Behind the veil of the sex industry

NEFARIOUS

MERCHANT OF SOULS

OFFICIAL PRESS KIT

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Governments estimate there are 27 million slaves being held worldwide—more than at any point in human history.

-U.S. State Department, March 2012
After drug trafficking, trafficking in humans ties with the illegal arms industry as the second largest criminal industry in the world today and the fastest growing.

-U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2011

INTERVIEWEES

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALIST & AUTHOR - Victor Malarek
PH.D. IN COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY - Dr. Dan B. Allender
RESEARCHER AND CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST - Dr. Melissa Farley
M.DIV, D.D. working on behalf of and caring for women who have been exploited and abused. - Lauran Bethell
FOUNDER OF AGAPE INT’L MISSIONS - Don Brewster
in Cambodia to rescue women and children who are being sexually exploited.

BROTHEL OWNER - Slim
TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS - Anca, Eva, Denise, Mai, Champei, Samnang, Helena Evans

DETECTIVE SUPERINTENDENT - Kajsa Wahlberg
at the Department for Police Affairs in sweden

FOUNDER OF HOOKERS FOR JESUS - Annie Lobert
Survivor of the Vegas sex industry.
As many as 2 million children are subjected to prostitution in the global commercial sex trade.

-U.S. State Department, Trafficking in Persons Report, 2011

Running time - Approx. 96 mins
MPAA - Not rated
Aspect Ratio - 16x9, pixel size 1920x1080
Year - 2011
Production Company - Nefarious LLC
Website - www.NefariousDocumentary.com

Subtitled in
English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Hebrew, Dutch, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Swedish, Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Malay, Tagalog, and Thai
“Modern slavery.” It sounds like a paradox. Hasn’t humanity progressed? Didn’t we leave slavery dead on the battlefields of the American Civil war? Didn’t social reformers like Lincoln and Wilberforce legislate against such cruelty over a hundred years ago? So we had thought. But, with over 27 million enslaved people across the world, human trafficking is still the battlefront of the century.

Regardless of nationality, victims are systematically stripped of their identity, battered into gruesome submission and made to perform humiliating sexual acts with up to 40 strangers every night. Held against their will, most are forced to take illegal drugs and are kept under constant surveillance. On average, victims are thrown into such ghastly oppression at age 13. Some are abducted outright, while others are lured out of poverty, romantically seduced, or sold by their families.

Nefarious: Merchant of Souls, is a hard-hitting documentary that exposes the disturbing trends in modern sex slavery. From the very first scene, Nefarious ushers you into the nightmare of sex slavery that hundreds of thousands experience daily. You’ll see where slaves are sold (often in developed, affluent countries), where they work and are confined. You’ll hear first-hand interviews with real victims and traffickers, along with expert analysis from international humanitarian leaders. From initial recruitment to victim liberation—and everything between—the previously veiled underworld of sex slavery is uncovered in the groundbreaking, tell-all Nefarious: Merchant of Souls.
Our eyes have been opened to our world in a way we have never seen it before. The people we met, the faces we saw, and the stories we heard have made us different and changed the course of our lives.

- Benjamin Nolot

How did you first become aware of the global sex slavery epidemic?
On February 3, 2007, my wife and I met with a friend who unfolded the human trafficking scenario to us. As she described the horrors of young girls who were forced into lifestyles of prostitution, we were shocked by the gruesome details. In the following days and weeks, I could not escape the overwhelming conviction that I must take a stand against this injustice. The more I uncovered tragic, monstrous stories of such injustice, the greater my burden for the issue became. I am deeply passionate about seeing others, like myself, moved from oblivion to action.

How was Nefarious: Merchant of Souls conceived?
In the fall of 2007, a team from Exodus Cry took a trip to Southeast Asia to explore the world of sex slavery. We visited dingy karaoke bars, remote villages, massage parlors and high-end beach destinations finding one steady consistency—the exploitation of young women. Throughout our trip, we had cameras documenting the sights we saw and interviews we conducted. It was this trip that stirred us to produce the Nefarious films.

Where was Nefarious filmed?
We have been to 19 different countries to gather content for Nefarious; spanning from North and Central America to Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

What was your most shocking discovery about sex slavery while filming and producing Nefarious?
Before we began this project, I believe my attitude toward the abolition of trafficking was far too idealistic. But, as we began to travel, I was faced with the reality of entire cultures—religious, social and governmental—feeding the sex slavery industry. Seeing the trafficking problem from this vantage point was extremely difficult.
NEFARIOUS IS ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL, COMPELLING AND TRANSFORMATIONAL DOCUMENTARIES EVER.

- MOVIE GUIDE

NEFARIOUS: MERCHANT OF SOULS IS AN EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-CRAFTED FILM. IT TELLS THE STORY OF SEX TRAFFICKING WITH TENDERNES AND BEAUTY, WHILE NOT SACRIFICING TRUTH OR SHRINKING BACK FROM THE DARKNESS... THIS IS "THE" MUST SEE ANTI-TRAFFICKING FILM OF THE YEAR.

- LISA L. THOMPSON, LIAISON FOR THE ABOLITION OF SEXUAL TRAFFICKING

NO. 30 IN CHRISTIAN MOVIE/FILM DATA BASE'S TOP 100 MOST LOOKED AT FILMS OF 2012

- HOLLY CRAW, NATIONAL SEX TRAFFICKING EXAMINER

NEFARIOUS HITS HARD AT THE DEPTH OF SEXUAL DEPRAVITY AND ITS EFFECTS...

- HOLLY CRAW, NATIONAL SEX TRAFFICKING EXAMINER

AWARDS & CRITIC REVIEWS

FILM FESTIVAL HONORS INCLUDING

OVER 24 AWARDS & ACCLAIM INCLUDING

BEST FEATURE DOCUMENTARY

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE • BEST SCREENPLAY • AWARD OF MERIT • SILVER AWARD FOR SOCIAL ISSUES • BEST OF SHOW
“You may choose to look the other way, but you can never again say ‘I did not know.’”

-William Wilberforce