

FIGHTING MODERN SLAVERY IN THE DIOCESE OF ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON

Issue 4 - August 2021



"You may choose to look the other way, but you can never say again that you did not know."

William Wilberforce

MESSAGE FROM DAVID FAREY

If slavery is ever truly to be made a thing of the past, then we must all be prepared to act! The Covid-19 pandemic has increased the vulnerability of millions of people, making them more susceptible to being trafficked and exploited – as indicated by reports of increased traffic across the English Channel in recent weeks.

This month's newsletter reports Bishop William Kenney's objections to the Home Secretary's latest immigration proposals, with details of how to spot county lines and slavery activity from the Clewer Initiative and charity Justice and Care.

We are pleased that several people have put themselves forward as Modern Slavery Awareness Ambassadors, though there is still time to sign up. We plan to hold a special commissioning event on the 18 October, Anti-Slavery Day - look out for more news on this soon.

Read on to discover how you can be part of the solution!

David Farey

Chair of the Diocesan Steering Group on Modern Slavery

RECRUITING NOW!

Modern Slavery Abolition Ambassadors

Our diocesan Modern Slavery Steering Group is working on a joint enterprise with the charity, Together in Sussex, to raise awareness of modern day slavery.

Ambassadors are an important point of contact within parishes. They are trained in anti-slavery issues and have a key role in our campaign to raise awareness. There is still time to join our fantastic team of Ambassadors and get involved. **Click here** to find out more.

For more information, or to register your interest please contact;

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Anti-Slavery Day 18 October



Time to get planning!

Last year, Ely and Lincoln Cathedrals marked Anti-Slavery Day in spectacular fashion. The Clewer Initiative sent a filmmaker to both cities to document and showcase the activity that took place to inspire others to take action.

You can watch a five minute film of the project here >>>

To find out more visit the Clewer Initiative website.

DATA SCIENCE CAN HELP FIGHT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Analytics, the mathematical search for insights in data, could help law enforcement agencies combat trafficking, identifying populations most at-risk and targeting prevention campaigns more effectively.

Human trafficking occurs in every country in the world. It is a supply chain in which the 'supply' (human victims) are moved through a criminal network to meet demand for cheap, illegal labour. Traffickers aim to operate 'off grid' and in the

shadows, though they usually leave a data trail however faint or broken. New mathematical tools aim to capitalise on this data, with great potential to interrupt the trafficking cycle, and provide the information needed to help victims escape to safety.

You can find out more here >>>

POLICIES CRIMINALISING ASYLUM SEEKERS PROVIDE A 'CHARTER FOR TRAFFICKING'

Bishop William Kenney CP, a member of the **Santa Marta Group**, has written to the Home Secretary, Priti
Patel with a strong message about the UK Government's
New Plan for Immigration.

While welcoming the Government's commitment to ensuring that police and courts have the necessary powers to bring perpetrators of modern slavery to justice - giving victims the support they need to rebuild their lives – he expressed serious reservations over elements of the plan. Bishop Kenney encouraged the Government to modify its approach and prioritise three key elements:

- An effective National Referral Mechanism that efficiently identifies and supports victims.
- Consistent recognition that modern slavery is not an immigration offence.
- Focus on pursuing perpetrators, not criminalising victims.

Click here to find out more.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY COLLECTIVE

A Royal Connection!

HRH Princess Eugenie of York has been working against modern slavery since 2012 and is Co-Founder of The Anti-Slavery Collective - a charity that seeks to bring change-makers together and highlight the incredible work that is being done to raise awareness of modern slavery as an epidemic.

<u>Click here</u> to watch a short film exploring the aims of the Collective.

You can read more and sign up for ASC's newsletters **here** >>>



Someone is in slavery if they are:

Forced to work - through coercion, or mental or physical threat

Owned or controlled by an 'employer' through mental or physical abuse or the threat of abuse

Dehumanised - treated as a commodity or bought and sold as 'property'

Physically constrained or have restrictions placed on their freedom of movement

SPOTTING THE SIGNS

Slavery - a guide from Justice and Care

Learn to spot the signs of slavery! We all have a part to play in the fight against modern slavery and human trafficking. Victims are often hidden in plain sight, but with your help they can be identified and rescued, breaking the grip of this terrible crime.

No two victims experience exploitation in exactly the same way, though there are common signs and patterns of behaviour that you can look out for. The charity Justice and Care have included a guide to 'Spotting the Signs of Slavery' on **their website**.



County Lines - The Clewer Initiative

County lines gangs frequently exploit young people with drug dealers targeting vulnerable children and adults to move drugs and money for them.

It can be difficult to know if a child or young adult is being targeted by county lines gangs. Detective Inspector Anne Rannard from the National County Lines Coordination Centre has put together a helpful list of potential indicators.

You can find out more on the Clewer Initiative website **here >>>**

... and Surrey Police; homing in on children

It is a common misconception that child trafficking is something that only affects third world countries but sadly that is not the case. Trafficked children are some of the most vulnerable in the UK. They are usually too afraid to seek help and it is hard to remove them from the people exploiting them.

Surrey Police are targeting child trafficking in the county as part of Operation Aidant. Identifying a child who has been trafficked can be very difficult as they are intentionally hidden from the services and communities who can identify and protect them. The Surrey Police website includes a list of trafficking indicators to look out for. **Click here** to learn more.



THE CLEWER INITIATIVE



"CHEAP PRICES! BARGAINS HERE!"

Growing pressure on firms from Section 54

We all love a bargain, but at what cost? Back down the line can we be sure that no one is being exploited?

Organisations, including churches, are being urged to scrutinize their procurement policies and supply chains to ensure that any goods and services supplied are as free of slavery and exploitation as they reasonably can be.

Under Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 there is a requirement for certain businesses to publish an annual statement - the main criteria being an annual total turnover of £36 million or more. Companies are not expected to guarantee that all their supply chains are 'slavery free', though, statements do have to describe the steps that a company has taken during the financial year to deal with modern slavery risks in its supply chains and business operations.

More information can be found on the Modern Slavery Policy & Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre website **here >>>**



ROUND UP

Modern slavery arrest in Epsom - click here >>>

Police investigating alleged modern slavery offences find illegal worker at Crawley Car Wash - <u>click here >>></u>

Portslade News may get new owners after modern slavery raid - click here >>>

EU sets out five-year roadmap to combat crimes like human trafficking - <u>click here >>></u>

Police response to modern slavery victims may be causing 'significant harm' to public interest, a report finds - click here >>>

'Grave danger' trafficking victims will be ignored' under UK immigration plans, warns modern slavery tsar - click here >>>

Pandemic fallout has exacerbated modern slavery in 'every region', report highlights - <u>click here >>></u>

Modern Slavery Act: the toothless tiger grows fangs and gets ready to roar - click here >>>

United Nations says UK migration plans are 'deeply worrying, warning of a catastrophe' for refugees and displaced people - click here >>>

Prayers for Victims of Human Trafficking

Prayer from the **Santa Marta Group**

We pray for the victims of human trafficking that they may be helped to rebuild their lives after the traumatic experiences they have gone through.

We pray that we, as the Church, will continue to defend victims of human trafficking.

We pray for our governments that they may make and implement laws that will protect victims of modern day slavery.

We pray for those organisations dedicated to eradicating modern day slavery that they will be courageous in the face of challenges.

We pray for those caring for the victims of human trafficking, that their efforts to help the vulnerable and traumatised may not go unrewarded.

Amen



The Prayer of St Josephine Bakhita

Catholics in England and Wales are invited to pray the prayer of St Josephine Bakhita for all victims of human trafficking. Despite the suffering she experienced as a slave, St Josephine lived a life rooted in faith, inspired by hope and characterised by love.

O God.

who led Saint Josephine Bakhita from abject slavery to the dignity of being your daughter and a bride of Christ, grant, we pray, that by her example we may show constant love for the Lord Jesus crucified, remaining steadfast in charity and prompt to show compassion.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen





THE ARUNDEL AND BRIGHTON DIOCESAN STEERING GROUP ON MODERN SLAVERY

Every year, thousands of men, women, and children fall into the hands of human traffickers, becoming unpaid modern-day slaves in their own countries and abroad. Our Diocese is committed to combatting modern slavery in all its guises and has set up a Steering Group attached to our Social Action Commission which aims to:

Facilitate and co-ordinate public awareness of Modern Slavery and its abolition.

Support the practical needs of the victims of modern slavery in conjunction with relevant organisations and groups - including the provision of safe accommodation for those rescued from slavery.

Assist the Police in bringing the perpetrators to justice.

Our diocesan Steering Group on Modern Slavery welcomes new members! To find out more or get involved visit the diocesan website.



Please share this newsletter with as many people as you feel able and encourage them to sign up to receive future news. To be added to our mailing list:

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