



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Human Trafficking: It's Happening in our Community

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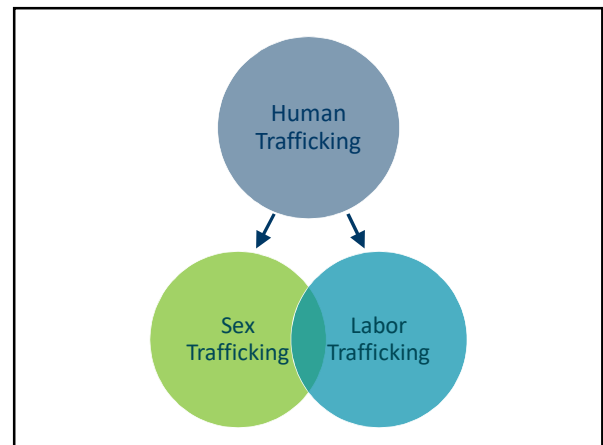
Objectives

- Participants will be able to summarize human trafficking - sex and labor
- Participants will be able to describe Minnesota's response to human trafficking
- Participants will connect with local resources to aid in their response to exploitation and trafficking

What is Human Trafficking?



When one person obtains or holds another person in compelled service.



Expanding Recognition of the Problem



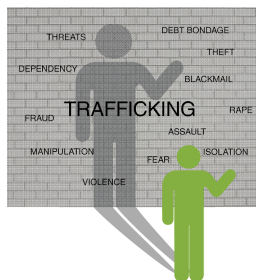
Happens Everywhere

- Human trafficking impacts the lives of people everywhere, from the smallest rural community to the largest urban area.

Human Trafficking: Legal Breakdown

<p>Action What the trafficker did to get the victim</p>	Recruitment, transportation, harboring, enticing, obtaining , etc.	
<p>Means How the victim was brought into and kept in the situation</p>	<p>Federal: Force, Fraud, Coercion (except under 18 and ST)</p>	<p>Minnesota: ANY MEANS</p>
<p>Purpose What purpose/goal?</p>	Forced labor or debt bondage	
	<p>Federal: Commercial sex act</p>	<p>Minnesota: Prostitution</p>

What have you seen?



- What (if any) trafficking situations have you encountered?
- What situations have you encountered that seemed suspicious but you weren't sure what was going on?



Dynamics of Trafficking

Changing the Narrative

How does certain imagery mislead and sensationalize?



How do rumors misinform the public?

Sheriff debunks false sex trafficking Facebook posts

A false Facebook post being widely shared claims two women at McDonald's in Arden Hills were nearly kidnapped and forced into sex trafficking. The Ramsey County Sheriff wants to debunk the post.

How does it reinforce stereotypes about who the **victims** and **perpetrators** are?



Who are the traffickers?

Traffickers can be anyone

Range from large scale national and international crime networks to small scale individuals recruiting individuals

Pimps, brothel owners, salon owners, landlords, contractors

Neighbors, friends, "boyfriends", "girlfriends", family members

Expanding Identification

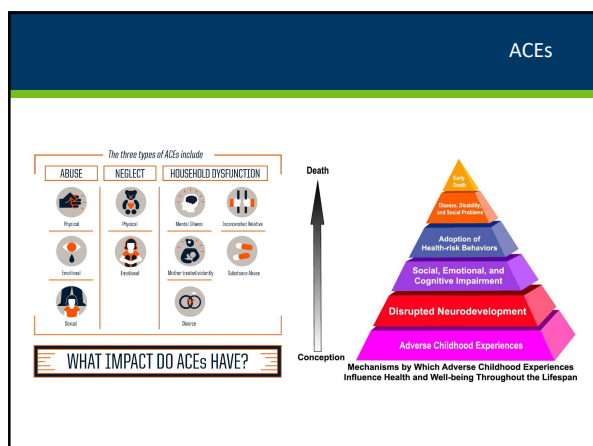
- **Anyone** can be recruited, lured, tricked, or enticed into becoming a trafficking victim, most often through a job offer or a trusted relationship.
- Human trafficking victims include all demographics: male and female, children and adults, foreign and domestic survivors, and both sex and labor trafficking.



Who are the victims?

People may be **more** at risk to be trafficked if they...

- Have mental health issues and/or chemical dependency
- Have physical and/or cognitive disabilities
- Are children or youth
- Are persons of color
- Experience historical trauma
- Are homeless
- Are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender, gender non-conforming
- Lack immigration status
- Are in trouble with the law
- Are runaways
- Experience poverty



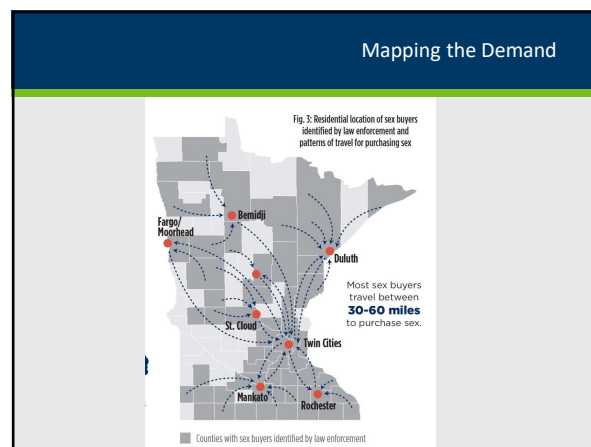
Porges' Polyvagal Theory

- Neuroception: capacity to evaluate relative danger/safety in ones' environment
- ANS governs THREE, not just two responses to danger:
 - 1) Social Engagement
 - 2) Fight/Flight
 - 3) Freeze/Collapse
- Are we missing Social Engagement cues from our youth or have the prevalence of ACEs and trauma in our society convinced our youth/most vulnerable populations that there is no safety to be found in Social Engagement?

Mapping the Demand: Sex Buyers in the State of Minnesota 2017

- Sex buyers are *predominantly middle-aged, white, married men* from across the state of Minnesota.
- Many buyers seek young adult victims, with some willing to buy sex from a minor. **Some sex buyers specifically seek out minors.**
- Most sex buyers travel during the workday between **30-60 miles** to buy sex. Some will travel farther to purchase minors or individuals in specialty market-segments.
- Buyers also purchase sex during business trips, bachelor parties, and hunting and fishing trips.

Martin, et al, Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC), U of M



Bemidji

- Proactive buyer enforcement 2015.
- Average response to ads placed over a 3 day period was greater than 500. email or text messages
- Solicitation of minor exceeds prostitution crimes.
- Survival sex.
- Runaways are recruited from the area and seeing more of the "training ground" philosophy with increased ads being placed locally in 2017.

Bemidji State University

Sexual Harassment—Perpetrator by location to victim

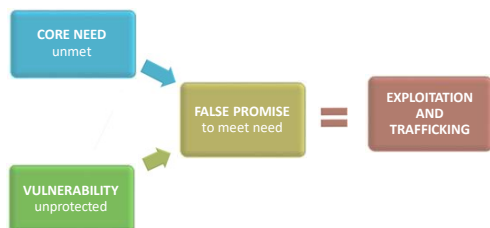
Type of Harassment	Perpetrated by a peer at my college/university	Perpetrated by faculty/staff at my college/university	Perpetrated by a peer or someone not at school/university
Someone told sexual joke/story	25.3	14.6	22.1
Someone attempted to draw you into a discussion of sexual matters	24.1	16.7	23.7
Someone made offensive comments about your appearance	16.4	11.4	18.8
Someone used body language of a sexual nature	13.7	9.2	14.5
Someone attempted to establish a sexual relationship	12.2	4.9	15.2
Someone continued to ask for dates	13.3	8.8	16.0
Someone teased you or made you feel uncomfortable	11.1	2.9	14.0
Someone attempted to be intimate with you without your consent or special request	7.0	1.0	2.5
Someone made you feel threatened through retaliation	3.4	2.9	3.8
Someone teased you badly for refusing to have sex	6.0	2.0	7.6
Someone referred to people of your gender in offensive terms	17.7	12.0	19.8
Someone referred to you "differently" because of your gender	16.1	9.8	15.7
Someone made offensive sexual remarks	15.2	10.8	13.0
Someone acted aggressively to you because of your gender	11.4	4.9	14.0
Any Experience of Sexual Harassment	50.6	45.9	51.2

Percent

Legend: All Students, Male, Female

Compared to male students at BSU, female students were more likely to have experienced sexual harassment from a peer or someone not at school. Overall, the most common sexual harassment experienced from a peer was a sexual joke/story (25.3%), the most common sexual harassment experienced from a faculty or staff member was referring to people of their gender in offensive terms (4.0%), and the most common sexual harassment experienced from someone not at school was someone making offensive sexual remarks (23.3%).

How Does it Happen?



Source: Deborah's Gate | www.deborahsgate.ca

Appeasement

vs

Consent

- made under duress
- given two options:
"Do what I say, or face the consequences"
- focus is on the benefit of the person enforcing the choice
- consequences are harshly enforced

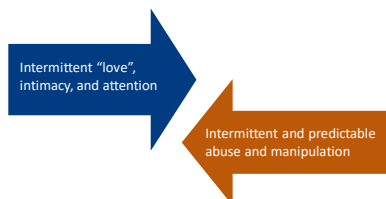
- given multiple viable options to choose from
- focus is on the benefit and agency of the person making the choice
- safe environment to think about it
- consequences are a natural part of life and usually don't involve death or violence

THIS CONFUSION OFTEN CAUSES VICTIMS TO BLAME THEMSELVES FOR "MAKING A CHOICE"

Source: Deborah's Gate www.deborahsgate.ca

What is a Trauma-Coerced Attachment?

Powerful psychological manipulation by traffickers - Victims who believe they are in love with their trafficker are easier to manipulate and control.



Doychak & Raghavan 2019, Journal of Human Trafficking

Potential Signs of Sex Trafficking

- Youth avoids eye contact, looks uneasy, is anxious or hostile
- Youth is wearing clothing that seems inappropriate for the weather and/or setting
- They are with an over controlling or abusive older person
- Youth lacks control over their schedule, money, proof of identification, and personal items
- Signs of physical trauma, including bruises, cuts, burns, scars
- Lying about age, where they've been, who they've been with, etc.
- May be carrying a lot of cash, prepaid credit cards, multiple phones

Understanding Victims

Why don't trafficking victims leave?

Fear

- Actual or threatened abuse/sexual assault/violence to self, family, friends
- Making an "example" of another victim
- Threat of criminal prosecution or deportation
- Blackmail

Dependency

- Withholding money or identity documents
- Only source of housing, food, clothes
- Posing as "friend/boyfriend/concerned relative" to induce guilt and feeling indebted
- Causing or exploiting pregnancy, chemical dependency, etc.
- Isolation from support networks, service providers, others

Psychological Factors

- "I agreed to it so it's not illegal"
- "This is my choice"
- "I've done too much to go back to a normal life"
- Mind normalizes situation as defense mechanism

Implicit Bias and Victims

"Good" victim	"Bad" victim
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White, female, vulnerable, young • Victim is an "innocent" • Must've been kidnapped • Victim is grateful for being "rescued" and ready to leave the trafficker • U.S. Citizen • English speaker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons of color • Juvenile delinquency or criminal record • LBGTQ, gender non-conforming • Victim defends their exploiter • Undocumented immigrants • Males can't <i>really</i> be trafficked – if sex trafficked, they must be gay & enjoy it

Impact on Native American Communities

- Native American communities are affected at a higher rate than white communities.
- 1 in 3 Native American women will be sexually assaulted at least once in their lifetime.
- Native American children represent less than 2% of MN's population but comprise 11.1% of the state's out of home placements.
- In 2015 the National Congress of American Indians found that an estimated 40% of women who are victims of sex trafficking identify as American Indian, Alaska Native, or First Nations.
- High rates of poverty, hardship, drug and alcohol abuse, homelessness, runaway youth, entry into the child welfare system, in addition to historical trauma/culture loss make Native Americans prime targets for traffickers.

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Minnesota's Response to Sex and Labor Trafficking




Safe Harbor Law

Sexually exploited youth 17 years old and under can no longer be criminalized for engaging in prostitution but should be referred to services.

Sexually exploited youth 24 years old and under deserve and are eligible for specialized, trauma-informed services to heal and recover.


Forms of Sexual Exploitation



Do Justice LLC 2014

Commercial Sexual Exploitation

Eligibility for Safe Harbor Services for Youth Ages 24 and younger



Anything of value (e.g., money, drugs, food, shelter, rent, or higher status in a gang or group)

- OR -

a **promise** of anything of value is given to a person by any means in exchange for any type of sexual activity.

A third party may or may not be involved.

Safe Harbor Statewide Services




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- Regional Navigators and Specialized Community Services
- OVC Expansion Grant to include Labor Trafficking
- Training & Technical Assistance
- Youth Outreach Materials
- Wilder Evaluation Report



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

- Specialized Housing/Shelter
- Youth Outreach
- Child Protection/Child Welfare
- Vulnerable Adult Protection



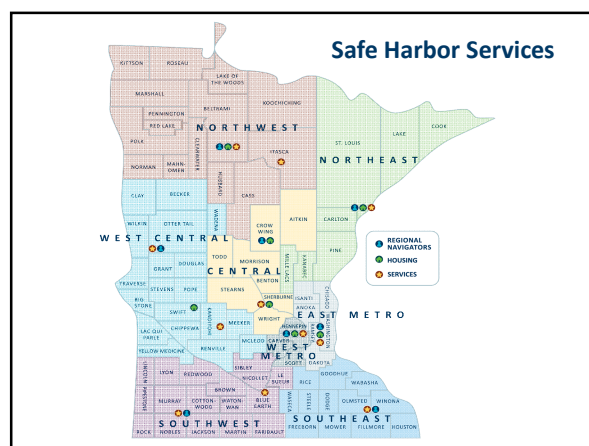
MINNESOTA STATE POLICE

- Missing and Endangered Persons
- Internet Crimes Against Children
- 3 Regional Law Enforcement Task Forces
- 1 Statewide Task Force run by the BCA: 24/7 reporting 651-793-7000
- Training/Consultation for Law Enforcement on Sex Trafficking Investigations



MNCASA
Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault

- Protocol Guidelines
- Safe Harbor Protocol Team Formation Starter Kit: A Guide for New Teams
- Protocol Implementation



Role of Regional Navigators

Regional Experts on Exploitation & Trafficking

- Technical Assistance
- Case Consultation
- Client Referrals to Services
- Professional Training
- Community Education
- Community Engagement
- Internal Agency Response
- Multi-disciplinary Response Protocol

Northwestern Safe Harbor Resources

SUPPORT WITHIN REACH Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Cass
218-444-9524 Crisis Line: **1-800-708-2727**
supportwithinreach.org

EVERGREEN YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES Bemidji
218-751-8223 www.evergreenyfs.org

NORTH HOMES CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Bemidji, Grand Rapids, Duluth
218-327-3000 www.northhomesinc.org

NW MN Specific Responses

- HAASTE (Headwaters Alliance Against Sexual Trafficking & Exploitation)**
 - Mission: To address all forms of sexual exploitation through community awareness and education.
 - Values: To meet individuals where they are at no matter their beliefs or where they came from.
 - Goals: To provide resources to the community by being a bridge over gaps of communication.
- Support within Reach, Northwoods Battered Women's Shelter, BSU Criminal Justice Dept & Student Health Center, Evergreen, North Homes CFS, Oak Hills, BPD, RLPD, BCA, NMJC, Beltrami County Social Services**
- TRUST (Tribes United against Sex Trafficking)**
 - Mission: To reduce sex trafficking activity on Tribal lands and in Native Communities, through partnership and collaboration among MN's Tribal Nations.
 - Vision: To effectively investigate the crime of sex trafficking, protect victims through identification & assistance, & to bring public awareness; enhancing the quality of life for the citizens in our communities.

• TRUST (continued)

- Goal:
 - Collecting, archiving, & disseminating sex trafficking related intelligence for successful investigations & prosecutions.
 - Developing network sharing among tribes.
 - Processing criminal intelligence data.
 - Conducting joint operations among partnering agencies.
 - Identifying & arresting traffickers.
- Values: honesty, integrity, & professionalism; hard work, dedication, & achievement.
- 10 of the 11 recognized tribes in Minnesota

Prevention & Early Intervention

5 X 7 Outreach Card

Business card size outreach cards (2 versions)

Sticker that will fit on a variety of outreach materials

Primary Safe Harbor Posters (2 versions)

SAFE HARBOR YOUTH OUTREACH MATERIALS

Access Safe Harbor Youth Outreach Materials and Communications Toolkit

MDH Website

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/healthimprovement/programs-initiatives/in-communities/safeharbor.html>

NOT A NUMBER

A CHILD TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION PREVENTION CURRICULUM DEVELOPED BY LOVE146

<https://love146.org/notanumber/>

What is Not a Number?

- Interactive child trafficking/exploitation prevention curriculum that provides youth with information and skills to make safe choices
- Youth ages 12 – 18
- Primary and secondary prevention
- Early identification for vulnerabilities and exploitation
- Focuses on empowering youth through education
- Establishes a safe & respectful space for youth and adults to have an open and informed dialogue
- Cooperative, holistic approach focuses on social-emotional abilities (empathy, respect, the relationship between personal & societal pressures that can create or increase vulnerabilities)
- Youth driven approach
- Encourages peer to peer prevention
- Self-advocacy

**People Are Not Products.
Men Are More Than Consumers.**

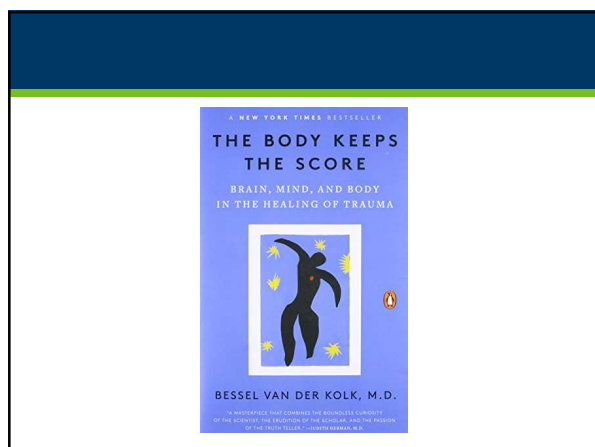
- Take the **FREE** Online Learning Experience
<http://learn.dontbuyitproject.org/>
- WEBSITE:** Request a presentation, learn about upcoming trainings and community engagement support packages, access **FREE** awareness materials

DON'T BUY IT PROJECT DontBuyItProject.org **MEN AS PEACEMAKERS**

Don't Buy It Project, Men As Peacemakers

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Healing



- Neuroscience:** study of how the brain supports mental processes
- Developmental Psychopathology:** study of the impact of adverse experiences on the development of mind and brain
- Interpersonal Neurobiology:** study of how our behavior influences the emotions, biology, and mind-sets of those around us

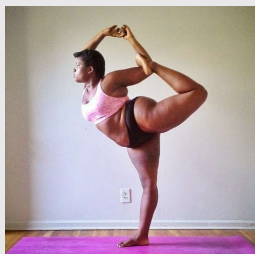
TOP DOWN: talking, connecting/re-connecting with others, self-knowledge.

“ You either walk inside your story and own it, or you stand outside your story and hustle for your worthiness.”

- Brené Brown

MEDICINES (prescription or otherwise), shut down inappropriate alarm reactions; other technologies that change the way the brain organizes information

BOTTOM UP: allowing the body to have experiences that contradict the rage, collapse, & helplessness that result from trauma (Somatic or Cellular Healing)



1/27/2020

Optional Tagline Goes Here | mn.gov/web/about

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Let's unpack this quote a little bit . . .
(and yes, we are taking it out of context here)

“Healing is a matter of **time**,
but it is sometimes also a
matter of **opportunity**.”

-Hippocrates

Making the Connection

- How does trafficking intersect with your work?
 - What education or outreach do you provide that could help with prevention?
 - In what situations would you be able to identify trafficking?
 - How would you respond if you identified trafficking?

Resources

- Minnesota Human Trafficking Task Force www.mnhttf.org
- Voices of Safe Harbor: Survivor and Youth Input for Minnesota's Model Protocol on Sexual Exploitation and Sex Trafficking of Youth mncasa.org
- Safe Harbor website www.health.state.mn.us/injury/topic/safeharbor/
- Don't Buy It Project, Men As Peacemakers dontbuyitproject.org
- Mapping the Demand
<https://uroc.umn.edu/sites/uroc.umn.edu/files/EXECUTIVE%20SUMMARY%20Mapping%20the%20Demand.pdf>
- The Typology of Modern Slavery: Defining Sex and Labor Trafficking in the United States 2017
<https://polarisproject.org/sites/default/files/Polaris-Typology-of-Modern-Slavery.pdf>



Questions?

Evaluations & Thank you!