HUMAN TRAFFICKING MYTHBUSTER

LIRS END HUMAN TRAFFICKING CAMPAIGN

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

Common Myths about Human Trafficking Debunked

www.LIRS.org/etn

myth

Human trafficking is just another word for prostitution

FACT

worldwide

4.5 million people are trafficked into **sex work**

16.4 million people suffer from other **forced labor**

COMMON TYPES OF LABOR TRAFFICKING IN THE U.S.

- DOMESTIC SERVITUDE
- FARM WORK
- FACTORY WORK

i.

myth

Human trafficking isn't an issue in the **United States**

FACT

According to recent State Department numbers, approx. **17,500** foreign nationals **are trafficked into the U.S. ANNUALLY** though many estimates put the number **MUCH HIGHER**

additionally, over **100,000** (approx. population of **BURBANK, CA**) **U.S. CITIZEN CHILDREN** are exploited through sex trafficking in any given year **WITHOUT** crossing any borders[ii.]

FACT

THE STATE DEPT. identifies the U.S. as a **SOURCE, TRANSIT & DESTINATION** country for trafficked people[iii.]

myth

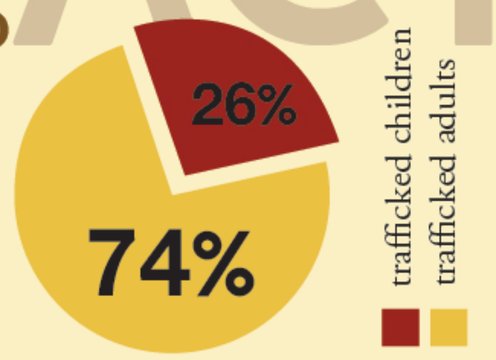
Only adults are trafficked

FACT

The average age of entry into the **U.S. SEX TRADE**

GIRLS **12-14 YEARS OLD** | BOYS AND TRANSGENDER YOUTH **11-13 YEARS OLD**

Globally, **26%** of all people trafficked are **CHILDREN**



Children migrating to the U.S. **ALONE** are especially **vulnerable to trafficking**[iv.]

FACT

i. Polaris Project, International Labor Office
ii. Polaris Project, Shared Hope International
iii. Department of Homeland Security, State Department
iv. International Labor Office

STAND for WELCOME

LIRS Advocacy with Migrants and Refugees