

START A DEBATE

The injustices we escaped are still a reality for an estimated **40 million people** today. Modern slavery includes bonded labour, human trafficking and child marriage among others.

Start a debate on your table tonight–

- When do you appreciate your freedom most?
- Which of your freedoms do you value the most?
- Can you be free if trapped in the cycle of poverty and hunger?
- How does education ensure freedom?

*Open the doors of freedom
this Pesach*

tzedeek
together against poverty

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Consider how these quotes reflect the **limits** of our freedom–

“For it is to Me that the Israelites are servants: they are My servants, whom I freed from the land of Egypt– I, your G_d”

- Leviticus 25:55

“When we accept what we hear without meeting others, without looking for friends outside our circles, when we accept hatred for a group – Pharaoh is alive and well, inside ourselves.”

- Rabbi Heschel

“It is not your duty to complete the work, but neither are you free to neglect it.” - Pirkei Avot 2:16

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A MODERN STORY OF FREEDOM

For years, Mrs Vinnarasi has been working long hours in agriculture and struggling to feed her two children as her family’s sole earner. Living in Tamil Nadu, India, she had no choice but to take out loans at high interest rates. Desperate to settle her debt, she was forced into **bonded labour** in 2017. She worked 12-hour days with no rest and no leave, struggling both physically and mentally.

In 2019, Tzedek’s partner organisation HNC Trust and government officials rescued her and her fellow workers.

Mrs Vinnarasi joined the Tzedek-funded vocational training programme, while also receiving counselling from HNC. Along with 30 other women, Mrs Vinnarasi learnt to create and market biodegradable 'leaf plates' made from semi-dried palm leaves, traditionally used for weddings. Today Mrs Vinnarasi enjoys both physical and financial freedom:



“Now I can easily manage my family. I have admitted my oldest child to school. My family is very happy.”

**Open the doors of freedom
this Pesach.**

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To make your free-standing table talker, fold along the three green lines and stick this strip to the back of the 'start a debate' panel

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