The crime of human trafficking has enabled modern-day slavery to thrive in every region of the globe. Combatting the spread of human trafficking requires, first, recognizing the scope of the problem. **We are working to raise consciousness about the issue and help facilitate the conversation around ending this crime.** As we study the issues, we have committed to be a voice with the hope to make a difference among the worldwide community that works together to end human exploitation.

**KNOW WHAT IT IS.** The understanding around human trafficking has a lot of misconceptions.

As defined by the U.S. Department of State, Human Trafficking is, “The act of recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing, or obtaining a person for forced labor or commercial sex acts through the use of force, fraud, or coercion.” On the contrary, it is **NOT smuggling people across borders.** That is a common misconception. One reason the word “trafficking” is used is to align with other international crimes associated with illegal sales that bring tremendous harm, such as Drug and Weapons Trafficking.

The means used to traffic a person is part of how the crime is defined. It answers the question, “How was the person trafficked?” There are three common elements: force, fraud, and/or coercion. The purpose is to profit through a commercial sex act or labor.

**Defeat Human Trafficking Ministry**  
**Awareness is Our Weapon**