



Resource Guide

TAHT's recommended list of books and documentaries for those seeking to learn more about human trafficking. Discretion is advised; resources recommended for ages 14+.

Documentaries:

- **A Path Appears:** "The Department of Justice estimates that there are 300,000 children at risk of being trafficked into sexual slavery in the U.S. In the first episode of A Path Appears, we meet the survivors behind these shocking numbers, and illuminate the widespread existence of this violent crime taking place across America."
- **I am Jane Doe:** "This documentary follows the journey of young survivors who were advertised on backpage.com as their families engage in a legal battle not only with Backpage but with judges, special interest groups, and Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, an internet freedom law that provides a safe haven for website publishers to advertise underage girls for sex."
- **Nefarious: Merchant of Souls:** "Nefarious exposes the nightmare of sex slavery as experienced by hundreds of thousands daily, through the eyes of both the enslaved and their traffickers. Nefarious features expert analysis from international humanitarian leaders, and captures the gripping and triumphant testimonies of survivors in order to galvanize hope and vision."
- **Not My Life:** "Filmed on five continents, in a dozen countries, Not My Life takes viewers in to a world where millions of children are exploited, every day, through an astonishing array of practices including forced labor, domestic servitude, begging, sex tourism, sexual violence, and child soldiering."
- **Tricked:** "Meet the pimps, the johns, the police, the parents and the victims of the America's thriving sex trade in Tricked, a comprehensive documentary that uncovers America's dirty secret."

Books:

- **Girls Like Us: Fighting for a World Where Girls Are Not For Sale: A Memoir** by Rachel Lloyd "...Rachel Lloyd's riveting survivor story is the true tale of her hard-won escape from the commercial sex industry and her bold founding of GEMS, New York City's Girls Education and Mentoring Service, to help countless other young girls escape "the life." ..." – Amazon
- **Renting Lacy: A Story of America's Prostituted Children** by Linda Smith and Cindy Coloma "...Author Linda Smith brings to life characters based on real stories and interviews with teen survivors. Meet *Lacy* and *Star* as they reveal the underbelly of our country's commercial sex trade. Get to know the men who sell them, and the ones who buy them. Let *Renting Lacy* draw you into the lives of these young girls as they struggle to survive each night, watching their childhood hopes and dreams slip away in the darkness..." – Amazon
- **The Girl Before** by Rena Olsen, an Iowa author, "In this powerful psychological suspense debut, when a woman's life is shattered, she is faced with a devastating question: What if everything she thought was normal and good and true...wasn't?" – Amazon
- **Walking Prey: How America's Youth Are Vulnerable to Sex Slavery** by Holly Austin Smith "In *Walking Prey*, advocate and former victim Holly Austin Smith shows how middle class suburban communities are fast becoming the new epicenter of sex trafficking in America. Smith speaks from experience: Without consistent positive guidance or engagement, Holly was ripe for exploitation at age fourteen. A chance encounter with an older man led her to run away from home, and she soon found herself on the streets of Atlantic City." – Amazon

Action Steps

- Put the National Human Trafficking Hotline number in your phone and if you see something, *say something!*
(Call 1-888-373-7888 or text HELP or INFO to 233733)
- Share the information you learned and the National Human Trafficking Hotline Number with at least five people
- Make a report to the Cyber Tipline if you see suspicious activity online <https://report.cybertip.org/>
- Consider donating to Teens Against Human Trafficking and support our mission of keeping Iowa’s youth safe!
 - Go to www.youthstandingstrong.org, click “Donate Now,” and designate the donation to human trafficking. Or mail cash or a check to TAHT at 125 S. 3rd St. Ames, IA 50010
- Educate yourself:
 - TAHT Resource Guide (*documentaries & books*)
 - Polaris Project: <https://polarisproject.org> (*legislation & statistics*)
 - International Justice Mission: <https://www.ijm.org> (*international efforts & faith-based resources*)
 - National Human Trafficking Hotline: <https://humantraffickinghotline.org> (*webinars & training tools*)
 - Love146: <https://love146.org> (*survivor care & safety tools for parents*)
 - A21: www.a21.org (*international survivor care*)
 - Shared Hope International: <https://sharedhope.org> (*faith-based resources*)
 - World Without Exploitation: <https://www.worldwithoutexploitation.org> (*sex trafficking survivor stories*)
 - Free the Slaves: <http://www.freetheslaves.net> (*international labor trafficking resources*)
- Find out how many slaves work for you using the slavery footprint tool at www.slaveryfootprint.com
- Share the Hotline Number and free resources from the Hotline’s website with hotels and rest stops as you travel
- Talk with local service clubs or faith communities about raising money and/or getting involved
- Stay up-to-date on relevant events and opportunities throughout Iowa by following the Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking’s blog, website, and calendar www.iowanaht.org
- Support local restoration homes like Wings of Refuge <http://wingsofrefuge.net/> and Dorothy’s House <http://dorothyshouse.org/>
- Support vulnerable youth:
 - Become a safe family or foster/adoptive parent
 - Identify mentorship/volunteer opportunities with local organizations that serve at-risk youth
 - Bring TAHT to your school to educate youth and form a TAHT club! (Email Us: TAHT@yss.org)
- Host a local documentary showing for a church or community group
- Write a “letter to the editor” about human trafficking to your local paper
- Contact your local and national legislators and ask what they are doing to combat human trafficking