

# ROOTS & ROUTES

Vol 10, No. 8, August, 2021

## THE ISSUE

### Articles

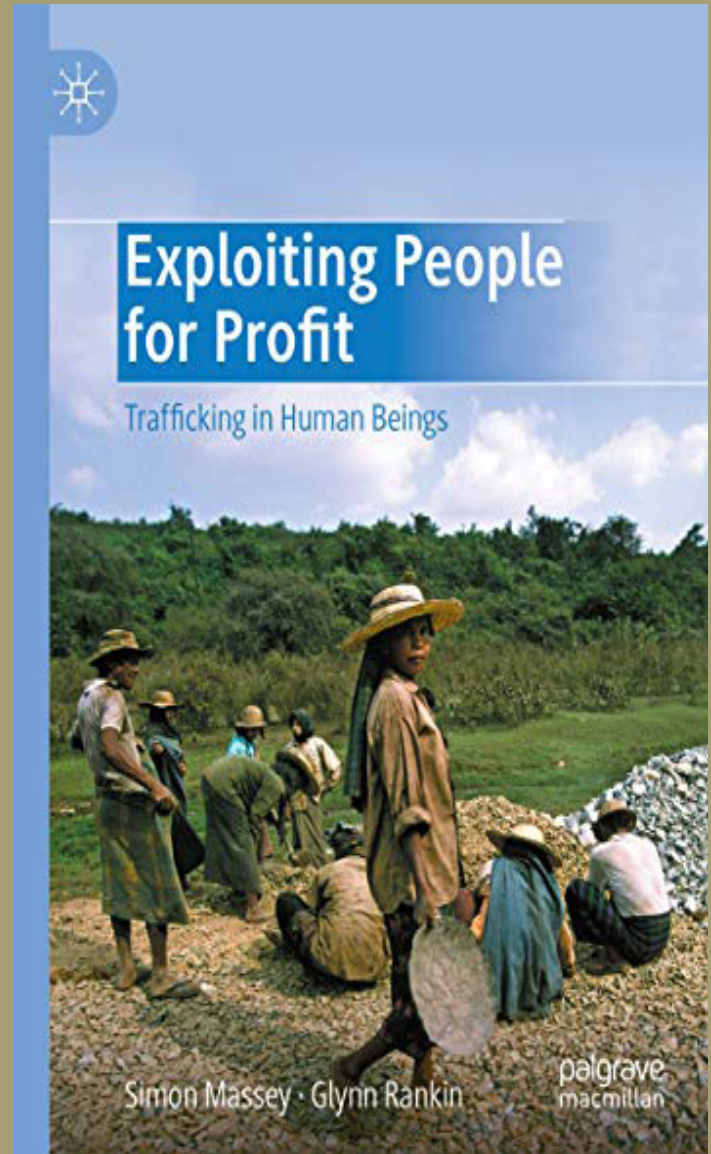
\* Gender, Violent Extremism & Unsafe Migration: Story of Al-Shabaab Brides

\* Temporary Migration Patterns, Fear, and the 2020 U.S. Decennial Census

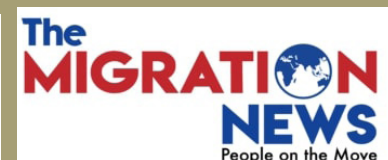
\* Make New Friends But Keep the Old: How Immigrants Can Stay Connected

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# Editor's Note



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Dear Readers

Greetings!

With immense pleasure, Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism (GRFDT) brings to you its monthly newsletter- 'Roots and Routes' for August 2021. Continuing the legacy of bringing emerging migration voices from several parts of the world, we have put together crucial constructive perspectives in this newsletter. All the write-ups in this newsletter have been published in [The Migration News](#), the media outreach portal of GRFDT.

This issue brings to you three articles and a book review. The first article, titled "Gender, Violent Extremism & Unsafe Migration: Story of Al-Shabaab Brides", authored by Richa Kundu, provides insightful analysis on trafficking and forced migration in Somalia. The second article, "Temporary Migration Patterns, Fear, and the 2020 U.S. Decennial Status", is written by Dr Matt Kaneshiro. It provides a distinct perspective on the U.S. Decennial Census and its repercussions on the immigrant community. The third article titled "Make New Friends But Keep the Old: How Immigrants Can Stay Connected" is authored by Stephanie Haywood. This article provides valuable suggestions for immigrants to forge new connections in the host country while maintaining connections in the home country. Additionally, Ranaa Madani has reviewed the book titled "Exploiting People for Profit: Trafficking in Human Beings". Reviewer has recommended the book for all readers interested in understanding various issues associated with human trafficking.

We hope that the well-researched content of our newsletter will surely help you in enhancing your existing knowledge base. We are looking forward to your observations and suggestions on this issue. You may contact us through email at [editorinchief@grfdt.com](mailto:editorinchief@grfdt.com).

Happy Reading!

Abhishek Yadav

## **Gender, Violent Extremism & Unsafe Migration: Story of Al-Shabaab Brides**

### **Introduction**

This article underlines the ongoing issue of unsafe and undocumented immigration in Somalia. Girl children are often forcibly recruited and illegally trafficked to be brides of the Al-Shabaab group in Somalia. Over the last couple of years, married women to members of the Al-Shabaab group are used as tools for violent extremism.

Apart from past news reports, there have been several qualitative research studies on Al-Shabaab, that highlights the group's coming into existence and rising into power. And one such research study is – “The Invisible Women of Al-Shabaab” by Dr.Orly Maya Stern[1] – where the author gives a detailed account of what the Al-Shabaab group is and how it functions. The Al-Shabaab group is basically a Somali militant group, formally known as “Harakat al-Shabaab al-Mujaideen”, (which means “the youth”) was established in 2004, and it comprises of nearly 6000 members and 30,000 – 400,000 “associated members”. It is Union of Islamic Court's militant wing. The militant group's moto is to wage war with those who are “enemies of Islam”. Since then, this group has waged war against Somalia's federal government, federal member states and African Union Mission to Somalia (also called AMISOM) [2][3]. This group is also identified as a side-shoot to jihadist movement that took place during the civil war in Somalia in 1990s. After waging wars and terrorizing nations, the group occupied parts of South and Central Somalia and governed the land by imposing extreme conservative Salafi version of Shari'ah law. This conservative laws imposed restriction on women in terms of women's participation/involvement in public sphere.

Between 2012 and 2015, the situation changed. Al-Shabaab was pushed out of their land (Central and South Somalia) and was forced to rural areas by the armed forces and AMISOM[4]. Hence, since 2015, Al-Shabaab has been on a mission to reclaim

their land and has been successful in all their endeavours as it controls the major roadways and large parts of both southern region and rural areas of the nation[5]. Furthermore, the group's power extended beyond the land occupied before, as its main functions were carried out in Mogadishu, Somalia's capital city. The group was responsible for carrying out attacks on Somalia, Kenya and Uganda and it imposed tax on the Kenyan, Somali and Ugandan territory and roadways. In order to maintain their business through taxation, extortion and attacks, they established a chain of spies and informers who work for them in Somalia, Kenya and Uganda. These spies and informers are none other than the brides or wives of Al-Shabaab group who play an important role in the intelligence division of the group. The brides or wives' group is called “Amniyat”, who apart from being informers, help out their husband in carrying out attacks. Their sole objective is to instil fear in the society regarding the group[6].

### **Identifying the Push and Pull factors & Role of Women in Al-Shabaab**

According to the interview reports in the Aljazeera news, the brides of Al-Shabaab group are recruited and trafficked from Kenya, Uganda and Somalia. The age group of these girls is between 12 to 18. However, there are many exceptions, as many females are educated. Widows are eager to become brides and hence give their full consent to work for Al-Shabaab. On the other hand, age group of male members within Al-Shabaab varies from 30 to above 60 years old.

These interview reports also underscored several push and pull factors, that became driving force behind bride's support and consent of Al-Shabaab. The major pull factor in this case is the false promise of better future, as these child brides were trafficked by the traffickers from Uganda, Somalia and Kenya on false pretext of better life, education, employment and better standard of living.

The push factors to support Al-Shabaab and work as brides for the group are mainly due to five major reasons. First one is the ideology of becoming an extremist, which resonates well in Muslim women from Kenya, Uganda and Somalia. As past literature highlighted, Al-Shabaab propagates the accounts/chronicles of how Kenya being a Christian State oppresses the Muslim living in the country. This marginalisation of Muslim people in the African nations resonates within these women. Even more, many interviewed women admitted the desire to do something, so other Muslim would not suffer. Hence, they support Al-Shabaab's approach and actions. Secondly, once the bride is married to the Al-Shabaab member, there is no other path other than to serve the group[7].

As already mentioned earlier, Al-Shabaab has imposed extreme laws that not only curtail women's freedom but also prohibit women's participation in public sphere. There are many instances and experiences shared by the child brides, such as what is life of Al-Shabaab brides. They cannot go out without men accompanying them or they are not allowed to work outside to sustain their family, which means that the families without man live in poverty. As well, they have mandated dress codes that covers their faces, hands and feet. Violation of these rules lead to severe punishment[8]. Even more, these brides have to attend compulsory religion classes, which teach them that Al-Shabaab is the non-corrupted group and women have a great responsibility in teaching the future generation to abide and contribute to the group. Thirdly, women are forced to serve the group through intimidation, torture and imprisonment. Under extreme laws, if women do not wear the mandated cloth, attend religion classes or go outside without men, then these women are canned on the spot, or brutally beaten, tortured and imprisoned.

As already discussed, that most of the brides were trafficked from Kenya to Somalia. After becoming brides, they have to attend the religion class, which are compulsory for Al-Shabaab women. Therefore, with continuous attendance in religion classes, they are brainwashed and later start to accept the religion, the actions of Al-Shabaab and believe that the actions of Al-Shabaab are right[9]. Fifthly, reaction to personal crisis, as many women are married in early age, have a fiancé or have a family member who was killed by

the state government. For this reason, these young girls and women want to join the group as brides to seek revenge for their loss of loved ones. This concept of revenge is popularized and publicized by Al-Shabaab because they propagated the belief that state is the perpetrator to all the injustice within the nation and whereas Al-Shabaab are the providers of justice[10].

### **Role of women in day-to-day functioning of Al-Shabaab**

Al-Shabaab uses these women for non-fighting purposes, mainly for smuggling weapons from one African country to another. In case of fighting purposes, they are mainly used as suicide bombers. Not only that, they play an important part in the intelligence division of Al-Shabaab by working as spies to collect information about the government. Women can easily mingle in the crowd, they are good communicators and less likely to be noticed, which make it easier for them to gather all the required information. Apart from that, women also play a crucial role in motivating other people to donate money, jewellery and goods to the group. At the same time, they also act as recruiters to recruit other women into the group and find them husbands. Based on the Al-Shabaab law, women who are under control of the group but have no husband are not allowed to run business, whereas women who are married and their husbands are fighters in the group enjoy a privilege of running a business within the group's occupied territory.

### **Factors behind leaving Al-Shabaab and Consequences**

It is also worth noticing that many brides are deceived, coerced and trafficked to Al-Shabaab. Other than the curtailment of autonomy and independence of women, they are also victims of extreme sexual abuse. According to past studies on Somalia's Al-Shabaab brides, it is uncovered that, the Al-Shabaab law recognized and criminalized rape and violence against women outside marriage. But on the contrary, it fails to recognize domestic violence, intimate partner violence, marital rape within the household domain.

Apart from that, many women later realize that they are involved with the wrong actions of Al-Shabaab, because the attacks carried out by the

group result in killings of thousands of innocent people also. Therefore, some of these women later decide to leave the group and escape to their homes and communities in Kenya, Uganda or Somalia[11].

But things get far worse when these vulnerable and abused women, also referred as “returnees” return to their communities. They are faced with retaliation from the Al-Shabaab by local people of their community, who see them as bad people. Then, the government of the respective nations alienate these women as they were fighters of Al-Shabaab and are linked to suicide bombings and violent attacks. Even more, the state police have also killed and abducted many returnees from the group[12].

The NGOs who worked with the returnees highlighted the urgent need for rehabilitation for these returnees as they should be given another chance to live a decent life. Because these returnees did not voluntarily participate in the militant group. And the money that government donates to NGOs to prevent these violent attacks should be given to the returnees, who are working at grassroot level to eradicate the violent attacks of Al-Shabaab, as they already know where, when and how Al-Shabaab functions, which help them to counter the violent actions of Al-Shabaab[13].

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**Richa Kundu** is an avid reader, fond of history, gender, feminism, mythology and religion. She is a demographer and gerontologist by training. Currently, she is pursuing her law degree at Oxford Brookes University and at the same time she is also interning with GRFDT in the forum of “The Migration news” and working as a Demographer/ Migration scholar under Migration Health South Asia (MiHSA), Global Policy Institute, Queens Mary University of London and wishes to make a future as a barrister and demographer.

[1] The Invisible Women of Al-Shabaab. Adam Smith International. <http://www.orlystern.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/The-Invisible-Women-of-al-Shabaab-.pdf> accessed on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021

[2]<https://www.aljazeera.com/program/inside-story/2013/9/23/al-shabab-a-war-of-vengeance> accessed on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2021.

[3]<https://amisom-au.org/> accessed on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

[4] The Invisible Women of Al-Shabaab. Adam Smith International. <http://www.orlystern.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/The-Invisible-Women-of-al-Shabaab-.pdf> accessed on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021.

[5]ibid.

[6]ibid.

[7]<https://scroll.in/article/987725/kenyan-women-and-girls-on-why-they-joined-al-shabaab-terrorists> accessed on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

[8] The Invisible Women of Al-Shabaab. Adam Smith International. <http://www.orlystern.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/The-Invisible-Women-of-al-Shabaab-.pdf> accessed on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021.

[9]ibid.

[10]<https://jamestown.org/program/asset-or-victims-a-portrait-of-women-within-al-shabaab/> accessed on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

[11]<https://www.aljazeera.com/program/radicalised-youth/2018/11/27/daughters-of-al-shabab> accessed on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021

[12]ibid.

[13]ibid.

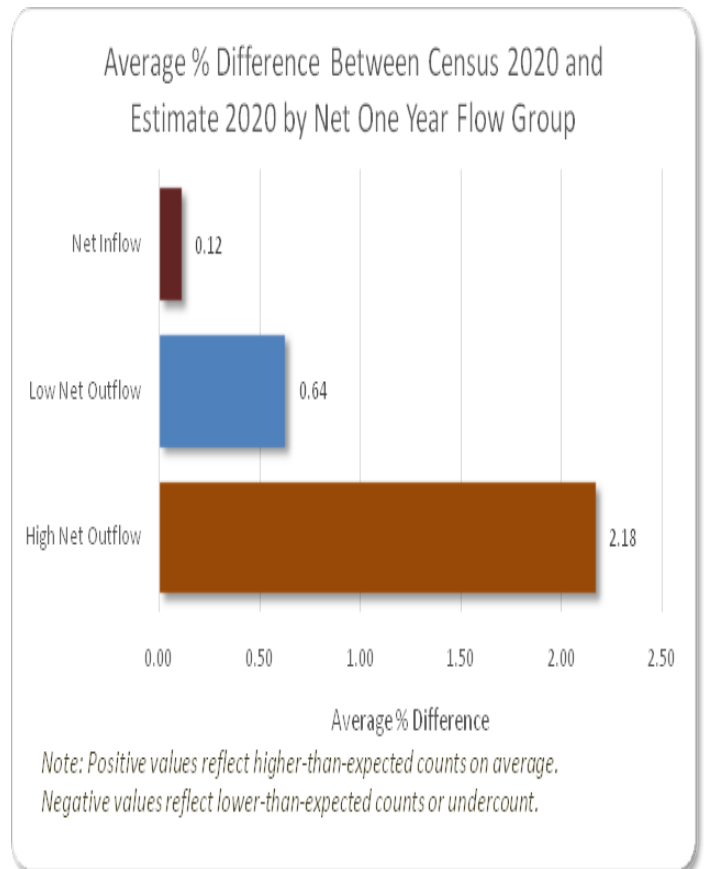
## Temporary Migration Patterns, Fear, and the 2020 U.S. Decennial Census

The United States (U.S.) Decennial Census plays an integral role in allocating government funds to ensure that the population has adequate resources for domains including infrastructure, education, and political representation. An accurate count ensures that the public is allotted its fair share of resources, while an inaccurate count or transitory snapshot will leave areas with undercounted populations or temporarily low population counts left out. For 2020, those left out include the residents of Arizona, Texas, and Florida – all states with large Hispanic populations. Had the Census Bureau’s Population Estimates been accurate ([which they have been for 2010](#)), each of these states would have had an extra seat in Congress as well as more federal funding for a variety of programs. There are two dynamics that appear to have led to the discrepancy between the 2020 Population Estimates (or “Estimates,” released in December 2020) and the 2020 Decennial Census results (or “Census results,” released later in April 2021): temporary migration patterns and immigrants’ fear of the federal government.

Census undercount was the first thing that came to mind after viewing the Census results. As a population scientist, [I have written](#) about how the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 had contributed to the undercount of the 1990 Census relative to the 2000 Census. This undercount was found for cohorts that fit the stereotypical image of the “undocumented immigrant”. While COVID-related migration patterns certainly affected the 2020 Census, the older narrative remains compelling: fear of the federal government likely led to Census undercount for high Hispanic states.

Our best proxy for population over/undercount and unexpected migration patterns is the percentage difference (or “% Difference”) between the Estimates and the Census. Interesting relationships are revealed when comparing % Differences by state on two dimensions: Net Outflow/Inflow (using the 2019 American Community Survey microdata) and ethnicity (using the Population Estimates).

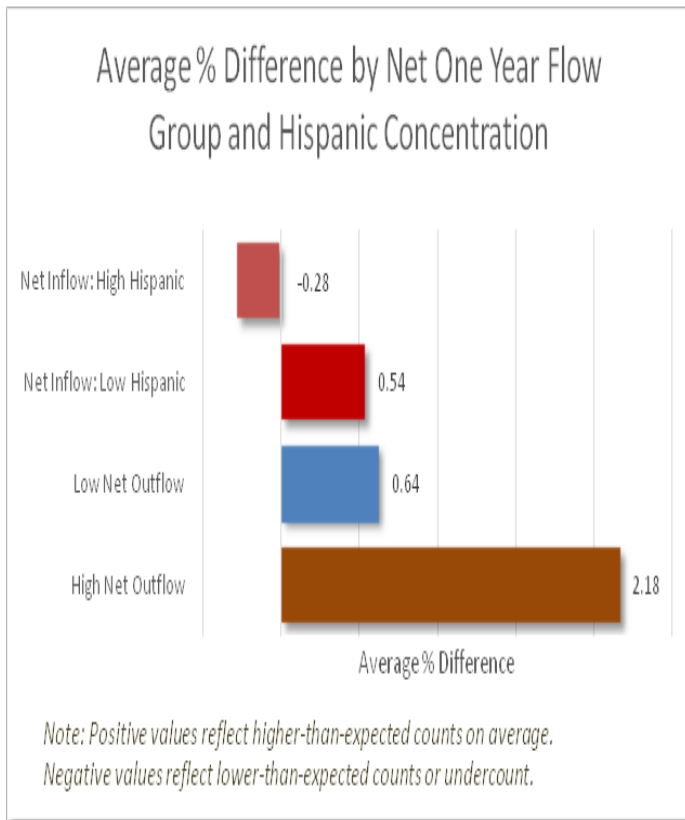
### The Reversal of “High Net Outflow” States’ Normal Out-Migration Patterns



With our first cut of data, we group states by whether their migration patterns feature more out-migrants than in-migrants (“Net Outflow”) or vice-versa (“Net Inflow”). The Net Outflow group is then further equally divided into two groups based on their rates of net outflow: “Low Net Inflow” (in blue) and “High Net Outflow” (in green). The High Net Outflow group (of which New York is a member) had notably higher Census results than Estimates (+2.18%) while the Net Inflow group had negligible differences (+.12% difference). The Low Net Outflow group’s differences lay between the two estimates at +.64%. This suggests that states that normally export students and workers received these former relocators back to their home states after COVID-related school closures and job losses. These former relocators contributed to their home states’ Census counts, even though

these are the same people that may later relocate to another state.

### Missing Hispanics in “Net Inflow” States



More interesting patterns are revealed when breaking up the “Net Inflow” group into two equally sized groups based on the concentration of Hispanic residents: “Net Inflow: High Hispanic” and “Net Inflow: Low Hispanic.” Here the notable figure is the low Census result for the “Net Inflow: High Hispanic” states (0.28% lower than the Estimates), suggesting either undercount or lower-than-expected net migration. The decline of employment opportunities and COVID-related

travel restrictions may partially explain this finding as greater numbers of immigrants may have left the U.S. while fewer entered. An alternate explanation is that Hispanics feared that the Census would be used as a tool to identify, track, and punish the undocumented population. This may have led some Hispanics to boycott the Census, leading to lower population counts for high Hispanic states.

### Conclusion: Reading Between The Lines

For better or for worse, the people have been deemed counted and congressional seats have been allocated. Districts will be drawn, and funding will be doled out based on the results of the Decennial Census – no matter how imperfect they may be. States like Arizona, Texas, and Florida will need to make do with their population counts and whatever federal funds they will have at their disposal to cater to their populations, including those who did not participate in the Census.

These results should be taken as preliminary as we need more data to demonstrate with more certainty that immigrants’ fear of the Census led to undercounting. However, I personally would be hesitant to provide my name, citizenship status, and address to the very government that had [separated my brethren from their children](#) and had labelled me a [rapist](#).

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**Matt Kaneshiro** has a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of California, Riverside, and currently serves as the Senior Manager of Predictive Analytics for Customer Analytics, LLC. Along with building Machine Learning models, Matt produces population estimates for the U.S.

## Make New Friends But Keep the Old: How Immigrants Can Stay Connected

Making the decision to emigrate can leave people feeling as though they are losing their loved ones back home while gaining a new country. Connection is vital for everyone, and particularly for immigrants who are far away from familiar faces. [The Migration News](#) shares how you can make a transition to the United States, support loved ones back home, and make friends in your new location.

### Connecting in Your New Area

Sometimes it can be challenging for immigrants to establish connections. Connecting with others who have also immigrated may help. Many metropolitan areas in the United States have [groups](#) of immigrants who gather in person or online regularly to connect and establish a new sense of community.

[Finding a group](#) based on interest such as gardening clubs or church organizations can help ease the transition and enable you to make new friends and learn more about your area. Online networks, such as local Facebook pages, can be a great way to introduce yourself to the community and learn about local events. You may find some fun venues to meet people, such as music performances, or wine tasting events.

Share your immigration experience with your new friends, and let people know what brought you to the United States. You may be surprised how quickly a friendship can blossom when you talk about your journey and learn about their life and culture. As you make new friends, also be sure to stay in touch with loved ones from your home country.

### Offering Support Back Home

Supporting loved ones is far simpler than it used to be. Whether your family needs elder services, clothing, or food assistance, you can send resources from wherever you are. For instance, you can arrange to have groceries delivered to your loved ones, or refer them to professional services like a housekeeper or nanny.

You can maximize how much you're able to help those back home by [starting your own business](#). If you have a good, marketable idea for a business, and you've already done your due diligence and research before taking the next steps, it's time to consider how your venture will be structured. There are a handful of choices, including operating as a sole proprietorship or a corporation, but many small business owners opt to form a limited liability company (LLC). As an LLC, not only are your personal assets protected, but there are tax advantages, and less paperwork is required. Also, by [using an online formation service](#) like Zenbusiness, it's possible to save a lot by avoiding paying an expensive attorney to complete the process.

### Maintaining Home Connections

Your home country will always be home. [Staying in touch](#) with loved ones and offering support when needed can help bridge the gap. [Video chat](#) enables you to see the faces of your loved ones in real-time, which means so much across the miles. Even if your loved ones are well across the world, free apps like Zoom, Google Meets, and Messenger are easy to install and even easier to use, making these options user-friendly for people of all ages.

Letter-writing is a lost art, but it can [offer benefits](#) to both sender and receiver like no other type of communication. Other good ways to connect through writing are email and texts, which are terrific options for quickly checking in and letting your loved ones know you are thinking of them. If you wish to offer financial support to loved ones, resist the urge to send money by mail as it may not get into the hands of the right person. Instead, consider other options for sharing funds.

As you start your new journey, strive to maintain home connections, while making new friendships. Your immigration story will be all the richer when you have more connections to share it with.





**Stephanie Haywood** is happy to be living her best life. Personal development and self-care gave her a boost when she needed it most, and now she works to share the gift of self-knowledge, self-care, and self-actualization with everyone who visits [MyLifeBoost.com](http://MyLifeBoost.com).

Image credit: Pixabay.com

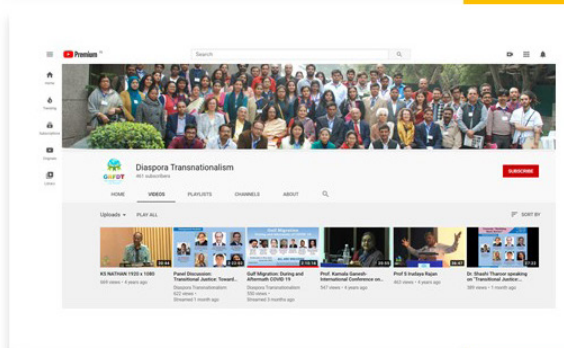
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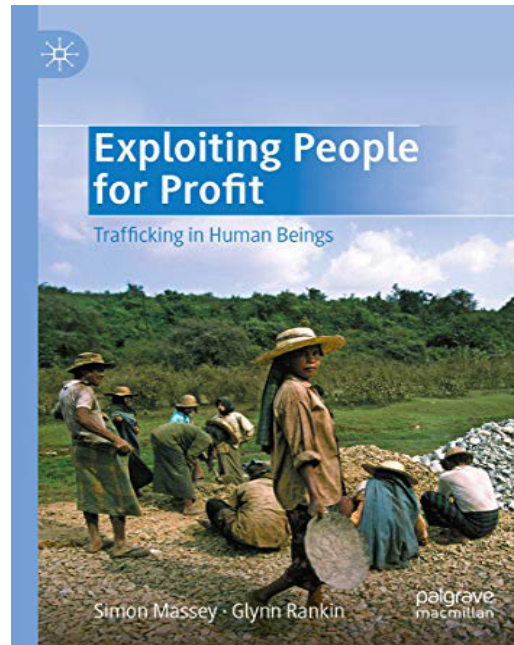


## Exploiting People For Profit: Trafficking in Human Beings

Simon Masey and Glynn Rankin (2020), *Exploiting People for Profit: Trafficking in Human Beings*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, 978-1-137-43412-8, 139 pages.

In their book *Exploiting People for Profit: Trafficking in Human Beings*, Simon Masey and Glynn Rankin provides a contemporary definition of human trafficking. Both authors are quite well-versed in the field of human trafficking. Masey, previously a consultant for the EU and UNDP, and now a senior lecturer at Coventry University, is profusely published in the field of migration and criminal networks. While Rankin has worked as a prosecutor for over 20 years gaining invaluable expertise in cases of human trafficking. In addition, he is also the co-founder of the UK Human Trafficking Center.

The authors fully investigate the process of human trafficking, its criminality, and ways of preventing it. The book is well organized and divided into five main chapters, each with subsequent headings and a conclusion. The authors define human trafficking as a violation of human rights and the “third-largest criminal enterprise in the world after the illegal sale of drugs and arms” (2020: 10). The definition is derived from the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC). While most academics believe that human trafficking “is committed within established models of transnational organized crime” (2020: 2) the authors emphasize that it varies and is actually much harder to define. Human trafficking could occur in many different criminal models both within state borders and transnationally and can also sometimes include licit activities. The authors describe that human trafficking derives its meaning from international law and that it was relatively newly defined (the year 2000) which causes debate on whether it is a new concept



or not. The authors, using various statistics, explain that the issue is very relevant and pressing in our contemporary world (2020: 9), however, its international dimension makes it hard to prosecute, due to limiting jurisdictions.

The first chapter contextualizes human trafficking explaining that the phenomenon is caused by “a variety of cultural and economic drivers” (2020, 1) and the criminality of it varies in different cases such as removal of organs for transplant, sexual enslavement, etc. The chapter is divided into 4 subcategories that explain the causal factors

that lead to human trafficking, the seriousness of the threat of human trafficking, the boundaries of the definition of human trafficking, and the difference between modern slavery and human trafficking. To begin with, the authors discuss some of the factors that lead to trafficking which include societal factors such as patriarchal structures, gender discrimination, poor education. Economic factors including disparities in wealth and lack of employment. The research reveals that there is a correlation to migration issues since restricting immigration can facilitate it (2020: 5). They explain that while accurate statistics are hard to find, the numbers show a growth in both prosecutions and convictions of human trafficking with the largest numbers originating from the UK, Albania, and Vietnam (2020: 9). However, it is mentioned that the number of prosecutions is not reflective of the “rising estimates of human trafficking in all regions of the world” which may be due to the difficulty of investigating such multidimensional crimes (2020: 9). They point out the shortcoming

of available definitions due to insufficient domestic legislation and case law for clarification. Even with a common understanding of the concept “in practice, there remain differences in criminal justice and law enforcement approaches” (2020: 29).

In the first chapter, the authors also explore the relation of trafficking to ‘modern slavery’, explaining that it is not just a historic issue but also a contemporary one. In fact, in 2013 the first edition of the Global Slavery Index was published (2020: 25). However, the authors also discuss some of the criticism towards the concept as it is regarded as a western-centric interpretation. They explain that the United Kingdom moved from focusing on individual crimes of exploitation to the overarching concept of modern slavery crimes. And the authors warn that other countries following suit may lead to “further dilution of human trafficking as a stand-alone offense” (2020: 29).

In the second chapter “Agency, Consent, and Exploitation”, the authors emphasize the distinction between human trafficking and people smuggling; smuggling involves people active in a crime while human trafficking involves victims. They also explain the indicators used by states to identify migrants as either trafficked or smuggled which affect the prosecution of cases. “The purpose of human trafficking is the exploitation of the victim” (2020: 46) but since each state is expected to provide its own definition of exploitation the distinction becomes problematic. Thus, they infer that more research and more practical practice is necessary to provide clearer distinctions between smuggling and trafficking.

In chapter three titled “Pursuing Human Traffickers”, Massey and Rankin discuss the factors that impede a successful prosecution of human trafficking cases. They mention that all victims of trafficking “are entitled to the following standards: respect for their human rights, protection and safety, individualized care, the right to self-determination, full information and consent, the right to non-discrimination, and confidentiality” (2020: 55). A good prosecution means less organized crime; thus, it is essential. However, the issue is the costliness. The most successful prosecutions are proactive ones that

place the victims at the center of the investigation and employ sensitive case management. They also discuss the effect of Brexit on the prosecution process since the UK “will no longer accept the jurisdiction of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU)” (2020: 70). Thus, Brexit is believed to present a setback in “the construction of a holistic response to the pursuit of traffickers” within the United Kingdom and European Union (2020: 74).

In the fourth chapter, the importance of protecting victims of human trafficking is highlighted as they have already experienced physical and psychological damage. Since “non-punishment provisions in the international law are not uniformly understood or consistently applied” (2020: 79) they propose that there should be national mechanisms of protecting victims of trafficking. In the chapter, they discussed the rights of victims within the investigation and prosecution processes and methods of victim protection. They also discuss the National Referral Mechanisms (NRM) which is defined as “a co-operative framework so you allow states to identify, protect, and promote the human rights of Catholic persons in coordination with civil society” (2020: 94). They infer that protection is especially important because it encourages more victim testimonies.

Finally, in the fifth chapter “Preventing Human Trafficking”, Massey and Rankin discuss strategies for pre-emptive prevention of trafficking, including raising awareness through education and campaigns. They refer to case studies to assess “the scope of anti-trafficking knowledge dissemination” (2020: 102), emphasizing that efforts of prevention should be evidence-based, and monitored to evaluate their effectiveness. Authors inferred that the collection of accurate data is important both in affecting evidence-based policy formulation “as well as macro foreign policy and development strategies to mitigate push factors in the countries of origin” (2020: 117). Authors mentioned that in order to achieve an effective counter-trafficking strategy, there should be a unanimity of purpose, which should include “a common interpretation of international law as it applies to human trafficking, notably the Trafficking Protocol, translated, if necessary, into corresponding national legislation” (2020: 122). The study also investigated the 4 “Ps” counter-

trafficking framework – pursuit, protection, prevention and partnership” (2020: 123) evaluating the successes and failures in which the elements have been put into effect. It insinuates that the Trafficking Protocol is essential but its translation into law has resulted in “inconsistent interpretations of the definition of human trafficking and have sometimes undermined collaboration between jurisdictions” (2020: 124).

Overall, Massey and Rankin have done a good job in introducing the concept of human trafficking to the readers and showcasing that it is indeed a pressing contemporary issue. They have presented well-organized, easy-to-read, well-referenced chapters explaining societal and economic issues that lead to human trafficking, its criminality, the difficulties and requirements of proper prosecution, and methods of preventing trafficking. Each chapter is equipped with its own abstract and conclusion which is helpful in summing up the most important points within each chapter. In addition, there is a concluding chapter that summarizes the study and ties points made in different chapters to one another creating a wholesome argument, thereby ensuring the reader’s understanding. The authors also mentioned suggestions for how their research may be improved as well as good improvement suggestions for international lawmakers and

prosecutors of human trafficking cases. Thus, overall, the book is very informative, not just to researchers of the issue but also to the layman due to the diction decisions which is essential in a study dedicated to such a pressing humanitarian issue.

Overall, the book is both a great introduction to human trafficking to those without any background knowledge on the issue, as well as an excellent source of information for researchers of human trafficking. Massey and Rankin did a remarkable job in introducing key concepts related to trafficking, its criminality, prosecution, and methods of combating it. The only drawback is repetitiveness; though succinct conclusions are available at the end of each chapter, some of the points in the chapters are recurrent and could have been eliminated to provide an easier read.

Source: Massey, S. and Rankin, G., 2020. Exploiting People for Profit: Trafficking in Human Beings. 1st ed. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

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