

majority of cases it's rather difficult to prove the fault of traffickers. That's why the evidences, arguments and facts have to be accurate and precise.

And what is the public attitude to the problem? What do our people think about the risk of being trafficked? Only 30% perceived the risk of being exposed to human trafficking. But human trafficking is not a problem for a certain class or group of people. For sure, very often the girls from poor families are forced into slavery. But "often" doesn't mean "always". It may happen to everyone. People, especially elderly ones, usually think, that youth go abroad just because they want nice life and easy money, these people can hardly be brought over to the point that even abroad money doesn't grow on tree. These stereotypes change the comprehension of the motives and as it sometimes follows of the problem itself.

It's a problem of Belarusian society that people don't want to pay much attention to the problems which don't concern themselves or their families.

In that case, there should be much more information provided through mass-media in the form of documentaries or talk-shows. It's necessary to create different sources of information in the Internet, where people who are going to work abroad would be able to check the details and legality of their employers or to receive a piece of advice from other people. It may be a good idea to conduct courses or seminars for people, who is going to work abroad. The government should establish social centres to help the victims get back into normal life. "At the same time we need to create the climate of hope for the victims. We need to give these young women the idea that their lives are still worth living without shame after all the desperation and hard days indoors" (Human Trafficking, 2005).

Finally we have to realize that human trafficking exists because the society has created demand for it. And most importantly " ... modern-day slavery is only occurring because we choose to ignore it" (Human Trafficking, 2005).

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ASYMMETRIC INFORMATION ON THE MARRIAGE MARKET

Is it possible to explain economically the behavior of people looking for a mate? It is so. It should be noted that the establishment of the family is usually preceded by the search. Rational agents stop it when the expected utility from the marriage is higher for them than both expected utility from the bachelorhood and the additional costs associated with continuing of better pair search. The basic principle of the selection of the spouse is to assess the quality of a future partner, and to prefer someone who will bring more benefits at lower costs.

Owing to the fact that potential partners are not identical and do not have full information about each other, the problem of asymmetric information arises. There are several ways to solve this problem:

1. Information exchange between potential partners;
2. Help of mediators (e.g. parents, friends);
3. Grouping and ranking;
4. The selection by likeness / difference;
5. Signaling when looking for a partner.

The search of the partner requires a certain amount of time, money and energy, and also depends on attractiveness and sociability.

One of the signals when looking for a partner is attractiveness. The more attractive the person is the greater chance to meet a potential partner he has.

One more signal is frequent visits to such establishments as bars and nightclubs. American scientists have made an interesting analysis in this sphere and the result is the following: the probability to meet a single person in such institutions is rather high (90%). However, the costs of visiting these places are relatively large. The problem is that visiting bars and clubs requires considerable investment of time in addition to financial costs. Time expenditures depend on the amount of free time and selectivity.

Nowadays the Internet is playing an important role in everyone's life. Online dating is an integral part of the marriage market. Moreover, the probability to meet a potential partner on the Internet is as high as 99%. One of the advantages of using online dating sites is the lowest opportunity costs. The more time has been spent on

the search, the greater the opportunity costs are. Online dating makes it possible to reduce both the search time and the time to sort out partners.

However, there is also a problem of asymmetric information on dating sites. Opportunistic behavior is typical of most social networks users. It is that they can indicate the wrong information about them, thus making themselves more "attractive" to other users. One of the easiest ways to make others believe in the authenticity of the information on your page is to give a signal. The signal may be the presence of your photo on the profile.

Thereby, it has been shown how the economy can explain a day-to-day behavior of people. Of course, it does not explain everything concerning the social behavior of people, because the man does not always act rationally (especially when he or she is in love). However, it provides a partial explanation of such phenomena, and analysis of marriage market proves it.

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## WOMEN IN POLITICS

*Being powerful is like being a lady.*

*If you have to tell people you are, you aren't.*

*Margaret Thatcher*

Despite the fact some cultures continue to suppress the rights of women, there are many success stories from around the world. Given all of the challenges that women face, both politically and in the business world, it took a truly remarkable effort on behalf of the famous women leaders we're going to discuss.

Angela Merkel. The world's No. 1 Most Powerful Woman for the second year in a row, German Chancellor Angela Merkel is the "Iron Lady" of Europe and the lead player in the eurozone economic drama that continues to threaten global markets.