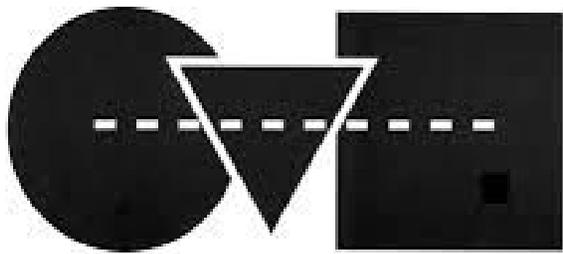


# DRIVING QUESTION

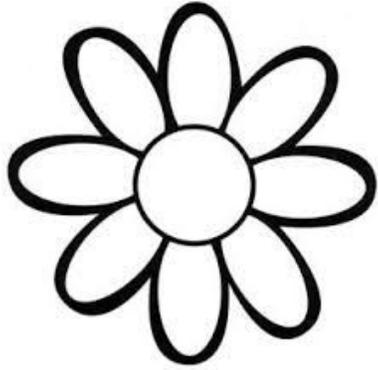
Driving Question:

How are the systems of human trafficking parallel to the systems of slavery?

# CONTENT (all your dad ta + #TE + results)



**Across the Disciplines**



**Details**

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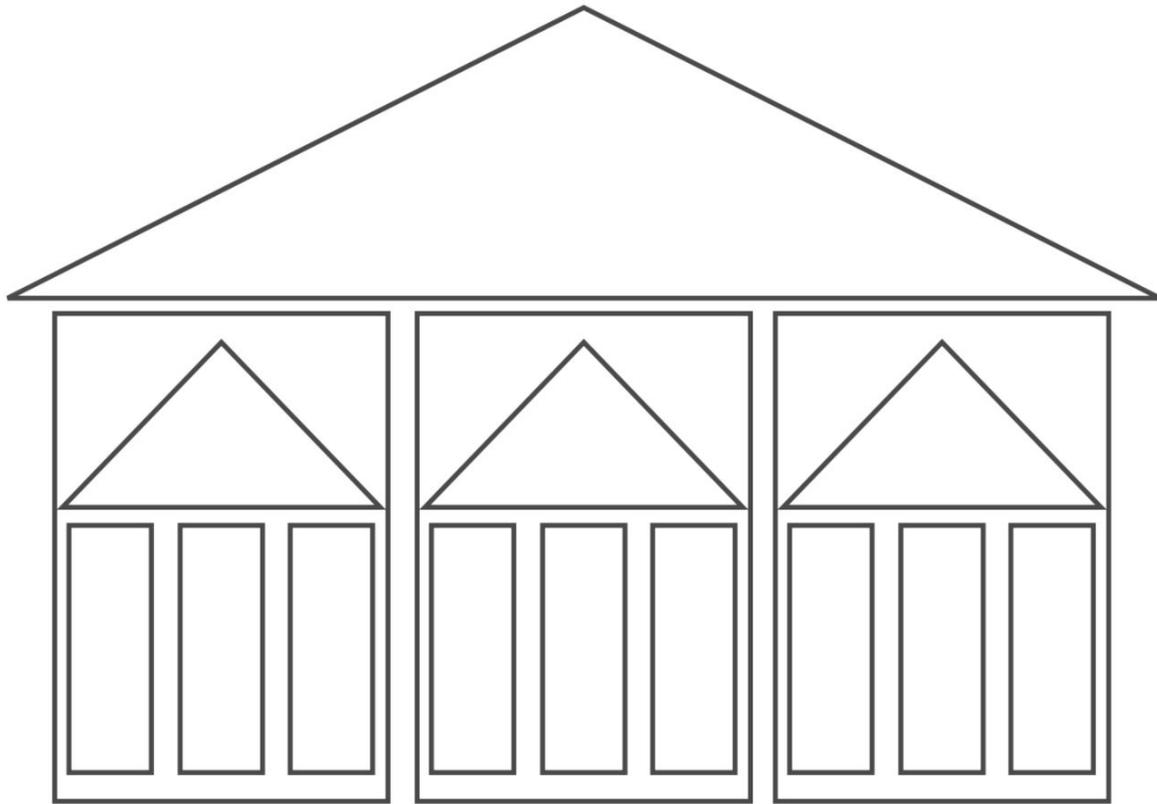
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**GLUE THIS "BOARD TAG" ON THE BACK OF YOUR BOARD!**

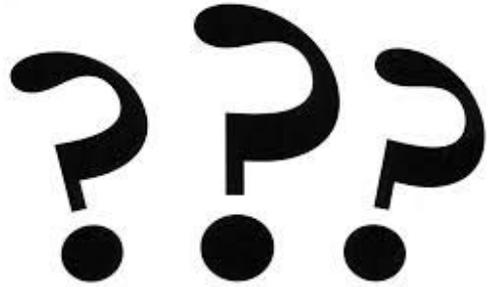
**Driving Question:**  
**How are the systems of human trafficking parallel to the systems of slavery?**

**Names of student researchers:**  
**Lizbeth Hernandez                      Stephany Gutierrez                      Leslie Jiménez**

<b>Grade level:      8th</b>	<b>Mentor teacher:      Ms. Park</b>
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**Special notes about handling and or placement or presentation space needed:**  
**We will have a big interaction peice so we will need space.**

**Will we ever influence our modern society to change their multiple perspective in treating and captivating a person as property overtime?**



**UNANSWERED  
QUESTIONS**



## LANGUAGE OF THE DISCIPLINE

**Human trafficking**: the action or practice of illegally transporting people from one country or area to another

**Exploitation**: the action of traveling in or through an unfamiliar area in order to learn about it.

**Slavery**: a condition compared to that of a slave in respect of exhausting labor or restricted freedom

***We interviewed Jackie Kong, from ISanctuary, which is an organization that helps spread the word about human trafficking and empowers human trafficking victims.***

**Would you say that the history of slavery contributed to human trafficking?**

- “Slavery as we knew it in history is different than human trafficking/slavery that is occurring today, but in some sense it is the same. It is a person, dominating, overpowering, having total control and owning another human being. It is the sense that one human being is better than another. I don't have a professional opinion on if slavery in the past contributes to human trafficking today but I think slavery in the past was not hidden, it was normalized. Human trafficking today is a dark, hidden and horrific world.”

**What would you say are the differences between slavery and human trafficking if any?**

- “I don't think there is a difference between slavery and human trafficking. Human trafficking is a more modernized term recognized in the early 2000's. The definition of human trafficking is the action or practice of illegally transporting people from one country or area to another, typically for the purposes of forced labor or commercial exploitation through means of force, fraud or coercion. I think human trafficking terms are needed to prove the act in prosecution in court.”

**What systems would you say are the most prominent in contributing to Human trafficking today?**

- “Trafficking is the most widely known form of human trafficking. Media has a huge part in this - movies, TV shows, music all normalize these ideas. Media also normalizes a cheating culture - which plays into the [idea of buying women.] I believe our culture's tendency for immediacy and instant pleasure also plays a huge part in trafficking. Gangs are another system that plays into the role of trafficking as gang members are realizing that weapons and drugs are dispensable, but women are not.”

**Would you consider Indentured Servitude as a form of human trafficking?**

- “Yes, that is labor trafficking.”

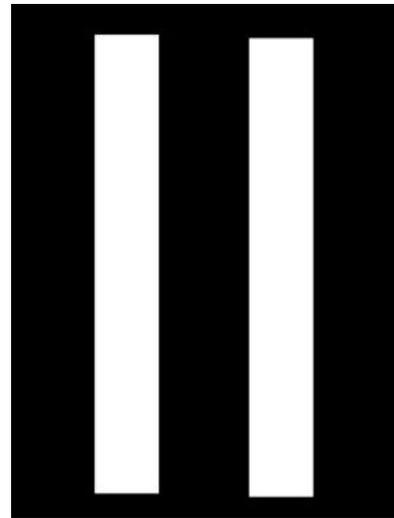
**Is human trafficking being kept physically, or does it also relate to emotional or mental captivity as well?**

- “Human trafficking can be being kept physically, but most people being human trafficking are not chained up like we imagine it to be. Pimps psychologically manipulate their victims through emotional and mental needs. There is an article that a pimp wrote called "How to be a pimp" in which he uses Maslow's Hierarchy of needs to show how

to manipulate a woman. There are also different types of pimps, the most widely known one is a Romeo Pimp in which he pretends to be a girls boyfriend, will provide her a cell phone, nice clothes, food, shelter and most importantly safety and love.”

- “Pimps know how to prey on the vulnerable. Sometimes, traffickers and the women/men they traffic become like a family structure. The pimp is "Daddy" and all the women are ‘sisters.’ ”

**Based on this informative interview, we learned that there are many parallels between human trafficking and slavery because both exist due to systems that allow it to exist.**



**Parallels**

# Parallel Conditions:

## Conditions of Slaves:

### MEN:

→ According to *Different Economic Systems*, “Most slaves in the ancient world were used as field hands, tilling the soil and providing the food for the rest of society. Others worked in mines, perhaps the most difficult and dangerous work in the ancient world.”

- This illustrates how slaves, more specifically, slaves, has always been thought of as stronger and more powerful so they are often the ones that have to do the most and the most difficult type work.

→ According to *Living Conditions by Nicholas Boston*, “In select Southern cities, men of color dominated the building industries, testifying to the extent to which they were skilled tradesmen.” This shows how male slaves were mostly put to work at industries and other hard labor.

### WOMEN:

Females were often left the easier work and were often to be trusted to work inside the house.

→ According to *Living Conditions by Nicholas*

## Conditions of Human Trafficking Victims:

### MEN:

→ According to Ronny Marty, “ In 2009, I responded to an ad for a housekeeping job in a Kansas hotel while living in my native Dominican Republic. When I arrived, however, I was told by my trafficker that the only available job was in a Huntsville, Alabama DVD-manufacturing company. Once I was lured by the hotel job advertisement, I borrowed \$4,000 to pay my recruiter, purchase airfare and pay necessary visas fees. While working at the manufacturing company I was charged high fees and deductions from my low salary, which kept me too poor to flee or return home. I had become a slave to my employers.”

- **This explains the struggles that this man had to endure because of listening to their employer and going out of state to somewhere different. This relates to conditions because this man needed a job to earn money but the traffickers took advantage of him by sending him out of state to work for them.**

### WOMEN:

→ Women who are in human trafficking are forced to do work that they don't want to do and all the work that

*Boston*, “Female house slaves, in particular, often formed very close attachments to their mistresses. Though such relationships did not always impact the slave's relationship with other slaves in any significant way, they could lead the slave to act as an informant reporting on the activities of her fellow enslaved.”

**When pregnant, a female slave could be freed from labor for the period of her pregnancy. Owners would encourage the women to get pregnant because once their children were born they belonged to the owner and this made “property” more valuable.**

→ According to *Living Conditions by Nicholas Boston*, “In slavery, this aspect of African womanhood was debased. It was an economic advantage for the master, who multiplied his labor force through slave pregnancy. The average enslaved woman at this time gave birth to her first child at nineteen years old, and thereafter, bore one child every two and a half years. Because proven fertility made her more valuable to her owner, she was also less likely to be sold away from friends and family.”

### **CHILDREN:**

**Children were deprived an education and the childhood experiences of play and learning due to the fact that they had to work and provide for their families.**

→ According to [american-historama.org](http://american-historama.org), “[children's’

they do is only for the “empire” of the pimp (ABC News, 2006).

→ This shows how this system is **composed of subsystems and parts** because all the money is given to the pimp and then the pimp has certain contacts that needs to invest into other systems of human trafficking.

**Often times, people in authority do not do anything about the situation, or are part of the system that continues human trafficking. This is a paradox because authorities in the community are in charge of justice and keeping people safe.**

→ According to Romo, “One day, when she was working at a hotel known for prostitution, police showed up. They kicked out of all the customers, Karla says, and shut time the hotel. She thought it was her lucky day -- a police operation to rescue her and other girls.” However, the police weren’t there to save them. They continued to victimize the girls and use photographs for their own gain.

(CNN Romo, 2015)

→ Our reality is brutal and horrendous to see that authority in our cultural life have been seeking and even committing the crimes that need to be stopped.

**People in charge know how to evade authority.**

parents had no choice to send them to work as their meager wages helped to support the families. The working children had no time to play or go to school, and little time to rest. The prevalence of child labor in America meant that the poor could not receive an education to enable them to get better, skilled jobs. Children were deprived of a decent education and entered the spiral of poverty from which there was no escape for the growing number of unskilled and uneducated workers.”

- According to american-historama.org, “Industry developed on an extensive scale and the mechanization of industry resulted in the abuse of children who were forced to work in terrible conditions in factories, mines and mills.”
- This demonstrates how children worked in horrendous conditions, they also often worked long hours with little breaks. They had to **follow rules** within the **systems** not to corrupt and not provoke the owner.

### **ALL SLAVES:**

**Slaves were ranked, depending on the slave's duty the quality of food, shelter, and clothing improved.**

- According to *Living Conditions by Nicholas Boston*, “The conditions of slaves under these circumstances were most easily grouped into the experiences of field slaves and house slaves. The vast majority of plantation slaves labored in the fields, while a select

- According to the news, “Miya was essentially on tour -- she said her pimp had also taken out ads on the Internet, advertising where she would appear next. The fact that she was kept off the streets made it almost impossible for police to track her down.”(ABC, 2009)
- This demonstrates her depression in hope for the police to seek out her pimp and find her. Her conditions affect economy as well as our modern society by showing that many people from social media usually get their hands on human trafficking victim. This negatively portrays our modern society.

### **CHILDREN:**

The conditions of a victim usually start off as they liking of the victim then it starts to become like a nightmare that ruin their mental state.

- According to CNN, “When she was 12 she was targeted by a trafficker who lured her away using kind words and a fast car.” (CNN, 2015)
- According to the ABC, “And then he goes, ‘Bend her over. I want to see what I’m working with.’ And that’s when he started to rape me. And I see more guys, four other guys had come into the room. And they all had a turn. It was really scary.” (ABC NEWS, 2009) The conditions are represented through this quote because it describes how she was forced to show them her body as well as how she represents the **systems of**

few worked at domestic and vocational duties in and around the owners' houses. Each situation brought its own set of demands, hazards, and perks regarding not only labor, but also quality of food, clothing, and shelter received.

**Slaves often identified with what they had endured.**

→ According to *Living Conditions by Nicholas Boston*, "The relationships of slaves with one another, with their masters, with overseers and free persons, were all to a certain extent shaped by the unique circumstances of life experienced by each slave. House slaves, for example, sometimes came to identify with their masters' interests over those of fellow slaves."

Other factors such as the conditions they lived in also influenced how a slave was shaped.

→ According to *Living Conditions by Nicholas Boston*, "The lives of enslaved men and women were shaped by a confluence of material circumstances, geographic location, and the financial status and ideological stance of a given slaveholder. The experience of slavery was never a comfortable one."

**Slaves were also a form of indentured servitude when they, along with their families, were kept as slaves until they could pay.**

→ According to *Different Economic Systems*, "For

**following the rules.**

→ The conditions of a children are horrid in ways that they are raped at an age that ranges between 9-11. (ABC NEWS, 2009)

**The pain of a child/miner were more horrendous than an adult could imagine.**

→ Women who are trafficked are often forced to do things she didn't voluntarily want to do, including having relations with men who forced her (ABC NEWS, 2009).

Victims are treated in ways that show their lives were of no value

→ The ABC News states, "If I was to shoot you right now, where would you want to be shot -- in your head, in your back or in your chest?" Debbie said. "And then I hear him start messing with his gun. And he counted to three and then he pulled the trigger. And then I was still alive. I opened my eyes, and I just saw him laughing." (ABC NEWS, 2009)

**ALL VICTIMS:**

Victims experience abuse and assault.

→ According to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, "Examples of force include physical abuse or assault, or confinement. Examples of fraud include false promises of work/living conditions, withholding promised

instance, at the end of one battle a Roman consul returned to Rome with 20,000 slaves. Additionally, if a free man could not pay his debts, he was sold into slavery, along with his wife and children, so that his creditors could receive their money back.”

wages, or contract fraud. Coercion may include threats of harm to self or others, debt bondage, psychological manipulation, or document confiscation.”

**The actual conditions of a person's state makes their decision in whether they should be victim or not.**

→ “These are human beings who are owned by someone else, who lack the ability to walk away, who lack the ability to make a decision in their own self-interest to do something else,” said Allen. “If that's not slavery, I don't know what is.”(ABC, 2009).

# Parallel Economies

## Economics of Slavery:

**America's Economy was shaped by the grueling work of slaves.**

- "Cotton built New York City into a commercial and financial center. For every dollar cotton made, about 40 cents ended up in New York as the city supplied insurance, shipping, and financing." (Yes Magazine, 2015)
- Martin Luther King Jr. calculated that making good on the promise of 40 acres and a mule (\$20 a week since the late 1700s for 4 million slaves) would total \$800 billion. "They owe us a lot of money."
- "Slavery launched modern capitalism and turned the U.S. into the wealthiest country in the world." (Yes Magazine, 2015)
- "By the mid-1800s, 40 percent of the population in the Southern states

## Economics of Human Trafficking:

**Many of the world's economies are impacted human trafficking networks.**

- Our economy has been affected by human traffickers in ways that have not been noticed. Our own business buildings have been affected by what seems a disease that spreads through our economy which in this case the disease is human trafficking.
- According to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, "business are unaware of how their facilities or services are being used by traffickers."

**There is low risks for those trafficking a person.**

- "Left unchecked, human trafficking will continue to flourish in environments where traffickers can reap substantial monetary gains with relatively low risk of getting caught or losing profits." (National Human Trafficking Hotline) This shows how human trafficking will continue if the risk of being caught is low.

**Human Trafficking is a high profit illegal business.**

consisted of Black slaves.” (Nilsson, 2007) The percentage of the slaves are really high if they were to be let free they would not have the money that the slaves produced for them. The slaves bring the owners money that the slaves cannot keep.

**There is low risks for those that owned a slave.**

→ Due to slave laws, slave owners were protected by the law. The risks of owning a slave were low and the owners could do as they pleased to their slaves. There was little to no consensus when a slave was killed or assaulted by a their owner. (Sam Houston State University, 2013)

→ “High Profits: When individuals are willing to buy [people to use for their own advantage], they exploit children and adults. When consumers are willing to buy goods and services from industries that rely on forced labor, they create a profit incentive for labor traffickers to maximize revenue with minimal production costs.” (National Human Trafficking Hotline)

**Today around the world in black markets humans are being sold as if they are only a item.**

→ Information gathered from *Human Trafficking Prices* written by Havocscope

These are all examples of how much the human trafficking systems happen all around the world. These victims have no voice in the human trafficking systems. They are being sold auctioned and forced to do inappropriate actions that can not be mentioned.

- Children in the United Kingdom: \$25,000
- Girls from Mozambique: \$2
- Virgin Girl in Medellin, Colombia: \$2,600 in online auction
- Babies in China: \$7,800
- Children in Ghana: \$50 to parent, then \$300 to trafficker

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Children in Thailand:\$25 typical price to “rent” a child beggar</li><li>● Girls in Kenya:\$600 for Girls between the age of 10 to 15</li><li>● Women from Vietnam to China:\$11,800 to purchase wife</li></ul> |
|--|---|

# Parallel Politics/Rules:

## Slavery:

→ According to *Living Conditions by Nicholas Boston*, he claims that men and women that were enslaved were beaten, separated from people that they loved, and they were treated as if they were property. This demonstrates how no matter what [gender] slaves where or what family they had the law still viewed them as property and nothing more than that. Showing that the law declared that slaves are a piece of property helps people infer that slave owners followed the **system of following rules**.

### Lack of Government protection.

→ “1669: Virginia law enacted: An act about the casual killing of slaves. The law explained that if a slave did not obey their master/owner they will not hesitate to kill the actual slave because they are nothing than just people they own. ( Sam Houston State University, 2013) This demonstrates that a killing of a slave was acceptable because they were viewed as property and not as actual human beings.

→ “1667: Virginia law enacted, declaring that baptisime of slaves doth not exempt them from

## Human Trafficking:

→ An article states, “Social networks and online classified sites are being used by traffickers to market, recruit, sell and exploit for criminal purposes.” (USC, 2011) This explains how men are usually being trafficked. The rules in which they are caught and forced to be marketed and exploited for criminal purposes make the internet seem unstable and have a negative impact on our modern society. The internet helps explain that human trafficking has **systems that are composed of subsystems and parts**.

→ An article states, “A few days later he started telling me everything I had to do; the positions, how much I need to charge, the things I had to do with the client and for how long, how I was to treat them and how I had to talk to them so that they would give me more money,’ Karla says.” (CNN Romo, 2015) This demonstrates how the **systems** within working their are to **follow the certain rules** that they are told to do.

### Government protection.

→ “ While investigations, prosecutions, and penalties

bondage. WHEREAS some doubts have arisen whether children that are slaves by birth, and by the charity and piety of their owners made partakers of the blessed sacrament of baptism, should by virtue of their baptism be made free; It is enacted and declared by this grand assembly, and the authority thereof, that the conferring of baptism doth not alter the condition of the person as to his bondage or freedom; that diverse masters, freed from this doubt, may more carefully endeavour the propagation of christianity by permitting children, though slaves, or those of growth if capable to be admitted to that sacrament.”( Sam Houston State University, 2013)  
This shows how the religion of a slave was a rule, most owners made the slaves turn to a specific religion.

**A slave could not carry armor or defend themselves in any way.**

→ For example, in 1680 a Virginia law enacted stated that no slaves shall hold or carry or in any case in possession of a weapon that can potentially harm others. If they are seen with any weapon they are to be punished with a beating from the slave owner. The beating to the slave from the owners would be exaggerated to very minimal. (Sam Houston State University, 2013)

have increased throughout recent years, many traffickers still believe the high profit margin to be worth the risk of detection. Factors that add to low risk include: lack of government and law enforcement training, low community awareness, ineffective or unused laws, lack of law enforcement investigation, scarce resources for victim recovery services, and social blaming of victims.”(National Human Trafficking Hotline)

→ For example the FBI states ,“The most effective way to investigate human trafficking is through a collaborative, multi-agency approach with our federal, state, local, and tribal partners. In concert with this concept, FBI investigators participate or lead task forces and working groups in every state within the U.S.” This shows how there are many government organizations that want to be able to reduce and prevent human trafficking from happening.

- These government systems show that when you need to prevent something, your system should be **composed of subsystems and parts.**

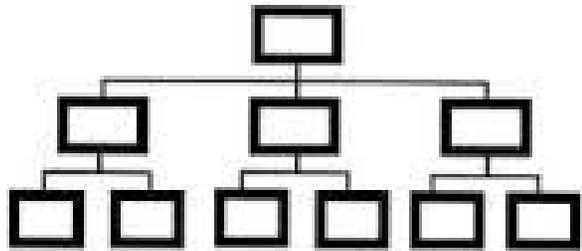
- In 1750 it was prohibited that any person marry a white male to a black female or marry a white female to a black male.(Sam Houston State University, 2013)
- In 1831 North Carolina passes the law that slaves could not learn to read or write.(PBS, 20014)

## **Systems work to complete a task or mission:**

The systems of slavery and human trafficking have tasks and missions to complete. Slaves were forced to do harsh manual labor and that has evolved to human trafficking today. However, nowadays, the labor the people have to do is hidden or concealed, and cannot be easily noticed as crimes. From slaves to the victims of human trafficking, the systems are in place for the only purpose of helping certain human beings (masters or owners) take advantage of slaves/victims and become wealthier through this exploitation.

## **Systems are composed of subsystems and parts:**

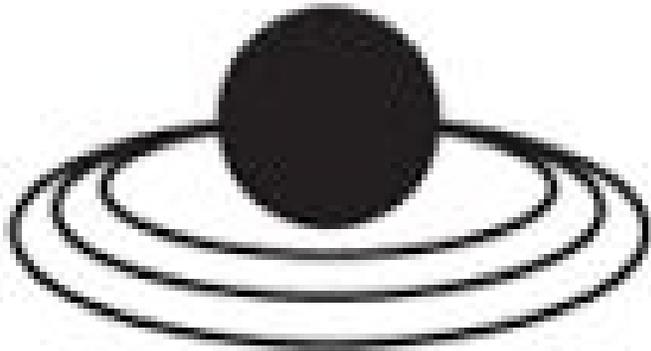
The subsystems and parts that made slavery thrive and that currently help human trafficking continue are the economy, laws, and conditions. The laws that are in place are very little and are not enforced. The conditions in which a person is held captive under are often cruel and hidden, so no one finds out. The earnings of having someone captive also are big and it is considered “easy” money, which impacts the economy and financial interests that keep human trafficking going, just like it did with slavery in the past.



**RULES**

## **Systems follow rules:**

The existence of slavery in America were informed through rules and laws. For example, the Fugitive Slave Act made it illegal for slaves from the confederate slave states to move to the union free states. They were forced to returned. Today, there are rules against human trafficking, but these rules are not implemented throughout the world and in a consistent way. There are also rules and practices that slave owners stuck to and that current human traffickers stand by today.



## **Impact**

## **Systems may be influenced by other systems.**

The systems of slavery and human trafficking are impacted by systems of poverty, education, and the economy. We learned that in times of slavery, slave labor was the foundation of America's economy, especially in the south. We know that currently, human trafficking is a 15.5 million dollar industry and people's living are

dependent on the profits made out of victims of human trafficking. Therefore, just like slavery, the motivation for people to stop human trafficking is low because of the financial interests involved.