The Business of Human Trafficking

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Outline

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• Human trafficking
• Connection to business
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  • Personal
“It is a defining problem of the twenty-first century and will reshape the world’s populations and the quality of life and governance worldwide.”

Shelley, 2010
Overview

- Secretive nature

- 12 and 30 million people (Crane, 2013)
  - 27 million people (Bureau of Public Affairs, 2013)
  - 9.5 million in Asia (Shelley, 2010)

- Worth about $32 billion (Meinert, 2012)

- One of the fastest growing illicit industries (Crane, 2013; Shelley, 2010)

- Labor trafficking v. sex trafficking
Attractiveness

- Labor intensity (Crane, 2013)
- Elasticity of demand (ibid)
- Saturation of market place
- Use of humans
Human trafficking defined by the UN

- Having control over another person for exploitation through
  - Threat
  - Force
  - Coercion
  - Abduction
  - Fraud
  - Deception

- Payments or benefits

- Exploitation includes
  - Forced labor services
  - Slavery
  - Removal of organs

- UNDOC, 2014
“At a time when more than one billion people are denied the very minimum requirements of human dignity, businesses cannot afford to be seen as the problem”

- Kofi Annan
Connection to business

- Utilization without knowledge

- Sustainability
  - “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own” (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987)
  - “a way of doing business that creates profit while avoiding harm to people and planet” (ibid)

- Triple bottom line

- Brand protection
Work being done

- Marriott and Hilton
- Dell
- Coca Cola, ExxonMobil, Microsoft, Delta Air Lines, Carlson, ManpowerGroup, LexisNexis, NXP and Travelport
  - CNN Freedom Project
Key finding

Some businesses are already very involved in this.

Much of what businesses are doing is getting lost in CSR reports (Shelley, 2010).
“Corporate leadership that is visible in the anti-trafficking movement would probably be of much greater value in changing the culture of the business world.”

Shelley, 2010
Implications for business

• Address the issue now

• Shift towards sustainability and the Triple Bottom Line
Future trends
Personal future direction
Summary

- Human trafficking is **prevalent**
- **Sustainability** issue
- Some are already doing work on this issue, **transparency** is key
Questions
Resources


