



The Exodus Road®

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The Exodus Road helps free six women and boys from human trafficking

INDIA — After just three days of investigations, The Exodus Road, together with local police, conducted a successful raid in rural India to rescue six human trafficking victims and arrest eight offenders. Three of the men arrested were traffickers and five were customers.

Four of those rescued were young women being sold for sex in the hotel-based brothel. Two were teenage boys, ages 16 and 17, who were forced to clean up after customers. While often The Exodus Road finds women and girls who are being sold for sex, the organization also helps rescue victims of labor trafficking, like the two boys in this case.

Labor exploitation is estimated to make up 18% of human trafficking worldwide¹, although labor trafficking cases are detected and reported less accurately than sex trafficking cases. 55% of trafficking victims around the world are female and 45% are male.²

One of the women rescued, Nandita,* had been trafficked across India with false promises of a good job. Once she had been transported, she was instead sold into prostitution. Nandita had been at this particular brothel for 15 days before she was rescued. She and the other women were being sold to multiple customers each day.

Nandita came from a poor family and had received no education despite being 23 years old. Her story is not uncommon. Traffickers prey on poor, uneducated individuals, and in many cases lure them out of their communities with the promise of work. Once victims have been moved and had their documents confiscated, they have little to no chance of getting back home or contacting their families.

Today, Nandita and the other survivors are recovering in a safe home, receiving care and protection. The Exodus Road's social workers will continue to follow up and support the survivors in their first steps into freedom.

The Exodus Road's team of investigators, which is made up of Indian nationals, uses an extensive network of partners and police contacts along with covert gear to make it possible for rescues to take place within days of investigation.

The Exodus Road is a nonprofit based in Colorado Springs, Colo., that works together with local law enforcement to find and rescue victims of human trafficking in India, Thailand, Southeast Asia, and Latin America. The Exodus Road has 63 active operatives on its Search & Rescue teams and has supported 835 rescues and 318 arrests in five years.

*Nandita is a representative name. The names of people and locations are changed to protect survivors, operatives, and future raids.

¹www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/global-report-on-trafficking-in-persons.html

²<http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/resource/human-trafficking-numbers>