MODERN SLAVERY

Ten countries have three-quarters of the world’s 30 million slaves, according to the first Global Slavery Index, published by Walk Free, a campaign based in Australia and supported by philanthropists. Its definition of slavery includes coerced work (including provision of sex) and children forced into marriage. Data on these provide the indices for its ranking of 162 countries.

Mauritania comes out worst, with an estimated 4% of the population enslaved. Most are born into slavery—a deeply rooted practice. Children are owned by the same people who own their parents, to be used or sold. Some of India’s 14 million enslaved people were also born into slavery, based on caste or other obligations. Others are trapped in debt bondage. This practice has been a crime for nearly 40 years, but the laws against it are poorly enforced.

Definitions of slavery are controversial. Kevin Bales, the lead researcher, says that not one government from the ten worst performers has so far contested his findings. Europe’s slavery rates are the lowest, but even in Britain, one of the lowest-ranked countries, the survey reckons up to 4,600 people are enslaved. They include trafficked women and people, often with mental or family problems, who are coerced into working in construction gangs.

QUESTIONS

1. Translate the following paragraph into Spanish (4 points).

Ten countries have three-quarters of the world’s 30 million slaves, according to the first Global Slavery Index, published by Walk Free, a campaign based in Australia and supported by philanthropists. Its definition of slavery includes coerced work (including provision of sex) and children forced into marriage. Data on these provide the indices for its ranking of 162 countries.

2. Read the text and answer the questions. Use your own words. Answers will be assessed from 0 to 1 (2 points as a whole).

a) What is the problem with slaves' children in Mauritania?

b) Why are definitions of slavery controversial?

3. Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given. Answers will be assessed from 0 to 0.5 each (4 points as a whole).

“I worked ________ (1.) 6 a.m. until midnight or 1 a.m.,” said Savita, now 15 and freed from her bondage. “When a dish burned, she__________ (2. slap) me many times. I'd cry for my mother, but the mistress ignored me.”

A report ________ (3. release) on Thursday ________ (4.) Australia’s Walk Free Foundation suggests that Savita’s story is a common ________ (5.), not just in India but worldwide. The 162-nation survey estimated that there are 29.8 million modern-day slaves, and that bondage in some form exists in most countries, including the United States, Canada, Japan and Western European nations.
SEEKING CLUES TO Gangs AND CRIME, DETECTIVES MONITOR INTERNET RAP VIDEOS

In the streets of Brownsville, a local rap artist was recording a new music video when someone called out his stage name. The rapper, fresh out of a stint at Rikers Island, turned toward the voice, expecting to see a fan or friend. Instead, he saw several plainclothes police officers, one of them wearing a shirt bearing the name of his group.

The artist, 21, is among several local rappers to recently discover that their devoted listeners include police officers and prosecutors. They listen not for artistic merit, but to pick apart the lyrics and examine music videos posted on YouTube in hopes of a better understanding of gang rivalries and the dynamics behind recent shootings.

In December, for instance, investigators said that a case against 11 gang members had been aided by a music video, produced by a minor group called Dub Gang Money. The video provided evidence that those arrested were part of an established gang and associated with one another.

The Police Department’s interest in music videos coincides with a broad shift in patrol strategy: as the department de-emphasizes stop-and-frisk tactics, it has assigned scores of street officers to patiently pursue longer-term investigations against neighborhood gangs, particularly the youth gangs known as crews or sets.

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   The Police Department’s interest in music videos coincides with a broad shift in patrol strategy: as the department de-emphasizes stop-and-frisk tactics, it has assigned scores of street officers to patiently pursue longer-term investigations against neighborhood gangs, particularly the youth gangs known as crews or sets.

2. Read the text and answer the questions. Use your own words. Answers will be assessed from 0 to 1 (2 points as a whole).

   a) Why are police officers and prosecutors listening to rap singer lyrics?
   b) What did the music video provide to police officers last December?

3. Complete the following sentences. Use the appropriate form of the word in brackets when given. Answers will be assessed from 0 to 0.5 (4 points as a whole).

   In November, Mr. Nelson ________ (1. be) rearrested and indicted on new conspiracy charges related to the _________ (2. shoot) of a grand jury witness in late 2012; prosecutors said that more ________ (3.) three months before the shooting, he and two A.T.C. members _________ (4. possess) a loaded gun in a cab. His manager, Mr. Allen, said the police arrested Mr. Nelson outside a Brooklyn club just before he was to perform there. “We were walking in and they rushed him,” Mr. Allen said. Mr. Nelson is __________ (5. current) in jail. Standing under the elevated train along Saratoga Avenue one fall afternoon, Mr. Nelson said he had spent tens of thousands of dollars ________ (6.) bail and lawyers’ fees after he was arrested, money he would ____________ (7. spend) on studio time. He is not accused of taking part in the shootings but rather of _________ (8. be) a member of the surrounding conspiracy, a felony charge that he disputes.