

Modern slavery policies in a conceptual perspective

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Abstract. Most of the people assume modern slavery end up in 19th century. However, according to the International Labor Organization (ILO), today 40 million people live as a slave. Moreover, modern slavery is the world's fastest growing crime and has huge number, which never occurred in history before. One of the main limitation of the existing literature on contemporary slavery is that it ignores the history of slavery either entirely or alternatively between past and present. However, this article aims to figure out the role of modern slavery, also recommends some suggestions to governments to solve the problem of it. The aim of this paper is to addressing to the modern slavery policies in a conceptual perspective. In the theoretical framework of modern slavery, rational choice theory, conflict theory and human security theory have been selected to describe the sequence of modern slavery

Keywords: slavery, regional differences, migration policy

Introduction

Ever since the dawn of the age of mass migration, well over a century ago, scholars have striven to provide general explanations for the phenomenon of human migration, more or less abstracted from its specific manifestations (Arango, 2000). Hence, international migration is one of the greatest challenges in the area of globalization and has become a focus of political debate in recent years. Moreover, today the great challenges forced countries are the economic, political and social problems caused by migration (Oláh, 2017). Thus, people have to migrate because of environmental degradation, natural disaster and industrial accident or pollution. Due to these reasons 180 million people living outside from their country of birth right now (OECD, 2018).

At the same time the modern slavery field is experiencing significant shift, a powerful, new actor has emerged in the global anti-slavery policy making area (Chuang, 2015). There are about 30 million slaves in the world, including an estimated 1.1 million in 37 countries particularly in Europe, with the largest numbers in the Russian Federation, the Ukraine and Poland. In most European countries, more than 90% of human trafficking is unidentified in official migration data. A large portion of these unidentified victims consists of people trapped forced labor (enslavement outside the sex industry, agriculture, mines, domestic service, construction, hospitality and numerous other sectors (Depar & Con, 2012).

Moreover, there is no exact number of modern slavery, but even conservative estimates suggested that at least 2.5 million children, women, and men lured or forced across international borders every year. Most of them are trafficked within their home countries and working which is against their will, often under deplorable and unsafe conditions and violating by physical, psychological, or financial threats (Koettl, 2009).

Every year, hundreds of thousands of human, primarily women and children are being transported from poor to rich countries. As if they were simply an underground community (Azmy, 2002). Hence, slavery did not end with abolition in the 19th century. Slavery continues today and harm people in every country in the world. Due to this, there are serious and urgent reasons to study this phenomena generally stated by the 'modern slavery' (Castles, 2003).

One of the main limitations of much of the existing literature on contemporary slavery is that it either ignores the history of slavery entirely or alternatively posits a sharp divide between past and present. It is important that to understand the problem of modern slavery. The answers of the following research questions with shape of the framework for prevention are needed to be addressed;

What is the main characteristics of modern slavery,

Why is it still existed,

What are the factors are able to predict the scale of slavery in a country?

The aims of this paper is to address the policies of modern slavery. In the scope of theoretical framework of modern slavery, rational choice theory, conflict theory and human security theory have been selected to describe the sequence of modern slavery. Following to the theoretical framework, this paper also determines modern slavery in a regional perspective.

1. Theoretical framework of modern slavery

Slavery has been existed for thousands of years and it had many different forms in all civilizations. Since it has been relocated in most of the developed nations in the nineteenth and twentieth countries. Slavery has gradually transformed from an officially approved practice based on legal and ethnic distinction to one that has been criminalized and relocated to the informal economy. This has made slavery considerably more uncertain (Quirk, 2006). In addition, slavery in every country use different terminology to describe modern form of it and other concepts, such as human trafficking, forced labour debt bondage, forced or servile marriage and the sale and exploitation of children. All of these crimes share some common features. (Slavery & Labour, 2017). In other words, modern slavery defined as the transportation of persons across international borders for labour purposes by means of force, frauds or coercion (Iandathi, 2014), i.e. sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, forced labour and criminal exploitation.

- Sexual exploitation is forced a person by threat or profiting monetarily, forcing sex, forcing someone to sex with anybody or forcing a person to engage in prostitution or pornography (WHO, 2017).

- Domestic servitude involves a victim who is being forced to work in private household and usually performing domestic chores and childcare duties.
- Forced labour, according to the United Nations in the case of this type of slavery victims forced to work for long hours by little or no pay in poor conditions under verbal or physical threats of violence (United Nations, 2008).
- Criminal exploitation is assumed as the exploitation if a person commits a crime.

On the other hand, according to the theoretical framework of modern slavery there are some modern slavery theories, which support to promote slavery policies. The rational choice theory, the conflict theory and the human security theory. According to rational choice theory the victims of trafficking due to push-pull factors of migration make them committing in crimes (Wheaton, Schauer, & Galli, 2010). Nonetheless, rational choice theory is an economic model, which supports to understand social and economic behaviour. The main reason is the using of this theory for modern slavery is determining the economic circumstances why people are pushed in the modern slavery industry.

Conflict theory created by Karl Marx. Regarding to this theory every societies have two major groups, first one is the ruling class, second is the subject class. In the conflict theory, social inequality created a system, which led to control poor and powerless. It became a reason for powerless individuals to be violated. Thus, the victimization, mental illness, substance abuse, homelessness and other disease etc. are also essential. Hence, human security is considered an idea about international security and provides new world interpretation. Similarly it expands to understanding the threats and security of them (Alm, 2013). Robert Owen agreed that human security is a protection of lives from critical and pervasive threats (Owen, 2004). This theory is significant due to understand the fundamental factors of modern slavery, such as threats, economic crisis and so on.

2. Modern slavery in a regional perception

The slavery has been a major phenomenon of labor market of history in many regions. Colonial societies use slavery intensively across the Americans and slavery remained prevalent in most countries after independence from the European powers (Acemoglu, García-Jimeno, & Robinson, 2012). Countries not included tend to be less developed or in certain regions of the world including Cambodia, Sudan and some of the Middle Eastern countries (Gould, 2010).

The slaves was captured and traded from areas internal to the coast of Africa to be sent to other parts of the world by boat. This created trade flows for the sale purpose of slavery, which in turn may have created trade relationship that persisted until today. Thus stimulating current trade between the coastal and inland parts of Africa (Duvelson, 2001).

Figure 1 shows the prevalence of modern slavery by region and forced categories. According to the figure, global estimates for 2017 there were over 9.2 million victims of modern slavery in Africa. Africa has the highest number of modern slavery in regions in the world. Many of them are in debt bondage. The next one is Asia and Pacific, Europe and Central Asia have 3.9 victims per thousand. America and Arab States is the lowest with 3.3 and 1.9 victims per 1000 people (WHO, 2017).

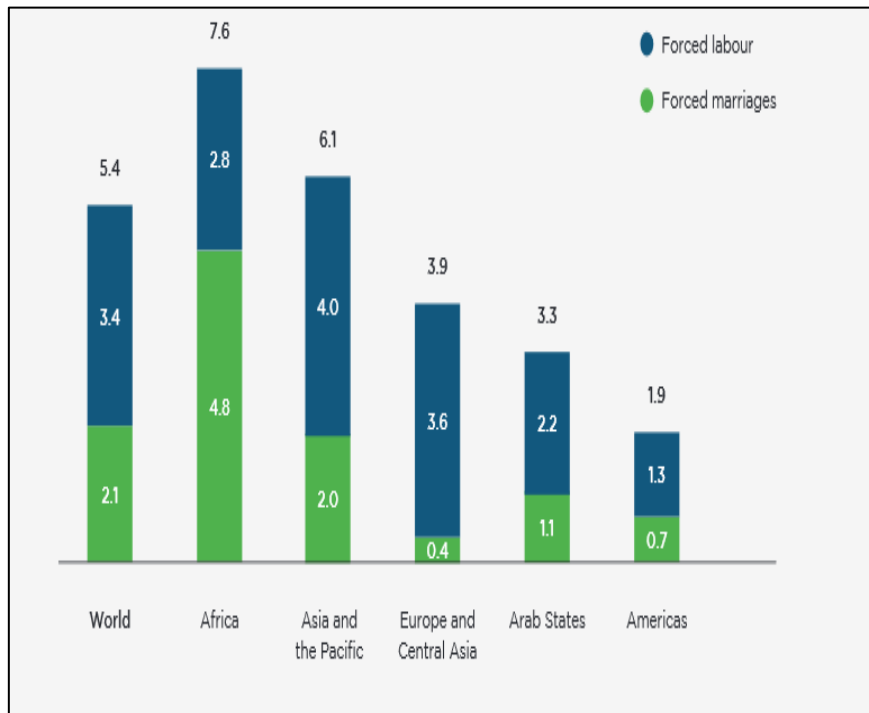


Figure 1: The prevalence of modern slavery (per 1000 population) by region and forced categories (WHO, 2017).

3. What can be an adequate modern slavery policy?

Modern slavery problem will require a multi-faced response to be addressed, i.e. forced economic, social, cultural, legal that contributes and enables abuse. Likewise, every country needs to specify policy for end up the modern slavery. Due to this reason of determining the push factors in a country, which has huge slavery number to determine the useful policy for understand modern slavery. Particularly, modern slavery is most likely to occur to protect people from exploitation, from labour force and debt bondage. Moreover, debt bondage is not a crime in some countries, but it is part of the forced labour. Understanding bonded labour in countries is specifically important to examine contemporary forms of labour coercion, their origins and relationship to poverty, inequality and implications for policy makers (Duvelson, 2001). The conflict theory of slavery addressed that societies have inequalities for economic, social and political situations. Social inequality greatly affects economic, social and political relationship of those domains at the individual, local and global levels (Barner, Okech, & Camp, 2014).

Modern slavery has different types and both genders are being slavery in different sectors. Addressing the importance of gender-related vulnerability is effected by modern slavery. Some research illustrates that many women and girls are working in sex-slavery. Sex slavery is a reason for gender inequalities. Moreover, they are bought and sold as a pure sexual object. For men, most of them are working in forced labour. An effective policy response must clearly reflect these patterns of abuse and the role of gender broadly as a determinant of modern slavery. In those countries where modern slavery occurs it is very significant to force people more educated .The educational attainment can be controlled to discover modern slavery (Ardington, Barnighausen, Case, & Menendez, 2013). Human

security is costly for countries but it is possible to achieve the solution to end up for modern slavery by human security.

For solving the modern slavery problem it has to be understood the fundamental driving economic factors in a country (Davidson, 2017). Indeed, the economic factors are lead people into the modern slavery. Especially, push factors have to be minimized in those countries where slavery occurs (Ortega & Peri, 2013). Moreover, there are many anti-slavery organizations, such as 100x Development Foundation, A Bridge of Hope etc. in the world. These organizations have to work with policy makers together to reduce the effects of modern slavery.

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