FOCUS: As consumers we are all complicit in labor trafficking. This issue focuses on how we can use our buying power to help end labor trafficking.

Human Trafficking in Supply Chains

“Slavery is not a horror safely confined to the past; it continues to exist throughout the world, even in developed countries like France and the United States. Across the world slaves work and sweat and build and suffer. Slaves in Pakistan may have made the shoes you are wearing and the carpet you stand on. Slaves in the Caribbean may have put sugar in your kitchen and toys in the hands of your children. In India they may have sewn the shirt on your back and polished the ring on your finger. They are paid nothing.” (Kevin Bales)

Labor trafficking and forced labor generates an estimated $150 billion in annual profits, involves nearly 25 million people worldwide, and is particularly prevalent in business supply chains. Over half of the incidences of labor trafficking and forced labor globally are found in the Asia-Pacific region and labor trafficking and forced labor have also been reported in all 50 states in the United States.

Forced labor and trafficking are rooted in the social and economic vulnerability of individuals, workers and their families. The use of forced labor can occur at any level of a company’s supply chain but is more common at lower levels such as resource extraction or basic manufacturing. Many businesses, including major global brands, may unknowingly be involved in human trafficking and forced-labor practices, which is primarily driven by competitive global economic markets and the demand for cheap labor.

In September, the U.S. Department of Labor released the biannual List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor. The list includes products from around the world that are tainted by forced and/or child labor. The four industries which involve the highest risk of forced labor include electronics, clothing, chocolate, and fish. These industries, especially clothing and technology, have deep supply chains where there is little transparency between the different levels of manufacturing and production.

From picking cotton to sewing vests, child labor and human trafficking may occur at every step of production. While trafficking exists in the U.S., retailers will purposely outsource labor to countries with more relaxed labor laws and less government oversight. The cocoa industry is notorious for having a high level of forced child labor. Companies worldwide are under increasing scrutiny for the presence of “conflict minerals” within their products and supply chains. Sourced in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), “conflict minerals” are responsible for significant revenue flows to militia groups.

The 2020 edition of List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor added six new goods (gloves, rubber gloves, hair products, pome and stone fruits, sandstone, and tomato products) that the Department of Labor has reason to believe are produced with child labor or forced labor in violation of international standards. Disturbingly, this edition also notes that many dozens of products and countries have remained on the list for nearly two decades.

To further combat and educate about forced labor and child labor, the Department of Labor’s Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) has updated its Comply Chain app on appropriate compliance systems, and its Sweat & Toil app for additional information on products made with forced and/or child labor, as well as government efforts to fight them. The apps are available on both Apple’s App Store and Google Play. Click here to learn more.
The complexity of supply chains and a lack of transparency make it hard to know who made our products and under what conditions. With an estimated 152 million children in child labor around the world, chances are that at least one thing you own or consume was made by the hands of a child.

The International Labor Organization defines child labor as the participation by children or adolescents under 18 years of age in work that deprives them of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, that is hazardous and detrimental to their physical and psychological development, and that interferes with their schooling. More than two-thirds of all children involved in child labor work to contribute money to their families. Other children are trafficked, emotionally abused into thinking they must work to pay off debts they may have. Approximately 72 million children, half of the number of victims of child labor, work in hazardous labor. Most of these children are between 15 and 17 years old. However, up to a quarter of all hazardous child labor is done by children younger than 12 years old.

The List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor report released from the United States Department of Labor identified 148 different consumer goods produced with child or forced labor around the world. The list includes clothing, beef, sugar, bricks, coffee, and other products originating from 76 countries. Gold tops the list with children in at least 21 countries climbing into unstable shafts, carrying and crushing heavy loads, and often using toxic mercury to process the gold.

Seven in 10 child laborers around the world work in agriculture, which includes fishing, forestry, livestock herding and aquaculture, and farming. An estimated 2 million children work on cocoa farms in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, which produce nearly 70 percent of the world’s cocoa. Child tobacco workers often labor in extreme heat, are exposed to dangerous pesticides, and risk nicotine poisoning from handling tobacco plants.

In the United States, the standards for child labor is detailed in the Fair Labor Standards Act. This bill limits the hours that any children under 16 years can work, while also detailing standards for occupations and other jobs that may be too hazardous for children to perform. In the past few years, there has been a rise in child labor due to state laws that roll back limits on hours and types of jobs children may work. Additionally, some industries (such as agriculture) are exempt from any standards set forth by the Fair Labor Standards Act, enabling farms and other related organizations to freely employ children.

Governments, companies, and consumers share the responsibility to end child labor. Governments should monitor and enforce their labor laws and provide children with good-quality, free education. For children old enough to work, both governments and companies should ensure their jobs are safe. Education opportunities such as vocational training and skill-building can increase the opportunities for young people to find safe work. When companies discover child labor in their supply chains, they should take responsibility to transition these children to school or safe alternatives. Consumers can advocate for transparency in supply chains and safe labor laws and when making purchases look for ethically made, fair trade, or union made products.

Click here to learn more.
People in developing countries living in poverty are drawn to work in sweatshops as they pay more than their alternative, subsistence agriculture which pays far less than $1 a day. Higher wages draw workers from rural areas to urban slums in search of factory work. However, most workers in these factories are paid far less than a living wage in their respective countries.

In the United States, sweatshops still exist in predominantly major metropolitan areas such as New York and Los Angeles. These major cities have easy access to a large group of undocumented immigrants who may take any kind of work to make money for their families. The wages these workers make in any country account for as little as 0.5% of the retail cost of a garment — just $1.00 of the price of your $20 shirt.

We may consider sweatshops to be factories with poor working conditions. However, the official definition by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) is as any factory that violates two or more labor laws. This can include working conditions, wages and benefits, and child labor. The consequences of breaking such labor laws are often not enough of a deterrent to prevent sweatshops from existing. Some sweatshops utilize human trafficking to employ cheap labor.

I’m Garifuna, descended from Indigenous Caribbean people and runaway slaves, and I grew up in a tiny village in the Mosquito Coast region of Honduras. Starting at 14, I’d ride the bus for 45 minutes from my village to a nearby factory. Like hundreds of other kids from the area, I earned $30 a week in exchange for working 16 hours a day, seven days a week, cutting fabric and sewing clothes that nobody from my village would ever wear.

The factory complex looked like a prison: tall stone walls and security guards checking IDs. Inside, 15 or 20 different companies produced clothes for American retailers. Each day, we’d be assigned a task — like sewing a T-shirt’s left sleeve — which we’d repeat over and over until the production run ended. We’d work in a dozen or so lines of 10 or 15 women, producing up to 7,000 items a day, with no bathroom breaks or lunch breaks. If we held up our production line, we’d be fired.

When I left the sweltering factory after a hard day’s work, I’d run my fingers over my arms and face, tracing lines where the red, yellow, and blue fabric dust had settled on my skin like primary-colored snow. It was soft as the lint from a clothes dryer, and I’d find it for hours or even days afterward in my hair, ears, and nostrils. The smell — hot fabric, chemicals, and sweat — stayed with me, too. Over time many of us — some as young as 13 years old — developed respiratory problems from the dust or from the foul-smelling chemicals we used to dye fabrics and acid-dip denim jeans.

As a child, I dreamed of being a fashion designer and made fantastic costumes out of leaves and other found materials for the single doll my grandfather had been able to afford. At the factory, my dreams changed. All day long I’d stare at a single color of fabric, sewing the same monotonous patterns. When my head finally hit the pillow, my dreams were monochromatic, as though that swatch of fabric was the only thing left in my head.

The vibrations of the sewing machines and the repetitive movements I made day in and day out seeped into my dreams too; I couldn’t stop sewing even when I was asleep. When my mother woke us up at 5 a.m. to get ready for the day’s work, I was already aching and exhausted from my dreams. It was brutal work for anyone, never mind a child.

Today, I can’t look at a $5 T-shirt on sale in H&M or Walmart without thinking about the hands that made it and the time it took to stitch the fabric. I came to see American affluence as a kind of illusion: people flocking to buy cheap, low-quality products that simply couldn’t be manufactured without relying on low-paid, exploitative labor. There’s simply no way to manufacture a shirt for $5 without exploiting someone. (Click here to view full article.)

(Soreyda Benedikt-Begley is a fashion designer, radio host, community organizer, and activist currently living in Lexington, Kentucky.)
Awareness

Many of these factories are unclean workplaces where workers routinely fall ill. The recent tragedies of the Dhaka garment factory collapse, the fire in the Tazreen Fashions factory, the collapse of the Rana Plaza building, as well as the Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire in Manhattan back in 1911 have demonstrated the unsafe conditions in sweatshops. Workers in sweatshops usually do not have the right to organize to protect themselves against abuses. Ensuring that workers and employers are free to form or join organizations that represent their interests and can exercise their right to bargain collectively is vital to improving their work conditions.

Most American fashion brands have attempted to distance themselves from sweatshops in recent years. However, the practice persists. H&M, despite a newfound commitment to transparent sourcing, has been accused of defaulting on a pledge to ensure that its manufacturers pay a living wage. Lululemon’s leggings are reportedly stitched by workers who report being beaten by their supervisors. As of 2019, Amazon was still selling clothes from Bangladeshi factories blacklisted as unsafe by other major retailers.

Fashion is a $2.5 trillion global industry. In New York City, fashion generates $9 billion in total wages. There is no reason why apparel workers are paid so poorly. Ethically conscious consumers are creating momentum for better labor practices ensuring a living wage to each human being involved in the making of a product.

Click here to learn more.

Advocacy

We are socialized to believe that we always need more and that spending less is smart. However, tragedies in sweatshops throughout the world have left consumers questioning who provides the products we use every day and in what kind of conditions? Consumers are becoming increasingly conscious about using their dollars to make a positive difference for the people involved in the making of products.

What You Can Do About Sweatshops

We can create an economy where human trafficking for labor, child labor, and sweatshops cease to exist through the products we choose to purchase, and those we choose to avoid. Your voice, together with that of others, can help encourage companies in the United States and globally to ensure that all workers are paid fairly and treated with respect.
The next time you go shopping for clothes, shoes, or household items, take a minute to fill out a customer comment card and ask the company to work with their suppliers to make sure that workers are paid a living wage and treated fairly.

Try to buy clothing and household items at secondhand or consignment stores. When you buy new clothing, look for the union label on the clothing or make your purchases from socially responsible businesses. You can also buy crafts, clothing, jewelry, and other household and gift items from companies that belong to the Fair Trade Federation (FTF).

Find out more about who may have picked your tomatoes or made your clothes at ResponsibleSourcingTool.org, or check out the Department of Labor’s List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor.

If you own stock in individual companies, check the proxy ballots that you get in the mail and be sure to vote in support of any shareholder resolutions that require the company to improve its labor policies. Also, if you put money into mutual funds, your investments can still work to improve the way companies treat their employees. Some mutual funds refuse to invest in companies that demonstrate indifference to workers’ welfare, while others engage in the practice of shareholder action to get companies in which they invest to improve their labor practices.

Click here to learn more.

Choosing Fair Trade to End Human Trafficking

“Fair Trade is a trading partnership based on dialogue, transparency, and respect that seeks greater equity in international trade. It contributes to sustainable development by offering better trading conditions to, and securing the rights of, marginalized producers and workers.” (World Fair Trade Organization)

Based on the idea that products bought and sold every day are connected to the livelihoods of others, fair trade is one way to impact the lives of people who otherwise would be vulnerable to human trafficking. Poverty and joblessness contribute to making people vulnerable to human trafficking. Fair trade workers are paid a living wage that serves to empower workers and enables children to attend school rather than work to help support the family. Fair Trade standards prohibit forced and child labor. Children helping on family farms have tasks and work schedules that protect their mental and physical health and development.

Profits from Fair Trade ventures are reinvested into the community with Fair Trade Funds that address social, economic, and environmental challenges in each community. Each Fair Trade community determines how their funds will be used. Funds can be reinvested into their business, directed to empowering women, supporting education, protecting the environment, fighting poverty, and providing health care. Fair Trade Premium funds invested in education help keep children in school and out of fields and factories. Education also provides access to more economic opportunities, decreasing the likelihood of becoming a victim of human trafficking.

A choice for Fair Trade Certified goods is a choice to support responsible companies, empower farmers, workers, and fishermen, and protect the environment. In other words, it’s a world-changing way of doing business. Fair Trade Certified products originating in 45 countries are sold in the United States.

Demanding Ethically Sourced Products

Fair Trade does not necessarily create better working conditions for people caught up in forced labor since those conditions do not meet Fair Trade standards. However, as more people begin to buy Fair Trade, the demand for ethically sourced products increases. As demand rises, more companies will switch to Fair Trade certification and create better working conditions to meet the demand.
Advocacy

Principles of Fair Trade (Fair Trade USA)
- Empowerment: Inclusive participation and transparency; Premium management; Focus on training and capacity building
- Economic development: Stable business partnerships; Pre-determined Premiums; Fair pricing and wages
- Social responsibility: No child labor; Health/safety measures in compliance with ILO standards;
- Community development premiums for greater access to/quality of healthcare and education
- Environmental stewardship: No GMOs; Responsible waste management; Reduction of energy and greenhouse gas emissions; Safe use of agrochemicals; Protection of soil/water biodiversity

There are mobile apps such as the Fair Trade Finder that can be useful when looking for Fair Trade products. Click here to learn more.

Companies That Help Survivors

By shopping through any of the links below, you are supporting brands which prevent human trafficking and create a new life for women and children who are survivors.

Bravely
is an apparel company run by women recovering from sexual exploitation and addiction. Our shirts and accessories send messages of hope, love, and courage. Click here.

Elegantes
offers apparel for both men and women. Each purchase supports the employment of survivors from the sex trafficking industry and those at risk of human trafficking in Nepal. Elegantes also donates excess profits to organizations that fight human trafficking. Click here.

Gifts for the Journey
provides a pathway to a sustainable, healthy, safe and productive life for women engaging in prostitution due to trauma, human sex trafficking, or drug addiction. It offers a supportive workplace where the women who are on their recovery journey are employed while learning skills in manufacturing, packaging, marketing, sales, and administration. Click here.

Mulxiply
sells jewelry, apparel, bags and accessories. This business provides local employment to individuals in Nepal at risk of human trafficking. Click here.

Nomi Network
creates economic opportunities for survivors and women at risk of human trafficking. Every item you
buy provides jobs for survivors and helps end modern-day slavery. Click here.

**Sudara**

Sudara offers a pajama line for men, women, and children and handmade leather accessories. Every purchase provides employment and job skills training to women in India who are at high risk for, or survived, human trafficking. Click here.

**Freeset USA**

Freeset USA offers apparel for men and women. Freeset USA supports job training and employment opportunities for those at risk of exploitation in India, Nepal, and the United States. Click here.

**Rethreaded**

Rethreaded currently impacts 4,000 women through their partnerships and sales that directly support survivors of human trafficking. Their products include jewelry, bags, blankets, home decor items, and more. Click here.

**Continue Good and The Enneagram Candles**

are hand-poured soy candle companies that donate ten percent of their sales to the Exodus Road to fight human trafficking.

Click here for Continue Good.

Click here for The Enneagram Candles

**Ten Thousand Villages**

offers a variety of handmade products, including baskets, jewelry, home decor, stationary and more. This company employs disadvantaged people in developing countries, providing a sustainable living wage to those who would otherwise be at risk of human trafficking. Click here.

**Sari Bari**

sells blankets, pillows, baby products, table placements, and bags of all sizes. Sari Bari equips survivors of trafficking in India with essential job training skills, employment opportunities, and benefits. Click here.

**Good Paper**

sells cards for every occasion, crafted by women who have survived sex trafficking in the Philippines and those in Rwanda who have been disadvantaged by disease. Click here.

**Red-Thread**

Help combat modern slavery and bring an end to human trafficking with the red thread bracelet. This simple woven bracelet provides much-needed income for a young woman in Nepal rescued along the Nepal-India border. Proceeds also help fund a safe house and anti-trafficking border units in Nepal. Click here.

**Thistle Farms**

provides shelter, job skills training, and employment opportunities to support survivors of human trafficking by selling candles, essential oils, apparel, jewelry, and home decor made by these women artisans. Click here.

**The Little Market**

supports the work of human trafficking survivors through ethically sourced materials and fair-trade practices. They offer a selection of home and dining products in addition to jewelry and children's toys. Click here.

**Grounds for Restoration**

With a vision for fighting injustice, Grounds for Restoration donates 100% of their proceeds to anti-human trafficking causes. Shop online to ship your next supply of whole bean or ground coffee right to your home. Click here.
Advocacy

The Freedom Cafe
primarily serves tea, which you can order online, but they also sell mugs and brands of ethically sourced chocolates. All proceeds are donated toward anti-human trafficking efforts. Click here.

International Sanctuary
sells jewelry with the mission to empower girls and women escaping human trafficking to embrace their true identity and worth. Click here.

Divine Chocolate
is a farmer-owned chocolate company, offering equitable opportunities for women in this industry. Their ethical and innovative business practices help prevent human trafficking. Click here.

Fashion and Compassion
sells ethical fashion and a variety of items to empower survivors. Click here.

RIJI Green
practices responsible business stewardship by valuing both people and planet. They partner with non-profit organizations and businesses that train and hire survivors of human trafficking and those at risk of being trafficked. They also provide access to market opportunities for their products and donate a portion of the profits back to organizations that combat human trafficking. Click here.

Tassa Tag
is a big bright luggage tag, made by members of the Fair Trade Federation, for responsible travelers wishing to be a voice against sexual slavery and trafficking. ECPAT (End Child Pornography, Child Prostitution and Trafficking for Sexual Purposes) Luggage Tags are made at The Regina Center in Nongkhai, Thailand. They are a fair trade product that provides work opportunities for women at risk for sex trafficking, keeping them employed, able to support their families and send their children to school. Click here.

Prosperity Candle
sells candles and fair trade gifts handmade by women artisans and refugees creating a brighter future in the U.S. Click here.

The Starfish Project
invests 100% of your jewelry purchases into restoring hope to exploited women and girls. Click here.

Trades of Hope
offers a variety of items made by women survivors and those who live in poverty. Click here.

Refuge for Women
sells candles and is a non-profit, faith based organization providing specialized long-term care for women who have escaped human trafficking or sexual exploitation. Click here.

Tassa Tags
Supply Chain Transparency Legislation

California passed the Transparency in Supply Chains Act in January 2012, which requires retailers and manufacturers with global revenues that exceed $100 million and which do business in California to publicly disclose the degree to which they are addressing forced labor and human trafficking in their global manufacturing networks.

Two years later, the Federal Business Supply Chain Transparency on Trafficking and Slavery Bill was introduced to the House of Representatives. The bill proposed required all companies with worldwide annual sales exceeding $100 million, and which are currently required to file annual reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission, to disclose what measures, if any, they have taken to identify and address conditions of forced labor, slavery, human trafficking and child labor within their supply chains, either in the U.S. or abroad. The bill has not been enacted but shows the need to address forced labor, slavery, human trafficking, and child labor in supply chains.

A recent version of The Business Supply Chain Transparency on Trafficking and Slavery Act of 2020 (H.R. 6279) was introduced into Congress on March 13, 2020. The bill would amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require certain companies to disclose information describing any measures the company has taken to identify and address conditions of forced labor, slavery, human trafficking, and the worst forms of child labor within the company’s supply chains. Please write or call your representative to cosponsor this legislation.

Click here to learn more.

The True Cost

One in six people on the planet work in the global fashion supply chain, making fashion the most labor-dependent industry on earth. “The True Cost”—a breathtaking and heartbreaking documentary—reveals how consumer fashion choices impact these workers, the rest of us, and our world.

Eighty billion garments are purchased each year globally—400 percent more than two decades ago. The industry that once had two fashion seasons annually now has 52 as retailers peddle new products weekly, supplying shoppers with an endless fix of inexpensive clothing.

What is the consequence of this fashion obsession—the true cost of “fast fashion?” According to the documentary, it is the suicides of hundreds of thousands of Indian cotton farmers unable to escape debts to biotechnology and agrochemical companies, the decimation of local garment industries in low-income countries swamped by donations of cast-off clothing, and the toll taken on the earth’s ecosystems as every step in a garment’s life threatens them.

The true cost of fast fashion is also borne by garment factory workers laboring with few protections in hazardous conditions, often not earning enough to meet their families’ basic needs. While the profits earned by fashion companies increase, the wages paid to those who make the clothing decline as the industry now outsources nearly all of its manufacturing to factories in low-income countries.

To learn more about the film, the impacts of the fast fashion industry, and how to “buy better,” please click here.
The Fair Trade Difference

Individually we make a choice. Together we make a difference.

Whenever you buy a product with the Fair Trade Certified™ seal, farmers, workers, and fishermen earn extra money to uplift their communities. Every. Single. Time. That’s the Fair Trade Difference. In this brief YouTube journey to the Philippines, India and Colombia to see how farmers and workers are utilizing Fair Trade to change their own lives, and find out how you can get involved in it all. Click here.

Forced Labor and Human Trafficking in the Supply Chain

In September 2020 leading experts recently took part in an IntegrityRisk-hosted webinar to discuss today’s global human trafficking and forced labor scene. They reviewed the legal, regulatory, moral dimensions of these global problems in an effort to raise awareness and educate viewers about strategies to combat them. Click here.

Resources

Verité’s Responsible Sourcing Tool

Verité develops tools, implements programs, and conducts research to address child labor, forced labor, human trafficking, and gender discrimination in industry. They work with governments to develop policy, companies to launch compliance initiatives, and engage stakeholders to support meaningful change.

Verité developed the Responsible Sourcing Tool, a free online resource for exploring and preventing risk in supply chains. They offer tools and resources to help companies and federal contractors understand and prevent human trafficking in supply chains. They have worked with Apple, Inc. to access bonded labor and excessive recruitment fees in supply chain and conducted an assessment of the supply chain for Patagonia to shed light on the problem of worker recruitment-related debt. They are working to promote ethical labor practice in the seafood sector through advocacy and research. Click here.

Verité’s Forced Labor Screen

Verité’s CUMULUS Forced Labor Screen™ is a cost-effective, technology-driven approach to identifying forced labor and human trafficking risk in global supply chains. Through a secure online platform, member companies can map their labor supply chains and proactively screen for forced labor risks introduced by supply chain partners’ recruitment practices and recruitment agents. Click here.

The Department of Labor Comply Chain: Business Tools for Labor Compliance in Global Supply Chains

The app targets companies and industry groups seeking to develop robust social compliance systems for their global production. Comply Chain provides a practical, step-by-step guide on critical elements of social compliance, and is designed for companies that do not have a social compliance system in place or those needing to strengthen their existing systems. Click here.

The Department of Labor Sweat & Toil: Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking Around the World

Using this app can be a starting point to empower yourself with knowledge about child labor or forced labor around the world. Anyone with an interest in these issues - governments, businesses, academics, civil society, and consumers - can use it as a source of information to begin
asking questions, taking action, and demanding change. Click here.

Child Labor
For a full report on the worst offenders of forced and child labor, please click here.

Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility
The Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility’s (ICCR) Statement of Principles and Recommended Practices for Confronting Human Trafficking & Modern Day Slavery: ICCR’s Recommended Practices for Companies may be accessed by clicking here.

Open Apparel Registry (OAR)
The OAR is a go-to source for identifying apparel factories and their affiliations by collating disparate factory lists into one central, open-source map, listing factory names, addresses, affiliations and a unique OAR ID. Click here.

Fashion Revolution
An increasing number of fashion brands and retailers are publicly disclosing their manufacturers and suppliers. As of April 2020, Fashion Revolution counted 204 brands across over 80 companies/parent groups that are publishing tier-one supplier lists, where at least some of their products are made. Click here.

Interactive Map for Business of Anti-Human Trafficking Organisations
The Responsible and Ethical Private Sector Coalition against Trafficking (RESPECT) initiative aims to assemble key thought leaders, practitioners, and policy makers to identify solutions to public and private sector challenges surrounding modern slavery. Particularly, RESPECT endeavors to add value where it can in facilitating debate between diverse stakeholders; providing relevant contributions to the research basis; building linkages to other crimes; and developing effective public policy towards a more effective global response. Click here.

How Many Slaves Work for You?
How Many Slaves Work for You? Millions of people from 200 countries have visited slaveryfootprint.org to discover their connection to modern-day slavery. Find out how many slaves work for you by clicking here.

End Slavery Now Buying Guide
The End Slavery Now Slave Free Buying Guide is meant to introduce consumers to companies, brands and social enterprises that address slavery, forced labor and human trafficking in their supply chains. The buying guide was released in 2016 and may be dated but offers a start on purchasing products including clothes, beverages and electronics. End Slavery Now researched antislavery policies; supply chains; third-party certifications; prevalence studies in specific industries; and companies’ engagement surrounding slavery, forced labor and human trafficking in order to develop a list of products that you can begin purchasing in lieu of other options. Click here.

“I have been in the fields all my life, I have seen boys become men in the tomato fields, I have seen a great deal. And now I also see that things are better, now we are not treated like dogs – I am grateful to people like you. You are welcome here.”

(Worker testimony, Fair Food Program)

The Fair Food Program
The Coalition of Immokalee Workers’ (CIW) Fair Food Program is a unique partnership among farmers, farmworkers, and retail food companies that ensures humane wages and working conditions for the workers who pick fruits and vegetables on participating farms. It harnesses the power of consumer demand to give farmworkers a voice in the decisions that affect their lives, and to eliminate the longstanding abuses that have plagued agriculture for generations.

The Fair Food Program is designed, monitored, and enforced by the very workers whose rights it is intended to protect. The Program’s structure, function and results stand in stark contrast to the traditional approach of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Click here.

Websites
Fair Trade USA
Fairtrade America
World Fair Trade Organization
Fair Trade Federation
Equal Exchange
UNICEF’s Child Rights and Business Atlas
Department of Labor Sweat and Toil app
2020 List of Goods Produced by Child Labor
Free the Slaves
International Labor Organization
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- Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati
- Sisters of Charity of Halifax
- Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth
- Sisters of Charity of Nazareth
- Sisters of Charity of New York
- Sisters of Charity of St. Joan Antida
- Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word
- Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill
- Sisters of Christian Charity Mendham, NJ & Wilmelle, IL
- Sisters of Mercy Catherine's Residence
- Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
- Sisters of Notre Dame of the United States
- Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, USA
- Sisters of Providence, Mother Joseph Province
- Sisters of St. Dominic – Racine, WI
- Sisters of St. Francis of Clinton
- Sisters of St. Francis of Colorado Springs
- Sisters of St. Francis of Dubuque
- Sisters of St. Francis of Redwood City
- Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God
- Sisters of St. Francis Rochester, MN
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Chestnut Hill Philadelphia
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny, USA & Canada Provinces
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia, KS
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange
- Sisters of the Divine Savior
- Sisters of the Good Shepherd
- Sisters of the Holy Cross
- Sisters of the Holy Family
- Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary
- Sisters of the Humility of Mary
- Sisters of the Precious Blood
- Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Sisters of the Sacred Hearts
- Society of the Divine Savior
- Society of the Holy Child Jesus
- Society of the Sacred Heart
- Southern CA Partners for Global Justice
- St. Mary’s Institute of O’Fallon
- Tri-State Coalition Against Human Trafficking & Slavery
- U.S. Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union