

TIDAK UNTUK JUAL
Depicting the Reality of Human Trafficking through Art

Morgan Walker
Pak Jango Pramartha, founder of Bog Bog
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Abstract

In this paper, I first aim to define human trafficking and illustrate the complicated nature of the industry using people's personal understanding. I then examine the affect globalization has on the human trafficking industry. After I explore the role of law enforcement both to combat human trafficking and to promote it through corruption. Then I look into NGOs' recovery, rehabilitation, and outreach programs. Meanwhile, I also examined how art has been used for social change in the past and how different styles of art draw different emotional connections within viewers. Synthesizing all of this information, I created a painting to promote awareness of human trafficking.

Introduction

Biting into a bar of Hershey's chocolate, my fourteen-year-old self lavished as I let the sweet, creamy taste fill my mouth. Sharing this bar of chocolate with my sister back at my home, she said that we really should have bought a bar of Fair Trade chocolate instead. She went on to explain that Hershey is notorious for relying on trafficked humans to collect the cocoa beans. The sweet chocolate went sour in my mouth as I let this fact sink in.

Five years later, as a computer science major, I realized the powerful ability for technology to map human trafficking patterns and save victims. However, lack of data is a huge roadblock. When I found out I was studying abroad in Indonesia, a major source country for human trafficking, I knew I had to take advantage of the opportunity to understand first-hand the human trafficking industry here.

Objectives of Study

Since human trafficking is a hidden industry, I first hoped to gain an understanding about how informed the general public is about human trafficking. I then wanted to understand who is targeted and why certain people are more vulnerable to becoming a victims of human trafficking. Knowing that frequently victims are viewed as criminals in the eyes of the law, I chose to explore the role law enforcement plays in both promoting and combatting human trafficking. Furthermore, NGOs do so much to fight human trafficking and I desired to learn about the different work they do such as rescue, recovery, and outreach.

Since lack of awareness of human trafficking is a key reason it so easily pervades our society, I wanted to look at ways to increase awareness. Art plays a huge role in increasing

public understanding on sensitive issues, as a result I wanted to examine how art has been used in the past to raise awareness of social issues in Southeast Asia. Using this information, I explored different messages art can send about human trafficking and how to best go about making an impactful statement.

Field Study Methods and Ethics

I began my research by trying to understand the public understanding of human trafficking. I spoke to three individuals. For all three I described the purpose of the interviews and got explicit oral consent. I chose to keep one anonymous because he did not feel comfortable having me record. For the other two, Faizal Lonthor and Wayan Kardana, I got consent to record.

Throughout the ISP period, I lived in Denpasar with Pak Jango, the founder of a political cartoon magazine called Bog Bog and a gifted fine artist. Because of his work, he has become very well connected in both the arts realm and that of social change. Through him, I met Ibu Caecilia Nirlaksita, a forensic psychologist who devotes her time to making a difference in the lives of those in need, whether she is personally visiting boys from an orphanage run by a pedophile or teaching doctors how to deal with the psychological stress of their patients. I ensured to get oral consent to record and ensured she understood to tell me if she did not want anything recorded. After telling me briefly about the human trafficking from East Indonesia, she referred me to Pak Yosep Julius Diaz (Pak Yusdi). Pak Yusdi is a chairman of Flobamora, a non-governmental organization in Bali originally founded to help each other during times of misfortune. Currently, Flobamora does a lot of work to combat human trafficking from Nusa Tengarra Timur in East Indonesia. Before

speaking with him, I obtained a written consent form and consent to record. He provided invaluable information about the work of Flobamora. Lastly, I corresponded with Pak Andy Prawira, the founder of Gerasa Bali, an organization devoted to preventing human trafficking and creating a safe space for victims. For our meeting, I obtained a written consent form and consent to record. As for my art piece, I made sure to give credit to any artists that inspired me along the way.

Since human trafficking can be a sensitive subject, I wanted to give the people I was talking to my full attention. I came prepared with a set of questions; however, as soon as we began talking, I rarely referred to them and instead asked questions relating to what they were saying. I tried to guide the conversation to cover major topics I was interested in including the demographics of the victims, the effectiveness of law enforcement, how to identify a human trafficking victim, the rehabilitation process, and effective outreach strategies.

Regarding ethical concerns, especially having had no personal connections to human trafficking, I had to approach the subject carefully since it had the possibility of bringing up past traumas. I was limited in who I could speak with in order to not cause emotional stress. For example, I would have liked to have gotten to know some victims personally, but with my limited time I did not want to pressure an organization to let an unknown foreigner come and speak to these girls that are struggling to get back on their feet. As a result, I ended up just speaking to leaders of the organizations who also provided invaluable information.

Furthermore, I would like to note that the trends I state in this paper reflect my personal experience when speaking with people, but, especially with the lack of available

data, it is impossible to know if they are accurate. Moreover, my conclusions section is based on my personal opinions based on my findings.

Human Trafficking

Public Awareness of Human Trafficking in Bali

Human trafficking is the third largest criminal industry, behind drugs and arms trafficking. These crime organizations gross billions of dollars and the industry is only continuing to grow. It is uncertain whether trafficking has actually increased or the police and NGOs have just improved their efforts, but according to PIAR, a local NGO, “11,000 people have been trafficked from East Nusa Tenggara since 2009” (Hawley, 2016).¹ However, in reality the number is much larger because for every case reported, that individual knows at least one other victim still in hiding (Laczko & Gramegna, 2003, p. 183).

Despite how vast the human trafficking industry is, it tends to get pushed aside in the minds of many individuals. Trying to gather an understanding of the Balinese comprehension of human trafficking, I talked to three different people. A 44-year-old farmer from a small village in Tabanan did not understand the term human trafficking, which is not a surprise since it is such a hidden industry (Paraphrased from anonymous individual, personal communication, 27 October 2016, Tabanan). Frequently people from small villages are unaware of the existence of human trafficking which makes them easy targets. On the other hand, Faizal Lonthor (Thor), a 19-year-old student in Denpasar,

¹ East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia is a large source area for human trafficking.

comments on human trafficking, "We are human. We should socialize without worrying about trafficking. Not even animals should be trafficked because every living thing in this world has the right to live" (Paraphrased from Faizal Lonthor, personal communication, 26 October 2016, Tabanan). He emphasized the idea that humans, "have the right to live," implying that when one is being human trafficked, they are not living (*ibid.*). Pak Wayan Kardana (Pak Wayan), a 47-year-old government officer, beautifully depicted human trafficking, "Human trafficking is buying people who have a soul. It's when someone takes someone's right to live and their soul" (Paraphrased from Wayan Kardana, personal communication, 26 October 2016, Tabanan). Traffickers view victims as commodities rather than real human beings.

Trying to understand what images come to mind when the general population pictures human trafficking, I asked Thor and Pak Wayan to describe instances of human trafficking that they had heard about. Both Thor and Pak Wayan were most familiar with the human trafficking occurring in the domestic servant industry in Indonesia. Based on stories from the news, Thor described how many Indonesians on the border of Malaysia are struggling economically and are not educated enough to know about human trafficking. Taking advantage of these families, Malaysians promise them a good life as domestic workers in Malaysia. These women, desperate for a better life, follow the perpetrator into Malaysia while avoiding the immigration police. Sadly, these women are forced to work excessive hours without pay and there are even instances of their boss ironing their faces as punishment. Many die over there, but some manage to escape with mental and physical injuries (Paraphrased from Faizal Lonthor, personal communication, 26 October 2016, Tabanan). Pak Wayan described how he thought most were convinced by fake agents to be

exported to major cities like Jakarta (Paraphrased from Wayan Kardana, personal communication, 26 October 2016, Tabanan). Additionally, when asked the most common form of exploitation on Bali, Thor believed it was prostitution due to the high tourist industry here (Paraphrased from Faizal Lonthor, personal communication, 26 October 2016, Tabanan). More tourists due to globalization adds a new intricacy to the human trafficking industry (refer to *The Impact of Globalization* section). After speaking with these individuals, it is apparent that many are unaware of human trafficking. Those that are do not think about how human trafficking surrounds them locally and what they can do to stop it. As a result, extensive outreach programs are essential to combat human trafficking (refer to *The Role of Non-Governmental Organizations* and *Art as a Tool for Social Change* sections).

Defining Human Trafficking

Human trafficking can be a difficult crime to explain because it involves many grey areas. International law tried to encompass all horrific industries involved by defining human trafficking as, “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation” (Bali Process, 2015, p. 6). Trafficking consists of multiple phases including recruitment, transportation, and control in the final location in which a variety of methods of deceit and coercion are used. Additionally, at the final destination victims may be forced into various forms of work including prostitution,

forced labor, domestic servitude, slavery, and removal of organs (Laczko & Gramegna, 2003, p. 180). Sadly, human trafficking is huge in Southeast Asia and is the source for about half of the international female sex trafficking industry. The sex industry not only includes brothels, but also massage parlors, karaoke bars, and escort services (Samarasinghe, 2003, p. 92). Throughout all of these phases, various groups, mediators, and individuals help run this crime industry making it very hard to combat (Laczko & Gramegna, 2003, p. 181).

Three Stages of Human Trafficking

Recruiting the Victim

Many different people are victims of human trafficking cases, but some characteristics make people more vulnerable. Victims can be anyone from young girls in prostitution to older men on fishing boats. The most common targets in Indonesia, however, are young girls from rural villages. Girls from North Sulawesi, West Java, and West Kalimantan are targeted for their beautiful skin and noses. Nusa Tenggara Timur has many adventurous people seeking a new life, making it a major source area of Indonesia. “Saya mau pergi melarapat,” loosely translating as “I want to leave destitution,” is a common phrase from the people of Nusa Tenggara Timur as they look towards an era of new hope (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar).

The syndicate targets uneducated families with economic instabilities because they are more easily manipulated and have less ability to run away (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar). They connect with the village leaders to map out which families are having financial problems (Paraphrased

from Andy Prawira, personal communication, 17 November 2016, Denpasar). A fake agent then waltzes into the village with pamphlets picturing gorgeous hotels and a vibrant life. These girls, accustomed to working long hard hours in the field, are blinded by the trafficker's smooth words and photos of fancy hotels. The traffickers may convince the parents by giving the father a down payment on his daughter's soon to be salary and then letting the family know she will transfer more later. The parents go on to explain that their daughter has no skills, but the trafficker waves this concern away saying that, for example, her language and restaurant skills will be taken care of (Paraphrased from Andy Prawira, personal communication, 17 November 2016, Denpasar). To further deceive these families, the community member colluding with the syndicate takes advantage of their relationship with the local family, convincing them to jump on this once in a lifetime opportunity (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar).

Transportation of the Victim

The hostage then has a long trip being passed off between multiple people before reaching their final destination. Victims are usually transported by cars and boats to try to avoid immigration complications; however, sometimes they travel by air as well. Right after leaving the village, they wait in a big city until about fifteen girls from the surrounding area are rounded up. Bali is then a common transit area for girls traveling from Eastern Indonesia to their final destination since it is so centrally located (Paraphrased from Andy Prawira, personal communication, 17 November 2016, Denpasar).

Transporting human trafficking victims is a very lucrative career, which is how people get roped into participating in such a horrible industry. One trafficker makes about three million rupiah per girl, so if they are able to bring twenty girls that is more than the president of a company makes. The transporters themselves go through a lot of risk when moving the victims and to avoid complications with the law, they have to bribe people along the way. At this point, most human trafficking victims are still unaware of the situation they have gotten themselves into, and actively try to hide from the police to avoid being sent back home (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar).

Arriving at the Final Destination

Upon reaching their final destination, the hostages come to realize the reality of their situations. For example, they may be told for two years they will not get a salary because of the transportation costs. Girls are commonly sold to a legal organization that provides domestic workers to families. These families agree to pay the foundation for the worker rather than the girl herself. The foundation justifies paying the girls under minimum wage since they provide room and board, but that results in six malnourished girls to a bed. Some of the houses hiring these girls are aware of the underlying situation, but they choose to ignore it just to get a cheap worker. They end up treating these girls like robots rather than real people. As another example of deception, a group of girls headed to Japan signed a contract to be on a cultural mission as a dancer, only to realize it meant being a stripper in a club. Additionally, about 35 men from Kupang Timur were rescued from a rubber plantation in Sumatra. These men were being forced to pay the company

250,000 rupiah to deduct the cost transportation of getting there (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar). Victims of human trafficking are coerced into these inhumane situations and do not have the power to escape.

The Impact of Globalization

Globalization adds new intricacies to the human trafficking industry making it even harder to combat. Globalization is vastly increasing the number of people traveling, whether as tourists or for work. Trafficking, like any other industry, relies on supply and demand.

The supply of human trafficking victims is increasing. With the greater ability to travel and better means of transportation, people in remote areas are more accessible. Additionally, with the huge economic discrepancies between source and destination locations (Emmers, Greener-Barcham, & Thomas, 2006, p. 491) and the access to mass media and television, the targets revel in the idea of “a new life” in a big city. Globalization has opened up more opportunities for people without skills to find work, for example as a domestic servant. However, this willingness to migrate increases the risk of falling into the hands of a human trafficker (Samarasinghe, 2003, p. 96).

Demand for industries in which human trafficking is common is also growing. As people have increasing ability to travel for pleasure and work, the sex trafficking industry is also increasing. Tourist destination are a magnet for sex trafficking. Additionally, for example, many men travel to Papua to work in mines. Since these men are away from their wives and families for extended periods in time, this creates a hole that prostitution fills.

Sadly, the result is many women and girls are trafficked there (Paraphrased from Andy Prawira, personal communication, 17 November 2016, Denpasar).

The advance in technology is unique in that it both increases the possibilities of human trafficking, as well as hinders it. From the comfort of their homes, Traffickers and clients can easily communicate and plan through "Usenet news groups, bulletin and message boards, web cams, live chat rooms, peer-to peer servers, and specific file sharing pro" (Samarasinghe, 2003, p. 96). Unfortunately, immigration control within Southeast Asia is lacking the necessary technology to document the movement of people, resulting in permeable borders (Emmers, Greener-Barcham, & Thomas, 2006, p. 499). At the same time, people are beginning to focus their efforts on developing technologies that map the patterns of the syndicate in order to catch them. Hopefully the ability of technology and globalization to combat human trafficking will soon begin to overwhelm the parts that promote it.

The Role of Law Enforcement

Corruption within Law Enforcement

A major reason human trafficking is so prevalent is because of all the corruption that occurs within law enforcement. In order to smuggle hundreds of people into a country, one must have connections with high ranking officials (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar). Similar to drug trafficking, "[t]he low risk high profit nature of female sex trafficking has embedded a culture of corruption among state officials, often facilitating a free run for crime syndicates," (Samarasinghe, 2003, p. 94). The syndicate is so wealthy that they can afford to bribe

judges and hire good lawyers. In one scenario, the owner of a brothel was caught, and instead of going to jail he paid a bribe so only his staff went to jail. Then, after a few months, he would be able to start up his brothel again (Paraphrased from Andy Prawira, personal communication, 17 November 2016, Denpasar). Additionally, Flobamora, the nongovernmental organization of which Yosep Julius Diaz is chairman, identified a human trafficking situation because a governmental official had signed off work permits of 29 girls traveling to Jakarta even though most of the documents were empty (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar).

Moreover, many bureaucrats follow the “don’t ask don’t tell” policy. Bali is a very small island so police can normally spot trafficking situations, however they are reluctant to intervene because they make a profit. For instance, the government profits from industries like sex trafficking that promote tourism (Samarasinghe, 2003, p. 98). As another example, children in Denpasar are being forced to beg for money and give their profits to the trafficker. Instead of saving the children though, the police simply take a cut of the cash (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar). The pain of so many people could be prevented if only the government officials and police department put an end to corruption.

The Absence of Effective Laws

The Indonesian government lacks the necessary laws to prevent human trafficking and defend victims. There are very few laws in place for the protection of workers, especially domestic workers (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar). Additionally, frequently human trafficking

victims are rescued only after they are already in trouble rather than before they are harmed. For example, it is much easier to identify a situation when someone is working excessive hours versus a child crossing a border without a passport (Bali Process, 2015, p. 21). Additionally, the Indonesian government cannot prevent travel. As a result, even if the police are able to identify a bus full of people that may be victims of human trafficking, the law does not permit the policeman to stop the bus (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar). Moreover, even if human trafficking victims are rescued, it is nearly impossible to win in court. Convictions are often based solely on victim testimony; however, many are too afraid to testify or have already been deported. As a result, many police officers do not prosecute traffickers (Laczko & Gramegna, 2003, p. 183). These laws are not conducive to saving victims and stopping traffickers.

To complicate the situation further, many victims are first perceived as criminals because of the illegal activity the syndicate forces them into. For example, prostitution itself is considered a crime, so as an adult one may be sent to jail. Moreover, victims may be roped into selling drugs. Recently, Gerasa Bali, a local NGO founded by Pak Andy, rescued some girls from the prostitution industry who were given drugs and told to sell them to their clients. Additionally, most are forced to use fake identities because their human traffickers take their real one (Paraphrased from Andy Prawira, personal communication, 17 November 2016, Denpasar). Police have to learn how to analyze the situation appropriately and be patient. Identifying a human trafficking victim is not something that is black and white.

The Difficulty of Recognizing a Human Trafficking Victim

Most human trafficking victims are afraid of consequences if they try to escape which makes it hard for police to identify victims. When considering the prospect of running away, questions of uncertainty swarm victims' minds. "Will my trafficker find me? Will my situation improve? Where will I live? Will I be deported? Will I be arrested?" (Vandenberg, 2012, p. 78). Traffickers manipulate their victims into thinking their current situation is better than any other life they could have. Furthermore, victims are afraid that admitting they are victims will lead them to be an outcast in their home communities, especially since their parents have already paid and even threw a ceremony for their departure. The victims blame themselves for their situation (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar). As a result, the police have to be dedicated to finding out small details, frequently by gaining the trust of the victim.

Even if victims want to escape, there are many obstacles preventing victims from running away. Traffickers often threaten to harm victims and/or members of their families. Additionally, most do not have enough money saved up because they do not have a salary. Additionally, the traffickers keep the identifications of all of their victims. Without a passport or identification card, it makes it nearly impossible to return to their home town. Aside from the issue of lacking an identity at border control and being viewed as an illegal immigrant, the local security like the *pacalan* will question them. Without an ability to answer the questions, victims may end up at the police station (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar). As a result, all law enforcement should be trained to look for signs of human trafficking. It is better to assume

someone is a victim first and provide them with the appropriate care rather than immediately criminalizing them (Bali Process, 2015, p. 2).

Recent Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking

Law enforcement in Indonesia is improving its fight against human trafficking. In 2002, Indonesia participated in the Bali Process where over 45 different countries met to define ways to reduce human trafficking (Bali Process, 2015, p. iii). In 2004, Malaysia and Indonesia designed an immigration contract for labor between the two countries to reduce human trafficking. However, an organization, Human Rights Watch, disapproved of the contract because it refused to provide security for identified workers and it did not mention domestic workers which comprises a huge portion of the human trafficking industry, especially in Indonesia (Human Rights Watch, 2004). In 2007, Indonesia implemented a comprehensive anti-trafficking law, including the punishments that would occur to members of the syndicate if caught. It was determined that the punishment would be three to fifteen years in prison. Though most traffickers are still not prosecuted, it helps to have a defined punishment so the syndicate are aware of the consequences if they are caught (U.S. Department of State, 2014).

The current president of Indonesia, Joko Widodo, has developed several policies that will in turn hopefully reduce human trafficking. He is helping villages to start their own businesses so they do not have to risk leaving home to find work. As a result, people will not be as desperate and consequently less vulnerable to traffickers (Paraphrased from Faizal Lonthor, personal communication, 26 October 2016, Tabanan). Moreover, he has also passed laws to reduce fraud within the government. The decline in corruption has

already been felt by some Indonesians. For example, Pak Andy explained that before, to renew his passport, he would have to pay a bribe, but now the officials just approve his passport without asking for money. The fight against corruption will hopefully also reduce the number of unethical government officials taking part in human trafficking
(Paraphrased from Andy Prawira, personal communication, 17 November 2016, Denpasar).

The government, police, and NGOs work together to aid victims of human trafficking. For example, recently the police identified a group of adolescent girls after going from café to café to identifying anyone underage. For one to two weeks they are taking good care of these girls while questioning them about their family, their home town, and who brought them to Bali. The government referred these young girls to Gerasa Bali who will help them find their passions and get back on their feet (refer to the *Rehabilitation Programs* section). The government provides this NGO with funds to cover the necessary medical expenses. (Paraphrased from Andy Prawira, personal communication, 17 November 2016, Denpasar). The government is taking strides to combat human trafficking, but it cannot do it alone.

The Role of Non-Governmental Organizations

Non-governmental organizations play an irreplaceable role in the identification and recovery of victims in addition to implementing outreach programs to prevent human trafficking.

Identifying and Saving Victims

Flobamora, a Balinese NGO of which Pak Yusdi is chairman, focuses on trafficking from Nusa Tenggara Timur. This organization recently saved 29 girls flying through Bali from Sumba to Jakarta. An NGO in Sumba succeeded in identifying the girls, but were not able to prevent them from getting onto the plane to Bali. As a result, the organization notified Flobamora. The police tried to stop "Sang Dewi," a team of women workers at Flobamora, from passing through security at the Bali airport because they argued these girls already had work permits. Not fully believing this story, "Sang Dewi" pushed through security anyway and located these girls at the terminal waiting to fly to Jakarta. Approaching these girls, Flobamora examined their IDs and noticed they were all brand new. They began questioning the girls to see if they were being deceived by traffickers:

Flobamora: "Where are you girls headed?"

Girls: "To Jakarta."

Flobamora: "Why are you going to Jakarta?"

Girls: "To work there."

Flobamora: "Where in Jakarta?"

Girls: "We're not sure."

Flobamora: "How will you know where to go once you arrive?"

Girls: "Two men escorting us are already on a plane to Jakarta. They will bring us to where we need to be."

Flobamora: "Where are these men?"

Girls: "They already left for Jakarta on another flight."

Knowing that these girls all had brand new identification and their escorts planned to be on a different flight, both of which are tell-tale signs of trafficking, Flobamora succeeded in preventing these girls from getting onto their next flight. That night, Flobamora met with the girls' boss and demanded to see the work permits. They soon saw that though the document was signed, it had been incorrectly filled out. Using this information, Flobamora was able to save these girls from being manipulated into being victims of human trafficking (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar).

In the end, Flobamora's aim is not to shut down the companies that hire these girls, but rather to get these girls what they deserve. There are thousands of people seeking jobs, and by shutting down an entire business many legal workers will also be left jobless. As a result, they focus on ensuring the illegal workers receive the benefits they were promised and get a ticket home (*ibid.*).

Gerasa Bali, an NGO founded by Pak Andy, identifies and saves victims in the prostitution industry. Two women, originally victims of trafficking in the prostitution industry and now working at Gerasa Bali, identify anyone underage working at bars in the Sanur red light district. To gain the trust of these young girls, they start making conversation with them and eventually invite these girls to coffee in order to have a place more beneficial to getting to know each other. Gerasa Bali is actually in the process of building their own coffee shop to foster an environment more conducive to people opening up about their current situations. Eventually, these girls feel comfortable enough to open up about their true age, at which point Gerasa Bali contacts the police to go into the brothels and save them.

Gerasa Bali also works to help victims of sex trafficking to understand their situation. Many women feel as if it is their fault they are stuck in human trafficking. To alter their way of thinking, Gerasa Bali holds weekly gatherings for people to share their life and pray together. These discussions work to build the confidence of these women so they truly believe they are strong and valuable. With this newfound confidence and the support of the group, many of these women admit they are ready to escape the prostitution industry. At this point, Gerasa Bali helps these girls organize their plans upon leaving such as where to go and how to support themselves. If need be, Gerasa Bali will also work with the police to get protection for them. (Paraphrased from Andy Prawira, personal communication, 17 November 2016, Denpasar). Gerasa Bali aims to build the self-confidence of women rescued from the prostitution industry so they can move on and have control over their own lives.

Rehabilitation Programs

People who have escaped human trafficking situations need to overcome the traumas of their past, and organizations are there to help them get back on their feet. Flobamora makes sure to look after rescued victims and works together with a local shelter (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar). Caecilia, a forensic psychologist, began a program to teach people massage so they would be able to find a job and send money to their home village (Paraphrased from Caecilia Nirlaksita, personal communication, 7 November 2016, Sanur).

Gerasa Bali has a safe house for young girls, almost all of whom were rescued from a café or brothel, and about half of whom are originally from Bali. Gerasa Bali works with

these girls for one or two years to build their self-image and help them discover their passions. When the girls first arrive, Gerasa Bali dedicates a full month to counseling, performing medical care tests such as AIDS and STDs, and personally getting to know the girl. Gerasa focuses on building the self-confidence of these girls, and to do so they allow the girls to pursue what they desire. If they want to go to school, they provide basic education in subjects such as language and math. If they would rather skip school and, for example, learn how to cook instead, Gerasa Bali provides the girls with the tools for that as well. Art is also used as a way to express their traumas. After these girls have realized their true potential, Gerasa Bali locates their families and reunites them. Once home, these girls return to school or begin working. There was only one case in which a girl's family could not be located, even after the police searched everywhere (Paraphrased from Andy Prawira, personal communication, 17 November 2016, Denpasar). Gerasa Bali effectively gets previous victims back on their feet and reunited with their families.

Pak Andy also organizes a fellowship every Sunday afternoon at Boshe night club in Kuta where people from all religions are brought together to worship God and talk about their lives. One Sunday I ventured over there to get the full experience. Upon walking into this club, the atmosphere immediately felt welcoming and conducive to people being true to themselves. In the front, I observed three girls from the safe house with their counselor. It was so fun to see them dancing around as if they had no worries in the world, and for one song they even got up on stage to sing (*ibid.*). Nongovernmental organizations are essential in helping victims learn how to handle their past traumas and give them the tools to lead a successful life.

Outreach Programs

In order to prevent human trafficking, it is essential to stop it before it begins and raising awareness plays a key role. Gerasa Bali educates parents in small villages about the syndicate's dishonesty, which is essential since these families are the most vulnerable. If families in villages know to look out for human traffickers, they will be less likely to unknowingly fall into a dangerous situation. Gerasa Bali reaches out to a variety of other groups in Bali including schools, universities, religious communities, and skaters (Paraphrased from Andy Prawira, personal communication, 17 November 2016, Denpasar). Flobamora holds seminar workshops, makes leaflets, and advertises, "My body is not for sale" (Paraphrased from Yosep Julius Diaz, personal communication, 15 November 2016, Denpasar). Additionally, art plays a huge role in raising awareness by catching people's attention.

Art as a Tool for Social Change

The Effectiveness of Art to Promote Social Change

People have an emotional connection to art, as a result it is an effective tool to increase awareness and personal attachment to human rights issues. In the book, Art and Human Rights, Turner and Webb (2016) explain that, "[a]rtists... use their creative skills... to achieve political change and social justice through emotional engagement" (p. 36). Artists play an important role in promoting social change because of the connection people automatically make with pieces of art. Many argue that art is merely something to look at;

however, “[i]t involves the work of translating what is being looked at, and is therefore capable of generating the sorts of personal change that may lead ultimately to social and political change” (Turner & Webb, 2016, p. 65). For example, a Malaysian artist Wong Hoy Cheong created 2008 *Maid in Malaysia*, a series of photographs of domestic servants in their wealthy boss’s homes. When interpreting this work of art, one can picture the appalling condition of these domestic servants. The stark contrast between their lack of basic rights and the wealthy mansions in which they work motivates collective action (Turner & Webb, 2016, p. 45). Awareness of a human rights issues is the first step to promoting change.

One piece of art has the ability to draw varying empathetic responses from people across cultures. Dadang Christanto, an Indonesian artist dedicated to reminding viewers of current human rights violations, was inspired by the oppressive Suharto regime to, “bear witness to the 1965-66 killings, and to keep alive the memories of those events” (Turner & Webb, 2016, p. 50). Documenting important events to raise public awareness is an essential aspect of art for social change; however, sometimes the government wants certain realities hidden. Since Indonesia censored much of his work, Christanto began crafting pieces that would induce deep connections even if the true inspiration remained unknown. For example, he created an installation in memory of the 1965-66 killings that could represent different catastrophes called *For those: Who are poor, Who are suffer(ing), Who are oppressed, Who are voiceless, Who are powerless, Who are burdened, Who are victims of violence, Who are victims of a dupe, Who are victims of injustice*, 1993. Many Japanese thought it represented the horrors in the aftermath of Hiroshima. On the other hand, the Cambodian genocide came to mind for Americans (Turner & Webb, 2016, p. 53). No matter

the interpretation, this instillation, along with all other art for social change, gives people the opportunity to grapple with social issues.

The capability of art to be understood by people of diverse backgrounds and languages inspired Pak Jango, a social change cartoonist in Bali and the founder of Bog Bog cartoon magazine. He is passionate about depicting the effect of globalization on traditional Balinese life. He first became inspired to start Bog Bog when he saw the reactions of people analyzing his work in an Australian art exhibition. Surprisingly, even though Australians come from a very culturally different background than Balinese, they immediately identified with the cartoons of globalization on Bali. Pak Jango asserted, "Everyone can understand a picture. A picture is worth a million words" (Paraphrased from Jango Pramartha, personal communication, 11 November 2016, Denpasar). Simply by looking at one image, people can understand a global issue from a different perspective.

Art creates room for discussion, and from discussion comes mutual understanding. I was able to see this first hand when working with Lila Chu, another SIT student, on two different projects for her ISP on street art for social change. For the first undertaking, a body painting competition at a Balinese festival, we decided to make a statement: "Love Trumps Hate" referring to the recent election. Soon Muslims began approaching us asking to take photos because of Trump's xenophobic statements. It was really beautiful to see how this simple piece of art could bring everyone together. Similarly, spending a day painting the first mural in a small Balinese village, many locals stopped which provided the opportunity to explain the purpose of the mural. This mural states, "Water is Life," a topic that everyone relates to, from the Dakota Access Pipeline for many Americans to the

problem of pollution in Bali's waterways. Art is capable of opening many different doors for dialogue.

A Hands on Experience

Purpose the Work

A young Indonesian woman excited to explore the world, was one of the few selected to become a hotel worker in the US after an extensive interview process. However, instead of arriving at a lavish hotel, she was taken to a random building and forced to have sex within three hours of her arrival. For months she struggled until she was finally able to escape, only to have the police not believe her story. It was a man who came across her in the streets that called the FBI and was able to get them involved to save the other girls.

Human trafficking surrounds us and yet most are unaware of its existence. People aware of human trafficking issues will be more inclined to help in scenarios such as these, so I hoped to create a painting that would make people stop and think. After I found out I would be able to display my art piece at Institute Seni Indonesia (ISI) in Denpasar for a multi-day art festival, I decided to gear my message to students and use my piece to convince others to take action to combat human trafficking (Fisher, p.1).

Practicing Painting with Acrylic

Laying out my paintbrushes, paint, cup of water, and paper on the table on Pak Jango's porch, I began to tackle using acrylic paint (Figure 1). It proved extremely difficult as it would dry almost immediately upon contact with the paper. I grew up learning with oil paint that takes forever to dry, therefore blending is easy. With acrylic, however, I learned

one has to use layers of paint in order to achieve a gradient effect (Figure 2). Through trial and error, I learned to water down the paint to the appropriate consistency.



Figure 1: Painting Set Up



Figure 2: Practicing color gradation

Sketching Concepts

To get the creative juices flowing, I began with quick freehand sketches, inspired by various articles, interviews, and artists, on a daunting blank piece of paper. The back of a girl curled in a ball. A child begging for money. A victim going through immigration. A person with multiple identities because their true identity was taken from them. A trafficker holding the identities of all of his or her victims. A girl lying down disintegrating into dollar signs. To get more ideas, I did the classic Google “Human Trafficking.” Images including girls with bar codes, girls with a man’s hand covering their mouths, girls crying and a pimp grabbing a girl’s neck popped up. I practiced drawing the expression of pain and fear on people’s faces, as well as how to draw children since their faces are proportioned very differently. Soon sketches started to fill the pages (Figure 3).

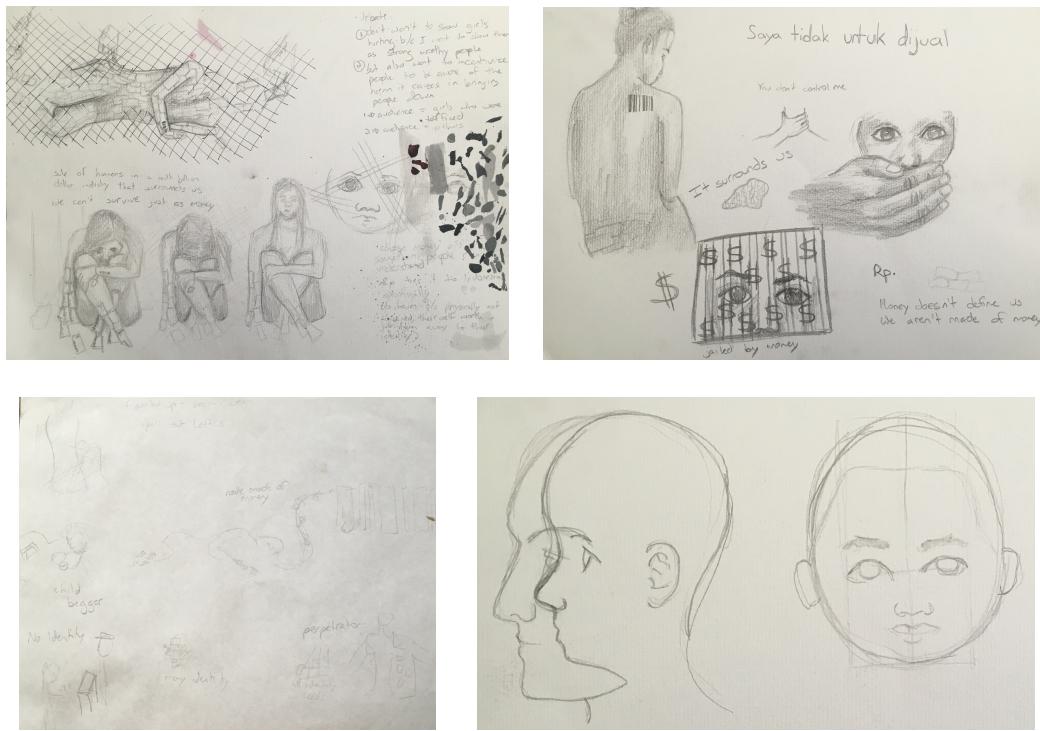


Figure 3: Various sketches

Determining the Message

Then I needed to determine my message. I could focus on a specific kind of human trafficking, like domestic servants. I could focus on the corruption that occurs in the government and police force. I could focus on the helpful work that NGOs do to save victims.

In the end, I decided to focus on the role money plays. After my interviews, I realized how everything boils down to the fact that people are valued for money, rather than being human. The people in the syndicate are in it because of the low risk high profit nature of industry. The syndicate targets economically unstable families and the victims agree to go with the human traffickers because they are facing economic problems. Upon seeing the trafficker's nice jewelry, plus everything that media has exposed them to, victims are drawn to the idea of a wealthier life so much so that they leave their home life behind. The

people of the syndicate simply view their victims as commodities as a way to make money. Money is an element of human trafficking that encompasses all of the force, fraud, and coercion involved as a result I thought it fitting to be the focus of the painting.

Designing a Relatable Subject

Since according to my interviews the majority of trafficking instances in Bali are young girls, I chose that as my subject. I settled on the sketch in Figure 4 because the fetal position emphasizes her despair. Part of me did not want to paint an image of a girl in pain because I wanted portray them as the strong humans they are. However, I realized then my target audience would be the victims themselves in an attempt to give them hope. Instead I needed a shocking image that would incentivize people to be aware the horrors happening in our backyard.

I desired to make a piece of art that everyone could connect on some level. I tried to draw a nondescript girl so people from all different ethnicities would be able to more easily connect with her. At the same time, I wanted to focus on human trafficking in Bali so I gave her an Indonesian nose and darker skin.



Figure 4: Final sketch

Developing an Impactful Style

Since it is impossible to capture the true horrors that human trafficking puts innocent people through, I settled on an abstract painting with aspects of reality. My hope is that people will be able to identify with the real person involved and the abstract nature of the painting will allow people's imagination to take hold. The geometric shading pattern of the girl emphasizes that in the human trafficking industry people are valued as commodities.

Toni Masdiono's art piece *Human: Object #1*, featured at a local art exhibition in Denpasar, inspired me to design a body becoming something else (Figure 5). To tie in the idea that money destroys people, I decided on the image of the girl disintegrating into money. I decided to create a multi-media piece with printed money. To draw a stronger connection with the spectators at the ISI art show, I decided to use rupiah.

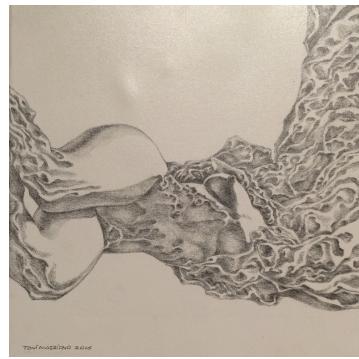


Figure 5: *Human: Object #1* by Toni Masdiono

Since my focus was raising awareness about the subject, I wanted to make a shocking piece to grab people's attention. I settled on a black and white body to accentuate the despair of the situation. To emphasize the girl's strength, I wanted a high contrast background and selected red because people associate it with danger.

Incorporating Impactful Details

As the painting progressed, I started to incorporate other details inspired by various pieces of art related to human trafficking. I stumbled across the NO project, whose aim is to educate youth about human trafficking by means of various art forms. The NO project features many young artists, all of whom have very poignant pieces. Katerina, a seventeen-year-old from Athens Greece, did a beautiful piece encouraging others to “take action until everyone is free” (NO Project, 2015). Inspired by these drawings, I decided to incorporate a barcode in the form of a tag to emphasize she was for sale. Moved by a painting that Myra Dracopoulos did of a woman’s abused body, I added subtle handprints in the background of my painting to hint at the many hands that get bloodied in this industry (NO Project, 2015).



Figure 6: *Take Action Until Everyone is Free* by Katerina Figure 7: Art by Myra Dracopoulos

The Show at Institute Seni Indonesia (ISI)

The day before the exhibition, I finished my final touches on the painting (Figure 8) and then sat down to brainstorm an effective title and caption that would encourage others

to take action. For my title, drawing inspiration from the common slogan, “I’m not for sale,” I decided to translate it into Bahasa Indonesia, “Tidak Untuk Jual,” to better connect with the people at ISI. As for the caption, I first wrote multiple paragraphs explaining different kinds of human trafficking. However, looking back at when I attend art shows, I rarely take time to read through a long caption. As a result, I thought it would be more effective to include a short blub: “Human trafficking surrounds us, even on Bali, and yet most are unaware of its existence. Take your first step to combatting human trafficking by looking up the work of local NGOs, paying attention to what products you buy, and talking to a friend.” My hope is that this would encourage people to take initiative and learn more.

Walking into the exhibition room, I admired all of the artists’ work including vibrant photos of Balinese dancers, pencil portraits, and modern furniture. Coming across my painting, I realized how much it stuck out. The style was unlike anything else in the room, and I hoped that this would make people stop a second and absorb the message.

While at the fair, local artists from ISI that I had met along the way approached me to compliment me on my art piece. Though this was not my intention, it gave me the opportunity to explain the story behind it. My hope is that there will be a ripple effect where the people I talk to hopefully are more aware of the issue of human trafficking and then go share their knowledge with other people.



Figure 8: My Final Piece, *Tidak Untuk Jual*

Conclusions

Efforts to combat human trafficking are increasing, however there is still a lot more work to be done. With globalization, travel is easier and the gap between the rich and the poor is more noticeable, leading to an increase in human trafficking. We now have to take advantage of globalization and the new technology to stop these traffickers. The police, government, NGOs, and the average individual all have to be involved to end the existence of this detrimental industry.

Effective reintegration programs with nurturing environments and appropriate medical care are essential to get rescued victims back on their feet. Ideally, however, human trafficking should be prevented from occurring in the first place. Once already held hostage, it is hard to identify human trafficking victims because of traffickers' ability to manipulate. Even once rescued though, the victims have to live with, often permanent, serious medical and mental complications.

To prevent human trafficking from occurring, the government needs to continue strict enforcement to end corruption. Additionally, the government is lacking the necessary laws to protect rescued victims and needs to take strides to change that. Furthermore, creating more work opportunities with sufficient pay is crucial to divert people both from becoming a trafficker as well as a victim.

Education about human trafficking is key and art plays a huge role in increasing public awareness. I learned after displaying my art piece in the exhibition at ISI that it is essential to make a piece that catches viewers' eyes. As a result, a conversation is started that will hopefully continue to spread and incentivize enough people to band together to prevent all the pain and suffering human trafficking causes.

Recommendations for Further Study

Human trafficking is a huge subject to tackle and it is impossible to cover all different aspects in details. In the future, I recommend looking more deeply into a specific realm of human trafficking. For example, one could concentrate on a specific industry, such as sex trafficking or domestic servitude which appear to be the most common trades on Bali. Alternatively, one could dive more deeply into the role a specific sector, such as health, psychology, corruption, government, police, or nongovernmental organizations. One could also look into a specific stage of the trafficking process including finding, transporting, and delivering the victim, either from the perspective of the victim or the trafficker. Furthermore, one could choose to focus on preventative practices, recovery practices, or outreach practices. For example, researching the reintegration of human trafficking victims into their home communities would be enlightening because in many communities there is

a stigma against the victims. One could also look into human trafficking from the perspective of the syndicate themselves, what motivates the industry to continue, and the crime that occurs within it.

I was able to speak with a psychologist and two leaders of NGOs combatting human trafficking. Though these were very in depth (all over an hour long) and provided a lot of invaluable information, in the future I would recommend trying to get into contact with people from other fields as well. Unfortunately, I had two more appointments lined up that fell through, one with a victim who now does outreach programs and one with a police officer who worked to combat human trafficking. These would have provided two very different perspectives on the situation. The rescued victim would have been able to explain in more detail the perspective of a victim. The police officer may have been able to discuss in further detail the corruption that occurs as well as the efforts the police perform to save victims. Additionally, it would be interesting to speak to an immigration official to know how they try to identify human trafficking victims, if they even do. With the police officer and immigration official it would be interesting to look into how much training they receive about human trafficking, if any.

One could also delve more deeply into the topic of art to combat human trafficking. For example, one could compare and contrast the effectiveness of different art pieces. An idea may be to emphasize the horror of human trafficking versus create a sense of hope for the rescued victims using different techniques with color, contrast, and subject matter. There is so much left to be explored on this topic and it is my hope that many people down the line choose to tackle this challenging matter.

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