Freedom Footprint Guide Using our collective power to end modern slavery

You can play a part in ending modern slavery and human trafficking!



Explore this survivor-made guide to evaluate how you already work to stop systems of exploitation, and learn about actions to expand your impact.

Created by Freedom United freedomunited.org **Freedom Footprint Guide** Using our collective power to end modern slavery FREEDOM

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INTRODUCTION:

Modern slavery is the extreme exploitation of an estimated 50 million people worldwide on any given day. It exists in every country across the world, and includes forced labor, sexual exploitation, human trafficking, debt bondage, and domestic slavery, among other forms.

LEARN MORE ABOUT MODERN SLAVERY



Modern slavery thrives on silence and inaction. Your involvement can make a huge difference in people's freedom, as a part of a community advocating for the end of these systems of exploitation.

So, take the Freedom Footprint evaluation on the next page to see the impact you're already making, and what actions you can take to expand it.

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FIND YOUR FREEDOM FOOTPRINT SCORE:

Check off each box that applies to you. Give yourself one point for each.

I directly contact companies or comment online about supply chain conditions for workers so that companies know I care.

I buy locally grown produce whenever I can (from small farms nearby).

When I need a new electronic device, I purchase a used or refurbished model.

I speak positively about immigrant, refugee, and migrant rights.

I sign petitions or contact government officials to fight for safer immigration rights.

I sign petitions or contact government officials about improving labor laws.

I participate in mass boycott actions to send a message to corporations that people should be put before profit.

I support workers' rights and try to avoid shopping from companies that don't support their workers, in my country and abroad.

I minimize how much I purchase, only buying after thoughtfully considering if I really need something new.

When something needs to be replaced, I consider options to repair, repurpose, or recycle it before purchasing a replacement.

List continues on the next page

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FIND YOUR FREEDOM FOOTPRINT CONTINUED:

Check off the rest of the boxes that apply to you. Keep giving yourself one point for each, then add up all your points and see your score below.

I participate in buy-nothing groups or mutual aid collectives to exchange used items, clothing, or household goods.

I am aware of the communities which face higher rates of exploitation in my country, and educate others about these issues.

I inform my friends and family about issues of modern slavery (<u>Share this guide</u> <u>with them here!</u>)

I support the safety and rights of LGBTQ+ children (a community especially vulnerable to trafficking).

I work to end homelessness in my community or provide support for those unhoused.

I am aware of my state, province, or country's legal age of marriage and speak up to raise it to 18 without exception, if it is not already.

I help raise awareness or support rebuilding efforts for areas of the world afflicted by war, natural disaster, or climate change.

I avoid traveling for the sake of volunteering in orphanages or institutional child care centers.

When traveling, I invest in locally-run businesses to strengthen communities and reduce their vulnerability to systems of forced labor.

I speak up against other systems of oppression that make people vulnerable to exploitation (racism, ableism, etc.)

I donate to organizations (like Freedom United or others) working to end modern slavery.

Now tally your points from both pages & read about your score below!

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BEFORE WE JUMP INTO YOUR SCORE:

Before we look at how you scored, we want to acknowledge a very important fact: **Ending modern slavery is not solely the responsibility of individuals.** The burden falls on corporations and governments to protect people and respect their rights. Systemic change is needed.

But your **actions still matter**! When we speak out, we pressure corporations and create a call for government action, undermining systems of exploitation. Get your family, friends, and community involved to **increase your impact** even more.

Do what you can, as we know every person has differences in the actions they can take (like disability, financial limitations, or geographic location). **Together we have the power** to secure policies, enforce laws, and change practices to end modern slavery.



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YOUR SCORE:

0-8 points: Explorer

Congratulations on beginning your Freedom Footprint journey! Being an Explorer is the first step every person takes, and it's the start of your path towards ending modern slavery. Here at Freedom United, you're joining a community of many who are working to increase their impact.

Your call-to-action: Identify 1-2 new actions you can take over the next few months, then return to this workbook to re-evaluate.

9-15 points: Advocate

Congratulations on being an Advocate! This means you've already embarked on a journey of ethical consumerism and political action to help end modern slavery. Even though there is more you can do, we want you to know that your actions are already making a sincere impact.

Your call-to-action: Identify 2-3 new actions you can take over the next few months, then return to this workbook to re-evaluate.

16+ points: Champion

A big congratulations on being a Champion! You have already taken many actions and made an impact in ending modern slavery. Even though the ultimate burden rests on corporations and governments, you should feel proud that you are doing all you can as an individual to end exploitation.

Your call-to-action: Continue taking these actions, or adding on others you haven't checked off, and share this resource with at least 2 other people. This builds community and expands our collective impact.

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TIPS AND ACTIONS:

Try these ideas to increase your Freedom Footprint and help take steps to end modern slavery!



Buy second-hand items: Shopping thoughtfully and modestly at your local thrift or second-hand store ensures you're not contributing to forced labor systems in fashion, and is good for the environment too! When buying new technology, pick out a used or refurbished device to avoid risking further exploitation of children and adults in slavery cobalt mining for electronics. For household items, look into local "Buy Nothing" groups, or your own similar free or low-cost item exchange program with neighbors.

Look for local produce options: When shopping, look for produce that comes from local farms. You can often find this at smaller grocery stores, farmers' markets, or in some larger supermarkets that label produce from local farms. CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) or produce boxes direct from small farms is also a great option. These help divest from large agricultural companies that may, whether unknowingly or not, rely on migrant workers who are exploited in forced labor.



Become an immigrant rights advocate: As public perceptions around immigrants, refugees, and migrants change, we increase our power to hold governments accountable in protecting migrant people from being made vulnerable to exploitation and trafficking. Teach others you know about the positive impact of immigrants in your country and the important reasons people leave their home countries, sign petitions supporting migrant rights, and pressure politicians for positive change.



Ask questions and vote with your wallet: Understand what goods are produced with a high incidence of forced labor around the world and ask questions. This pressures corporations to act and address our concerns as they learn that consumers won't stand for exploitation. You can explore our interactive map to see which products from which countries are connected to modern slavery.

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TIPS AND ACTIONS CONTINUED:



End overconsumption: Buying more than what you need contributes to overconsumption and helps feed cheap, rapidly produced products that are often connected to forced labor and modern slavery.



Learn about the connection between oppression and exploitation: Some communities of people are more vulnerable to exploitation, because they have less support from governments leaving them marginalized so their basic human rights are not respected. Learn about how to support the vulnerable populations in your country, like Indigenous and other people of color, unhoused/homeless people, people of non-dominant faiths, disabled people, and the LGBTQ+ community.



Learn what laws need to change in your country: Look into your country, region, or state's legal age of marriage and raise awareness if marriage is allowed for those under 18. If your country allows for unsafe child labor, speak up about that too!



Share this guide with friends: The more people who know their Freedom Footprint, the more advocates we can have fighting to end modern slavery! Share this guide with them here, so they can select what issues they want to focus on.

Share this guide



Sign petitions and take actions: Visit this page and find a petition to sign or quick action to take. Your voice is an important part of our community fighting to end modern slavery!

Visit our campaigns and take action



Donate to Freedom United: Our partners rely on our global advocacy to propel their movements to end modern slavery, and we rely on your support to keep advocating. Donate here to support our collective impact!

Donate

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POSTER INSTRUCTIONS:

Want to transform your local community into advocates for freedom? Print out the next page and post it around town, so other people can get this Freedom Footprint guide. We recommend printing in color, if you're able to.

Ideas of where you can put this poster:

- Libraries
- Community centers
- Light poles
- Poster boards in local cafes
- Gyms and recreation centers
- Schools and institutions

Pro Tip: Always look into your local laws or ask local businesses for permission before leaving a poster.



Help end modern slavery by discovering your own freedom footprint

Modern slavery and human trafficking happens in every country.



Together, we can help end these systems of exploitation. Download the Freedom Footprint guide to begin fighting for the freedom of people all around the globe.

FREEDOMUNITED LET'S END MODERN SLAVERY TOGETHER Or visit <u>freedomunited.org/footprint</u>



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