



SIGMA
INVESTMENTS GROUP

Hand-In-Hand to Eradicate Contemporary Slavery

People do not enslave people to be mean to them. They do it to make a profit. And I've got to tell you, what I found out around the world was depressingly familiar. To this date in Africa, agricultural workers are being whipped and beaten. It is mind-blowing. And I want to be very clear. I'm talking about real slavery. This is not about lousy marriages; this is not about jobs that are awful. This is about people who cannot walk away, people who are forced to work without pay, people who are operating 24/7 under a threat of violence and have no pay, and people with their passports striped away from them and are obligated to work under horrible conditions. It's real slavery in exactly the same way that slavery would be recognized throughout all of human history.

One project, which I am replicating at the moment, is the "6x6 Project" in Indonesia, specifically Mali. Its sole purpose was to stop modern slavery by ensuring that unprivileged women are provided with decent jobs in respectable workplaces that fall under the international legal and ethical standards. The project was established in 2015 and has provided more than 100 jobs for unfortunate women to work in several industries and prevented these women from traveling to the Middle East where they will be working as slaves for unappreciative, abusive families. Some families in the Middle East are confiscating the helpers' passport and underpaying them while overworking them all day long. The project's main achievement was to keep these women in their own country while supplying them with sufficient opportunities to sustain and expand on their lifestyles.

The 6x6 model is being replicated into a larger project that has been established, "8x8 Project". This project is being implemented in Jordan in order to service uneducated women to prosper in the Jordanian competitive economy. This newly kicked-off project is and will grant women from all provinces the chance and encouragement to defy all the odds that are stacked against them and provide to their family an improved standard of living.

Led by myself, the International Association of Human Values (IAHV) launched a revolutionary project in 2013 in Iraq in order to help more than 400 women, mainly orphans and widows, in order to prevent their enslavement by their own family or immigrating to less fortunate places to find work. The project educated women and provided them with graduating diplomas that enabled them to work in regulated industries to ensure that their efforts are being compensated, and their return is aligned with the industry standards.

The world shouldn't be such a terrible place; it could be a better one nonetheless. Shall each and every one of us put a small effort in the right direction; it will surely help us take a bigger step to get closer to a more harmonious world. So I am inviting you all to join forces to out-root modern slavery out of this earth.