

Millions of Children Are Abducted and Trafficked Each Year. "The Sound of Freedom" Movie

By <u>Dan Fournier</u> Global Research, July 04, 2023

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Introduction

Recently, a lot is being written and said on the subject of human trafficking and modern-day slavery, particularly due to the upcoming release of the highly anticipated film The Sound of Freedom which is set to be officially released on July 4, Independence Day.

This article examines the subject, the film, and all the dark details that surround its foundations, claims, and worries.

It is arguably the most important topic that concerns us humans, for it has to do with our most precious of all, our children.

This article is structured as follows:

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1. What is Human & Child Trafficking?

On a broader global scale, <u>Human Trafficking Search (HTS)</u> notes:

"Human trafficking, trafficking in persons, and modern-day slavery are umbrella terms – often used interchangeably – that refer to the exploitation of individuals through threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, and/or deception."

HTS lists 6 main types of human trafficking:

- 1. SEX TRAFFICKING & CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING
- 2. FORCED LABOR
- 3. DEBT BONDAGE
- 4. FORCED CHILD LABOR
- 5. INVOLUNTARY DOMESTIC SERVITUDE
- 6. UNLAWFUL RECRUITMENT & USE OF CHILD SOLDIERS

The International Labour Organization estimates that there are <u>40.3 million victims of</u> <u>human trafficking globally</u> (49.6 million people were living in modern slavery in 2021, of which 27.6 million were in forced labour and 22 million in forced marriage).

According to <u>UNODC's 2020 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons</u> which is compiled using official figures from over 148 countries, one in every three victims detected is a child. Girls are mainly trafficked for sexual exploitation, while boys are used for forced labour [source].

According to the National Human Trafficking Hotline based in the United States,

Human trafficking occurs when a trafficker uses force, fraud or coercion to control another person for the purpose of engaging in commercial sex acts or soliciting labor or services against his/her will.

There are many <u>myths</u> about human trafficking such as it exclusively involves transporting victims across state/provincial or national borders – which is really *human smuggling*.

In reality, the crime of human trafficking does not necessarily require movement. Victims can be recruited and trafficked in their own home towns, or even their own homes.

Children are trafficked for various reasons.

According to <u>Save the Children</u> based in Connecticut, child trafficking refers to the exploitation of girls and boys, primarily for forced labor and sexual exploitation.

Children account for 27% of all the human trafficking victims worldwide, and two out of every three child victims are girls.

Children are often trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation or for labor, such as domestic servitude, agricultural work, factory work and mining, or they're forced to fight in conflicts.

The most vulnerable children, particularly <u>refugees</u> and migrants, are often preyed upon and their hopes for an education, a better job or a better life in a new country. [<u>source</u>] Save the Children provides a lot of valuable information on child trafficking , including Myths vs Facts.

Apart from sexual exploitation, trafficked children are often used for <u>forced marriages and</u> <u>for forced labour</u> (modern day slavery) with <u>India and the Asia-Pacific region</u> as a whole being prime locations.

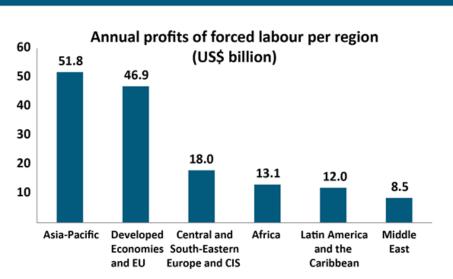
War zones such as the <u>Ukraine</u>, areas of conflict and natural disasters also represent places where children are particularly vulnerable to abduction, sexual abuse and trafficking.

Children are also often lured and deceived online via major social networking platforms such as Facebook or TikTok, or through gaming apps which contain chat platforms [source).

2. Human Trafficking and Forced Labour is a multi-billion-dollar business

Based on research from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), human trafficking is listed as the fastest growing criminal industry in the world today, surpassing in value the illegal arms industry and only second to the drug trade [source].

The International Labour Organization (ILO)'s estimates profits from forced labour at <u>US\$150</u> <u>billion (annually) according to the latest 2021 figures</u>.



Forced labour generates annual profits of US\$ 150 billion

Sex tourism, a worldwide illicit activity that is prevalent in Southeast Asia, accounts for about <u>\$35 billion per year.</u>

And as reporter Clayton Morris from Redacted <u>recently noted</u>, child sex trafficking brings in \$34 billion a year in revenue. Morris emphasised that as a frame of reference, for 2023 the entire airline industry is poised to make \$22 billion in worldwide revenue.

3. Child Sex Trafficking

"Sex trafficking is when an individual engages in a commercial sex act as a result of force, fraud, or coercion. If the individual is under the age of eighteen, any commercial sex act is considered trafficking even if there is no force, fraud, or coercion. Sexual exploitation occurs in various settings, including (but not limited to) brothels, strip clubs, massage parlors, on the street (sometimes coined "track"), or in private homes. Individuals can be trafficked domestically and across international borders. " – Human Trafficking Search (HTS)

According to the <u>ILO</u>, 6.3 million individuals are exploited for sex.

HTS also notes that over half of all children in forced labour are in commercial sexual exploitation.

Women and children are the most common victims found to be trafficked for sex, but men and boys are also trafficked for sex. LGBT identifying individuals, especially transgender individuals, have increasingly been found to be victims of sexual exploitation.

4. Children trafficked en masse at the U.S. Border; 85,000 kids go missing

A U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (<u>HHS</u>) whistleblower, Tara Lee Rodas told <u>Congress's House Judiciary Committee on Apr 26, 2023</u> (watch from around 01:26:13 to 01:32:00) that the United States federal government has become the "middleman" in a multi-billion dollar human trafficking operation targeting unaccompanied minors at the southern border.



Tara Lee Rodas testifying before the Congress's House Judiciary Committee on Apr 26, 2023. Photo source: <u>The Main Wire</u>.

The <u>damning testimony</u> by Rodas who had volunteered to help with <u>Operation Artemis</u>, a plan by the Biden Administration to get control of the humanitarian disaster on the U.S.-Mexico border in 2021, provided some damaging statements about the outcomes for children in the border crisis mess.

Watch the five-minute 45-second clip from her testimony here (alternate video link here).



Migrant children from Central America take refuge from the rain in the back of a U.S. Border Patrol vehicle in Penitas, Texas, March 14, 2021, as they await to be transported after crossing the Rio Grande River into the United States. Photo source CNS photo/Adrees Latif, Reuters via <u>CatholicPhilly.com</u>.

According to an Article from ZeroHedge, <u>'Modern-Day Slave Traders': Hawley Demands</u> <u>Probe Into 85,000 'Lost' Migrant Children</u> from last April, Mrs. Rodas said she had been deployed to help HHS's <u>Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)</u> reunite <u>Unaccompanied</u> <u>Children (UACs)</u> with adult sponsors in the United States, stating:

"I thought I was going to help place children in loving homes. Instead, I discovered that children are being trafficked through a sophisticated network that begins with recruiting in home country, smuggling to the U.S. border, and ends when ORR delivers a child to a sponsor—some sponsors are criminals and traffickers and members of transnational criminal organizations, some sponsors view children as commodities and assets to be used for earning income."

The article also noted that according to data from <u>US Customs and Border Protection</u>, approximately 345,000 minors have crossed into the United States unaccompanied since President Joe Biden took office, while a <u>report</u> from the NY Times suggests that the Department of Health and Human Services has lost contact with 85,000 of these minors. Hawley expounded [emphasis added]:

"The Biden Administration is morally responsible for their fate. The President lifted Title 42 restrictions on unaccompanied children in early 2021," wrote Hawley in a Friday <u>letter</u> to FBI Director Christopher Wray. "Reporting reveals that HHS loosened vetting processes for sponsors and retaliated against whistleblowers who raised these concerns. As a result, thousands of children have been handed over to modern-day slave traders."

The article further noted that in some cases, Rodas says she witnessed adult sponsors who were allowed to take in "10, 20, 30 and 40 children" without any concerns from HHS.

5. The Sound of Freedom movie, officially released on July 4, 2023, Independence Day

The <u>Sound of Freedom</u> is a movie based on the incredible true story of a former government agent, <u>Tim Ballard</u>, who embarks on a dangerous mission to rescue hundreds of children from sex traffickers.

It stars Jim Caviezel who is famous for his portrayal of Jesus Christ in Mel Gibson's 2004 movie The Passion of the Christ. The film was directed by <u>Alejandro Monteverde</u>.

The Sound of Freedom is schedule for its official release on July 4 of this year, on the very fitting Independence Day.

The <u>theatrical trailer</u> for the film can be viewed hereunder:



"Not enough people know this problem exists." - Jim Caviezel

Actor Jim Caviezel (left) who portrays Tim Ballard (right) in The Sound of Freedom speaking during an interview in Washington on June 21, 2023. Image source: Madalina Vasiliu/The Epoch Times via ZeroHedge.

Though The Sound of Freedom film was completed nearly four years ago in 2019, it is only now being released, most likely due to the dark and pervasive nature of child abuse in the Hollywood movie industry.

<u>Disney</u>, who purchased and owns 20th Century Fox shelved the movie for two years, and both Netflix and Amazon passed on distributing it. The film is now distributed by <u>Angel</u> <u>Studios</u>.

Since filming Sound of Freedom, Jim Caviezel has become <u>very</u> <u>outspoken</u> and very involved in the cause of <u>bringing light on the darkness of child sex trafficking</u>.

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