

“To be silent is to be unfaithful”

(The Church of Scotland strapline for their Modern Slavery initiative)

All churches of any denomination or tradition are invited to find opportunities within their services, house groups or church meetings to:

- introduce issues relating to the crime of Modern Slavery
- Help people spot the signs of human trafficking
- Know signposts to specialist support
- Use available resources to mark Anti-Slavery Day within their church community

It is hoped that as many churches from around the county will respond to this invitation. Will yours?

For further information see:

Diocesan website or www.cheshire-churches-together.org.uk

Spot the signs

If a person you encounter:

- Lacks self-esteem or seems anxious with an expression of fear; can you see signs of psychological trauma;
- Acts as if instructed by another. There may be control over their movement.
- Is not in possession of their legal documents; they may be held by somebody else.
- Seems to be bonded by debt or has money deducted from their earnings.
- Needs medical care; access to this care may have been prevented.
- Has been threatened or their family has been threatened.
- Is distrustful of authorities.
- Portrays any evidence of or suggests deception or coercion is taking place.
- Has any injuries that may be the result of controlling measures.

What can I do?

If you are concerned ring the Police on 999 or 101. Try to make sure you say the words ‘Human Trafficking’ or ‘Modern Slavery’ to the person you speak to. Or contact the Salvation Army Referral Helpline on **0300 3038151**.

Raise awareness within your congregation. Use prayers or the sermon slot to focus on the plight of people who are victims of trafficking. Free resources are available on the Freedom Sunday website <https://freedomundayglobal.org/> to help you plan a service.

We can all work together to raise awareness and take action to end Modern Slavery.

Helpful websites

www.care.org.uk/causes/humantrafficking

www.churchofscotland.org.uk

(enter Slavery and Human Trafficking into search box on Home Page)

www.stopthetraffik.org

(enter resources in search box and scroll down to CAMPAIGN: Freedom Sunday, click on 'Take Action: faith' or go to www.freedomundayglobal.org)

www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/mission/mission-theology.aspx

Church of England - Mission Theology Advisory Group has a range of resources including case studies, statistics and images to prompt discussion.

www.ctbi.org.uk/exploring-human-trafficking-and-modern-day-slavery

www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/antitrafficking

www.unchosen.org.uk (for on-line videos)

www.tearfund.org/en/nochildtaken/

<http://rhythms.org/nct-resource/>

www.hopeforjustice.org

Did you know:

Government figures suggest there are 13,000 enslaved and trafficked people in this country.

Identified potential victims are from 97 different countries

Over a fifth were children at the point of exploitation

By country of origin UK nationals are the fourth largest group of those exploited



Raising Awareness of Modern Slavery

An Ecumenical Initiative for churches in Cheshire

Churches Together in Cheshire, the Diocese of Chester and the Cheshire Anti-Slavery Network are working together to raise awareness of Modern Slavery.