ABSTRACT

THESIS: Secular and Faith-Based NGOs: A Content Analysis of Priorities

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The subject of human trafficking has been widely studied, but primarily from the perspective of the victims. This study, rather than focusing on the victims, focused on the NGOs that are part of the counter-trafficking movement. In a content analysis of the websites of 24 counter-trafficking organizations, the priorities of faith-based NGOs and secular NGOs were compared. Additionally, the study examined which theory of development a secular or faith-based organization was more likely to adopt. Findings indicate that the priorities of faith-based and secular NGOs do differ; secular NGOs mention more concrete priorities while faith-based NGOs are more vague. Secular NGOs also leaned more towards the radical theory of development, while faith-based NGOs did not seem to follow any particular theory of development.