Research exercise: What is the Annual US Trafficking in Persons Report?

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What is the TIP Report?

- The TIP Report was developed by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000.
- The TIP report is used to combat trafficking in persons a contemporary manifestation of slavery whose victims are predominantly women and children, to ensure just and effective punishments of traffickers, and to protect their victims.
- The Department of State places each country onto one of three tiers based on the extent of their governments' efforts to comply with the "minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking."
- Even though Tier 1 is the highest rank, that does not mean the country has no human trafficking problem. Tier 1 just indicates that a country has government acknowledgment and has made great efforts to fight trafficking.
- Tier 1: Countries whose governments fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking.
- Tier 2: Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards.
- Tier 2 Watch list: Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards and are not making significant efforts to do so. Tier 3 also will come with sanctions to that country. Opposition to assistance from international financial institutions like the World Bank and no funding for government employees' participation in educational and cultural exchange programs.
- Tier 3: Countries who governments who do not fully comply with the minimum standards and are not making significant efforts to do so.

The “3P” Paradigm

- Prevention: Is the goal to prevent trafficking of persons and what actions the governments are taking to prevent trafficking from going on.
- Prosecution of criminals: Is the goal of prosecuting those who are taking advantage of people and are getting away with it. This section looks at what governments are doing to find, catch, and punish those who are actually trafficking people.
- Protection of victims: Is the goal of trying to protect victims and others who are vulnerable to trafficking and looking at what countries are doing and what programs they are setting up to help victims of trafficking.

Moving Away From the “3D” Paradigm

- Detention: locking up and holding victims who are caught and do not stay long in the country.
- Deportation: Sending the victims back to the country they came from letting their government help them and not see them again.
- Disempowerment: Leaving the victim with less confidence and power and leaving it into the governments hands and not letting the victim have any say.