



“It is my great pleasure to support Free the Slaves in your sound research, targeted advocacy, and direct support of grassroots anti-slavery groups around the world. I don’t want to live in a world with slavery.”

**—Archbishop Desmond Tutu
Free the Slaves International Advisor**

OUR MISSION

FREE THE SLAVES is dedicated to ending slavery worldwide. We believe that ending slavery is an ambitious and realizable goal—and everyone has a role to play. To that end, we will work with individuals, governments, businesses, grassroots groups and international aid organizations to eradicate slavery forever.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Everything we do is weighed against one simple question: Will this help free slaves and help them stay free?

- We believe that all people have the right to be free from any form of slavery and to realize their true potential.
- We are committed to supporting sustainable solutions which don’t hurt those we’re trying to help.
- We seek to base all our strategies on accurate research.
- We are committed to building a diverse movement and to seeking guidance from local and regional anti-slavery programs around the world.
- We are non-partisan and politically independent.
- We are transparent with our finances and programs.

OUR APPROACH

FREE THE SLAVES knows that slavery flourishes when people cannot meet their basic needs. Slavery is rampant when poor people lack economic opportunities, education, healthcare and honest government. A holistic approach is required to eradicate slavery forever. That is why we:

- Free slaves around the world by working with grassroots organizations.
- Record and share their stories so people in power can see slavery first-hand and be inspired to work for freedom.
- Enlist businesses to clean slavery out of their product chains and empower consumers to stop buying into slavery.
- Work with governments to produce effective anti-slavery laws then hold them to their commitments.
- Research what works and what doesn’t so that we use resources strategically and effectively to end slavery. Forever.

OUR GOAL

To end slavery in our lifetime.





WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT SLAVERY

- A slave is someone who is forced to work without pay, under threat of violence, and cannot walk away.
- There are **27 million slaves** in the world today.
- Thousands of slaves are trafficked into the United States each year. Thousands more U.S. citizens are trafficked within our borders.
- The majority of slaves can be found in India and in African countries.
- \$90 is the average cost to buy a human slave around the world.
- \$370 is the average cost to free a slave

WHAT WE DO

FREE THE SLAVES liberates slaves around the world and attack the systems that allow slavery to exist.

HOW WE DO IT

FREE THE SLAVES brings the issue of modern-day slavery to public awareness. We produce award-winning books and hard-hitting documentary films. We maintain the largest video library that is freely available to people fighting slavery. We testify before governments and lead outreach efforts at universities, schools, community organizations and religious congregations. Our work has been featured on prime-time TV news programs, major publications, and leading-edge conferences, including:



SUPPORT GRASSROOTS ANTI-SLAVERY GROUPS

- We provide protection from violence by focusing public attention on the dangers anti-slavery activists face.
- We create an open forum to share ideas and solutions across national boundaries.
- We seize opportunities to influence policy-makers and the public on local and global levels.
- We build skills and recognition modern-day abolitionists need to obtain funding.



OUR CURRENT PARTNERS & COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDE:

AFRICA

Association for the Development of Rural Integration

Democratic Republic of Congo

Center for Research on Environment, Development and Human Rights

Democratic Republic of Congo

Challenging Heights

Ghana

Network for Community Planning and Development

Ghana

Social Support Foundation

Ghana

CARIBBEAN & SOUTH AMERICA

Comissão Pastoral da Terra

Brazil

Limyè Lavi (Light of Life)

Haiti

Repórter Brasil

Brazil

EUROPE

Anti-Slavery International

London, UK

SOUTH ASIA

Ashram for Trafficking Survivors

Bihar, India

Bal Vikas Ashram

Uttar Pradesh, India

Human Resource and Women's Empowerment

Varanasi, India

Pragati Gramodyog Sansthan

Uttar Pradesh, India

Rural Women's Creative Forum

Sindhupalchowk District, Nepal

Shakti Samuha

Kathmandu, Nepal

Women's Skill Creation Center

Makwanpur District, Nepal

WORK WITH CONSUMERS

FREE THE SLAVES helped gather public support for the passing of two key pieces of anti-slavery legislation: the California Supply Chain Transparency Act and the Conflict Minerals Act.

FREE THE SLAVES also encourages citizens to purchase certified Fair Trade or Direct Trade options whenever possible through information, education, and outreach initiatives.

WORK WITH GOVERNMENTS

Governments have resources to implement comprehensive and lasting solutions on a large scale. In 2000, **FREE THE SLAVES** helped generate bipartisan support for the passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) in the United States. We have also advised a variety of governments on assisting trafficked people, prosecuting traffickers and slaveholders and preventing slavery.

- **FREE THE SLAVES** has testified before Congress, consulted with the U.S. State Department and the World Bank, and helped educate Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents charged with combating slavery in the U.S.
- **FREE THE SLAVES** has testified before the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to discuss effects of ethnicity and race relations on modern slavery to create an open forum to share ideas and solutions across national boundaries.



CONDUCT AUTHORITATIVE RESEARCH

FREE THE SLAVES experts have written many of the leading and most-referenced texts on modern-day slavery, including:

Disposable People: New Slavery in the Global Economy

The award-winning go-to source on modern slavery written by Dr. Kevin Bales

Slavery: Photography by Lisa Kristine

A global, visual exploration of the lives of contemporary slaves and their inspiring emancipation

The Slave Next Door

An investigation of modern-day slavery in the United States by Dr. Kevin Bales and Ron Soodalter

Ending Slavery: How We Free Today's Slaves

A revolutionary proposal for how to end slavery in our lifetime

Rebuilding Lives: Introduction to Promising Practices in the Rehabilitation of Freed Slaves

A practical manual on all aspects of recovery for former slaves that draws from slavery rehabilitation programs from around the world

WHO WE ARE

Indika Samarawickreme Executive Director

Known as Indika Sam for short, Samarawickreme brings more than 20 years of international experience as a leader and strategist to the modern abolition movement. She has managed multi-million dollar programs, budgets and staff for Fortune 500 companies, and major nonprofit organizations. She takes a global perspective, having worked in program development in Africa, Asia, North America and Europe, and having grown up in Sri Lanka and living on three different continents. In addition to founding and leading her own firm, Samarawickreme provided strategic consulting and capacity building to more than 100 corporations internationally, with nine years of service focused on nonprofits. She also served on the faculty of the marketing department at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton Business School, teaching international marketing and supply-chain management to MBA candidates. Samarawickreme has held more than 25 board memberships over a 20 year span. She is a Chartered Accountant (the U.K. equivalent of an American CPA) and holds an MBA from The Wharton School. She brings a deep, personal commitment to eradicating slavery.

Kevin Bales Co-founder

Going undercover to meet slaves and slaveholders around the world, Bales exposed how modern slavery penetrates the global economy and flows into the things we buy. Named by Utne Reader magazine as a "visionary who is changing your world," and credited with one of "100 World-Changing Discoveries" by the Association of British Universities, Bales' research has sparked the creation and growth of the modern abolitionist movement. In 2000, he co-founded Free the Slaves, the American sister-organization of the U.K.'s Anti-Slavery International, the world's oldest human rights group. Free the Slaves has helped liberate thousands of slaves in India, Nepal, Haiti, Ghana and Brazil. The group works with slavery survivors to build new lives of dignity, and empowers grassroots activists to change the economic, political and cultural systems that allow slavery to persist. After reading Bales' book Ending Slavery, former president Bill Clinton told the plenary of the Clinton Global Initiative: "It tells you that it is a problem we can solve and here's how to do it." Bales holds a doctorate from the London School of Economics.



Karen Stauss Director of Programs

Stauss oversees our policy advocacy in Washington, and partnerships with community-based anti-slavery organizations in six countries. Previously, she was Managing Policy and Legal Counsel at Polaris Project, a national organization dedicated to combating human trafficking in the United States, where she managed the organization's policy and legal department. Stauss was closely involved in the drafting and advocacy for the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008. She has worked with state policymakers on anti-trafficking legislation in dozens of states, and has recently help craft national legislation to require companies to disclose what they are doing to eliminate slavery in the businesses and products. She has represented survivors of modern slavery in their immigration-related applications and advocated for victim witnesses within the criminal justice system. Before joining Polaris Project, Stauss opened the Human Rights Watch field office in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. Her work there included investigating war crimes and other human rights abuses. Stauss holds a B.A. from Duke University and a J.D. from Columbia Law School.

Desmond M. Tutu Free the Slaves International Advisor Archbishop Emeritus, Cape Town, South Africa

Archbishop Desmond M. Tutu is a South African cleric and activist who rose to worldwide fame during the 1980s as an opponent of apartheid. Archbishop Tutu was elected and ordained the first black South African Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town. He has received the Nobel Peace Prize, the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism, the Magubela Prize for Liberty and the Ghandi Peace Prize. Archbishop Tutu presented the Douglass Award at the 2008 **FREE THE SLAVES FREEDOM AWARDS**.

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