



UON AGAINST SLAVERY: FINAL REPORT

By Amelia Watkins, Final-Year Undergraduate Student and
Director of the Rights Lab Reading Programme 2018-19

The Nottingham Reading Programme has built a tradition of gifting a book to first-year students on their arrival. This year, the University of Nottingham (UoN) has collaborated with the Rights Lab (a University Beacon of Excellence) and the Faculty of Social Sciences to deliver the 2018/19 Reading Programme 'UoN Against Slavery'.

UoN Against Slavery has been hugely successful. Over 20,000 students, staff, and members of the public have engaged with the programme, which has added a valuable and unique dimension to the UoN student experience.

This report exhibits the success of UoN Against Slavery by first introducing the structure of the programme, and going on to present headline events, smaller events, and media in turn. This report then justifies the figure of 20,000 before concluding.

HAVE YOU READ SLAVE?

In September 2018, 7,000 first year students received a copy of *Slave*, the true story of Mende Nazer's experiences of modern slavery.

Some students arrived at their halls of residence to find the book in their bedroom, other students were able to collect their copy from campus libraries. Copies of the book were in high demand and were quickly 'sold out'. Books were gifted with a bookmark that also introduced students to UoN Against Slavery.

University of Nottingham Rights Lab

Nottingham Reading Programme

Have you read Slave?

The Nottingham Reading Programme and the Rights Lab are giving free copies to all new students, and hosting a year-long programme of events supported by the Faculty of Social Sciences about modern slavery open to all students and staff.

Collect yours from your nearest library.

Join the fight to end modern slavery: nottingham.ac.uk/go/nrp

This book acted a catalyst for a programme of events running across campus and the city over the past academic year. These events were designed to explore themes of the book in more depth, primarily the issue of modern slavery. The aim of the events was firstly to *educate*; from a lecture series by world-leading experts to specialist seminars, UoN Against Slavery facilitated space for students to critically engage with the concept of modern slavery. Secondly, these events were designed to *advocate*; events such as a campus fun run and a fundraising gig in the city centre provided opportunities for students to respond to learning of the gross injustice of modern slavery by raising awareness of the issue and funds to support anti-slavery organisations.

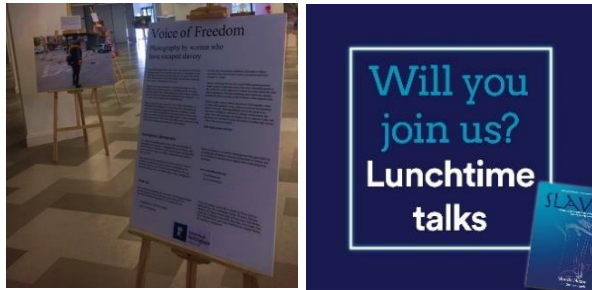


HEADLINE EVENTS



SURVIVORS IN CONVERSATION

The first UoN Against Slavery event saw over 70 people attend to hear two survivors of modern slavery who are leading in the global modern abolition movement engage in a compelling and challenging conversation. This inspired an active and interesting Q&A session. The event was recorded and live-streamed, and the BBC later reached out for the footage to contribute to an upcoming documentary.



LUNCHTIME TALKS

In partnership with the Lakeside Arts Centre, Rights Lab academics delivered a series of 'Lunchtime Talks'. Throughout the year over 370 people attended to hear the presentation of world-leading modern slavery

research. All talks were live streamed on social media, and across the 6 talks, over 8,600 people were reached online, and almost 2,000 people watched talks online. Q&A sessions were lively and engaged. The films remain as a resource for students online.

RUN FOR FREEDOM!

In partnership with the student Anti-Slavery Society and Recreational Running Society, UoN Against Slavery hosted a 5k fun run on campus to raise awareness of modern slavery. Over £280 was raised for a local anti-slavery organisation. 48 students ran the 5k, and 20 volunteered on the day.

SOUNDS AGAINST SLAVERY

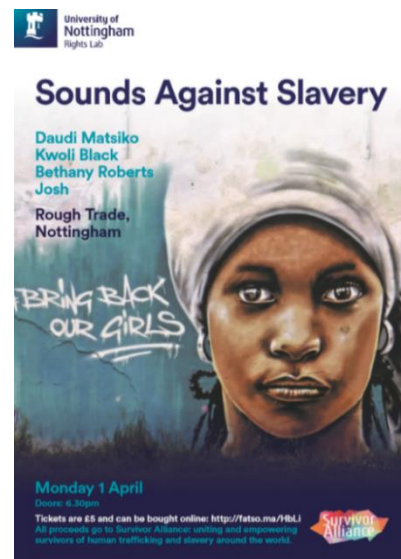
UoN Against Slavery hosted a gig at Rough Trade, Nottingham. The student magazine IMPACT partnered in promoting and reporting the event. 120 people attended, 4 artists performed, the Executive Director of Survivor Alliance Minh Dang gave a short speech on modern slavery, and £465 was raised for the organisation.

VOICE OF FREEDOM

UoN Against Slavery exhibited the photography from the *Voice of Freedom* project at University Park Campus. These photographs were taken by women depicting their experiences of slavery and trafficking. The exhibition was displayed throughout the day and ended with a drinks reception and presentation from the Director of Voice of Freedom. Over 130 people attended. The exhibition remains on display in the Rights Lab (Highfield House).

CALIFORNIA'S FORGOTTEN CHILDREN

UoN Against Slavery hosted a screening of the documentary *California's Forgotten Children* at Broadway Cinema, Nottingham. The film was followed by a Q&A session with a strong panel including the Director of the film and the director of local anti-slavery NGO *The Snowdrop Project*. Over 70 students and members of the public attended.





SMALLER EVENTS

Event	Description	Students Engaged
Promotional Video	A short video outlining the issue of modern slavery both globally and locally and introducing UoN Against Slavery was shared widely on social media and on the UoN Against Slavery website. UoN Against Slavery Director, Amelia Watkins, also showed the video alongside a short presentation in first year introductory lectures at the start of term across several schools within the university.	1,500
Specialist Workshops	Two specialist workshops were hosted by Dr Alison Gardner with input from local NGO Jericho Road Project. These workshops were specifically designed to give students the opportunity to understand more about slavery in Nottingham.	35
Counsellor Training	Modern slavery academic and Executive Director of Survivor Alliance Minh Dang delivered a training session to university counselling staff in preparation for any students who came forward with personal experiences of modern slavery.	10
Professor Baroness Lola Young	Professor Baroness Lola Young delivered her inaugural lecture on modern slavery. Students attended and engaged well in the Q&A session.	30
Fairtrade Fortnight	UoN Against Slavery contributed to UoN SU Sustainability's <i>Fairtrade Fortnight</i> . Amelia Watkins wrote a blog on fast fashion and modern slavery that was published on their platforms. Rights Lab posters and modern slavery awareness details were displayed in the Portland building.	70
The True Cost	In partnership with the student Sustainability Society, UoN Against Slavery hosted a film screening of fast fashion documentary <i>The True Cost</i> on campus.	25
Just Love	Amelia Watkins was the guest speaker at an event for the student society 'Just Love' and delivered a presentation on the issue of modern slavery and UoN Against Slavery. Copies of the book <i>To Plead Our Own Cause</i> were given out and discussed.	20
Even When I Fall	In partnership with UoN Halls Life, UoN Against Slavery hosted small film screenings of <i>Even When I Fall</i> in halls of residence across campus. Amelia Watkins gave a short presentation before each screening. Unfortunately, they were relatively poorly attended, on reflection this was due to bad timing. However, students who did attend engaged well and attended future events.	8
JCR Presidents	Amelia Watkins attended the Junior Common Room Presidents Committee to present on the issue of modern slavery and UoN Against Slavery to leaders in the undergraduate student community.	15
Working Group	A working group was held at the start of the programme to discuss ideas and plans for the programme with interested and engaged students. This helped shape a large proportion of UoN Against Slavery.	20



UNIVERSITIES AGAINST MODERN SLAVERY ALLIANCE

Amelia Watkins attended the inaugural Universities Against Modern Slavery Alliance conference at Kings College, London. Amelia contributed to a roundtable of the subject of student engagement with the issue of modern slavery, largely drawing from the success of UoN Against Slavery as a case study.

MEDIA

UoN Against Slavery has been featured on several local radio stations, in a WONKHE article, on local platforms such as Left Lion, and in the UoN Campus Update. University Radio Nottingham has included UoN Against Slavery as a bulletin in the campus daily news, and as a guest feature. On social media, UoN Against Slavery has over 700 followers on Instagram, and the programme has had good regular exposure on UoN social media platforms with over 32,000 followers. Events have been widely publicised on digital screens on campus.



20,000 PEOPLE?

Engagement



- Received the book
- Media
- Attended an event

Our records show that a total of 20,650 people have engaged with the programme. Of these, 7,000 were gifted the book, 11,670 were reached by media and communications both online and on campus, and 1,980 people have attended an event. There are likely to be multiple records within this. For example, a student may have received the book, engaged with the social media, and attended an event and therefore be counted 3 times. Hence, we estimate that approximately 20,000 people were engaged in UoN Against Slavery.

CONCLUSION

UoN Against Slavery has taken a creative approach to engage students, staff and members of the public with themes from the Nottingham Reading Programme book *Slave*. It is evident that this programme of events has both increased awareness and knowledge of the prevalent and important issue of modern slavery and introduced a unique aspect to the UoN student experience.

UoN Against Slavery thanks Andrew Winter, Ryan Neal, and the Campus Life team for the opportunity to deliver this programme, and for their continued support. Thank you to Professor Todd Landman and the Faculty of Social Sciences for sponsoring the engagement programme. Thank you to Professor Zoe Trodd, Jacqui Clay, Angharad Smith, Emily Brady, and the Rights Lab for inspiring vision and helping me to lead the programme.