Every year, millions of vulnerable children and women are trafficked for sex around the world.

Pimps and brothel owners often lure impoverished women with promises of a proper job, but then force them to sell their bodies over and over again. At other times, these traffickers trick families into giving up young girls, or they kidnap them to fetch a high price in the sex trade. Cybersex trafficking is on the rise as internet access increases everywhere. Now, pedophiles anywhere in the world can direct live sexual abuse of boys and girls hidden in private homes or internet cafes.

Controlled with fear and violence, trafficking victims are left vulnerable to repeated abuse and disease. Many lose hope of ever getting help.

**OUR IMPACT AROUND THE WORLD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>3,801</strong></th>
<th><strong>79%</strong></th>
<th><strong>697</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children and women rescued from trafficking since 1998</td>
<td>Drop in number of minors available for commercial sex in Cebu, Philippines, after four years of IJM’s work</td>
<td>Pimps and traffickers arrested since 2002</td>
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**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC PREVALENCE STUDY, 2015**

An investigation of sex trafficking in 20 towns in the Dominican Republic found that one in ten people in commercial sex is a minor; prevalence jumps to one in four when focusing solely on public areas, like street corners, parks and beaches.

Updated March 2019; The Walk Free Foundation & ILO, ILO
Sania was drugged by a trafficker and sold to a brothel in one of India's largest red-light districts, 600 miles from her home. Up to 25 men a night paid as little as $5 to abuse and exploit her. She tried to run away, but every attempt failed. She was engulfed in the dark world of sex trafficking for three years.

Our team worked with police in Mumbai to rescue Sani and three other girls in a joint operation. We found them in one of the seediest brothels we have ever seen. Sani's remarkable courage and resilience soon emerged. She told us she wanted to lead us back to find other girls who were still trapped.

Sania led us to find six girls hidden behind a trap door. "Don't be afraid," she told the girls, "I am here to rescue you."

Today, Sani has completed therapy with IJM and is studying to become a nurse—a job she chose because she loves helping people.

"I want to help, rescue others like how I was rescued."

—Sani, rescued from sex trafficking, pictured with her social worker

Meet Sani

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