



**NEAR EAST UNIVERSITY**  
**INSTITUTE OF GRADUATE STUDIES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

**THE IMPACT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AS A CRIME AGAINST  
HUMANITY (CASE STUDY ON NIGERIA)**

**LL.M THESIS**

**FELECIA NYANPU FARWENEL**

**NICOSIA  
2023**

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### Approval

We certify that we have read the thesis submitted by FELECIA NYANPU FARWENEL titled “THE IMPACT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY (CASE STUDY ON NIGERIA)” and that in our combined opinion it is fully adequate, in scope and in quality, as a thesis for the degree of Master of Laws in International Law.

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### **Declaration**

I hereby declare that all information, documents, analysis and results in this thesis have been collected and presented according to the academic rules and ethical guidelines of Institute of Graduate Studies, Near East University. I also declare that as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced information and data that are not original to this study.

FELECIA NYANPU FARWENEL  
05/08/

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my advisor, Assistant Professor Dr. Tutku Tugyan, whose invaluable contributions were essential to the successful completion of my thesis. Dr. Tugyan's guidance and support were instrumental in helping me navigate each step of the writing process.

I am also deeply indebted to my chairman, Assistant Professor Dr. Nabi Berkut, for his exceptional leadership and unwavering support throughout my academic journey. I am grateful to the members of the committee for their insightful feedback and constructive criticism during my defense.

I want to give a special thank you to my support system, Mr. Lousina F. Farwenel, for his unflagging support and encouragement. I am also grateful to my family and friends for their consistent support and understanding during my research and writing process.

In particular, I would like to thank Mr. Lousina F. Farwenel for his continuous support and prayers, which have been a source of strength and motivation for me. I cannot thank him enough.

Lastly, I'd want to thank God for leading me through the hurdles and barriers that I encountered throughout my academic path

**Felecia Nyanpu Farwenel**

**ABSTRACT****The Impact of Human Trafficking as a Crime against Humanity  
(Case Study Nigeria)****Farwenel, Felecia Nyanpu****Asst. Prof. Dr. Tutku Tugyan****LL. M, Department of International Law 2023, pages**

This investigation aims to analyze the influence of human trafficking on the notion of modesty within the context of International Law. This study seeks to analyze a range of books and literary works to gain a comprehensive understanding of the research questions. Integrating human rights and international development principles into anti-corruption efforts involves creating comprehensive legislation that addresses all aspects of human trafficking. Perpetrators of criminal acts should be subject to severe penalties as prescribed by this legislation, while victims should be offered support to aid their recovery and successful reintegration into society. It is crucial to allocate adequate resources to law enforcement agents for the efficient execution of their responsibilities. Implementing these measures will improve border security and aid in the detection and prevention of drug trafficking activities. To effectively combat human trafficking, it is crucial to strengthen our collective capacities. This statement highlights the significance of enhancing public comprehension through active engagement in conferences, seminars, and educational programs, as well as through the dissemination of printed and digital information. This statement underscores the importance of familial units, conventional establishments, religious organizations, and educational entities to possess an understanding of the detrimental ramifications associated with human trafficking. The provision of educational and professional prospects holds significant importance for the youth. The contemporary existence of human slavery within society is resulting in infringements upon individuals' rights and liberties, while also presenting potential hazards to the worldwide economy, security, and political equilibrium. Human trafficking has significant impacts on both society and individuals involved. This study focuses on analyzing the negative impacts of human trafficking on the basic rights of individuals from Nigeria.

**Keywords:** Human trafficking, Humility, Human right, crime, Slavery, Corruption, Poverty

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>ACG</b> .....    | Animation Comics & Games                                       |
| <b>CEDAW</b> .....  | Convention Elimination Discrimination against Women            |
| <b>FIDA</b> .....   | International Federation of Women Lawyers                      |
| <b>HIV</b> .....    | Human Immunodeficiency Virus                                   |
| <b>ICCPR</b> .....  | International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights           |
| <b>ICESCR</b> ..... | International Covenant Economic, Social & Cultural Rights      |
| <b>ICMPD</b> .....  | International Centre For Migration Policy Development          |
| <b>ICPC</b> .....   | Independent Corrupt Practices Commission                       |
| <b>ILO</b> .....    | International Labour Organization                              |
| <b>IOM</b> .....    | International Organization for Migration                       |
| <b>IPEC</b> .....   | International Programme Elimination of Child                   |
| <b>NAPTIP</b> ..... | National Agency Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons          |
| <b>NCWS</b> .....   | National Council of Women's Societies                          |
| <b>NGO</b> .....    | Non-Governmental Organizations                                 |
| <b>TVPA</b> .....   | Trafficking Victims Protection Act                             |
| <b>UDHR</b> .....   | Universal Declaration of Human Rights                          |
| <b>UN</b> .....     | United Nations   |
| <b>UNESCO</b> ..... | United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization |
| <b>USDOS</b> .....  | United States Department of State                              |

**VTVPA**..... Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act

**WHO**..... World Health Organization

**WOTCLEF**..... Women Trafficking & Child Labour Eradication Foundation

## Chapter I

### Introduction

This chapter examines the study's context, shedding information on international law and human trafficking as a crime in Nigeria. Also included are the problem statement, research questions or hypotheses, the objectives of the study, the significance of the investigation, the scope and limitations of the study, the organization of the study, the definition of essential words and also the methods and processes employed to carry out the study.

Human trafficking has been identified as the third largest source of revenue for organized crime, after the illegal trade in drugs and firearms. Work, prostitution, organ harvesting, and smuggling weapons are just some of the reasons people are trafficked. Since trafficking is a shadowy business, the victims are often silenced, the traffickers pose a significant threat, and there are few groups keeping tabs on the issue, accurate data collection is next to impossible<sup>1</sup>. Liberalism and globalization have led to a sharp rise in human trafficking in recent years.

People often travel in quest of greater chances to succeed and thrive, which is a trend that is advantageous for emerging nations like Nigeria. However, it may sometimes lead to issues like the unauthorized crossing of borders by individuals and the unsafe circulation of touts and shady agents. The increase in human trafficking has a detrimental influence on the HIV pandemic. The expense of healthcare and therapy would be exorbitant if a woman or girl with HIV returned to her home country<sup>2</sup>. According to reports, 4 million people, many of them children, are forced to labor against their will each year in the context of slavery. Over the past 30 years, it is estimated that more than 30 million people in Africa have been affected by the abduction of women and children for immoral purposes<sup>3</sup>. People can be trafficked within national borders or across international ones. According to, the term "human trafficking" refers

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<sup>1</sup> Mohajan, Haradhan Kumar. (2012) "Human trafficking in Asia: a heinous crime against humanities." *International Journal of Cross-Cultural Studies* 2.1, 29-41: Pg. 415.

<sup>2</sup> Roby, Jini L. (2005) "Women and children in the global sex trade: Toward more effective policy." *International Social Work* 48.2: Pg. 147.

<sup>3</sup> Lee, M. (Ed.). (2013). *Human trafficking*. Routledge. Pg. 22

to the act of selling people, most frequently women and kids. Relocating a person from one location to another is not always necessary<sup>4</sup>.

Due to the use of compulsion and exploitation, situations involving smuggling may turn into cases of human trafficking. Captives of trafficking persons are kept beyond their will by a variety of coercive measures and then forced to perform labor or other services for the smuggler or other people. The objective of this thesis is to explore the impact of human trafficking on modesty in Nigeria, utilizing the available data. The situation is especially dangerous for a country like Nigeria because of its porous border with other countries<sup>5</sup>. Women and girls are in such high demand that traffickers view the industry as one that is extremely profitable. Women and girls are often targeted by organized trafficking gangs that utilize romantic overtures and false promises of better work to lure their victims. People who are the victims of trafficking end up working as street prostitutes or being bought and sold into brothels in India, Pakistan, and Middle Eastern countries for sexual abuse. Trafficking is still a substantial tricky in Nigeria, even though the federal government has passed harsh laws and implemented numerous steps to combat this crime<sup>6</sup>.

From Kolkata, India, women and girls are transported to destinations such as Pakistan, India, and the Middle East. The issue of human trafficking affects millions of individuals from 134 countries and 136 ethnic groups worldwide. These victims are exploited for various purposes and in different manners<sup>7</sup>. For instance, Nigerians are frequently coerced into prostitution, begging, domestic labor, and other menial or unpaid positions. Nigerian human trafficking Human traffickers in the African nation of Nigeria have recently started torturing their victims for the practice known as "baby harvesting," which involves removing newborns from their mothers<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> Cardenas, Sonia, and Andrew Flibbert. (2005) "National human rights institutions in the Middle East." *The Middle East Journal* 59.3: Pg. 436.

<sup>5</sup> Sarkar, Siddhartha. (2014) "Rethinking human trafficking in India: Nature, extent, and identification of survivors." *The Round Table* 103.5: Pg. 483.

<sup>6</sup> Bouché, Vanessa, and Madeleine Bailey. (2020) "The UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons: An Aspirational Tool with Great Potential." *The Palgrave International Handbook of Human Trafficking*: Pg. 176.

<sup>7</sup> Ofuoku, A. U. (2010) "Human trafficking in Nigeria and its implications for food security." *International Journal of Rural Studies* 17.1: Pg. 78.

<sup>8</sup> Sarkar, A. P. A. R. N. A. (2011). "Effects of obesity on balance and gait alterations in young adults". *Indian journal of physiology and pharmacology*, 55(3): Pg. 233.

A policy paper was published by UNESCO in 2006 about human trafficking in Nigeria. The paper discussed the root causes of the issue and provided recommendations to solve it. This page contains the organization's first documentation of "baby harvesting." However, the "baby harvesting" case studies that were looked at for the policy document failed to provide any proof of the misuse of people and are more inclined to be categorized as newborn sales or unauthorized adoptions. Meanwhile, it is common knowledge that traffickers are highly attuned to consumer demand, which in turn motivates them to create novel forms of illegal activity<sup>9</sup>.

Since 2006, the act in Nigeria referred to as "baby harvesting" has changed into a riskier and more complex variation that incorporates people trafficking in addition to other illegal activities. For instance, recent media reports claim that human traffickers lure adolescent girls and young women to places known as "baby factories" under the pretense of offering them jobs or the chance to have safe abortions<sup>10</sup>.

There are millions of victims, who are from around 134 nations and at least 136 distinct nationalities. Human trafficking victims are taken advantage of in a variety of industries and for a variety of reasons. Nigerian human trafficking victims are frequently pushed into prostitution, begging, domestic servitude, and other exploitative jobs that pay little or nothing. Trafficking in Humans in Nigeria: Basic Reasons and Recommendations, UNESCO Nigerian human trafficking Traffickers in human beings in Nigeria have recently started torturing their victims for the practice known as "baby harvesting," which involves removing babies from their mothers<sup>11</sup>. Root Causes and Suggestions." This page contains the organization's first documentation of "baby harvesting." However, the "baby harvesting" case studies that were looked into for the policy study failed to produce any proof of the abuse committed against people and are more likely to be categorized as newborn sales or unauthorized adoptions<sup>12</sup>.

Meanwhile, it is well known that traffickers are highly responsive to demand, which drives them to develop innovative illicit strategies. Since 2006, an activity in Nigeria known as "baby

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<sup>9</sup>Winterdyk, J., Perrin, B., & Reichel, P. (Eds.). (2011). "Human trafficking: Exploring the international nature, concerns, and complexities. CRC Press: Pg. 42.

<sup>10</sup> Alvarez, M. B. (2012). "Human trafficking is more than sex trafficking and prostitution". Implications for social work. *Affilia*, 27(2): Pg. 152.

<sup>11</sup> Huntley, S. S. (2013). "The Phenomenon of" baby Factories in Nigeria as a New Trend in Human Trafficking" (Vol. 3). *International Crimes Database*: Pg. 445.

<sup>12</sup> Ukhurebor, Roland Aghahiusi. (2015) "Human Trafficking and Nigeria's Development: An Examination of The Benin Metropolis, Edo State, Nigeria: Pg. 56.

extracting" has changed into a riskier and more complex variation that involves human trafficking in addition to other illegal activities. For instance, recent media reports claim that human traffickers lure adolescent girls and young women to places known as "baby factories" under the false pretense of providing them with employment or the opportunity to have secure abortions<sup>13</sup>.

The United Nations included the Protocol of Palermo in the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in 2000. This was done to stop, discourage, and penalize human trafficking, particularly of women and children. Human trafficking involves three components: the actions taken, the methods used, and the objective<sup>14</sup>.

The purpose of these actions is to exploit other people, which can involve taking advantage of forced labor, slavery, or organ trafficking. To prove someone is guilty of human trafficking, all three of these elements must be present, except in cases where the victim is an adult. Also, the Palermo Protocol specifies that once any unlawful method of trafficking is established, traffickers cannot use the victim's agreement to abuse as a defense against criminal responsibility for human trafficking<sup>15</sup>. This is so that traffickers cannot cite the victim's agreement to abuse as a defense, as the Palermo Protocol forbids. The consent of a child to their abuse is always regarded as unlawful because the instruments themselves are not considered a component of the offense of child trafficking. Human trafficking is any infraction of domestic or international law, regardless of its scope. The Palermo Protocol's main objective is to combat the global criminal network of human trafficking because it is an addendum to and must be understood in conjunction with the UN Convention against transnational criminal organizations<sup>16</sup>.

In today's society, young men who travel abroad in quest of better chances are also targets of human trafficking in addition to children and women. It is not a leap to claim that there are

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<sup>13</sup> Uduma, Kalu, et al. (2011) "Assessment metric identification and evaluation for Side Airbag (SAB) development". No. 2011-01-0257. SAE Technical Paper: Pg. 66.

<sup>14</sup> Duru, Emmanuel Joseph Chukwuma, and Ufiem Maurice Ogbonnaya. (2012) "Combating human trafficking in Nigeria: An evaluation of state policies and programmes." *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences* 3.3: Pg. 161.

<sup>15</sup> Enck, Jennifer L. (2003) "The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime: Is It All That It Is Cracked up to Be-Problems Posed by the Russian Mafia in the Trafficking of Humans." *Syracuse J. Int'l L. & Com.* 30: Pg. 369.

<sup>16</sup> Hughes, Donna M. (2000) "The "Natasha" trade: The transnational shadow market of trafficking in women." *Journal of international Affairs*: Pg. 651.

more effective ways to trade in human goods today than there were in the past thanks to jet aircraft, mobile phones, and the Internet. In the past, there were numerous ways to practice slavery and deal in slaves<sup>17</sup>. As prisoners of war, some people were made into slaves; as a kind of punishment for crimes, some were made into slaves; and in certain cases, those in desperate financial situations sold their families. The majority of cultures swiftly came to the view that the practice was the most horrific of crimes against mankind, regardless of its form. Given the enormous advances made in our understanding of humanity and the natural world, one would assume that any form of abuse that even vaguely resembles servitude would be condemned by all<sup>18</sup>. However, this is untrue. Alas!

This is untrue since people are treated as commodities in today's society and are exchanged for cash similar to any other good that can be purchased and sold at a place of trade. Today, organizations that deal in drugs and weapons also engage in loosely regulated human trafficking. From scores of different nations, these organizations collaborate with government representatives. Because of the lowered political and protective barriers, these gangs have been able to succeed. Trafficking in people is not especially difficult to understand on its own, but the methods by which it might be split and categorized are diversifying alarmingly quickly<sup>19</sup>. In December 2000, the United Nations Convention against Criminal Organizations incorporated an accord on Human Trafficking, which was endorsed by 80 nations, including the European Union. This accord officially characterized trafficking as a contemporary type of bondage and bonded labor that is associated with organized crime, money laundering, corruption, and the hindrance of justice<sup>20</sup>. Eighty nations, including the European Union, have adopted the Convention against Human Trafficking.

Using general language, this protocol defined trafficking in people as the act of obtaining another person's consent or exerting control over them through the use of coercion, threats, kidnapping, deceptive behavior, neglect of authority, vulnerability, or the payment of or receipt

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<sup>17</sup> Agbu, Osita. (2003). "Corruption and human trafficking: The Nigerian case." *West Africa Review* 4.1: Pg. 13.

<sup>18</sup> Okubo, S., & Shelley, L. (Eds.). (2011). "Human security, transnational crime and human trafficking: Asian and Western perspectives (Vol. 6). Routledge: Pg. 125.

<sup>19</sup> Lyday, C. B. (2001, October). The shadow market in human beings: An anti-corruption perspective. In Transparency International's 10th International Anti-Corruption Conference, Prague, Czech Republic, October: Pg. 11.

<sup>20</sup> Fouladvand, Shahrzad. "Corruption and human trafficking: A holistic approach." *Corruption in the Global Era*. Routledge, 2019: Pg. 305.

of compensation. It is widely acknowledged that any form of illegal human trafficking, especially the enslavement of women or children, goes against the basic human right to dignity<sup>21</sup>.

Since the 1980s, Nigeria has experienced a rise in the incidence of human trafficking, notably that of women and children. Titi Abubakar, who was the first lady of Nigeria at the time, decided to launch what would ultimately develop into a substantial campaign to fight against human trafficking in Nigeria because to her concern for the country's dire state. Through her nonprofit organization, the Women's Trafficking and Child Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF), she successfully achieved her objectives. She was effective in exploiting all of the advantages that flow from her standing, including legal, political, and social advantages, to begin a vigorous campaign over human trafficking and the corruption that maintains its support base in the country<sup>22</sup>.

Government representatives from scores of different nations collaborate with these organizations. Although it could be among the hardest to compete with, there isn't much room for disagreement in terms of the company's success. It is almost hard to pinpoint its impacts on governments and other organizations since they are less evident than those of the illicit drug trade and the sale of firearms. In methods that were just unthinkable not so long ago, intermediaries link both the supply and demand for inexpensive labor, including sex.<sup>23</sup>

People do this by making use of the reality that people are conscious of how impoverished and economically oppressed women are in nations that are developing. It is clear that globalization has accelerated the mobility of people from all backgrounds throughout the world, in addition to improving access to products, money, and technology. The origins of this tendency may be seen in globalization. This global shift has lowered political and security obstacles, making it

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<sup>21</sup> Ayua, I. A. (2001). Overview of corruption in Nigeria. *Nigerian journal of political and administrative studies*, 1(2), 4: Pg. 43.

<sup>22</sup> King, L. (2008). *International law and human trafficking. Topical research digest: Human rights and human trafficking*: Pg. 90.

<sup>23</sup> Inokoba, Preye Kuro, and Weleayam Tina Ibegu. (2011) "Economic and financial crime commission (EFCC) and political corruption: Implication for the consolidation of democracy in Nigeria." *The Anthropologist* 13.4: Pg. 291.



easier for criminal organizations to commit atrocities like human trafficking. Political and safety barriers have been removed, which has allowed these criminal groups to thrive<sup>24</sup>.

Although the idea of human trafficking is not very sophisticated, the methods by which it might be classified and branded are dangerously expanding. However, there are also criminal acts, including organ harvesting, organized begging, sex tourism, and voyeurism. The act of buying or selling someone with the intention of extracting internal organs so that they may be sold for a profit is known as organ harvesting, sometimes referred to as organ washing. The trafficking of people is part of this activity<sup>25</sup>.

The tragic event's extreme violence and execution are emphasized in this article. It's worth mentioning that the International Convention, which aims to reduce human trafficking, has been ratified by 80 countries, including the European Union. The protocol outlines human trafficking as the act of obtaining consent or exerting control over someone's life through force, threats, abduction, dishonesty, vulnerability, or the exchange of money. It is commonly accepted that human trafficking, particularly the enslavement of women and children, violates their fundamental right to dignity. Nevertheless, obtaining the necessary data and information can be difficult<sup>26</sup>. The crime of human trafficking can be exposed through its various stages, such as recruitment, transportation, abuse, and money laundering. The impact of corruption on the community highlights the link between bribery and human trafficking. Nigeria serves as a model for combating this issue through the implementation of targeted laws and political will<sup>27</sup>.

A democratizing environment has led to a reduction in both government corruption (excluding political abuse) and human trafficking since 2003. The terrible crime of trafficking in humans has its roots in the fact that worldwide trade has created new inequities and disparities, which have encouraged people to migrate from the globe's poorer regions to its wealthier regions. In

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<sup>24</sup> Ogburn U. J. (2002). "Human Trafficking: The Emerging Threats to Nigeria's Security and Development" (FIDA), Women's Day Seminar, Nigerian Institute of International Affairs, Lagos: Pg. 200.

<sup>25</sup> Agbu, O. (2003). Corruption and human trafficking: The Nigerian case. *West Africa Review*, 4(1): Pg. 13.

<sup>26</sup> Dragiewicz, M. (Ed.). (2014). *Global human trafficking: Critical issues and contexts*. Routledge: Pg. 64.

<sup>27</sup> Agbu, Osita. (2003) "Corruption and human trafficking: The Nigerian case." *West Africa Review* 4.1: Pg. 13.

addition to this, there currently is also the closely related issue of the security of nations and people, which is gravely jeopardized by the actions of global criminal organizations or networks that target the laundering of cash, the trafficking of weapons, advance fee theft, and trafficking in people<sup>28</sup>.

The protocol defines human trafficking as the acquisition of consent or control over someone through various means such as force, deception, or exploitation of their vulnerability, and compensation. The transaction is unlawful since criminal conduct is involved at every stage of the process, even when the person who has been smuggled has reached the legal age of consent according to the laws of their country. Despite the fact that this illegal activity has been going on for a while, neither the authorities nor the general public have paid it any attention. The first significant public discussion on human trafficking was initiated by Mrs. Titi Atiku, the wife of the former vice president of Nigeria. This ultimately allowed her to launch her side endeavor, WOTCLEF. It was suggested that steps be taken to create a body in Nigeria specifically tasked with tackling the issue of human trafficking<sup>29</sup>.

This would assist her in achieving her objectives and improve both Nigeria's image generally and its regard for women specifically. The organization in question is the National Council for Protection of Individuals and Further Relevant Problems (NAPTIP)<sup>30</sup>. This agency is responsible for monitoring, locating, and prosecuting human traffickers, in addition to providing rehabilitation assistance to those who have been victims of human trafficking.

In addition to this, there's also the closely related issue of the security of nations and people, which is gravely jeopardized by the actions of global criminal organizations or networks that target laundering funds, the trafficking of weapons, advance fee theft, and trafficking in people. Sadly, more and more African migrants are losing their lives while attempting to cross the Mediterranean Sea borders and enter Europe. Many of these individuals have died on the plains of northern Africa. A notable increase in the population of illegal immigrants has been observed, particularly among females from Nigeria. Human trafficking involves the use of

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<sup>28</sup>Muraszkiewicz, J., Fenton, T., & Watson, H. (2020). "Human Trafficking in Conflict". Springer International Publishing: Pg. 689.

<sup>29</sup>Abramson, Kara. (2003) "Beyond consent, toward safeguarding human rights: Implementing the United Nations Trafficking Protocol." *Harv. Int'l LJ* 44: Pg. 473.

<sup>30</sup>Adepelumi, Paul. (2015) "The root causes of human trafficking in Nigeria." African Center for Advocacy & Human Development, Nigeria: Pg. 669.

force, coercion, fraud, or deception to recruit, transport, harbor, or receive individuals, or the provision of incentives to those who have control over others<sup>31</sup>.

There are many people taking part. The criminals commit a number of acts one after another, creating a chain or continuum. There are individuals who draw fresh criminals into this network. These are the types of people who travel to rural areas to trick kids in front of their parents. Without fully informing the parents about what is ahead for their children, they give the impression that they are assisting their connections in pursuing higher learning or a profession. In addition to drivers, businesspeople, women, police officers, and other professionals, recruiters might be sisters, siblings, or even in-laws<sup>32</sup>.

Within Nigeria's borders, women and girls are primarily trafficked so they can be traded as slaves or abused sexually for profit. Human trafficking is the practice of using other people as commodities to satisfy the demand for forced labor or commercialized sexual slavery around the world. This action is both unlawful and immoral. One of the largest and most lucrative underground economies is the trading in human beings. It occasionally has a direct connection to the illegal traffic of drugs and guns, while other times it has an indirect connection to both industries<sup>33</sup>. In Nigeria, over eight million children are working in dangerous environments, according to a report by the International Labor Organization and the International Policy Center for Children. Furthermore, 40% of the nation's street children and vendors have participated in the kidnapping of minors. The study showed how criminals in Nigeria prey on people who want to leave the country to entice them in and gain their trust before proceeding them to a different state or area of the country—which could sometimes differ from the one where they had intended to leave—where more coercive methods are employed in their place<sup>34</sup>.

Trafficking in people is an offense against humanity or human beings, according to scholarly studies on the subject. The designation of the offense as being a "self-standing global offense"

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<sup>31</sup> Huntley, Svetlana S. (2013) "The Phenomenon of" baby Factories" in Nigeria as a New Trend in Human Trafficking. Vol. 3. International Crimes Database: Pg. 254.

<sup>32</sup> Human trafficking and trajectories of neo-slavery. (2014) "The Nigerian experience and a political economy outline." International Journal of Liberal Arts and Social Science 2.2: Pg. 86.

<sup>33</sup> Lee, Charity. (2019) "Representing migration in ASEAN: Challenges to regional integration." ASEAN post-50: Emerging issues and challenges: Pg. 135-154.

<sup>34</sup> Marcus, A., Horning, A., Curtis, R., Sanson, J., & Thompson, E. (2014). "Conflict and agency among sex workers and pimps: A closer look at domestic minor sex trafficking". The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, 653(1): Pg. 225.

has also been proposed by an academic. In any case, many international laws consider people trafficking to be a prime example of a transnational crime. Human trafficking is "modern-day enslavement carried out for the sake of lust and human exploitation," which is an accurate description of it as a modern or new type of enslavement. A few key elements of the large-gone global slave trade are confirmed by the current expressions of trafficking in people in Nigeria<sup>35</sup>. According to this research, economic factors are the primary driving force behind human trafficking, which is a contemporary version of slavery.

### **Purpose of the Study**

This study intends to concentrate on human trafficking as a crime against humanity in Nigeria with a full supervision of International Law and a framework for accountability, justice, and reparation for victims. And also encourage collaboration, cooperation, and coordination among stakeholders is the aim of this study. This may arise concerns that will greatly contribute in illuminating the scope of human trafficking as a crime against humanity in Nigeria under the framework of International Law and the extent of its societal and economic effects.

### **Statement of the problem**

Human traffickers in Nigeria force their victims to perform commercial sex and work in a variety of fields, including hospitality, travelling sales teams, food production, working with make-the-task solutions, construction, gardening, eateries as well as factories, care for people with limitations, salon services, massage parlours, selling goods at fairs and carnivals, selling and begging, shipping drugs, religious institutions, parenting, and more. The illegal activity commonly referred to as human trafficking, trafficking in humans, or modern slavery is essentially one and the same. Human trafficking occurs when people of any age are coerced into labor or sexual activities for the benefit of the trafficker<sup>36</sup>.

Forced labor, which is also sometimes referred to as "labor trafficking, is the act of one person taking advantage of another person's labor or services through compulsion, trickery, or other

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<sup>35</sup> They, Gregoire. (2016) "Prostitution under International Human Rights Law: an analysis of States' Obligations and the best ways to implement them." CAP International: Pg. 445.

<sup>36</sup> Bales, Kevin, and Peter T. Robbins. (2001) "No one shall be held in slavery or servitude": A critical analysis of international slavery agreements and concepts of slavery." Human Rights Review 2.2: Pg. 18.

means. A wide range of actions is included in the repetition of obligatory labor the perpetrator of trafficking has "acted" in a way that is consistent with the concept of forced labor when a person is hired, harbored, shipped, provided for, or procured to earn for the sake of work or services.

The "means" part of forced labor includes things like a trafficker using force, lies, or additional methods of coercion. There are several tactics that can be employed as part of the coercion strategy, including the use of force, debt management, payment delays, confiscation of identification papers, psychological pressure, reputation damage, restricted access to addictive medications, and third-party threats.

### **The Research Objectives**

The researcher hopes to gain the following as a result of our research:

1. The purpose of human exchanges with the aim of using them for forced labor, sexual captivity, or sexual slavery in trade for the gain of either the trafficker or others.
2. Nigerian women and children are harmed as an outcome of human trafficking, exploitation and smuggling.
3. To provide awareness to the fundamental issues that underpin human trafficking and other forms of violence against fundamental human rights.

### **Research Questions**

In this study, the researcher employed both independent and dependent variables.

1. Why Nigeria's status as a source, transit, and destination country for human trafficking, a criminal offense under International Law, prompts inquiry into the underlying factors contributing to this phenomenon?
2. What specific elements of the human trafficking practice render it a breach of human rights and warrant its inclusion within the purview of international law to effectively rehabilitate and reintegrate victimized individuals as a result of Human Trafficking?

3. What is the significance of technology in addressing the issue of human trafficking globally?

This inquiry explores the substantial influence of technology in combating human trafficking in Nigeria and the rest of the world.

### **The Significance of the Research**

There are various risks associated with the unlawful trafficking of persons, including the violation of fundamental liberties and rights, global public health risks, and the growth of criminal organizations. Victims who suffer from human trafficking may experience terrible repercussions, such as rape, attacks against individuals and their families, passport theft, physical and emotional abuse, and even death. However, the impact of human trafficking goes far beyond the actual victims; rather, it has an impact on the security and peace of mind of every nation with which it comes into contact<sup>37</sup>.

Therefore, this study aims to enhance the comprehension of human trafficking as a violation of human rights in Nigeria, utilizing the lens of international law. Through the prioritization of accountability, justice, and reparation for the victims, as well as the facilitation of collaboration among relevant stakeholders, our objective is to establish a framework that fosters a more efficient and all-encompassing approach to addressing this serious infringement upon human rights<sup>38</sup>.

### **Methodology**

In this study's chapter, the author discusses the study's limits, research questions, research questions, the study's aim, and design of the research. Sifting through existing data sets, conducting in-depth interviews, and facilitating group discussions are examples of qualitative research techniques.

### **Data Collection Sources**

Information for this research was gathered from a variety of sources, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime's section on Nigeria, reports on

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<sup>37</sup> Gozdiak, E. M. (2011). *Data and research on human trafficking: Bibliography of research-based literature*. Diane Publishing.

<sup>38</sup> Marinova, Nadejda K., and Patrick James. (2012) "The tragedy of human trafficking: Competing theories and European evidence." *Foreign Policy Analysis* 8.3: Pg. 253.

Nigeria published by the United States Department of State, and several online journals and works by Nigerian writers.

### **Limitations of the Study**

Trendy directive to analyze the severity of the human marketing problem in Nigeria and offer empirical conclusions, this research relied mainly on secondary sources rather than quantitative methods, which made it possible to obtain statistical primary data. Because of this, the latitude of the enquiry was constrained<sup>39</sup>. The examiner was unable to acquire all of the necessary data due to cost and time restrictions.

### **Definition of Terms**

**Human trafficking-** the exchange of individuals with the intent to use them for forced labour, sexual slavery in trade for the gain of the smuggler or others. In the case of a forced marriage, this could entail providing a partner or removing organs or tissues, such as when using a surrogate or harvesting oocytes. People can be trafficked within national borders or across international ones. Transporting an individual from one place to a different is not a necessary element of human smuggling; rather, the process of trading people, most frequently women and children, is what is meant by the term.

**Human rights:** are privileges that can't be given away to any individual, no matter their color, sex, and country of origin, cultural background, language acquisition, faith, or any additional status. The freedom to exist and freedom; equality from captivity and torment; equality of opinion and expression; the freedom to work and school; and several extra freedoms fall under the canopy of what is defined as fundamental rights. Beyond exemption, these freedoms pertain to everyone and each individual on the planet.

**Crime:** In everyday speech, a forbidden conduct that is subject to legal repercussions has been referred to as an offence. There is no universally agreed definition of "crime" in modern criminal law, despite the fact that several legal classifications have been developed for various reasons. Notwithstanding the reality that explanations have been provided, this is the case. The majority of people believe that crime is a category created by law; in other words, anything is

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<sup>39</sup> Uçarer, Emek M. (1999) "Trafficking in women: Alternate migration or modern slave trade." Gender politics in global governance: Pg. 244.

only regarded if the relevant and applicable law defines it as a crime. One definition of what defines a crime, including an offence (or a criminal offence) ("a public wrong"), is an act that causes harm to a person, the community, or the state in addition to harming an individual. These offences are prohibited by law and have severe repercussions.

**Law** is a set of rules established and enforced by authorities in order to control individual or group actions. There has been a lot of discussion on how precisely to define law. Laws are made to shield people from dangerous or illegal acts and to safeguard communities. Both science and art have alternately been used to describe the administration of justice. A single legislator or a group of legislators may pass legislation those results in regulations that are executed by the state. In addition, laws can be made by the executive branch through ordinances and regulations or by courts using the rule of law, which is more common in nations that follow common law. Private parties are able to create contracts that are enforceable in court, particularly arbitration agreements that take a different approach to conflict resolution than the usual practice of court proceedings.

**Labour:** The movements of the uterus during labour are a series of progressive, continuous contractions that help the cervix dilate and efface (thin out). This makes it possible for the fetus to enter the birth canal. The majority of the time, labour starts approximately two weeks prior to or subsequent to the baby's expected due date. On the other hand, the precise reason why labour starts is not completely understood.

**Slavery:** Slavery is the practice of treating another person like property, particularly so that you can use their labour. Slavery nearly always involves some form of labour, and the slave's master or owner chooses where they will reside and perform their duties. Many people were sold into servitude in the past as a result of law violations, financial difficulties, military defeats, or being employed for lower-paying jobs. Along demographic lines like race or sex, new forms of slavery emerged. It is possible for slaves to be kept in service for the remainder of their lives or for a set period of time before being set free. Even though slavery is frequently imposed against an individual's will and often involves coercion, there are instances where a person voluntarily decides to work as a slave to meet their financial responsibilities or to improve their financial standing<sup>40</sup>.

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<sup>40</sup> Cullet, P. (1995). Definition of an environmental right in a human rights context. *Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights*, 13(1): Pg. 25-40.



## Chapter II

### Literature Review

This study chapter surveys summaries of relevant literature or past studies conducted by scholars, academics, or researchers that are closely linked to the issue under consideration.

#### **Human Trafficking Theories and Its Complex Phenomenon**

A recent study examined different theories about the link between prostitution and trafficking and compared them. Advocates of the "laborist" approach disagree with practices like prostitution and human trafficking. According to feminists who favor legalizing all types of sexual labor, making prostitution illegal will necessarily result in its exploitation in different forms, including trafficking. According to them, the solution can be found in prostitution regulation, just as it is with any other type of business. Contrarily, those who support prohibition and the "Slave Trade," which is the practice of transferring human beings for money, was reportedly outlawed across Africa in the beginning of the 1880s<sup>41</sup>. It was popular to refer to this activity as "slavery."

Therefore, it ought not to be expected of anyone to sell another person as though they were a common commodity. Despite the belief that human trafficking only happens in developing countries, it is actually a problem in many industrialized nations, such as Nigeria and other countries in West and Central Africa. This is a cause for concern. Technically, "trafficking in people" has been added to the definition of "slave trade" to replace the more serious offence of violence towards humanity. This has been done deftly to lessen the burden of the cruel global commercialization of people certain educational institutions of thought define the practice as "modern-day slavery<sup>42</sup>".

In Nigeria, many law-abiding individuals are deceived into leaving their homes and families. This affects hundreds of thousands of people, or are forcibly taken into custody in order to allow the transfer of money for the illicit profits of human traffickers. Young people, particularly young women and girls, are particularly at risk, however young males are also impacted, albeit to a lesser extent. To be able to satisfy the need for money, people who ought

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<sup>41</sup>Poucki, S., & Bryson Clark, J. (2018). The SAGE handbook of human trafficking and modern-day slavery. The SAGE Handbook of Human Trafficking and Modern-Day Slavery: Pg. 584.

<sup>42</sup> Lazaruk, Nicholas. (2005) "Assessing the implications of the Swedish Prostitution and Trafficking Model: Pg. 567.

to have been cultivated for their own benefit and the benefit of the nation are instead thrown away<sup>43</sup>. As a result, the victims are deprived of their inalienable rights, and the nation as a whole is unable to experience sustainable growth. Without a shadow of a doubt, if human trafficking is allowed to continue utilizing recently developed technical methods, citizens of Nigeria and a large number of other countries are going to become endangered species methods.

It is important to emphasize this since it is relevant. This is a better choice, as illegal people trafficking is a significant barrier to expanding Africa's labor force. People who become trafficked typically come from the working-age population, which is the most efficient segment of the population, and they are transported to developed nations such as the United States, Europe, and other advanced nations. It is important to raise awareness among Africans and the rest of the world about the harmful impact of human trafficking on developing nations. This practice also has unintended negative consequences on developed countries, which can damage their international reputation<sup>44</sup>.

Human trafficking is "the illegal movement of young women beyond international boundaries for specific exploitative goals." The female gender is highlighted in this definition. She states that these unlawful activities frequently take on a bottom-to-top scale, which implies that victims from underdeveloped and destitute nations are often exploited by affluent nations. She claims that since these movements involve the bottom-to-top dimension, this is the case<sup>45</sup>. No matter how one addresses the subject of human trafficking, it is undeniably that the case it involves taking someone out of the surroundings within which they grew up and moving them to an unfamiliar setting so they can perform labor or other extremely odd duties that they would not ordinarily agree to perform. If someone is forced to perform tasks against their will while in an unfamiliar environment, they are most likely to be classified as a target of human handling<sup>46</sup>. The crucial factor that distinguishes the modern form of bondage from the

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<sup>43</sup> Sullivan, Barbara. (2010) "When (some) prostitution is legal: The impact of law reform on sex work in Australia." *Journal of law and society* 37.1: Pg. 104.

<sup>44</sup> Milivojevic, Sanja, and Sharon Pickering. (2013) "Trafficking in people, 20 years on: Sex, migration and crime in the global anti-trafficking discourse and the rise of the 'Global Trafficking Complex'." *Current Issues in Criminal Justice* 25.2: Pg. 585.

<sup>45</sup> Barry, Kathleen. (1996) "The prostitution of sexuality". NyU Press: Pg. 19.

<sup>46</sup> Isa, Felipe Gomez. (2003) "The Optional Protocol for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women: Strengthening the Protection Mechanisms of Women's Human Rights." *Ariz. J. Int'l & Comp. L.* 20: Pg. 291.

traditional form is probably the degree of sophistication in the mobilization, conveyance, and communication mechanisms that are used to carry out the routine of delivering trafficked people to various destination ports.

A case of human trafficking would be this. The bulk of the time, in an effort to dispel any suspicion from the circumstances, the victims is frequently enlisted by really close relatives. There are times when the agents receive a lump sum payment, and there are times when they receive payments on a regular basis. Typically, this refers to local traffickers. On a global scale, victims are frequently compelled to pay back the cost of their international travel as well as a fictitious interest rate before their travel documents are provided to them. Before the travel papers are given to them, this is done<sup>47</sup>.

Further investigation revealed that the children in issue were from extremely poor homes and were people who, for financial reasons or other reasons, willingly or inadvertently become victims of human trafficking and perhaps even the youngsters themselves. One important reason that has contributed to the pervasive and widespread nature of poverty on the continent is the general decline of African economies. A surge in the quantity of migrants who are subject to both forced and voluntary servitude in Europe is attributable to porous borders, poor economic conditions in central and western Africa, and migration from those regions<sup>48</sup>. As a result of the continent's extreme poverty, many youngsters are subjected to forced labor and prostitution. Notes that children who live in poverty are not given the chance to pursue an education. As a result, people with little or no education are more inclined to fall prey to human trafficking<sup>49</sup>. According to a study, people who reside and operate in cities are less likely to suffer from poverty than those who are farmers. Because more Nigerians reside in poverty is especially evident in rural places when people work in businesses that only pay for the barest necessities.

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<sup>47</sup> Bach, Michael. (2009) "The right to legal capacity under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities". DesLibris: Pg. 234.

<sup>48</sup> Ikpeze, Ogugua VC, and Sylvia C. Ifemeje. (2015) "Dynamics of Trafficking in Nigerian Women and Globalization." *JL Pol'y & Globalization* 39: Pg.34.

<sup>49</sup> Findlay, J. (2023). *Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking: The Victim Journey*: edited by Carole Murphy and Runa Lazzarino, Policy Press, Bristol, UK, 2022, 271 pp., hardback price£ 85.00, e-book price£ 27.99 ISBN: 978-1447363637; ISBN: 978-1447363651.

Those residing in rural areas and experiencing poverty are at a higher risk of being victims of human trafficking as well as perpetrators. Even in big cities, there is a stratum of people whom society refers to as the "underclass," who are characterized by their pervasive poverty, lack of employment opportunities, and dependency on others. These individuals predominate in the downtown area. People who fulfill this profile are capable of willingly offering to be trafficked. Due to their families' inability to fulfill their fundamental obligations, young girls are forced to become human trafficking victims<sup>50</sup>.

According to the primary causes of women's involvement in illicit human trafficking are unemployment and poverty. Similar assertions assert that unemployment, a low socioeconomic position, and maybe a misunderstanding of the long-term impact the crime would have on victims and society are factors contributing to the frequency of women smuggling in Nigeria. As a result, people who engage in human trafficking often unjustly take advantage of legal flaws to commit horrible crimes against mankind and society. Human trafficking victims have a greater probability of being found in poor nations with high rates of illiteracy<sup>51</sup>. As a consequence, people in these countries are susceptible. In comparison to educated people, illiterate people are easier to trick into thinking they are survivors of trafficking. A knowledgeable individual would, at least, be knowledgeable be conscious of the risks associated with engaging in illegal conduct, as opposed to an illiterate individual, who is more likely to believe bogus claims without verifying their veracity. Another crucial component that keeps the Nigerian human trafficking industry well-oiled and operating smoothly is voodoo, often known as Juju<sup>52</sup>.

In order to seal their deals, victims are frequently forced to make an oath at the temples of sorcery or juju priests, according to the testimonials of former traffickers. Due to their fear of swearing an oath and jeopardizing their lives, individuals are compelled to lie to authorities on the identities of drug traffickers. According to Mr. Abdularahim Shaibu, who is responsible for NAPTIP's legal and investigative services, it was difficult for the agency to charge

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<sup>50</sup> Raymond: Pg. 1186.

<sup>51</sup> The tragedy of human trafficking. (2012) Competing theories and European evidence." Foreign Policy Analysis 8.3: Pg. 253.

<sup>52</sup> Di Stasi, G., Bifulco, R., D'Elia, F. P., Avallone, S., Canonico, R., Apostolaras, A, & Tassiulas, L. (2011, March). "Experimenting with P2P traffic optimization for wireless mesh networks in a federated OMF-Planet Lab environment". IEEE Wireless Communications and Networking Conference (Pp. 719-724). IEEE.

traffickers because victims were hesitant to testify in court and identify the suspected criminals. This was due to the juju oaths that they were forced to take. The juju made victims afraid to speak in court and identify the suspected culprits, which caused problems for the agency in prosecuting traffickers. He asserts those grandparents and other relatives of individuals who were human trafficked have little interest in working with law enforcement to save their children from being victims of the crime or in alerting those in charge of making it illegal<sup>53</sup>.

The former ACG claims that foreign authorities often don't cooperate with Nigerian immigration agents when it comes to the investigation of situations involving individuals who have been trafficked into Nigeria from other nations. As was previously said, greed and the dissolution of the traditional local family system are also contributing factors to the issue of people trafficking. She asserts that young people in Nigeria have greater education, yet are unemployed are particularly susceptible to being taken advantage of by traffickers in humanit y, who frequently promise them greater possibilities both inside and outside of the country. As a result, wealthy countries, especially those that are the biggest "consumers" of trafficked individuals, are principally to blame for the ongoing transnational nature of human trafficking<sup>54</sup>.

The concept of systemic tension is supported by this conception of success and the belief that individuals should only acquire wealth through legal and respectable channels. Nevertheless, immediately people lack equilibrium in access to the resources needed to rise to the trustworthy position that society values, they are compelled to turn to unconventional means of success<sup>55</sup>. In the words of the lack of these opportunities to accumulate money and the emphasis placed on materialism may not lead to strain but instead may only have the structural effect of preventing a significant percentage of people from achieving success through moral means, which may lead to anomie.

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<sup>53</sup>Gregoriou, C. (2018). Representations of transnational human trafficking: Present-day news media, true crime, and fiction. Springer Nature: Pg. 153.

<sup>54</sup> Schans, D., and C. Optekamp. (2016) "Raising awareness, changing behavior: Pg. 84.

<sup>55</sup> MurraY, Jean-Pierre. (2020) "Beyond the 'Women-and-Children 'Bias in Human Trafficking: A Study of Haitian Migrants in the Dominican Republic." Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration: Pg. 132.

Making matters worse, even those who have followed conventional wisdom and obtained a solid degree have found themselves in a position where they have limited job opportunities that pay next to nothing. Their instinct to live by any means, including turning to human trafficking, is thus promptly reawakened. Therefore, worries over their existence might readily inspire them. Merton's argument, which is an issue that regularly arises in Nigeria alongside other developed countries, was unable to explain why individuals who are regarded as exceedingly affluent continue to participate in human trafficking<sup>56</sup>. Many of these problems may be resolved by approaching them from a functionalist viewpoint, which views individuals and institutions as components of the social structure that support maintaining social equilibrium. Human trafficking may be beneficial to society in that it may draw attention to societal issues that need to be addressed, such as decreasing the amount of bribery, increasing the bar for learning, and eliminating unemployment estimates that each year, about 200 thousand kids in west and central Africa fall prey to human trafficking or are forced into slavery each year. Like many other African and European countries, Nigeria serves at all stages of the human trafficking process: Many countries are involved in human trafficking, serving as places of origin, transit, and destination. Some of these countries include Benin, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire Republic, Libya, Algeria, and Morocco. Germany, Spain, Belgium, for instance, and the Kingdom of England are among the European nations that take part<sup>57</sup>.

Additionally, these countries serve as the final resting places for trafficked Nigerians. Numerous southern Nigerian states, such as Edo, Delta, Cross Rivers, Ebonyi State, and Oyo, have been found to be amid the utmost commonly told hotspots for notifications of human handling in persons. On the flip side, it is crucial to remember that Nigeria's borders are porous, which adds to the fact that nearly all of the neighboring countries in the nation appear to be experiencing a boom in human trafficking. For instance, there are a lot of people trafficking activities in the counties of Lagos and Oyo. Lagos has a sizable working population, which creates a sizable market for trafficking people<sup>58</sup>. In certain cases, these kids are dressed up, sometimes even by professional panhandlers, and paraded through the streets to win over the

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<sup>56</sup>Lobasz, Jennifer K. (2009) "Beyond border security: Feminist approaches to human trafficking." *Security studies* 18.2: Pg. 344.

<sup>57</sup>Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. (2017) "Kidney Pirates: How to End Human Trafficking in Organs for Illegal Transplants." *JTHE*: Pg. 259.

<sup>58</sup>Muraszkiewicz, J., Fenton, T., & Watson, H. (2020). "Human Trafficking in Conflict". Springer International Publishing: Pg. 332.

public's pity and get them to unwittingly part with their hard-earned cash in the hope that it would be utilized to help the troubled kids. In a nutshell, the whole public is tricked into contributing money to the aforementioned kids. In Nigeria, many children are kidnapped from rural areas under the pretense that they will be placed in prestigious institutions in Lagos as well as other cities, but once they are there, they are immediately forced to work as street vendors<sup>59</sup>.

According to, the Saudi Arabian authorities deported 1,231 practically orphaned children under the age of 18 in addition to an overall total of 9,950 women. Regardless of the fact that there do not appear to be any obvious cases of trafficking in people in the Nigeria's northern region acknowledge that these people were largely alone themselves. According to the research that has been done so far, human trafficking is becoming a more widespread crime in Nigeria and is manifesting itself in a variety of ways. People are trafficked significantly more successfully across land and marine routes than through airways<sup>60</sup>.

Either on a regional or global level, human trafficking affects almost every nation in the Union. The high percentage of poverty, illiteracy, and constant search for means of existence are likely caused by bad management and corruption. As a consequence, some individuals are forced to participate in human trafficking or modern slavery. Nigeria is one of the six poorest nations in the world while being the 11th biggest oil producer in the world. This happens as a consequence of the nation's corrupt culture's devastating effect on the economy. Some reports claim that Nigeria's government and populace have lost their moral sense as a result of corruption. Merton's explanations were intended to address the strain problem claim that because of the tremendous severity of the risks associated with illiteracy, no country can afford to underline them. Illiteracy affects "roughly every facet of existence, " including education, health, politics, commerce, administration, and even family life, according to<sup>61</sup>.

There are certain clergymen who transport children, known as Almajiri, in the name of religion in order to make them beg on the streets. Both within Nigeria and to neighboring nations in central and western Africa, kids coming from Nigeria have been trafficked for use as domestic laborers and street vendors. The pattern was subsequently examined in depth, and the results

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<sup>59</sup> Marinova, & James: Pg. 253.

<sup>60</sup>Jakobsson, N., & Kotsadam, A. (2010). "Do attitudes toward gender equality really differ between Norway and Sweden?" *Journal of European Social Policy*, 20(2): Pg. 159.

<sup>61</sup> Ibid: Pg. 87.

showed that the bulk of the times, those who are trafficked nearby are used for domestic activities. Domestic slavery includes caring for the elderly and children after school as well as cooking, cleaning the apartments or homes, getting the kids ready for school, and watching the owners' kids one of their other responsibilities is getting the kids ready for school<sup>62</sup>.

One of the secondary goals of trafficking in people at the neighborhood level in Nigeria may be to make money for the traffickers by using the victims. Instead, in many instances, the victims should be compensated by their establishments. Human trafficking that occurs crosswise limitations or throughout the world is often committed for financial or practical motives. Adolescent girls and young women were shipped throughout Africa into the United States, Europe, Asia, and other continents for prostitution and various kinds of forced labor, such as housework<sup>63</sup>. Young women who are pregnant unintentionally may be convinced they will get help stopping their pregnancy in order to escape the social shame and stigma related to their situation. This practice is referred to as "infants' harvest" and is a kind of human trafficking. These young women were routinely detained until after giving birth, when they were then forced to pick up their children in exchange for a meager amount of twenty thousand naira<sup>64</sup>, or about \$2.

\$170, which is the equivalent of just one month's rent. The infants are therefore made available for purchase to potential buyers at costs that range from N300,000 (approximately \$2,500) up to N450,000 (roughly \$3,800) naira per unit (NAPTIP, 2009). Local law enforcement was able to save 20 adolescent girls at a medical facility in Enugu, located in southeast Nigeria, that was allegedly acting as a baby "farm" or "factory" in May 2009. The information was released to the media. This was reportedly the largest child trafficking ring in the history of West Africa. To obtain a sizable sum of cash from the victims is the primary goal of cross-border human trafficking. For instance, Nigerian girls are often introduced to sex market places like Livorno, Torino, and Geneva once they arrive in Italy, according to Dr. Esohe Aghatise, who has undertaken considerable study on human trafficking. From there, they are typically sold to

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<sup>62</sup> Ibid: Pg. 88.

<sup>63</sup> Eltis, D. (2001). "The volume and structure of the transatlantic slave trade: A reassessment". *The William and Mary Quarterly*: Pg. 58.

<sup>64</sup> Attoh, F. (2009). "Trafficking in women in Nigeria: poverty of values or inequality?" *Journal of Social Sciences*, 19(3): Pg. 171.



bosses or madams. Dr. Aghatise came to this conclusion after noticing that most Nigerian girls who travel to Italy are sold to masters or madams<sup>65</sup>.

The traffickers get between 90,000 and 100,000 million Italian liras for the purchase of each girl, who is being sold for 20,000 US dollars. It is believed that 80% of the required work in Africa is for economic exploitation, while only 8% of forced labor in the region is for commercial manipulation. Between the years of 1994 and 1998, it has been projected that 116 Nigerian women perished while operating as prostitutes on the pavements of Italy (Punch, 2008)<sup>66</sup>. Strangely enough, it was expected of these people to relieve one another, their loved ones, and the community at large. Sadly, they had a miserable fate in Europe, where they found themselves unable to help their native Nigeria in any way. However, if they had joined the local labor force, they could potentially have had it. Regrettably, the African continent and the nation of Nigeria will continue to advance slowly despite this pattern of human trafficking<sup>67</sup>.

### **Practice of Human Trafficking Characterized by Various Aspects That Render It an Unequivocal Infringement Upon Individuals' Rights**

Human trafficking has severe socio-economic consequences on both victims and society. Many victims of human trafficking experience severe mental and physical health issues as a direct result of the trauma they endured at the hands of their captors. Trafficking also contributes to a loss of human potential and economic development, as victims are often deprived of education and job opportunities. Trafficking preys remain subjected to various procedures of abuse, including physical and sexual violence, forced labor, and psychological abuse<sup>68</sup>. They may suffer from health complications, such as sexually transmitted infections, unwanted pregnancies, and substance abuse. Suicidal thoughts, despair, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder are only some of the long-term mental health problems that victims of trauma typically develop. Human trafficking has a significant impact on society, affecting economic development, public health, and national security. It undermines the rule of law and

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<sup>65</sup> Beare, M. E. (Ed.). (2012). "Encyclopedia of transnational crime and justice". Sage: Pg. 478.

<sup>66</sup> Gesinde, A. M., & Elegbeleye, A. (2011). An investigation into push factors sustaining human trafficking in Nigeria. *Journal of Functional Management*, 4(1): Pg. 147.

<sup>67</sup> Bakirci, Kadriye. (2009) "Human trafficking and forced labour: A criticism of the International Labour Organisation." *Journal of Financial Crime*: Pp.16.

<sup>68</sup> DeKeseredy, Walter S., Shahid Alvi, and Martin D. Schwartz. (2003) "Under siege: Poverty and crime in a public housing community". Lexington Books: Pg. 415.

human rights, leading to social instability and insecurity. Trafficking also contributes to the spread of infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis<sup>69</sup>.

Hathaway's argument highlights a number of crucial points, one of which is the essence of the global convention prohibiting servitude, including what it implies and how it ought to be applied. Hathaway draws heavily from the work of philosopher and activist Kevin Bales in order to define slavery and its breadth. According to Hathaway, slavery encompasses more than just physical ownership and extends to any form of coercion that compels individuals to work against their wishes, including the exercise of authority or power to manipulate their labor<sup>70</sup>."

The difficulty with Hathaway accepting this notion is that it broadens the definition of what constitutes slavery. But (Hathaway) accepts Bales' prediction that there are currently 27 million slaves on the globe without question or qualification (which he subsequently raised in his paper, without giving a justification, to "a lot more than almost thirty million" slaves). When we combine this data with an estimate from an additional equally inaccurate source that places a total number of people whose work has been trafficked, Hathaway draws the same conclusion as many academics that have gone prior to him whose calculations also rely on Bales: the theoretical framework encompassing human trafficking only guarantees an absurd three per cent of the world's enslaved people<sup>71</sup>. To assess the validity of Hathaway's assertion that there are more than 30 million slaves worldwide, with only a small fraction of them being trafficked, it is crucial to scrutinize his depiction of slavery. Additionally, it is imperative to analyze whether Hathaway's interpretation of the fundamental components and definition of the international prohibition on slavery deviates from the established norms. If there are discrepancies, then his contention that human trafficking is a means to conceal the actual magnitude of enslavement must be disputed<sup>72</sup>.

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<sup>69</sup> M., Nishida, T, & Sawa, Y. (2006). "Inhibition of donor-derived T cells trafficking into target organs by FTY720 during acute graft-versus-host disease in small bowel transplantation". *Clinical & Experimental Immunology*, 146(1): Pg. 92.

<sup>70</sup> Jegede, A. P. S., Anyikwa, B. E., & Igwe, I. O. (2011). "Human Trafficking as The Bane of Human Capital Development in The Nigerian Perspective". *African Journal of Crime & Criminal Justice*, 2(1): Pg. 16.

<sup>71</sup> Adepoju, Aderanti. (2005) "Review of research and data on human trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa." *International Migration* 43.1-2: Pg. 75.

<sup>72</sup> Anuforom, Eunice I. (2014) "The social and economic implications of human trafficking in Nigeria: NAPTIP in Focus: Pg. 154.

According to Hathaway, the concept of trafficking is a major departure from the long-standing agreement to prohibit slavery. This conclusion has implications for Hathaway's assessment of how the global human rights community responds to slavery, as well as his belief that the continued marginalization of slaves is caused by a legal system that only applies to a small fraction of the world's enslaved population. What features of human trafficking constitute a violation of human rights? The core of the international treaty against slavery, including what it entails and how it should be administered, is one of the important topics highlighted by Hathaway's argument<sup>73</sup>. To describe what it actually means to be a slave as well as the severity of the issue, Hathaway draws on the studies done by activist and philosopher Kevin Bales.

The expansionist notion that "any form of contact with persons resulting to the compelled labor of their labor" is included in the legal meaning of slavery is accepted by 105. This includes "the use of every aspect of the power providing to the right of having control over a person." Below, this assertion will be refuted and denounced. Hathaway finds it difficult to embrace this idea since it expands the concept of what is considered slavery. Without any hesitation or inquiry, Hathaway agreed with Bale's estimation that there exist 27 million slaves in the world. Nevertheless, in his publication, he augmented this figure to more than 30 million without providing any justification. When we combine this statistic with a projection from an additional, similarly inaccurate source that places the number of people whose work has been trafficked, Hathaway reaches the same conclusion as those academics who have gone before him and who also rely on Bales: the theoretical framework encompassing human trafficking only safeguards an absurd 3 percent of the world's enslaved people<sup>74</sup>.

According to Hathaway, the concept of trafficking has resulted in a significant outcome that was previously agreed upon as a restriction before slavery. As with his more general claim that the enslavement of the remaining slaves contributed from the establishment of a distinct legitimate system for just a small portion of the world's bound populates, a conclusion to this

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<sup>73</sup> Dave-Odigie, Chinenye Patience. (2008) "Human trafficking trends in Nigeria and strategies for combating the crime." *Peace Studies Journal* 1.1: Pg. 63.

<sup>74</sup> Webb, S. (2014). "A bitter pill to swallow: the problem of, and solutions to, Sub-Saharan Africa's counterfeit pharmaceutical trade". *The Columbia University Journal of Global Health*, 4(2): Pg. 19.

effect would additionally directly affect Hathaway's criticism of the global human rights technique's reaction to slavery<sup>75</sup>.

The core of the international treaty against slavery, including what it entails and how it should be administered, is one of the important topics highlighted by Hathaway's argument. To describe what it actually means to be considered a slave as well as the severity of the issue, Hathaway draws on the studies done by activist and philosopher Kevin Bales. Hathaway agrees with the expansionist notion that "any form of contact with persons resulting to the compelled labor of their labor" is included in the legal concept of slavery, along with "the utilization of all or any of the power providing the right of having control over a person." Below, this assertion will be refuted and denounced<sup>76</sup>.

In order to verify the claim that only a small portion of the 30 million slaves worldwide are victims of human trafficking, we need to examine Hathaway's account of slavery in its entirety. If Hathaway's description and important information about the global ban on slavery differ from or are more limited than what he has proposed, then we must challenge his assertion that the concept of human trafficking is simply a way to hide the already recognized limitations of servitude. Hathaway asserts that the idea of trafficking "contributes to a considerable deviation from the hitherto agreed-upon limitation of slavery<sup>77</sup>." It would also have an immediate impact on Hathaway's general claim that the marginalization of the remaining slaves is due to the establishment of a distinct permissible system aimed at a very small portion of the world's attached population, which is based on his criticism of the global human rights approach to slavery. Which features of hominid trading constitute a desecration of humanoid privileges? The core of the international treaty against servitude, particularly what it entails and how it should be administered, is one of the important topics highlighted by Hathaway's argument<sup>78</sup>. To describe what it actually means to be a slave and the severity of the issue, Hathaway draws on the studies done by activist and philosopher Kevin Bales.

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<sup>75</sup> Hughes, M., C. J. Kroehler, and J. W. Vander Zanden. (2002) "Gender Inequality: Chapter Summary." *Sociology: The Core*. 5(8): Pg. 45.

<sup>76</sup> Joseph, E. O. (2013) "The Disposing Factors of the Phenomenon of Human Trafficking: Discourse of the Social Realities of Nigerian Society": Pg. 76.

<sup>77</sup> Enaikele, M. D., & Olutayo, A. O. (2011). "Human trafficking in Nigeria: Implication for human immune deficiency virus and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic". *International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology*, 3(11): Pg. 422.

<sup>78</sup> UNICEF. (2006). "The state of the world's children 2007: women and children: the double dividend of gender equality" (Vol. 7). UNICEF (October 5, 2008): Pg. 31.

In the upcoming discussion, Hathaway's assertion that the constitutional definition of slavery encompasses instances where individuals are compelled to work against their wishes, even if it entails exerting authority over them, will face opposition and scrutiny. Hathaway finds it difficult to embrace this idea since it expands the concept of what is considered slavery. Without any doubts or exceptions, Hathaway agreed with Bale's forecast that there are presently 27 million slaves in the world<sup>79</sup>. Nevertheless, in his article, he raised the figure to nearly 30 million slaves without providing any justification. To determine whether or not the estimate that there are over 30 million slaves in the globe now is accurate and whether or not it is true that only a tiny number of those slaves have been trafficked, considering Hathaway's depiction of slavery, encompassing its scope, is crucial. If Hathaway's portrayal contradicts the definition and essential components of the worldwide constitutional prohibition on slavery, then his assertion that the notion of human trafficking masks the constraints of servitude warrants scrutiny. The first global accepted definition of slavery did not include trafficking until 1926, according to Hathaway, and it "contributes to an important departure from the hitherto mutually agreed-upon restriction of slavery<sup>80</sup>." In Article 1 of the legal code of the US Bill of rights, slavery refers to the situation where a person is subjected to the benefits and rights of ownership. This can be due to their title or circumstances. Countries were also urged to work for "the gradual and, as quickly as possible, full removal of slavery in all its different expressions" in the same legislation<sup>81</sup>."

The 1926 Slavery Convention (Travaux Préparatoires) did not, however, define the "powers linked to the right of ownership" or the "structures" of slavery, which were to be gradually removed. Both of these aspects of slavery were intended to be eliminated. By alluding to these ambiguous passages, activists and intellectuals, among whom Hathaway cites, have suggested or defended a more expansive description of bondage that goes outside the stern restrictions of Article 1 of the 1926 Agreement. Hathaway depends on these professionals. This expansionist idea, which was widely held after multiple studies were released by the UN, has now been

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<sup>79</sup> Dave-Odigie, Chinenye Patience. (2008) "Human trafficking trends in Nigeria and strategies for combating the crime." *Peace Studies Journal* 1.1: Pg. 75.

<sup>80</sup>Zimmerman, Y. C. (2019). "Human trafficking and religious movements". In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*: Pg. 59.

<sup>81</sup> King, L. (2008). *International law and human trafficking. Topical research digest: Human rights and human trafficking*: Pg. 88.

shown false<sup>82</sup>. The states were usually in accord in their efforts to guarantee that the prohibition's reach was narrowly circumscribed and specifically resisted any efforts to expand the extent of the definition of repression or to contain the conceptually related idea of servitude. This was done in an effort to keep the prohibition's reach as little as possible. This restriction in no way implies that the investigation's scope was necessarily limited to things like trafficking in children or debt bonding. Contrary to what Hathaway claims, the 1926 slavery Convention held by the League of Nations, prohibition on slavery was not "given more detail" by the 1956 Additional Concord proceeding the Prohibition of the Conduct of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Groups, as well as Activities Relevant to Slavery (Supplementary Agreement)<sup>83</sup>. The Slave Trade, Organizations, and Activities, and the International Agreement on the Absence of the Slave Trade the entire name of the Additional Convention is akin to Slavery. The main benefit of this more recent weapon is that it may be utilized to regulate a wider variety of organizations and actions that are considered to be "approximate to slavery." Serfdom, servile marriage, financial bondage, and the abuse of children are a few examples of these institutions and behaviors<sup>84</sup>.

One group of people who have suffered abuse is women and girls who became trafficked for prostitution. They frequently require specialized interdisciplinary methods in TVA programs due to the particular nature of their experiences with physical and emotional abuse and disorders that are connected. However, treatment for trafficked women may also benefit from programs created for other vulnerable populations, such as wandering women, women who have experienced sexual harassment, assault, domestic abuse, or torture, women who engage in illicit sexual activity, or exploited women laborers. The circumstances of human trafficking victims are typically more challenging than those of other victims of crime or violence<sup>85</sup>.

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<sup>82</sup> Ukhurebor, Roland Aghahiusi. (2013) "Human Trafficking and Nigeria's Development: An Examination of The Benin Metropolis, Edo State, Nigeria: Pg. 486.

<sup>83</sup> Alvarez, M. B., & Alessi, E. J. (2012). "Human trafficking is more than sex trafficking and prostitution: Implications for social work". *Affilia*, 27(2): Pg. 152.

<sup>84</sup> Duru, Emmanuel Joseph Chukwuma, and Ufiem Maurice Ogbonnaya. (2012) "Combating human trafficking in Nigeria: An evaluation of state policies and programmes." *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences* 3.3: Pg. 161.

<sup>85</sup> Gallagher, A., & Holmes, P. (2008). Developing an effective criminal justice response to human trafficking: Lessons from the front line. *International criminal justice review*, 18(3): Pg. 343.

According to 110, the traumas experienced by women who endure trafficking are typically worse than those experienced by women that are beaten, sexually assaulted, or raped. Physical (such as wounds), behavioral (such as self-harming, attempts at suicide that damage them, regression, sexually explicit opposition, as well as adultery), as well as psychological (such as panic attacks, anxiety, post- Traumatic Stress Disorder, ongoing depression, dissociation circumstances, difficulty forming dependable relationships, feelings of anger, helpless prejudice, and helplessness) manifestations can all be present. Female victims of domestic abuse are statistically more likely to seek medical attention than females who have not experienced such violence, and frontline healthcare workers are essential in recognizing and treating victims. In a same line, medical personnel frequently become the first to recognize and assist victims of sex trafficking<sup>86</sup>.

The assault may be so serious that women are compelled to seek professional assistance, usually with their traffickers' present. Despite the fact that studies indicate that women who have been trafficked have little access to the system of healthcare. According to recent qualitative study, 28% of victims of human trafficking who met with medical experts while they were held did not take benefit of the chance to act while they were incarcerated (Family Violence). Health, human rights, and social determinants," *Transcultural Psychiatry* 44, no. 3 (September 2007): 338-358. Two key areas of concentration for the services offered by TVA are aid with mental health issues and urgent medical treatment. The role of healthcare experts is critical in every one of these situations<sup>87</sup>. When it comes to health and human services, the US Department of The United States Department of Human Services as well as Health (HHS) has posted a collection of tools online that may be used to educate medical professionals on how to assist victims of human trafficking<sup>88</sup>.

This is particularly true for organizations that deal with getting over sexual abuse and prostitution. the development of particular case-management procedures (such as privacy and permission rules, security precautions, and emergency response plans), dental, medical, psychological, and substance abuse procedures, as well as experts with hands-on expertise in

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<sup>86</sup> King, L. (2008). *International law and human trafficking. Topical research digest: Human rights and human trafficking*: Pg. 90.

<sup>87</sup>Fouladvand, Shahrzad. (2019) "Corruption and human trafficking: A holistic approach." *Corruption in the Global Era*. Routledge: Pg. 305.

<sup>88</sup> Okeshola, Folashade B., and Adebimpe A. Adenugba. "Human trafficking: A modern day slavery in Nigeria." *American International Journal of Contemporary Research* 8.2 (2018): 40-44.

specific fields, and an inventory of trafficking individuals' experts. Researchers in the field, such as professionals in mental health and other providers of psychological services, must be involved not only in the education of participants who offer health services but also in the development of standards and rules for the TVA that are mindful of the needs of people affected by sex trafficking. In conclusion, the practice of forcing women and children towards prostitution by means of human trafficking is a horrifying type of cruelty against women and a grave infringement of human rights<sup>89</sup>.

Notwithstanding the fact that the causes of sex slavery have been the focus of substantial study, the cultural and behavioral elements that determine the number of women who are taken advantage of for sexual reasons are given less attention. This study demonstrates how deeply ingrained cultural norms may increase women's susceptibility to sex trafficking, increase the likelihood that they will become captives of slavery, and make it more difficult for them to escape the prostitution industry<sup>90</sup>. Many trafficked women suffer from greater levels of sexual as well as psychological trauma than do victims of other types of abuse. As a result, victims of sex trafficking should get special consideration in mental health treatments, particularly those that address sexual assault, prostitution, removal, and dependency recovery programs. Future studies should evaluate the success of TVA programs in terms of the percentage of women who choose to assist law enforcement in catching traffickers in return for being given permanent residence status in the countries of destination. Future studies should close any gaps in our knowledge of the living conditions of women who return to their native countries and rejoin society<sup>91</sup>.

The act of human trafficking is a grave violation of human rights and is ethically unacceptable. Those who engage in this practice treat their victims as mere objects, depriving them of their freedom of movement, decision-making, and employment. To restore the dignity and well-being of these victims, it is imperative to address the issue of human trafficking from a human rights perspective. The "Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in person and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of others" is aimed at safeguarding and supporting victims of

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<sup>89</sup>Abochol, Simon Itine. (2017). "Forensic Linguistic Analysis of Predictive Syntax in The Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, 2000." *Issues in Language and Literary Studies* 1.1: Pg. 354.

<sup>90</sup>Opara, Ijeoma. (2007) "Nigerian Ant-Corruption Initiatives." *J. Int'l Bus. & L.* 6: 65: Pg.123.

<sup>91</sup>Adenugba, Adebimpe A., and Folashade B. Okeshola. "Substance abuse among females in Nigeria." *International Journal of Business and Social Science* 9.5 (2018): 99-105.



trafficking while upholding their human rights. The Covenant for the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR), signed by the UN General Assembly in 1948, affirms that all individuals are equal in worth and liberty. No one should ever be subjected to slavery, torture, or murder for advocating or opposing human rights. Torture and other forms of harsh, violent, and humiliating treatment are totally unacceptable and should never be practiced<sup>92</sup>.

Article 1 of the Constitution of World Trade Organization (WTO) and Human Rights states that, each and every person was formed in liberty and with an equal measure of respect and freedom. Since individuals have the capacity for rational thought and moral deliberation, they should treat one another with respect and brotherly love. Article 2: Everyone, without exception and without regard to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, culture, background, philosophical or other opinions, local or social status, assets, birth, or other position, has the right to enjoy completely of the privileges and independences enumerated of the Declaration<sup>93</sup>. No differences shall be drawn based on the international, political, or legal standing of a person's nation or territory, whether it be independent, bound by an agreement, not autonomous, or bound by any other kind of sovereignty constraint. Article 5.114 states that no one should be tortured or punished with brutal, humiliating, or cruel means or punishment. Numerous dangers are associated with unlawful trade in people, including the violation of fundamental liberties and rights of individuals, threats to global public health, and the growth of criminal organizations<sup>94</sup>.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), wellness encompasses not only the absence of disease or illness, but also complete mental, social, and physical well-being. WHO asserts that every individual, irrespective of their race, religion, political views, financial status, or social situation, deserves to experience the utmost level of health achievable? Public health policy should embrace migrants' rights to health and bridge the policies of the nations of origin, transit, destination, and return<sup>95</sup>.

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<sup>92</sup> Agbu, Osita. (2003) "Corruption and human trafficking: The Nigerian case." *West Africa Review* 4.1: Pg. 13.

<sup>93</sup> Adepelumi, P. (2015). "The root causes of human trafficking in Nigeria". African Center for Advocacy & Human Development, Nigeria: Pg. 556.

<sup>94</sup> Okoli, A. C., & Iortyer, P. (2014). "Terrorism and humanitarian crisis in Nigeria: Insights from Boko Haram insurgency". *Global Journal of Human Social Science*, 14(1): Pg. 49.

<sup>95</sup> Huntley, S. S. (2013). "The Phenomenon of "baby Factories" in Nigeria as a New Trend in Human Trafficking (Vol. 3). *International Crimes Database*: Pg. 654.

The Hungarian Declaration 6 (Annex, in English version) emphasizes that "more attention ought to be devoted to the health and safety risks related to slavery" in response to these health issues. This is particularly true when it involves the transition of governmental commitments to respect for individuals' unalienable human rights into political decisions about which components of human security to safeguard in specific situations. Notwithstanding the reality that some scholars contend otherwise, it is possible that the two narratives are in conflict with one another. When the nation is in a state of emergency, or (only for particular rights) under the conditions set forth by the law's general rule<sup>96</sup>. For more than four decades, conversations regarding human security have persisted, predating the creation of any global human rights legislation. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was sanctioned by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) were both ratified in 1966.

The first declaration to formally recognize the rights of humanity was the UDHR. The prohibition against brutal treatment, the entitlement to an impartial trial, and the freedom of speech are just a few instances of political and civil liberties. The rights to labour, to establish unions, to a decent normal of living, to education, to social security, and to the best possible health care are only a few examples of rights related to the economy, society, and culture. The ability to be employed and the liberty to establish unions are examples of rights related to society, culture, and the economy. Developmental right (adopted on December 4, 1986, by the signing of the Declaration on the Fundamental Rights to Development): More human rights agreements have been reached since 1966, several of which are listed below<sup>97</sup>. The idea that every person's rights are broad, unbreakable, interdependent, and linked has been acknowledged in international law after the International Conference on the Safety of Hominoid Privileges was convened in Vienna in 1993. Hominid privileges were initially designed to protect people from the oppressive activities of governments (Inventing the Rights of Humans, 2007). Even if occasionally it may be private persons, the state nearly always

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<sup>96</sup>Busch-Armendariz, N., Nsonwu, M., Heffron, L. C., & Mahapatra, N. (2014). "Human Trafficking: Exploiting Labor". In *Encyclopedia of social work*: Pg. 2354.

<sup>97</sup>Flowers, Nancy. (1998) "Human Rights Here and Now: Celebrating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights". Human Rights USA Resource Center, 229 19th Avenue South, Suite 439, Minneapolis, MN 55445: Pg. 567.

commits grave human rights violations like torture, extrajudicial executions, and arbitrary detentions<sup>98</sup>.

### **Examining the Economic Ramifications of Human Trafficking on Nigeria Within the Context of International Law**

Human trafficking has a significant impact on society, affecting economic development, public health, and national security. Undermining the rule of law and human rights leads to social instability and insecurity. Trafficking also contributes to the spread of infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis<sup>99</sup>.

Without a doubt, trafficking in people undermines the dignity of human life by the very nature of the repercussions that it entails. It is well documented that a significant number of victims have perished either while being transported or while in the custody of their traffickers. These things are going to put the country behind in terms of its ability to develop its human resources and its economy. In this line of thinking, education is a genuine instrument. It is anticipated that human trafficking will be included in the curriculum of schools on all levels in order to provide youngsters receiving a primary education with the knowledge they need to recognize and avoid being duped by traffickers. In addition to these things, NAPTIP is of the opinion that a comprehensive strategy is the best way to combat the plague and prevent additional harm to the socioeconomic life of the country<sup>100</sup>.

Human trafficking originates in and transits via Nigeria. Nigeria, a country with a very high population density, has been ranked as the most prominent nation in all of Africa when it comes to people trafficking, both across borders and inside the country. Twenty-one percent, or 181,000, of the migrants who crossed the Mediterranean to Italy in 2016 were from Nigeria. Pathfindersji.org is where you may get the "Nigeria: Hominid Trading Factsheet<sup>101</sup>".

Traffickers exploit women and children for cheap labor and prostitution, perpetuating poverty and improving their own lives and families. This abuse must be confronted. Because they are

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<sup>98</sup> Olateru-Olagbegi and Ikpeme (2006): Pg. 12.

<sup>99</sup> Shitu, Sidikat. (2016) "Entrepreneurship as A Tool for Mitigating „Baby Factory“ Human Trafficking in Nigeria." *International Journal* 4.4 (2016): Pg. 228.

<sup>100</sup> Olateru-Olagbegi, Bisi, and Anne Ikpeme. (2006) "Review of legislation and policies in Nigeria on human trafficking and forced labour". ILO. September 16, 2006: Pg. 43.

<sup>101</sup> Ibid: Pg. 12.

able to ship women and children within a network for human trafficking, Nigerian traffickers are able to expand their market share within this industry and engage in human trafficking both within the borders of Nigeria and in its neighboring countries, as well as in a number of countries in Europe<sup>102</sup>.

Thousands of women from Nigeria have been sold into prostitution by criminal organizations based in Italy, Spain, and the Netherlands. Details about the transportation of Nigerian women from Nigeria to Italy are provided in a recent article entitled "Tricked, Trafficked, and Sold: How Criminal Gangs are Bringing Nigerian Women to Italy." 80 percent of the 21,000 women and girls from Nigeria who have been trafficked to Italy since 2015<sup>103</sup> most likely fell prey to human trafficking. According to a research conducted by the organization Vie d'Uscita (Exit Routes), 34% of the women trafficked to Italy came from the country of Albania, the Balkans region, and Romania, making up the remaining 64%. Based to the World Bank, one in each four perpetrators of trafficking in people and exploitation in Europe are children.

During the 1980s, Italy experienced a need for workers without specialized skills. This led to the creation of a human trafficking industry that brought Nigerian women to Italy to be exploited. In Nigeria, it is customary to hire young individuals as domestic helpers, whether they come from wealthy or poor backgrounds. Nigeria has endured a number of financial and economic challenges that have led to significant unemployment and poverty, which is why this tradition started. Due to this, the condition of human trafficking has deteriorated<sup>104</sup>.

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<sup>102</sup> They, Gregoire. (2016). "Prostitution under International Human Rights Law: an analysis of States' Obligations and the best ways to implement them." CAP International. February 21, 2016: Pg. 66.

<sup>103</sup> Ogwu: Pg. 18.

<sup>104</sup> Sembacher, A. (2005). "The council of Europe convention on action against trafficking in human beings". Tul. J. Int'l & Comp. L., 14: Pg. 435.

### Chapter III

#### Methodology

The researcher discusses human trafficking in this chapter as it pertains to becoming a crime under the direction of international law and those difficulties.

#### **The Role of International Law in Addressing the Issue of Human Trafficking**

The most significant human rights agreement that deals with the crimes of trafficking in persons and prostitution in other countries is the “Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of others”, which the UNG Assembly established in 1949. The introduction of the Convention states that prostitution and the enslavement of individuals for prostitution are not acceptable and go against human dignity and worth. “The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children”, provides the current definition of trafficking: Forced labor or assistance, slavery or actions that have the same effect, and removing a bodily part from a living person all fall under the category of exploitation, as do prostitution and other forms of sexual abuse<sup>105</sup>.

The agreement states that for an act to be considered trafficking, three specific elements must be present. The first part focuses on acquiring human resources in the source nation, traveling to the destination nation, providing welcome and housing there, and moving people from the nation of the source to the nation of destination. The second need is that there must be some form of compulsion used in the act of trafficking, such as threats, physical violence, or other forms including kidnapping, deceit, or fraud<sup>106</sup>.

Without considering the gender aspect or how trafficking may undermine human rights, it views it as an offense that disproportionately impacts women. In this viewpoint, the plan for migration may be related, perhaps in particular, to the government-centric and practical point of view that regards human trafficking as a danger to the security of the state. According to the migration viewpoint, the state really suffers as a consequence of the procedure in the end. This is because it's believed that immigrants residing in the nation illegally are breaking the law

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<sup>105</sup> Andrijasevic, Rutvica, and William Walters. (2010) "The International Organization for Migration and the international government of borders." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 28.6: Pg. 999.

<sup>106</sup> Gallagher, Anne T. (2008) "Human rights and human trafficking: Quagmire or firm ground- A response to James Hathaway." *Va. J. Int'l L.* 49: Pg. 789.

there. Despite being a fantastic source for study material, the migratory worldview does not encourage as much idea development as other, more serious systems of thinking<sup>107</sup>. Some of the three remaining perspectives, such as the radical feminist, prohibitionist, and worker views, believe that human trafficking is a problem that needs to be dealt with. The unconventional approach to combating human trafficking has its roots in feminism. For an extensive list of feminist sources, see 44. Because, in Barry's perspective, both prostitution and sexual exploitation violate the female body, feminists are wary of both body and soul<sup>108</sup>.

Suggestion for a global convention, a number of practices should be made illegal, including female infanticide, prostitution, and female genital mutilation. She desires that human trafficking be made illegal on a global scale. She believes that the developed world's traffickers and their associates in business should be held accountable, not the implicated women. This is so that penalizing the ladies wouldn't suggest that they are objects or passive. The majority of the rules and regulations that Barry supports were put in place as the prevention of assault against women rose to prominence on the world stage in the ensuing decades. In 1979, the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was approved by the United Nations General Assembly<sup>109</sup>.

To find a current definition of trafficking, refer to Article 3, paragraph (A) of the Agreement to Prevent, Fight, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children, which is an attachment to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. In the 1990s, human trafficking was added to the growing list of concerns related to women's rights. In 1992, the Committee on the Prevention and Combating of Racism against Women (CEDAW) issued General Recommendation (#19) in accordance with the Convention on the Eradication of All Forms of Racism against Women (CEDAW). This recommendation acknowledged that prejudice against women can take the form of attacks<sup>110</sup>.

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<sup>107</sup> Uduma, Kalu, et al. (2011) "Assessment metric identification and evaluation for Side Airbag (SAB) development. No. 2011-01-0257. SAE Technical Paper: Pg. 53.

<sup>108</sup> Ayua, I. A. (2001). Overview of corruption in Nigeria. Nigerian journal of political and administrative studies, 1(2): Pg. 48.

<sup>109</sup>Beeks, K. D., & Amir, D. (2006). "Trafficking & the global sex industry". Lexington Books: Pg. 165.

<sup>110</sup> King: Pg. 88.

The Beijing Symposium, also known as the Fourth World Conference, was held by the United Nations in 1995. As a result, the issue of human trafficking became better known, more people talked about it, and it was included in the category of violence against women. In addition to enforcing the UN Convention against Slavery and Trafficking in Persons, we have taken other measures to combat modern slavery. Strategic Aim of the Beijing Platform One of D3's main goals is to help those who have benefited from prostitution and human trafficking. Barry, the head of the International Coalition against Trafficking in Women, staunchly supported libertarian-abolitionist ideals, which greatly impacted his perspective<sup>111</sup>. It is noteworthy that Barry and Raymond hold comparable opinions regarding brothels and the trafficking of humans; however, Raymond disagrees that engaging in prostitution should be considered a respectable profession. She contends that under any authorized system that recognizes the genital service market as a legitimate industry, the phrase "state-sponsored prostitution" refers to a scenario in which the state essentially functions as another "pimp," benefiting from prostitution-related activities. To support her argument, she asserts that state-sponsored prostitution refers to this particular concept<sup>112</sup>.

The Dutch government earns a significant amount of tax revenue from the legalized prostitution industry in the Netherlands, which generates around \$1 billion annually. Abolition as well as prohibition are compared in terms of how governments actually carry out their policies. In countries where prostitution is prohibited by law, the conduct is considered criminal, and anyone found engaging in it may face legal ramifications. Afghanistan, Albania, Angola on the island of Antigua and Barbuda, the islands of the Bahamas, China, the Republic of Cambodia, the State of Croatia, and Cuba are just a few examples of countries that have embraced this approach. The countries of Egypt, the Dominican Republic, and Jamaica are all in the Caribbean<sup>113</sup>. Countries such as Haiti, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Lithuania, the Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, Slovenia, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Suriname, Uganda, and the United Arab Emirates (at the federal level) are included in the list.

In a 2009 study of 100 nations, it was found that although 50% of the countries either approved or tolerated prostitution, 40% of the countries either forbade or condemned it. Some of the

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<sup>111</sup>Hughes, Donna M. (2000) "The Natasha trade: The transnational shadow market of trafficking in women." *Journal of international Affairs*: Pg. 625.

<sup>112</sup>Hathaway, James C. (2008). "The human rights quagmire of human trafficking." *Va. J. Int'l L.* 49: 1: Pg. 23.

<sup>113</sup>Raymond: Pg. 1768.

nations that make up the lowest 10% have abolitionist political ideologies. Abolitionism sees prostitution as a violation of women's rights, while the hardline libertarian approach does not. Therefore, purchasing sexual services is prohibited, yet the offender is liable for settling the fine. Obsolescence is a tactic that has recently been employed by the nations of Sweden (1999), Norway (2008), and Iceland (2009). The sex worker or "laborist" perspective trafficked women as sexual laborers who are entitled to protection under the law<sup>114</sup>.

This method views trafficked women as in need of human rights security and compares the activities of trafficked women who engage in exploitation to the free labor of prostitutes. According to researchers that favor the laborist perspective, prostitutes are not considered victims of violence against women. Instead, they are perceived as beings that have made a conscious choice. Enhancing employment conditions in a society where prostitution is tolerated is believed by workers to be the most effective solution to stop human trafficking. Additionally, they think that making prostitution illegal serves two purposes: (i) it makes it simpler for criminal syndicates to force women, and (ii) it decreases the safety of the environment for women who are employed in the sector<sup>115</sup>.

These scholars hold that permitting prostitution to exist outside the boundaries of regulation has an adverse effect on individuals who have jobs within the sector and encourages higher levels of discrimination. The issue of autonomy is central to their argument. Customers are more likely to view prostitutes as powerless captives and become unable to defend themselves as a result. Because of this, customers are more likely to mistreat prostitutes without worrying about the consequences. The idea that trafficked women are mistreated and used for sexual enjoyment puts laborers entirely powerless and, according to this view, creates an ordered list of sufferers<sup>116</sup>.

The concern among labor advocates is that trafficked women may not receive equal empathy compared to those who voluntarily work in the service industry. Moreover, individuals

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<sup>114</sup> Marinova: Pg. 253.

<sup>115</sup> Jakobsson, Niklas, and Andreas Kotsadam. "The law and economics of international sex slavery: prostitution laws and trafficking for sexual exploitation." *European journal of law and economics* 35 (2013): Pg. 87.

<sup>116</sup> Maul, D. R. (2007). *The International Labour Organization and the struggle against forced labour from 1919 to the present*. *Labor History*, 48(4): Pg. 477.



trafficked for jobs in other sectors may be categorized as undocumented immigrants. Thus, in contrast to prohibitionists, laborists contend that women possess less independence in an environment where prostitution is prohibited. Given that prostitution is viewed as a form of work, the state has adopted a position that may be characterized as "regulatorily" strict and exerts control on brothels. The third and final strategy has reservations about legalized prostitution but fails to see Barry's suggested complete global framework as a workable answer<sup>117</sup>.

This strategy is described as "repressive" in feminist literature. Aghatise summarizes the oppressive strategy succinctly in his 2004 statement: "The view that legalizing prostitution reduces the issue is deceptive." Prostitution cannot be regarded as employment, according to a number of opponents of the idea, including, the fact that getting trapped in the prostitution industry is the consequence of a complicated interaction involving compulsion, dishonesty, dependence, and decision is another reason why legalizing prostitution is faced with opposition<sup>118</sup>. The argument against legalizing prostitution is that it would just inspire more people to participate in the illicit practice of transporting women for sex services. Feminist activists tried to distinguish between forced and voluntary sexual labor during the 1990s, most notably following the 1995 Beijing Conference. Following the Beijing Conference, the initiative was especially prevalent. An activist coalition of groups called the Global Coalition on Trafficking in Women promotes tighter worldwide legal controls on human traffickers and prostitution. Together, these groups have created this alliance. Adopts a position that may be characterized as "regulatorily" strict and exerts control on brothels<sup>119</sup>.

**In the context of Nigeria, it is pertinent to inquire whether the federal government deems the act of human trafficking as a criminal offense.**

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<sup>117</sup>Zhang, Sheldon X. "Beyond the 'Natasha' story—a review and critique of current research on sex trafficking." *Global crime* 10.3 (2009): Pg. 178.

<sup>118</sup>United Nations General Assembly. (1949) "Universal declaration of human rights". Vol. 3381. Department of State, United States of America, 1949: Pg. 555.

<sup>119</sup>Tadjbakhsh, Shahrbanou, and Anuradha Chenoy. (2007). "Human security: Concepts and implications." Vol. 51. Routledge, 2007. Pg. 6543.

Addressing human trafficking as a crime against humanity will create a framework for accountability, justice, and reparation for victims. It will also encourage collaboration, cooperation, and coordination among stakeholders.

During the 19th century, slavery and servitude were abolished through treaties signed by various countries, including the United Kingdom and the United States. These agreements involved punishing slave traders and holding them accountable for their actions. The United States and the United Kingdom were the main supporters of these treaties during this period. The first multilateral convention. According to the Slavery Convention, slavery is characterized as the condition in which an individual is under the control of any or all actions associated with the entitlement to possess assets<sup>120</sup>."

This passage refers to any actions that involve taking someone against their will and forcing them into slavery. This includes buying and selling individuals with the intention of using them for labor or trade. All of these actions are considered illegal according to Article 1(1). The article differentiates between two categories of individuals engaged in the slave trade: those who purchase slaves with the aim of selling or exchanging them, and those who transport or exchange slaves. This encompasses both a stationary scenario where a person is viewed as a mere commodity, and a procedure that encompasses all the commercial practices associated with lawful ownership of property, as specified in Article 6 of the Convention. If a party to the contract doesn't have laws that adequately address violations of the Convention, they must act to enforce severe consequences for those violations. This is necessary to comply with the agreement and ensure its goals are achieved<sup>121</sup>.

The Supplementary Treaty aimed to update the law by expanding the 1926 Slavery Conventions to include debt and serfdom, as well as other slavery-related practices. The 1926 Slavery Treaty focused on chattel slavery in the 19th century, which was still a major concern. The Convention required signatory nations to outlaw the slave trade and slavery, including any efforts to carry them out. The slave trade was considered a more serious crime than

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<sup>120</sup>Flowers, Nancy. (1998) "Human Rights Here and Now: Celebrating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights". Human Rights USA Resource Center, 229 19th Avenue South, Suite 439, Minneapolis, MN 55455: Pg. 675.

<sup>121</sup>DeKeseredy, W. S., Schwartz, M. D., Alvi, S., & Tomaszewski, E. A. (2003). Crime victimization, alcohol consumption, and drug use in Canadian public housing. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 31(4): Pg. 383-396.

enslaving someone. However, the existing legislative framework was insufficient to prevent all forms of economic exploitation of people. (Source: Van der Wilt, Harmen. (2014). trafficking in human beings, enslavement, crimes against humanity: Unravelling the concepts<sup>122</sup>. Chinese Journal of International Law 13.2, 297-334).

In the eight years since the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Combat, and End Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children was passed, there has been a significant change in the legal and political landscape surrounding this issue. The aim of this strategy is to deter and punish the practice of trafficking individuals, particularly females and minors, for diverse motives<sup>123</sup>. By endorsing this accord, more than one hundred nations have committed to adhering to a set of guidelines formulated by the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime. Additionally, certain countries have devised their own distinct legislation against trafficking and have instituted novel institutions and approaches to guarantee the effective implementation of these laws. (Source: U.S. Department of State). Some have even gone as far as to make the issue of smuggling one of their primary international concerns<sup>124</sup>.

Penalties may be levied on a country as well as the United States may interfere with that country's link to the major international financial and banking organizations if the authorities of that country do not adhere to the standards established by U.S. law. The significance of this one advancement cannot be overstated, just as the significance of any particular development cannot be overstated. The human trade, which is a political and practical issue, was combined for many years with other undesirable movement processes and effects, such as illegal movement and migrant smuggling, since there was no globally accepted concept of human trafficking at the time. Due to the absence of a shared definition, national responses were either inconsistent or even conflicting with one another, making any form of analysis impossible<sup>125</sup>.

Cross-border collaboration is useless or unattainable. According to the UN Resistance Convention Protocol to the Trafficking in of Migrants by the Planet, the Sea, and the Environment, improving the Agreement of the United Nations toward Worldwide arranged

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<sup>122</sup> Uçarer: Pg. 230.

<sup>123</sup> Ibid: Pg. 222.

<sup>124</sup> Gesinde, A. M., & Elegbeleye, A. (2011). "An investigation into push factors sustaining human trafficking in Nigeria". Journal of Functional Management, 4(1): Pg. 157.

<sup>125</sup> Attoh, Franca. (2009) "Women, Trafficking, and Forced Prostitution in Africa": Pg. 43.

Crime, migrant smuggling is now understood to be, in its most basic form, the act of transporting individuals unlawfully across the nation's borders in order to make money<sup>126</sup>.

We now recognize that, in aside from sexual exploitation, human trafficking has a variety of other purposes, that men, women, and children are among its victims, and that it occurs in all parts of the world. Nevertheless, there are clear signs that human trafficking is expanding, becoming more structured and profitable, and progressively integrating into the new international financial system. Despite compelling reasons against it, we lack precise numbers<sup>127</sup>. Human trafficking has increased, according to all. Increased federal border controls to prevent trafficking, increased cross-border cooperation in cases involving cross-border trafficking, and the criminalization of all forms of human trafficking will make it so that traffickers have nowhere to hide. This modification is significant because it will significantly affect policy. Most people agree that victims of trafficking should be protected and provided with minimal aid due to their status as criminal victims, increased vulnerability to response, and the reality that their support is frequently required for prosecutions<sup>128</sup>.

The emerging consensus that victims shouldn't be prosecuted for offences connected to their status and ought to be repatriated with proper care for their health and safety is even more fragile, at least in theory. Despite its links to the long and horrible history of slavery and slave trading, human trafficking is, from the perspective of the country's criminal justice institutions, virtually a new crime with new and untested laws. This is because national criminal justice organizations consider human trafficking to be a recent problem<sup>129</sup>. Despite increasing, the number of inquiries and charges is still quite low in relation to the issue's widely acknowledged scope, even in the most responsive countries. The moment has come to review and examine the relevant global legislation as well as the policy structures underlying smuggling in persons in light of the limited but expanding criminal justice experience after a little over a decade of

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<sup>126</sup>Ibid: Pg. 171.

<sup>127</sup>Ukhurebor, Roland Aghahiysi. (2016). "Human Trafficking and Nigeria's Development: An Examination of The Benin Metropolis, Edo State, Nigeria": Pg. 899.

<sup>128</sup>Fouladvand, Shahrzad. "Corruption and human trafficking: A holistic approach." *Corruption in the Global Era*. Routledge, 2019: Pg. 305.

<sup>129</sup>Kigbu, Salome K., and Yakubu Baba Hassan. (2015). "Legal framework for combating human trafficking in Nigeria: The Journey So Far." *JL Pol'y & Globalization* 38: Pg. 205.

vigorous effort<sup>130</sup>. This should be carried out in consideration of the rise in the number of instances engaging the judiciary as a whole.

It is widely acknowledged that a successful and proportionate response from the criminal justice system depends on a strong national legislative framework regarding trafficking (International Institute for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), 2006; the International Police Organization). The thorough and effective ban of A vital part of the required legislative framework is avoiding the occurrence of human trafficking. Some countries, including Bolivia, the Republic of Indonesia, the nation of Mexico, Nigeria, Senegal, and the United Kingdom (USDOS, 2008), as well as the United States of America (VTVPA, 2000), may pass a special anti-trafficking law, or an existing law may be amended (most frequently the penal code 135, which is the case in Brazil, Germany, Moldova, and Ukraine)<sup>131</sup>.

In any event, one of the most important variables for determining the efficacy of the legal framework is the reality that the nation's criminal code forbids every aspect of trafficking in accordance with how the remainder of the globe formed the crime of trafficking. Offenses such as forced marriage, assault, child labor, forced labor, illegal recruitment, and labor exploitation are interconnected<sup>132</sup>.

In contrast to the intricate as well as highly resource-intensive offense of trafficking, the present authors' own involvement in a variety of legal jurisdictions has persuaded them that it is frequently simpler to look into and file charges toward these more widely recognized and understood offenses. They now know this to be true thanks to recent studies. The main international organizations doing current research in this subject have supported this finding. All of these groups encourage governments to use connected offenses as the basis for prosecution traffickers<sup>133</sup>.

According to international law, there must be provisions for sanctions that take into consideration and are appropriate to the seriousness of the offense when it comes to trafficking. Article 11.1 of the UN Convention against Organized Crime from 2000 mandates this. The

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<sup>130</sup>Huntley: Pg. 1232.

<sup>131</sup>Kigbu, Salome K., and Yakubu Baba Hassan. (2015). "Legal framework for combating human trafficking in Nigeria: The Journey So Far." *JL Pol'y & Globalization* 38: pg. 205.

<sup>132</sup>Olateru-Olagbegi & Ikpeme, 2006: Pg. 14.

<sup>133</sup>Weissbrodt, D. (2002). "Anti-Slavery International. Abolishing Slavery and its Contemporary Forms: Pg. 460.

member states of the European Union are working to pass even stricter laws that call for the use of "effective, suitable, and dissuasive" punishments, such as jail terms that might result in repatriation<sup>134</sup>. Many nations still lack a thorough understanding of how to implement "effective, opposite, and dissuasive" policies. Complaints about lenient punishment in compared to other significant offenses are common, and it has been highlighted that insufficient consequences impair the success of processes that need worldwide collaboration, such as extradition. For instance, if the severity test determines that the punishments are too light, kidnapping is unlikely to occur. It is highly unlikely that mandatory minimum prison sentences will be required in the future, even though the death penalty has not been fully banned by international law<sup>135</sup>.

In conclusion, the nation's legal system must make sure that the capacity of the government to extradite someone or prosecute, the requirements for effective research, confinement and taking of slavery continues, and the capacity of the state to return or prosecute, are no longer secure havens that protect human traffickers or their assets by requiring functioning worldwide academic and legal collaboration. To be able to extradite or prosecute, the state must have the legal authority to do so<sup>136</sup>. People who are trafficking victims should get prompt protection and assistance, as well as the legal right to remedy and enhanced safeguards for victim witnesses. The judicial system should also provide stronger protection for victim witnesses. Here, each of these topics is covered in further detail under its own title. Legal systems that are enforceable and effective are still the exemption quite than the norm<sup>137</sup>.

Country may lessen the risks of misunderstanding that are inextricably connected to issues as complicated as human trafficking by establishing legislation that is as clear-cut and unambiguous as humanly feasible. Ensure that laws against trafficking are not excessively expanded to deal with similar but ultimately distinct concerns like prostitution, migrant

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<sup>134</sup>Gallagher, Anne, and Paul Holmes. (2008) "Developing an effective criminal justice response to human trafficking: Lessons from the front line." *International criminal justice reviews* 18.3: Pg. 318.

<sup>135</sup>Gerspacher, Nadia, and Benoît Dupont. (2007) "The nodal structure of international police cooperation: An exploration of transnational security networks." *Global governance* 13: Pg. 347.

<sup>136</sup>Jakobsson, Niklas, and Andreas Kotsadam. (2013) "The law and economics of international sex slavery: prostitution laws and trafficking for sexual exploitation." *European journal of law and economics* 35: Pg. 87.

<sup>137</sup>Huntley SS, (2013). "The Phenomenon of" baby Factories" in Nigeria as a New Trend in Human Trafficking" *International Crimes Database*: Pg. 154.

smuggling, or unlawful immigration. Such rules should not only replicate an externally generated model but rather incorporate the actual conditions of the criminal justice system<sup>138</sup>. These rules should also include broadly established norms, such as definitions, that have been agreed upon internationally. The earlier-mentioned international legislative standards provide a useful basis for averting such errors. The promotion of shared viewpoints and methods among nations is another advantage of these standards, and it creates a strong platform for international collaboration<sup>139</sup>

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<sup>138</sup>Bassiouni, M. C. (1999). "Crimes against humanity in international criminal law". Martinus Nijhoff Publishers: Pg. 543.

<sup>139</sup>Rafferty, Y. (2008). "The impact of trafficking on children: Psychological and social policy perspectives". Child development perspectives, 2(1): Pg. 18.

## Chapter IV

### Findings & Discussion

This chapter clarified, with references to International Law, the conclusions that human trafficking is a crime against humanity in Nigeria.

#### **The Global Human Trafficking Issue: A Focus on Nigeria**

As a worldwide problem, human trafficking has been described as a crime against humanity. Human beings are exploited in this way via forced labor, sex work, and other means. Human marketing occurs in many different nations, with Nigeria serving as a source, passage, and destination. This article explores how human trafficking is affecting Nigeria as a crime against humanity. It examines the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria, its socio-economic impact on victims and society, the role of technology in combating it, legal frameworks for addressing it, the need for collaborative efforts, and challenges and opportunities for rehabilitating and reintegrating victims<sup>140</sup>. The global impact of human trafficking is severe, affecting millions of individuals. Approximately 25 million people are believed to be victims of this crime worldwide, with illegal profits reaching as high as \$150 billion annually according to the International Labor Organization. Victims are routinely trafficked over international boundaries, making it a problem in both developed and underdeveloped nations<sup>141</sup>.

Human trafficking occurs in Nigeria both as a source and a transit or final destination. Over forty percent of the estimated one million victims in Nigeria are youngsters, making it the African nation with the greatest rate of kid victims of human trading. Targets are often traded for sexual manipulation, forced labor, and domestic servitude. Nigeria is not the only country that participates in or is impacted by human trafficking. Annually, approximately one to two million people are trafficked globally, with the majority being women and children. However, there is a rising number of men and boys being trafficked as well. These individuals are frequently coerced into prostitution, slavery, or some type of bonded labor<sup>142</sup>. Due to the United States' status as a significant transit and end point for trafficked persons, the

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<sup>140</sup>Msuya, N. H. (2019). "Traditional" juju oath" and human trafficking in Nigeria: A human rights perspective" (2019) De Jure Law Journal: Pg. 183.

<sup>141</sup>MurraY, Jean-Pierre. (2020) "Beyond the 'Women-and-Children 'Bias in Human Trafficking: A Study of Haitian Migrants in the Dominican Republic." Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration: 132: Pg. 34.

<sup>142</sup>King: Pg. 90.



government has been actively engaged in combating human trafficking. They use economic choices, education, victim protection, and criminal prosecution as part of their plan to tackle the problem. For instance, in 2000, Congress in the United States approved the Act to Safeguard Targets of Marketing in Individuals and Armed Conflict beginning Attack, involves the personal assistant of state to succumb a yearly report to Congress detailing the worst kinds of trafficking currently taking place around the world as well as assistance to governments fighting trafficking in people at home<sup>143</sup>.

The Act also defined slavery's punishments, set standards for victim compensation, and established a link between trafficking and domestic violence. Existing initiatives aim to promote close coordination between government entities as well as NGOs in order to enhance public awareness and education efforts that concentrate on the most vulnerable groups. Roughly 1126 women who were allegedly trafficked out of the nation were deported to according to the Nigerian Security Force and the Women Trafficking and Children's Labor Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF), over a thousand people were deported to foreign countries between March 1999 and April 2000. There are many different estimates of how many Nigerians are engaged, most of whom are victims. This statistic does not include the number of people who were killed, injured, or who managed to sneak back into the country<sup>144</sup>.

A meeting was held in Lagos by the World Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) in March 2002. According to WOTCLEF, more than 20,000 women in Nigeria were working in the industry at that time. 80% of the international prostitutes in Italy, as reported by *The Weekly Champion* on July 12, 2002, were Nigerian women. Since it is extremely hard for the average Nigerian to get an entry permit for traveling to Italy under normal conditions, many Nigerians question how trafficked women are able to reach Italy<sup>145</sup>. The bulk of the female trafficking victims were from the regions of Lagos, Delta, and Edo, while the information that was available indicated that their typical ages varied from 15 to 35. It should be noted that this age bracket is normally very successful in terms of the economy and social work (such as mothering) in all nations.

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<sup>143</sup>Okeshola, F. B., & Adenugba, A. A. (2018): Pg. 40.

<sup>144</sup>Raymond: Pg. 1654.

<sup>145</sup>Ikpeze, Ogugua VC, and Sylvia C. Ifemeje. (2015). "Dynamics of Trafficking in Nigerian Women and Globalization." *JL Pol'y & Globalization* 39: Pg. 34.

## Factors Contributing to Nigeria's Alarming High Incidence of Human Trafficking

The high incidence of human handling in Nigeria may be attributed to a number of causes, including poverty, unemployment, political instability, and insufficient law enforcement. Traffickers often target women and children from low-income households because they are vulnerable. The Nigerian government has created NAPTIP, the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons, to combat human trafficking. However, despite these efforts, trafficking continues to be a significant issue in Nigeria, and there have been reports of an increase in trafficking in recent years<sup>146</sup>.

Non-governmental groups as well as the Nigerian government have been fully engaged in the battle in contradiction of human trading, in count to global actions. Three establishments that need to be encompassed here, among many others, are the National Coalition of Women's Societies (NCWS), FIDA, and WOTCLEF. The Obasanjo administration established the legal framework that was included in the Illegal Transactions as well as Other Similar Offenses Act, 2000, 88, which was approved on June 13, 2000. This framework was developed by the Obasanjo administration using the 1990 Illegal Activities as well as Financial Crime Draft Decree as its model<sup>147</sup>.

The Unethical Rehearses and Further Associated Offenses Act (Benjamin Ike, "The Criminal Practices as well as Other Related Offenses Act", 2000, *New Nigerian*, 89) establishes the Independent Committee to Investigate Corrupt Practices as well as Other Related Offenses (ICPC) to achieve this objective. Even if they were generally ineffective, the Obasanjo administration's attempts to fight corruption should be commended. As of 2001, the Federal Reserve Bank of Nigeria had already received stolen money worth over N84 billion that had been retrieved from the departed head of state's family<sup>148</sup>.

The aims of the legislative framework for combating corruption are relatively appropriate; nevertheless, whether or not it will be successful in accomplishing its goal will depend on other factors. The committee has come up with a measure that, if it is approved by the whole

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<sup>146</sup>Jakobsson, & Kotsadam: Pg. 107.

<sup>147</sup>Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. (2017). "Kidney Pirates: How to End Human Trafficking in Organs for Illegal Transplants." *JTHE*: Pg. 259.

<sup>148</sup>United Nations General Assembly. (1949). "Universal declaration of human rights" (Vol. 3381). Department of State, United States of America, July 25, 1951: Pg. 1324.

legislation, will assist in the harmonization of the current laws, protection for victims of trafficking, prosecution of those responsible for trafficking, and suppression of the trade itself. The National Assembly is still considering the measure at this time. Additionally, the foundation has been a leader in advocacy efforts that are centered on teaching the Nigerian public, particularly those belonging to marginalized groups, of the gravity of this issue and the need to put a stop to its unabated expansion. Up to this point, it has traveled to eleven different states throughout the nation and created vanguards or clubs in a large number of secondary schools and higher education establishments<sup>149</sup>.

### **Nigerian Legal Frameworks and International Law to Combat Human Trafficking**

A major crime against humanity that infringes on fundamental human rights is people trafficking. A widespread issue is human trafficking, and Nigeria is a major hub for the trade, with women and children being highly vulnerable. However, to deal with this issue, laws and regulations have been put in place. In Nigeria, the 2015 Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act is the primary legislation aimed at combating human trafficking<sup>150</sup>. This law criminalizes all types of human trafficking, including forced labor and prostitution. It also defines and prescribes severe punishment for anyone found guilty of the offense.

The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children are among the international laws that Nigeria adheres to in its efforts to combat human trafficking<sup>151</sup>.

The creation of legal standards at various levels is a result of the illegal nature of human trafficking and the suffering of its victims. Specifically, this article will center on Nigeria's implementation of anti-human trafficking laws at the national level and the United Nations Protocol on Human Trafficking 2000, which serves as a comprehensive legal standard on human trafficking. People throughout the world applaud the UN Protocol against Enslavement

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<sup>149</sup>Bakirci, Kadriye. (2009). "Human trafficking and forced labour: A criticism of the International Labour Organisation." *Journal of Financial Crime*: Pg. 54.

<sup>150</sup>Lobasz, Jennifer K. (2009) "Beyond border security: Feminist approaches to human trafficking." *Security studies* 18.2: Pg. 319.

<sup>151</sup>Davis, Derek H. (2002). "The evolution of religious freedom as a universal human right : Examining the role of the 1981 United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief." *BYU L*: Pg. 67.

and Trafficking in Persons for its ability to define a comprehensive description of human trafficking<sup>152</sup>.

This is done by considering both the core features of the operating trade and its many forms of exploitation. The UN convention differs from previous international accords which contain regulations that aid taking into consideration the global collaboration in the inquiry and punishment of trafficking crimes. The well-being and protection of human trafficking victims should always be the top priority. It is important to enforce their rights as outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>153</sup>. According to the Trafficking Protocol, human trafficking involves recruiting, transporting, harboring, or receiving individuals through coercion, deception, abuse of power, or taking advantage of their vulnerability. This can include exchanging benefits or payments to gain permission from someone in authority over the victim. The act of enlisting, moving, housing, or receiving a child with the intention<sup>154</sup> of abusing them is still considered "trafficking in humans" and is, thus, illegal, even if it does not use any of the methods mentioned above. Anyone who has not attained the minimum age of eighteen is referred to as a "child" in Article 3. A third crucial characteristic is\_\_\_\_\_Nancy, flowers.

In 1998, the Human Rights in the USA Resource Center, situated at 229 19th Avenue South, Suite 439, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455 (USA), aligned with the Palermo agreement, which seeks to curb trafficking in any state that has ratified the agreement, in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights. Every state party is required by Article 5 to expressly outlaw any actions or conduct that puts people in a position to be used for any kind of gain. The protocol does not, however, seem to be without flaws<sup>155</sup>.

A fundamental weakness of the UN Protocol 2000 is the fact that a particular clause is not always required. In regard to initiatives for safeguarding and assistance to survivors of human trafficking, this is very problematic. 92, the protocol's wording allows state parties'

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<sup>152</sup>Huaqiu, Liu. (2015). "Vienna Conference Statement." *The Chinese Human Rights Reader*. Routledge: Pg. 395.

<sup>153</sup>Anuforum, Eunice I. (2014). "The social and economic implications of human trafficking in Nigeria". *NAPTIP in Focus*: Pg. 17.

<sup>154</sup>Davis, Derek H. (2002). "The evolution of religious freedom as a universal human right : Examining the role of the 1981 United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief." *BYU L*: pg. 55.

<sup>155</sup>Dave-Odigie: Pg. 63.

discretionary authority by using words like "suitable instances, and to the degree that it is feasible..." (1) Of Article 6. Every party state must think about acting. [Paragraph 11(5)] State parties may lawfully evade their obligations under the Protocol by manipulating terminology of this kind. Law enforcement faces a great challenge in distinguishing between legal and illegal prostitution, as well as prostitution that involves manipulation, which further complicates the matter<sup>156</sup>.

The Palermo Protocol is significant because it establishes a legal basis for the prohibition of trafficking in all states that have ratified it. Article 5 requires each and every state party to clearly criminalize any and all activities and behaviors that place human beings in a position where they may be exploited in any way. However, the protocol does not appear to be devoid of any deficiencies. The fact that the language clause of the UN Protocol 2000 is not necessarily obligatory is a significant flaw in the document. Victims of human trafficking have limited access to protection and assistance. State parties are given some leeway in deciding how to implement the protocol's provisions thanks to language like "applicable circumstances, and to the magnitude that it is probable..." Article 61 it states that "each party state is required to consider taking measures..." Item (Article 11(5)). These kinds of language provide state parties with flexibility to manipulate and legally escape their duties under the Protocol. Law enforcement will have a very difficult time differentiating flanked by 'prostitution' (both lawful and illicit) and prostitution as a form of sexual abuse. This is implied by the fact that it will make the distinction more difficult to make<sup>157</sup>.

### **The 2003 Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Administration Acts are part of the Nigerian government's initiatives**

The government must foster favorable conditions for the efficient execution of laws and programs to prevent human trafficking. Awareness campaigns, support networks, and resources for victims of human trafficking are greatly aided by the efforts of civil society groups and the commercial sector. Cooperative efforts help ensure that laws and regulations are enforced effectively and that targets of human marketing have admittance to passable assist. Trendy demand to do this, it is required to combine efforts and resources from many

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<sup>156</sup>United Nations General Assembly. (1949). "Universal declaration of human rights". Vol. 3381. Department of State, United States of America. July 25, 1951: Pg. 231.

<sup>157</sup>Onyejekwe, Chineze J. (2005). "Influences of global human trafficking issues on Nigeria: A gender perspective." Journal of international women's studies 7.2: Pg. 151.

groups and spheres of influence, such as government bodies, nonprofits, and the private sector<sup>158</sup>.

Nigeria first implemented comprehensive laws to handle the issue from an administrative justice perspective in 2003. In addition, Nigeria has set up a specific organization to enforce laws against human trafficking, demonstrating its commitment to stopping this crime. The Trafficking in Individuals (Prohibition) Law Enforcement and Regulatory Act of 2003 mandated the creation of a watchdog agency, which was established on August 6, 2004 with the formation of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and Other Related Matters (NAPTIP)<sup>159</sup>. The Nigerian Police Force was also granted with including the Service of Immigration, the power to make seizures, conduct searches, and seize property in conjunction with NAPTIP. To expand its scope beyond inquiry to encompass, among other matters, the prosecution of people traffickers, the confiscation of property, and forfeiture, this Act was modified in 2005.

The amended Act still has a serious flaw in that it fails to grant the Ministry of International Affairs sufficient authority to supervise, direct, and coordinate all responsibilities, tasks, and initiatives related to investigating and bringing charges of all offenses relating to or linked to traffic in individuals as well as related matters after the consultation with the Union's Attorney General office. The entire purpose of the criminal justice system is undermined if the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is given control of pending inquiries and lawsuits related to trafficking, as the Nigerian Civil Service's bureaucratic processes may impede its ability to investigate and prosecute trafficking crimes<sup>160</sup>. As a corollary, it will cause positions or responsibilities to be duplicated. Introducing an additional organization underneath The Foreign Ministry may get embroiled in a conflict of interest. Since NAPTIP was established to function as a law enforcement body and has numerous divisions in its organizational framework, including legal and investigative. Due to a shortage of shelters or receiving sites, over 100 kidnapped minors

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<sup>158</sup>Dave-Odigie: Pg. 63.

<sup>159</sup>Allain, J. (2008). "The Slavery Conventions: the travaux préparatoires of the 1926 League of Nations convention and the 1956 United Nations convention". Brill: Pp. 29.

<sup>160</sup>Van der Wilt, Harmen. (2014). "Trafficking in human beings, enslavement, crimes against humanity: Unravelling the concepts." Chinese Journal of International Law 13.2: Pg. 297.

from the adjacent nation of Benin who were found at illicit quarry sites in Nigeria's Ogun State had to be placed in custody by the police in 2003<sup>161</sup>.

The Nigerian government, along with NAPTIP and IOM, have established temporary shelters in Benin and Lagos. However, these shelters are currently overcrowded. The most pressing concern in Nigeria is the lack of safe havens for victims of trafficking. Identifying and prosecuting human traffickers is a challenging task for authorities in both the country of origin and destination. This adds to the complexity of the already serious problem of human trafficking. Despite NAPTIP's efforts to prosecute, few convictions have been achieved, and traffickers continue to operate without much interference<sup>162</sup>.

The International Criminal Police Organization states that it is essential for a proper criminal justice response in many situations. There can be no effective criminal justice system without a solid legal foundation. Therefore, human trafficking becomes a crime and those found culpable may be punished in line with the rules of the legal system established to fight the activity. The law should be sufficient to ensure that those who break it get the proper penalty for their actions. This is done so that it acts as a deterrent to those who might consider engaging in such illegal trade in the future<sup>163</sup>. By ensuring that punishments are 'effective, appropriate, and dissuasive,' the majority of European nations are making slow but steady progress toward reaching this objective, which is outlined in their regional treaty. However, several countries, like Nigeria and South Africa, are still struggling to define these three concepts. It is possible that the discontinuation of the Law Enforcement and Administration Act of 2003 and 2005, which had the objective of combating human trafficking in Nigeria, is linked to this issue. These legislations have been enforced for almost two decades<sup>164</sup>.

In 2013, as a result of such repeals, a new measure was proposed to the National Assembly and received sponsorship from a member of that body. Having said so, certain terms and ambiguities in the legislative framework of the individual states should be eliminated, as was

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<sup>161</sup>Inñiguez de Heredia, M. (2008). "People trafficking: conceptual issues with the United Nations trafficking protocol 2000". *Human Rights Review*, 9: Pg. 316.

<sup>162</sup>United Nations Office on Drugs, Crime, & UNICEF. (2007). "Manual for the measurement of juvenile justice indicators". United Nations Publications. September 13, 2007: Pg. 41.

<sup>163</sup>United States. Department of State. (1980). "Country reports on human rights practices". Government Printing Office: Pp. 43.

<sup>164</sup>Raymond: Pg. 34.

previously explained. Human trafficking research continues to provide new findings, necessitating a reevaluation of the legislation to reflect these developments. These pieces of literature include information on the rising threat posed by baby factories<sup>165</sup>. Another essential and intricate component of the criminal justice system's reaction to the issue of human trafficking, this facet of the response has the potential to either "make or mar" the whole process.

Prevention, prosecution, and victim protection are the three pillars upon which the United Nations Protocol for Victims of Crime rests. The three P's refer to these key components. Although Article 5 of the UN Protocol prohibits human trafficking, Articles 6-8 focus on the importance of safeguarding and aiding victims of trafficking. It is very unlikely that the use of harsh and scary language against victims would create any significant results; rather, it would hinder victims from collaborating and cause them to react selectively to interrogations. Therefore, throughout the entirety of the process, from the moment of capture or arrest until the victims are either reunited with their relatives (if they are minors) or repatriated (if required)<sup>166</sup>.

Verified victims of human trafficking should have access to a baseline set of services and legal safeguards. According to Article 25 of the UN Organized Crime Convention (2000), individuals who have been trafficked have the right to protection from any further harm and immediate physical safety. Additionally, they should be given information and legal advice about their rights and options, including their rights as witnesses in the criminal justice system of the country where they currently reside. Victims of human trafficking should have this option made accessible to them. (a) Preventative measures: When looking at the issue from the viewpoint of criminal justice, preventing human trafficking demands the implementation of a plan to deal with the root issues that make trafficking such a difficult situation for victims' face in the source nations, which is to say the country in which they were born and raised<sup>167</sup>.

The significant economic differences between the countries where people come from and where they end up have made human trafficking worse. Even though there have been campaigns warning about the dangers of human trafficking for a long time, the problem

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<sup>165</sup>Huntley: Pg. 145.

<sup>166</sup>Kigbu, Salome K., and Yakubu Baba Hassan. (2015). "Legal framework for combating human trafficking in Nigeria: The Journey So Far." *JL Pol'y & Globalization* 38: Pg. 205.

<sup>167</sup>Jakobsson: Pg. 107.



persists. Therefore, the governments of both countries need to work hard to help their people and reduce the suffering caused by human trafficking. One way to combat human trafficking is to create more job opportunities through partnerships between the public and private sectors. Programs that empower young people, especially young women and men who are often targeted by traffickers, should prioritize vocational and technical training. These programs should focus on helping adolescents build skills and gain employment<sup>168</sup>.

To accomplish this goal, the state may use a process called "poverty mapping" to determine which areas of the nation are the most impoverished, particularly those in the most dangerous parts of the country, as well as whose populations are most at risk. Because of the breadth and depth of the problem that it presents, combating the crime of trafficking involves the collaboration of experts from a variety of fields. In order to be successful, these initiatives will likely require cooperation between governmental and non-governmental organizations on both the national and international levels. It is necessary to use both long-term and short-term measures in order to put an end to the practice of human trafficking. Some of these methods include enhancing economic growth and providing alternatives, with a specific focus on the "high-risk" population in the nations that provide victims. These actions need to center on the provision of microcredit and the growth of small-scale businesses, as well as the production of jobs and the learning of new skills. Reforms in the law, society, and culture are also needed to address the gender bias that fuels the trafficking industry<sup>169</sup>.

This discussion will center on the effectiveness of the laws currently in place in Nigeria to combat human trafficking. In addition to ensuring that it complies with international standards, it should be ensured that the fines or punishments handed down to traffickers are proportionate to the seriousness of the offense they have committed. Some of the sentences should always include prison time, with no possibility of probation or a fine. The implication is that it may be congested to the point that it cannot provide basic services for the whole nation. In addition to this, it may result in the emergence of illnesses and diseases, which may spread to states that are next to the affected state or even over the whole of the nation<sup>170</sup>.

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<sup>168</sup>Gerspacher, Nadia, and Benoît Dupont. (2007) "The nodal structure of international police cooperation: An exploration of transnational security networks." *Global governance* 13: Pg. 347.

<sup>169</sup>Gallagher, Anne, and Holmes: Pg. 343.

<sup>170</sup>Weissbrodt, D. (2002). "Anti-Slavery International. Abolishing Slavery and its Contemporary Forms: Pg. 460.

## Chapter V

### Conclusion and Recommendations

This chapter describes the study's summary rather than its goal or objectives. The researcher makes a slew of proposals to improve Nigeria's judicial system's ability to combat human trafficking and defend all human rights.

#### Conclusion

Human trafficking has been called a "crime against humanity" and is a worldwide problem. Humans are used in forced labor, sex work, and other exploitative situations. Human trafficking has been traced back to Nigeria as a source, transit, and destination country<sup>171</sup>. Human trafficking is examined in this article for its effects on Nigeria. It examines the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria, its socio-economic impact on victims and society, the role of technology in combating it, legal frameworks for addressing it, the need for collaborative efforts, and challenges and opportunities for rehabilitating and reintegrating victims. At the article's conclusion, suggestions are made for moving ahead with efforts to combat human trafficking in Nigeria<sup>172</sup>.

Combating human trafficking in Nigeria requires a concerted effort from all stakeholders. This includes the strengthening of legal frameworks, creating awareness, providing support systems, and resources for victims, as well as improving international cooperation. The way forward will require ongoing evaluation and monitoring of progress made towards eliminating human trafficking in Nigeria<sup>173</sup>. In addressing human trafficking in Nigeria as a crime against humanity requires a concerted effort from all stakeholders. This research has highlighted the prevalence of human trafficking in Nigeria, its socio-economic impact, legal frameworks, and the need for collaborative efforts. While the challenges are enormous, there are opportunities for rehabilitating and reintegrating victims<sup>174</sup>. The fight against human trafficking in Nigeria may be greatly aided by the integration of technological tools and cooperative efforts. Taking

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<sup>171</sup>International Labour Organization. (2005). "A Global Alliance against Forced Labour: Global Report under the Follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, (Vol. 93). International Labour Organization, march 1, 2005: Pg. 458.

<sup>172</sup>European Trafficking Convention, 2005, Art. 23.1: Pg. 25.

<sup>173</sup>Dave-Odigie: Pg. 45.

<sup>174</sup>Gallagher: Pg. 163.

a comprehensive strategy, Nigeria can combat the crime of human trafficking and ensure that those responsible are held accountable while also providing adequate care for the victims<sup>175</sup>.

This dissertation aims to analyze how human trafficking affects daily life in Nigeria. As a whole, it's become clear that any effort to address the issue of human trafficking simply has to include corruption in both high and low places, notably inside the governing bureaucracy and other relevant authorities. This is true since both of these environments are rife with corruption<sup>176</sup>. It is necessary to inform the personnel of these organizations about the effects of what they do and don't do with relation to issues involving the abuse of women and children for sexually and/or labor reasons. We often ignore the reality that graft in the business community is frequently the primary contributor to the issue of graft in the public sector. Both the governmental and commercial sectors need to confront the issue of corruption<sup>177</sup>.

The following strategies are useful in preventing both graft and human trafficking: Including human rights as well as international development principles in anti-corruption campaigns placing into impact a comprehensive law that covers most aspects of human trafficking, outlines severe penalties for violators, offers victims rehabilitation services, and provides investigators with adequate tools for their work<sup>178</sup>. Enhancing border security and giving law enforcement organizations the resources, they need to successfully thwart drug traffickers' schemes.

Strengthening capacities is necessary to end human trafficking on every front and at all levels. As part of a wider anti-poverty and anti-corruption framework at the global and national levels, efforts should be made to improve women's low status, especially the financial issues they confront<sup>179</sup>. The framework needs to include these initiatives. Nigeria's so-called "baby factory" is a profitable illegal "business" as well as a new trend in the nation's human trafficking sector. The administration of Nigeria has a lot of challenges in trying to eradicate this widespread problem, which is allegedly controlled by organized criminal syndicates<sup>180</sup>. A

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<sup>175</sup>UNICEF. (2006). "The state of the world's children 2007: women and children": the double dividend of gender equality (Vol. 7): Pg. 88.

<sup>176</sup>Anuforum: Pg. 21.

<sup>177</sup>Nowak, Manfred. (2005). "A Commentary on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child", Article 6: The right to life, survival and development. Brill: Pg. 65.

<sup>178</sup>Dave-Odigie: Pg. 75.

<sup>179</sup>Shelley L, (2010). "Human trafficking: A global perspective". Cambridge University Press: Pg. 171.

<sup>180</sup>Attoh, Franca. (2009). "Women, Trafficking, and Forced Prostitution in Africa: Pg. 45.

number of legislative and other actions have been taken in the past by Nigeria to combat the issue of trafficking in persons inside its borders, although some of them were implemented before the formation of "baby factories"<sup>181</sup>." This particular kind of human trafficking is thus very unlikely to be stopped by their efforts.

The transnational incidence of human trafficking is fueled by consumer demand. It is a kind of organized crime that depends on the worldwide syndication and support of commercial enterprises. Human trafficking is thriving and expanding at an alarming rate around the globe, especially in Africa<sup>182</sup>. It demonstrates as domestic servitude, "child harvesting," bonded commercial prostitution, sex slavery, child labor, and child labor. These are only a few of the significant forms it may take. In recent years, human trafficking has become more common in Nigeria, which is a key point of origin, transit, and destination for trafficked individuals<sup>183</sup>. The history of trafficking in people in Nigeria reveals an arrangement that is eerily reminiscent of previous trading in slaves. This fact generated the hypothesis that trafficking in people is a kind of neo-slavery with the concept of political economy accoutrements and roots, which informs the thinking that went into the formulation of this study<sup>184</sup>. Human trafficking, the contemporary world's most ubiquitous form of slavery, is a major cause of violations of people's rights and freedoms. The world's growth, security, and peace are all at danger. The victims of human trafficking aren't the only ones who suffer; society as a whole also takes a hit. Human trafficking in Nigeria has been shown to be a major cause of human rights violations in the nation<sup>185</sup>.

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<sup>181</sup>Wylie G & McRedmond P, (2010). "Human trafficking in Europe: Character, causes and consequences" Springer: Pg. 253.

<sup>182</sup>International Labour Organization. (2005). "A Global Alliance against Forced Labour: Global Report under the Follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights" (Vol. 93). International Labour Organization, march 1, 2005: Pg. 23.

<sup>183</sup>Gallagher: Pg. 163.

<sup>184</sup>Nowak: Pg. 56.

<sup>185</sup>European Trafficking Convention, 2005, Art. 23.1): para 21

## Recommendations

1. Offenders who violate human trafficking laws have to be subjected to punishments that are harsh and severe. It is the responsibility of the various governments in Nigeria to solve the problems of widespread poverty and unemployment. It is the responsibility of the government of Nigeria to provide an environment that encourages individuals to engage in entrepreneurial activities.
2. To eradicate human trafficking at both regional and state levels, it is necessary, the authorities launched a number of initiatives by means of the positions of the spouses of the president and state governors. These initiatives aimed to increase the involvement of both government and private sectors by lowering the vulnerability for prospective individuals and increasing the need for abuse in all of its forms.
3. To maintain the fundamental human rights of all individuals in Nigeria, we must provide adequate protection and aid to those who have been wronged, as well as encourage the successful prosecution of those responsible.
4. The use of technology plays a crucial role in the prevention and fight against human trafficking in Nigeria, and the country should give that fact serious consideration. Traffickers are becoming more sophisticated in their use of technology to prey on unsuspecting victims. However, technology may also be used to locate and rescue those who have been victims of human trading. Human marketing is a growing tricky, and technology may help inform the communal about the issue and encourage them to report any suspected instances. Social media platforms can be used to disseminate information on human trafficking, while mobile applications can provide real-time information on trafficking hotspots and help individuals report suspected cases of trafficking.
5. The Trafficking Protocol was signed by 117 countries, including Nigeria, on December 25, 2003, during the United Nations General Assembly session in Palermo, Italy. At midnight on December 25, 2003, the protocol became official. One of the offenses that

the Protocol seeks to prohibit, suppress, and punish is "trafficking in persons, particularly women and children." The severity of the consequences for breaking the laws against human trafficking ought to be greatly increased. The issue of widespread unemployment and poverty must be addressed by Nigeria's numerous administrations. The Nigerian government is in charge of creating an atmosphere that supports those who want to start their own businesses. In order to completely eliminate human trafficking on both a national as well as state level, government agencies launched a number of initiatives through the roles of the spouses of the president and state governors. These initiatives aimed to increase the involvement of both government and private sectors by lowering the susceptibility for prospective victims as well as the demand for abuse in all of its forms. To maintain the fundamental human rights of all individuals in Nigeria, we must provide adequate protection and aid to those who have been wronged, as well as encourage the successful prosecution of those responsible.

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