

Be assertive. Often passivity can be interpreted as permission – it is not. Be direct and firm with someone who is sexually pressuring you. Tell an acquaintance or your partner what you want – or don't want – and stick with your decision. Regardless, there must always be active consent on both sides. Consent to one thing does not imply another [1].

Trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable or threatened around an acquaintance or your partner, get out of the situations immediately. If you misread someone's signals, you can always explain later.

Respond physically. Even clear communication is not always effective. Some people simply don't listen or don't care. If either person is intoxicated or high, it may also complicate the situation. However, it is not an excuse for someone to commit sexual assault. If someone is assaulting you and not responding to your objections, you have the right to respond physically or to physically defend yourself if you feel you can do so. If possible, push the person away, scream "No!", and say that you consider what the person is doing to be rape.

As conclusion, we can tell, that preventing sexual violence is crucial for several reasons. Sexual violence causes severe physical injuries and long-lasting emotional scars, including depression, anxiety, PTSD, and difficulty forming healthy relationships. It can perpetuate a cycle of abuse, with victims often becoming perpetrators themselves. Preventing sexual violence is essential for creating a society where everyone feels safe, respected, and empowered.

By taking steps to prevent sexual violence, we can help create a more just and equitable world for all.

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## **THE ROLE OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK IN ADDRESSING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THAILAND**

Human trafficking is a critical problem in Thailand. This country is a source, transit, and destination country for human trafficking. Vulnerable

populations, including women and children, are often exploited for labor and sexual purposes.. Despite significant legislative efforts and initiatives to combat this crime, challenges such as corruption and insufficient support for victims persist.

Thailand has established a comprehensive legal framework to combat human trafficking, particularly sex trafficking. Key pieces of legislation and international commitments form the foundation of Thailand's anti-trafficking efforts.

The government set up a committee to specifically deal with the human trafficking problem since 1998. In 2014, The State Department Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report ranked Thailand as Tier 3. In response to the TIP report, Thailand announced the prevention and suppression of human trafficking as the national agenda. Later in 2018, Thailand is upgraded to Tier 2. The Thai government, then, set a goal to be upgraded to Tier 1 by improving the human trafficking situation in Thailand [1].

Royal Thai Police (RTP) recognizes the importance of such a topic. Hence, on 1st July 2005, RTP established the Child and Women Protection Division which was, a specialized unit, responsible for protecting children, juveniles, women, and laborers from human rights violations both at a national level and international level. Later in 2008, the division is upgraded to Child, Juvenile, and Women Protection Center. To expand the scope of work, in 2010, it was renamed the "Child Woman Protection and Anti-human Trafficking Center." [1]

Also important regulations related to this topic are the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking Act, BE 2551 (2008), which criminalizes all forms of trafficking and imposes severe penalties on offenders, including imprisonment and fines and the Anti-Money Laundering Act, B.E. 2542 (1999) which is used to combat trafficking-related financial transactions by helping to dismantle trafficking networks by targeting their financial funds [2, c. 14].

While Thailand has robust anti-trafficking laws, the effectiveness of their implementation and enforcement remains a critical area of evaluation. Several factors influence the success of these efforts:

1) Law Enforcement Training and Capacity: Effective enforcement requires well-trained and adequately resourced law enforcement personnel. Training programs focus on identifying trafficking cases, handling victims sensitively, and prosecuting offenders effectively.

2) Judicial Processes: The efficiency and fairness of the judicial system in prosecuting trafficking cases are vital. Delays in the judicial process and corruption can hinder the effectiveness of anti-trafficking efforts.

3) Victim Protection and Support: The provision of comprehensive support services for trafficking victims, including legal assistance, medical

care, and rehabilitation programs, is crucial for their recovery and reintegration.

4) International Cooperation: Collaborative efforts with neighboring countries and international organizations enhance the capacity to combat transnational trafficking networks. Joint operations, information sharing, and cross-border initiatives are essential components [2, c. 15].

Despite the progress being made in the legislative framework, the lack of systematic implementation hinders the laws from being translated into reality. For example, the level of protection afforded to victims and in particular those that serve as witnesses through laws is not delivered effectively and consistently [3].

There have also typically been significant issues in relation to the enforcement of anti-human trafficking laws in Thailand. Various reasons have been given for this, including corruption, limited understanding of the laws by those responsible for enforcing them, restrictive policies that serve to curb the breadth of protection offered by the legal framework, lack of training in recognising and identifying victims of trafficking, victim-focused services not being available in the languages of victims and the slow pace at which the justice system moves, both in getting matters to trial, and then finalising the judgment. One of the effects of these laws being poorly enforced and misunderstood is that victims of trafficking are often classified as illegal aliens, and deported as such, without any compensation. Likewise, whilst corporations can be liable for human trafficking offences, there has been only one conviction of a company under the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act. [3]

Despite considerable efforts to address this issue, in particular the adoption of comprehensive legislation and the reform of institutions, I believe that the fight against human trafficking requires constant and long-term commitment. There is progress, as evidenced by Thailand's improved position in international assessments (According to the U.S. Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report), but systemic problems such as corruption and insufficient victim support remain significant obstacles.

In my opinion, the solution to this problem is not only to strengthen legislation and law enforcement, but also to address the main socio-economic factors that make people vulnerable to trade. Education, economic opportunities and social programs aimed at supporting vulnerable groups can play a crucial role in reducing exploitation. However, with enhanced international cooperation, increased accountability of law enforcement, and a shift to victim-centred approaches, I am optimistic that Thailand will be able to significantly reduce human trafficking over time. The road to this is long, but progress is possible with consistent effort and innovation.

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### **WORK OF FORENSIC INVESTIGATION BODIES: INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

In the modern world, the role of forensic investigative bodies in maintaining public order is increasingly important. Contemporary challenges such as transnational crime, cybercrime, and terrorism require new approaches and coordination efforts among different countries. International experience shows that the effectiveness of forensic investigation agencies depends on the use of advanced technologies, high-quality staff training, international cooperation, and adherence to high human rights standards.

One of the most effective tools for international cooperation is Interpol. This organization facilitates the exchange of information between law enforcement agencies of different countries, assists in the search for criminals, missing persons, and fights organized crime. For example, Interpol has created an international database with fingerprints, DNA, as well as information on stolen vehicles and other items [1, p. 45]. Additionally, Interpol actively uses advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence and biometric data to improve criminal identification and reduce errors in investigations [2, p. 101].

The European Union actively promotes cooperation within Europol, which allows for joint operations and information exchange on criminal organizations. Additionally, the EU adopts common standards and methodologies for forensic research, enabling uniform investigation procedures among member countries [3, p. 89]. Europol has also established specialized analytical units focused on crime prediction and prevention based on Big Data, enhancing investigation accuracy [4, p. 53].

The experience of the United States is particularly noteworthy, where DNA analysis and a comprehensive database system are widely used to identify criminals even in complex cases. The USA has also successfully