

Human Trafficking: shedding light on a complex issue



Give Way to Freedom is a private operating foundation that creates and supports targeted, culturally relevant projects aimed at providing care and empowerment to survivors of Human Trafficking, as well as those vulnerable to trafficking.

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- Intensive course in Somatic Trauma Therapy (2011- 2012) & in Transforming Trauma with EMDR, 2017
- Member of the Dutchess County Taskforce Against Human Trafficking 's steering committee & chair of the training subcommittee
- Co -chair of the Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Abuse (CASADA)
- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, with honors, from the University of Rochester, Masters of Education in Counseling Psychology from Temple University, Masters of Arts in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from the University of New Haven



Overview

- Human Trafficking Defined
- Human Trafficking Facts and Statistics
- Red Flags and Indicators
- The Victim's Experience
- Case Examples
- Complexity of Recovery
- Survivor Centered Support
- Dutchess County Response



True or False

If a victim consented prior to abuse or was paid, it can still be trafficking.

Trafficking requires state or international border crossing.

Trafficking victims must be kidnapped and/or restrained physically.

Trafficking victims must be foreign nationals.



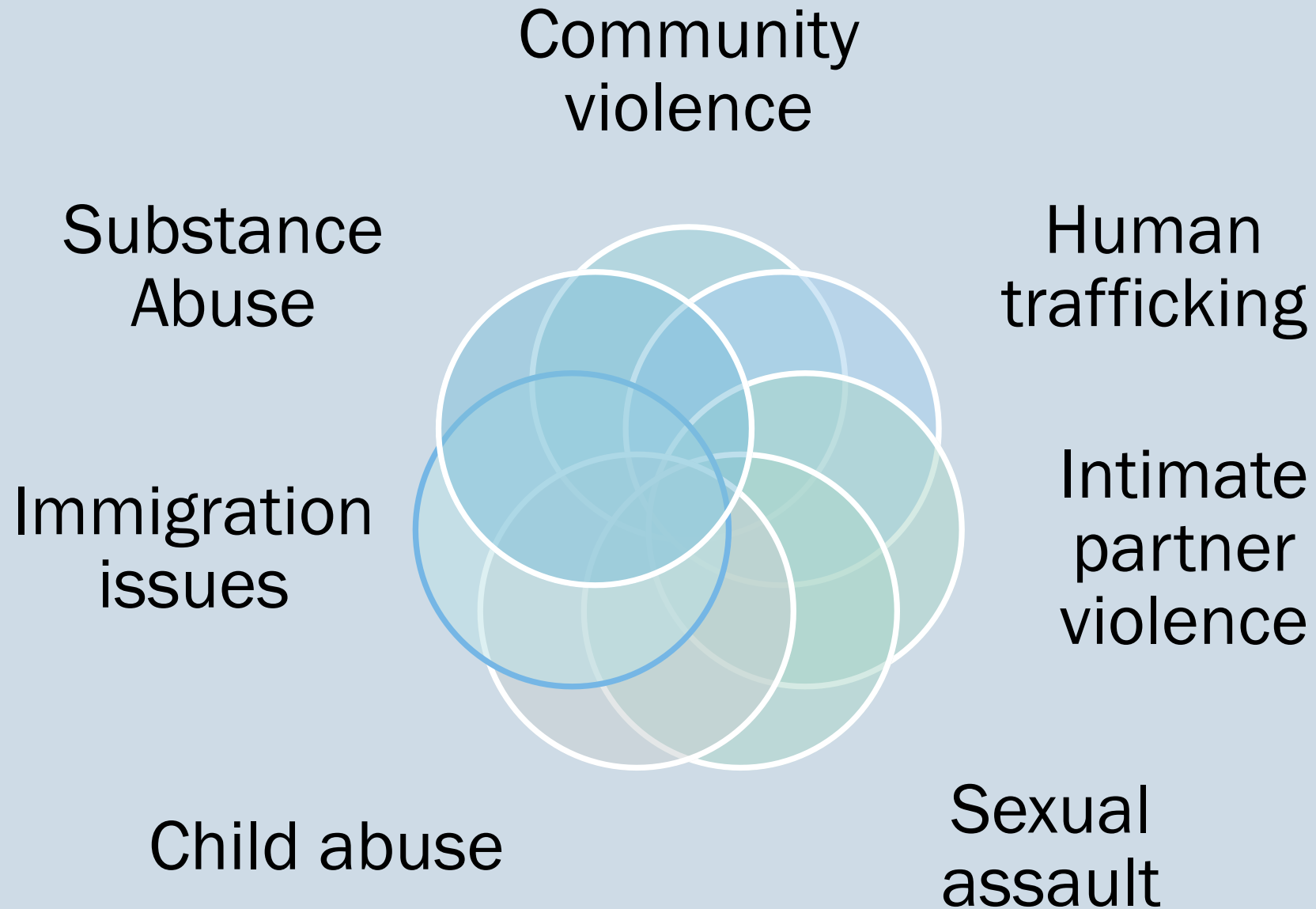
International Definition

“The action of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons by means of the threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, abuse of power or vulnerability, or giving payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim for the purposes of exploitation, which includes exploiting the prostitution of others, sexual exploitation, forced labor, slavery or similar practices, and the removal of organs. Consent of the victim is irrelevant where illicit means are established.”

United Nations, 2000



Intersectionality



U.S. Federal Definition

- The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to **involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.**
- Sex Trafficking defined as the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, advertising, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act.
- Trafficking victims in the U.S. can be divided into three populations:
 - Minors (under age 18) involved in commercial sex
 - Those age 18 or over involved in commercial sex via force, fraud, or coercion
 - Children and adults forced to perform labor and/or services in conditions of involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery, via force, fraud, or coercion



A-M-P model

ACTION

**Recruit
Harbor
Entice
Transport
Provide
Obtain
Maintain
Advertise
Solicit
Patronize**

(How did the person
get into the
situation?)

MEANS

**Force

Fraud

Coercion**

(How was the
person kept in the
situation?)

PURPOSE

**Involuntary
Servitude

Debt Bondage

Peonage

Sex trade**

(For what purpose
was the person
brought in/kept in the
situation?)

OR

Under 18

**Recruit
Harbor
Entice
Transport
Provide
Obtain
Maintain
Advertise
Solicit
Patronize**

**For the purpose
of commercial
sex**



Key = Means

Force

- Physical assault
- Sexual assault & Rape
- Confinement
- Kidnapping
- Deprivation of basic needs – food, water, sleep
- Facilitated drug use

Fraud*

- Withholding of wages
- Fraudulent employment contracts
- False Promises
 - *Love, marriage*
 - *Education*
 - *Employment*
 - *Living conditions*

* Easier to conceal,
often overlooked

Coercion*

- Threats to self, loved ones, pets
- Threats of arrest, deportation
- Blackmail
- Debt bondage
- Withholding of legal documents
- Other psychological manipulation & control
 - *Isolation*
 - *Monitored activities*
 - *Creating dependence*



New York Safe Harbour for Exploited Youth Act (2008)

Any person under 18 years of age who has been subject to sexual exploitation as a result of their loitering for the purpose of prostitution or their engagement in an offer to exchange sexual conduct in return for food, clothing, a place to stay, drugs, or a fee.

(N.Y.S.S. Title 8-A § 447A)



Sex trafficked youth- survival sex & 3rd parties

Under 18

Recruit

Harbor

Entice

Transport

Provide

Obtain

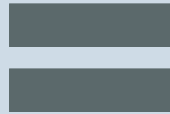
Maintain

Advertise

Solicit

Patronize

For the purpose of
commercial sex

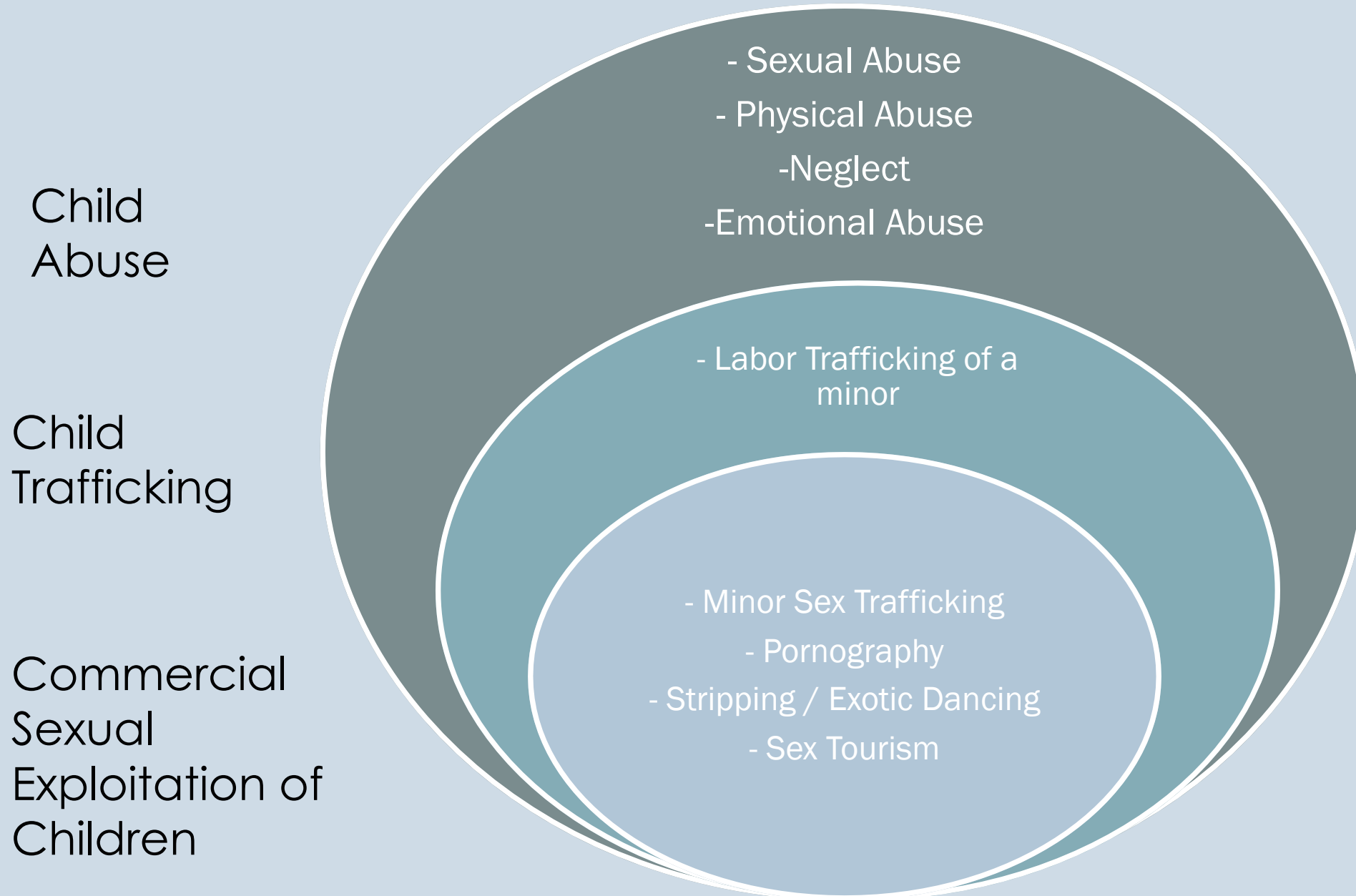


Survival Sex: Sex in exchange for
basic needs: food, shelter, safety

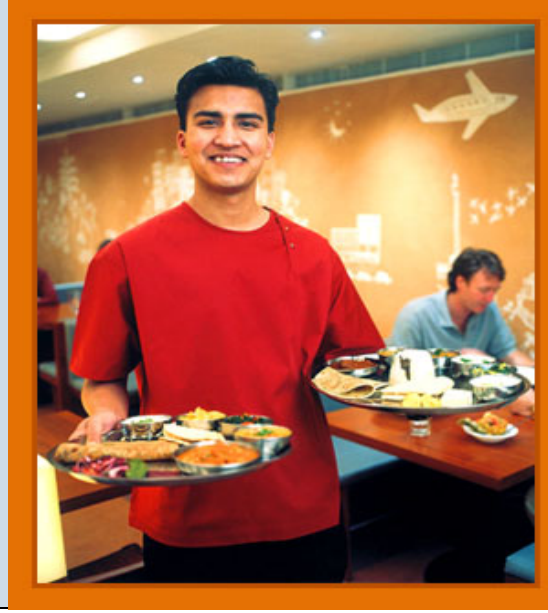
3rd Party Controlled: 3rd party
introduces or facilitates involvement,
may or may not be violent



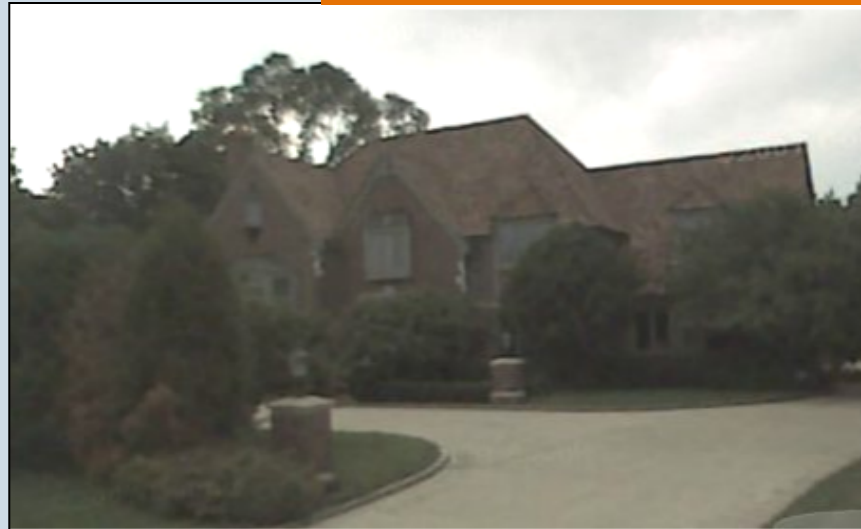
Child abuse, child trafficking, and CSEC:



Labor Trafficking Venues

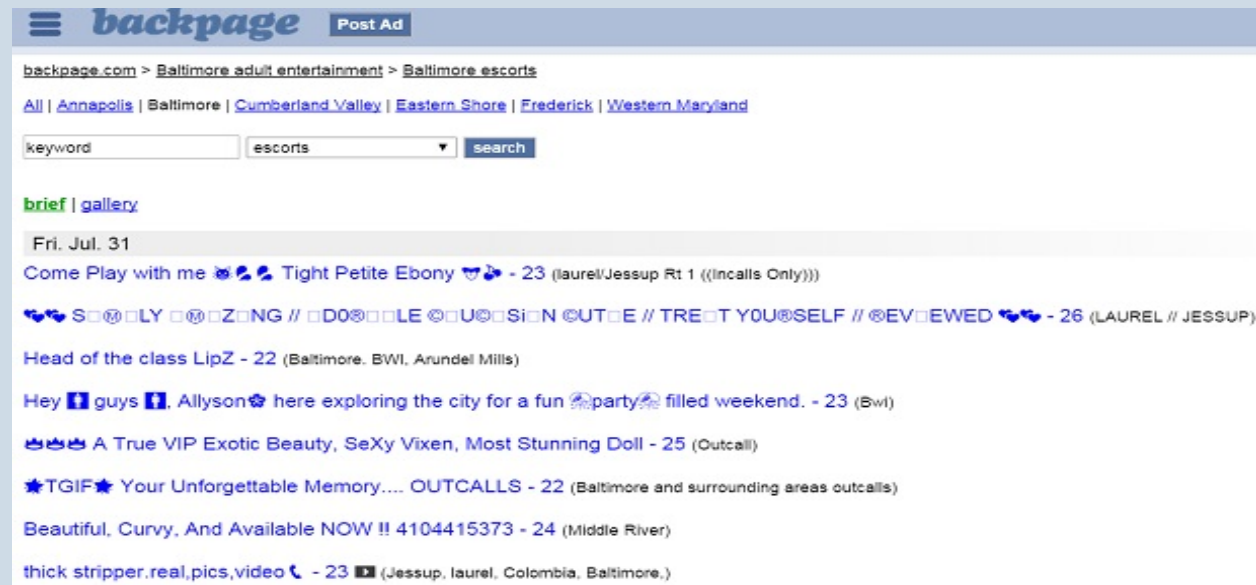


- Domestic Work
- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Agriculture, forestry, fishing
- Restaurants, Food Service
- Hospitality
- Hair/nail salons



Sex Trafficking Venues

- Online
- Street
- Massage parlors
- Truck stops
- Escort services
- Bars/Strip Clubs
- Pornography
- **Brothels**; residential, apartments, outdoor, hotel rooms

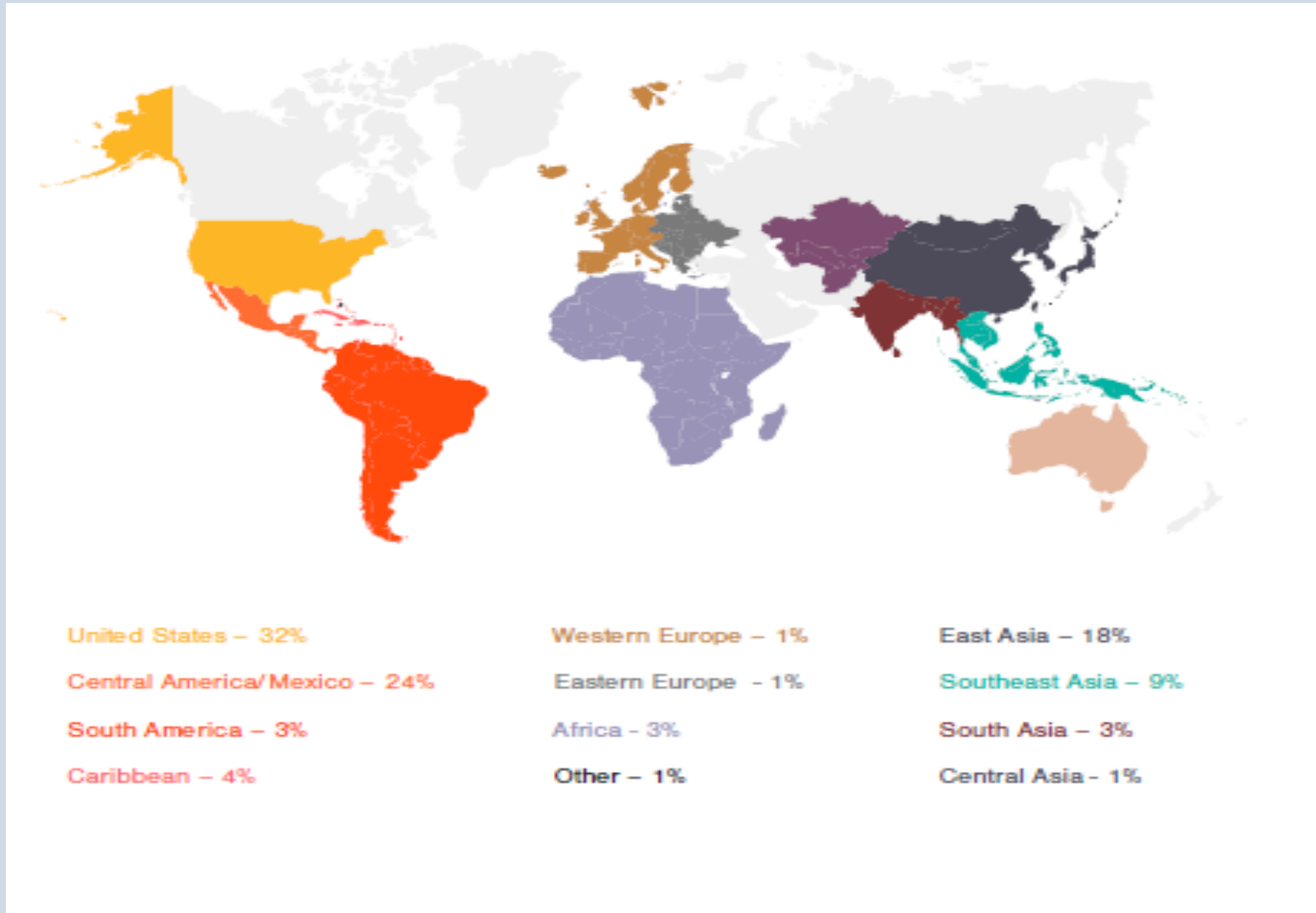


Important things to remember

- Males, Females, Adults, Children
- International and Domestic – Poughkeepsie cases highlight this
- No movement is necessary for trafficking to take place
- Trafficking ≠ Smuggling



Client Countries of Origin January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016



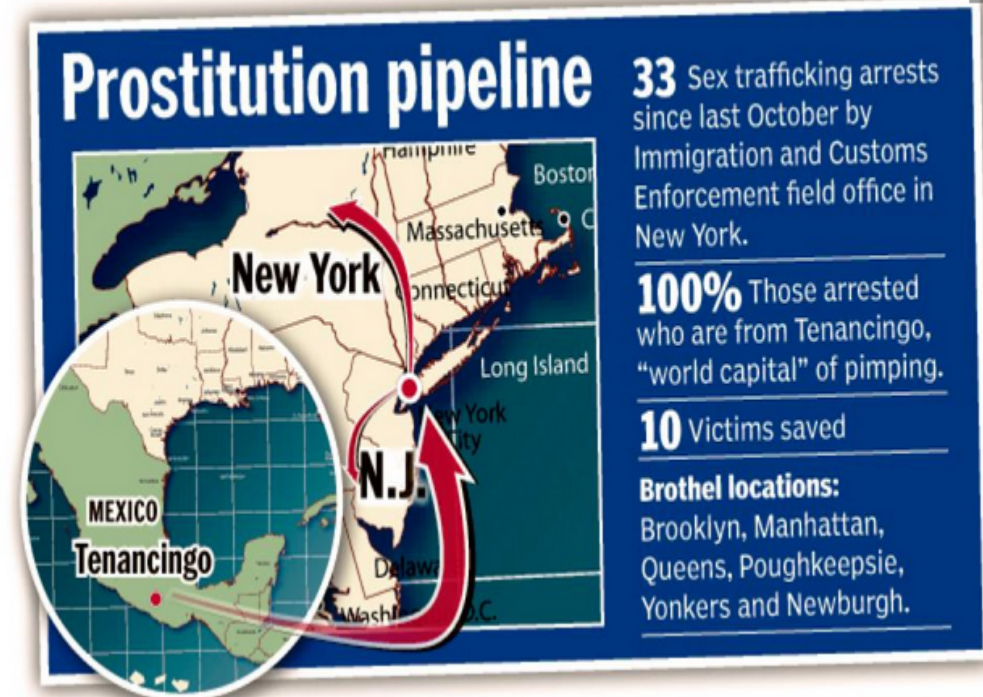


NORMAN Y. LONO FOR NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

The federal crackdown on a Queens sex trafficking ring targeted an alleged brothel in this house in Poughkeepsie, as well as sites in Yonkers and Newburgh. Prostitutes are often driven in from Queens to one of the brothels, where they may stay for a week and sleep with dozens of men in a single night.



International Sex Trafficking Ring 2013



City of Poughkeepsie man admits to charges related to sex trafficking

Jeremy Davis, 24, pleaded guilty to second-degree promoting prostitution and two counts of second-degree criminal sexual acts

- *Admitted to promoting prostitution of someone who was less than 15 years old*



Human Trafficking vs Human smuggling

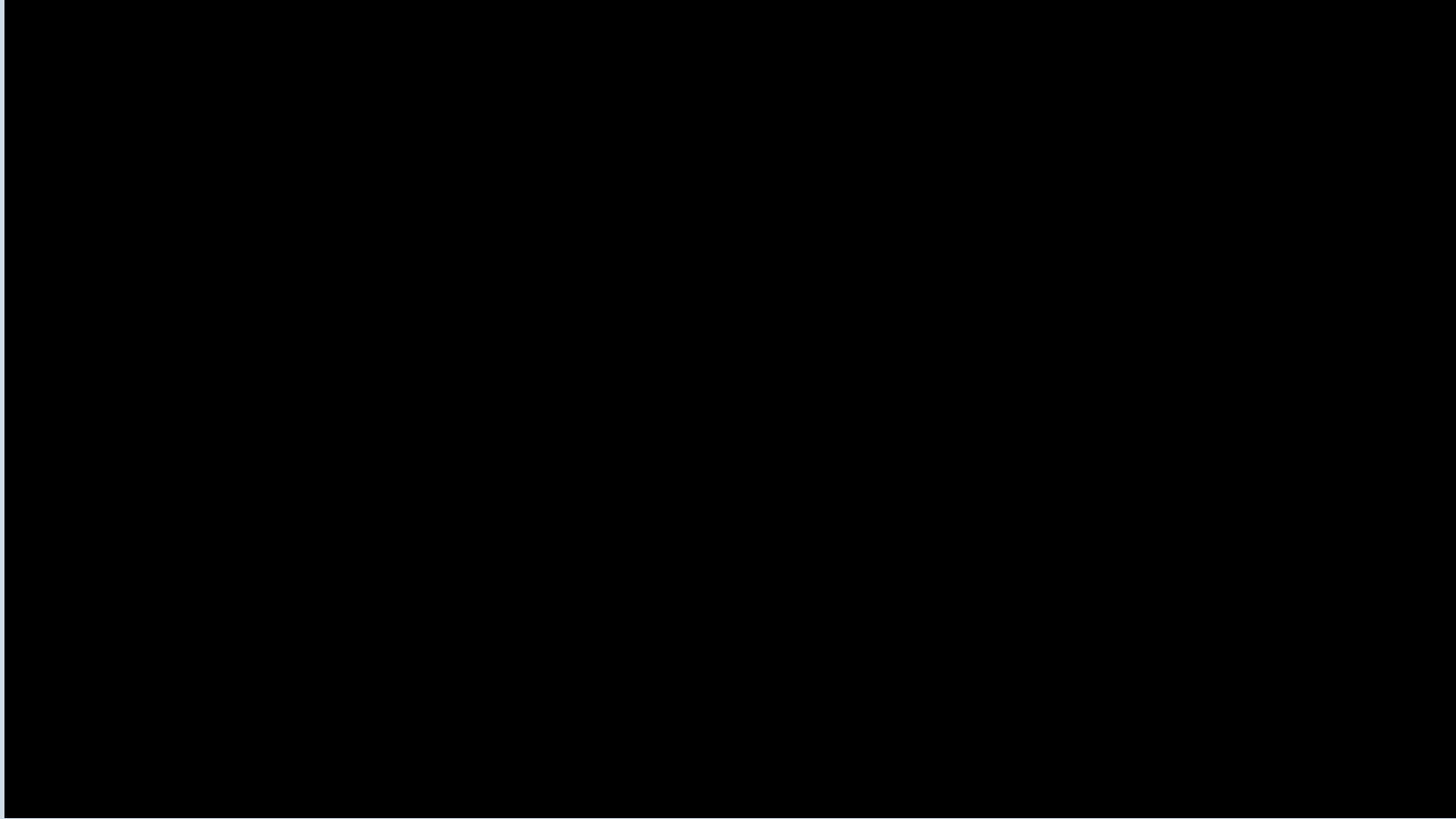
Human Trafficking

- Crime against a person
- Exploitation based
- No movement required
- Elements of coercion
- Seldom aware of the entire process even if originally 'consented'
- Ultimately, trafficked persons do not consent to the abuses, exploitation, and human rights violations to which they are subjected

Human Smuggling

- Crime against a border
- Transportation based
- Requires crossing border
- No coercion
- Generally aware of the conditions of their travel, voluntarily engage
- Upon arrival, the smuggled person is free or required to work temporarily to pay off their smuggler





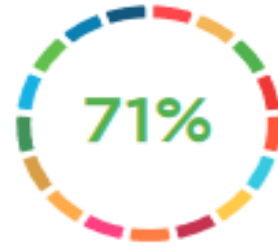
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6FFRTpyf2o>



METRICS

40 million people were victims of modern slavery. This includes:

- **25** million people in forced labour
- **15** million people in forced marriage



GENDER

Women and girls accounted for 71 per cent of modern slavery victims.



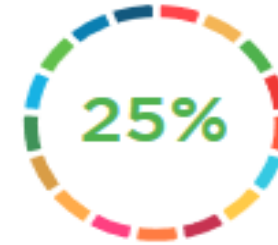
DEBT BONDAGE

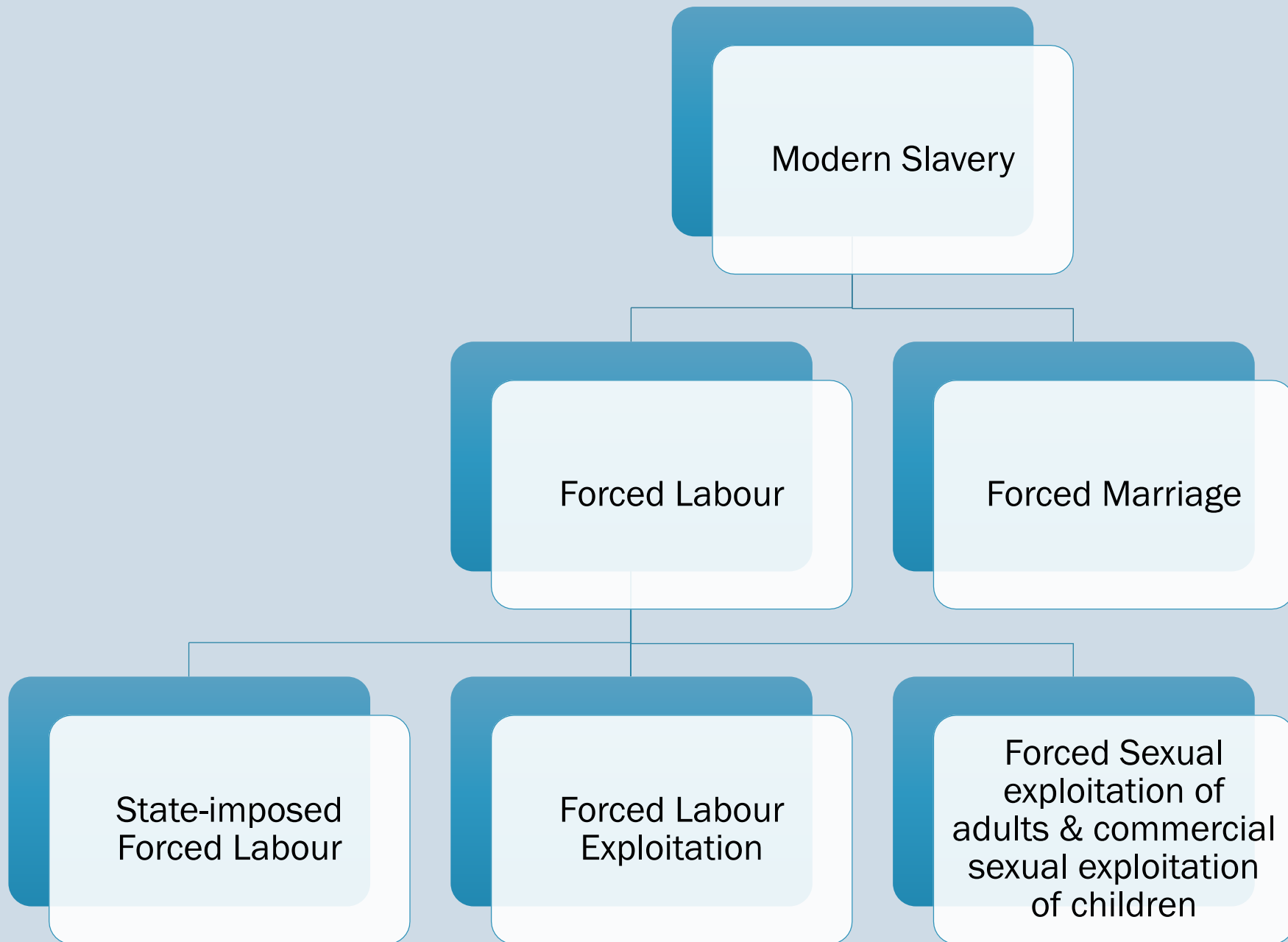
Debt bondage affected half of all victims of forced labour imposed by private actors.



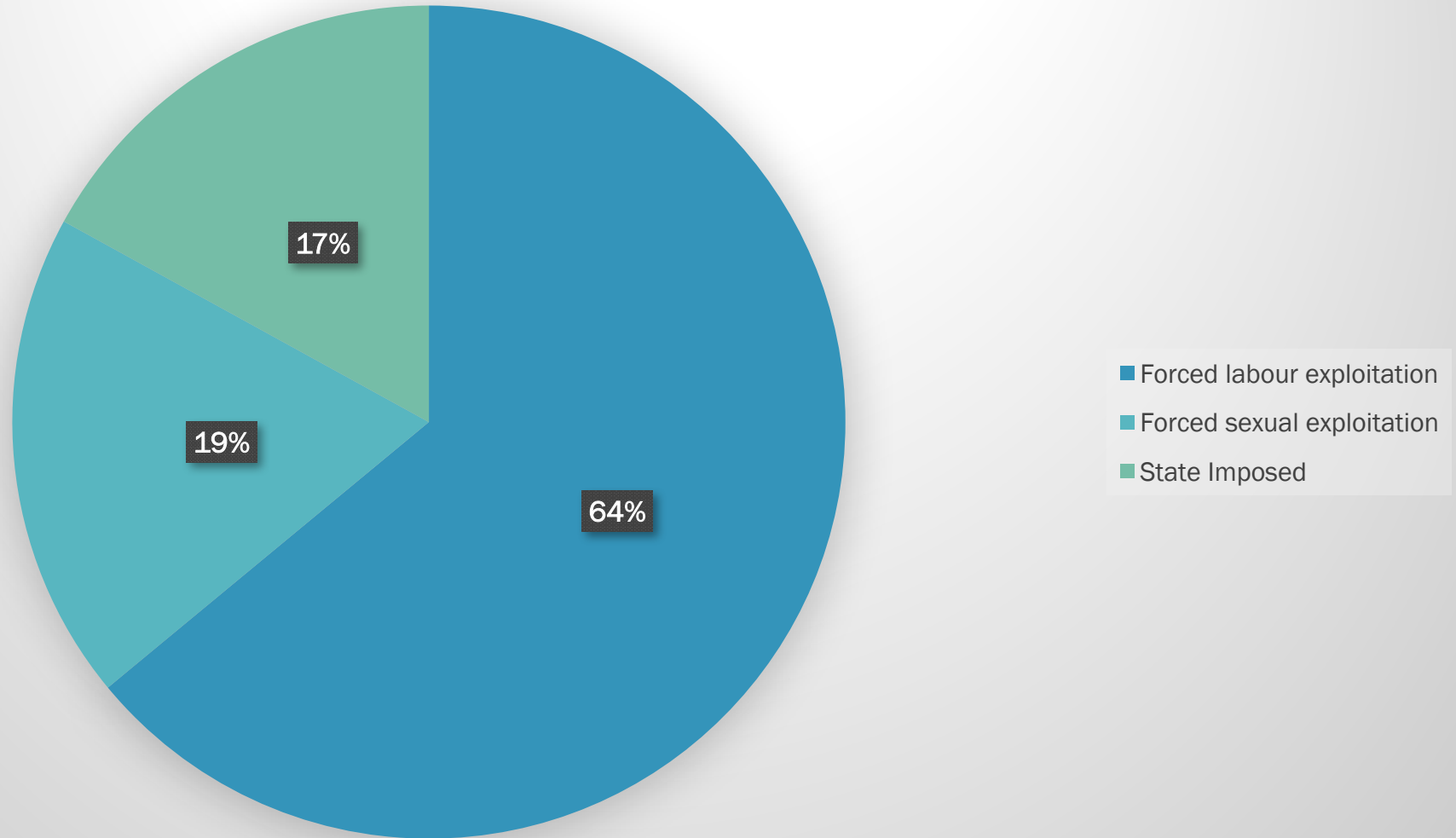
CHILDREN

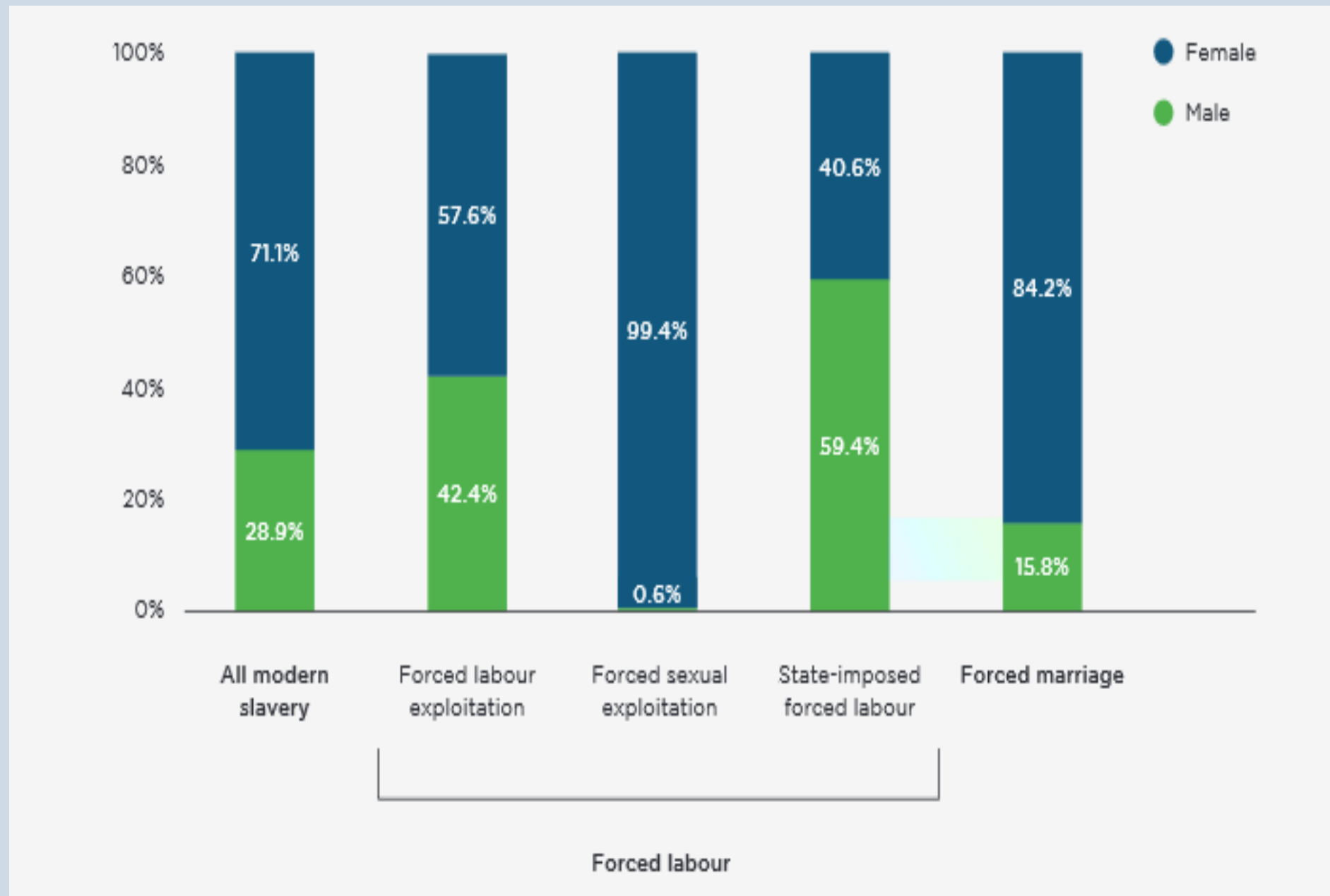
One in four victims of modern slavery were children.





Forced Labor Sub Categories





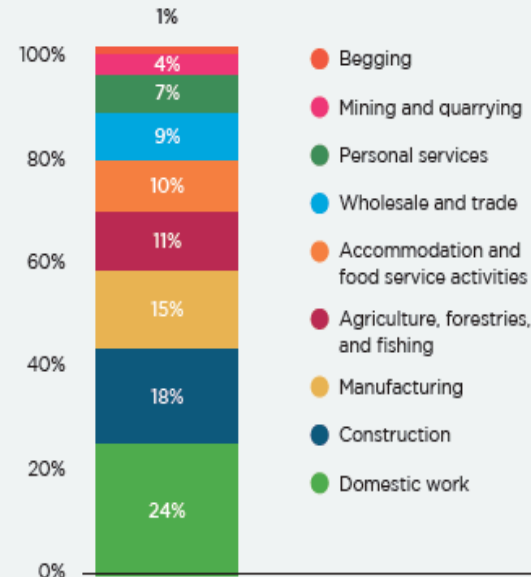
Male victims, of forced labor, were more likely to be in mining, manufacturing, construction and agriculture

Female victims, of forced labor, were more likely to be in accommodation, food service and domestic work

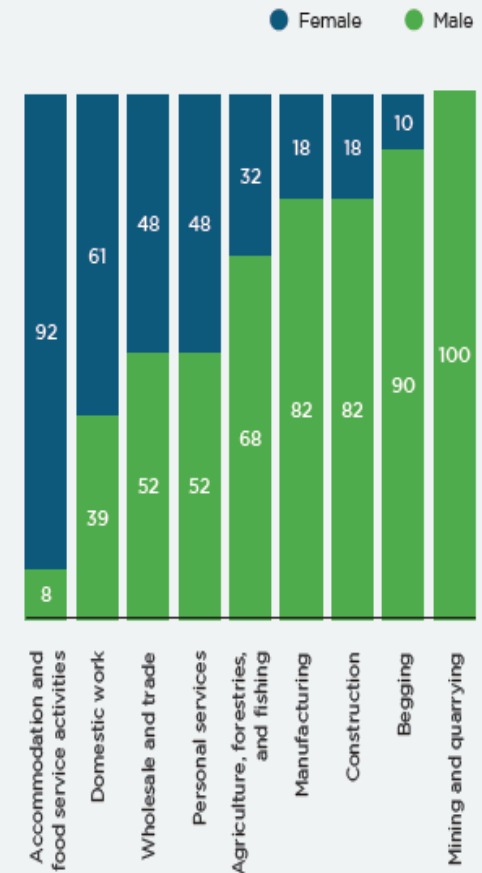
Figure 9

Sector of forced labour exploitation

(a) Sectoral distribution of victims of forced labour exploitation^{(a), (b)}



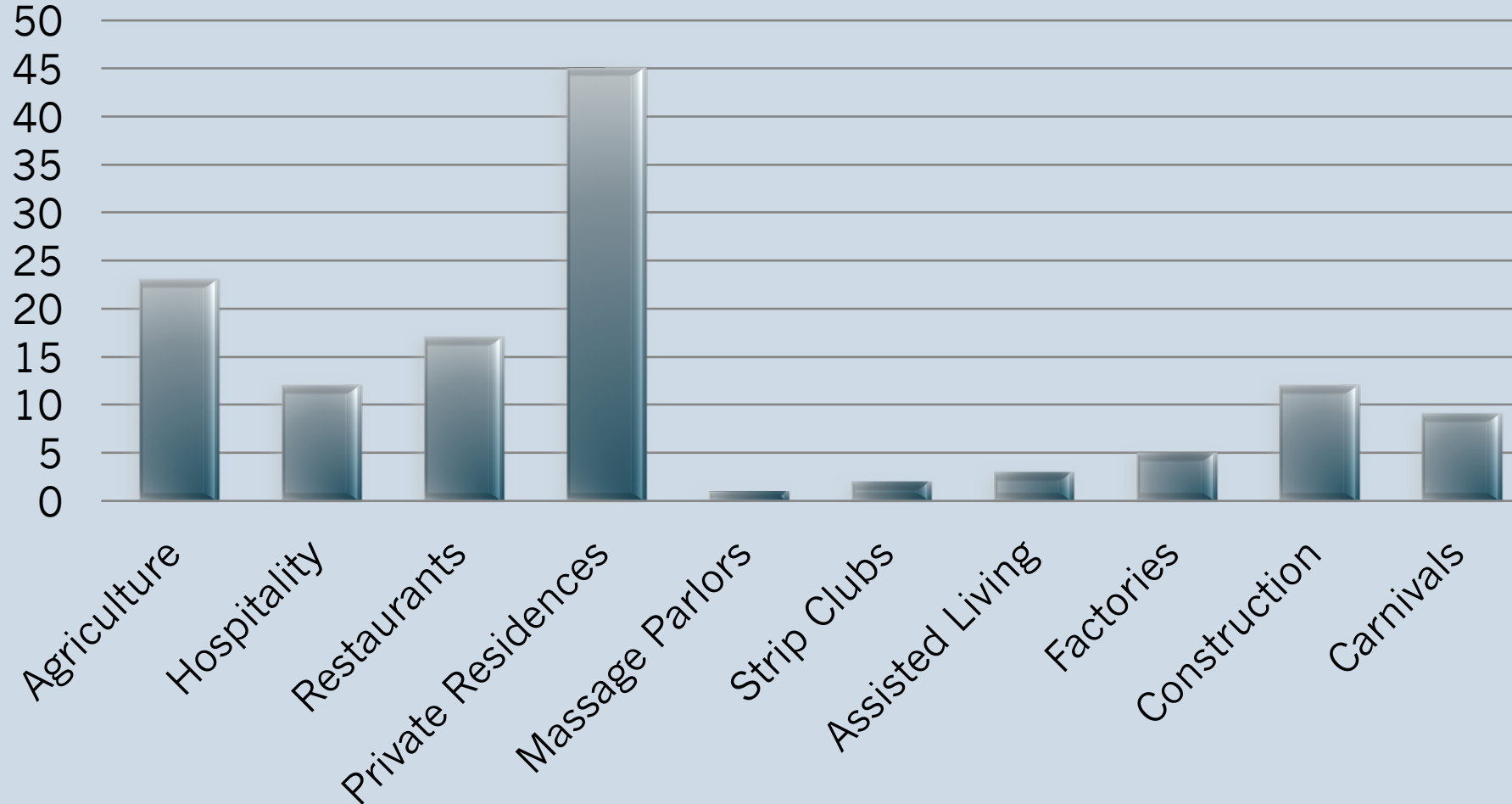
(b) Sex distribution of victims of forced labour exploitation, by sector of economic activity^{(a), (b)}



Note: (a) These figures are based on cases of forced labour exploitation where industry was reported. Information on the industry was available for 65 per cent of total cases of forced labour exploitation; and (b) with the exception of begging, categories are based on the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Rev.4 (1-digit level). For further detail and explanation see United Nations Statistics Division (<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/cr/registry/regcst.asp?CI=27>).

Victims by Industry

(129 total incidences, some victims represented multiple times due to retrafficking)



Labor Trafficking in the United States, Northeastern University, 2014

Labor Violations and Labor Trafficking

| | Yes |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Less Pay Then Promised | 83% |
| Withheld Pay | 81% |
| Under Minimum Wage | 80% |
| Denial of Pay | 80% |
| Illegal Deductions | 62% |
| No written earnings statement | 62% |
| Safe water, toilet | 30% |
| Hazardous Work Environment | 16% |
| No meal breaks | 42% |
| Movement to work controlled | 80% |
| Victim lived where worked | 56% |
| Depriving/Disorienting | 84% |
| Threats or use of Violence | 82% |
| Demoralizing | 82% |
| Diminishing Resistance | 70% |
| Intimidation and Control | 80% |
| Deception of Consequences | 71% |
| Use/Threatened Use of law | 71% |

**Labor
Exploitation**



**Labor
Trafficking**

Urban Institute, Northeastern Univ., 2014

Most victims of forced labor exploitation suffered multiple forms of coercion at the recruitment and employment stages

- Withholding or threat of withholding of wages
- Threats of violence
- Acts of physical violence
- Threats against family
- Having to repay a debt

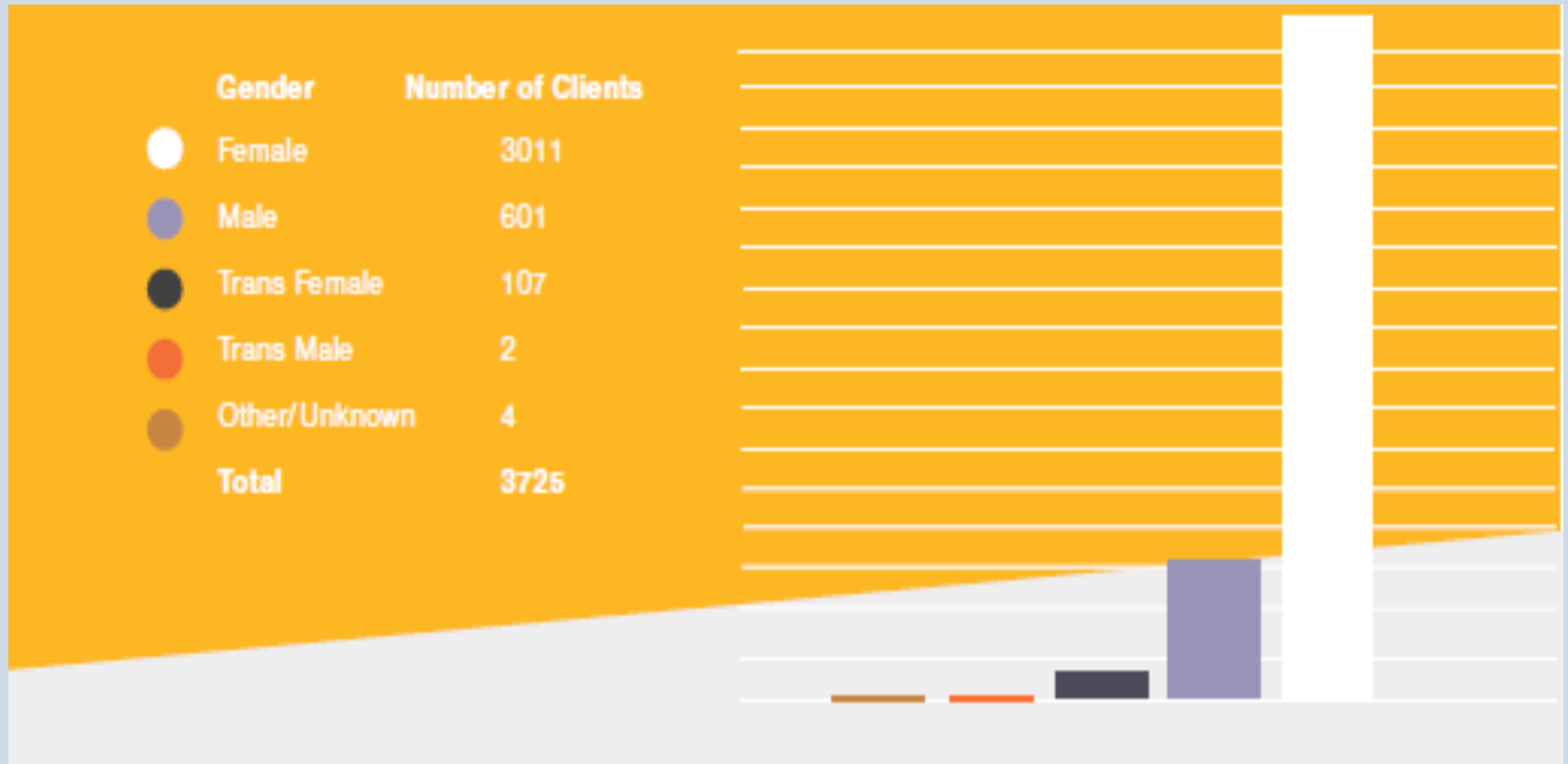
Forms of coercion may depend on gender

- **Male** victims were more likely to be subjected to: **threats against family, withheld wages, confinement, denial of food and sleep and threats of legal action**
- **Female** victims suffered higher rates of **sexual violence** and were more likely to have their **passports or other documents withheld**

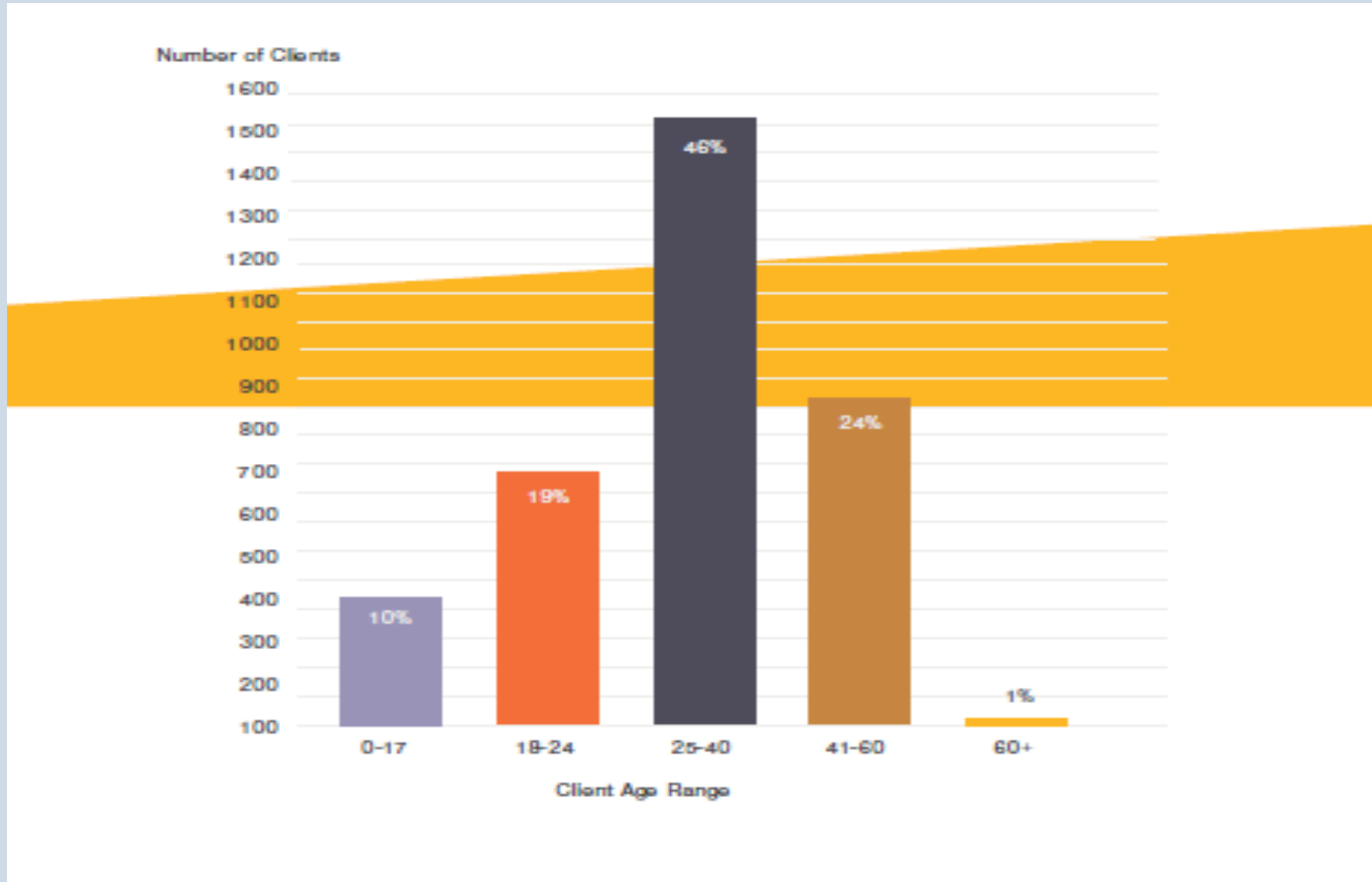
Forced sexual exploitation of adults and commercial sexual exploitation of children

- 4,800,000 victims around the world
- 1,000,000 of the victims are under 18 years of age
- Women and girls account for more 99% of all victims of forced sexual exploitation
- Victims were exploited on average of about 2 years

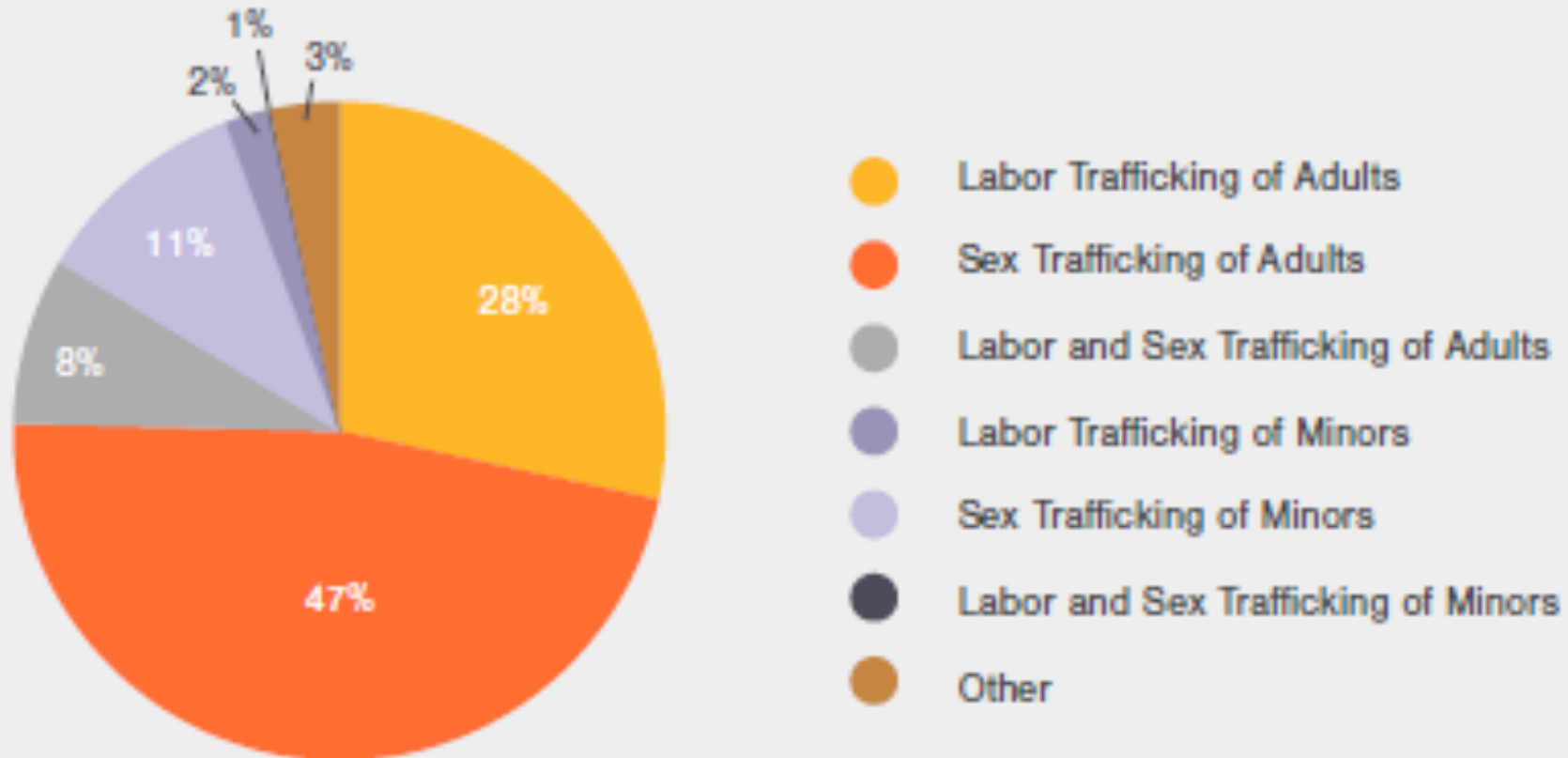
Freedom Network 2017 Client Gender



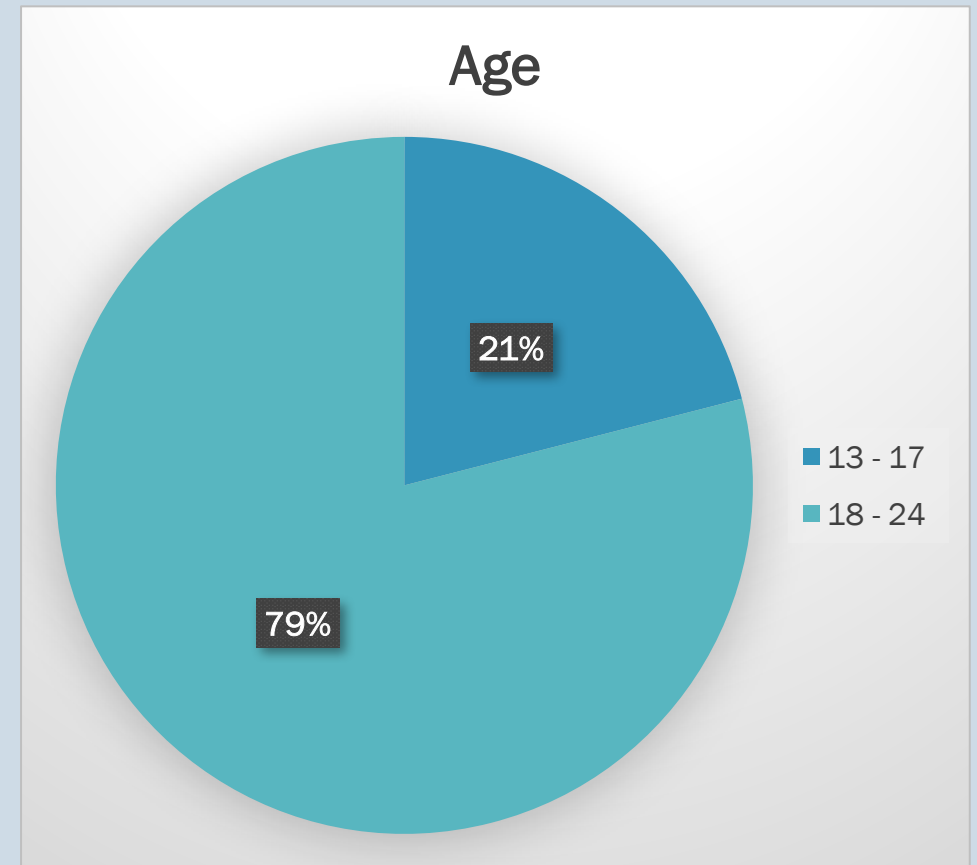
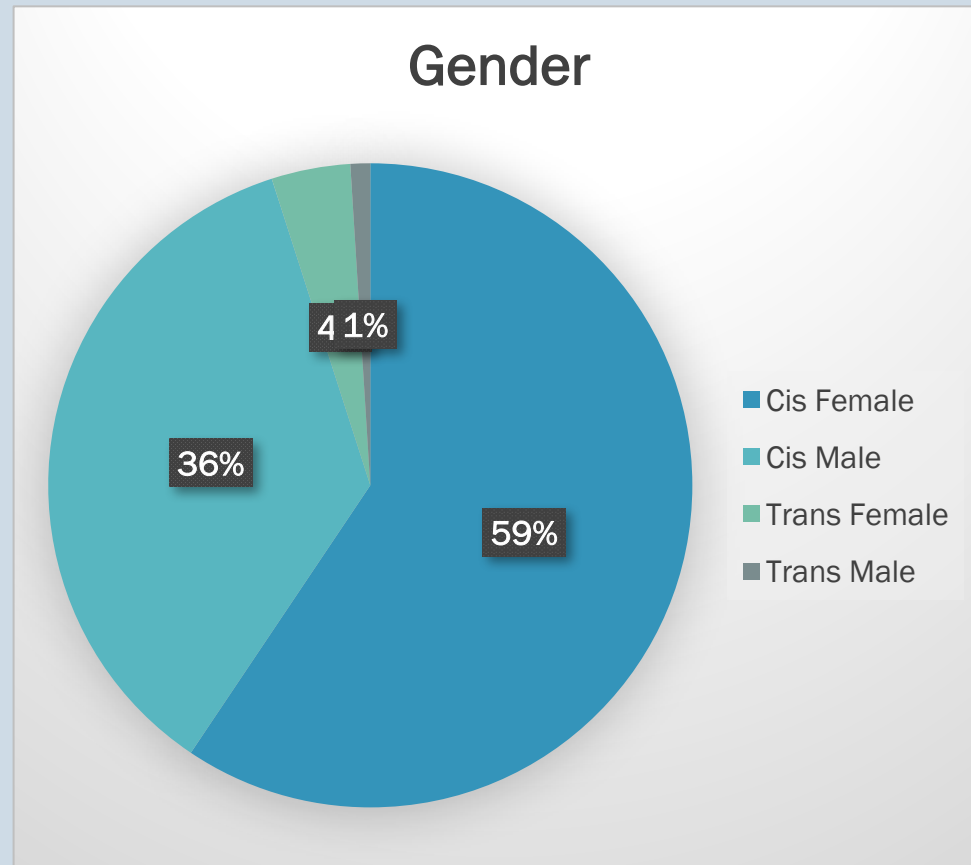
Freedom Network 2017 Age of Clients



Freedom Network 2017 Type of Trafficking

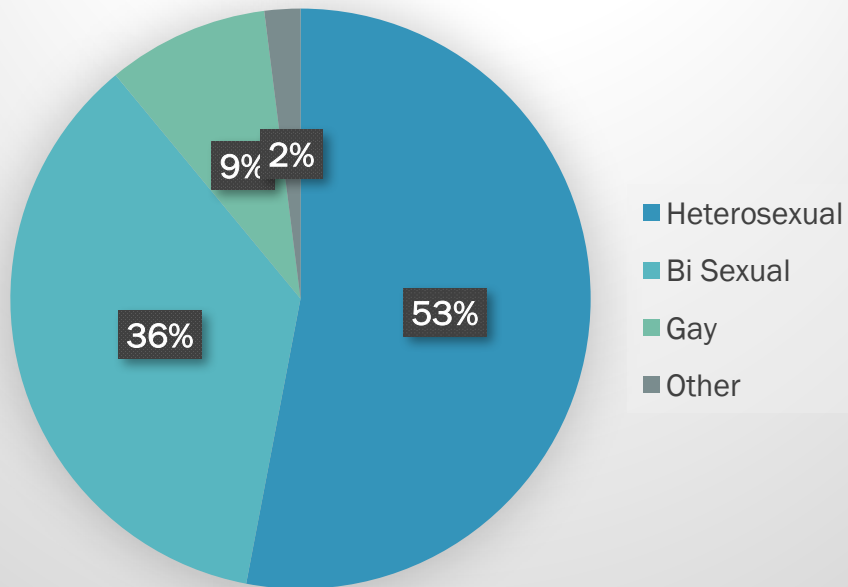


Findings from Youth Involvement in the Sex Trade: A National Study 2016 - *close to 1,000 youth interviewed in 6 cities throughout the US*

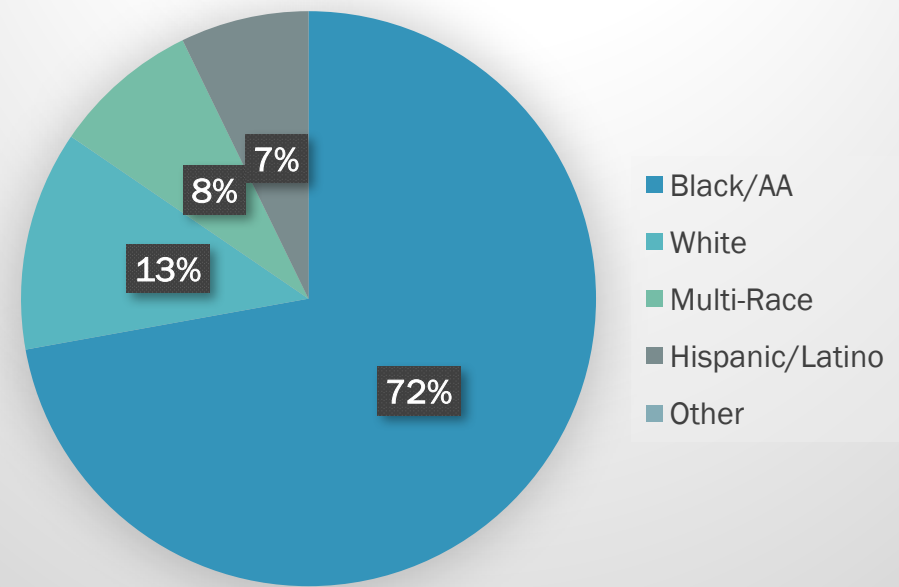


Findings from Youth Involvement in the Sex Trade: A National Study 2016

Sexual Orientation



Race



Findings from Youth Involvement in the Sex Trade: A National Study 2016 - *close to 1,000 youth interviewed in 6 cities throughout the US*

- ❖ 77% of respondents indicated that their first experience trading sex took place while under the age of 18
- ❖ The average age of first trading sex was **15.8** years of age
- ❖ Almost 73% had left home under the age of 18
- ❖ 32% had their first sexual experience before age 13
 - *24% (30% of cis females) reported that their first sexual experience was nonconsensual*

Findings from Youth Involvement in the Sex Trade: A National Study 2016

- ❖ Self-Reported Service Needs
 - Employment or education 49%
 - Housing or help paying for utilities 47%
 - Food or Money 36%
 - Counseling or advice 16%
 - Addiction or health services 11%
- ❖ Prevalence of Pimps: 15% of participants reported having pimps who exerted coercion, control or force. The cis females % was higher with 21%.
 - *Pimps were both male & female*
- ❖ Market facilitators versus Pimps: 19% of participants were coded as having market facilitators who were not pimps – mutual support, don't share \$, no rules, cross referrals, strategies to stay safe

WESTCHESTER COUNTY DATA (provided by DSS through Safe Harbour) June 2013 to January 2017



Child/Youth trafficking

- In the USA, children are most likely to be sexually exploited by their families or family friends for monetary gain – National Institute of Justice, 2007
- Young women and girls are recruited into the commercial sex industry due to economic need, family and peer encouragement, need for social acceptance and previous childhood trauma – Urban Institute reported on Dank et. al. 2014
- Reports estimate that as many as 50%-80% of child sex trafficking victims have had contact with the child welfare system
- In 2007 the New York Office of Children and Family Services identified 2,652 child trafficking victims statewide
 - *85% of them had contact with the child welfare system, primarily in the form of abuse and neglect proceedings.*
 - *75% of the child trafficking victims in NYC had been in foster care at some point in their lives.*



Gang Involved Sex Trafficking

- At least 110 gangs are involved in commercial exploitation
- 85% of pimps/sex trafficking facilitators interviewed were gang involved
- On average, sex trafficking facilitators control 4.5 victim
- Female recruiters and sex trafficking facilitators are perceived to be a significant and growing feature of the underground sex economy

(Carpenter, Gates, et al, 2016)

INDICATORS / RED FLAGS



Indicators/ Red Flags

Recruitment

- *Misleading information was given by the recruiter/employer*
- *A person is in debt to their recruiter/employer*

Personal Documents and Belongings

- *A third party arranged travel and work documents*
- *Passport/documentation confiscated, false documentation*
- *No or few personal belongings*
- *Inappropriately dressed for the weather*

Threat/Reality of Violence

- *Signs of abuse (physical, sexual, drug)*
- *Signs of fear, anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation*
- *Inconsistent stories*
- *Gaps in their story*



Indicators/Red Flags

Freedom of Movement / Living Conditions

- *Physically confined, restricted or controlled communications and movement, cannot choose his/her own residence*
- *Third party insists on being present for conversations*
- *Person is rarely seen or lacks knowledge of whereabouts*

Working Conditions

- *Performing tasks for which he or she was not originally recruited*
- *Excessive and/or irregular hours*
- *Exposed to risks that compromise health and safety*
- *Not paid, underpaid, or has wages taken from him/her*



Indicators of domestic minor sex trafficking

- Tattoos, brands, signs of “ownership”
- Child runs away from home frequently and/or for significant periods of time
- Truancy from school
- Indications or reports of domestic violence/intimate partner violence
- Describes a stalking situation
- Older boyfriend/close companion
- New, unexplained possessions - clothing, phone, jewelry
- Excessive, almost pathological attachment to cell phone
- Disconnection from social supports
- Uses street slang for sex work – urban dictionary
- Age inappropriate sexual behavior and/or sexually transmitted infections
- Minor is working more than is in school



CASE EXAMPLES & THE VICTIMS EXPERIENCE



Utica Ring



Lynette Tilden



Edward Tilden



Alexandria Davall



Michael Olsen



David Jamrosz



Michael Curcio



Rosheen Brooks



Jakeem Penn



Curtis O'dell

Victims Experience

Backstory

Vulnerabilities

Risk-Factors

Poly-Victimization

Where and when does it
all begin?

Victims Experience while trafficked

Force

Fraud

Coercion

Duration of experience
Types & level of violence
Types of coercion
Relationship to Perpetrator

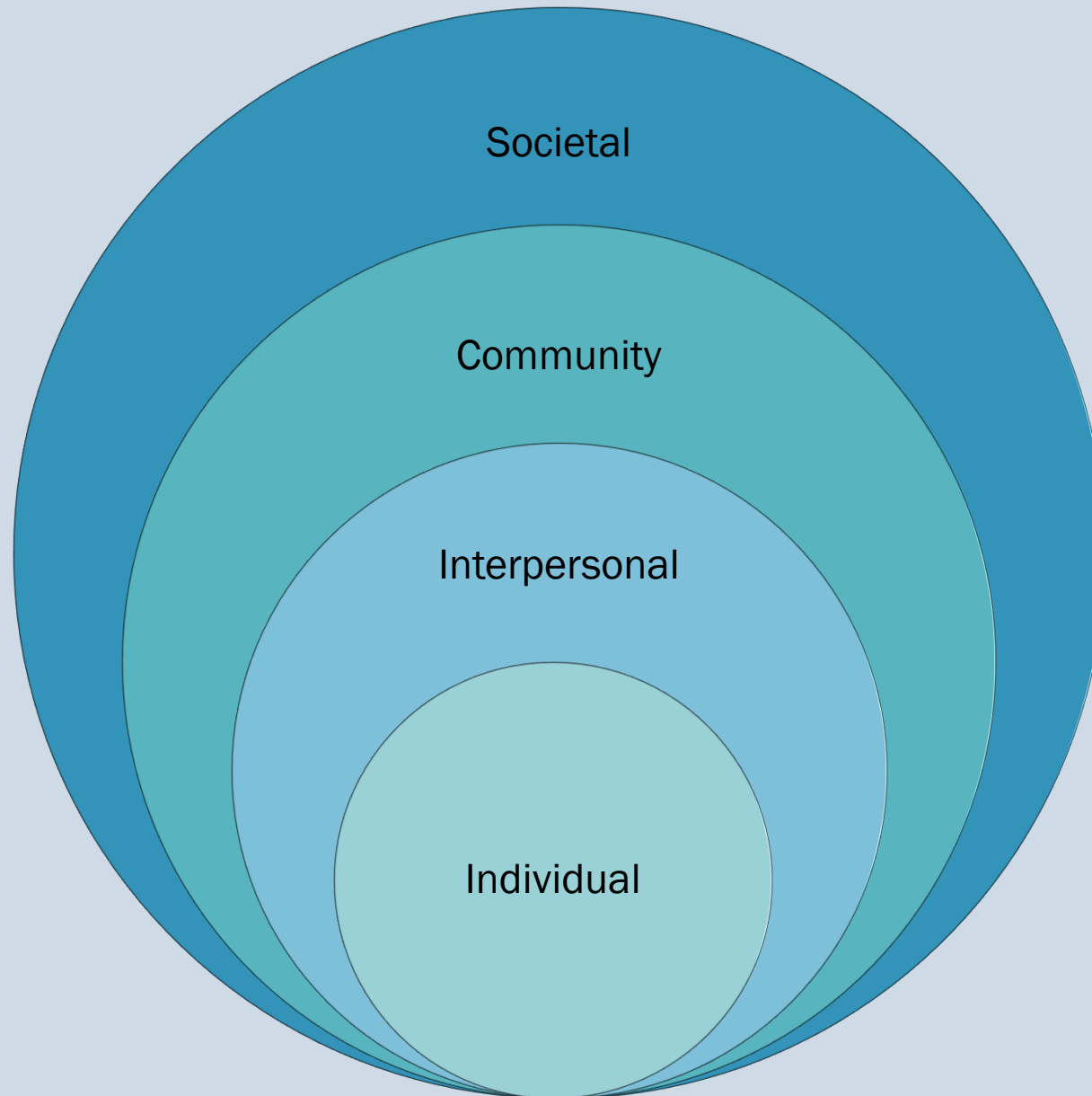
Impact: Consequences

Complexity of recovery

Trauma symptoms
Coping Strategies
Disclosure
Stigma



Where & when does it begin? The Key is Vulnerability



The Backstories

“Like many ‘willing victims’ the process of breaking me down had begun long before I met my trafficker”

“I was hoping to make a connection with someone and to find a way out of my life. I was fourteen, and I was in desperate need of help. Unfortunately, nobody except Greg seemed to notice and offer help”



Push Factors: Individual

- Poverty, lack of financial security
- History of child sexual abuse
- Early exposure to violence
- Family dysfunction (DV, mental illness, **drugs**, divorce)
- Runaway or throwaway episodes, homelessness
- Lack of education/difficulty in school
- History in foster care
- Desire for material comforts
- Disabilities
- Drug Addiction



Push Factors: Interpersonal

- Physical abuse of self or other/pet
- Sexual abuse of self or other
- Early exposure to violence in the home
- Obligation or desire to help family
- Peer influences/ Gang involvement
- Desire to please “boyfriends”
- Need to belong, desire for love, protection, acceptance
- GLBTQ in a family or community that rejects that identity
- Low self- esteem, higher incidences of abuse and homelessness



Push Factors: Community & Societal

Community

- Lack of educational and/or economic opportunities
- Large transient male populations
- Area with large and international airports
- Corruption
- Community Violence

Societal

- Glorification of pimp culture
- Wide spread use of internet & social media
- Political and civil unrest
- Gender inequalities
- Ethnic discrimination
- Natural disasters



Pull Factors

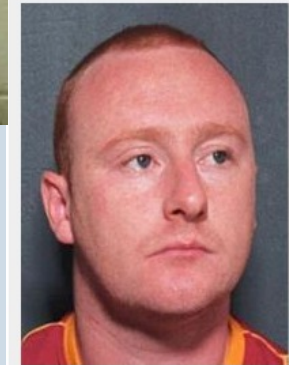
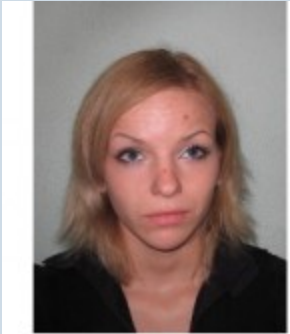
- Promises of economic opportunities
- Promises of material comforts
- Offering of love & affection
- Offering of basic needs: food, shelter.... for self and/or loved ones
- Offering Acceptance, protection
- The glamour and anonymity of city life
- Hope for a better future, success



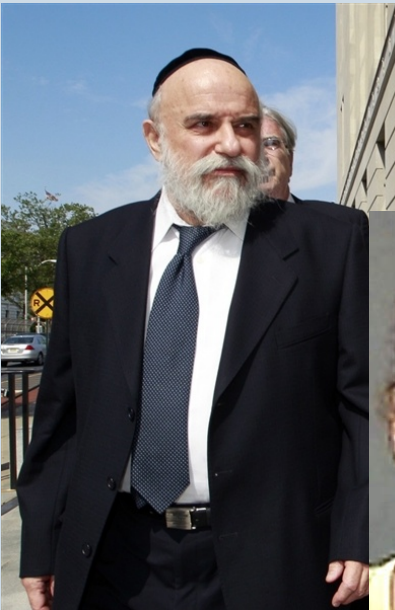
Who Are The Human Traffickers?

- Neighbors, friends, relatives, community leaders (village chiefs, religious leaders), returnees, peers
- Company owners, managers, subcontractors
- Families
- Organized crime
- Diplomats & governments
- Pimps
- Gangs
- Market facilitators





kingpin: Stephen Craig was jailed for more than three years for running the trafficking network, while his girlfriend Sarah Beukan was jailed for a year and a half. Pictures: PA



Victim's Experience in trafficking situations

Duration of experience?

Relationship to Perpetrator?

Violence, Intimidation, Coercion, Traumatic Experiences

Types and levels of intensity?

- Physical and/or sexual abuse
- Physical and/or sexual abuse of others or of pets
- Deprivation of basic needs
- Economic Control/Abuse



Psychological Coercion in Human Trafficking:

Applying Biderman's Framework (1957)

- **Isolation** *increases power imbalance and dependence*
- **Monopolization of perception** *limit exposure to outside world*
- **Induced debility and exhaustion** *deprivation of basic human needs such as food, sleep, healthcare*
- **Threats** *threats of violence, threats of death, threats to family, threats of arrest or deportation*

Baldwin et. al., Qualitative Health Research, 2014



Psychological Coercion in Human Trafficking:

Applying Biderman's Framework (1957)

- **Occasional indulgences** *Countering abusive behavior with occasional kindness or compassion*
- **Demonstrating omnipotence** *Claiming powerful connections to law enforcement or deities*
- **Degradation** *Insults, humiliation, denial of privacy and dignity, including physical and sexual humiliation and assault*
- **Enforcing trivial demands** *Instills a need for conformity and perfection*





Trafficking = Torture

“Torture is intended to invade a person’s presumption of privacy, intimacy, and inviolability and thereby destroy their belief in their own independence”

Unpredictability

Uncontrollability

Little ability to predict or manage events that effect health and safety



Health & Safety

| Risks | Potential Consequences |
|------------------------------|--|
| Physical Abuse, deprivation | Physical health problems: cuts, burns, broken bones, headaches, fatigue |
| Threats, Intimidation, Abuse | Mental Health Problems: depression, anxiety, disassociation, fearfulness nightmares, flashbacks, hostility/anger, PTSD |
| Sexual Abuse | STDs, pelvic inflammatory disease, infertility, unwanted pregnancy, forced abortion |
| Substance Misuse (D&A) | Overdose, D&A addiction |



CASE EXAMPLES



El Monte, CA Sweatshop

- 72 victims, 10 perpetrators
- **Recruited** : sew for nation's top retailers, given false passports
- **Worked**: 18-20 hour days, less than \$2.00/hr. Some for 17 years
- **Housed**: apartments, razor wire fences, barricade doors/windows, and full-time guards
- **Isolated**: Mail was censored, communication was monitored
- **Threats** against victims and families
- **Charges**: involuntary servitude, conspiracy, harboring & transporting aliens, kidnapping
- **Outcome**: 4-7 years in prison, \$4-5 million in assets seized and out of court settlement



US v. Afolabi: hair braiding (NJ)

- **Targeted**: impoverished African villages, 10 y/o and up
- **Deceived**: believe in better life, receive education
- **Worked**: hair braiding salons, up to 14 hours/day, 6-7 days
- **Forced**: to turn over all earnings, including their tips
- **Confiscated**: passports or identification;
- **Isolated**: unable to speak with their families outside of the defendants' presence; make any outside friends.



US v. Davis



| | |
|--|--|
| Cellular telephone (Q5) | A self-help book whose chapters are devoted to such concepts as "Never Put Too Much Trust in Friends: Learn How to Use Enemies" and "Conceal Your Intentions." |
| Book entitled <u>The 48 Laws of Power</u> | |
| Book entitled <u>Whore - Whoever said whoring wasn't easy...</u> | |

Girls age 12-19

- promises of modeling / glamorous lifestyle
- 12 hour days strip clubs/dancing + street
- repeated assaults for "rule breaking"

| | |
|--|---|
| Corey Davis | Prosecutors say he often stomped on his sex workers with his "Tims." |
| Timberland Box and Boots | |
| Alex Jewelry Enterprise Business Card | Two samples of his reading material. This title is one of several books about the 1921 race riot in Tulsa that left a black neighborhood awash in blood. |
| Receipt from Moe's Sneaker Spot | |
| Book entitled <u>Black Wall Street</u> | This one looks to be one of several books about advice, potentially apocryphal, delivered nearly 300 years ago by an authoritarian slave owner, in which he asserts the secret to controlling one's slaves is to pit them against each other. |
| Book entitled <u>The Willie Lynch Letter</u> | |
| Montana Automobile Insurance Identification Card | |
| Bennett Law Office letter and Montana Vehicle Registration and Payment Receipt | |
| The City of New York Department of | |

Ashland, Ohio (labor trafficking)

- Ashland, Ohio
- Cognitively disabled woman and her child recruited to live with perpetrators
- Intentional physical injury for pain meds
- Forced manual labor via threats
- Controlled movement: video, time



Their tactics included beating S.E., threats of beatings to S.E. and B.E., taunting and threatening the victims with pit bulls and snakes, causing the victims to sleep in unsafe and unsanitary conditions, restricting B.E. and S.E.'s access to the bathroom, preventing them from eating regular and suitable meals, and forcing S.E. to eat dog food and crawl on the floor while wearing a dog collar, according to the court documents and trial testimony.

Newburgh Man, Alexander Adams, charged with Sex Trafficking

- Operation ran in New Windsor and Newburgh between April 2009 – March 2013
- Recruited at least 10 women
- *Often homeless, hungry, heroin addicts*
- Isolated women in motel rooms and threatened them with physical violence & in some instances used a whip
- Catalogued and marketed the women on the internet



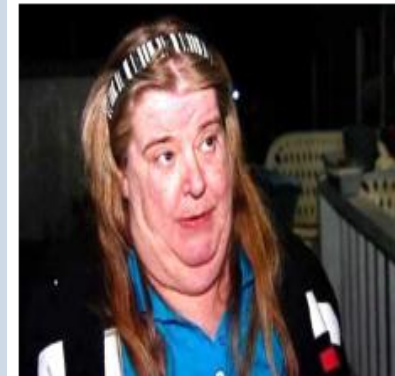
PHOTO/ TIMES HERALD-RECORD FILE PHOTO

Alexander Adams III, right, with his lawyer, Benjamin Greenwald, pleaded guilty in his sex-trafficking case Tuesday.



US v. Shackelford

- Undocumented minor placed in her care
- Agreed: to provide accommodations, food, clothing, visits with family
- Instead:
 - forced to clean home/trailer park, work on cars, sell beer & food to local residents, demanded his pay
 - inadequate food, denied visits with family, withheld birth certificate
 - struck by Shackelford
 - threats to report to law enforcement
- Convicted: forced labor



Shackelford was convicted and sentenced.

JUDGMENT as to Lucinda Lyons

Shackelford (1), Count(s) 1, 2 yrs. prob.;
\$100.00 sp. asst; \$724.00 rest.; Count(s)
2, 2 yrs. prob. to run concurrent; \$25.00

sp. asst. Restitution Ordered. Signed by District Judge Max O. Cogburn, Jr on
11/13/2012. (chh)



Case Example Discussion

- What factors made the victim's vulnerable?
- What means did the traffickers use to induce the victims to work?
- If you encountered one of these victims over the course of this situation, what factors might have suggested she/he was being trafficked?
- Why do you think the victims did not leave right away?



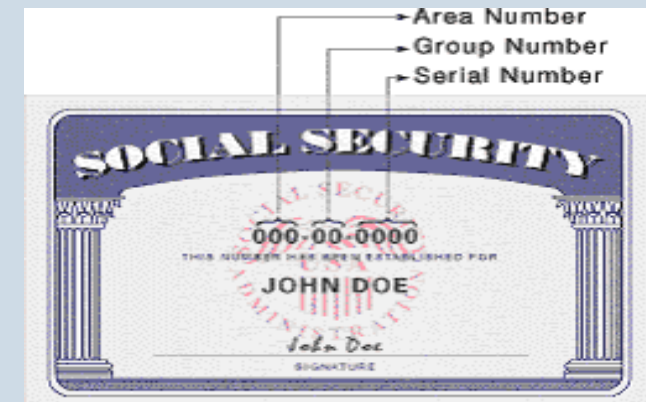
THE IMPACT

Challenges of identification & complexity of recovery
Complexity of coping strategies, disclosure and life/social stressors



U.S. Citizen Victims

- May face stigma and prejudice from society
- People who exploited them may be very close by/related/trusted individuals in their life
- May have no immediate access to identity documents and proof of residency
- May have underdeveloped life skills
- May suffer from trauma and/or drug addiction
- May have criminal arrest records
- Are often underage



Undocumented Victims

- May not have identity documents
- In a strange country
- Isolated
- May be unable to communicate
- Various cultural issues
- Fear of law enforcement officers
- Often do not see themselves as victims



Coping Mechanisms that make it difficult to identify and assist victims

- Most victims do not self identify
- Shame / Self Blame
- Bonding to trafficker
- Normalization of exploitation /minimizing experiences
- Social withdrawal
- Substance abuse
- Avoidance of trauma triggers (people, places, topics)
- Dissociation
- Suicidal Ideation
- Risk-taking behaviors
- Self Harm
- Agitation, Outbursts
- Deflection / defense mechanisms





Dr. Hanni Stoklosa, 2017

Human trafficking victims often suffer from:

- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Mood Disorders
- Generalized anxiety disorder
- Panic Attacks
- Major Depressive disorder
- Dissociative disorders
- Co-morbid substance related disorders

Alexander et.al., APA, 2005; Family Violence Prevention Fund, 2005;

Zimmerman et al 2006; International Organization for Migration, 2006; Zimmerman, 2003



Research by Hossain, Zimmerman et al., American Journal of Public Health. 2010

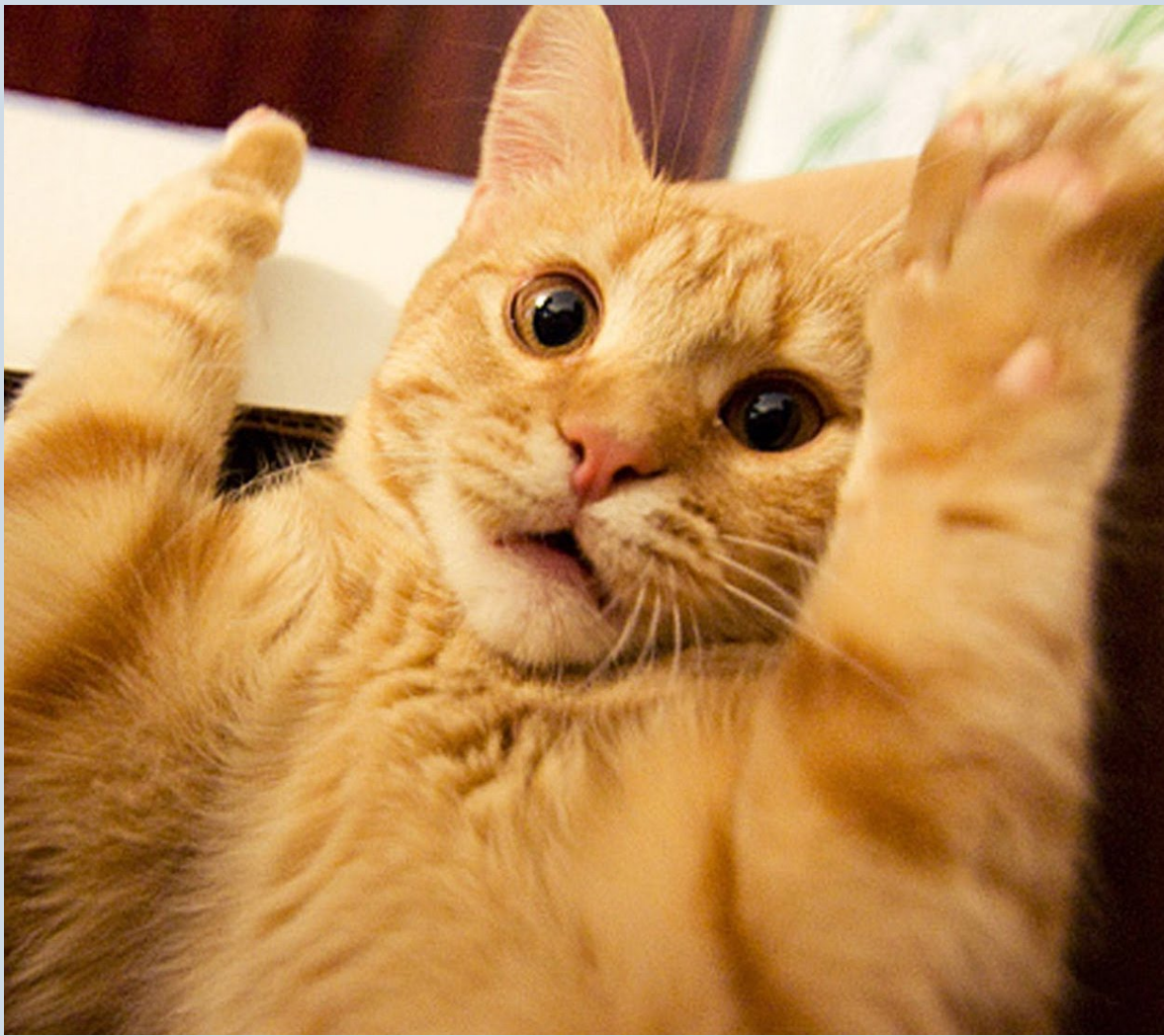
| Mental Health Symptoms | No (%) |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Depression | 112 (54.9) |
| Anxiety | 98 (48.0) |
| PTSD | 157 (77.0) |
| Depression + anxiety +PTSD | 91 (56.9) |



CSEC youth reported higher rates of avoidance & hyperarousal as well as higher incidences of:

| | Sexual Abuse/Assault | Commercial Sexual Exploitation |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Problems skipping school | 29% | 60.5% |
| Developmental inappropriate sexualized behaviors | 23% | 62.5% |
| Alcohol Use | 23% | 60% |
| Substance Abuse | 26.1% | 68.3% |
| Criminal Activity | 17.5% | 54.8% |
| Running away from home | 25% | 71.4% |
| | | |

The Trauma of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Youth: Comparison of CSE Victims to Sexual Abuse Victims in a Clinical Sample. Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 2016



Dr. Hanni Stoklosa, 2017

Additional challenges to identifying & assisting

- Distrust of law enforcement and/or service providers
 - *Immigration concerns*
- Lack of awareness of resources
- Debt-Bondage
- Frequent movement of victims
- Victims may be trained to tell lies
- The victim may be the one in trouble for that which they are being coerced, tricked or forced to do
- Fear of retaliation (threats to self or loved ones)
- A belief that no one can help them – hopelessness & resignation

Complexity: Disclosure

Trafficking victims often have to tell their stories to get help. However, traumatic accounts are often confused and inconsistent.

1. The memory of the event can be recalled accurately but there is a barrier to disclosure
2. There is a genuine failure to recall a traumatic event



1. Barriers to disclosure

The Interview Itself: learning the truth takes time

- *Attitude of interviewer*
- *Location of interview, proximity of the trafficker to the victim*
- *Types of questions asked*
- *Insensitivity to gender and culture*
- *Use of terminology*

Cognitive & Emotional Difficulties

- *Avoidance & Mistrust*
- *Dissociation*
- *Shame – there are experiences that sometimes cannot be shared*

Herlihy, J, Turner, S. Should discrepant accounts given by asylum seekers be taken as proof of deceit? Torture, 2006



2. Genuine Failure in Recall

Traumatic memories

- Are not subject to simple conscious control
- Often can not be searched for and produced like a regular autobiographical memory. Are not evoked at will
- Are provoked by triggers/reminders of the event
- Are fragments, usually sensory impressions
 - Images, sensations, smells, emotional states
 - Do not have a “time-stamp” – often experienced as current experiences
 - No complete verbal narrative of the experience

Complexity: Life Stress & Social Support

Survivors symptoms are compounded by additional life stress, lack of social support, & cultural factors

- Rejection by loved ones
- **Stigma in the community**
- Threats from trafficker
- **Drug dependency**
- Lack of employment
- **Pending immigration claim**
- Rejection of immigration claim
- **Culture**



WORKING WITH SURVIVORS

Being Trauma Informed/Survivor Centered



**Don't ask what is wrong with
the person, ask what happened
to them.**

Being Trauma Informed



The relationship should be collaborative

At every step emphasis on **choice** – when safe to do so

Survivors need to know that there is someone who cares and will **listen** carefully

Let survivors have **predictability and control** over their healing

Respect, inform, connect



Appropriate Boundaries

- A clear understanding of the limits and responsibilities of your role
- Model healthy communication and relationships
- Avoid the “rescuer” role
- Stay focused on one’s responsibilities to the client & the provision of helpful and appropriate services
- If working in conjunction with other services providers: maintain a healthy, open, communicating and functioning team
- Maintaining one’s physical and emotional safety
- Be friendly, not friends
- Avoiding burn-out (“compassion fatigue”)



Survivor Support

Immediate

- Safety
- Medical
- Bed
- Other

Short Term

- Housing
- Mental health
- Legal

Long Term

- Education, training, employment
- Options!



CHOICE



ACCESS

- ☐ When to leave
- ☐ Where to live
- ☐ Report to police
- ☐ Engage in services
- ☐ Receive mental health counseling

- ☐ Specialized, trauma-informed case management
- ☐ *Current* resources
- ☐ Public benefits
- ☐ Immigration relief
- ☐ Criminal justice advocacy
- ☐ Education & job training/readiness



- ✓ Reduced risk of re-exploitation
- ✓ Increased participation in the community and work force
- ✓ Decrease traumatization
- ✓ Better quality of life

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Dutchess County Response

Quick Response Framework & Resource Reference Guide

1. Client displays indicators of human trafficking
2. Speak with the client alone, if possible, and utilize an interpreter if needed
3. Using a trauma informed approach, assess for safety concerns and screen for trafficking
4. If a potential victim is in danger and/or needs immediate medical help, contact **911**
5. If you suspect human trafficking and/or would like to seek help for a potential victim, contact **Family Services 24 Hour Crime Victims Hotline: 845-452-7272**
6. If a potential victim is **under the age of 18 (or suspected to be under 18)** **24- Hour Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-342-3720** Mandated line **1-800-635-1522** **Contact Dutchess County's Human Trafficking Coordinator: 845-249-4878**
7. If a potential victim needs emergency mental health services, contact the Department of Behavioral and Community Health **Helpline 845-485-9700 or Stabilization Center & Mobile Crisis**
8. If a potential victim(s) would like help from Law Enforcement, contact **Dutchess County Sheriff: 845-486-3800**
9. Complete the Dutchess County Human Trafficking Tracking Form

| Hotline Numbers | |
|--|---|
| <p>Family Services 24 Hour Crime Victims Hotline 845-452-7272</p> | <p>The National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline 1-888-373-7888 Text BEFREE (9233733)</p> |
| Acute/Immediate Resources | |
| <p>Shelter, Advocacy & Support</p> <p>Youth</p> <p><u>River Haven Youth Shelter</u> 845-454-3600</p> <p><u>Human Trafficking Coordinator</u> 845- 249-4878</p> <p>Adults</p> <p><u>Family Services</u> 845-452-7272</p> <p><u>Grace Smith House</u> 845-485-5550</p> <p><u>My Sister's Place</u> 1-800-298-7233</p> | <p>Health/Medical Services</p> <p>Emergency Mental Health Services <u>Department of Behavioral and Community Health</u> Helpline 845-485-9700 Stabilization Center & Mobile Crisis 845-485-9700</p> <p>Emergency Medical Services 911 <u>Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital</u> <u>Northern Dutchess Hospital</u> <u>Vassar Brothers Medical Center</u></p> |
| <p>Case Consultation, Advocacy, and/or Immigration Services</p> <p><u>Give Way to Freedom</u> 914-466-8609</p> <p><u>Worker Justice Center of New York</u> 1-800-905-9644 845-331-6615</p> | <p>Inpatient/Detox Substance Abuse</p> <p><u>Arms Acres</u> 1-888-227-4641</p> <p><u>Turning Point</u> 845-483-5511</p> |
| Short & Longer Term Services | |
| <p>See Full Services Directory</p> | |