

## Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery

Modern slavery is the exploitation of other people for personal or commercial gain. The individual has been forced or deceived into a life of servitude. Pope Francis describes Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking as ‘an open wound on the body of contemporary society, a scourge upon the body of Christ. It is a crime against humanity.’ (Pope Francis, 10 April 2014) See

[http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2014/april/documents/papa-francesco\\_20140410\\_tratta-persone-umane.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2014/april/documents/papa-francesco_20140410_tratta-persone-umane.html)

It may be hard to believe but Modern slavery is all around us and is often in plain sight. People can become entrapped, working in brothels, making our clothes, serving our food, picking our crops, working in factories, or working in houses as cooks, cleaners or nannies. We may see people working in car washes or nail bars. To us it may look like any other normal job. However these people are controlled by threats of violence, forced into debt bondage, their passports and other documents taken away. The living conditions are poor, the lives that victims thought they were going to live are taken away. They are owned, they cannot leave, they are enslaved.

Modern slavery is in our town and our cities. We are seeing a year-on-year increase and a growing form of slavery is trafficking into crime. In the UK, we are seeing an increase in the trafficking of primarily British children, forced into ‘County Lines’ drug trafficking.

**40 million people are estimated to be trapped in modern slavery worldwide:**

- 1 in 4 of them are children.
- Almost three quarters (71%) are women and girls.
- Over 10,000 were identified as potential victims in the UK in 2019

### What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is a part of Modern Slavery which involves the movement of people using force, deception, fraud or coercion, with the aim of exploiting them.

Human trafficking does not always involve international transportation. In fact human trafficking is a crime that is prevalent in the UK and victims can be moved within a town, from town to town or around the country.

There are three elements to trafficking:

- The Act - recruiting, transporting, transferring or the receipt of a person
- The Means - Force, Fraud, Coercion, Deception
- The purpose - Exploitation

Exploitation for trafficking includes:

- Forced Labour
- Sexual Exploitation
- Criminal exploitation
- County Lines
- Domestic Servitude
- Organ harvesting

# Signs of Modern Slavery

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## Physical Appearance

Victims may appear: malnourished & starved; neglected and scruffy; unclean with poor hygiene; acutely tired & exhausted; drugged or drunk; have incorrect clothing or equipment for the job



## Psychological Trauma

Victims may appear: fearful or scared; anxious or stressed; angry or agitated; withdrawn; traumatised; confused; unable to make themselves understood.



## Isolation

Victims may appear: withdrawn; unable to communicate effectively; unable to understand you; unable to speak English; have someone else speak on their behalf.



## Poor Living Conditions

Victims may appear: to be living at a place of work; to be living in an overcrowded house; to be living in a dilapidated caravan or outbuilding; living in a place with blacked-out windows; have no heating or running water; live somewhere that is clearly not fit to live in.



## Restricted Freedom

Victims may appear: unable to come and go freely; be reluctant to leave their situation; be unable to find or show identity documents such as a passport or bank account details; be in debt to or dependent on someone else; be unwilling to handle money; to be in places where doors are locked on the outside.



## Reluctant to Seek Help

Victims may appear: reluctant to talk to you; reluctant to being helped by you or others; reluctant to leave their situation; fearful of you or the authorities; fearful of reprisal from someone else; unable to prove their legal status to be in the UK.



## Unusual Travel Times

Victims may appear: to travel at unusual times; travel very early in the morning or late at night; have transportation to and from work provided for them; have to pay for the transport.

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## How can you help?

Go with your gut instincts, they are usually right! **Ring the Modern Slavery Helpline number 08000 121 700 to report a suspicion or seek advice.**

**Ring 999 if you want the Police to respond urgently.**

You can also ring Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111 to report your concerns.

If you are a young person [Fearless](#) is a safe place to give information about crime anonymously.

### Apps that you can also use

Download the [Clewes Car wash](#) app and [Farm app](#) on to your phone.

### Caritas Salford Anti -trafficking

Our locally based Modern Slavery service was created to highlight the presence of modern slavery and human trafficking in our diocese. It has been influential in raising awareness and has developed a large network of key partners including the Santa Marta Group, Greater Manchester Police, Lancashire Constabulary, the Clewes Initiative and the Medaille Trust. Its impact in 2020 has been significant both in the Diocese of Salford and nationally. Locally, Bishop John Arnold has endorsed our aim to free the Diocese of human trafficking by 2025.

### Our work 2019/2020

Through a 'Day for Life' grant, Caritas Salford employed on a part time, one-year contract, a coordinator who joined Caritas Anti-Trafficking in 2019. Although the Corona Virus has prevented us from progressing our original plan, the appointment of our paid employee, and the work of the Caritas Anti-Trafficking Network has enabled us to achieve a great deal in preparing for a substantial impact in 2021.

Our main focus for 2020 has been:

- Developing the One Church Approach which arose out of the October 2019 In Plain Sight Conference
- Promoting links and partnerships with other dioceses and with parishes and other organisations within our diocese
- Researching and working with diocesan education staff and others on school provision of awareness raising in schools with a particular emphasis on safeguarding and County Lines
- Designing a modern slavery auditing tool for organisations working with the homeless
- Working with the diocese to develop a Modern Day Slavery Statement to address the issue of possible slavery in supply chains, and to highlight the issue of modern slavery with parishioners who are employers or employees