

A Crisis in the Making: Strict Migration Policies Fuel Human Trafficking

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ABSTRACT

Human trafficking flourishes because of the government's draconian immigration policy. Government controlled visa and work permits which are out of the reach of ordinary people play into the hands of traffickers. Again, some migrants travel to their destinations through their own judgement and with legal papers, only to discover that they have been trafficked upon their entrance. Most migrants who dreamed of a good life end up in tears; the traffickers force women to work as prostitutes to recoup their money and others made to work for longer hours and paid peanuts. Some of the migrants abused, humiliated, used, and finally dumped by their abusers. However, the states equally contributed to the plight of the migrants through their strict migration policy. This study seeks to examining theoretically, whether various governments' strict migration policies are necessary? This study argued that it is not necessary and that the states have a moral obligation to protect the victims of human trafficking. I opted to rational choice theory as a framework of my analysis. The secondary and primary sources anchored on existing literature. This study, therefore, recommends removal of stringent visa conditionalities, issue more work permits to migrants, respect the rights of those who are victims of trafficking, have more inclusive policies that accommodate the migrants rather than criminalising them, promote humane policies through trade with the developing countries, promoting human rights and good governance in developing countries.

Keywords: States, Trafficking, Security, Migrants, Migration

Introduction

Human trafficking has become a global business and a profitable venture all over the world. Again, it is a modern-day slavery involving the illegal transportation of people by coercion or deception for the aim of labour, sexual gratification, or vices which individual(s) or groups gained monetarily [1]. It is approximated that 9.2 million Africans were victims of present-day slavery as of 2016, amounting for 23% of total world modern-day slavery [2]. Also, it is projected that around 1,000,000 people are trafficked each year worldwide. Equally that between 20, 000 and 50, 000 are trafficked to the United States [3].

However, after years of political instability, coupled with the porous nature of many land borders in Africa, the prebendal corruption within law enforcement and the development of well-oiled international crime syndicates, African states are helpless

to human trafficking under the mask of economic prospects. An example found in the sexual exploitation of women from Central and West Africa in Italy and the forced bonded labour of domestic workers from East Africa to the Middle East. Unfortunately, African governments have so far unable to stop the menace and proliferation of the trafficking trade, and this has increased the substantial number of Africans trafficked to countries in Western Europe and the Middle East [4].

Alexis A. Aronowitz, Anneke Koning (2014) contended that human trafficking can take on various patterns, as exploitation can be rife in so many diverse sectors and ways. Sexual exploitation is the most explored and well-known type of human trafficking and is, according to UNODC statistics, by far the most generally recognised type of trafficking: 79% of detected trafficking victims across fifty-two nations were victims of sexual exploitation, 18% of forced labour and 3% of other forms. Women and children are mostly vulnerable to sexual and other forms of exploitation: the majority of identified trafficking

victims are women (66%), girls (13%), and boys (9%). Though, 58% of victims of trafficking identified as victims of sexual exploitation; of all victims of trafficking identified in 2009, 59% were women and 17% were girls [5].

However, in Africa, human trafficking functions and serve of creating income for both victims and criminals. Criminals run trafficking like a business venture and gain positions of power as well as the incomes they made from the sale of slaves, the goods and services produced by the victims, all driven by poverty, and the lack of opportunities. Consequently, when people presented with a prospect for income, determined for survival, people may disregard warning indicators that the circumstances is too safe to be true and inadvertently compromise themselves. On the other hand, they will accept proposals to go to other country for work or marriage and reach their destination incapable to speak the language, which led to exploitation. This case scenario abounds with some African women who work as a domestic servant in nations like United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia without genuine papers [6].

For Mo Pak-Hung (2011) states that like international trade in goods and service, international 'exchange of people' is a profitable trade as globalisation has made it simpler to move people around the globe. At the same time, the spread of global prosperity has also made the earning gap of labour services ever more divergent across nations while people who want to move to developed nations for jobs and earnings are facing ever more strict barriers on legal migration. He pointed out that the thriving, but unfulfilled demand for legal migration substitutions has created a breeding ground for illicit migrations that include international human trafficking and smuggling. Mo noted that criminal organisations take the migration demand and make huge proceeds from people's yearning to gain from the income gaps across countries. He stresses that it aids to the vicious circle of crime, corruption, violence, poverty, and underdevelopment [6]. But the question is: if goods and services can move freely, why not human beings? This question became necessary because of the often-laudable successes of globalisation and what Ronaldo Munck called "central inconsistency in neoliberal globalisation [7]."

This work examines the phenomenon of human trafficking through the lens of strict migration policies. I argue that by criminalising trafficking, states place the survival of individuals at the whims and caprices of the traffickers and thereby fuel human trafficking.

Chapter one introduces the concept of human trafficking and the theoretical analysis of rational choice theory. Chapter two dwells on literature review and conceptualising the subject human trafficking. Chapter three explores the understanding of human trafficking. Chapter four examines the causes. Chapter five look into the impacts. Chapter six looks at the factors that encourage trafficking. Chapter seven solicits support for the victims. Finally, Chapter eight draws a conclusion with suggestions.

Theoretical Analysis of Rational Choice Theory

Rational Choice theory is the framework that informs and guides this work. The rational choice theory offers depths on

the traffickers and the human trafficking. This work employs rational choice methodology using qualitative resources. It explains the social settings that shape, moving and working decisions of helpless people leading to human trafficking, the impulsion for being a trafficker, and the resolve by employers of trafficked persons [8]. Wheaton, Schauer, Galli argue that in the human trafficking market, traffickers act as agents to provide employers, who use trafficked labour, with workers who have the desired qualities. The editors noted that the successful human trafficker's business is vibrant, adjusting as populaces become helpless and as areas of demand change [9].

J. Elster (2001) states that rational choice theory often criticised, sometimes with good arguments, and sometimes bad. Though some of the bad arguments may apply to bad versions of the theory, critics ought to address the best versions. The most common disagreement is that the theory infers agents to have selfish motives. Rationality is logical with egotism, but likewise with altruism, as when someone is trying to select the charity where a donation can do the best. Rational choice theory is equally sometimes confused with the principle of methodological individualism. Factual, the theory presupposes that principle. Talk about beliefs and desires of supra-individual entities, such as a class or a nation, is in general meaningless. The converse does not hold, however. Some of the alternatives to rational choice theory equally assume methodological individualism [10].

I could have chosen instead to use the structural-functional theory which holds that society better understood as an intricate system with different interdependent parts that work together to maintain stability. The theory/method reinforced by the belief that social systems made of interrelated elements; the segment of a system comprehended in terms of how each add to meeting the needs of the whole, which in most cases is always about stability and harmony. The structural-functional theory believes that the structure of society influences the susceptibility if its people. For instance, unstable political scenes, poverty, inequality, and widespread unemployment form populaces of society that are prepared to take risky working environment or unfriendly move for the purpose of job or depart their war-ravaged zones because of lack of economics opportunities [11].

However, my choice of rational choice model reinforced by the need for a sound theory for the account of the relationship between variables in any scientific inquiry. The rational choice theory chosen by me over other human trafficking theories based on the following reasons: First, rational choice theory helps in understanding individual and collective behaviours. Secondly, it also helps to pinpoint why people, groups, and society as a whole move toward certain choices, based on specific costs and rewards. Thirdly, the theory equally helps to explain seemingly "irrational" behaviour, because the theory asserts that all behaviour is rational, any type of action explored for inherent rational purposes. Fourthly, rational choice theory promotes inquiry and understanding, helping contrasting parties, like a client and a therapist, to recognise the other's rationale [12].

Every theory has a limitation rational choice theory is not an exception. They accused the rational choice theory of focuses

on individual action. Whilst one could say that individual action propels large social structures, some rational choice theory critics contended that the theory is too narrow in its account. Another drawback of rational choice theory is that it does not explain for intuitive reasoning or instinct. For decisions that must be made promptly, like decisions that impact on survival, there may not be time to weigh the costs and benefits [13]. The inadequacies of other human trafficking theories can be better understood and explained through the rational choice theory and it provides more understandings through its key beliefs for clarifying the problems raised in this study e.g. whether strict migration policies are necessary? The Rational Choice has a better interaction with the methodology of this study i.e., the generated, and qualitative data collated.

In tackling the problem of human trafficking, the states have a moral obligation to protect the victims of human trafficking by removing the stringent visa conditions, issue more work permits to migrants, respect the rights of those trafficked, and help integrate them into the mainstream society, have more inclusive policies that accommodate the traffickers rather than criminalising them, humane policies through trade that promotes economy of the developing countries, promoting human rights and good governance in developing countries. This is the reason I find the theory useful.

In this work, I have generated and collated qualitative data from published works, literature, and other documentary sources to establish that the strict migration policies fuel human trafficking. Such literature includes books, articles from journals, magazines, and conference papers. To evaluate the impact of strict migration, I turn to rational choice theory as a theoretical framework. When employing rational-choice methodology to criminal act, Wheaton, Schauer, Galli quoted Becker (1995) as having said, “people decide whether to commit crime by comparing the benefits and costs of engaging in crime.” The editors noted that Becker alludes to income from illegal work (1995) and psychic gains that is “getting away with something” as a reward for criminal acts [14].

Literature Review: Conceptualising the Subject Human Trafficking

The 15th of November 2000 became a watershed when the United Nations General Assembly endorsed the United Nations Convention Against Organised Crime, which came into operation on 23 September 2003. To supplement the Convention, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, also known as the “Palermo Protocol,” came into operation [15]. On the other hand, the Palermo Protocol defines “Trafficking in Persons” as: The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control of another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices like slavery, servitude, or the removal of organs [16]. Furthermore,

the Palermo Protocol spell out that the use of any of the items mentioned above invalidates any consent on the part of the victim immaterial, and that the recruitment, transportation, harbouring or receipt of a child for the aims of exploitation shall be treated as “trafficking in persons” even if none of the means pronounced are used [18].

Elizabeth M. Wheaton, Edward J. Schauer, Thomas V. Galli quoted Becsi (1999). In Becsi words, he splits up participants in human trafficking business into (human traffickers), noncriminal households (vulnerable population), businesses, and the government. These are groups making the economic choices in the business: (a) vulnerable individuals, (b) traffickers, (c) employers, and (d) users of slave-produced products or services. In conjunction with the corrupt government officers and law enforcement officers [17]. This work limits itself to the effect of strict government policies rather than diving into government policy. In doing so we have to understand that profit maximisation is the driving force for human trafficking in which government politics indirectly spur the traffickers.

Rebecca Miller and Sabastian Baumeister contend that over the last several decades, globalisation and a growing concern over security issues, including transnational crime and terrorism, has shaped migration policies and the priorities of states. Miller and Baumeister stated that as migration rose to the top of many government agendas, a rapid tightening and regularisation of borders arose to keep unwanted, high-risk migrants out of potential destination nations. Alongside, with transnational crimes, such as trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, have increasingly defined as border security problems [18].

Anna Kicinger argues that following the terrible events of 9/11 in the US, migration issues shifted from so-called “low politics” to what is known as “high politics” connected to state security [19]. Kicinger contends that the states view irregular migration as the dodgiest part of migratory flows due to its uncontrolled character. The trend of irregular migration has many different forms (illegal entry, illegal work, entry on false or forged documents, “overstaying”) [20].

Oguz Gonul asserts that human trafficking lies at the core of international organised crime. It is equally troubled with profits in terms of the exploitation of human beings. Gonul noted that it is an abuse of basic rights. He further stated that the vast interest and apprehension for trafficking and human struggling is a real proof. For instance, in the EU, policy on irregular migration driven by the opinion that the member countries risk flooded by large numbers of irregular migrants believed to be a threat to national security [21].

Thomas Gammeltoft-Hansen argues that the European policy makers are in a dilemma on how to checkmate the entry and movements of people, while at the same time reconciling this with liberal standards promoting free markets, open borders, and humanitarian value. He believes that this apprehension is a result of globalisation, which has made it difficult for states to assert effectively its traditional sovereign right to control who may enter or leave its territory. He argues that any attempt by policy

makers to enforce draconian immigration rules runs counter to the much-vouched Western liberal democracies and seen as trampling on the human rights of individuals and presenting a security risk to migrants in the states [22].

For Gillian Wylie, the effects of the criminalisation of trafficking through border control and rigid migration policies is that such rules will swell the numbers being trafficked and create more alternatives to traffickers and smugglers regarding migrants. She contends that the global economy, injustice, unfair trade, and inequality between South and North influence migration, as desperate migrants seek jobs for a better life, but end up in the hands of traffickers [23].

However, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime contends that smuggling of migrants is a crime defined under international law as “the procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a State of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident.” According to Article 3 (1) of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air, described as the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime. In Article 6 of the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol entails States to criminalise both smuggling of migrants and enabling a person to remain in a country illegally to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, as well as to establish as aggravating circumstances acts that endanger the lives or safety or entail inhuman or degrading treatment of migrants. By virtue of Article 5, migrants are not liable to criminal prosecution. It is hence implied that the Protocol aims to target smugglers, not the victims [24].

In addition, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime cited Friedrich Heckmann having stated that smuggling of migrants plays a crucial role in facilitating irregular migration, as smugglers may provide a wide range of services, from physical transportation and illegal crossing of a border to the procurement of false documents [25]. According to UNODC, there are three basic differences between smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, as summarised below:

- **Source of profit.** The primary source of profit and thus also the primary purpose of trafficking in persons is exploitation. In contrast, smugglers generate their profit through facilitating illegal entry or stay. After a migrant has been enabled to illegally enter or stay in a country, the relationship between migrant and smuggler usually ends.
- **Transnationality.** Smuggling of migrants always has a transnational dimension involving at least two countries. The objective of smuggling of migrants is always to facilitate the illegal entry or stay of a person from country A in(to) country B. Trafficking in persons may also involve the illegal entry or stay of a person, but it does not always. The transportation and stay of a victim of trafficking in persons can also occur in a legal way. That is, victims of trafficking not limited to the group of people who do not have legal opportunities to migrate. Moreover, trafficking in persons may occur within the home country of the victim without involving any border crossings [26].

- **Victimisation.** Smuggling of migrants does not necessarily involve the victimization of the migrant. Smuggled migrants’ consent to smuggled. However, other crimes are often committed against smuggled migrants during the smuggling process, involving violence or endangerment. It is also possible that smuggled migrants might retract their consent during a smuggling operation. In contrast to smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons is always a crime against a person. Victims of trafficking have either never consented, e.g. if they are abducted or sold or, if they have given initial consent, their consent became meaningless because of the means the traffickers used to gain control over them, such as deception or violence [27].

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime argue that scholars pondered on the uncertain connection between these two ideas. The writers contended that there are no differences in practice, as migrants may willingly use the services of smugglers and then discover themselves in forced circumstances and therefore become the victims of traffickers. The familiarity between smuggling of migrants and trafficking was emphasised by Webb and Burrows as UNODC noted in a post-conviction study based on interviews with convicted smugglers and traffickers, published in July 2009 by the United Kingdom Home Office. The United Kingdom Home Office claimed that the actions of trafficking and smuggling imbricate, and the general market can confer as a continuity between these two extremities, where many primary clienteles of smuggling enterprise can end up as victims of traffickers.

For International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the New York Declaration states the obligation of “refugees and migrants to observe the laws and regulations of their host countries” (para. 39). It also enshrined within the 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Migrant Workers Convention). Similarly to Article 2 of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, Article 34 of the Migrant Workers Convention demands that: “Nothing in the present part of the Convention shall have the effect of relieving migrant workers and the members of their families from either the obligation to comply with the laws and regulations of any State of transit and the State of employment or the obligation to respect the cultural identity of the inhabitants of such States.” Article 33 of the Convention further prescribes a concomitant right of migrant workers, informed by the State of origin, employment or of transit of “the conditions of their admission, their rights and obligations under the law and practice.” This involves taking “all measures [deemed] appropriate to disseminate the said information or to ensure that it is provided by employers, trade unions or other appropriate bodies or institutions,” as well as, as fitting, the obligation to cooperate with other states [28].

Consequently, IOM contends that migrants thus have responsibilities and obligations towards both transit and destination countries. These responsibilities and obligations imposed under national laws, however, are not limitless, and must still comply with States’ obligations under international law. Foremost with these is the respect for the human rights of all migrants, irrespective of migratory status. As indorsed

by Member States in the New York Declaration, the principle of non-discrimination is in this respect vital to safeguard the satisfaction of human rights notwithstanding of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, including migratory status. The only characteristics accepted in international law grounded on nationality or migratory standing and which thus not aggregate to discrimination relate access to voting rights and freedom of movement within Nations. The right to vote is certainly limited to nationals under international law [30]. See Article 25 (a-b) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) [31].

ICCPR noted that the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose one's residence within a States are safeguarded to persons "lawfully within the territory of a State" (Article 12(1) ICCPR) [34]. IOM pointed out that concerning migrants who frequently entered a host nation and those whose stay has been legalised, any limits of freedom of movement and disparity in treatment compared to nationals have to be legally satisfactory, obligatory, balanced, and constant with other human rights, comprising the principle of nondiscrimination. The same applies for restrictions of any other human rights. Chapter one introduces the concept of human trafficking and the theoretical analysis of rational choice theory. Chapter two dwells on literature review and conceptualising the subject human trafficking. Chapter three explores the understanding of human trafficking. Chapter four examines the causes. Chapter five look into the impacts. Chapter six looks at the factors that encourage trafficking. Chapter seven solicits support for the victims. Finally, Chapter eight draws a conclusion with suggestions [32].

Understanding Human Trafficking

In understanding human trafficking, Elizabeth M. Wheaton, Edward J. Schauer, Thomas V. Galli employ a "monopolistic competition" model in describing what happens in human trafficking market. The editors opine that in the trafficking market there are many sellers and buyers each dealing in varieties of products. The traffickers meet few hurdles to enter the market when they see gains made by other traffickers or leave the market if they are not making gains. The editors argue that the "monopolistic competition model" best fits the market for human trafficking for the following reasons:

1. There are many sellers in the market. Whether human trafficking is by organised groups of criminals or by small, loose networks of entrepreneurs.
2. Many buyers demand human trafficking victims for employment for a variety of reasons. Employing trafficked individuals is by nature exploitative. In many cases, the trafficked individuals do not have the right to decide whether to work, how many hours to work, or what kind of work to do.
3. The human trafficking market is characterised by product differentiation. Different attributes needed for prostitution or agricultural work or domestic service. The editors believed that the onus of negotiation lies with the trafficker who negotiate with the buyer and decide how much to sell his products to the buyer.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) noted that men, women, and children of all ages and from all backgrounds can become victims of this crime, which occurs in every region of the world. The traffickers often use threat or sham employment agencies and fake promises of education and job opportunities to trick and coerce their victims. The UNODC states that the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, the crime of human trafficking consists of three elements:

- (i) Acts such as transport, transfer, harbouring, receipt of a person
- (ii) Means of deception, coercion, abuse of a position of vulnerability and others for the
- (iii) Purpose of exploitation, including sexual exploitation, labour exploitation, removal of organs.

The 2005 report by the International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that global profits made from forced labourers exploited by private enterprises or agents rakes in US\$ 44.3 billion every year, of which US\$ 31.6 billion from trafficked victims. Again, more than US\$ 15 billion made from people trafficked and forced to work in developed countries.

The question is how do we stop the illicit trade? I argue that government draconian policies on migration should have human face and by realising that all fingers are not equal. We should not pretend or assume that there is no widening gulf between the wealthy nations and the poor nations. The developed nations should take a concrete step in helping the poor nations in areas of infrastructures, food productions, technological knowhow, and technological transfers.

The Causes of Human Trafficking

The restrictions on migration imposed by individual countries – and, in recent years, particularly those imposed by developed nations – have contributed significantly to the current problem of international trafficking. Strict migration policies over the past two decades have coincided with unprecedented freedom of movement of goods and capital. The physical movement of people and goods from one nation to another has never been easier. But while free trade agreements and technology have facilitated the flow of goods and money across borders, immigration restrictions on the cross-border movement of people have persisted.

Unsurprisingly, unauthorised migration ensues. This includes both economically motivated migrations and migrations undertaken by individuals fleeing oppression and conflict in their home countries. Facing waves of refugees and job seekers with new modes of transportation, the west has moved to raise legal barriers to entry for desperate and vulnerable populations. For instance, in United States, the legal barriers backed up by physical barriers to entry. The build-up of border enforcement began in earnest in the mid-1990s and has continued to the present day.

The legal tools states use to manage migration across state borders increase this marginalisation. Unless an individual can prove her qualifications as a refugee or fit the narrow conditions for legal entrants, she undertakes border crossing in violation of the law and then confronted with the punitive penalties that states attach

to violations of their border-control measures. Traffickers know this. They take advantage of the legal and social marginalisation of emigrants to profit from their exploitation.

The global refugee flows have reached the highest levels in history as over twenty-five million people forced to leave their home countries. Among emigrants traveling to Europe through North Africa, alone, more than 70 percent have been trafficked or exploited, according to the International Organisation for Migration. The conflict-induced displacement can increase the risk of trafficking. Taken advantage of on their weakness, traffickers deceive migrants into illegal travel and employment arrangements. For instance, between 2012 and 2015, some Rohingya refugees fleeing genocide in Myanmar boarded ships to Malaysia or Thailand with the promise of lucrative jobs. Instead, traffickers kept them captive at sea in fishing vessels, where they deprived them of water and food, and some raped, tortured, or killed. In slave-like camps at the Malaysia – Thailand border, asking up to \$2,000 for their release. In Libya, traffickers took advantage of the increased flow of African refugees and migrants on their way to Europe. Some migrants have paid money to be trafficked to Tripoli but later abandoned in the desert or southern cities of the country where they are susceptible to trafficking. Militia groups impose “passage taxes” along the migration routes and some emigrants bought and sold on “open slave markets” or held arbitrarily in detention centres where they are subject to forced labour and sexual violence.

There are many cases and instances of this in Congo, Rwanda, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. In most of these cases, the women threatened with violence if they refuse or try to run away. The traffickers are ruthless and would do anything to protect their business empire. It happens in Nigeria, where the so-called “big madam” goes to rural areas in the villages, recruits the young female girls, especially those from the poor families, with a promise to take them abroad for non-existent employment.

The Impacts of Human Trafficking

To determine the number of people being trafficked is difficult to ascertain, because most statistics are not accurate. Also, determining the impact it has on the community and the family is hard to ascertain. But what is clear is that it has deprived the community of able men and women and future leaders of tomorrow. Trafficking has a cost not only for the victims, but also for their families and the nations, particularly because women and little girls are at risk of pregnancy, maternal mortality, sexually transmitted diseases, and HIV/AIDS. Child prostitution and child labour rob the children of the chance to follow and realise their full potentials; thereby depriving the nation of important human resources.

For some of them, it will take them many years to forget about the experience, while some may never make it. In a close-knit village in Africa, many of the repatriated women will never marry as they are spoiled women whom the society avoided at all costs. If one such innocent victim of crime takes her own life, do we blame the states or the victim? According to a joint UNICEFILO report published in March 2002, about eight million Nigerian women exploited for economic reasons. In addition, the Italian government approximates that 10,000 Nigerian prostitutes work

in Italy and that many of them are the victims of traffickers. Most of these women who have been trafficked to Italy are the handiwork of the so-called “big madam” who has constituted a security risk to society. They profit from the vulnerable and get away with it. They get away with it because the law enforcement officers, and other states’ officers are corrupt.

The Factors that Encourage Trafficking

The European countries are helping human traffickers to flourish by closing their doors to migrants, who risk trading hardship at home for a new life of slavery. They endure war, famine or persecution at home or opt for a new start in a safer country. According to Francesco Rocca, the president of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies argues that “[r]estrictive immigration policies are creating a new world order where barriers to basic services turn migration into a real humanitarian crisis”.

Also, the migration policies of most Western countries encouraged trafficking in the first place. The condition set for getting a visa is so tough that it is difficult to meet. Again, their obsessive securitisation of Western nations has made them anxious at the slightest security scare at an airport. Since migration is part of human existence, you cannot stop it no matter the high-tech security fences at the border or tough immigration laws; people must travel either by lawful means or through illegal means. So, the government should soft-pedal the issuing of work permits, visas, student visas and tourist visas.

Supporting the Victims of Human Trafficking

The victims of trafficking need our help. They have gone through mental and physical torture. The government should treat the trafficked as humans, not as criminals. The government has the duty to protect the victims of trafficking. Every security of each person counts irrespective of who he is or where he comes from. Human life is sacred. It is the duty of the state to protect them. The government should incorporate international instruments that accord rights and privileges to victims of trafficking.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The concluding points of this work are as follows: (1) that the securitisation of the border through scanners, high walls, helicopters, CCTV, border patrol, drones and police dogs cannot stop human trafficking, rather it will exacerbate it. The traffickers will go underground and become more daring, sophisticated and dangerous; (2) co-operation with Third World countries through infrastructural development and financial assistance in capacity building, sustainable development and mechanised farming will help the unemployed to gain employment and earn a living; (3) the underlying assumptions of repatriating failed asylum seekers; denying them basic state protection and forcing them to make a full confession before a “temporary permit” will be issued cannot solve the problem.

Human trafficking succeeded because of the government’s draconian immigration policy. Tough measures introduced by the states are therefore unlikely to solve the occurrence of trafficking without the cooperation from developing countries. Therefore, this work recommends removal of stringent visa conditionalities, fairer work permits to migrants, respect the

rights of those who are victims of traffickers, have more inclusive policies that accommodate the migrants rather than criminalising them, promote humane policies through trade, promoting human rights and good governance in developing countries.

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