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Historical Slavery vs. Contemporary Slavery

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Historical Slavery vs. Contemporary Slavery

In the contemporary scenario, human trafficking has become a more significant issue in the 21st century, with over 46 million people being victims (Bales, 2017). The videos are very informative, and they brought goosebumps to my skin as they challenged my assumption that only a negligible number of people are likely to encounter modern-day slavery. Content from these videos has brought to my attention that, though illegal everywhere, slavery is highly practiced in the current day and that women (more so children) have a high vulnerability (Buckley, 2010). There is no doubt that contemporary slavery is largely overlooked.

Comparatively, historical slavery is by no means different from contemporary slavery because it existed worldwide as it does today. According to Bales (2017), slavery was legal in many places in the past and illegal everywhere today. Although slavery has different forms of manifestations, its nature has never changed. Every perpetrator is committed to using violence to gain and maintain control over another person for economic or sexual motivations. It is worthy to assert that contemporary slavery is highly comparable to historical slavery, and it can be totally eradicated.

I think racial discrimination and sexism have a great influence on modern-day slavery. More than often, victims of modern slavery encounter discrimination based on religion, age, gender, ethnicity, or race. The higher the level of discrimination and sexism, the higher the level of contemporary slavery. Modern slaves find themselves in quite challenging situations. Bales (2017) pointed out that about 80% of slavery victims encounter sexual exploitation, most of them being children at tender age who cannot make rational decisions. Another situation of typical slaves today is that they are lured into work; they lack the courage to report due to fear or intimidation (Buckley, 2010). In most settings, slaves are taken out of their country to be

exploited. They lack basic needs, and they are abused or murdered to get rid of them after attaining the intended purpose. Modern-day slaves are exploited in the dirty and demeaning jobs in the economic ladder. There is no doubt that human trafficking has long-lasting effects, and it is currently being practiced in all pillars of the world. Therefore, we must implement unforgiving measures to address all motives of contemporary slavery, such as commercial sexual exploitations and all sorts of discrimination (McGrath & Watson, 2018). Social advocates must take a firm stand against the upcoming pleas of legalizations of prostitution, among other significant measures. We have the moral obligation to eradicate slavery domestically and internationally for a good reason.

References

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