

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN TEXAS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING FORM

- E-mail to lwwvtexas@lwwvtexas.org
- OR Fax to (512) 472-4114
- OR Mail two copies to League of Women Voters of Texas
1212 Guadalupe, Suite 107
Austin, TX 78701

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING FORM

- Please mark your League's choice or choices as indicated in each question.
- Add any additional information, ideas, or concerns that you want to communicate in the Comments section.
- Have your Board approve your Consensus Report before sending it in.
- Send in your report no later than December 30, 2013.

Questions?

- See the Leaders Guide – about the study, conducting the consensus meeting, and correlation of consensus questions and *Facts & Issues*
- Contact Janice Schieffer, Program VP at 214-415-3476, email janice@schieffer.us

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS

1. LWV Texas should be opposed to all forms of human trafficking: international and domestic, sex and labor, adults and children.

- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree

Comments:

The 2000 United Nations Palermo Protocol elaborates the "3P Paradigm" for government efforts to stop human trafficking: prevention, prosecution and protection. Questions 2-6 follow the 3P Paradigm.

2. Prevention: There are several human conditions that underlie trafficking, such as poverty, attitudes about women, cultural traditions about slavery, and dysfunctional families. What methods of prevention would you support to specifically address trafficking? Choose all that you support.

- ☐ Public outreach and awareness programs
- ☐ Public-private partnerships to combat human trafficking
- ☐ Training for medical professionals and school personnel
- ☐ Services for homeless, throwaway youth and other at-risk populations
- ☐ Internet safety education for youth, parents and teachers
- ☐ Other. Please specify.

Comments:

3. Prosecution: How should human trafficking be prosecuted? Choose all the statements that you support.

- ☐ Promote strong laws against trafficking and prosecute traffickers to the fullest extent of the law.
- ☐ Require human trafficking training for law enforcement officers and prosecutors.
- ☐ Put convicted sex traffickers of children on the sex offender registry.
- ☐ Put convicted sex traffickers of adults on the sex offender registry.
- ☐ Foster and support coordination among national, state, local and nongovernmental agencies, including the maintenance and sharing of reliable trafficking data.
- ☐ Strengthen civil laws to close down properties that allow human trafficking.
- ☐ Other. Please specify.

Comments:

4. Prosecution: How should victims of sex trafficking be treated by prosecutors? Choose all the statements that you support.

- ☐ Persons who are identified as victims of sex trafficking should be diverted into justice and rescue programs that provide access to services such as counseling and job training.
- ☐ Assume all minors are victims, no proof of coercion required.
- ☐ Minor victims of sex trafficking should receive legal aid and other court-related services.
- ☐ Adult victims of sex trafficking should receive legal aid and other court-related services.
- ☐ Other. Please specify.

Comments:

5. Prosecution: How should buyers of sexual services (“johns”) be treated? Choose all the statements that you support.

- ☐ Prosecute buyers of sexual services from minors.
- ☐ Prosecute buyers of sexual services from adults.
- ☐ Put buyers of sexual services from minors on the sex offender registry.
- ☐ Put buyers of sexual services from adults on the sex offender registry.
- ☐ Require buyers of sexual services to participate in awareness education about human trafficking.
- ☐ Other. Please specify.

Comments:

6. Protection: What type of protection should be provided to victims? Choose all that you support.

- ☐ Services such as housing, medical, counseling, job training, legal aid and translations
- ☐ Guidelines for professionals to identify and assist victims
- ☐ Enhanced ability to sue the trafficker for civil damages
- ☐ Protection of victims from their traffickers during prosecution
- ☐ Defined roles for child welfare system and juvenile justice system in assisting trafficked minors
- ☐ Guardianship and protective custody for trafficked minors when home situation would put the minor at risk
- ☐ Other. Please specify.

Comments:

7. Which of the following organizations should have primary and secondary responsibility to fund the prevention and prosecution of human trafficking and protection of victims: federal government, state government, local government, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs)? Put 1 for primary, 2 for secondary.

- ☐ Prevention
___ Federal govt. ___ State govt. ___ Local govt. ___ NGOs
- ☐ Prosecution
___ Federal govt. ___ State govt. ___ Local govt. ___ NGOs
- ☐ Protection
___ Federal govt. ___ State govt. ___ Local govt. ___ NGOs

Comments:

8. Human trafficking is modern slavery, but many people are not aware that it exists even in their own communities. Texas, in particular, is a transportation hub for sex trafficking. What issues need to be addressed in education and public awareness of this “problem hidden in plain sight”?