

Conference on Human Trafficking

Good Shepherd Centre, Macau

September 13, 2016

Understanding Human Trafficking from a Global and Local Perspective

On September 13, 2016 Good Shepherd Centre, sponsored by MGM, offered a half day Conference on Human Trafficking to different sectors of Macau society, e.g. government departments, social agencies, educational institutions. The purpose was to educate the public about the importance of this issue of Modern Slavery in order to arouse concern and the desire to do something. More than 130 people attended.

Part One was a screening of the documentary “Not My Life” which depicts the different forms of Human Trafficking around the world.



Part two consisted of short talks by different government officials:

- Head of the law department spoke about Macau's Human Trafficking Law.
- Representative of Macau's Human Trafficking Deterrent Measures Concern Committee explained the composition and functions of this group.
- Head of the Judiciary Police shared the challenges and difficulties encountered in identifying victims and prosecuting traffickers.
- Social worker from the Social Welfare Bureau shared her experience in sheltering adult trafficking victims.
- Sr. Juliana Devoy shared the experience of Good Shepherd Centre in giving shelter to underage girls trafficked to Macau.

The program ended with a Q&A session.



A personal story was shared....

A young woman who was trafficked to Japan as a teenager and stayed in Good Shepherd Centre when she was rescued and brought back to Macau, shared her testimony of being a trafficking victim. She was courageous enough to do this because we assured her no media would be present. This woman was very disturbed when she came back to Macau, and it has taken her a number of years to find herself and move forward with her life. Now she is a lovely young woman. It was evident that the audience was deeply moved by her story. This part of the program helped them to hear first-hand what it is like to be a victim of Human Trafficking.