

Trafficking humans in sociological perspective

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The theoretical context

Initiation versus perpetuation
of migration (Massey et al, 1997)

Initiation

Neoclassical Economics, New Household
economics,
Dual Labor Market Theory, World Systems Theory

Perpetuation

Network Theory, Institutional Theory, Cumulative
Causation

The Institutional Theory

Based on the Weberian theory of bureaucracy

The functional model:

Organisations are useful (provide services for the migrants and other actors)

but their behaviour is strongly influenced by organizational self-interest

Types

NGO sector (humanitarian organizations),
market actors (formal and informal (petty or large-scale criminal organizations))

Bureaucracies (state and international organizations)

Smuggling or trafficking

Smuggling	Trafficking
consent between customer and smuggler, interaction between smuggler	trafficking victims are subject to coercive, and deceptive actions (initial consent is rendered meaningless in the course of trafficking)
contractual agreement that typically terminates upon arrival (upon payment)	often involves cycle(s?) of exploitation
profit is derived from transportation and facilitation of illegal entry or stay	profit originates from various forms of exploitation – all based on the defencelessness of the victims
underlying infrastructure becomes increasingly intricate but mostly glocal	underlying infrastructure becomes increasingly intricate but often global
complex networks of many individual players , easily adaptable to shifting circumstances of supply and demand	complex networks of many organisations, capital intensive and strongly influence supply and (solvent) demand
Examples: Coyotes, Man in Black 1	Examples: Snakeheads, Lethal Weapon 4 or Premium Rush

Some examples of trafficking fees

Service charge

Afghanistan \$25,000 to London / \$700 to Iran

Asia \$10,000 to Australia

China \$50,000 to USA / \$41,800 to UK

Cuba \$10,000 to USA

Kosovo – EU (through Hungary) less than Eur 1000)

Selling price

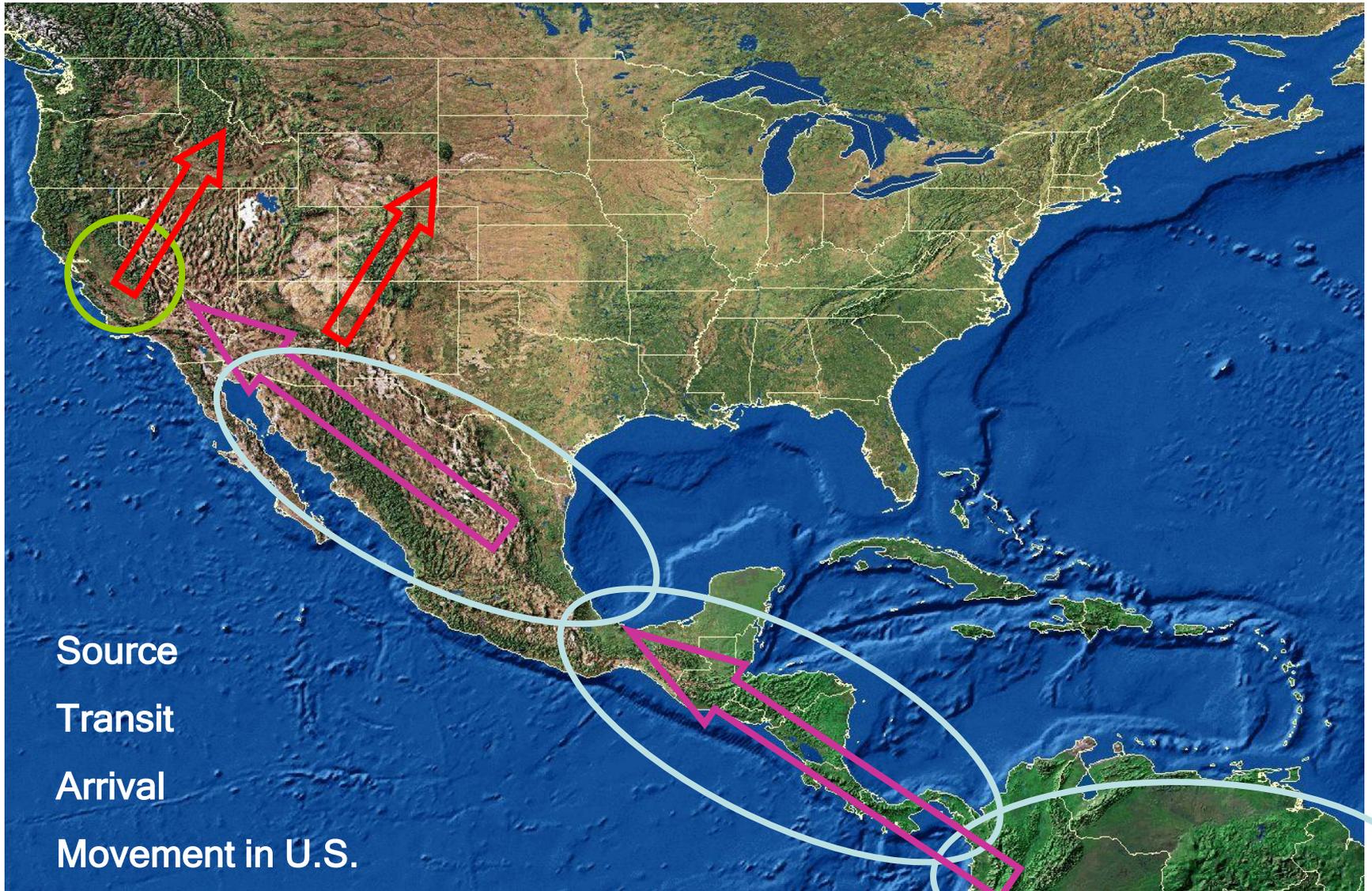
Babies in Nigeria \$2,650, in China \$7,800 in Indonesia \$160 to \$250
Children in Thailand \$25 typical price to “rent” a child beggar, \$300 for
Cambodian Children, in the United Kingdom \$25,000

Teenage girls in Iraq \$5,000 for Virgins, \$2.500 for Non-Virigns

Woman in Pakistan \$342, from Moldova \$2,685 in Moscow

<http://www.havocscope.com/black-market-prices/human-smuggling-fees/>

The phases and main trafficking routes to the USA from Latin- and Central America

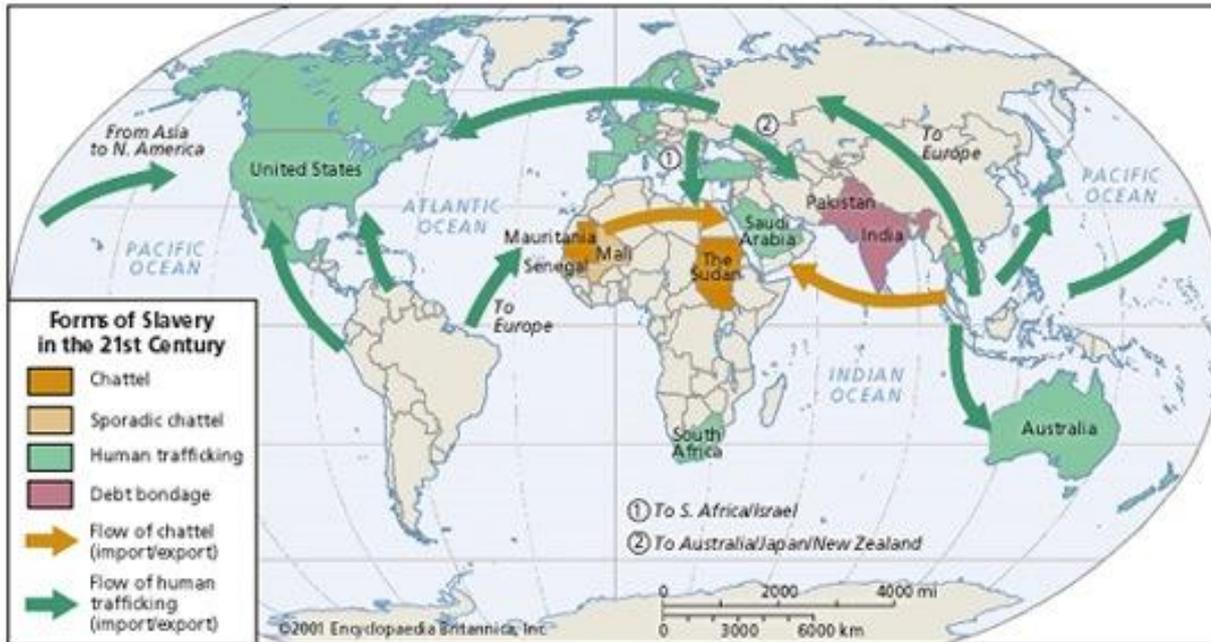


The European illegal border crossing routes



Trafficking Worldwide

Type of trafficking being reported



SOURCE: National Human Trafficking Resource Center, December 2007-February 2012

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