

Agata Dębowska

The problem of sex trafficking in the modern world

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Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

THE PROBLEM OF SEX TRAFFICKING IN THE MODERN WORLD

*We, the survivors of prostitution and trafficking (...) declare that prostitution is violence against women. Women in prostitution do not wake up one day and "choose" to be prostitutes. It is chosen for us by poverty, past sexual abuse, the pimps who take advantage of our vulnerabilities, and the men who buy us for the sex of prostitution*¹

Introduction

Brown² defines trafficking as *the transportation of people within countries or across international borders using force, trickery or the abuse of power*. Nevertheless, Roby and Tanner³ report that many women enter prostitution "voluntarily" because in strongly patriarchal societies it is still a widespread belief that daughters are responsible for supporting their families. In fact, it is their duty to repay the debt they have with their parents for bringing them up.⁴ What is more, the lack of education and scarcity of jobs, especially in rural areas, leaves women with virtually no alternatives.⁵ However, even females who "choose" to become prostitutes, do not suspect that they will have to suffer a string of humiliations, or that their human rights will be violated.⁶

Moreover, women and children are trafficked all over the world and thence, contrary to common stereotypes, the occurrence is not confined to the poorest areas of the globe. Even more, sexual slaves are kept by members of societies in which such practices are vigorously countered.⁷ Importantly, the victims of trafficking are not free to leave (be it due to psychological or physical restraints) and the traces of their thralldom are visible at every turn. Further, traffickers cunningly target most vulnerable individuals in a given society, i.e. females raised in abject poverty as well as members of loathed ethnic minorities. *Time after time sex workers refer to themselves as being 'outside society'. And they are right – they are despised outcasts.*⁸ Further, Hughes⁹ asserts that the transportation and distribution of trafficked victims is an extremely well-thought-out process. Namely, most sex slaves are levied in sending countries (i.e. poor countries like Moldova,

¹ M. O'Connor, G. Healy, *The Links Between Prostitution and Sex Trafficking: A briefing handbook*. 2006, Retrieved February, 10, 2010, from <http://action.web.ca/home/catw/attach/handbook.pdf>, p. 1

² L. Brown: *Sex Slaves, The trafficking of women in Asia*. Virago Press. London 2007, p. 21

³ J.L. Roby, J. Tanner, *Supply and demand: Prostitution and sexual trafficking in Northern Thailand*. (in:) "Geography Compass". 2009, 3(1), pp. 89-107

⁴ J.P. Singh, S.A. Hart, *Sex workers and cultural policy: Mapping the issues and actors in Thailand*. (in:) "Review of Policy Research". 2007, 24(2), pp. 155-173

⁵ M. Mishra, *Trafficking of women in South Asia: A sketch*. (in:) "Contributions to Nepalese Studies". 2002, 29(1), pp. 129-141

⁶ A.M. Bertone, *Sexual trafficking in women: International political economy and the politics of sex*. (in:) "Gender Issues". 2000, pp. 4-22; K. Dunlop, *Human security, sex trafficking and deep structural explanations*. "Human Security Journal". 2008, 6, pp. 56-67

⁷ K. Dunlop, op. cit.

⁸ L. Brown, op. cit., p. 7

⁹ D.M. Hughes, *Best Practices to Address the Demand Side of Sex Trafficking*. 2004, Retrieved February, 20, 2010, from <http://www.prostitutionetsociete.fr/IMG/pdf/2004huguesbestpracticestoadressdemandside.pdf>

Vietnam or Nepal). Thereafter, the victims are transported through transit countries (e.g. India, Thailand) to their final destination, i.e. receiving countries (Japan, Western European societies).

Abuse of women and children (especially in developing countries), it could be argued, is rendered possible due to the deeply ingrained belief in female inferiority. In fact, subservience, meekness and respect for the social rules is seen by many as the essence of femininity.¹⁰ Further, if women are a commodity, men are their legitimate owners. This fallacy, in turn, largely drives the demand for sexual slaves as it justifies the abhorrent treatment of females and especially prostitutes – after all, if they are not human beings, there is no need to honour them.¹¹ In addition, sex trafficking, it can be suggested, is a highly profitable business. Indeed, Skinner¹² reports that *human beings surpassed guns as the second most lucrative commodity for crime syndicates of all sizes, netting around \$10 billion annually*. Given the fact that unimaginably high profits are made out of trafficking, it is unlikely that the contemptible business will cease to exist without any “assistance”. What is more, some governments reveal bewildering ineptitude in implementing appropriate laws which would put a stop to human trafficking. Also, as many case studies have demonstrated, police officers can be corrupted and facilitate or even actively participate in the trade.¹³

Therefore, as delineated above, sex trafficking is still prevalent in the modern world for myriad reasons. The focus of this paper, however, will be specifically on misogyny as created by patriarchal hierarchies as well as on men from all over the world who create the demand for sex trafficking. Further, the lack of effective legislation and rescue programmes to counter forced prostitution will be discussed.

This is a man’s world

*A little more matriarchy is what the world needs, and I know it. Period. Paragraph*¹⁴

In order to grasp the phenomenon of modern day sex trafficking, its underlying cultural, social and economic reasons need to be identified.¹⁵ This, as Dunlop¹⁶ suggests, can only be done by referring to and describing the patterns as well as manifestations of female oppression. Indeed, women are seen as commercial trinkets and treated with brutality because they are not human in the eyes of men who abuse them. In addition, Hughes¹⁷ asserts that sex trafficking is still ubiquitous

¹⁰ B. Welter, *The cult of true womanhood, 1820-1860*. (in:) R.W. Hogeland (ed.), *Women and Womanhood in America*. D.C. Heath & Company. Lexington 1973, pp. 103-113

¹¹ N.B. Busch, H. Bell, N. Hotaling, M.A. Monto, *Male costumers of prostituted women: Exploring perception of entitlement to power and control and implication for violent behavior toward women*. (in:) “Violence Against Women”. 2002, 8(9), pp. 1093-1112

¹² E.B. Skinner, *A Crime so Monstrous: A shocking exposé of modern-day sex slavery, human trafficking and urban child markets*. Mainstream Publishing, Edinburgh. London 2008, p. 160

¹³ D. Batstone, *Not For Sale: The return of the global slave trade – and how we can fight it*. Harper San Francisco. New York 2007; L. Jones, D. Engstrom, P. Hilliard, D. Sungakawan, *Human trafficking between Thailand and Japan: Lessons in recruitment, transit and control*. (in:) “International Journal of Social Welfare”. 2011, 20(2), pp. 1-9

¹⁴ D. Batstone, op. cit., no page

¹⁵ M. Mishra, op. cit.

¹⁶ K. Dunlop, op. cit.

¹⁷ D.M. Hughes, op. cit., p. 2

because the demand side of the trade has rarely been targeted. Rather, the focus has traditionally been on supply, i.e. reforming sending countries and educating potential victims. What is more, Hughes propounds that addressing the demand side of the trafficking equation *means making men personally responsible and accountable for their behavior that contributes to the sex trade*. Men who increase the demand, therefore, should be unmasked and named.

Agarwal, Ahmad, Riaz, Barata and Stewart as well as Mishra¹⁸ explain that majority of contemporary South Asian countries are still dominated by men and their interests, which is truly detrimental to women's well-being. To amplify, Agarwal¹⁹ reports that females, as the less valuable members of society, receive lower caloric and protein intake than their male peers. This, in turn, inevitably results in malnourishment. Also, female to male life expectancy is significantly lower as women have a limited access to health care. Another, and arguably most horrifying, manifestation of social inequality is female infanticide.²⁰ To elaborate, China's 1978 Constitution strongly advocated birth control and the one-child policy was implemented.²¹ Further, Kelkar²² explicates that if the law is transgressed, heavy fines have to be paid. As long as families might consider paying up to 500 yuan if a son is born, daughters, who are less "economically viable" (which is due to the current agricultural policies) are more likely to be aborted (even if pregnancy is advanced) or killed after birth. Moreover, Jahan's²³ study of Bangladeshi newspaper articles reveals that violence against women is on the increase. To no surprise, sexual violence is almost exclusively experienced by the gentle sex. Nevertheless, *much of the violence against women, especially rape and wife-beating, goes under- and unreported due to the social stigma attached to the victims and their families*.²⁴ Additionally, in the past women were controlled mainly by the men in their families. Nowadays, howbeit, patriarchal authority has significantly extended (greatly due to legislation) and females can be lawfully disciplined by strangers.²⁵ Also, Dunlop²⁶ explicates, it is still a common belief that a woman's "functions" are limited to childbearing and hence female inferiority is exaggerated with the means of biological essentialism. Indeed, as Dunlop aptly suggests, *if patriarchy creates the belief that men are worth more than women, and*

¹⁸ B. Agarwal, *Patriarchy and the 'modernising' state: An introduction*. (in:) B. Agarwal (ed.). *Structures of Patriarchy: The state, the community and the household*. Zed Books Ltd. London, New Jersey 1990b, pp. 1-28; F. Ahmad, S. Riaz, P. Barata, D.E. Stewart, *Patriarchal beliefs and perceptions of abuse among South Asian immigrant women*. (in:) "Violence Against Women" 2004, 10(3), pp. 262-282; M. Mishra, op. cit.

¹⁹ B. Agarwal, *Neither sustenance nor sustainability: Agricultural strategies, ecological degradation and Indian women in poverty*. (in:) B. Agarwal (ed.), *Structures of Patriarchy: The state, the community and the household*. Zed Books Ltd, London, New Jersey 1990a, pp. 83-120

²⁰ L. Brown, op. cit.

²¹ J. Bongarts, S. Greenhalgh, *An alternative to the one-child policy in China*. "Population and Development Review". 1985, 11(4), pp. 585-617

²² G. Kelkar, *Two steps back? New agricultural policies in China and the woman question*. (in:) B. Agarwal (ed.), *Structures of Patriarchy: The state, the community and the household*. Zed Books Ltd. London, New Jersey 1990, pp. 121-150

²³ R. Jahan, *Hidden wounds, visible scars: Violence against women in Bangladesh*. (in:) B. Agarwal (ed.): *Structures of Patriarchy: The state, the community and the household*. Zed Books Ltd. London, New Jersey 1990, pp. 199-227

²⁴ B. Agarwal, *Patriarchy and the 'modernising state': An introduction*, p. 21

²⁵ R. Jahan, op. cit.

²⁶ K. Dunlop, op. cit., p. 63

in a legitimate position of domination, then dehumanising women becomes morally acceptable, and the commodification and sale of their bodies is fitting with how they should be treated.

Furthermore, Bertone²⁷ stresses the importance of globalization to the growing need for sexual workers. In fact, to put it in Bhattacharyya's²⁸ words, sex trafficking is *the underbelly of globalization, shadow economy that feeds on the process of global integration*. To elaborate, developing countries want to take advantage of this new policy of interconnectedness and focus on the development of tourist attractions. What is more, *sex tourism clearly fits into the expanding notion of cultural industries, which include well-known ones such as the performing arts, cultural goods such as music and film, and now tourism*.²⁹ Women, hence, have become cultural goods or commodities which can be priced and sold.³⁰ Also, in order to be successful on the highly competitive market, touts need to keep the prices low which, in turn, increases the demand for trafficked labour.³¹ Interestingly, Månsson³² claims that most men buy sex not to satisfy their physical but emotional needs. Western men are no longer treated as masters and the attention they receive from their partners has significantly waned. This is largely due to the fact that gender inequalities in Europe and North America gradually disappear.³³ What is more, Parker³⁴ maintains that men who purchase sex from trafficked women do so because they do not need to be nice to them and, as long as appropriate payment is made, can do with them whatever they wish. Therefore, Asian women who are advertised as submissive, beautiful, exotic and cheap certainly appeal to the emotionally ravenous and power-greedy Western men. Importantly, those Asian beauties constitute an outlet for suppressed desires which, if released in the West, would be liable to prosecution.³⁵

Men who purchase sex often believe that they have no control over their sexual desires. What is more, they ascribe those peculiar needs to their nature and, obviously, one cannot fight against inborn predispositions. Undeniably, hence, men have adopted an enviably comfortable position.³⁶ Even more, many women who live in strongly patriarchal communities are ready to condone such practices.³⁷ As Jahan³⁸ suggests: *a woman is thus reduced to becoming a sexual object to be used (abused) for male sexual gratification*. What is more, it is maintained that the existence of prostitution protects "good" women from being raped.³⁹

²⁷ A.M. Bertone, op. cit.

²⁸ G. Bhattacharyya, *Traffic: The illicit movement of people and things*. Pluto. London 2005, p. 63

²⁹ J.P. Singh, S.A. Hart, op. cit., p. 157

³⁰ L.S. Chancer, *Prostitution, feminist theory, and ambivalence: Notes from the sociological underground*. (in:) "Social Text". 1993, 37, p. 143-171

³¹ K. Dunlop, op. cit.; J.L. Roby, J. Tanner, op. cit.

³² S.V. Månsson, S.V. *Men's practices in prostitution and their implications for social work*. (in:) S.V. Månsson, C. Proveyer (eds.): *Social Work in Cuba and Sweden: Achievements and prospects*. Goteborg University & The University of Havana. Goteborg, Havana 2004

³³ F. Ahmad, S. Riaz, P. Barata, D.E. Stewart, op. cit.

³⁴ J. Parker, *How Prostitution Works*. Portland: Lola Green Baldwin Foundation 1997, Retrieved February, 23, 2010, from http://www.prostitutionrecovery.org/how_prostitution_works.html

³⁵ L. Brown, op. cit.

³⁶ D. Batsone, op. cit.

³⁷ J.L. Roby, J. Tanner, op. cit.

³⁸ R. Jahan, op. cit., p. 214

³⁹ J.L. Roby, J. Tanner, op. cit.

According to Davidson⁴⁰, if a girl loses her chastity before marriage, she can no longer fulfil her holy, and economic mission of being a wife and a mother. Therefore, a promiscuous woman deserves to be dehumanised and sold. The popularity of this assumption is clearly evident in the results of research conducted by International Organization for Migration (IOM). Namely, it has been found that most men who purchased sex from trafficked women did not see their lack of consent as a problem. Instead, the men viewed prostitutes as objects and believed that paying for them entitled them to exert power over them. *Some men indicated that purchasing sex from someone forced into prostitution gave them the advantage of being able to control them.*⁴¹ Also, Jancovich⁴² elucidates, men want to see sexually active women contained and thence the use of violence is justified. All in all, hence, male dominance and masculinity manifest themselves in sexual terms.⁴³

Special needs call for special laws

*Drugs you sell once and they are gone. Women can earn money for a long time.
Laws help the gangsters*⁴⁴

As mentioned in the introduction, sex trafficking is a highly remunerative business.⁴⁵ To confirm, Singh and Hart⁴⁶ report that even though prostitution is now illegal in Thailand, it still accounts for nearly one-tenth of the gross national product of the country. A complete eradication of the problem of sex trafficking, hence, would be economically disadvantageous. On a micro-level, hotel owners who have contracts with “escort” agencies would face the risk of losing many customers. Stricter control would also significantly limit “supply” of children, whilst demand for them is particularly high. The needs of paedophiles, therefore, would remain unsatisfied. As a result, the police tend to turn a blind eye to the trade. For instance, Japanese authorities know that many of the Filipina women who arrive in their country will be forced to work as prostitutes. Still, the women are rarely refused entry.⁴⁷ One could argue, therefore, that as long as potential beneficiaries exist, the problem of sex trafficking will remain to haunt the modern world.⁴⁸

Chase and Statham⁴⁹ report that *trafficking became enshrined in international law for the first time in 2002, in the Palermo Protocol, which defines it as the recruitment, transportation, harbouring or receipt of a person for the purposes of exploitation, whether sexual or otherwise.* Since the time, many policies and laws designed to counter sex trafficking have been enforced. Unfortunately,

⁴⁰ E.H. Davidson, *Poe: A critical study*. Harvard University Press, Cambridge 1980, p. 110

⁴¹ D.M. Hughes, op. cit., p. 8

⁴² M. Jancovich, *Horror*. B.T. Batsford Ltd. London 1992

⁴³ K. Miriam, *Stopping the traffic in women: Power, agency and abolition in feminist debates over sex-trafficking*. (in:) “Journal of Social Philosophy”. 2005, 36(1), pp. 1-17

⁴⁴ M. Specter, *Traffickers' new cargo: Naïve Slavic women*. (in:) “New York Times”. 1998, May 18

⁴⁵ E.B. Skinner, op. cit.

⁴⁶ J.P. Singh, S.A. Hart, op. cit.

⁴⁷ A.M. Bertone, op. cit.

⁴⁸ Y. Rafferty, *Children for sale: Child trafficking in Southeast Asia*. “Child Abuse Review”. 2007, 16, pp. 401-422

⁴⁹ E. Chase, J. Statham, *Commercial and sexual exploitation of children and young people in the UK – a review*. (in:) “Child Abuse Review”. 2005, 14, pp. 4-25, p. 7

however, little has changed and the sufferers of trafficking still await rescue.⁵⁰ Moreover, it could be asserted, most of the endeavours of anti-trafficking activists fail because they do not address individual needs of the victims. Organizations such as Education Means Protection Of Women Engaged in Re-creation (EMPOWER) have detailed the reasons for which many trafficked individuals do not want to be liberated. To elaborate, it is suggested that many victims lose their savings, are kept imprisoned until the court case or worry that they will no longer be able to support their families. Additionally, corrupted police officers and soldiers may pester their relatives and cause them problems. Finally, there is a risk that victims sold by their parents will be re-sold once they are sent back. Consequently, many women do not want to be freed as it does not improve their or their families' situation.⁵¹ Accordingly, the International Justice Mission (IJM), a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) based in the U.S., has many a time been criticized for its lack of cooperation with victims. As the EMPOWER suggested, in order to help successfully and wisely, the requirements of the victims ought to be considered.⁵² Therefore, Roby, Turley and Cloward⁵³ note, legal procedures should be victim-friendly (e.g. the victim should not be required to face their trafficker in court) and the victims ought to be provided with opportunities for rehabilitation. Indeed, rescue programmes that address the unique needs of the victims of trafficking do exist, however, they are few and far between. For example, the Hagar project, launched in Cambodia in 1994, as well as NightLight organisation, which operates in Bangkok, seek to redeem as well as empower trafficked women by providing vocational training as well as employment.⁵⁴ Therefore, it could be argued that successful elimination of the problem of sex trafficking can only be achieved if more similarly comprehensive strategies are employed on a larger scale.

Another example of an ineffective legislation is the tightening of migration laws. This, the policy makers reckoned, would limit the number of trafficked individuals.⁵⁵ Nevertheless, the actual outcomes are less optimistic. Specifically, women and girls are still being trafficked but their debt to the trafficker is larger than ever before due to the higher cost of illegal border-crossing.⁵⁶ Also, this policy, Skeldon⁵⁷ asserts, is unfavourable for the global economy because it seriously circumscribes the free flow of labour. What is more, Feingold⁵⁸ propounds that loosening border restrictions would be similarly detrimental. This is because more and more vulnerable women with no legal status (and hence fearing deportation) would be available in receiving countries. Indeed, the easiness of recruitment could

⁵⁰ S. Dillon, *What human rights law obscures: Global sex trafficking and the demand for children*. "UCLA Women's Law Journal". 2008, 17, pp. 121-186

⁵¹ J.P. Singh, S.A. Hart, op. cit.

⁵² A.M. Bertone, op. cit.

⁵³ J. Roby, J. Turley, J. Cloward, *The U.S. response to human trafficking: Is it enough?* (in:) "Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies". 2008, 6(4), pp. 508-525

⁵⁴ *Hagar International*. Retrieved March, 4, 2010, from <http://www.hagarinternational.org/>; *NightLight*. Retrieved February, 20, 2010, from <http://www.nightlightinternational.com/>

⁵⁵ A.M. Bertone, op. cit.

⁵⁶ K. Dinan, *Owed Justice: Thai women trafficked into debt bondage*. Human Rights Watch. New York 2000

⁵⁷ R. Skeldon, *Trafficking: A perspective from Asia*. (in:) "International Migration". 2000, Special Issue, pp. 7-30

⁵⁸ D. Feingold, *Human trafficking*. (in:) "Foreign Affairs". 2005, 150, pp. 26-32

attract potential traffickers to enter the trade.⁵⁹ Also, according to Steinfatt⁶⁰ the legalisation of prostitution is unlikely to curtail sex trafficking. Quite the contrary, the general consent for purchased sex could be interpreted as a consent for humiliating women. The legalisation of prostitution, thence, would desensitise society. By the same token, Chancer⁶¹ explains that in most countries it is the supply side of prostitution that is criminalised. In contrast, the “johns” go largely unpunished. This policy, the researcher suggests, silently supports sex trafficking and the dehumanisation of females. In Sweden, on the other hand, an extremely abolitionist approach to prostitution has served as the basis for legislation. Namely, the act of selling sex has been legalised, however, the act of buying sex has become a criminal offence.⁶² In addition, trafficked women are no longer treated as illegal immigrants and punished.⁶³ Indeed, the solution is unique and progressive in its sensitivity to demand, but sadly, as Dunlop⁶⁴ expounds, it is unlikely to eliminate human trafficking altogether. This is due to the fact that trafficking is a criminal activity and hence, as long as demand exists, the process of supply is bound to continue underground.

As far as children are concerned, The US Department of State⁶⁵ informs that over two million youngsters are abused as sex slaves every year. In the UK, Chase and Statham⁶⁶ note, the Children Act (1989) provides legal protection for all minors. Theoretically, even children who stay in the country temporarily are included in this framework. In practice, however, social services are not successful in providing guardianship to foreign juveniles in care. Again, it can be suggested, this is because their needs are not appropriately addressed, or not addressed at all because the language barrier seriously hinders communication between the trafficked children and social workers.⁶⁷ “For complex reasons, including experiences of abuse and rape, threats to family back home and other controlling mechanisms such as curses and ‘voodoo’, children taken into care who have been trafficked often flee to meet their traffickers, or they are abducted”.⁶⁸ Even more, the threat of being deported may incline children to remain with their abusers. The specialised support network that those youngsters require, hence, is still to be developed.⁶⁹ Finally, Dillon⁷⁰ expounds, the problem of child trafficking is escalated by the fact that the “customers” tend to go unnoticed, i.e. the problem has not gained much media attention. In fact, child trafficking can be expected to remain a silent crime as long as it is pushed *into the realm of “perversion” and*

⁵⁹ C. van den Anker, *Trafficking and women’s rights: Beyond the sex industry to ‘other Industries’*. (in:) “Journal of Global Ethics”. 2006, 2(2), pp. 163-182

⁶⁰ T.M. Steinfatt, *Working at the Bar: Sex work and health communication in Thailand*. Greenwood Press, Westport 2002

⁶¹ L.S. Chancer, op. cit.

⁶² J.L. Roby, J. Tanner, op. cit.

⁶³ Y. Rafferty, op. cit.

⁶⁴ K. Dunlop, op. cit.

⁶⁵ United States (US) Department of State. *Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000: Trafficking in persons report 2007*. 2007, Retrieved March, 5, 2010, from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/>

⁶⁶ E. Chase, J. Statham, op. cit.

⁶⁷ Y. Rafferty, op. cit.

⁶⁸ E. Chase, J. Statham, op. cit., p. 20

⁶⁹ C. van den Anker, op. cit.

⁷⁰ S. Dillon, op. cit., p. 149

the unusual or unrepresentative. In reality, howbeit, child sex trafficking incidents are far from being scarce and unusual. Therefore, one could imply, if the criminal activity of traffickers cannot be exterminated altogether, the agencies which fight against the exploitation of human beings should focus on intercepting the victims and restoring them to life.

Summary

To conclude, the abolition of slavery as ordained in the 19th century, many would claim, put an end to the large scale exploitation of vulnerable individuals and whole societal groups.⁷¹ As detailed above, however, such an assumption is clearly erroneous. Indeed, the laws have changed and, hypothetically, people are guaranteed more freedoms and safety. Nevertheless, the lofty promises have little to do with reality. Rather, freedom, it seems, is reserved for the most privileged social classes and especially men. Women and children, particularly in societies with strong patriarchal underpinnings, are still treated as second class citizens and controlled by men as well as used in the name of their interests.⁷² Additionally, the widespread belief in female inferiority opens the way to abuse and manipulation.⁷³ Moreover, the experiences of the victims of sex trafficking are largely misunderstood and their special needs are not addressed.⁷⁴ Importantly, Bandyopadhyay, Gayen, Debnath, Bose, Das, Das, Das, Biswas, Sarkar, Singh, Bibi, Mitra and Biswas⁷⁵ note, it is time that victims are heard, rather than banished *to a silent world of eternal and relentless victimhood*. All in all, thence, sex trafficking continues to beset the modern world due to a complex interplay between social and legal factors. Even more, the situation is bound to remain unchanged if women and children are not empowered both in their own eyes as well as in the eyes of men, and if the emancipation is not confirmed and guarded by appropriate domestic and international laws.

⁷¹ J.L. Ray, *The abolition of slavery and the end of international war*. (in:) "International Organization". 1989, 43(3), pp. 405-439

⁷² N.B. Bush, H. Bell, N. Hotaling, M.A. Monto, op. cit.

⁷³ D. Batstone, op. cit.

⁷⁴ L. Jones, D. Engstrom, P. Hilliard, D. Sungakawan, op. cit.

⁷⁵ N. Bandyopadhyay, S. Gayen, R. Dbnath, K. Bose, S. Das, G. Das, M. Das, M. Biswas, P. Sarkar, P. Singh, R. Bibi, R. Mitra, S. Biswas, *'Streetwalkers show the way': Reframing the debate on trafficking from sex workers' perspective*. (in:) "IDS Bulletin". 2006, 37.4, pp. 102-109, p. 102