



FREE THE SLAVES eUPDATE

A quarterly progress report to supporters about Free the Slaves activities and impact



New Video: Free the Slaves Ghana Partner Saves Children from Slavery

Sometimes the experience of one person tells the whole story. That's certainly true in the case of Mabel, a former child slave in Ghana. A film crew from the Discovery Channel has released a [mini-documentary](#) that tells Mabel's inspiring journey from slavery to freedom. Mabel's story is one of several Discovery Learning Alliance segments that will be used in classroom and

community settings in Ghana, Nigeria and Kenya to teach the importance of education in fighting slavery.

Mabel was forced to work as a child slave on fishing boats, but was rescued by Free the Slaves front-line partner [Challenging Heights](#). She's now in school and has big plans for the future.

"I want to become a nurse so I can prove to my family that I can make it in life," she says. You can read details of Mabel's story [here](#). Better yet, take eight minutes to watch Mabel tell her own story. It will be the best investment of eight minutes that you could ever make.



Teach Your Children About Slavery Today

Most students learn in school that slavery ended more than a century ago. Of course, that isn't true. Slavery was outlawed, not ended. Current estimates are that 21-30 million people are enslaved today, more slaves than at any time in human history. To provide teachers, pupils and parents with resources to teach and learn about modern-day slavery, Free the Slaves has just developed three downloadable guides. You can find them on the [Free the Slaves students webpage](#).

The five-page [Teacher's Guide](#) includes sections on the definition of slavery, the types of slavery still in existence, the causes of slavery and key facts. The five-page [Activities Guide](#) includes a slavery quiz, question-and-answer exercises and a fill-in-the-square exercise. The six-page Case Studies guide provides real-world examples of adults and children in various forms of slavery, with

suggested discussion questions for each example.

The guides can be used by teachers to develop in-class or after-class activities, or by parents or students as resources for school projects. They complement the Free the Slaves [Slavery in History timeline](#), and the wealth of short videos on the [Free the Slaves Vimeo channel](#) that show what slavery looks like and showcase how it can be overcome.

Haiti's Model Communities Ending Restavèk Child Domestic Servitude

Monitoring & Evaluation Project Report
Best Practices and Lessons Learned
March 2014



Overcoming Child Slavery in Haiti

It's heartbreaking to learn that rural Haitian families often feel they have no choice but to send some of their children away because they can't afford to care for them. The restavèk system is a longstanding tradition in Haiti, where rural kids are sent to live with other families in cities and work for them as domestic servants. The expectation is that the "host" family will care for the child by providing schooling, food and shelter. All too often, though, restavèk children are abused and enslaved instead.

Free the Slaves has successfully completed a pilot project with the Haitian group [Fondasyon Limye Lavi](#) to build community consensus against the restavèk system and prevent the flow of children into domestic servitude. A detailed report (in [English](#) and [French](#)) and documentary video (in [English](#) and [Creole](#)) are available on the [Free the Slaves Haiti webpage](#).

The Haiti project results were very encouraging. An estimated 27 percent of the children in villages reached by the project who were initially identified as being in restavèk are now back home. A child rights educational program improved the treatment of children in project communities by 29 percentage points. Child protection committees were formed in each community to prevent the sending of children into restavèk slavery, to support the reintegration of returned children and to promote overall child welfare. An accelerated education program provided schooling for at-risk kids, helping to keep them at home. And the pilot program's documentary video has been played to more than 1,000 Haitian villagers so far this year, encouraging them to keep their kids at home.



Child Rights Clubs Help Kids Help Themselves

Many children in Ghana are forced to work in mines under dangerous conditions: carrying heavy loads and handling mercury to extract gold from ore. Young girls who go to these mining communities to sell food and water are often sexually exploited during the night. Free the Slaves is working with adults in these communities to build awareness about ways to protect their children. But how can kids protect themselves?

Free the Slaves has partnered with [Participatory Development Associates](#) (PDA) to launch child rights clubs. In these child-led in-school organizations, kids learn about their rights, the risks and dangers around their communities, and whom they can contact if they or their peers ever need help.

During the launch process, teachers selected student child rights ambassadors to lead the clubs within their schools and encourage their peers to join. Since then, the clubs have been meeting once a week. There are currently 522 members, and they're creating a ripple effect. They are all making an impact: increasing children's knowledge of their rights and how they can be protected. PDA staff asked children in a follow up visit to one school: "What basic rights are children entitled to?" Students responded enthusiastically with answers such as: "Right to Shelter!" and "Right to Education!" Learn more about our child rights in mining project on our [Ghana webpage](#).



Be Part of the Solution: Raise Funds for Free the Slaves with our Personal Fundraising Guide

We're all touched by slavery today. It's in our homes, schools, offices, churches and stores. That's because many of the people trapped in modern-day slavery make products that we use every day. You can help end it by fighting slavery at its source. **A contribution to Free the Slaves will empower people** in vulnerable communities to resist and overcome the forces that make them easy prey for traffickers.

Free the Slaves works at the community level in slavery hot spots around the globe. For us to be successful, we need our community of supporters to join together and take a stand for freedom. That's why we have just updated our **Personal Fundraising Guide**. It's designed to help you mobilize your personal network of friends, family, coworkers, neighbors and classmates. The guide includes tips and resources for organizing your own mini-fundraising event or campaign to help spread freedom to those in bondage. The guide has info on how to prepare, how to attract donors, how to get information about slavery and the Free the Slaves model for fighting it, and how to create your own campaign donor page on Razoo.com.

We can conquer slavery, but only if we build bridges between communities that need help and communities with resources to provide it. We invite you to become a part of the solution to slavery by asking your community to join you in supporting Free the Slaves.

DONATE TO FREE THE SLAVES

FIND OUT MORE:

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