

Human Trafficking: A Public Health Crisis?

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Agenda

- Introduction to Human Trafficking & Impact within the Community
- Identification of Human Trafficking in Communities
- Ethical Obligation as Counselors

Human Trafficking & Public Health

Julie St. John, DrPH, MA, CHWI

People
were
created to be
loved
things were created
to be **USED.**

The reason the world is in chaos is because

things are being loved
and *people* are being used.

“ WE ONLY
HAVE 2 choices:
do NOTHING or
do
Something ”

TONY KIRWAN
FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT OF DESTINY RESCUE

Destiny  Rescue

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

- Respond to **PollEv.com/juliestjohn590**
- Text **JULIESTJOHN590** to **37607** once to join, then respond to polls
- <https://PollEv.com/surveys/YU4qnNimNmHZa dgZtshFR/respond>

Facts on Human Trafficking



Definitions



- ❖ **Human trafficking:** A crime & public health concern affecting individuals, families, & communities across generations
- ❖ Legal definition of a severe form of human trafficking describes three facets of the crime: **an action, a means, & a purpose**
- ❖ Documented cases of human trafficking in all 50 states, U.S. territories, & D.C.
- ❖ 2 types of severe trafficking in persons:
 1. **Labor Trafficking** — Individuals compelled to work or provide services through use of force, fraud, or coercion
 2. **Sex Trafficking** — Individuals compelled to engage in commercial sex through use of force, fraud, or coercion. Persons ages 17 & < induced to perform a commercial sex act is a crime regardless of any force, fraud, or coercion

Risk Factors



- ❑ Individuals with history of childhood abuse or neglect
- ❑ Children & youth involved in foster care & juvenile justice systems
- ❑ People experiencing homelessness
- ❑ American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders
- ❑ Survivors of violence
- ❑ Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) individuals
- ❑ Migrant workers
- ❑ Undocumented immigrants
- ❑ Racial & ethnic minorities
- ❑ **People with disabilities**
- ❑ People with low incomes
- ❑ People with history of substance abuse
- ❑ Communities exposed to intergenerational trauma

Trafficking: Where & Who



Where does trafficking occur?

- Anywhere
- Illicit markets
- Legal industries (hospitality, construction, agriculture, or domestic services)
- At least 25 types of human trafficking

Who are traffickers?

- Any gender or age
- Strangers
- Peers, friends, romantic partners, family members

Trafficking

1. Escort Services
2. Illicit Massage, Health, & Solicitation
3. Residential
4. Domestic Work
5. Bars, Strip Clubs, & Cantinas
6. Pornography
7. Traveling Sales Crews
8. Restaurants & Food Service
9. Peddling & Begging
10. Agriculture & Animal Husbandry
11. Personal Sexual Servitude
12. Health & Beauty Services
13. Construction
14. Hotels & Hospitality
15. Landscaping
16. Illicit Activities
17. Arts & Entertainment
18. Commercial Cleaning Services



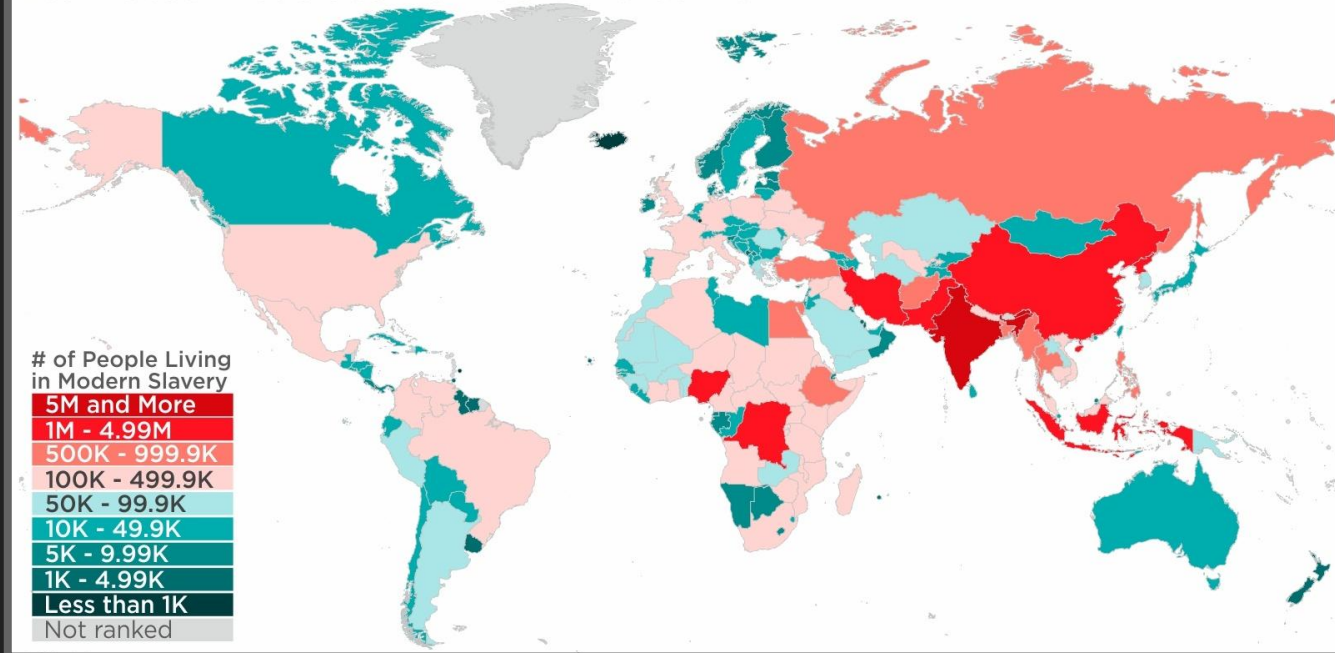
By the Numbers

International Statistics:

- 25-30 million people trafficked
- 40.3 million in modern slavery (24.9 million forced labor, 15.4 million forced marriage)
- 5.4 victims of modern slavery for every 1,000 people in the world
- 1 in 4 victims of modern slavery = children
- Women account for $\approx 75\text{-}80\%$ cases
- Human trafficking earns $\approx \$150$ billion/year globally (\$99 billion from commercial sexual exploitation)



World Map of Modern Slavery 2018
Estimated Absolute Number of Victims



By the Numbers



Polaris Project, 2019 data

- 11,500 situations of human trafficking reported
- 22,326 individuals
- 4,384 traffickers
- 1,912 suspicious businesses
- Notoriously underreported

HUMAN TRAFFICKING SITUATIONS IDENTIFIED¹



63,380

Total situations of human trafficking identified through the Trafficking Hotline December 2007 - December 2019

¹Situations of human trafficking may involve more than one victim or survivor.

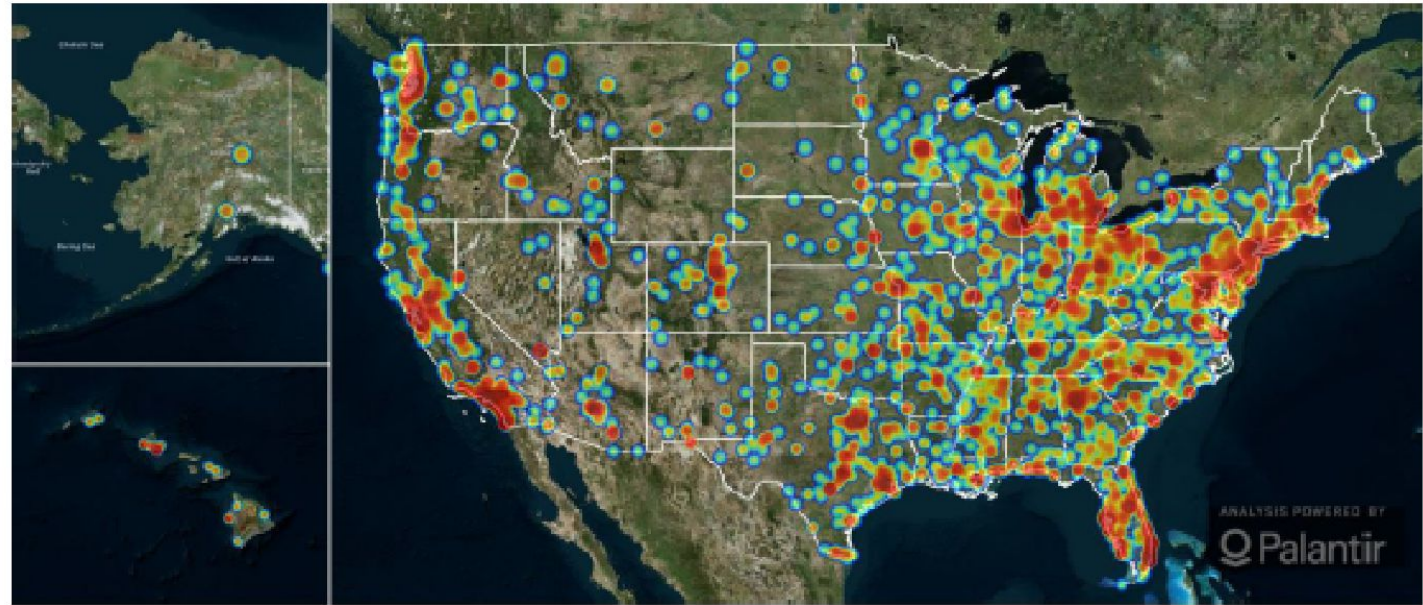
By the Numbers



Polaris Project, 2019 U.S. data

- 11,500 situations of human trafficking reported
- 22,326 individuals
- 4,384 traffickers
- 1,912 suspicious businesses
- Notoriously underreported

Locations of Human Trafficking Situations in the U.S.²



²Situations of trafficking can involve more than one location.

By the Numbers

Polaris Project, U.S. 2019 data

Top 3 Identified Sex Trafficking Types

Escort services	1,278
Illicit massage, health, and beauty ⁴	1,247
Pornography	733

Top 3 Identified Labor Trafficking Types

Domestic work	218
Agriculture and animal husbandry	108
Traveling sales crews	107

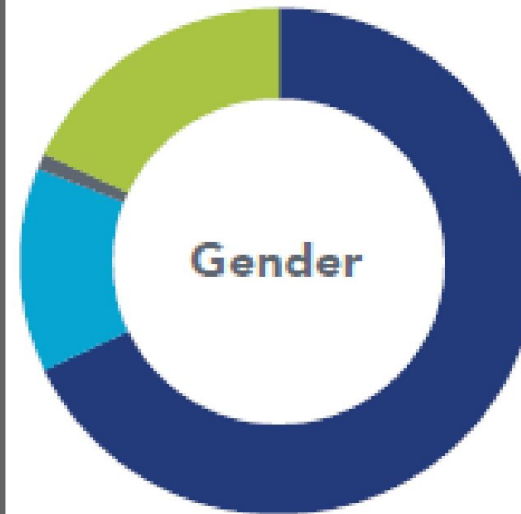
Top 3 Identified Sex and Labor Trafficking Types

Illicit massage, health, and beauty ⁴	123
Illicit activities	81
Bars, strip clubs, and cantinas	43

Age, Gender and Nationality



Adult	1,435
Minor	5,359
Unknown	15,532



Female	15,222
Male	3,003
Gender minorities	135
Unknown	3,966



U.S. citizen/Lawful permanent resident	1,388
Foreign national	4,601
Unknown	16,337

Other Alarming Facts



- ❑ Only 0.04% survivors are identified
- ❑ 50,000 people trafficked into U.S. annually (Mexico & the Philippines)
- ❑ 2018, 51.6% of criminal human trafficking cases active in U.S. were sex trafficking cases involving only children
- ❑ Large # of U.S. child sex trafficking survivors were in foster care system
- ❑ Growing trend of traffickers using online social media platforms to recruit & advertise targets of human trafficking
- ❑ Average age teen enters sex trade in U.S. = 12-14 years old (runaway girls sexually abused as children)
- ❑ National Human Trafficking Hotline received most calls from California, Teas, & Florida

Systemic Factors



- ❑ High demand for commercial sex &/or inexpensive workers
- ❑ Political instability, civil unrest & war
- ❑ Political and police corruption
- ❑ Growth of organized crime
- ❑ Lack of adequate law enforcement, legal protections, community protections or sanctions
- ❑ Cultural attitudes & religious practices
- ❑ Poverty/Vulnerability



Individual Factors



- ❑ Poverty
- ❑ Young age
- ❑ Female
- ❑ Lower socioeconomic class
- ❑ Limited education
- ❑ work opportunities
- ❑ Lack of family support (e.g. orphaned, runaway, homeless, family members collaborating with traffickers)
- ❑ Lack of knowledge of schemes used by traffickers



Victims

Experience

- Severe forms of abuse
- High levels of trauma
- Fear of the legal/justice system
- Difficulty integrating into American society
- Stigmatization
- Potential for re-victimization

Health Issues:

- Medical
- Neurological
- Musculoskeletal
- Gastrointestinal
- Gynecological



Public Health Issue



Human Trafficking's Impact on Communities:

- ❑ Destroys families
- ❑ Affects gender relations
- ❑ Economic impacts (remittance losses)
- ❑ Health impact (sexually transmitted infections & spread of diseases)
- ❑ Rule of law & national security
- ❑ Connected to other criminal activities (illicit drugs, weapons trade, etc.)
- ❑ Impact on social services (foster care, criminal justice systems, domestic violence)

Public Health Issue



Public Health

- Science of protecting & improving the health of people & their communities through promoting healthy lifestyles, researching disease & injury prevention, & detecting, preventing & responding to infectious diseases (CDC)



Public Health Issue



Public Health Framework: A public health lens...

1. Informs who intervenes & engages in fight against human trafficking (*expands constituents that need to be engaged in anti-trafficking efforts*)
2. Informs how we intervene (*recognizes social & economic determinants of health*)
3. Informs what must be at stake to truly change dynamics enabling human trafficking (*confront entrenched interests & highlight barriers to reducing slavery*)

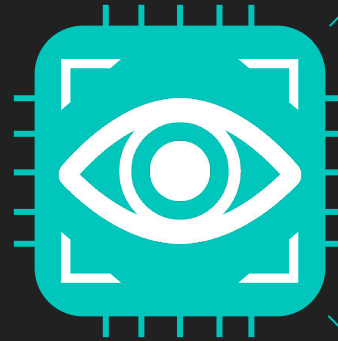
You may choose to look the
other way but you can
never say again that you
did not know.

William Wilberforce

Identifying Human Trafficking in Communities

DJ Gililand EdD, LAT, ATC

Identifying Human Trafficking in Communities



Vulnerable Populations



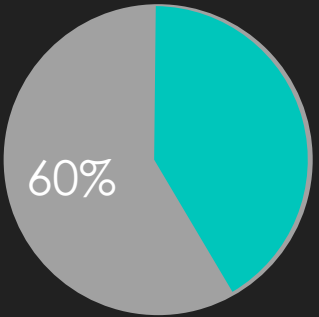
Vulnerable Populations in Human Trafficking

- Runaways/Children in Foster Care
- Victims of Physical/Sexual Abuse
- Immigrants
- Impoverished People, Hungry, Poor, In Debt
- Drug Addicts & Alcoholics

Vulnerable Populations



Runaways/Children in Foster Care



Child Welfare

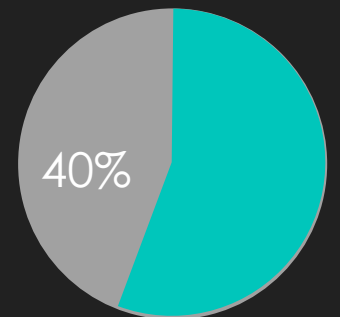


12 y/o

Mean age

14 y/o

Recovered age



LGBTQ+

Vulnerable Populations



Recruitment/Grooming



Vulnerable Populations



Victims of Physical and Sexual Abuse

□ Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking

"Recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a Person for the purpose of a commercial sex act, where the person is a U.S. Citizen or lawful permanent resident under the age of 18 years."

-Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) 2000

Vulnerable Populations



Victims of Physical and Sexual Abuse

- ❑ Core Injury 1 – Traumatic Sexualization
 - ❑ Period of Seasoning
 - ❑ Gang Rape
 - ❑ Sexual Assault
 - ❑ Dehumanization
 - ❑ New Name/Identity
 - ❑ Forced to Watch Porn
 - ❑ Learn how to speak and act

Vulnerable Populations



Victims of Physical and Sexual Abuse

- Core Injury 2 – Betrayal
 - Their boyfriend/girlfriend becomes their boss
 - They meets other men/women in pimp/trafficker's "stable"
 - The initial loving environment turns violent
 - False promises

Vulnerable Populations



Victims of Physical and Sexual Abuse

- ❑ Core Injury 3 – Powerlessness
 - ❑ Controls all money
 - ❑ Takes victim's ID
 - ❑ Threatens w/violence
 - ❑ Tells victim they has no options for help
 - ❑ Tells victim they are not worth helping
 - ❑ Removes their identity so they are dependent on pimp/trafficker

Vulnerable Populations



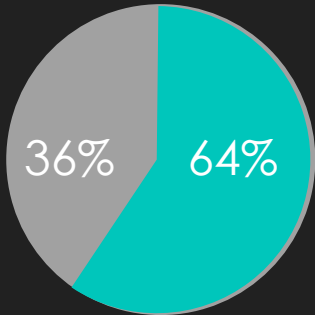
Victims of Physical and Sexual Abuse

- ❑ Core Injury 4 - Stigmatization
 - ❑ Arrested and treated as delinquent
 - ❑ Society labels them as “whores, hos, prostitutes, dirty, worthless”
 - ❑ Don’t feel they belong outside “the life” anymore
 - ❑ Told the family won’t love or accept them anymore

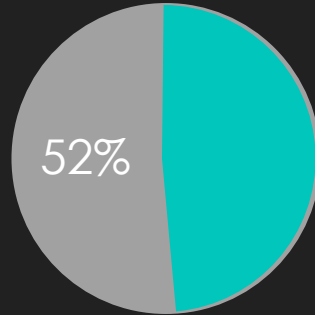
Vulnerable Populations



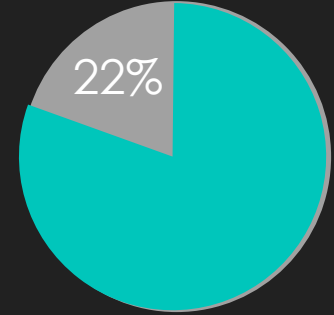
Immigrant Statistics



Known/Unknown



Non US Citizens

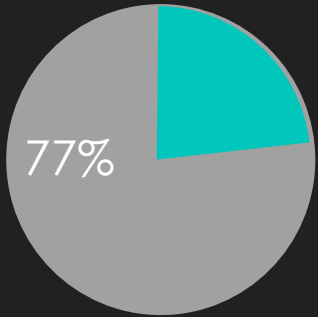


Latin America
Caribbean

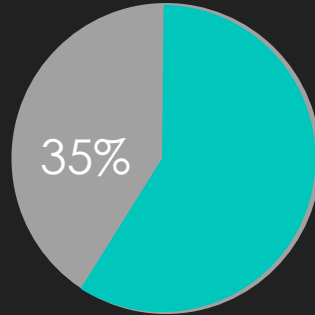
Vulnerable Populations



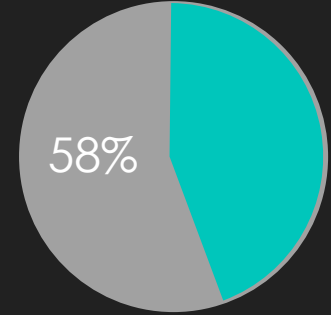
Immigrant Statistics



Labor Situations



Agriculture

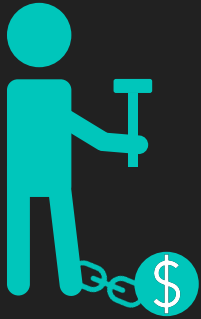


Mexico
Guatemala (12%)
Honduras (7%)

Vulnerable Populations



Impoverished, Indebted, and Hungry



Bonded



Forced



Child

Drugs Addicts & Alcoholics



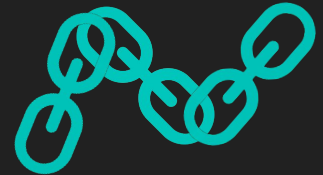
Substance Abuse Targets



Unlimited Fix

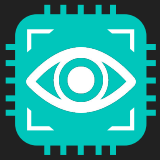


Clinic Workers



Dependency

Being the One In the Community



Identifying Human Trafficking in the Community

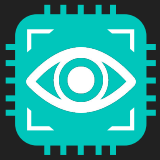


Labor Trafficking



Sex Trafficking

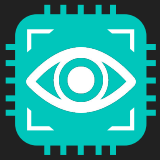
Being the One In the Community



Identifying Labor Trafficking in the Community



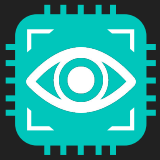
Being the One In the Community



Identifying Sex Trafficking in the Community



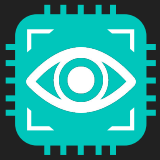
Being the One In the Community



Identifying Sex Trafficking in the Community

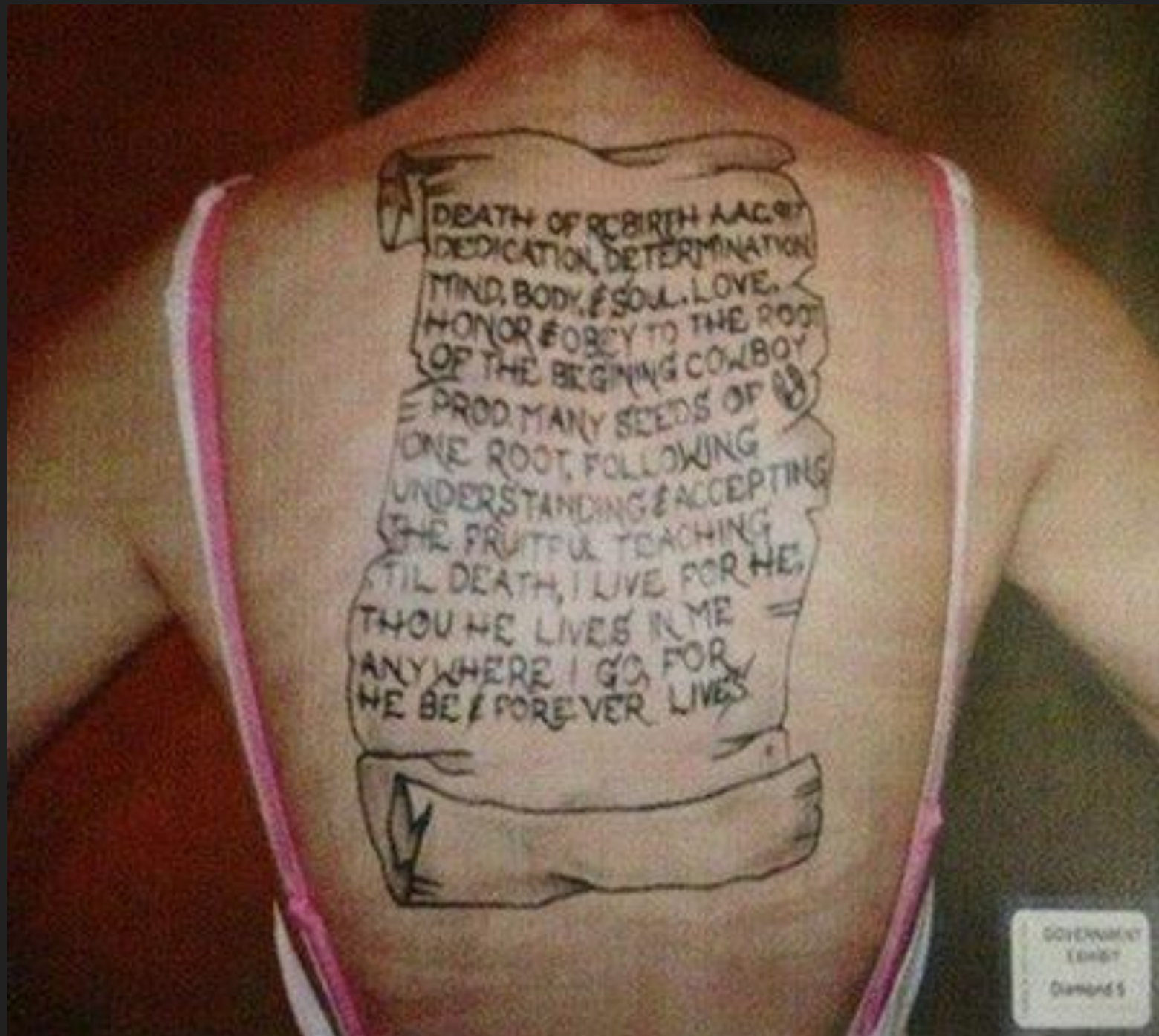
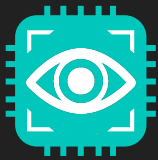


Being the One In the Community

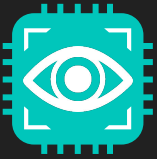


Identifying Sex Trafficking in the Community





Being the One In Health Care



Identifying Human Trafficking in Health Care – General Indicators

- ❑ Scripted or inconsistent history (family/personal)
- ❑ Unwilling/hesitant to answer questions regarding injury/illness
- ❑ “Friend”, “Family” always present and speaks on behalf of the patient
- ❑ Evidence of a controlling relationship
- ❑ Avoids eye contact, may exhibit fear or nervous behavior
- ❑ Unable to provide address
- ❑ Unaware of orientation to date, time, and place
- ❑ ID cards lost/unavailable

Being the One In Health Care



Labor Trafficking Indicators

- ❑ Abused at work, threatened/harmed by employer or supervisor
- ❑ Not allowed adequate breaks for food/water
- ❑ Lack of protective equipment
- ❑ Performing different duties than originally “hired” to perform
- ❑ Required to live in employer provided housing
- ❑ Indebted to employer

Being the One In Health Care



Sex Trafficking Indicators

- ❑ Patients under age of 18
- ❑ Tattoos/branding "Daddy", "Property of...", "For Sale"
- ❑ Unusually high number of sexual partners
- ❑ Dress inappropriate for the weather or venue
- ❑ Uses language common in the commercial sex industry

Being the One In Health Care



Common language in Commercial Sex Industry

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Automatic | Date | Lot Lizard | Stable |
| Bottom | Escort Service | Madam | The Game/The Life |
| Branding | Exit Fee | Out of Pocket | Track (Stroll/Blade) |
| Brothel (Cathouse) | Family/Folks | Pimp Circle | Trade Up/Trade Down |
| Caught a Case | Finesse Pimp/Romeo Pimp | Quota | Trick |
| Choosing Up | Gorilla | Reckless Eyeballing | Turn Out |
| Circuit | John | Seasoning | Wifey/Wife-In-Law/Sister Wife |
| Daddy | Kiddie Stroll | Squaring Up | |

Being the One In Health Care



Health Indicators & Consequences of Human Trafficking

Physical Health

- Signs of physical abuse
- Neurological Conditions
- CV/Respiratory caused by stress
- GI Conditions caused by stress
- Dietary
- Reproductive Issues

Mental Health

- Depression
- Hyper-vigilance
- Suicidal Ideation
- Hostility
- Self-Harming
- Attachment Disorders
- Anxiety
- Depersonalization or derealization
- PTSD
- Dissociation Disorders
- Nightmares/Flashbacks
- Lack of Emotion
- Shame or guilt

Being the One In Health Care



Health Indicators & Consequences of Human Trafficking

- Social or Developmental Indicators
 - Increase engagement w/high risk behaviors
 - Trauma bonding (Stockholm Syndrome)
 - Difficulty establishing and maintaining health relationships
 - Delayed physical/cognitive development
 - Impaired social skills

Be the ONE



Be the ONE...

- Pay attention and report
- Pay attention in your community, note red flags and report
- Don't wait to call... better to report than not to
- Don't approach traffickers alone... call the authorities
- If you think it is an emergency, call 911
- If it's not an emergency and/or you want to remain anonymous contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline

Ethics

Rebecca Sametz, Ph.D. CRC, NCC, LPC

CRC Code of Ethics

- A.1.e Autonomy
- B.1.e Respect for Confidentiality
- B.1.f Explanation of Limitations
- B.2.a Serious or Foreseeable Harm and Legal Requirements
- D.1.d Avoiding Harm

Questions?

- Please feel free to ask any questions in the chat box for the presenters to answer.

Resources

- Department of Health & Human Services, United States of America, Office on Trafficking in Persons. Labor Trafficking Fact Sheet. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/orr/fact_sheet_labor_trafficking_english.pdf
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- International Association of Chiefs of Police. *The Crime of Human Trafficking: A Law Enforcement Guide to Identification & Investigation*, <https://www.theiacp.org/sites/default/files/2018-07/CompleteHTGuide.pdf>
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- Macdonald, K. (2009). Human trafficking: A service provider's guide to recognizing and assisting victims of modern day slavery, <https://www.nacsw.org/Publications/Proceedings2009/MacdonaldKHumanTrafficking.pdf>
- National Human Trafficking Hotline. <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/>
- National Foster Youth Institute. <https://nfyi.org/issues/sex-trafficking/>
- National Runaway Safeline. <http://www.1800runaway.org/>
- Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice. Human Trafficking. <https://ovc.ojp.gov/program/human-trafficking/overview>
- Office of Drugs & Crimes, United Nations. Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/index.html>

Resources

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<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/about/what-human-trafficking>
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<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/report/resource/publichealthlens>
- Polaris Project, The Latino Face of Human Trafficking and Exploitation in the United States.
<https://polarisproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/EXECUTIVE-SUMMARY-The-Latino-Face-of-Human-Trafficking-and-Exploitation-in-the-United-States.pdf>
- Polaris Project, www.polarisproject.org
- Shared Hope International. Human Trafficking Resources. <https://sharedhope.org/resources/>
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<https://www.fcasv.org/sites/default/files/Child%20Physical%20and%20Sexual%20Abuse%20as%20a%20Common%20Factor%20for%20Domestic%20Minor%20Sex%20Trafficking%20Taryn%20Mastrean.pdf>
- The Recovery Villlage. Drug Abuse and Human Trafficking: Exploring the Connection.
<https://www.therecoveryvillage.com/drug-addiction/related-topics/human-trafficking-exploring-connection/>

Resources

- U.S. Department of Justice. Human Trafficking. <https://www.justice.gov/humantrafficking>
- U.S. Department of Justice. Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section. <https://www.justice.gov/criminal-ceos>
- U.S. Department of State, Human Trafficking, <https://www.state.gov/policy-issues/human-trafficking/>
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