was stopped in 1833, unfortunately, there are many slaves today as never before in

history of the human race. Trafficked victim may be subjected to brutality, threats and force as a means of enrolment, control and conformity (Machura, et al, 2018). Modern slavery is concealed, regularly in plain sight; on our main streets, in local businesses as well suburban streets. Unintentionally, our societies may be using victims of trafficking in person to wash their automobile, decorate their nails and set their drives. They perhaps even be close by.

Indicators of Modern Slave

Across the ages, slavery has signified a loss of one's own will as well preference witnessed by violence, from time to time excised by the bondsman, occasionally by element of the state, in fact there work are, incapable to walk away (Bales, 2002). The most common signs for someone being enslaved:

1. Restriction of movement or confinement to the workplace or a limited area.
2. Withholding of passports and identity card.
3. Owned by an employer, normally through mental or physical terror
4. Brutalize, treated as a commodity and sold as property
5. No or minimal access to income or job contract
6. Cheated about the nature of the job, place, or manager
7. Employer unable to issue record of salary paid to workers
8. No or limited medical care and safety equipment
9. Victims be in control of force, intimidations, coercion, kidnapping, fraud and disinformation.
10. No or limited contact with their relatives or outsiders of their immediate environment
11. Sometimes be given only leftovers to eat, in order to survive
12. No contract for job
13. Working for long hours over long periods
14. Accept they are required to work without pay in restoration for a kindness or favor of accommodation
15. No or little knowledge about their home or work address
16. Earn small or no payment
17. Be controlled through punishment or fines

Current Form of Modern Day Slavery

Trafficking in person is considered as an action of depriving as well abusing people for financial gain by applying of threat, disinformation and coercion. Greatest number of people are kidnaped by dealers while they are demanding to leave their nations in exploration for a better standard of living (Hakkoumi, 2021). After all, bondservant do not constantly be in need of transported around borders with regard to be trafficked. Actually, human trafficking may exist inside a lone nation, or even inside a lone society. Trafficking in person as well misuse can take several forms, for instance sexual exploitation as well forced labor. It is significant to note that people are trafficked into several forms of labor as well vulnerable to a diversity of occupational health risks, which differ by locality. The most common forms of slavery take are:

Sexual exploitation, trafficking in person for sexual exploitation is still the most familiar type of human trafficking. This basically affects both women and children. There are many recognized common patterns for recapturing human trafficking for commercial sex, which include but are not restricted to a guarantee of a nice work, a fake marriage proposal turn out to be a servitude, being sold into the streetwalking by parents, spouse or boyfriends, being captured by traffickers. Recruiters are usually very familiar persons to the victims, for instance neighbor, relative, friend, a friend, boyfriend, colleague as well family friend. Victims may be forced into sex tourism, pornography or erotic dancing for small or no pay. They may be destitute of their basic freedom of movement and subjugated to intimidation and brutality (Koett, 2009). Nowadays we observe several people from various places of the global who are wounded of sexual enslavement, not only in developing but also in developed countries.

Bonded Labor is another form of modern day slavery that occur when an individual is forced or intimidated into offering labor or services as well is not free to stop. It usually happen when managers take benefit of vulnerable people, for instance those disturbed by poverty, highest level of unemployment, prejudice, corruption, political disputes, or lack of education of their rights. Disorderly migrants are extremely vulnerable, still some people also may be enforced into labor in their own countries. Victims of forced labor are usually mobilized with an assurance of work, normally through personal contacts as well through offer of employment on newspapers and magazines, television set, advertisement together with the Internet. Labor exploitation normally includes unacceptably little pay, may face

brutality, impoverished working conditions or immoderate wage deductions, but is not merely about this. In case they are foreign nationals, their passports and other identity cards may be confiscated by their oppressors as well they may be made to live in horrible conditions and under constant intimidation (Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority, 2021).

Child slavery includes individuals under the age of 18 being overburdened. The greater number of exploited children are in the middle ages of 13 and 14. Children are extremely vulnerable to oppression for the reason that they can be easily influenced by adults. Around the world children have been exposed to be victims of all types of modern slavery, including coerced sexual contact, forced labor as well criminality, domestic servitude together with organ harvesting. All children working in the sex tourism are injured party of child abuse along with sexual exploitation, in reality there is nothing of the kind as legitimate child prostitution.

In the other hand, child slavery involves the work that deprives children basic rights of their babyhood or childhood, their prospective as well their dignity; duty that surpasses a minimal number of hours; duty that is mentally, physically, immoral and detrimental to children development; as well as work that obstruct with their schooling program (Local Government Association, 2017).

Forced Marriage is referred as a marriage in that one or both of the groupies is married without his or her consent. Within fake marriage there may also be occurrences of abusive sexual behavior together with domestic servitude. Prevalence can be physical or psychological torture for instance, threats, sexual violence and bringing shame to the family. Regardless of being forbidden through international community, it is gauged to affect almost 15million people universally. Although it can occur to both men as well boys, the greater number of the fatalities are women with girls (88%). Almost of a third of unwilling marriages when the fatalities are under the age of 18 with near to protocols to follow in those cases.

Domestic servitude is a form of modern slavery where victims working in a private family home where they are mistreated, intimidation, threaten, subjected to intolerable conditions or abusive working hours or forced to work for low or no pay. The victim can be utilized in this way by their own relatives or family members as well partner. Incessantly, it is very challenging for them to leave as a consequence of intimidation, threats, the perpetrator

retention of identity document, or applying a position of power over the victim. Also, the victim are restricted to freedom of movement and usually with a component of sexual abuse.

Bonded labor, can be attributed as debt slavery, happens when an individual has to work to repay an inherited debt, or once a debt is acquired as part of the conditions of employment. Debts usually take place when a person or family have to hire from broker and managers. This perhaps to pay for culturally relevant events for instance a burial, dowry ceremony, or merely for basic living needs. The victim's labor becomes refund for a previous loan. The situation of the compulsory labor may become extra exploitative at any time the value of the work is higher than the loan.

Hereunder are mainly rooted in Southeast Asia. Presently, poor gives either their children or themselves as collateral for loans. The loan providers abide them as well utilize them for either domestic or agricultural activists presumed until they pay in full their loans. Majority bonded for debt are regularly not able to clear these loans in view of the fact that the loans providers continue adding up their carry on costs into these loans as in potential it effectively impossible for the bonded individuals to clear their loans as well get back their freedom. Similarly, the loan providers arrange the rate of interest with fees, as well control the books. The children of the loan providers from time to time become heir to the bonded individuals as their property with this cycle has been known to continue forever in cases (Drago & Ivan, 2020).

Forced criminality is where an individual is forced to participate in different of criminal activity for someone else's gain. For instance cannabis cultivation, drug trafficking, benefit deceit, robbery, shop lifting, entering into a sham marriage, begging as well selling of fake goods. Victim of criminality are usually afraid to go to the authorities because fear that they will turn out to be in trouble or end up in jail (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2008).

Sham marriage is referred as one in which one side hopes to gain an immigration benefit. A person might be trafficked as well forced to engage into a sham marriage.

Organ harvesting is a form of current slavery that is on the increase around the world. It involves the illegal removal of inner organs for transfer with or without the donor's approval. Victims as the case may be pressurize into giving up an organ, for example a kidney or the liver, and even an eye; might be attracted to sell an organ without full health

information or may talk to someone that they need an operation then the organ is removed without their consent.

Persistence of Slavery

For more than two centuries the international community has been taking action against slaver, this is traced with the 1815 declaration versatile across the globe to eradicate slave activities. Since then some 12 global conventions and 3000 cooperative agreements have been accepted to try to put an end to slavery. Still it prevails. Unfortunate, recent study by the ILO indicates the alarming scale and persistence of forced labor today, with an estimated more than 50 million people subjected to modern day slavery around the world, generated on the backs of trafficked as well enslaved people have called policy makers to action. Why. In fact, we have demonstrated better at articulating out against slavery than taking the cohesive steps we must to abolish it as a socio-economical phenomenon. In reality, we have questionably emerged so self-contented about slavery on a worldwide scale that today the capability of the norm opposed to slavery is lessening-as an impact of unprincipled business conduct state uninterested as well consent possibly most alarmingly, straight frontal offensive by brutal Islamist extremists.

Recommendations

Grounded on the main results, this study contributes the following recommendations for key stakeholders working on tackling contemporary forms of modern day slavery:

1. Cooperate with world community, legal firms, free enterprise and academic community in order to gather data about trafficking in person, involving of influencing new technologies, for instance, artificial intelligence, to examine as well triangulate data in different approach. Scrutinizing possible cooperation that can educate other stakeholders about new strategies of identifying different types of corruption schemes could be available. In case of legal firms could provide pro bono assist to victims in case where ceremonial complicity has been included. In partnership with the criminal prosecution or separately, victims could then receive compensation for damages, suffered as well as set precedent that can contribute to decreasing impunity.
2. Deriver information about trafficking in person networks-involving about their attack within the government office as well global reinforcement with other actors is advised. Accumulating data at a regional as well international community with

structuring joint intelligence system plan with their contacts is also advised, and work with analysts from journalism, the academic or civil society when possible and useful.

3. The private enterprise, particularly in industries from which trafficker in person need services, should abide to on-site training to screen for trafficking in person as well offer them with codes of conduct including etiquettes to follow in such circumstances. Meanwhile, there should be strategies in a place to disclose when employees for some argument fall to recognize in that event including safeguarding for employees who may ought to report anomalies behaviors without fear of retaliation.
4. Responding to trafficking in person challenges requires multi-dimensional strategies. We are called to act ethically as well with integrity in all our daily routine and implementing together with enforcing efficient systems and manages to ensure current slavery is dismissed in whatever place in our own duties or in any way our at the network level.
5. In order to well understand the problems of trafficking in person as well to identify entry points, more systematic inquiries, mapping along with surveys are usually needed to understand the organizational patterns together with mechanisms of enrolment, the routes along with the placement of trafficking in person victims. The vulnerable groups that are more potentially to turn into victims of trafficking in person are usually the most complexity to reach as well access due to their remote position and their marginalized location in community. Hence, understanding their mechanisms, their position together with the nature of their vulnerability is important to efficient anti-trafficking in person policies (Avis, 2020).
6. Establishing delivery of major services in areas with high ranges of victimization is a secondary but important way to fend of trafficking in person; enlightenment, employment, healthcare, social security, attack prevention as well child protection are all very fundamental. Yet, the following specific actions are the important to preventing trafficking in person.
7. Social security: establishing a safety net system to earmark those who are at risk to trafficking in person in the project location.

8. Employment: administering job training together with creating more jobs in the society at risk of trafficking in person so that endangered people do not essentially need to go to the city or abroad to seek a job.
9. Raising awareness: regulatory measures are required to increase awareness of the risks as well consequences on trafficking in person, slave labor, migration, and skill development into educational program in order to educate children together with youths about the risk of trafficking in person and their human rights, and also to establish useful skills to have safe employment.
10. Health: increasing availability to healthcare for endangered groups of trafficking in person for instance hustler, sex workers together with illegal migrant workers along with sexually transmitted diseases.
11. Legal access: legitimate access to justice for the pathetic strategies empowers the endangered group to assert, enforce as well access their individual together with property rights. Many trafficking in person victims are unaware of their basic rights, and even if they aware their rights, they are scared of giving evidence against traffickers who might threaten them together with their family (Makisaka, 2009).
12. Eventually, the offender of trafficking in person need to be held to answerable. This involves strengthening national penal law systems with boosting the conviction rate of human traffickers involving the better identification and investigation of perpetrators.

CONCLUSION

Despite enormous efforts have so far been made at both national and on a global scale, yet, it is broadly accepted that the authoritative to end modern slavery is immensely on the political agenda. Nowadays, trafficking in person is a terrible reality as well continues as a challenge across the globe in which many people of different ethnicities, colors together with religion are bondage, while dealers with organized gangs are gaining abundance of dollars from those victims. In fact, initiatives to end trafficking in person and forced labor should always be grounded on a human rights perspective by following the requirements along with rights of the victims together with handling the states' duty to respect, preserve and accomplish human rights. The accomplishment of fundamental task standards is

important. For that reason, awareness-raising work with managers and purchasers as well as promoter-work with trade unions in conjunction with law making changes and better law enforcement authorities along with better prevention and protection of victim at risk of trafficking in person are very crucial steps to be taken. Concentrating on forced labor can also assist overcome many challenges the anti-human-trafficking movement faces as well supply an essential framework for the preservation of trafficked people together with migrant workers, particularly women and children.

Finally, the trendy of slavery seem to be tragedy, in that slavery has existed for centuries, and emerged the common throughout most in history of humankind. The current antipathy to it, is not new, nor will the commitment to eliminate slavery encouraged by this antipathy eradicate the problem. The quandary is that each stage of life must fight slavery.

REFERENCES

- Avis, W. (2020) Key Drivers of Modern Slavery. London: The K4D Helpdesk
- Bales, K. (2002) The Social Psychology Modern Slavery. *Scientific American* 286 (4): 80.
- Drago, P & Ivan, L., (2020) Modern Slavery as a Global Phenomenon. *Business Studies*, Vol. 12, Issue 23-24, pp. 71-81
- Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (2021) Labor Exploitation: Spot the Signs. Nottingham: Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority.
- Hakkoumi, I. (2021). Modern Slavery in 21st Century in Africa: The Case of Libya. Dissertation in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement for A Master's Degree in Literature and Civilization. Adrah Drain University.
- Hochschild, A. (2005) *Bury the Chains*. New York: Houghton Mifflin.
- Koett, J. (2009) Human Trafficking, Modern Day Slavery, and Economic Exploitation. Discussion Paper, No. 0911, New York: World Bank.
- Local Government Association, (2017) *Tackling Modern Slavery: A Council Guide*. London: Local Government Association.
- Machura, S., et al. (2018) Recognising modern slavery. *Journal of Human Trafficking*, 5(3), 201-219. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23322705.2018.1471863>
- Makisaka, M. (2009) *Social Development Notes: Conflict, Crime and Violence*, World Bank, No. 122, December, 2009.
- Masci, D. (2004) Slavery and Forced Labor. *CQ Researcher* 14 (12) (March): 290-291.
- Simkhada, S. (2021) *Human Rights Human Wrongs: In The Scale of Human Conscience*. New York: Routledge.
- Niethammer, C (2020) *Cracking the 150 Billion Business of Human Trafficking*. Forbes.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), (2021) Corruption and Contemporary Forms of Slavery: Examining Relationships and Addressing Policy Gaps. New York: UNDP.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2008) An Introduction to Human Trafficking: Vulnerability, Impact and Action. Vienna: United Nations.