

Case Studies, Quotes and Discussion Topics

Case Studies

Hope's Story

Living in Nigeria, Hope experienced and witnessed horrible things happen to her family. To make ends meet she collected bottles on the street.

Desperate, she accepted a promise of a better life in the UK from someone she thought of as a family friend.

But when she got here, Hope was locked in a house and abused. She had no passport and couldn't speak English. Hope's trafficker made money from selling her and she suffered horribly. Luckily, one day her trafficker didn't lock the door properly and she escaped.

Found by the police, Hope was brought to a safe-house that was set up specifically for survivors of human trafficking. As well as being left physically scarred, her trauma left her with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and extreme anxiety. But, with an NGO's help she received professional healthcare and psychological support, one-to-one sessions with specialist staff and access to education and legal advice.

Details of this story have been changed to preserve anonymity. Go to www.unseenuk.org to read more case studies

Manisha's Story

I am from Africa. I am now 19. When I was younger my father used to drink all the time and I never knew my mother as she left me when I was a baby. I was sent to live with my Aunt in the UK who had promised to get me into a school and look after me.

My Aunt paid for me to come to the UK, but didn't do anything about getting me into a school. Instead I spent my days cooking, cleaning and looking after my Auntie's own two children. I worked non-stop from 6am to 1am each day. I was beaten most days. Once I was hit so hard in the head I had to have stitches. Then one day my Aunt tried to drown me in the bath, but I screamed so loud the neighbours heard my cries and called the Police. I was taken away from my Aunt.

I cannot go back home to Africa. I am too scared. My Aunt knows lots of people who would hurt me. Manisha received support to access health services and counselling, legal representation, healthy relationships workshops and supported housing, in addition to help in finding a place to worship.

With thanks to Unseen UK for permission to use these case studies, you can read more about their work at www.unseenuk.org



Quotes



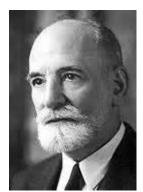
"You may choose to look the other way but you can never say again that you did not know" – William Wilberforce

Question: What do you know and not know about modern day slavery? You can tweet us your questions @Rene_Cassin (Have a look through our factsheets to find out more)

"Whenever I hear anyone arguing for slavery, I feel a strong impulse to see it tried on him personally." — Abraham Lincoln

Question: What role does empathy play in tackling modern day slavery?





"No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms." Article Four of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, co-authored by Monsieur René Cassin

Question: Why do you think that slavery still exists in the UK?

"This is the great human rights issue of our time" – Prime Minister Theresa May

Question: Do you agree that this is the great human rights issue of our time?





Questions to think about

Trafficking victims are often lured into another country by false promises and so may not easily trust others. They may:

- Be fearful of police/authorities
- Be fearful of the trafficker, believing their lives or family members' lives are at risk if they escape
- Exhibit signs of physical and psychological trauma e.g. anxiety, lack of memory of recent events, bruising, untreated conditions
- Be fearful of telling others about their situation
- Be unaware they have been trafficked and believe they are simply in a bad job
- Have limited freedom of movement
- Be unpaid or paid very little
- Have limited access to medical care
- Seem to be in debt to someone
- Have no passport or mention that someone else is holding their passport
- Be regularly moved to avoid detection

If you notice these signs of trafficking you can call the modern day slavery helpline on 08000 121 700

Questions to discuss:

- What do you think are the differences and similarities between 'old' and 'new' slavery?
- Would you be able to notice the signs of human trafficking?
- How do Hope and Manisha's stories make you feel?
- Read through some of the famous quotes, which one is your favourite and why? Discuss the questions raised.