Modern Slavery

Quantifying Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery, in the Context of the UK Government’s Strategy and Legislation

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The Modern Slavery Act

- The Modern Slavery Bill was introduced by Home Secretary (now Prime Minister) Theresa May in June 2014
- The Modern Slavery Strategy, including our work on quantification, was published in November 2014
- The Modern Slavery Act became law on 26 March 2015.
UK is home to 13,000 slaves: Home Office says number is four times higher than previously thought

- The shocking figures include women trafficked for prostitution or service
- Others are brought in to work in factories, fields or even fishing boats
- The Home Office confirmed it underestimated the scale of the problem
- The most common victims are from Romania, Poland, Albania and Nigeria

The new estimate is based on a statistical analysis by the Home Office chief scientific adviser, Professor Bernard Silverman, which aims for the first time to calculate the 'dark figure' of victim numbers who are not reported to the law enforcement agencies.

'Modern slavery is very often deeply hidden and so it is a great challenge to assess its scale,' he said.

'The data collected is inevitably incomplete and, in addition, has to be very carefully handled because of its sensitivity.'

Read more:
http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2854601/UK-home-13-000-slaves-Home-Office-says-number-four-times-higher-previously-thought.html#ixzz3L2PU4VAD
The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is a framework for identifying victims of human trafficking and ensuring they receive the appropriate protection and support. It is run by the National Crime Agency (NCA).

The NRM collates data from a range of sources to produce statistics on “potential victims of trafficking” and produces an annual strategic assessment.
Bernard Silverman

Multiple Systems Estimation to estimate the hidden figure

- In 2013, the NCA Strategic Assessment identified 2,744 unique potential victims of trafficking
- The sources of information can be grouped as follows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LA: Local Authorities</th>
<th>NG: Non-governmental organisations, charities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GO: Government Organisations (mostly Home Office agencies e.g. UK Border Force, Gangmasters Licensing Authority)</td>
<td>GP: The general public, through various routes</td>
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<td>PF: Police forces, National Crime Agency</td>
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Home Office
The dark figure

- Despite all efforts, the Strategic Assessment can only present a partial picture of the size of human trafficking.
  - Human trafficking is a hidden crime and some victims may be controlled or still in servitude, or may not come forward because of fear or shame.
  - Some victims of human trafficking may not be identified as such by professionals who encounter them or even by themselves.
  - The NCA’s coverage is not complete: not all agencies respond to the NCA’s intelligence requirement

- **Multiple systems estimation (MSE)** can be used to estimate the “dark figure” of potential victims that do not come to the Strategic Assessment’s attention. MSE is a generalisation of the standard capture-recapture approach to the situation where there are more than two lists.
Multiple systems estimation: more than two lists

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LA</th>
<th>NG</th>
<th>PF</th>
<th>GO</th>
<th>GP</th>
<th>number</th>
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- The “dark figure” is the number in the last column—which do not appear on any list
- A lot of work went into this table!
Results: the total figure

• The estimated confidence interval for the actual population size is from 10K to 13K, so this suggests that the Strategic Assessment is aware of 20% to 25% of all the potential victims of trafficking in the UK in 2013.

• This must be regarded as a tentative conclusion, because the model is based on assumptions that (while sensible) can’t be easily verified and inevitably uses data that has some limitations.

• For full details, see https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/modern-slavery-an-application-of-multiple-systems-estimation
Nature of modern slavery: other UK data sources

- Modern slavery data is collected by different agencies, covers different units of measurement (victims, offenders or offences) over different time periods.

- We can look at these sources to provide insight about the nature of modern slavery and how it manifests in the UK.
Nature of modern slavery: other UK data sources - victims

1. National Referral Mechanism data – published quarterly
   - Collects data on age, gender, exploitation type, country of origin, location of exploitation, referring agency

2. Duty to Notify data – published annually
   - Data collection mandated by Modern Slavery Act 2015
   - Collects anonymised data on gender, exploitation type, country of origin, referring agency

Potential victims referred to NRM, 2009-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Potential Victims</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009*</td>
<td>535</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>714</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>946</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>1186</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>1746</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>2340</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>3266</td>
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Potential exploitation type breakdown:
- Sexual Exploitation: 33%
- Labour Exploitation: 36%
- Domestic Servitude: 13%
- Unknown exploitation type: 18%

30% of all potential victims of modern slavery are children
Nature of modern slavery: other UK data sources – offences and offenders

   - Modern slavery crimes recorded by each police force.

2. Criminal Justice Statistics – published quarterly
   - Prosecutions, convictions and sentences for modern slavery offences.
   - Age and gender of offenders.