

SEX TRAFFICKING, PROSTITUTION, AND PORNOGRAPHY:
MODERN-DAY SLAVERY AND THE CONTINUUM OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
(excerpt)*

By

Marieke Davis

Human trafficking is defined by the U.S. Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons as "the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery" ("Human Trafficking," 2011). Although in existence since humans organized into societies and referred to with a wink and a nod as "the oldest profession," it is in fact a particular form of gender inequality and abuse that has proved enormously lucrative for global economies. In order to comprehend the scope of this persistent human rights problem, it is important to understand the dynamic that sex trafficking, pornography, and prostitution are manifestations of the same crime along a circular, supply/demand continuum. Pornography increases demand in prostitution, which increases demand for sex trafficking, which supplies victims for prostitution and for the production of pornography. It is a process that embodies a particular kind of gender violence with a strong biological basis that is expressed as gender inequality embedded within the political and economic structures of human society that, with the help of the media, has grown exponentially.

***A full, unedited copy of this work, is available for purchase! Please click on [Store](#).**

REFERENCES

- Acuna, Kristen. "By the Numbers: The 'Fifty Shades of Grey' Phenomenon." *Business Insider*. 4 September 2014. Web. 26 April 2014.
- "Anti-Trafficking Organizations Directory." *Freedom4Innocence.org*. n.d. Web. 23 April 2014.
- Arrington, Michael. "Internet Pornography Stats." *TechCrunch*. 12 May 2007. Web. 21 April 2014.
- Barnes, Robert. "Supreme Court Limits Damages to Victims of Child Porn, Throws Out \$3.4 Million Award." *The Washington Post*. 23 April 2014. Web. 23 April 2014.
- Carter, Jimmy. *A Call to Action: Women, Religion, Violence, and Power*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2014.
- "'Compass of Pleasure': Why Some Things Feel So Good." *NPR*. 23 June 2011.
- Dempsey, Michelle M. "D.O.J. Model State Anti-Trafficking Statute: Critique and Revision." *Pornography: Driving the Demand in International Sex Trafficking*. Captive Daughters Media and International Human Rights Law Institute, DePaul University College of Law, 2007.
- Dines, Gail. "The Big Business of Pornography." *Pornography: Driving the Demand in International Sex Trafficking*. Captive Daughters Media and International Human Rights Law Institute, DePaul University College of Law, 2007.
- Flanders, Laura. "The Work of Sex Work: Laura Flanders with Melissa Gira Grant." *Truthout.org*. 27 March 2014. Web. 27 March 2014.
- Franzblau, Ken. "Slavefarm, Sex Tours and the Pimp John T.: Using Pornography to Advance Trafficking, Sex Tourism, and Prostitution." *Pornography: Driving the Demand in International Sex Trafficking*. Captive Daughters Media and International Human Rights

- Law Institute, DePaul University College of Law, 2007.
- Hayes, Sophie. *Trafficked: My Story of Surviving, Escaping, and Transcending Abduction into Prostitution*. London: HarperCollins Publishers, 2012.
- Hoggard, Liz. "Melissa Gira Grant: 'I Got into Sex Work to Afford to be a Writer.'" *The Guardian*. 15 March 2014. Web. 21 April 2014.
- Hughes, Donna M. "The Demand for Victims of Sex Trafficking." Women Studies Program, University of Rhode Island, June 2005.
- Konstantopoulos, Wendy Macias, Roy Ahn, Elaine J. Alpert, Elizabeth Cafferty, Anita McGahan, Timothy P. Williams, Judith Palmer Castor, Nadya Wolferstan, Genevieve Purcell, and Thomas F. Burke. "An International Comparative Public Health Analysis Of Sex Trafficking of Women and Girls in Eight Cities: Achieving a More Effective Health Sector Response." *Journal of Urban Health: Bulletin of the New York Academy Of Medicine*. Vol. 90, No. 6, 2013.
- Mackinnon, Catharine. "Pornography as Trafficking." *Pornography: Driving the Demand in International Sex Trafficking*. Captive Daughters Media and International Human Rights Law Institute, DePaul University College of Law, 2007.
- Martinelli, Danielle. "U.S. Media's Failure to Set the Agenda for Covering Sex Trafficking." *The Elon Journal of Undergraduate Research in Communications*. Vol. 3, No. 2, 2012.
- McKenna, Josephine. "Pope Francis Denounces Human Trafficking as 'A Crime Against Humanity.'" *Religion News Service*. 11 April 2014. Web. 11 April 2014.
- Mims, Christopher. "How the Internet Porn Business Works." *MIT Technology Review*. 18 May 2010. Web. 21 April 2014.

Moye, David. "Porn Industry in Decline: Insiders Adapt to Piracy, Waning DVD Sales (NSFW)." *Huff Post Weird News*. 19 January 2013. Web. 21 April 2014.

Ruvolo, Julie. "How Much of the Internet is Actually for Porn?" *Forbeswoman*. 7 September 2011. Web. 21 April 2014.

Sun, Chyng F. "The Fallacies of Fantasies." *Pornography: Driving the Demand in International Sex Trafficking*. Captive Daughters Media and International Human Rights Law Institute, DePaul University College of Law, 2007.