



Trafficking in America

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A Higher Level of Thinking for a Higher Level of Life

September 25, 2012

President Obama Addresses Human Trafficking at Clinton Global Initiative

Standing tall and confident in the usual President Obama style, our leader delivered a passionate speech to at the Clinton Global Initiative this morning. I was just able to listen for the first time a few minutes ago and was never more proud of how America is stepping up to the plate. He encouraged both victims and survivors to keep hope that they will be able to become all that God intended for them. He said, "Our message today is: we see you, we hear you. We insist on your dignity."

The President touched on sex and labor trafficking. He boldly stated that human trafficking is "A debasement of our common humanity," and that, "It ought to concern every business because it distorts markets."

As he delivered the reality of this issue by stating, "The injustice, the outrage of human trafficking that must be called by its true name: modern slavery," he continued to soften the possibility of old wounds surfacing. "I do not use that word slavery lightly. It evokes obviously one of the most painful chapters in our nation's history." He truthfully stated the fact, "It is barbaric and it is evil and it has no place in a civilized world."

Taking responsibility, the President acknowledged that the, "US was not immune from the epidemic and pledged to help stop the abuse of migrant workers and young women who are forced to walk the streets." Declaring a unified message to the world, he stated, "Nations must speak with one voice. Our people and our children are not for sale."

Informing the audience of hands on directives, President Obama has directed his administration to step up their efforts. New methods to spot it and stop it area being implemented; new methods of assessment to know what we are dealing with; strengthened training for law enforcement; and treating victims as victims, not

criminals, area but a few of the ways that our country will rise to the challenge to make America slave free. Last year a record number of predators were charged with human trafficking in America.

Regarding labor trafficking the administration is stepping up efforts to protect workers and stronger compliance. He strongly admonished, "American tax dollars must never be used to support the trafficking of human beings, we mean what we say and we will enforce it."

The President praised Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's work on the matter and announced a new executive order prohibiting federal agencies from doing business with countries and companies that support forced labor.

Our President declared, "Human trafficking is not a business model. It's a crime, and we're going to stop it. We are our brothers' keepers and our sisters' keepers."

With the expiration of the 2008 TVPA, the President urged Congress to pass the TVPA for 2011. "Whether conservative or liberal, democrat or republican, this is a no-brainer. This is something that we should all agree on. We need to get that done."

TAITF is highly encouraged by this special address singling out the crime of human trafficking in America.