

ASSIGNMENT 2

- **STUDENT NO: 2022598**
- **MODULE CODE: ECAY5003**
 - **DATE: 07/11/2023**

CRITICAL REFLECTION UPON THE DIFFERENCE
AND SIMILARITY BETWEEN ADVOCACY AND
ACTIVISM

CHILD TRAFFICKING



CHILD TRAFFICKING IN THE UK & ITS PREVENTION THROUGH ADVOCACY & ACTIVISM

THEORY

Child trafficking is child abuse, a human rights violation and a form of Modern Slavery.

Anti-Slavery International (2018) reported that the Independent Anti-slavery commissioner remarked it was high time for the UK government to confirm the rights of children and to follow measures to combat child trafficking and exploitation. Local authorities in the UK abide by their duty and provide protection and support to child victims of trafficking.



WHY?





Labour

Victims may work for offenders directly, or work for others




Organ Harvesting

Victim's organs, blood or eggs may be taken to be sold (not yet identified in the UK)




Crime

Victims are forced or coerced into criminal activities (e.g. begging, shoplifting, forced marriage)





Sexual

Victims can be forced, or appear willing to work in the sex industry, in a variety of locations




Domestic Servitude

Victims are forced to carry out household tasks - movement is likely to be restricted

HOW?

RECRUITMENT METHODS



ALL CHILDREN ARE VULNERABLE

COMMON RECRUITMENT METHODS INCLUDE:

Meeting basic needs: shelter, food, clothing



Promises of love, romance, acceptance



Offers of luxury items, cash, and independence



Exploiting vulnerability and desperation



Flattery, Lies, Manipulation



Cases of child trafficking
identified by local police forces
2018

Trafficked children have been



Skipping school



Physical injuries



Going missing



Behaving strangely
around their phone



Changes in personality



Forming relationships
with older people



Having keys to hotels or
unknown properties



The arrival of unexplained
bank statements



Coming home with
unexplained gifts or money



Being in possession of a
large quantity of drugs



Using unexpected sexual,
drug-related or violent language

CHILD TRAFFICKING IN THE UK

In 2017:



2,118 children
identified as
potential victims



677 children were
British...

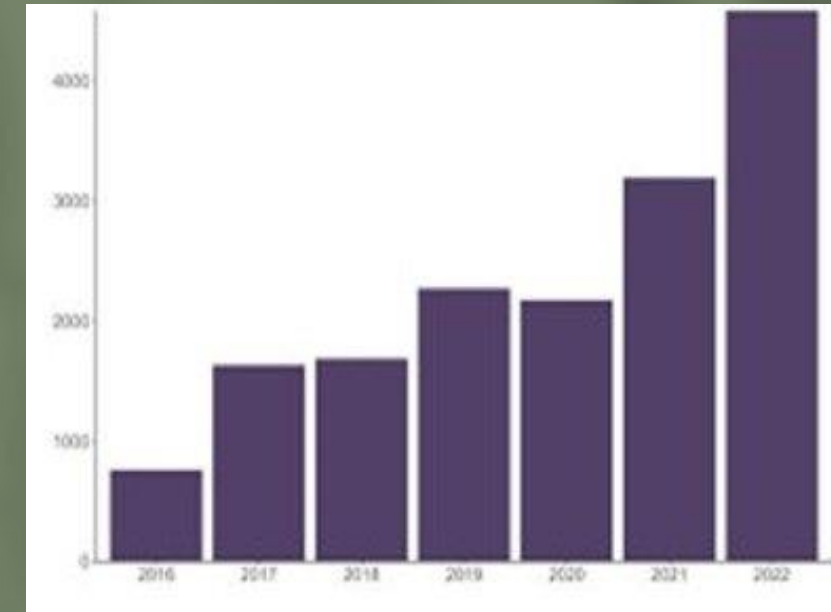


...a 66% increase
from the year before



...a 265% increase
from the year before

The Guardian (2009)
reported, 77 Chinese
children were missing since
March 2006 from the
shelter run by the London
borough of Hillingdon.



Anti-slavery
International (2017)
uttered there were
2,118 children under
skepticism of child
trafficking which the
UK government
considered was a
serious issue.



In 2021, The International Labour Organisation
evaluated that about 50
million were subjected to
modern slavery. Among this
7019 children were
recognized as trafficked in
2022 in England and Wales
as per National Referral
Mechanism Statistics.

Policies

Guardian (2014) reported Theresa May instructed the authorities to bring in independent advocates as guardians for child trafficking victims as a part of Slavery Bill.

Responsibilities of Advocates:

- Advocates will assess needs of trafficked children under scheme designed to stop gangs forcing them into crime and sex work, following The Modern slavery awareness and victim identification guidance
- Advocates will help them with language barriers and represent them at meetings with CARE and immigration officials, following Section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009



Response of Activists:

- ECPAT UK believed appointing independent advocates as legal guardians and sheltering the rescued children in hotels was a not sufficient measure as hundreds of children have disappeared from these council run hotels in the past.
- ECPAT UK legally challenged Teresa May and the council against the insufficient measure to safeguard the rescued children and won the case successfully.
- The Anti-Slavery activists remarked the UK government does not have a coherent plan for preventing child trafficking at the initial stage and the children receive help only after the harm is done.

My Reflection:

The Difference & the Similarity identified:

Although the Government tried to help the trafficking-rescued children with measures via Advocacy policies the Children still lacked proper care and protection.

However, the activists ECPAT UK and Anti-slavery activists disagreed in principle with this prospect, out of profound concern for the children.

Activists believed the real solution to this issue was to finding the missing children, and resourcing councils properly to provide the standards of care and protection to the children.

Hence, this clearly shows there was a huge difference in perception and consideration towards the child trafficking issue between the advocacy governed by the council and the activists, however both had the same objective which was 'providing protection and support to the children that are prone to victimization and have been victimized to child trafficking'.



Practice (Advocacy) Prevention & Support

Advocates identify and support vulnerable children who are at risk of trafficking and modern slavery

Advocates use police powers of protection to either remove a child to a safe place or prevent the child's removal from a safe place, such as a hospital

Advocates hold a child protection strategy meeting involving children's services, police, education, health and immigration

Advocates prioritize child protection concerns over immigration concerns



Modern slavery awareness and victim identification guidance

Working arrangements for the welfare and safeguarding of child victims of human trafficking

Safeguarding children who may have been trafficked

Section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009

Practice (Activism) Prevention & Support

PROTESTING



CAMPAIGNING



FUND RAISING



**MAKING A REFERRAL
ONLINE**



**Human Right
protected by
Article 11 of the
Human Rights act**

**Campaigning and
Political activity
guidance Section
2.4**

**Code of
Fund-raising
practice**

**National Referral
Mechanism**

Action Plan – Prevention of Child Trafficking/ Children Sexual Exploitation (Advocacy)

Key action areas	What we will do	How we will do it	Who will be responsible?	How we will know the action has been completed effectively	Timescale for completion	RAG
Prevention	Reduce the risk of CSE for children and young people in Hillingdon	Develop and implement a CSE Strategy and Action Plan which supports effective identification, assessment and intervention for children at risk of CSE.	Children's Social Care	CSE Strategy and Action Plan will be published on the LSCB website and Horizon. Multi-Agency CSE Audit The action plan will be reviewed and updated by the CSE Sub-Group and will report to the LSCB twice yearly to inform the LSCB Annual Report.	March 2015 May 2015 June 2015 and September 2015	
		Deliver a CSE training programme to all frontline workers in Hillingdon (social care, schools, health, residential units, HAVS), parents and foster carers.	All LSCB members and partner agencies	All frontline staff, have received CSE training and continue to access rolling programme of training and are clear about their role and CSE risk assessing. All foster carers have received CSE training. Review of training to be included in LSCB annual report.	September 2015	
		Ensure that all agencies have a clear referral process and that All	All Board partners, board members to take individual	Audit findings and proposed actions will be reported to the MASE meetings and to the	June 2015	



London Borough of Hillingdon CSE Action Plan



Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention and Intervention Strategy 2015

Action Plan

Activists



Projects

ECPAT UK works with a variety of partners and funders in the UK and abroad on projects to improve global responses to child trafficking and child sexual exploitation.



Global Call for Evidence

This Global Call for Evidence is part of our study being conducted jointly with the University of Bedfordshire funded



Pathways project

The Pathways project aims to build the capacity of social workers and child protection professionals to support



Safeguarding Migrant Children Across Europe (AMINA) project

Believe in
children
Barnardo's

We offer practical and emotional support so that you can enter adulthood with the confidence you need to achieve your full potential. Discover ways we support young people below or use the search bar to find services in your local area.



Support for young people leaving care



Support for young carers



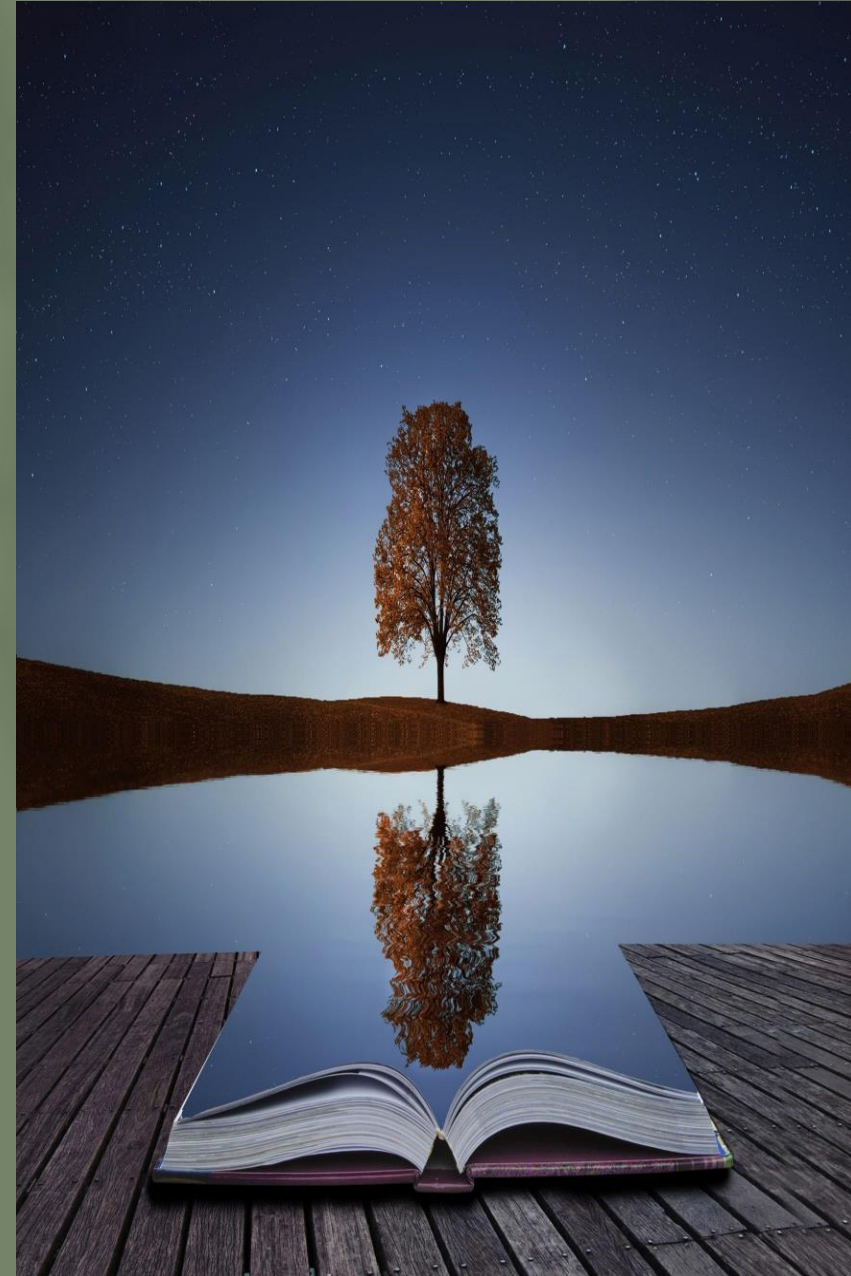
Support with homelessness

REFLECTION/CONCLUSION

From the Practices and Action plans towards protecting and supporting children against child trafficking, it is apparent that Advocates and activists are dedicated to creating positive change in the lives of victimized children and their purpose remains the same.

On the Contrary, as most advocacy practices and plans are based on government instructions and guidance, it can be pondered Advocates has duty of care whereas Activists have passion to care.

Thus, Advocacy can also be considered as activism when it takes a distinct shape within a discourse arena.



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Thank
You

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