

# The Liberator

Monthly Newsletter of The Free Project



## Support & Participate in a Documentary on Human Trafficking

Contribute to an upcoming documentary about global sex trafficking. *Stopping Traffic: Discover the Movement to End Modern-Day Slavery* will feature stories of survivors and activists committed to ending modern-day slavery. They have asked the Free Project to take part in the documentary, and a number of our chapters will be featured. Help support this project by seeking donations for their Kickstarter campaign:

[https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/siddhalishree/stoppingtrafficfilm?ref=project\\_link](https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/siddhalishree/stoppingtrafficfilm?ref=project_link).

Also, let us know if you're interested in participating in the film!

### What to Do?

Need ideas for what to do on campus? Check out this segment for a monthly event or project idea.

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### Issue Spotlight

Focusing on one issue in trafficking and human rights, this segment provides information and inspiration.

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### Past & Present

Linking the past to present is essential for a successful movement. See how you can learn from history.

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## #FlytoFreedom with the CNN Freedom Project



It's time to spread the word among our campuses and encourage students to make concrete pledges to end modern-day slavery. **#FlytoFreedom**, a massive social media initiative by CNN's Freedom Project, seeks to do both, raising awareness *and* prompting conversation about real methods of eliminating trafficking. Making #FlytoFreedom an event on your campus is easy, inexpensive, and fun. Find

### *So how can you and your campus take part in #FlytoFreedom?*

- 1) Make a paper plane.
- 2) Write a pledge on the plane – something you're going to do to help fight modern slavery.
- 3) Share a video or photo your plane and pledge on social media using the hashtag #FlyToFreedom.

### Pledges

Here are three examples of pledges people could make - or people can come up with a pledge of their own - whatever they want to do to help.

- I will donate to an anti-slavery charity
- The next gift I buy will be slavery free
- I will ask my government representative what they are doing to end slavery

For an easy campus-wide event, your chapter could set-up a table in a pedestrian-heavy area of campus, and ask students to make airplanes, write pledges, and send those pledges soaring. Or you might as a chapter create airplanes specific to your goals, and fly them together in a special place on campus. Then nominate two friends to do the same by tagging them in your social media post. Think creatively because the more inventive your video, the higher the possibility your video might be featured on CNN!

The best submissions will be shown at [cnn.com/freedom](http://cnn.com/freedom). Even better: those video submission will be featured in a CNN video on International Day for the Abolition of Slavery – December 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is an incredible opportunity to reach & influence an unprecedented number of people.

Find out more about **#FlytoFreedom** at <http://edition.cnn.com/2015/10/21/world/fly-to-freedom-end-slavery>.



“Between 20.9 million and 29.8 million people are victims of forced labor, a type of enslavement that captures labor and sexual exploitation. Forced labor is most like historic American slavery: coerced, usually physically, and without pay. All other categories of slavery are a subset of forced labor and can include domestic servitude, child labor, bonded labor and forced sex. State authorities, businesses and individuals force coercive labor practices upon people in order to profit or gain from their work.

Not included in the International Labour Organization’s (ILO) [definition](#) – or their estimate of 20.9 million people trapped in forced labor – are cases of trafficking for organ removal, forced or child marriages and forced adoptions. The [Global Slavery Index](#), however, measures the estimated prevalence of modern slavery and includes child marriages in their analysis. The difference in their estimates (8.9 million) does not reflect the total number of child marriages, though it does impact the analysis. Instead, the differing estimates are a result of methodologies undertaken by each organization.

Forced labor is the type of enslavement used across the world to produce many products in our global supply chains. The fishing, textile, construction, mineral and agriculture industries are particularly laced with forced laborers.

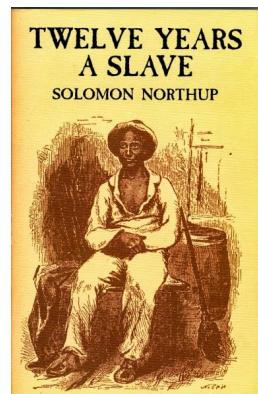
The private economy – businesses and individuals seeking to create a profit – exploits 90% of the world’s forced laborers, meaning that the desire to produce a profit is the largest motivating force behind the institution of slavery.

Many state and rebel governments also practice forced labor, with at least 2.2 million people worldwide in state-imposed forms of forced labor. When public governments exploit individuals’ bodies for their own gain, it’s a form of enslavement. It occurs in state prisons, in convict leasing programs and in work imposed by military or rebel armed forces. Child soldiers fall into this category of enslavement.”

This article comes from End Slavery Now. For more on this form of modern-day slavery, check out <http://endslaverynow.org/learn/slavery-today/forced-labor>.

# Who Are Today's Solomon Northrups?

You've probably heard of Northrup's enslavement & escape in the critically acclaimed *Twelve Years a Slave*. How do we connect this to today's slavery?



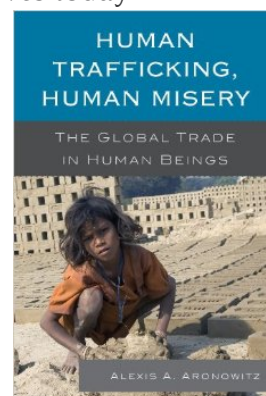
“...*Twelve Years a Slave* recounts an anguished story that fits inside our understanding of nineteenth-century African American history and the long bitter legacy of race-based chattel slavery. But consider another story from another time. Two sixteen-year-old

boys arrived in Bangkok from their native Buriram Province to the northeast of Thailand's largest city. Alexis A.

Aronowitz **tells their story**...Like Northup, captors took the unconscious bodies of the two and put them on a fishing boat. When the boys awoke to the nightmare ordeal, they—like Northup—met two other kidnapped subjects. The master of the vessel was complicit in the kidnappings. If he didn't know the circumstances, he knew the process. And he forced the children to work day and night doing the numerous dangerous tasks that were part of commercial fishing...

What became of the boys is unclear, but Northup turned his enslavement into an anti-trafficking campaign, publishing his autobiography and speaking against slavery thereafter...His legacy lives today in the **Solomon Northup Foundation**, founded by descendants, and in his powerful witness to slavery and injustice. Like appeals to forego sugar or cotton grown by slave labor, today's abolitionists ask citizens as consumers to consider the conditions under which their food, clothing, or electronics were produced. It is possible that the first human hand to touch the shrimp at your party or tuna in your lunch belonged to a slave.”

Find the full blog post, written by Calvin Schermerhorn, at [historiansagainstsavery.org](http://historiansagainstsavery.org)



The Free Project is a part of Historians Against Slavery, a group of scholars who bring historical context and scholarship to the modern-day antislavery movement.

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For more information on the Free Project & Historians Against Slavery, please visit our websites:

<http://www.thefreeproject.org>  
<http://www.historiansagainstsavery.org>