



ANTI-TRAFFICKING

KS2 ASSEMBLY

With thanks to the children of Mchinji and to International Development, The Salvation Army.

Additional Resources

PowerPoint presentation

Aims

To raise awareness of child trafficking.

To reflect on how we can help stop trafficking.

Introduction

You may wish to play music to set the tone - for example, 'Amazing Grace'- as children enter the room. Welcome children and teachers to assembly and introduce yourself.

Starter

Today's assembly is quite a serious one. You may feel the need to talk about what we have covered in class with your teacher or an adult. Today, on the calendar, is Anti-Slavery Day (October 18th) this is a day when we take time to think about slavery, to know more about it and how we can stop it.

Does anyone know what a slave is? *Take a variety of responses - no wrong answers. Some may make the link in history, eg, in America or ancient Egypt*

Sometimes when we use the word 'slavery' it makes people think of what has happened in the past. They think of events that happened 100 years ago in America, or over 2,000 years ago in Egypt. But it does go on today. So we use the term 'trafficking' to describe how some people take away other people to be modern slaves. Today we are going to be thinking about 'anti-trafficking'. We can become more aware that people- men, women and even children - can be trafficked into being modern slaves. A simple way of explaining this is that to be trafficked means you have been taken from your home and forced to do work, often without pay. *You may wish to make stronger links with previous definitions of slavery.*

How many of you have chores to do at home? *Hands up.* What kind of jobs do you do? *Take a variety of responses.* Some of you may have tasks to do in the morning, or after school or at the weekend. But you also get to do other things too. You get to go to school, play with friends, watch TV, have meals, sleep at home and play with toys. Some of you may even get some pocket money.

But not all children are as fortunate as you. In some countries they have a very different lifestyle. I'm going to tell you one such story.

Main Talk

There are three parts to this story: Rescue, Restore, and Respond.

To rescue someone is to save them.

To restore something means to fix it, to make it as good as new.

To respond is to have a reaction, perhaps to make a change because of what you hear.



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KS2 ASSEMBLY

This is a true story about a boy who needed rescuing. *Display - Rescue*

I'm going to tell you about a boy called Victor. He lives in Malawi, in Africa. His story started when he was young. He used to live like you a long time ago. He went to school, lived at home with his family, and played with his friends and his toys.

But his family were very poor. One day a man came and explained to his Mum that Victor could help his family by earning money. He could work on a farm in his spare time. He could still go to school and he would be well looked after. Victor didn't want to leave home, but he went with the man to work on his farm. But it was all a trick.

Victor's day started very early, before the sun came up. He had to get up and look after two large herds of cattle, two large groups of cows. He spent all day in the field, on his own, looking after the cows. It was hard work and too much for one little boy. He was very lonely. He missed his family. He got only one simple meal a day. No play time. No fresh clothes. No school. No time to even have a bath.

And money? Nobody paid him anything to send home to help his family.

Victor had been trafficked. He had been tricked away. He was forced to work. He wasn't being looked after properly. He needed rescuing, he needed saving.

Display - Restore

But then a good thing happened to Victor.

When he was 12 some kind people found him and took him away from the farm. They took him to a Salvation Army counselling centre. They gave him food and clothes and looked after him. They helped him feel safe. A doctor and a therapist both helped him.

Victor got to play and even go to school. It had been so long that he had forgotten how to read and write, but he was determined to do well. Victor started to feel like himself again. He had been restored.

Display - Respond

The next step was to change things at home. His family were taught how bad Victor's life on the farm had been. They were also given help with earning money so Victor wouldn't be trafficked again. Things were changed so that Victor's life and the life of his family are now so much better.

But the response, the reaction, the change, doesn't just happen in Malawi.

Victor's story is part of a chain reaction. By telling Victor's story and the stories of other children like him, more people are getting to know about it and talk about it. Victor's story teaches people about trafficking, and that when people hear about it they want it to stop.

The counselling centre in Malawi looks after up to 120 children every year. It is estimated that approximately 1 million children across the world every year are involved in trafficking.



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Christian Perspective

Jesus taught people to 'Love your neighbour' (Matthew 19:19). This means you treat people with respect, with dignity, with fairness, as you would want to be treated. Trafficking - that's using other people, forcing them to work for you so you can gain from them - is completely opposite to what Christians are taught to believe. Because of that, many Christians are involved in trying to prevent trafficking.

Salvation Army Perspective

Many organisations run schemes to help stop trafficking and raise awareness of it. One of these organisations is The Salvation Army. The Salvation Army runs centres around the world to help children, men and women who have been trafficked. The Salvation Army helps them recover from their experience and to change their lives for the better. *(Opportunity to show any work/awareness done in the corps)*

Children, just like you, also try to help stop trafficking. Just knowing about it helps to stop it. Some children write poems or stories about it. Some do art work. *(Show example)* Some children tell others about it, to make more people aware of it. The more people know about trafficking, the more it can be stopped.

Challenge and Reflection

I would like you to take a moment now to think how you could play a part in stopping trafficking in your own way. *Pause for short reflection time.*

Thank children and staff for letting you be a part of their assembly today.

For help or advice with these resources contact the Schools and Colleges Unit:

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