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TOMBATING AND PREVENTION PROSTITUTION AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Prostitution is the business or practice of engaging in [sexual relations](#) in exchange for [payment](#) or some other benefit. A person who works in this field is called a prostitute, and is a kind of [sex worker](#). Prostitution is one of the branches of the [sex industry](#). The [legal status of prostitution](#) varies from [country to country](#) (sometimes from region to region within a given country), ranging from being permissible but unregulated, to an enforced or unenforced crime, or a regulated profession. It is sometimes referred to euphemistically as "the world's oldest profession". Estimates place the annual revenue generated by prostitution worldwide to be over \$100 billion.

Prostitution occurs in a variety of forms. [Brothels](#) are establishments specifically dedicated to prostitution. In [escort prostitution](#), the act may take place at the client's residence or hotel room (referred to as out-call), or at the escort's residence or a hotel room rented for the occasion by the escort (in-call). Another form is

street prostitution. Although the majority of prostitutes are female with male clients, there are also gay male prostitutes, lesbian prostitutes, and heterosexual male prostitutes.

There are about 42 million prostitutes in the world, living all over the world except for most of the Middle East and Africa. [Sex tourism](#) refers to traveling to engage in sexual relations with prostitutes. Some rich clients may pay for long-term contracts that may last for years. The position of prostitution and the law varies widely worldwide, reflecting differing opinions on victimhood and [exploitation, inequality, gender roles, gender equality, ethics and morality, freedom of choice](#), historical [social norms](#), and [social costs and benefits](#). But if prostitution is so bad? Some countries have long been legalized prostitution and it brings to the state budget a lot of money

Legal themes tend to address four types of issue: victimhood (including potential victimhood), ethics and morality, freedom of choice, and general benefit or harm to society (including harm arising indirectly from matters connected to prostitution).

Prostitution may be considered a form of exploitation (e.g., Sweden, Norway, Iceland, where it is illegal to buy sexual services, but not to sell them - the client commits a crime, but not the prostitute), a legitimate occupation (e.g., Netherlands, Germany, where prostitution is regulated as a profession) or a crime (e.g., many [Muslim](#) countries, where the prostitutes face severe penalties).

The legal status of prostitution varies from country to country, from being legal and considered a [profession](#) to being [punishable by death](#). Some jurisdictions outlaw the act of prostitution (the exchange of sexual services for money); other countries do not prohibit prostitution itself, but ban the activities typically associated with it (soliciting in a public place, operating a brothel, pimping etc.), making it difficult to engage in prostitution without breaking any law; and in a few countries prostitution is legal and [regulated](#).

In 1949, the [UN General Assembly](#) adopted a [convention](#) stating that "prostitution and the accompanying evil of the traffic in persons for the purpose of prostitution are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person" requiring all signing parties to punish pimps and brothel owners and operators and to abolish all special treatment or registration of prostitutes. As of January 2009,

the convention was ratified by 95 member nations including France, Spain, Italy, Denmark, and not ratified by another 97 member nations including Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States.

For some people, prostitution is a conscious decision and the opportunity to survive, but some people were not asked whether they want it or not they simply are kidnapped and sold into sexual slavery.

Sex trafficking is defined as using coercion or force to transport an unwilling person into prostitution or other sexual exploitation. The United Nations stated in 2009 that [sex trafficking](#) is the most commonly identified form of human trafficking and estimates that about 79% of human trafficking reported is for prostitution (although the study notes that this may be the result of statistical bias and that sex trafficking tends to receive the most attention and be the most visible). Sex trafficking has been described by Kul Gautum, Deputy Executive Director of [UNICEF](#), as "the largest [slave trade](#) in history." It is also the fastest growing [criminal industry](#), predicted to outgrow drug trafficking. While there may be a higher number of people involved in [slavery](#) today than at any time in history, the proportion of the population is probably the smallest in history.

"Annually, according to U.S. Government-sponsored research completed in 2006, approximately 800,000 people are trafficked across national borders, which does not include millions trafficked within their own countries. Approximately 80 percent of transnational victims are women and girls and up to 50 percent are minors," estimated the US Department of State in a 2008 study, in reference to the number of people estimated to be victims of all forms of human trafficking. Due in part to the illegal and underground nature of sex trafficking, the actual extent of women and children forced into prostitution is unknown.

Children are sold into the global sex trade every year. Often they are kidnapped or orphaned, and sometimes they are sold by their own families. According to the International Labour Organization, the occurrence is especially common in places such as Thailand, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Cambodia, Nepal and India.

Globally, forced labour generates an estimated \$3 billion, about half of it in the industrialised world and around one tenth in

transitional countries, according to the [International Labour Organization](#) in a report on forced labour ("A global alliance against forced labour", ILO, 11 May 2005). Trafficking in people has been facilitated by factors such as porous borders and advanced communication technologies, and has become increasingly transnational in scope and highly financially lucrative

The most common destinations for victims of human trafficking are Thailand, Japan, Israel, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Turkey and the US, according to a report by the UNODC ([UN Office on Drugs and Crime](#)).

Major sources of trafficked persons include Thailand, China, Nigeria, Albania, Bulgaria, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine.