Trafficking in Child Labor in Ghana and Senegal

Steven Brandt
United States Air Force Academy, c16steven.brandt@usafa.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/humtrafcon6

Part of the Criminology Commons, Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence Commons, Gender and Sexuality Commons, Health Policy Commons, Human Geography Commons, Human Rights Law Commons, Immigration Law Commons, Inequality and Stratification Commons, Place and Environment Commons, Social Control, Law, Crime, and Deviance Commons, Social Welfare Commons, Social Work Commons, and the Women Commons

http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/humtrafcon6/11

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Human Trafficking Team at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Sixth Annual Interdisciplinary Conference on Human Trafficking 2014 by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.
Trafficking in Child Labor in Ghana and Senegal

By: C2C Steven Brandt
United States Air Force Academy
Questions

1) What is the nature and prevalence of trafficking in child labor in Ghana and Senegal in fishing, mining, begging and agriculture?

2) What is the relationship between this and the governance of Ghana and Senegal?
# Human Trafficking is...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process</th>
<th>+</th>
<th>Way/Means</th>
<th>+</th>
<th>Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recruitment or Transportation or</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Threat or</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Prostitution or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferring or Harboring or</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Coercion or</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Pornography or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receiving</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Abduction or</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Violence/Sexual Exploitation or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fraud or</td>
<td></td>
<td>Forced Labor or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deceit or</td>
<td></td>
<td>Involuntary Servitude or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deception or</td>
<td></td>
<td>Debt Bondage (with unfair wages) or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Abuse of Power</td>
<td></td>
<td>Slavery/Similar practices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Solidarity Center
Ghana by the Numbers

- **President**: John Mahama
- **Population**: 25,758,108 (July 2014 est.)
- **Estimated # of Slaves**: 181,038 (Walk Free Index)
- **% of Pop. 18yo and under**: 42%
- **% of Children 5-14yo working**: 43.5% (UNESCO)
- **Per capita GDP**: $3,500
- **GDP (purchasing power parity)**: $90.41 billion
- **Gov. Revenue**: 16% of GDP (World Bank)
- **Current Account Deficit**: 10% of GDP (IMF)
Senegal by the Numbers

- **President**: Macky Sall
- **Population**: 13,635,927 (July 2014 est.)
- **Estimated # of Slaves**: 102,481 (Walk Free Index)
- **% of Pop. 18yo and under**: 50%
- **% of Children 5-14yo working**: 14.9% (UNESCO)
- **Per capita GDP**: $2,100
- **GDP (purchasing power parity)**:$27.27 billion
- **Gov. Revenue**: 19.5% of GDP (World Bank)
- **Current Account Deficit**: 5.1% of GDP (IMF)
Nature of Trafficking in Child Labor

• Children taken by some sort of coercion from one part of the country or from outside the country for the sake of use in forced labor in a domestic, agricultural or other production capacity.
• Often, parental consent or partial consent exists
• Internal vs. external trafficking
• **Agriculture**: no protective gear, heavy loads, dangerous tools, pesticides, beatings
• **Fishing**: drowning, suffocating, beatings, starvation (State Dep – “There are other issues in Lake Volta”)
• **Mining**: Use of mercury/chemicals, dangerous tools w/o protective gear, heavy loads
• **Begging**: Sexual abuse, beatings, heavy loads, starvation
• **Sexual Services**: Occurs in the above cases
Where Does it Happen Most? - Ghana

- Red = Fishing
- Blue = Mining
- Green = Agriculture
- Orange = Forced Begging
- Purple = Sex Trafficking/Domestic Labor
Mining Sites - Ghana

Source: World Bank 2014
Agricultural Production - Ghana

Source: FAO 2004
Where Does it Happen Most? - Senegal

Red = Fishing
Blue = Mining
Green = Agriculture
Orange = Forced Begging
Mining Sites - Senegal

Source: Plan Minérales de la République du Sénégal
Agricultural Production - Senegal

Source: Institut de Recherche pour la Développement 2010
## Nature and Prevalence of Trafficking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fishing</th>
<th>Mining</th>
<th>Agriculture</th>
<th>Begging</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Ghana’s Volta Region:</td>
<td>- Southern Ghana, Southeastern</td>
<td>- Southern Ghana: cocoa, cashew, rice</td>
<td>- Major cities in Ghana and Senegal,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>internal, Burkina, Togo,</td>
<td>Senegal, and West-central Senegal</td>
<td>- Southern and Central Senegal: cotton, rice,</td>
<td>especially Dakar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benin, Guinea</td>
<td>- Trafficked mostly internally; Burkina,</td>
<td>mangoes</td>
<td>- Estimated 40,000 in Dakar, 90,000 in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Senegal’s Coast:</td>
<td>Mali, Guinea</td>
<td>- Estimated 30,000-40,000 in Ghana, 7,000-15,000</td>
<td>Senegal; unknown in Ghana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>internal, Guinea-Bissau,</td>
<td>Estimated 5,000-15,000 in Ghana; unknown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea, Mali, Burkina</td>
<td>in Senegal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Estimated 20,000 in</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana; unknown in Senegal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Family ties and the definition of “family business”
- Poverty of surrounding countries and regional internal poverty
  - Decline of market prices of fish, cocoa, cotton, gold etc.
- Non-regulation and widespread promulgation of the informal sector
  - In general, 70% internally, 30% externally trafficked
  - Sexual abuse is prevalent throughout
Governance and the Law

• Both countries passed comprehensive anti-trafficking laws in 2005: prevention, protection, prosecution
  – Senegal: 5-10 years prison, 5-10 million CFA fine for trafficking, 2-5 years prison, 500,000-2 million CFA fine for forced begging
  – Ghana: no less than 5 years prison sentence
• Both ratified ILO WFCL Convention, adopted ECOWAS regional plan
• Both have laws specific to economic sector (i.e. Small-Scale Mining Law of 1989)
• Both have anti-trafficking task forces, Ghana’s CLMS
• Issues: Ghana – funding, training, access to informal sector (Patience Quaye)
  Senegal – no conviction since 2012, religion, funding, access

Governance and the Economy

• Poverty is a huge motivation to:
  1) Send children to daaras, fishing communities, mines etc....because...
     a) One less person to support (good intentions)
     b) Often families receive some compensation
  2) Receive or trafficking children...because...
     a) Children can be paid less
     b) Children can be resold
Governance and Immigration

• Both countries are destination and source countries for trafficking – despite ECOWAS, there is still little collaboration
  • Lela: Burkinabe girl “trafficked” by her Uncle in Ghana
  • OICEM – 90% of domestic laborers are West African
• Porous borders – officials care about money, regulate only “important” goods

Governance and Politics

• Politicians have little incentive/power to enforce legal regulations
  • Due to patronage system (i.e. repercussions of ending forced begging in Dakar)
  • Due to authority of local village leaders/chief
  • Due to cost and complexity of reaching far into the supply system (i.e. Senegal MOL)
• Little collaboration with U.S. or European governments regarding anti-trafficking training

Governance and NGOs

• Most NGOs focus on aftercare (i.e. Challenging Heights)
  • IJM : prosecution
  • World Vision, Tostan, Compassion, Chalmers Center and Free the Slaves: prevention through community development
• Little collaboration between government and NGOs regarding rehabilitation
NGO’s in Ghana

Compassion Int’l: 250 child development centers

World Vision: 34 area development programs

Chalmers Center: 60 savings groups

Volta Region:
- IJM
- Free the Slaves
- Right to be Free
- Finding Refuge
- PADOCEP

Afrikids Ghana
Challenging Heights
Madina Shelter
Osu Shelter
Orphans Heroes
Afrikids Ghana
Challenging Heights
Madina Shelter
Osu Shelter
Orphans Heroes
NGO’s in Senegal

- Tostan: 175 CEP communities
- World Vision: 150 projects (grouped into 28 integrated programs) in 61 communities

Locations:
- Maison de la Gare
- Empire des Enfants
- Guinndy Center
- Taxawu Suñuy Xalés
- La Maison Rose
- SOS villages d’Enfants
Governance and Religion

• Both countries are very religious: Ghana – 75% Christian, Senegal – 95% Muslim

• Religion does not stir the consciences of the slave-holder in Ghana or Senegal
  – Ex: “Jesus is Lord” on side of Volta fishing boat

• Religion connects *marabouts* to politics in Senegal preventing the end of *daara* based trafficking – “You lose votes, maybe you lose office, and you face trouble” (HRW)
Recommendations...

...regarding common threads between these industries:

1) Familial Ties and Poverty: Encourage the development of and partnership with the NGO community that focuses on developing communities – educating families on the harms of trafficking and on alternative means of economic production

2) Law Enforcement and Regulation: Increase anti-trafficking and police training; develop systematic regulation of daaras and the informal mining, fishing, and agricultural sectors; increase punishments and pursue prosecutions more vigorously

...regarding research:

1) Primary Research on locations of child laborers (mapping) and on the percent of child laborers that are actually trafficked
Future Research

Focused on the governance piece of the study including traveling to Ghana and Senegal to interview officials and NGO staff on the perceived issues regarding immigration, law enforcement, the impact of religion and the development of the NGO community.

For sources or other questions:

c16steven.brandt@usaafa.edu
Questions?