

Passover 2020/5780

We are free to buy what we choose.

What we choose may be tainted by slavery – or can help the cause of freedom.

ָהַעִּידֹתִי בָבֶם הַיּוֹם אֶת־הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת־הָאָרֶץ הַחַיִּיִם וְהַפְּנֶת נְתַתִּי לְפָּנֶּיךּ הַבְּרָבָה וְהַקְּלָלֶה וּבְחַרְתִּ בְּחַיִּים הַעִּידֹתִי בָבֶם הַיּוֹם אֶתּרָה וְזַרְעָדְּ: לְמַעו תִּתְיָה אַתָּה וְזַרְעָדְּ:

I have called heaven and earth to witness against you today: I have placed before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life that you and your descendants may live. – Deuteronomy 30:19

Did You Know?

- **Cocoa:** About 70 percent of the world's cocoa beans are picked by slaves. If you are not eating Fair Trade chocolate, then you are probably eating chocolate tainted by slavery.
- **Tainted Products:** The top five imported products at risk of being tainted by modern slavery: 1) computers & cell phones, 2) garments, 3) fish, 4) cocoa, 5) sugarcane.
- **Activism Works:** McDonald's agreed to pay more for tomatoes to support higher farmworker wages after protests by clergy and farmworkers.
- **Protect People & Planet:** Fair Trade certification protects both workers and the environment from the worst abuses and provides transparency in the supply chains of the goods we purchase.

ָוְגַר לֹא־תוֹנֶה וְלָא תִלְחָצֶנּוּ כִּי־גֵרִים הֵיִיתָם בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרִים:

You shall not wrong a stranger or oppress him, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

- Exodus 22:20

THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS WILL TAKE ONLY ABOUT 10 MINUTES EACH, AND WILL HELP BRING LIBERTATION TO TODAY'S SLAVES



Order <u>fair trade kosher-for-Passover chocolates</u> for your home, school, and/or congregation at <u>FairTradeJudaica.com</u>. While there, read or watch some of the educational resources about slavery, particularly child slavery, in the chocolate supply chain.



With your board or your Social Action, Kitchen, and/or Fundraising Committees, suggest a Fair Trade show and tasting at your synagogue. View clothing, ritual objects, and foods at FairTradeJudaica.com and FairTradeCertified.org.



As an individual and on behalf of Jewish institutions, buy fair trade coffees, chocolates, and wines for use all year long.



Read and share "Let the People Go: Modern-Day Slavery and Jewish Responses for Informal Education and Youth Groups" by Amy Dorsch in NO MORE SLAVES!: A Resource Guide for Engaging and Empowering Young Jews To Help End Human Trafficking by 2030 available from the Rabbinical Assembly's Slavery & Human Trafficking web page (rabbinicalassembly.org/tzedek-justice/slavery-and-human-trafficking).



Read, share, and consider teaching from "Chocolate Moses/Modern Slavery Salon" by Rabbi David Spinrad in the Rabbinical Assembly's new publication, NO MORE SLAVES!: A Resource Guide for Engaging and Empowering Young Jews To Help End Human Trafficking by 2030 available from the Rabbinical Assembly's Slavery & Human Trafficking web page (rabbinicalassembly.org/tzedek-justice/slavery-and-human-trafficking).



During your Seders, following *Ha Lachma Anya* when you hold up the matzah and recite, "this is the bread of affliction," hold up a cheap item from a country that is a known "hot spot" for slave-made goods. You might hold up a rug from India or clothing made in Bangladesh or non-Fair Trade chocolate, with an unspecified supply chain. Recite "this is the clothing of affliction" or the "chocolate of affliction" or the "rug of affliction" – and discuss why.



"The things we buy are decisions we make about the world we want."

- Free the Slaves

SCREEN ONE OR MORE OF THESE VIDEOS ...

AND PAIR THEM WITH ONE OR MORE OF THESE SINGLE SHEET HANDOUTS...

Don't Buy Into Slavery https://vimeo.com/295 084737

Flags the issue and engages viewers (40 seconds)

Slavery's Human Impact

https://vimeo.com/293 634940

Provides more details and background about how the goods we buy promote either slavery or freedom, as well as stirring compassion and engagement (3:25)

Free the Slaves Formula for Freedom

https://vimeo.com/148 250584

Mentions the impact of our purchases and discusses how Free the Slaves fulfills its mission (2:55)

The Dark Side of Chocolate

http://www.slavefreec hocolate.org/dark-sideof-chocolate/

An award-winning documentary on child slavery in the chocolate industry (46 minutes)

ENDING SLAVERY!: Understanding Human Trafficking – and What You Can Do About It from the Rabbinical Assembly's Slavery & Human Trafficking web page (rabbinicalassembly.org/tzedek-justice/slavery-and-human-trafficking). This double-sided one-pager is a great first resource to read and distribute, because it provides background, facts, figures, and a plan for ending slavery. It is suitable to distribute to congregants, students, non-Jewish clergy, lay leaders, and Jewish professionals. This brief document can be used for teaching, programming, or discussion. It is also a wonderful resource to hand out to people to read aloud and discuss at their Seders.

<u>Passover Prep</u>, downloadable from <u>FreeTheSlaves.net/Judaism</u>, details in a brief and accessible bulleted format what can Jews do in 10 hours, 10 minutes or even 10 seconds to remember and help slaves this Passover. The reverse side of this one-page handout has outlines root causes of slavery and solutions developed by Free the Slaves.

ENDING SLAVERY!: Jewish Sources and Resources On Human Trafficking from the Rabbinical Assembly's Slavery & Human Trafficking web page (rabbinicalassembly.org/tzedek-justice/slavery-and-human-trafficking). This one-pager pairs well with the first resource listed and is ideal to share with your school principal, social justice committee, board, and other lay and professional leaders. The list of Core Principles (with citations to sacred texts) is useful for teaching and preaching. This one-pager also provides easy access to a variety of resources that can help you teach about the connections between ancient Jewish sources and today's slaves, including curriculum for Kindergarten through Adult Education, Seder activities and supplements, and guest speakers. Also included is contact information for three experts in the field who have copious experience in engaging synagogue and school communities with this issue. These consultants are available to Passover Partners at no cost.

<u>Passover Coupon</u>, available on the Faith in Action page at <u>FreetheSlaves.net/Judaism</u>, is a double-sided half-pager. It provides the smallest, most digestible amount of text. Distribute these coupons before Passover at classes and services — or use them to spark discussion at model, family, or community Seders.

Passover Project 2020 Handout

The first two pages of the document you are now reading, available at FreeTheSlaves.net/Judaism, can be printed as a double-sided one-page handout. Use it to prompt discussion and action about the power of our everyday choices and purchases to help people who are enslaved.