

Slavery today: Suggested documentaries and news programs

This list is based on a resource prepared for RHR-NA by our partners at Free the Slaves. As we have not viewed every film, we strongly recommend that you watch any of these before using them for a public program. An asterisk next to the name of the film indicates that it is available from Netflix.

DOCUMENTARY FILMS

Anonymously Yours

After risking her life and footage in Burma, Massachusetts filmmaker Gayle Ferraro returned to bring the sobering tales of Southeast Asian prostitutes to Western audiences. Often traveling to restricted areas to meet their subjects, Ferraro and her crew devised a strategy for disguising the true nature of their visits. Despite their precautions, however, Burmese officials detained Ferraro's group twice -- each time paralyzing the filmmaking team with fear. But she continued to film. With each interview, Ferraro gained a deeper understanding of the victims of the Myanmar sex trade and the social structures that supported it.

Place order: <http://www.aerial-productions.com/>

Contact: info@berkeleymedia.com

*Black Gold**

Multinational coffee companies now rule our shopping malls and supermarkets and dominate the industry worth over \$80 billion, making coffee the most valuable trading commodity in the world after oil. But while we continue to pay for our lattes and cappuccinos, the price paid to coffee farmers remains so low that many have been forced to abandon their coffee fields. Nowhere is this paradox more evident than in Ethiopia, the birthplace of coffee. Tadesse Meskela is one man on a mission to save his 74,000 struggling coffee farmers from bankruptcy. As his farmers strive to harvest some of the highest quality coffee beans on the international market, Tadesse travels the world in an attempt to find buyers willing to pay a fair price.

Website: <http://www.blackgoldmovie.com/>

*Born into Brothels**

This documentary film traces the lives of several children in the Red Light district of India. The filmmaker, Zana Briski, is a New York based photographer who teaches a photography class to the children and attempts to enroll them in boarding schools in order to give them the opportunity for a better future. Most of the children, however, continue the lives that their parents had intended for them – prostitutes. Winner of the 2005 Academy Award for Best Documentary Film, *Born Into Brothels*, was produced and directed by New York based filmmakers Ross Kauffman and Zana Briski.

Website: <http://kids-with-cameras.org/bornintobrothels/dvd.php>

The Day My God Died

In Bombay alone, 90 new cases of HIV infection are reported every hour, and the victims are getting younger: two decades ago, most women in India's brothels were in their twenties or thirties. Today, the average age is 14. Narrated by Academy Award-winning actor Tim Robbins, *The Day My God Died* puts a human face on these abstract numbers as it recounts the stories of several Nepalese girls who were forced into the international child sex trade.

Contact: Andrew Levine Productions, levine@xmission.com

Phone: 435-655-8319

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Dying to Leave

Dying to Leave explores the current worldwide boom in illicit migration and human trafficking. Every year, an estimated two to four million people are shipped in containers, shepherded through sewage pipes, secreted in car chassis, and ferried across frigid waters. Others travel on legitimate carriers but with forged documents. An alarming number of these migrants end up in bondage, forced to work as prostitutes, thieves, or as laborers in sweatshops.

Year: 2004, Rating: PG, Runtime: 104 min, Produced in Australia & USA

Directed By: Chris Hilton and Aaron Wolf,

Website: <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/wideangle/shows/dying/index.html>

Place order: <http://www.roninfilms.com.au/feature/2396439441.html>

Four Years in Hell

Trafficking in women is big business in Nepal. Young girls are often sold by their own families, kidnapped to other countries and lose both their freedom and innocence. This is the tragic story about one such girl.

25 min. Video. Sale \$295. Rental \$55.

Contact: info@filmmakers.com or 212-808-4980

Freedom and Beyond

Freedom and Beyond is ultimately a story of hope and promise but it begins with voices of boys recently freed from slavery in northern India. They tell stories that are hard to hear. Important stories that help us learn what it takes to rescue children and help them rebuild their lives. and do whatever it takes to create a safe place for their children.

Available at: www.freetheslaves.net/store/freedom-and-beyond/

Girl Trafficking: Manushi for Sustainable Development

A docu-drama that depicts the process of trafficking of young girls from the rural hills of Nepal to the brothels in India. Filmed in Sindhupalchowk and Bombay, it deals with the social ostracization of girls infected with HIV/AIDS. It is being used as a training tool by other NGOs on gender sensitization at community level.

Website: http://www.iastate.edu/~anthr_info/cikard/feature/feature2.htm

Not For Sale: The Documentary

Hollywood director Robert Marcarelli produced and directed the film documentary Not For Sale, based on the book penned by David Batstone. Marcarelli and his film crew traveled over 120,000 miles and five continents investigating the modern slave trade and shot undercover footage of trafficking operations. The crew also captured on film the spirit of those dedicated abolitionists working in the field to emancipate the victims.

Available at: www.notforsalecampaign.org

Sacrifice

Each year thousands of young girls are recruited from rural Burmese villages to work in the sex industry in neighboring Thailand. Held for years in debt bondage in illegal Thai brothels, they suffer extreme abuse by pimps, clients, and the police. Sacrifice examines the social, cultural, and economic forces at work in the trafficking of Burmese girls into prostitution in Thailand. It is the story of the valuation and sale of human beings, and the efforts of teenage girls to survive a personal crisis born of economic and political repression.

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Place order: <http://www.brunofilms.com/orderform.html>

Contact: info@transitmedia.net

The Selling of Innocents

"The Selling of Innocents" an Emmy award winning documentary film made by the founder Ms. Ruchira Gupta portrays the trafficking of women and children from Nepal to the brothels of Mumbai. The film is also dubbed into Nepali, Hindi and Bengali. It is available for NGOs, academics and academia to use for advocacy purposes.

Contact: apneaap2003@rediffmail.com

Stop the Traffic

Thirty years of war left Cambodia ravaged and poverty-stricken. Since the end of the brutal Khmer Rouge rule, poverty, corruption and global tourism have all made it particularly vulnerable to the child labor industry. Children are trafficked into cities from rural areas to become sex slaves or sex workers, or trafficked out to comparatively wealthy Thailand to work in Bangkok as beggars, domestic workers, or laborers on construction sites.

Contact: sales@tve.org.uk

Tin Girls

A 55-minute documentary on the trafficking of girls for prostitution from Nepal to India. Tin Girls, one of the Valor Humano (Human Value) series of documentaries produced by Canal Plus, was first inspired by the magazine feature When No Means Never Again, written by Chelo Alvarez with the help of Anjana Shakya, President of HimRights, and published by Planeta Humano magazine, Spain.

Contact: masalaproject@sbcglobal.net

NEWS INVESTIGATIONS

Children for Sale

Dateline's Chris Hansen reports on the illegal sex industry that victimizes Cambodian children, and the efforts to stop it.

Place order: call 1-866-NBC-TAPE.

Child Camel Jockeys – Modern-Day Slavery

This is the Emmy and duPont award-winning documentary by HBO about the plight of thousands of children working as camel jockeys in the Middle East. This documentary focuses on the work of Ansar Burney in the United Arab Emirates to save the innocent children and bring to an end this form of child slavery.

Website: www.ansarburney.org/videolinks/video-hbo1.html

Sex Slaves

An estimated half-million women are trafficked annually for the purpose of sexual slavery. The women are kidnapped -- or lured by traffickers who prey on their dreams of employment abroad -- then they are "exported" to Europe, the Middle East, the United States, and elsewhere, where they are sold to pimps, drugged, terrorized, locked in brothels, and raped repeatedly.

FRONTLINE presents a unique hidden camera look at this world of sexual slavery, talking with traffickers and their victims, and exposing the government indifference that allows the abuses to continue virtually unchecked. Running time: 60 minutes.

Website: www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/slaves/

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