

A discussion on the issues of human trafficking and global economy, HIV, and inhumanity: A case study of Nepal women

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〈요 약〉

Human trafficking is a booming underground business and is the fastest growing and criminal activity in today's society. The use of coercion or fraud marks the territory of trafficking. Most people trafficked suffer constant threats, violence, and forced acts while imprisoned by their traffickers. Such human trafficking entails significant problems not only for the victims but also for the economies and community health. Large corporations overseas have also been known to partake in the sex slave industry. Another hidden cost to the global economy is the cost of law enforcement and anti-trafficking measures being implemented. Further, sex Trafficking carries many potential health consequences, one of the biggest risks is HIV infection. That means, sex trafficking is an engine of the global AIDS epidemic with one study portraying nearly fifty six percent of all sex slaves having HIV or AIDS. Therefore, many of people are being infected with HIV and many other diseases every day through contact with the sex slave industry costing millions to society and the global economy. in this study, the author presents a case study of trafficking against Nepalese women. Nepalese women being trafficked are found to have a high prevalence of HIV infection. In conclusion and discussion, a few of solutions needed to be addressed for controlling human trafficking for sex slavery suggested.

주제어 : human trafficking, global economy, HIV, inhumanity issues, Nepal woman case

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I . Introduction

Human trafficking has plagued the world for a significant portion of history and continues to plague society today. Human trafficking, specifically sex trafficking, has a substantial effect on the global economy. The sheer quantity of money and bartered goods associated with the illegal sex industry could keep a small nation running for years. The economics of sex trafficking leads to large profits margins due to the easy supply of slaves and the high demand for the sex industry. Only by addressing both the supply side and the demand side of sex trafficking can the problem be thoroughly addressed.

Furthermore, sex trafficking against women ensures some other fatal problems such as HIV problems, mental and physical health issues. Sex trafficking is an engine of the global AIDS epidemic with one study portraying nearly fifty six percent of all sex slaves having HIV or AIDS. (Diep, 2005) In an industry where proper protection is often not used, infections and diseases are all too easily spread amongst the “clients”. The average cost of HIV/AIDS treatment is over six hundred thousand dollars per individual. This becomes a massive amount of money when one takes into consideration the sheer demand for the sex industry in the world. Many of people are being infected

with HIV and many other diseases every day through contact with the sex slave industry costing millions to society and the global economy.

Human Trafficking is a growing industry in which many individuals are forced into each year. Some of those taken for trafficking are used in sex work. A country that is experiencing a loss of its women to this industry is Nepal. India is a major destination country for trafficked women, particularly the city of Mumbai. It is estimated that over 200,000 Nepali Girls are working in the sex industry in India(Simkhada, 2008). These women are often trafficked into India and forced to work in Brothels. There is no accurate or definite number of the individuals trafficked, but the ILO estimates that around 12000 women as well as children are trafficked from Nepal each year(Simkhada, 2008). The most important implication of this study is that it is the first study to test four major theoretical models for juvenile delinquency(황상현, 2016). To understand the problems and issues relevant to human trafficking, this study presents a case study of sex trafficking against Nepal women. Therefore, it seeks to address what the correlation is for Nepalese women being used for sex trafficking and how they contribute to a growing AIDS/ Syphilis epidemic.

II. General understanding of human trafficking

Human trafficking is a booming underground business and is the fastest growing and second largest criminal activity in today's society. Human trafficking and human smuggling are terms often used interchangeably, but the two are completely separate concepts. In smuggling, migrants consent to their travel and pay their smugglers to get them illegally to a destination. This agreement always involves crossing a border into the destination country(Blattman, 2008). The use of coercion or fraud marks the territory of trafficking. Often a broken agreement pertaining to employment, or a falsification of one's destination mark the effective imprisonment of a person. Most people trafficked suffer constant threats, violence, and forced acts while imprisoned by their traffickers(Blattman, 2008). People are trafficked from one hundred and twenty

seven different countries to be exploited in one hundred and thirty seven countries. South Korean women and girls are trafficked for forced prostitution domestically. According to government authorities, A part of over two hundred thousand of South Korean teenagers are increasingly exploited in prostitution; particularly runaways, and more than 95 percent of commercial sexual exploitation in the ROK is arranged over the Internet(US DOS 2011). Each year, there are between fourteen thousand and eighteen thousand people trafficked into the United States, with many being for use in the sex industry(Blattman, 2008). Serious high-profile cases have occurred in recent years which resulted in public and political conners for successful sex offender management and monitoring strategy through community corrections(조윤오, 2016).

In many parts of the world, the young women of society are bought and sold in the sex trafficking business. Studies have shown that the average age of a trafficking victim is around fourteen years old(Hughes, 2001). Traffickers often target these adolescent girls as they are seen to be easily tricked. These girls are not psychologically developed to the point where they can plan over long periods of time causing them to be easily influenced by others. These women are referred to as natural resources and “trade and development.”

III. Human trafficking and global economy

This mistreatment of the women portrays them as nothing but a short term profit that can be harvested as needed(Kara, 2009). The problem lies in the fact that in this supply and demand structured global economy, sex trafficking is a very lucrative business and nearly impossible to eradicate. There is a supply of slave trading because there is a demand for these slaves. The two components placed together create an opportunity for sophisticated business to flourish. Due to the constant demand for commercial sex, a single slave bought for \$10,000 will end up making her owner more than \$160,000 before running away or dying(Hughes, 2001).

The profit margins are astonishing in this business with the total market value of

the illicit sex trafficking industry estimated to be in excess of thirty two billion US dollars(Kara, 2009). To put things in perspective, consider that a single pimp may have half a dozen sex slaves working 24 hours a day. With six slaves working nonstop, a single pimp could potentially make \$960,000 over the course of those women's careers in the sex industry. The fundamental economic of slavery is the maximizing of profits by minimizing costs of labor. In the sex industry, the only cost of labor is the housing and feeding of the slaves, which is very close to zero. Due to this the profit margins soar. Sex slaves represent only four percent of the global slavery problem, but bring in nearly forty percent of the profits.

Economic effect does not merely entail dollars and cents. Human trafficking is tied to a barter market with other illegal activities(Diep, 2005). Across the world, people are being traded for weapons used in terrorist activities, drugs used to finance terrorist activities, and toxic waste that corporations cannot obtain legal permits for. Terrorist insurgents have been known to trade women they capture, or even their own family, for weapons in order to continue their battles(Diep, 2005). Women are traded for drugs, illegal and medicinal, to help these people continue to further their terrorist ideologies. Large corporations overseas have also been known to partake in the sex slave industry. These corporations will often fund the trafficking of women to their destinations paying the costs of transportation, housing, and anything else necessary. In return for this funding, the traffickers will take and improperly dispose of tons of toxic waste that the corporations cannot get proper permits for due to other factors(Kara, 2009). All of these under the table transactions and activities are hard to track due to the lack of substantial paperwork. The most appalling of all is the fact that the slavery is being ignored by governments and policy makers who are trying to combat terrorism. If the government plans to fight an economic battle as well as a physical battle against terrorism, human trafficking needs to be addressed.

Also often overlooked, the cost to society plays a role in the total economic impact of the global sex trafficking industry. Sex trafficking is an engine of the global AIDS epidemic with one study portraying nearly fifty six percent of all sex slaves having HIV or AIDS(Diep, 2005). In an industry where proper protection is often not used,

infections and diseases are all too easily spread amongst the “clients”. The average cost of HIV/AIDS treatment is over six hundred thousand dollars per individual. This becomes a massive amount of money when one takes into consideration the sheer demand for the sex industry in the world. Many of people are being infected with HIV and many other diseases every day through contact with the sex slave industry costing millions to society and the global economy.

Another hidden cost to the global economy is the cost of law enforcement and anti-trafficking measures being implemented. Many countries, especially in Western Europe, have taken to flying helicopters nearly twenty four hours a day along the borders of their country in an effort to spot traffickers using illegal paths into the country(Hughes, 2001). The cost per hour of flight for a single military helicopter like the ones being used is nearly four thousand dollars. Flying twenty four hours a day, these patrols cost ninety six thousand dollars per day to operate, not included the salary of the pilots. For one year of patrols, thirty five million dollars is spent per helicopter’s worth of flights(Hughes, 2001). This is an enormous amount of money being funded by the citizens of countries across the world. Even with all these costs, the global populations and governments are barely affecting the outcome of sex trafficking with many sex slaves reaching their destinations of work.

There are many limitations when taking this data into consideration, the main one being the lack of substantial statistics on the subject matter. Without a true measurement of trafficking, it is nearly impossible to gauge the magnitude of sex trafficking across the globe(Tienfenbrun, 2002). Without knowing how many are trafficked, the true economic impact of the sex slave industry is impossible to ascertain.

The best researchers currently have are statistics based on trafficked people who have escaped or been caught by the authorities. Even the statistics that are readily available can be skewed or drastically different from other studies. There are studies that claim fourteen thousand people are trafficked for the sex industry each year; while other studies claim over fifty thousand are trafficked each year for this purpose(Tienfenbrun, 2002). The estimations on the true data can lead to governments overlooking the issues, law enforcement agencies not giving the subject enough attention, and several other

severe consequences.

IV. A case study of sex trafficking of Nepalese women

Human Trafficking is a growing industry in which many individuals are forced into each year. Some of those taken for trafficking are used in sex work. A country that is experiencing a loss of its women to this industry is Nepal. Sex trafficking of women has been noticed as a pressing issue in Nepal since the early 1990s(Simkhada, 2008). It is recognized on an international level and seen as a serious violation of rights. In Nepal, prostitution and trafficking of girls is seen as a social evil.

1. Background

India is a major destination country for trafficked women, particularly the city of Mumbai. It is estimated that over 200,000 Nepali Girls are working in the sex industry in India(Simkhada, 2008). These women are often trafficked into India and forced to work in Brothels. There is no accurate or definite number of the individuals trafficked, but the ILO estimates that around 12000 women as well as children are trafficked from Nepal each year(Simkhada, 2008).

Many girls who become involved in sex work in Nepal do so because they are compelled by economic circumstances as well social inequalities. Some voluntarily enter sex work while others are forced into it or deceived. Sometimes entry into trafficking potentially involves migration across international borders(Simkhada, 2008). Young women that are trafficked for sex work are a more secluded population, because of its illegal nature. Employers of trafficked women often keep their victims hidden from the public eye and only allow limited contact with outsiders(Simkhada, 2008). Trafficked girls may not identify themselves as victims because of fear of punishment from their employers, as well as fear of social stigma from involvement in sex work or their HIV-positive status, and a fear of their activities being revealed to their family

members(Simkhada, 2008). Implications for the research findings for preventing suicide attacks are discussed(김은영, 2016).

Rural poverty is a big factor in the migration process in Nepal, leading to the movement of women to find employment elsewhere(Simkhada, 2008). Women and girls may potentially be attracted by reports of higher incomes and the supposed glamour of life in urban areas, as well as easily deceived by the middle men or mediators that seek to lure women into the industry(Simkhada, 2008). Sexual exploitation and sex trafficking are also interlinked with trafficking for other purposes. For example, trafficking often takes part in stages where the victims are initially used for labor exploitation and later sex trafficked(Simkhada, 2008). Nepal is a traditionally patriarchal society and women are largely confined to domestic environments and duties. They have limited access to knowledge, skills, resources, and other opportunities and therefore they have little power(Simkhada, 2008).

2. Characteristics and paths into trafficking: Family Based Trafficking

Women being trafficked in Nepal generally possess the same characteristics. They are typically not married as well as young. The majority are trafficked before they are eighteen years old. Many of these women are illiterate and poorly educated(Simkhada, 2008).

Approximately 12,000 girls are sold by families to brothels in India(Rochman, 2006). According to John Frederick there are two forms of trafficking. There is a family based trafficking which is known as “soft trafficking” and “hard trafficking” which involves deception, luring, and coercing individuals(Holmstrom, 1999).

It is suggested that soft trafficking may occur more that certain individuals and officials are willing to admit. Frederick states that, “First and foremost, prostitution is a business, and not seen as immoral” as well as the fact that, “recruiting is often done by older prostitutes, coming home to their villages”(Holmstrom, 1999). In some villages, poor families may willingly sell their daughters to brothels because often these families

are desperate(Holmstrom, 1999).

3. Trafficking and Diseases

Sex Trafficking carries many potential health consequences, one of the biggest risks is HIV infection(Silverman, 2007). There appears to be a correlation among Nepalese between coercive sex work and HIV infection. The main source of AIDs among individuals in Nepal is heterosexual contact(Poudel and Carryer, 2000). The number of women in Nepal with AIDS is decreasing. Many women who are suspected to have the disease are returned home by the Indian brothel owners and keepers(Poudel and Carryer, 2000).

The return of these women to their countries of origin is seen as a barrier to HIV control(Silverman, 2007). Many of these survivors have very limited knowledge of HIV as well as limited access to medical services because of the social stigma they encounter(Silverman, 2007). This often leads them to be unaware of the fact that they have HIV. Also, being ostracized from the community may lead to these survivors to re-engage in risky behaviors such as prostitution(Silverman, 2007). Nepalese women being trafficked are found to have a high prevalence of HIV infection. There is an increased risk for those under 15 years of age(Silverman 2007). Around 38 percent of trafficked girls were found to be infected with HIV. About 49.6 percent of women trafficked to Mumbai are found to be HIV positive and the rate was also higher among those living in brothels(Silverman, 2007).

Sex trafficking victims that are HIV positive are more likely to be infected with other STIs such as syphilis and hepatitis B. This was found to be a result of their limited ability to negotiate condom use, forced sex, and young age of entry into trafficking(Silverman, 2008).

4. Possible Solutions

A strategy is needed to counter the growing problem with HIV amongst trafficked

Women. This solution needs to address, control of HIV prevalence and infection, the ending of trafficking, and care for the victims and survivors of trafficking living with the disease(Poudel and Carryer, 2000). This strategy should encompass an understanding of all the factors that contribute to women being forced into the sex industry. These factors include addressing the gender and social inequalities that exist for women as well as shaping the legal system(Poudel and Carryer, 2000). Public health policies need to be implicated to control the spread of HIV. Education needs to be provided to create awareness of the responsibilities of women and men in their sexual roles. Women do not need to be seen as the only ones required to take responsibility for their sexual actions. It must be brought to the public eye how the desperate situations and demand for sex fuel and perpetuate this industry. Efforts to criminalize this industry as well as education and solving the economic problem are the only ways to address the HIV and trafficking problem in Nepal.

V. Discussion and Conclusion

People are trafficked from one hundred and twenty seven different countries to be exploited in one hundred and thirty seven countries, with many being for use in the sex industry. South Korean women and girls are trafficked for forced prostitution domestically. According to government authorities, A part of over two hundred thousand of South Korean teenagers are increasingly exploited in prostitution; particularly runaways, and more than 95 percent of commercial sexual exploitation in the ROK is arranged over the Internet. These sex trafficking industry is increasingly expanded on a circulation system of demand and supply.

Large corporations overseas have also been known to partake in the sex slave industry. These corporations will often fund the trafficking of women to their destinations paying the costs of transportation, housing, and anything else necessary. In return for this funding, the traffickers will take and improperly dispose of tons of toxic waste that the corporations cannot get proper permits for due to other factors. Sex

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Sex trafficking is an engine of the global AIDS epidemic with one study portraying nearly fifty six percent of all sex slaves having HIV or AIDS. (Diep 2005) Many of people are being infected with HIV and many other diseases every day through contact with the sex slave industry costing millions to society and the global economy. Therefore a strategy is needed to counter the growing problem with HIV amongst trafficked Women. This solution needs to address, control of HIV prevalence and infection, the ending of trafficking, and care for the victims and survivors of trafficking living with the disease.

There are many possible suggestions for the solving of the sex trafficking dilemma of the world, with all of them circulating around central governments of the world. Slavery is being ignored by governments and policy makers who are trying to combat terrorism. If the government plans to fight an economic battle as well as a physical battle against terrorism, human trafficking, specifically sex trafficking, needs to be thoroughly addressed. There are two possible suggestions for the limiting and eliminating of sex trafficking with one focusing on the demand and one focusing on the supply(Gemmell). Demand side policy suggestions would include the increasing of inherent risks to the system. By created stiffer punishments and more substantial fines, deterrence would be created, potentially stopping people from committing these

trafficking crimes. An increase in the cost of committing these crimes will make a strong negative impact on both slave owner and consumer demand(Gemmell). This would create short term progress, but longer term progress would need to be had and can be addressed through supply side policy. Supply side policy would need to address topics such as lawlessness, corruption, and poverty. These are all topics that the global society is just not ready to address as of yet. There is no way that the world can eliminate lawlessness, corruption, or poverty. As long as there remains even a portion of the globe with a low socioeconomic status, people will be taken advantage of and trafficked from that area(Gemmell). The supply side policy is an unrealistic approach for today's society, and thus countries need to take measures to tighten demand side policy to hinder the sex slave industry. In summation, human trafficking, specifically sex trafficking, is an issue that needs to be addressed by the world in a timely manner. Many lives are being lost, many diseases are being spread, and many criminal activities are being funded due to sex trafficking in the world. The global economic impact, be it positive or negative, of sex trafficking is astonishingly high due to the great profit margin and low cost of labor. These factors alone will only further the illegal sex industry, which is why the governments of the world must step up and extinguish this dire condition. Sex trafficking will always remain as long as society demands the sex industry and people are allowed to supply the sex slaves to work in the industry.

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【Abstract】

인신매매와 관련된 국제경제, HIV, 그리고 비인간적 문제들에 대한 담론: 네팔여성들에 대한 사례제시를 중심으로

장덕형*

인신매매는 오늘날 지구촌에서 급속히 발전하는 지하산업이자 범죄 행위이다. 세계 일부 기업들의 해외 법인은 종종 이러한 성매매 산업에 참여하여 인신매매에 필요한 비용을 지불하는 등 범죄조직의 운영 및 수익에 관여할 뿐만 아니라 지하경제의 투자자금 생성에 깊은 관련이 있다. 이는 불법적 경제의 구성에 인신매매를 통한 성매매가 심각한 위험이라는 것을 반증한다. 또한 전 세계 유락녀의 56% 정도가 HIV 혹은 AIDS를 가지고 있으며 성매매는 AIDS 감염의 원인이 되고 있는 등 수많은 사람들이 성매매 산업과 접촉하면서 매일 HIV와 다른 질병에 감염되어 확산되고 있어 성매매를 위한 인신매매가 가져오는 보건의 문제 역시 심각한 문제로 인식되고 있다. 그러나 이러한 성매매를 위한 인신매매가 내포하고 있는 심각한 문제는 다양하지만, 일부 국가에서 보이는 바와 같이 정부와 정책 결정자들에게 성매매는 관심 밖의 문제로 외면당하고 학문적 논의에서도 미진한 부분이 되고 있다. 따라서 성매매를 위한 인신매매와 관련된 경제적인 파장과 보건 및 질병에 관한 연구가 매우 필요하다.

이에 따라 이 연구는 성매매를 위한 인신매매와 관련된 선행연구들을 분석하고, 네팔에서의 성매매의 실상을 파악하기 위한 인신매매에 대한 사례분석을 제시하고자 한다. 그리고 이 연구의 결론과 논의부분에서는 세계 여러 나라는 성매매 산업을 감축하기 위한 정책과 국제사회의 공조가 필요한 부분 등의 정책적 부분에 대한 내용을 논의하고 있다.

Key words : 인신매매, 국제경제, 인간면역결핍바이러스(HIV), 비인간적 문제들, 네팔여성

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