

ANTI-TRAFFICKING

SECONDARY ASSEMBLY

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

PowerPoint presentation

Empty bag/box

AIMS

To understand what human trafficking is and what is being done about it

To reflect on what everyone can do to help the fight against human trafficking

Introduction

Welcome everyone to the assembly and introduce yourself.

Starter

Explain that the box/bag you are holding is full of chocolate bars - all you need someone to do is volunteer to tie your shoelace and you will give them one of the chocolate bars; that's all there is to it! Once the volunteer has tied your shoelace invite them to take a chocolate bar out of the empty box/bag. Once the volunteer has realised there is nothing there, ask the volunteer how they feel and why they trusted you when you explained what they would get. Thank the volunteer and ask them to sit down. (You may wish to give the volunteer a chocolate bar now if appropriate.)

Explain that when people don't keep their promises it can upset us, disappoint us or make us angry. According to a recent survey the average person tells four lies a day*. This may be telling your mum her cooking is delicious when it's far from it, or telling your gran you love the jumper she bought you! Sometimes we may even make promises we can't keep - promises we regret making. But there are some people who don't make promises they can't keep, they make promises that they have no intention of keeping, in order to get what they want - just as I did a minute ago.

In today's assembly we are looking into something that usually goes hand in hand with false promises - human trafficking. Trafficking is the fastest-growing form of modern-day slavery. Trafficking is the taking of people by manipulation or violence from their homes for exploitation. (Depending on age group, exploitation may need a further explanation.) People who are trafficked are taken away from their homes and taken to a different town or country. They are made to work - perhaps cleaning homes, or on a farm, or in a factory. (You may want to mention sexual exploitation if appropriate for age group.) They don't get paid and they don't have any freedom to do what they want to.

*Source: World Net Daily News





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Story

Tina was a teenager from a rural Indonesian village. She was in hundreds of dollars of debt for four months of domestic service training and board at an Indonesian migrant labour centre. From there Tina, like many other Indonesian girls, was transported to Malaysia, believing she would work as a maid for a Malaysian couple. Forced to work up to 15 hours a day in a family business where she slept on the floor, Tina was told her salary would be withheld until she finished her two-year contract. After many instances of physical abuse, she sought refuge at a victims' shelter. Tina has filed a complaint with the police against her employer and has been given an extension of her immigration visa in order to pursue her case in Malaysia.

(This case study is taken from www.ccv.org/issues/human-trafficking)

The Salvation Army works to put an end to trafficking and to help people like Tina both in the UK and in other countries by:

- Empowering local teams to respond to the situation, through training and hands-on learning.
- Community education and awareness about the issue, aimed at the most vulnerable people.
- Community responses to the issue, through care, campaigning and reporting of incidents of trafficking to authorities.
- Provision of care for victims in safe houses and other facilities that can support specific needs, and assistance in situations where they choose to return to their own country or town.
- Sharing information between countries which creates a wide network of people combating the issue.
- Enabling concerned citizens in all countries to get involved in advocacy, campaigning, awareness raising and fundraising to help stop the trafficking of people.

Challenge

As a Christian organisation The Salvation Army believes that human trafficking is inhumane and unjust. In the Bible it states:

'Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy' (Proverbs 31: 8-9 NIV).

It was passages like this in the Bible that inspired Christians like William Wilberforce to speak up against the slave trade over 200 years ago, and still inspires people to continue fighting against slavery today.





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But I've not just come to tell you that slavery is still happening today and what The Salvation Army is doing about it. I want you all to play a part in helping us get rid of trafficking altogether too. There are a few different ways you could get involved:

- By learning more, telling others about what you have heard and sharing the message with your community.
- By supporting The Salvation Army's work with victims of human trafficking. You can get involved with our campaigns to raise awareness or even do some fundraising for this work.
- By writing to your MP about the issue or communicating to others about how you feel about the subject.

Reflection

Ask pupils to take a few moments to reflect on how they could play a part in stopping slavery for good.

Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for everything that you give to us and for the freedom that we have. We pray that we would all do our part to fight against the injustice of human trafficking. Help us to play a part in this no matter, however big or small. We pray that you would help all the organisations that are working with victims of trafficking, to help people live full lives in the future. We ask that you would protect those who are in danger of being trafficked and bring hope and restoration to those who are enslaved today.

In Jesus' name

Amen

