

TBT: Modern Slavery (MS1)

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Overview

ABM follows all international labor and immigration laws and does not tolerate the use of child labor, any acts of modern slavery, human trafficking, or other illegal, abusive, or forced labor practices.

This includes compliance with internationally recognized laws and regulations in all locations where we operate, regardless of local business customs.

Most of us think of slavery as an issue confined to history or an issue that only exists in certain countries. But the truth is that slavery is closer than you think and is something that is still happening today.

Modern slavery is a serious and brutal crime in which people are treated as commodities and exploited for criminal gain. It's an international problem, and due to the nature of the crime, the true extent of it is unknown. What we do know is that it's a growing issue, affecting men, women and children.

The Facts About Modern Slavery

Modern slavery is an international crime, affecting up to an estimated 50 million people around the world. This largely hidden crime transcends age, gender and ethnicity. There are lots of different types of slavery, if someone is in slavery if they are:

- Forced to work – because of mental or physical threat
- Owned or controlled by an employer, usually through mental or physical abuse, or threat of abuse
- Dehumanized, treated as a commodity, or bought and sold as property; or
- Physically constrained or have restrictions placed on their freedom of movement

Examples include women forced into prostitution; children and adults forced to work in agriculture, factories or sweatshops; and girls forced to marry older men. So, sadly, slavery did not end with abolition in the 19th century. It's an illegal practice that still blights our contemporary world.

Do

- ✓ Be vigilant – look out for the warning signs that may indicate something is wrong.
- ✓ Speak out if you're concerned that someone might be a victim.
- ✓ Complete appropriate training courses at ABM.
- ✓ Look at our Modern Slavery Statement.

Don't

- x Attempt to act on your suspicions by confronting a trafficker or a potential victim. This can put you, and possibly the victim in danger. Report your concerns immediately.

Who is Affected?

There is no typical victim of slavery. Because modern slavery takes various forms, it affects males and females of all ages and races. But there are circumstances that make certain people more vulnerable to this crime. Poverty, limited opportunities at home, lack of education, unstable social and political conditions, economic imbalances and war – these are just some of the key drivers that contribute to it. What's more, victims can often face more than one type of abuse and slavery. Some common examples of the different types of modern slavery include:

- **Child Trafficking.** Young people (under 18) are moved either internationally or domestically, so they can be exploited.
- **Debt Bondage.** Victims are forced to work to pay off debts that they will realistically never be able to. Low wages and increased debts mean that they not only have no hope of paying off the loan, but the debt may also be passed down to their children.
- **Forced Labor.** Victims are forced to work against their will, often working very long hours for little or no pay in dire conditions, under verbal or physical threats of violence to them or their families. It can happen in many sectors of our economy, from mining and manufacturing, to hospitality and food packaging.
- **Sexual Exploitation.** Victims are forced to perform non-consensual or abusive sexual acts against their will, such as prostitution, escort work and pornography. Whilst women and children make up the majority of victims, men can also be affected. Adults are often coerced under the threat of force or another penalty.
- **Criminal Exploitation.** Often controlled and maltreated, victims are forced into crimes such as cannabis cultivation or pickpocketing against their will.
- **Domestic Servitude.** Victims are forced to carry out housework and domestic chores in private households with little or no pay, restricted movement, very limited or no free time and minimal privacy (often sleeping where they work).



Group/ Individual discussions

Questions

1. What does ABM not tolerate in its labour practices?
2. Is modern slavery still happening today?
3. How many people are estimated to be affected by modern slavery worldwide?
4. What is an example of forced labour?
5. Who can be a victim of modern slavery?