



## Script for HT 101 Presentation

*This is meant to be used with the HT 101 PowerPoint for Amistad Educators.*

### *Slide 1-Title*

This presentation covers human trafficking and the Amistad Movement, a program of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Migration and Refugee Services department.

### *Slide 2-About USCCB*

The USCCB aims to help and advocate on behalf of vulnerable immigrants through its Migration and Refugee Services department (MRS). They provide services and advocate on behalf of survivors of trafficking, refugees, unaccompanied minors, and other newcomer populations. MRS runs a variety of different programs in order to meet these needs, including the Amistad Movement.

### *Slide 3-The Church's Response*

An integral part of the Catholic Church's mission is to help vulnerable populations and to advocate for social justice. This slide illustrates the four ways in which the Church achieves this mission: through education, advocacy, services, and outreach. The USCCB's anti-trafficking program focuses on education, advocacy, and outreach, partnering with a large and diverse network. One of its current programs, *Dignity of Work*, offers specialized employment and job readiness services to survivors of trafficking.

### *Slide 4-Subsidiarity and Accompaniment*

Subsidiarity is a principle of Catholic doctrine, which says that whatever individuals can do for themselves, society and larger groups should not take over. Community issues should be handled at the most local level possible. Accompaniment is another Catholic teaching, highlighting the Church's commitment to helping and walking alongside communities, especially immigrant communities, tackle these issues. Together, these approaches utilize people's gifts and resources to help spread the message of human trafficking risks to others in their community. This approach respects local autonomy and invests in community priorities.



### *Slide 5-The Amistad Movement Name*

The Amistad Movement got its name from a slave ship. The Amistad was a Spanish ship in 1839 that was being used to transport illegally captured Africans that had been sold into slavery in Cuba. The captured slaves reclaimed control of the ship, and their right to freedom was later reaffirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court.

In a similar way, the USCCB’s Amistad Movement reaffirms every person’s right to freedom and works to empower victims of trafficking. This educational campaign meets potential trafficking victims where they reside - in their communities, churches, and in their local gathering places.

The campaign focuses on awareness raising, education, and coalition building among communities most vulnerable to exploitation and trafficking—in particular, immigrants engaged in industries that are poorly regulated, such as agriculture, domestic/in home care, and hospitality. Leadership and outreach activities are promoted through community-controlled, transformative education. The movement will grow and multiply within communities whose members are at-risk of exploitation, but who are also best poised to support the reintegration and restoration of survivors.

### *Slide 6-Agenda*

This presentation will cover what human trafficking is and how to spot it. It will begin with the definition of human trafficking. We will then move into the difference between trafficking and smuggling and how traffickers control victims. Finally, we will cover how to spot and prevent trafficking.

### *Slide 7- Definition of Human Trafficking*

Human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery and is a violation of human rights. It is a federal crime in the U.S. and a crime in many states.

### *Slide 8-The Trafficking Victims Protection Act*

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act was passed in 2000 and has been reauthorized many times. It is the first-time federal law comprehensively tackled human trafficking. This slide offers definitions for labor trafficking and sex trafficking, both of which the US classifies as “severe forms of trafficking in persons.” Sex trafficking is defined as “the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the



person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age.” Labor trafficking is defined 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 purposes of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.”

### *Slide 9-Types of Control*

Force, Fraud, and Coercion are the main types of control traffickers exert on their victims. They use these mechanisms to lure, scare, and keep victims in their grasp. Note that only one of the methods uses physical violence. It is a common misconception to believe that all control requires physical abuse. Though traffickers do exert physical harm, it is not the only type of trauma that can be inflicted.

### *Slide 10-No Chains Needed*

Most traffickers do not need physical restraints or locks to enslave their victims. Physical methods include physical or sexual abuse, getting the victim addicted to drugs or alcohol, constantly moving the victim from place to place so they don’t get comfortable, and restricting contact with the outside world so they do not have anyone to turn to for help.

Traffickers also use psychological tactics, such as threats against the victim and/or the victim’s family, insults and verbal abuse, manipulation, dependency, and shame. Traffickers utilize economic and legal tactics to maintain control over victims as well. Examples include keeping income/wages, seizing or destroying identification documents, preventing the victim from earning enough to pay off a debt and adding more charges to the debt, and making the victim think he or she will be arrested if they leave.

### *Slide 11-Trafficking vs. Smuggling*

Smuggling and trafficking are often confused with one another, but they are actually very different. Smuggling is consensual and is a crime against a country. It is movement across an international border that facilitates unlawful entry into a country. Smuggling usually involves a fee and the relationship between the smuggler and the person smuggled ends when the entry is complete. Trafficking, on the other hand, involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion. It is a crime against a person and does not need to involve movement or crossing borders.



### Slide 12 and 13 -Examples of Trafficking

Now we are going to do an exercise. Look at each of the scenarios and decide if this may be a case of human trafficking.

- 1) A victim agreed to take a job, but she was lied to about the pay and working conditions. Could this be trafficking? Answer: **Yes**, it could because force, fraud, coercion or other prohibited means were used.
- 2) A victim was made to perform sex acts for others for money by her husband. Could this be trafficking? Answer: **Yes**, because the victim was compelled/forced to perform commercial sex acts. The profile of the trafficker (in this case, her husband) does not matter.
- 3) A man had freedom of movement during the day and had multiple opportunities to escape. Could this be trafficking? Answer: **Yes, it may be trafficking**. Why? Even though he had freedom of movement, it does not mean he wasn't controlled by the trafficker in other ways. You do not need to be physically locked up to be trafficked.
- 4) A person who is being exploited did not cross a border or travel to a different part of the country. Could this be trafficking? Answer: **Yes**, because you do not need to cross a border or travel to be trafficked. It is possible to be trafficked within your own community.
- 5) A group of workers endured very poor working conditions and were not fully paid. They were free to leave but chose to stay because there were no other opportunities/jobs. Could this be trafficking? Answer: **No**, because the workers were not under their employers' control and chose to continue working there. However, they are most likely victims of labor exploitation by employers who are violating their labor rights.
- 6) A woman told police initially that she had agreed to work as a prostitute. Later, she changed her story to say that she had been forced to do so. Could this be trafficking? Answer: **Yes**, this could possibly be trafficking because often victims are afraid of their traffickers and do not want to get in trouble or turn them in.
- 7) A group of workers did not believe they had any rights and worried about deportation, so they kept working at a factory. Could this be trafficking? Answer: **Yes**, this might be trafficking because their employers may have told them they had no rights and threatened to report their legal status if they left the job.



#### *Slide 14-Where Are People Trafficked?*

There are examples of places where people can be trafficked. As you can see, these places are all quite diverse. Trafficking can happen almost anywhere.

#### *Slide 15-16 -Trafficking Cases Close to Home*

These are two examples of human trafficking cases in the United States. Many people think that trafficking only happens in far away parts of the world, but it is a huge problem in the U.S. too. (Please see note section of PP slide for details of each case.)

#### *Slide 17-Victim Profiles*

Is there a typical victim for human trafficking? What type of person do you think of when you think of a trafficking victim?

#### *Slide 18-Victims are Varied*

In general, victims are quite varied. Some are educated, while others have no formal education. Victims include men, women, and children that have been trafficked as individuals, families, or groups. Trafficking victims can be documented or undocumented and have many different countries of origin. Victims are also diverse in age, race, class, gender, religion, and culture. There is no set profile for a victim of human trafficking.

#### *Slide 19-Challenges to Finding Victims*

There are quite a few challenges and barriers that come with trying to find victims of human trafficking. The first challenge is the hidden nature of the crime that makes it difficult to identify and even find victims. The lack of understand and awareness about human trafficking also creates a challenge. If people do not know that trafficking is a problem around them, then they will not be on the lookout for it. Another challenge is that law enforcement and others who may meet victims are not properly trained to deal with trafficking situations and how to correctly identify and spot a victim of trafficking. A 4<sup>th</sup> barrier is that the media may portray inaccurate stereotypes of traffickers and victims. Another obstacle is that trafficking victims rarely self-identify. They are often too scared, manipulated, or controlled to see what is really happening to them. Victims may not even disclose to police when questioned what is really happening, which is another huge challenge. Finally, traffickers may be well known in the community. They could be prominent members who are above suspicion, or well-known criminals/pimps that are difficult to bring charges against.



### *Slide 20-Signs of Trafficking*

Red flags include a person who has limited contact with family or friends, does not have control over where they go; and/or is not able to speak for themselves. There are also behavioral signs to be aware of, such as an individual who displays fear or anxiety and is afraid to talk. Other signs include receiving little to no payment; working excessively long hours over extended periods of time; and/or being subjected to a situation of dependence, such as being bonded by excessive debt.

### *Slide 21-More Signs of Trafficking*

There are even more signs of trafficking that people can watch for. Physical signs are often more obvious. Some examples would be that a person is unable to leave the work environment; they suffer injuries as a result of assault; there is security that is intended to keep workers confined, such as barbed wire, bars on windows, bouncers/guards, or dogs; and workers that live and work in the same place.

### *Slide 22-Who May Encounter Victims?*

Who may encounter victims of trafficking? These people are wide ranging. Neighbors and friends, customers at hotels, restaurants, salons, religious workers and lay persons, doctors and nurses, police, and domestic violence and human rights advocates are all example of people who may encounter victims. Can you think of anyone else who might be on this list?

### *Slide 23-Why Victims Don't Seek Help*

Many trafficked people don't look for help. This is for a variety of reasons. One reason is that often they do not even realize they are victims and have rights. Victims also may believe that the situation will get better or that debts are their obligation to repay.

Victims also don't seek help out of fear. They are afraid of being imprisoned/deported or endangering their family and their own safety. Victims are sometimes fearful of authorities and feel ashamed or disgraced by the things they have done.

Some victims feel a bond with their trafficker and are fearful of breaking it. Structural barriers also prevent victims from getting help. There are communication obstacles if they speak a different language. Often victims are physically isolated or guarded by traffickers, which inhibit them from reaching out for support.



### *Slide 24-What Drives Trafficking?*

There are a variety of factors that drive trafficking. The first is a high demand for commercial sex. The second is a demand for cheap labor, goods, and services.

An abundant supply is another factor that drives trafficking. Poverty, lack of employment opportunities, political turmoil, violent conflicts, family breakdown, and gender discrimination are all things that lead to a ready supply of potential victims.

The low risk to traffickers of getting caught and convicted also increases trafficking. There is minimal enforcement of anti-trafficking laws and often weak punishments for the few traffickers that are convicted. The profitability that comes out of human trafficking is another huge factor that drives trafficking.

### *Slide 25-Economic Factors*

The profits that one can make in human trafficking are astronomical. That fact makes human trafficking the fastest growing source of illegal profits. Human trafficking is so profitable because you can sell the victim again and again. A drug trafficker can only sell a bag of marijuana once for \$50. A weapons trafficker can only sell a gun to a person once for \$300. A human trafficker can sell their victim for \$30 to 1 customer, but can they turn around and sell her/him 19 more times that day alone. At this rate, in 1 year a human trafficker with 5 victims could make over \$1,000,000.

### *Slide 26-What Draws Victims?*

Victims can be drawn in for a variety of reasons such as false promises for better employment to provide for family members, educational opportunities, love, marriage, etc. The vulnerability victims are subjected to can increase their dependency on someone who is deceitful.

### *Slide 27-Risk Factors for Trafficking*

There are risk factors that make some people more susceptible to trafficking than others. These factors are persistent poverty, lack of educational and employment opportunities, family breakdown or lack of family support, gender, racial, and ethnic discrimination, low self-esteem, a history of abuse, living in a high crime community, weak community ties, and low awareness of worker rights. These circumstances make people more vulnerable because they are more likely to fall for false promises and situations of abuse.



### *Slide 28-Trafficker Profiles*

Traffickers are as diverse as their victims. They can be anyone from government officials to labor contractors or business owners. Recruiting companies, organized criminal groups, neighbors, friends, boyfriends, and even family members can all be traffickers. These individuals may act as recruiters, transporters, or guardians to the victims. People frequently traffic those within their own ethnic group. Traffickers are often in the U.S. legally while their victims may or may not have legal status.

### *Slide 29-How Traffickers Find Victims*

Traffickers find their victims through a variety of different avenues. This includes word of mouth, newspaper ads, employment agencies, force (abduction), internet ads, romance, social media, or a family relationship.

### *Slide 30 -How Trafficking Can be Prevented?*

There are many ways that trafficking can be prevented. Building trust between the community and police is one way. Another is for people to demand stronger penalties for traffickers. Also helping people who may be at risk can prevent trafficking.

Education is another big way to stop trafficking. Workers need to be educated about their rights and how to avoid situations that could lead to human trafficking. Customers need to be educated so demand gets reduced for commercial sex and products that were produced by slave labor. Community members can be educated so they can prevent and recognize trafficking.

Can you think of any other ways that could be added to this list?

### *Slide 31-Warning Signs*

In general, immigrants and citizens need to be wary of offers that are too good to be true or jobs that “require” a “fee” to be paid. Employers that want to keep identity documents or who will lessen wages to repay smuggling fees should also be avoided. Working conditions that are different than what was described or employers who do not give much information about the job in advanced are also things to be cautious of.

### *Slide 32-Track Your Efforts*

Keep track of your efforts, let us know how you’re helping your community.





*Slide 33-Quotes*

**End on an inspirational note.** Your interest in and decision to learn about human trafficking is a big step toward ending this problem. Also, by committing to share this knowledge with your community, you are helping to create protective factors that reduce trafficking in your local area. Little by little we can make a difference in the fight against human trafficking.

*Slide 34-Learn More & How to Report*

Learn More/Reporting Resources