

a significant layer of citizens, influencing the motivation of potential criminals, reducing the factors of organized crime for activities that increase the risk for the offender to be caught and punished, complicate the commission of crimes, reduce the claims against the crimes committed, lessening incentives criminal activity.

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CHINA'S BRIDE TRAFFICKING PROBLEM

Bride trafficking is a form of modern slavery where the victim is bought and sold against their will for the purposes of marriage. Bride-buying, also referred to as bride-purchasing, is the industry or trade of purchasing a bride as a form of property. This enables the bride to be resold or repurchased at the buyer's discretion. This practice continues to have a firm foothold in parts of the world such as China, North Korea, Vietnam and Africa. Described as a form of marriage of convenience, the practice is illegal in many countries.

China has a bride trafficking problem. The country's longstanding one-child policy and preference for boys created a huge gender imbalance. The difficulty many Chinese men now face finding wives, combined with a lack of protections in China, is driving a brutal business of selling women and girls from neighboring countries.

The Chinese government's main response for many years seemed to be simply to ignore growing allegations about authorities' complicity in these crimes. But the problem is becoming too big to ignore; the government's stonewalling is gradually being replaced by a mixture of criminal justice and propaganda responses, neither of which get to the real issue of gender discrimination.

The one-child policy, in force from 1979 to 2015, prompted many parents to feel that if they were permitted only one child, that child should be a son. This was driven in part by the expectation, particularly in rural areas, that daughters marry and join their husband's family, while sons stay with, and support, their parents. Over generations this policy drove a demographic disaster: China now has 30 to 40 million more men than women. The shortage has driven the demand for foreign brides, with an increasing number of women from countries like Cambodia and Vietnam being sold as wives.

Human Rights Watch investigated bride trafficking from northern Myanmar into China. Many women and girls in that part of Myanmar belong to an ethnic minority that is vulnerable due to a long-running conflict and displacement in the region. These women and girls are typically tricked by brokers who promise well-paid employment across the border in China. Once in China, they find themselves at the mercy of the brokers, who sell them for around \$3,000 to \$13,000 to Chinese families. Once purchased they may be held prisoner and pressured to produce babies as quickly as possible. Similar stories have been documented by journalists and researchers in Cambodia, North Korea, Pakistan, and Vietnam, among others.

For years, it was easy for China to ignore the issue. The women and girls being trafficked are often ethnic or religious minorities, from impoverished communities, or, in the case of North Korea, on the run from their own abusive regime. Violence against women and girls is often a low priority for governments. And all of the affected countries have complicated relationships and deep power imbalances with China. The consequence has been that their own governments also often show little concern about the fate of women and girls trafficked to China.

The bride-traders sell women as brides or as prostitutes depending on their physical appearance. A common trick employed by bride-brokers in

acquiring brides for sale is the offer of a job such as in factories and instead kidnapping them. Bride-traders can sell a young woman for the price of \$250 to \$800USD. US\$50 to US\$100 of the original price goes to the primary kidnappers while the rest of the income goes to the traffickers who bring the bride to the main client.

Chinese women, who are bought as wives, who bear children are more prone to staying within the marriage. This is confirmed by the fact that "strong sense of duty" that Chinese women have, and the idea that it is shameful to leave their husband. Also credits that some women might consider their forced marriage a better option to the life of poverty and hard labor they would be subject to upon returning home or the idea that some women may not feel they can find another husband, since they "have already been with one".

Thus, there is an active fight against the human trafficking in the middle of the country, and especially abroad. Women and young girls are the biggest victims of the bride trafficking problem, so government create new laws to protect the rights and freedoms of the female half of the population.

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ORGANIZED CRIME AND ITS NEGATIVE IMPACT ON SOCIETY

Crime has been around us for many centuries. Every day when we open a newspaper or turn on TV almost all we read or hear is about criminals and their illegal actions. According to the law, people who commit a crime must be punished, imprisoned or even sentenced to a death