Overview: St. Thomas University Law Library’s Human Trafficking Select Bibliography highlights several of the collection’s resources that directly or indirectly address legal and social issues surrounding human trafficking. This bibliography will be organized first by the primary legal sources, which are typically analyzed and critiqued in the secondary material. Second material will be organized by (1) Overview, (2) Legal Handbooks/Practice Manuals, (3) Legal Criticism, and (4) Bibliographies and Research Guides

Primary Legal Sources

United States - Federal
Trafficking Victims Protection Act and subsequent reauthorization acts:
- Location: Statutes at Large are shelved in the North Reading room

United Nations

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Secondary Resources

(1) Overview: Historical and Social

- A collection of articles analyzing and critiquing empirical studies on human trafficking. Articles consider the problem of accurately quantifying human trafficking victims, data collection methods, and information gaps.
- Call Number: HQ281 .D38 2005
- Location: St. Thomas University, Alex A Hanna Law Library General Collection

- Skinner’s gripping personal account detailed his immersion into the human trafficking industry. Skinner spent four years traveling and infiltrating slave trade networks located all around the world: including but not limited to suburban America, Sudan’s tribal regions, and labor camps in India.
- Call Number: HT871 .S49 2008
- Location: St. Thomas University, Alex A Hanna Law Library General Collection

- DeStefano tracked the legislative responses taken by the United States to end trafficking, including the passing of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, and measures the efficacy of this legislation has had in ending human trafficking. This work helps readers look beyond the world of sensational media, with revolving door stories of the evils of human trafficking, and see the ongoing war against modern day slavery.
- Call Number: HQ125.U6 D47 2007
- Location: St. Thomas University, Alex A Hanna Law Library General Collection

- Richard’s study was an early US government funded study of human trafficking, and has been quoted frequently in government reports, books, and articles. This report analyzed international networks, legal and government actions against human trafficking, and economic and social factors tied to human trafficking.

- Collection of articles outlining the current slave trade: including causes, facilitators, international and national response, secondary effects. The article’s scope can be general to very specific (e.g., human trafficking in Thailand).

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(2) Legal Handbooks/Practice Manuals


- An introductory practice guide that identifies methods of identifying trafficking victims, intersection between human trafficking and domestic violence cases, civil legal remedies available to human trafficking victims, resources available to attorneys/advocates, and overall practice tips.

(3) Legal Criticism

a. Articles


- Mattar’s article tracked the evolution of TVPA, looking at how the courts and legislature reaction shifted the law from territorial to extraterritorial, and concluded that the law fulfills the standards in fighting human trafficking established by the UN Human Trafficking Protocol.
- STU Law Access: available through HeinOnline


- Professor Pati’s essay proposing new methods and standards for states in combating human trafficking.
- Call Number: K 5240.O26 2010
- Location: St. Thomas University, Alex A Hanna Law Library General Collection

Elizabeth M. Wheaton, Economics of Human Trafficking, 48 International Migration 114 (2010).

- The authors utilized an economics based inquiry into severe forms of human trafficking, as defined by the TVPA and UN Human Trafficking Protocol, to look at the economic factors that drive victims to enter into the human trafficking market, provide incentives to become human traffickers, and other economic factors supporting the trafficking trade.
- STU Access: Available through Academic Search Premier
b. Books

- Obotaka’s work analyzed human trafficking through the international human rights constructs of human dignity, in order to fully understand the human rights at stake and to promote state action against this growing epidemic.
- Call Number: K3268 .O26 2006
- Location: St. Thomas University, Alex A Hanna Law Library General Collection

Tom Obokata, Transnational Organized Crime in International Law (2010).
- This book provides a detailed overview of the international laws, several state systems, and transnational laws (e.g., Treaty on the European Union) that are designed to combat transitional organized crime. By identifying relative treaties and hallmark cases, Obokata provided a legal framework for the current state of international criminal law as it pertains to transnational organized crime.
- Call Number: K 5240.O26 2010
- Location: St. Thomas University, Alex A Hanna Law Library General Collection

(4) Bibliographies and Research Guides

- Mattar’s annotated bibliography includes Human Trafficking articles that defined the problem, analyzed United States and International human trafficking laws. While dated, the bibliography includes early articles that addressed the human trafficking problem. The bibliography’s organization groups articles by definition, legal technicalities (e.g., trafficking versus smuggling), and the various methods and types of trafficking.
- Stu Law Access- available on HeinOnline

- Margaret Clark’s research guide was written for Florida State University students; however, many of the same resources are accessible by the STU students and the public. The guide is well organized, identifying resources about the social and political issues, the main federal and state legislation targeting human trafficking, international protocols, and news resources.