

How Does JNATIP Try to Combat Human Trafficking in Japan?

Lobby and Advocacy Workshop
on Human Trafficking Prevention
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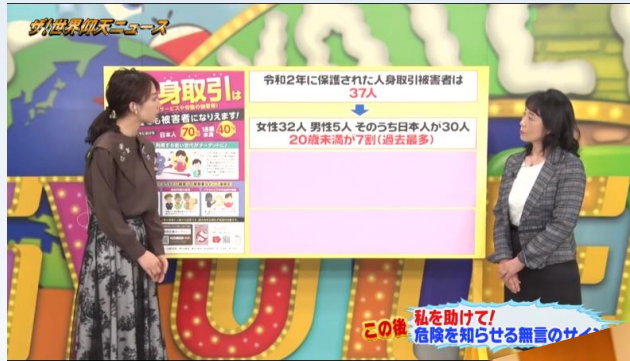
Not For Sale Japan (NFSJ)



Japan Network Against Trafficking In Persons (JNATIP)

Not For Sale Japan (NFSJ)

- Raising awareness of modern slavery /human trafficking issues
- Belong to two networks
(One is SSRC: Citizen's Network to Build a Sustainable Society through Responsible Consumption)



Japan Network Against Trafficking In Persons (JNATIP)

Founded in 2003 for the purpose of **eradicating human trafficking in Japan**

(1) Annual Conference with the Government of Japan

(Ministry & Agency Officers who deal with TIP-related issues)

(2) Annual Seminar for General Public

(3) NGO Reports for UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies

(CEDAW, CERD, & ICCPR) and Other Advocacy



Lobbying and Advocacy: What has been done and what was the result ?

Government's Policy and Law (in early 2000's)

JNATIP and other CSOs and jurists lobbied Diet members to create the **comprehensive law to prevent human trafficking (HT) and protect victims**

⇒ The draft was made and submitted to the diet, but was not passed

(Failure)

JNATIP and other CSOs pressured the Government to **prevent HT**

⇒ **A new stipulation in the Penal Code to criminalize selling and buying of human beings**

⇒ **More severe requirements set for “entertainment visa”** which has been criticized to be the front of forced prostitution

(Partial success)

Lobbying and Advocacy: What has been done and what was the result ?

Labor Trafficking (2010's - 2024)

SMJ (Solidarity Network with Migrants Japan=JNATIP member), labor unions nationwide, and labor lawyers who support victims of labor exploitation, lobbied Diet members and rallied to abolish the **TITP (Technical Intern Training Program)** that has been criticized as hot-bed of labor trafficking

⇒ Change and creation of the **new law** and the **new overall supervising body** to regulate the system and protect the trainees

(Partial success)

⇒ Prospective **abolishment of TITP and creation of a new program (2027~)**

(Partial success)

Lobbying and Advocacy: What has been done and what was the result ?

Sex Trafficking (2022)

PAPS (Organization for Pornography And Sexual Exploitation Survivors=JNATIP member) , other organizations and human rights lawyers lobbied Diet members to create a law to prevent **sexual exploitation** of especially 18-19 years olds who was in danger of being exploited in the **forced performance in the “AVs”** (adult videos = pornographic videos)



⇒”**AV Appearance Damage Prevention and Relief Law**” was speedily passed and enacted (**Great Success**)

Current Challenges and Threats

JNATIP's Requests for the Gov't on the Issues of Labor Trafficking

- More effectively regulate the **heavy debt borne by foreign workers** who pay large fees to sending organizations in the sending countries.
- Regulate TITP and the succeeding program to **actually eradicate slavery**.
- **Punish perpetrators more severely.**
(Prosecute and convict with relevant charge.)
- Establish system to **protect male victims.**
(There is no shelter for male HT victims.)
- Identify **more labor trafficking victims.**
(Only a few, if any, are identified annually.)
- Deal with exploitation of **foreign students.**



Current Challenges and Threats

JNATIP's Requests for the Gov't on the Issues of Sex Trafficking

- Review & improve **victim identification** in accordance with UN TIP Protocol. (Count the **victims of child sexual exploitation** as HT victims.)
- Effectively prevent **sextortion** and properly protect its victims.
- Regulate **CSAM** (Child Sexual Abuse Material) **esp. generated by AI** to prevent sexual assaults for children.
- Make efforts to **discourage “demand”** for sexual exploitation (buyers, johns).
- More **severely punish host clubs and hosts** who take advantage of female customers' romantic emotion and exploit them sexually and financially.
- Provide **more financial support for the support organizations** who work hard to rescue and support sex trafficking victims

Current Challenges and Threats

Obstacles that Hinder Fundamental Solutions

- Lack of **comprehensive HP law** and lack of **Governmental office specifically and exclusively dedicated to HT policy**. (Only a few personnels to play as a liaison between related ministries and agencies)
- Lack of **accumulation of expertise** and **motivations** in the Government because officials are being transferred every 2-3 years
- Lack of **media attention and awareness** because of the factors above
- Lack of **public attention and awareness** because of the factors above
- Lack of **society's respect** for and lack of **financial resources** of NGOs ...etc.
- Difficulties to grasp **the term “Trafficking in Persons”** (esp. in Japanese)

Solutions Needed and What JNATIP is Trying to Do

Solutions for Each Challenges and Threats

- More **commitment of each government bodies** (esp. National Police Agency, Min. of Health, Labour and Welfare, Min. of Justice including ISA,)
- More **training for every policemen** in Japan to understand the nature of HT
- More allocation of financial and human resources for **consultations** (hotlines, social media) and **outreach activities** towards victims and at-risk population.
- More **research on the actual situations of HT** and potential HT cases and estimation of potential victims statistics.
- More **collaboration with CSOs** in terms of victims identification, public awareness campaigns, and training of law enforcement sector.
- More **information disclosure** for education and whistleblowing on HT

Solutions Needed and What JNATIP is Trying to Do

Solutions for Fundamental Problems

(1) Annual Conference with the Government of Japan (Ministry & Agency Officers who deal with TIP-related issues)

⇒to educate the Gov't officials on the real situation
and pressure for better policies and their implementations



(2) Annual Seminar for General Public

⇒to educate and alert the general public on issues of HT so that they can
participate in the effort to solve the problems (including avoiding to be either
victims or perpetrators)

(3) NGO Reports for UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies (CEDAW, CERD, ICCPR) and Other Advocacy

⇒to help them write relevant recommendations to and pressure Japanese Gov't

Contact

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Thank you
for your attention!

