

Community Against Sexual Harm



Presented By:

Terri Galvan
Executive Director
Sawan Vaden
Program Manager



CASH

Agenda

- Our Mission
- Human Trafficking: Labor and Sex
- Human Trafficking & Commercial Sexual Exploitation
- Health, Substance Abuse, and Barriers
- Traffickers
- The Demand for Sex
- Our Approach and Services



Mission



We assist women who have been commercially sexually exploited through *survivor-led peer* support and *harm reduction* services, while providing education about the harm inflicted on women and the community.



True or False

Trafficking victims must be foreign nationals.

Trafficking requires state or international border crossing.

Trafficking victims must be kidnapped and/or restrained physically.

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



Trafficking Victims Protection Act

Sex Trafficking

- The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for a **commercial sex act**, in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age.

Labor Trafficking

- 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.



The Scope

- 20.9 Million Forced Labor Victims (International Labour Organization)
- 14.5 Million Sex Trafficking Victims
- Federal (2011): 118 Individuals Charged
125 Prosecutions
151 Convictions
- Innocence Lost: 2,100 Children Recovered
1,010 Convicted
- Total # of National Trafficking Hotline Calls: 69,375



Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking



CSE & Trafficking: A Complicated Relationship

- Commercial sexual exploitation takes many forms, and the relationship between prostitution and trafficking for sex purposes can be complicated.
- Human trafficking is one of the fastest growing criminal industries in the world.
- Sex trafficking represents at least two-thirds of the estimated \$150 billion in illegal profits generated annually by all forced labor around the world.
- While sophisticated criminal organizations are increasingly involved, **many victims are trafficked locally or within limited geographic regions by “unorganized” pimps** or semi-organized criminal networks.

Who is Vulnerable?

- Age, limited access to resources, need for shelter, food, etc.

Runaway and Homeless Youth

- History of domestic violence, abuse or neglect, sexual assault

Victims of Prior Violence/Abuse

- Lack of job prospects, limited social connections, poverty.

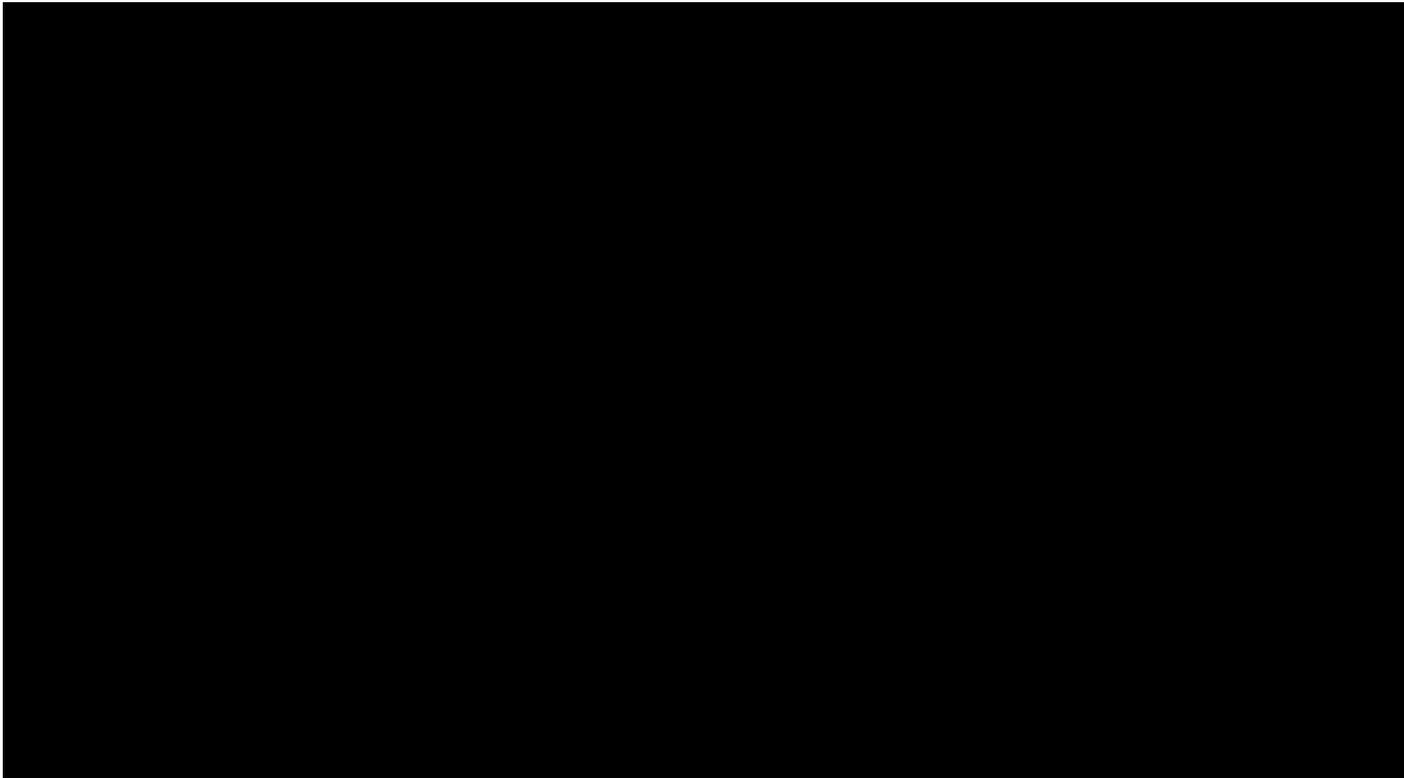
Economically Vulnerable

- Lack of identification, unauthorized status, fear of police

Undocumented Foreign Nationals



Bianca's Story (part 1)



The “M” in AMP

Force

- Beating/Slapping
- Beating with Objects
- Burning
- Sexual Assault
- Rape/Gang Rape
- Confinement
- Torture Practices
- Seasoning/Initiation

Fraud

- False promises
- Deceitful enticing and affectionate behavior
- Withholding wages
- Lying about working conditions
- Lying about the promise of “a better life”.
- Preying on desperation and poverty.
- Blackmail, extortion

Coercion

- Threats of serious harm or restraint
- Threatened abuse of legal process
- Intimidation/Humiliation
- Emotional Abuse
- Climate of Fear
- Modeling abusive behavior
- Controlling daily life skills
- Creating dependency
- Establishing quotas



What did you
hear?



Sexual and Physical Violence

- 73% report being sexually assaulted by customers.
- Only **7%** sought counseling, and only **7%** reported the crime to police.
- 83 % had been threatened with a weapon.
- 82 % have been physically assaulted.
- 75 % of women working in prostitution have attempted suicide.



Health Risks

- Infectious disease rates are 5 to 60 times higher among providers of commercial sex than in general population
- Increased risk of contracting HIV and STD's
- PTSD rates up to 68% for women involved in prostitution
- Mortality rate is almost 200 times greater than those found among other women with similar demographics

In Order:

- Homicide
- Suicide
- Drug & Alcohol Related Problems
- HIV Infection
- Accidents





Common Health Problems

Addiction

Anxiety

Chronic pain

Cigarette burns

Complications from unsafe
abortion

Contusions

Depression

Fractures

Gastrointestinal problems

Headaches

Multiple abortions

Oral health problems

Pelvic pain

Post traumatic stress disorder

Sexually transmitted infections

Sleep deprivation

Suicidal ideation

Unhealthy weight loss

Unwanted pregnancy

Vaginal pain



Sexual Abuse

Child victims of sexual abuse are **27.7** times more likely to be arrested for prostitution as an adult.

70-90% of commercially sexually exploited children have a history of childhood sexual abuse

Why is this information important?



What about drugs?

- Prostitution and Substance Abuse are strongly linked.
51% of women and **19% of men** in treatment reported prostitution at some point in their lives.
- Women involved in prostitution exhibit severe patterns of substance abuse, including intravenous drug use and substance-related health problem
- Women reporting prostitution during treatment were more likely to be homeless in the previous year.



And Opioids, specifically?

- Adolescent and young adult populations appear particularly prone to abusing prescription opioids.
 - Younger age groups have consistently reported higher rates of prescription drug abuse in a variety of studies.
- In one study, 80% of the participants who were involved in sex-work and abused prescription opioids had been involved in the sex trade for five or more years.
- In another study, 82% of female opioid users report having been propositioned to have sex for drugs or money and **43% of male** participants reported the same.
 - 39% of females and 22% of males reported receiving drugs or money for sex.



Barriers to Self-Identification

Limited family/social support/contact

False Promises of protection – to love like parent they didn't have

Loyalty or Traumatic attachment to Trafficker

Lack of resources available while living on streets

Normalization of sex trafficking as survival

Juvenile arrests for prostitution – treatment as a criminal

Distrust of Service Providers/Law Enforcement

No established roots with schools/service providers

Increased fear/distrust of adults

Feeling that no one will understand

Fear of judgment from peers

Lack of access to money to afford a means to leave



Reasons for Leaving

Involvement with law enforcement or CPS

Traumatic experience

Another source of income secured

Pregnancy or children

Illness

Stable relationship



Bianca's Story (part 2)



Pimps & Traffickers



Who are the traffickers?

Traffickers are people who **exploit others** for **profit**



- Any demographic
- Individuals and groups
- Street gangs and organized crime
- Businesses or contractors

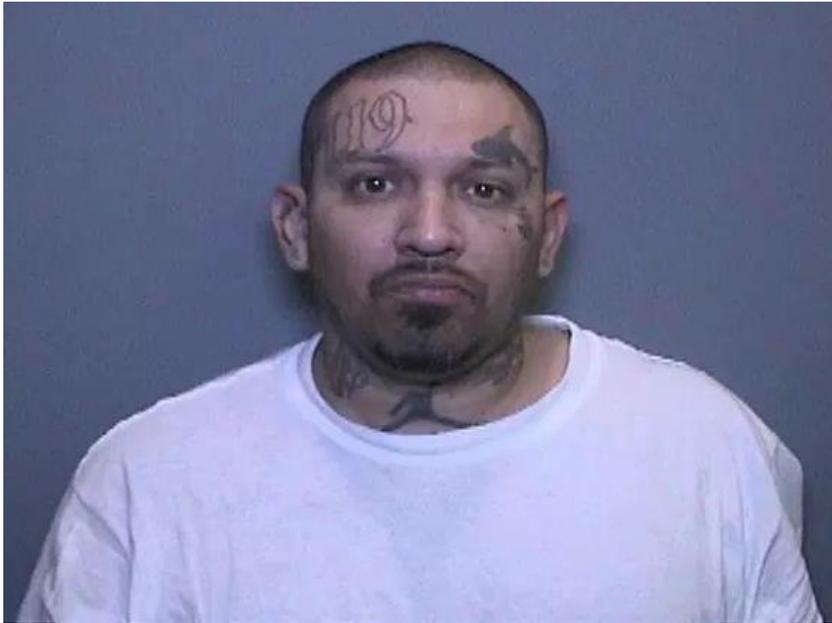
Entry Point

- Family experience and neighborhood context are the most common entry points for pimping.
 - Poverty and exposure
- Other illegal economies like drug dealing provide an entry point to trafficking.

“When you do underground stuff, other underground people come to you.”



Ariel Guizar AKA “Shy”



Sentenced to 31 years in prison - 17 felony counts covering seven victims, and was ordered to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

Three of the counts were strike offenses – forcible rape, sodomy by force and supplying methamphetamine to a minor – and four of the felonies were for human sex trafficking



The Demand for Sex



Who are the men who pay for sex?

Unlike the majority of sexually exploited women, the 16-20% of men who purchase sex in the U.S. enjoy significant social and economic privileges.

- Average age: 49.5
- Average income: \$141,500 per year
- 84.9% Caucasian
- 97.3% heterosexual/2.7% bisexual
- 66.3% married
- 41.1% have a graduate degree, 38% have a college degree, 18% have attended some college and 2.9% completed high school or obtained a GED



Why do men pay for sex?

Studies show that novelty, convenience, and no expectation of commitment are the most common reasons men engage in sexual exploitation.

- “It’s like renting a girlfriend or wife. You get to choose like a catalogue.”
- “You pay for the convenience, a bit like going to a public [toilet].”
- “It’s no strings attached sex, no bother about buying gifts, it’s a one off financial commitment.”



No consent required

A 2012 study exposed the disturbing attitudes sex buyers hold towards exploited women.

- 25% stated that women in prostitution cannot be raped, while 27% stated that a payment entitles a ‘john’ to any sex act he chooses.
- 50% stated they were aware that they had *knowingly used* women who were coerced, trafficked, or under pimp control; 55% state that they *believed* most sexually exploited women were exploited by force or fraud.

*“Look, men pay for women because he can have whatever and whoever he wants. **Lots of men go to prostitutes so they can do things to them that real women would not put up with.**”*

Sexually Exploited men

There is a dearth of information about sexually exploited young men. This may be attributed to underreporting as well as gender bias in reporting.

- 70% experienced sexual abuse as children
- LGBTQ youth make up one-third of sexually exploited men
- Two-thirds are heterosexuals engaging in ‘survival sex’, trading sexual activities for food, shelter, money, or drugs.
- There are no programs in Sacramento that **EXCLUSIVELY** serve this population.



Our Services



CASH Services

Center for Women in Oak
Park

Help with housing
PLACEMENT

Meet Basic Needs

Educational and Support
Groups

Peer Mentoring

Opening Doors
Comprehensive Anti-
Trafficking Program

RESET Prostitution
Diversion Program



CASH

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916-856-2900

cashsac.org

tgalvan@cashsac.org



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