

Social and Psychological Trauma of Human Trafficking: Albanian Women Case

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Abstract

Human trafficking is a phenomenon with a long history during the centuries. In Albania country, human trafficking has existed for a long time, even during the communist period. The post-communist period has been ranked as the top period for human trafficking and human slavery. As a result of the phenomena of the collapse of communism after 1990, in Albanian society happened so many changes in the field of government and political system, the opening of boundaries toward all countries of the world or free movement toward all countries, liberalisation of the economy, social and cultural changes etc. Most researchers evaluated this period as a transition period in political, social, economic and cultural. So this situation created a good field for developing human trafficking within Albania. Although the human trafficking phenomenon has been explored in the post-communist society, in the transition period till nowadays have been growing and extended more. The functioning of the government and low security made it possible for the mafia to be stronger in human trafficking too. So, Albania has been a bridge country for human trafficking from Eastern countries toward Greece, Italy, European Countries and other countries of the world. Women and children were and are still primary victims of sex slavery and are included in varying sexual activities like prostitution, stripping, sex tourism, pornography etc. In this paper, we are going to explain human trafficking as a type of modern slavery that is formed as sex trafficking. In this case, we are going to discuss the psychological trauma that sex trafficking affects Albanian women. Are these victims still able to continue their own lives? Do they fill their selves ignored by the society where they are living? What are their psychological traumas caused in their character and does this trauma affect their life? Also, we are going to discuss for social trauma that is caused in Albanian society during the human trafficking have happened in the post-communist period till today. What are the pathologies that human trafficking (in this case sex trafficking) brings to Albanian society and the different social actors?

Keywords: Albania; Post-communist period; Human Trafficking; Psycho and Social traumas

1. Introduction

After 1990, Many Balkan countries such as Albania have been influenced in different ways of human trafficking, serving as a source for trafficking of human beings, transit and destination countries where human beings are procured, transported and enslaved through forced labour or forced sexual exploitation. This is a form of living mostly as been called modern slavery with the main factor being human trafficking.

The word "slavery" today covers a variety of human rights violations. In addition to traditional slavery and the slave

trade, these abuses include the sale of children, women and men, children and women prostitution, child and women pornography, the exploitation of men, women and child labour, the sexual mutilation of female children, the use of children in armed conflicts, debt bondage, the traffic in persons and the sale of human organs, the exploitation of prostitution, and certain practices under apartheid and colonial regimes. Slavery-like practices most of the time are clandestine.¹ The problem is compounded by the fact that the victims of slavery-like trafficking and sexual abuses are generally from the poorest and most vulnerable social groups or classes. Trafficking in persons is the illegal trade of human beings, through abduction, the use of threat or force, deception, fraud or "sale" for sexual exploitation or forced labour.² After the fall of the communist regime, Albania was a country in the political, economic and social transition period. For this reason, it started to be a cradle for the development of human trafficking.

The United Nations Protocol to Prevent, defines trafficking in persons as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, using threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or a position of vulnerability or the giving or receiving of pay. These definitions do not require that a trafficking victim be physically transported from one location to another. They apply to the recruitment, harbouring, provision, or obtaining of a person for the enumerated purposes.³ These purposes can labour, sexual exploitation, pornography, prostitution etc.

Cinar specified that human trafficking is defined as involves the exploitation of people through force, coercion, threat, or deception and includes human rights abuses such as debt bondage, deprivation of liberty, or lack of control over freedom and labour ' (Unclassified 2005). According to the Protocol (UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children), Human trafficking is defined as the illegal trade of human beings, through abduction, the use or threat of force, deception, fraud, or sale' for sexual exploitation or forced labour ' (Unclassified 2005).⁴

So consequently nowadays, human trafficking is one of the most spread phenomena in the world. Human trafficking is a social, political and economic phenomenon with a long history during centuries over the world. But in Balkan countries, in this case, Albania, 'human trafficking' as a word or concept started to develop after the 1990's year. The policies of the Albanian communist regimes before the 1990s had a strong influence on presenting Albanian society as the most secure society towards all social actors. Even though the word' human trafficking' has been developing since the 1990s. However, this does not mean that human trafficking did not exist in Albania, even in the communist period because it has existed as a phenomenon but in a very hidden or hermetical way. During the communist period, human trafficking was realised just by some of the government servants in a total information's information-isolated process. So human trafficking was an illegal process known just to a few people.

In this paper, we are going to explain human trafficking as a type of modern slavery that has been formed as sex trafficking within Albania society from the 1990s till nowadays. In this case, we are going to discuss about psychological trauma that sex trafficking has effect to Albanian women. We are going to investigate some of the factors affecting human trafficking in Albania; the types and ways of trafficking in Albania, and today's human trafficking situation in Albania. What are the pathologies and anomalies that human trafficking (in this case sex trafficking of Albania women) brings to Albanian society and the different social actors? And at the end of this paper, there will be formed a conclusion.

2. Albania and Human Trafficking

While world politics speak loudly for human rights and maintaining the best standards for humans, it is ironic to see the evidence that there are millions of people all over the world who still suffer in slave-like situations of forced labour and commercial sexual exploitation. Trafficking in persons is one of the greatest human rights challenges of our 'well-organized world political' and modern times. Victims of sex trafficking are rescued through raids on brothels and other places where commercial sexual exploitation occurs, such as massage parlours, karaoke bars and strip clubs. Regardless of the type of rescue, the law enforcement operation typically termed a "raid" should be executed through legal means, under the proper authority, using warrants or other necessary court or police orders.⁴ Traffickers exploit the aspirations of those living in poverty and those seeking better lives. They use dramatic improvements in transportation and communications to sell men, women, and children into situations of forced labour and sexual slavery with virtually no

¹ Fact Sheet No.14 p.,2

² S. Chaudhry 2003, p.5

³ Traficcing in Persons Reports, June 2004, p.9

⁴B. Cinar; 2010,p. 1

risk of prosecution. The traffickers also exploit the lack of political will by governments to tackle trafficking and its root causes. Corruption, weak inter-agency coordination, and low funding levels for ministries tasked with prosecuting traffickers, preventing trafficking, and protecting victims also enable traffickers to continue their operations. The transnational criminal nature of trafficking also overwhelms many countries' law enforcement agencies, which are not equipped to fight organized criminal networks that operate across national boundaries with impunity.⁵ In the data and the evidence of the research that has been done, the number of trafficked persons is dramatically high.

So according to the 2004 Report, U.S. Government data shows that of the estimated 600,000 to 800,000 men, women, and children trafficked across international borders each year, approximately 80 per cent are women and girls, and up to 50 per cent are minors. The data also demonstrated that the majority of transnational victims were trafficked into commercial sexual exploitation. With a focus on transnational trafficking in persons, however, these numbers do not include millions of victims around the world who are trafficked within their national borders. The International Labor Organization (ILO)-the United Nations (UN) agency charged with addressing labour standards, employment, and social protection issues-estimates there are 12.3 million people in forced labour, bonded labour, forced child labour, and sexual servitude at any given time; other estimates range from 4 million to 27 million. The nationalities of trafficking victims are as diverse as the world's cultures. Some leave developing countries, seeking to improve their lives through low-skilled jobs in more prosperous countries.⁶ The majority of transnational victims are females trafficked into commercial sexual exploitation, forced or bonded labour, forced prostitution, sex explosions and pornography. Women and girls are trafficked from the countries of origin of trafficking, to countries of destination of trafficking victims, or through transit countries, to every country in the region of the world, in ways that represent forms of slavery. The value of "goods sex" is estimated to reach up to 12 billion dollars annually worldwide. This market appears to be more profitable, and even less risky, as opposed to markets for drugs or guns. Traffickers through this traffic have formed transnational networks of traffickers and pimps who generally abuse women who dream of the future to work better. The activity of this network not only threatens the well-being and social status of women but also the welfare of social stability and political and economic situations. According to the Council of Europe, countries where human trafficking occurred are also linked to organized crime. So it 'should be combated with the same intensity as the phenomenon of drugs or money laundering'.⁷ Human trafficker's targets are often children and young women, and their ploys are creative and ruthless, designed to trick, coerce, and win the confidence of potential victims. Very often these ruses involve promises of a better life through marriage, employment, or educational opportunities. In Albania, there is 'no history' of trafficking of prostitution or other forms of exploitation for material profit. It is just a new phenomenon that occurred after the collapse of the communist regime. At least it is not a typical traditional phenomenon in Albanian lives. Albanian life had been focused on 'protection' in a traditional and patriarchal family structure, in which everything, including sexual life too, was encrypted and strictly controlled. The claim that trafficking "did no history" should be understood as a fact that Albania generally did not produce this phenomenon till the post-communist period. As a result of the phenomena of the collapse of communism after 1990 in Albanian society occurred so many changes in the government and political system, opening of boundaries for free moving toward all countries of the world, the liberalisation of the economy, social and cultural changes etc. Most researchers evaluated this period as a transition period in political, social, economic and cultural. So this pathological period created a good field for developing human trafficking within Albania. Consequently, the human trafficking phenomenon has been explored in the post-communist society, in the transition period till nowadays have been growing and extending more. The functioning of the government, corrupt government and low security made it possible for the mafia to be stronger on human trafficking and organization crimes too. Albania was the 'paradise' country to conduct human trafficking because of the cooperation between the traffickers and government 'servants', illegal activities and facilitations of organizing trafficking. Also, Albania has been a bridge country for human trafficking from Eastern countries toward European Countries and other countries of the world, because of its geographical position. Especially the trafficking of human beings (in our case women and children) occurs from Albania to Italy and Greece. According to the Trafficking in Persons reports, Albania is a country of origin for women and girls trafficked transnationally and internally for commercial sexual exploitation; it is no longer considered a major country of transit, and it is not a significant country of destination. Albanian victims are trafficked to Greece and Italy, with many 51 trafficked onward to the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Norway, Germany and the Netherlands. Internal sex trafficking of women and children is on the rise.⁸ The main place for the trafficking of Albanian women is Italy. According to the Vatra Foundation Reports,

⁵ Traficcing in Persons Reports, 2003,p. 6

⁶ Traficcing in Persons Reports, 2003,p.40

⁷ L.Sokoli;2006,p. 13

⁸ Trafficking in Persons Reports, 2006,35

Albania's geographic position has been as a gateway to Eastern countries to the West and vice versa and has made this country the trend used by certain elements or criminal records, who created opportunities for the development of illegal trafficking, in the form of transport for people wishing to emigrate, the trafficking of women for exploitation for prostitution, and children for criminal purposes. Also, this place was used by foreign criminal networks, which pass through Albania citizens of different nationalities in the states of the European Union.⁹ From 1990 until 1998, the information about the victims of human trafficking has been so limited, such as the fate of dozens of underage girls and boys who were victims of the cruel exploitation that had ever known history of this country. Before 1999 years there was no data for the realization of a study which identifies the exact number of girls and women involved in this phenomenon, both from institutions and certain state structures, as well as from NGOs working in this field. Although the Vatra Foundation had specified that in this period was the spread period and the flowering of trafficking.

3. Factors Affected Human Trafficking in Albania

The factors that cause human trafficking are complex to identify because they could be different in different countries or different in one country because of different situations and reasons. The causes of human trafficking are complex and often reinforce each other. In most developing countries, the globalization of markets, labour forces and the concomitant relaxation of travel barriers have spawned new trafficking scenarios and routes, including some that appear to challenge easy explanation.

Viewing trafficking in persons as a global market, victims constitute the supply, and abusive employers or sexual exploiters (also known as sex buyers) represent demand. Sex buyers are far more complicit in the victimization of sex trafficking victims, and thus, are logical targets for education on the link between prostitution and human trafficking.¹⁰ The supply of victims, in our case Albanian women and girls, is encouraged by many factors, including poverty, the attraction of perceived higher standards of living in Western countries, low education and lack of employment opportunities, organized crime, violence against women and children, discrimination against women, government corruption and political instability. On the other side, factors driving trafficking in persons include the sex industry and the growing demand for exploitable labour. Sex tourism, women and child pornography have become worldwide industries, facilitated by technologies such as the Internet, which vastly expand the choices available to "consumers" and permit instant and nearly undetectable transactions.

According to Trafficking in Persons Reports 2007 have been classified four main factors in the realizing of human trafficking such as:

3.1 Poverty and Desire for a Better Life.¹¹

Traffickers exploit impoverished and vulnerable individuals seeking a better life. In Albania's transition period, after the 1990s and with a high rate of unemployment, widespread poverty or a lack of economic opportunities, traffickers use promises of higher wages and good working conditions in foreign countries (in our case generally targeting Italy or Greece) to attract individuals into their schemes. For these people, the words of traffickers are hopes for the future to form and have a better life.

3.2 Ignorance of Trafficking's Consequences¹²

To see and imagine as the 'Saving' and 'Paradise' for living in Western countries, most victims are unaware of the dangers of trafficking because of the "success stories" that they have heard, and displays of wealth. Trafficking victims, when they have the opportunity to come back home are often ashamed or afraid to return home if they have not made good money, have not fulfilled the terms of the working arrangements imposed by traffickers, or have lost social status. We say the loss of social status because Albanian society stores still the continuous traditions and values (in rural regions generally), and working in prostitution is one of the most moral degradation forms. For this reason, prostitution, sex exploitation, and pornography have been prejudiced to have a normal social life.

⁹ V.Leskaj & B.Puka; 2010, 26

¹⁰Traficcing in Persons Reports, 2006, p.16-17

¹¹ Traficcing in Persons Reports, p. 9

¹² Traficcing in Persons Reports, p. 10

3.3 Disruption of Societal Values¹³

Greed and the widespread subjugation of women in much of the world facilitate trafficking. Poor countries have been flooded with images of wealth and prosperity beamed in through television or radio and lavish displays of wealth send powerful messages to impoverished citizens about the benefits of material acquisition. While in most countries the low status of women and girls in some societies contributes to the growing trafficking industry since female lives are not as highly valued as those of men and boys, in Albania is different. Because during the communist period, the social position of women is some to men. The main factor of disruption of societal values is the suspicions that have been forming about the authority of all social institutions.

3.4 Political and Economic Instability¹⁴

Areas of conflict and post-conflict as well as transitioning states are easy targets for those interested in plundering a country's resources, including exploitation of its people. Sudden political change, economic collapse, civil unrest, internal conflicts and economic pathologies greatly increase the likelihood that a country will become a source of trafficking victims as displaced populations are highly vulnerable to exploitation, abuse and trafficking. In these environments, the victims may be one of the few resources of marketable wealth. During the analysis that has been done by the Vatra Foundation, the phenomenon of trafficking has produced many elements that build his scheme. During studies conducted the 2002 - to 2009 years the Foundation has identified the causes of trafficking in Albania, where some of can be mentioned below:

- ✓ Economic Factors, which were accompanied by a general economic, decline in 1990 to the place that exception nowadays. Increasing unemployment led to a higher degree of migration and the flourishing of criminal forms such as human trafficking, as well as various types of prostitution.
- ✓ Social-Cultural Factors, closely linked with the lack of perspective for the future, the crisis in the family, institutional crises, movement of population from rural to urban areas, and changing lifestyle.
- Political Factors, associated with political instability, policy links with organized crime, and political crises that created the conditions for activation of the elements of incriminated. These were accompanied by a legal vacuum and, a lack of legislation in this regard.

Also, as Sokoli defined, trafficking is generally identified with violence. Violence, the most vulnerable and, eventually, the most reprehensible of the problem, has eclipsed the influence of economic, social, political, legal, ethical, moral, etc affecting over. On the other hand, poverty is almost set to be the first and the last cause of trafficking. However, we have developed research that results did not come to the same conclusion. Poverty is more of a general cause, but it already has a host of other reasons which cannot be overlooked. There are two main other factors evidenced in Albanian society in the trafficking of women the low influence of traditional pride and the low moral decline.¹⁵ Victims of trafficking get coerced into becoming victims of human trafficking for prostitution or sexual explosion, from some attractive reasons in their own lives that cause them to decide to enter on new unknown life by crossing international borders, and "desires" as factors for forming beliefs about what they will become or be able to do in going to a different country. Seeking a better future in other countries, mainly for employment, as well as the low economic levels are the two main factors affecting human trafficking in the post-communist period of Albania till nowadays can be listed below:

- ✓ Unemployment and Poverty
- ✓ Lack of political stability
- Moral/Ethical degradation of men traffickers
- ✓ Lack of hope for the future live
- ✓ Breakdown of family structures and social interactions
- The overwhelming desire for money, among girls
- ✓ Aim for at all costs for marriage
 - ✓ Impact of foreign nationals and imagine them as the 'saving' for their future
 - ✓ Lack of education

¹³ Traficcing in Persons Reports, 2007, p. 11

¹⁴ Traficcing in Persons Reports, 2007,p.11

¹⁵ L.Sokoli& I.Gedeshi; 2006, p.40

But of course, if more research is developing into Albanian human trafficking phenomena they will be exploring more factors that affect this situation.

4. Types and Ways of Trafficking in Albania

The flourishing of prostitution in Albania has been seen in the context of the new dynamism of social life after 1990, with the emergence of "liberal society", the fact that any kind of authority was in question, the moral of the previous code was overturned, the taboos of yesterday collapsed, the traditional family was hit and increased divorce, prenuptial sexual relations was widely accepted and that people were put on not looking good, but looking for what "was denied". The spread of prostitution is linked, therefore, not only to the lack of public order, but all social situations experienced by young people, the contradiction between the interests of its social and cultural, on the one hand, and the other hand, lack of opportunities means of institutions and structures of the Albanian society for their completion.

In Albania, prostitution as a profession and as traffic is a phenomenon directly associated primarily with damage to traditional communities, in which the sexual life was more or less controlled, with migration to large urban areas, in which well-established social relationships stock, foreign immigration, especially with the commercialization of social relations. Also, it is associated with the degree of liberalization of Albanian society today, with earlier onset of sexual intercourse, sexual relations and depreciation of prenuptial virginity relatively massive, with more open sex life with more widespread sexual partners etc.

Consequently, to these factors, we can say that most of the research on the field of human trafficking, classified trafficking into two groups, both of these classifications have the aim of exchanging human beings for money as Vulnerable Trafficking and Forced Trafficking.

According to the Trafficking in Person Reports, June 2007, human trafficking can be classified into two forms:

1-Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age.

2-The recruitment, harbouring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labour or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.¹⁶

But there are so many forms that appear to be used in Albanian human trafficking such as child sex tourism, children used for commercial sex, technology and pornography, sex trafficking and prostitution etc. Trafficking in fraud, through promises of marriage; with abductions by someone, the trick with promises of overseas employment, with promises to continue school overseas, with promises to make fast money on the way different, to become beggars, the promise to see the world or with seduction, deception or other routes. But the most common and spread among them turns out to be trafficked through promises of marriage. In the post-communist period, Albania faced many economic problems, including the lack of labour places and the low security of government.

In most countries, human trafficking started with the trafficking of human beings as labour force slavery, but the opposite occurred in Albania. Trafficking started by trafficking of women and children for sex slavery in exchange for money Women and children were and are still primary victims of sex slavery and are included in various sexual activities like prostitution, stripping, sex tourism, pornography etc. According to Albanian sociologist Leke Sokoli, he claimed that Western Europe has 30-36 thousand Albanian prostitutes. It also claimed that through the triangle Montenegro - Kosovo - Serbia, in these ten years, about 700 thousand women were destined for the European market prostitution. But according to the nonofficial sources, their number claim to be 6-7 times more than 700 thousand. Also, the types of Albanian human trafficking can be listed as :¹⁷

- ✓ Sexual exploitation
- ✓ Work
- ✓ Begging, illegal activities
- ✓ Adoption
- ✓ Sexual Exploitation and Work
- Sexual Exploitation and Begging

The most vulnerable to be victims of human trafficking are children and women under 18 years old. It is so interesting to conclude that in most of the countries of the world, trafficked women are from rural regions, but in Albania is a different situation. Trafficked women are from urban regions. This means that, while the trafficker's networks are spread

¹⁶Traficcing in Persons Reports, 2007, p.24

¹⁷ L. Sokoli & I.Gedeshi; 2006,p.43

in the urban regions, low law control and low social control are the main factors. In Albania, trafficking in women and adolescents began after 1990, in the absence of an anti-trafficking law. The first bill considered criminal human trafficking was passed only in 1995'S. If this law had resulted in deficiencies in January 2001, he would have improved. In February 2004, were approved several amendments to the Criminal Code. Under applicable law, trafficking in women for prostitution is punishable by 7-15 years. When trafficking has led to the deaths of the victims, traffickers are sentenced to life in prison etc.

- 1. In 2001 the Parliament adopted Law No. 8733 date. 24.01.2001, which is predicted for the first time in the Penal Code the crime of trafficking and provides for sanctions for criminal offences related to trafficking in human beings. Mainly remember Sections 110 / A, 114, 114 / a, 114 / b, 115 and Article 128 / b, which will complement the legal framework to bring the traffickers to justice for victims. Changes in domestic law continued in the years ahead. Highly significant improvements have been made especially during 2004, due to its alignment efforts with the international conventions and especially to ratify the Palermo Protocol in 2002. During this period the Albanian state has ratified several international conventions quite important in the fight against trafficking in human beings. Two more important are listed below:
- 2. The impact of the international community by giving priority to the fight against trafficking, and international non-governmental organizations and NGOs, supported by donors in financing anti-trafficking projects. In April 2006 the Albanian Government approved the moratorium on the ban on motor boats, which contributed significantly to the prevention of the phenomenon and its blocking of all coastlines of Albania where human traffic passes to EU countries.

¹⁸ According to the Trafficking in Persons Reports, The government sustained its modest efforts to protect and reintegrate trafficking victims during 2005. NGOs and international organizations administered and funded the majority of services for victims; however, the government provided some facilities and personnel. In 2006, the government began using in one case a witness protection program for trafficking victims. While the government approved a national victim referral mechanism in 2005, it did not employ it during the reporting period. In 2005, Albanian police continued to informally refer victims to shelters and reintegration assistance. Police identified and referred 28 victims within the country and referred 214 victims, who were either repatriated or deported back to Albania to the Vatra Center, a leading NGO in Albania providing shelter and services to victims. ¹⁹ Unfortunately, these numbers are just official numbers and the human trafficking phenomenon is much more serious than it is shown above.

5. Conclusion

5.1 Social and Psychological Pathologies Caused from Human Trafficking

Traffickers violate the universal rights of all persons to life, liberty, and freedom from slavery in all its forms.²⁰ Trafficking undermines the basic need of a child to grow up in a protective environment and the human rights of children to be free from sexual abuse and exploitation. Hundreds of men, women, and children die in transit or upon arrival at their destination. Thousands of victims are killed for refusing to submit to forced labour or sexual slavery, or for trying to escape. Others die from contracting diseases or suffering abuse during their enslavement. So this means that human trafficking is a violation of human rights. This brings to society the lack of security and pathological situations that affect the power and a well functioning of social institutions, such as family. The loss of family support networks makes the trafficking victim more vulnerable to the traffickers' demands and threats and contributes to the breakdown of societies. For families and communities, trafficking weakens parental authority, undermines extended family relationships, and eliminates the family's nurture and moral development of children. Trafficking interrupts the transmission of knowledge and cultural values from parent to child and from generation to new generation, weakening a core pillar of society. Victims who do return to their communities may be more likely to become involved in criminal activity.

Trafficking of women and children brings to these persons many psychological pathologies. Also, this is a phenomenon that we cannot see separated from society because it is one of the main social problems. So human trafficking of women and children forms psychological pathologies to individuals and social pathologies to society too.

¹⁸ B. Puka; E.Avdulaj; G.Lepuri & A.Corrokaj; 2010, p.34

¹⁹ Trafficking in Persons Reports, 2000, p.21

²⁰ Office of the Under Secretary for Global Affairs, 2006, p. 17

Trafficked women and children are always under the threat of pressure, are abused, forced to work in the sex industry and isolated. These situations bring anomic psychological situations like feelings of aimlessness, unhappiness, depression and usage of narcotic substances.

Their duty and obligation is to work in the exchange of money. But the money must be submitted to the tutors. So, the main factor that could be a reason to maintain the life of trafficked women and children is out of their control. This is one of the most important factors why they use narcotic substances. Also, appear to be two other important reasons for using narcotic substances such as 1- To feel happy for some moments and 2-Being motivated to work.

Most of the trafficked women and children are not socially able. They have trouble with personal and social identity. Because they do not know who they are in reality and what is their place in society. They do not know what society group they belong to. So they belong neither to their social group which they have passed most of their lives nor to the social group where they are living. These pathological social situations bring these people non-integration within the society, where they are standing. Trafficking of women and children is as much social as an individual because the pathologies of this phenomenon affect also the structure of the families of the trafficked persons, and the functioning of each member's status and roles. Also, it makes difficult the socialization of the children. So the children who are trafficked could not be any time able to see themselves as a member of the family. Because of this, the socialization process did not occur regularly. Albania's society, for more than 21 years is in the transition period. One of the main factors that affect this transition is also the trafficking of human beings and the social pathologies that occurred.

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