

# SEX TRAFFICKING

## A Part of Voices Against Violence

By: Mashayla Simpson, Hannah Shirely, Teddy Douris, Josh Guptill, Madelyn Turell

### Introduction

Our group would like to gain extensive knowledge on the topic of sex trafficking and how it relates to homelessness and drug abuse. Learning about the cycle of prostitution and how these individuals become trapped. Finding the main source this wicked problem, and brainstorming ideas on how we can stop it. Finding resources available to women who have broke the cycle and are trying to turn their lives around. Also, encouraging education programs that inform young adults to be aware of certain situations that could get them caught in this cycle. Expanding our knowledge on how and why individuals are trafficked and why traffickers target certain people. The group wants to come up with a project that will benefit the women affected by these issues.

### Vision

The vision for the group is to open concealed views of sex trafficking and expand the education and awareness of it.

### Objectives:

- Explain sex trafficking to broaden other individuals knowledge on the topic
- Spread awareness of sex trafficking
- Explain how sex trafficking occurs
- Explain drugs involved in sex trafficking and how they create a loop
- Volunteer with Voices Against Violence to assist in spreading knowledge



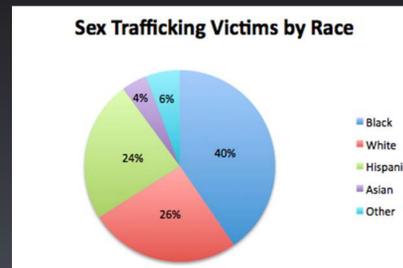
### Gangs and Organized Crime

Gangs are heavily involved with human trafficking. The main source for finding their targets is the internet. Websites such as: Facebook, Myspace, Twitter or Instagram are used to target young teens by either seducing or threatening them. Since gang members are comfortable with the internet, they will even use sites like Craigslist.com, or Backpage.com to sell their victims. The victim has fallen into the trap and are now caught in the vicious cycle called human trafficking. Drugs Cartels also have very strong relations to human trafficking. Drug traffickers are involved because they make a huge profit. Unlike drugs, a person can be sold multiple times which will give drug traffickers more profit. Money that victims “earn” is given to drug traffickers in turn for more drugs to feed their addiction, since most victims of human trafficking are addicted to drugs. Victims are isolated, humiliated and scared, trapped, with no way to get out.

### Targeting and Statistics

There are many reasons why certain people are targeted. One main reason is vulnerability; being vulnerable just makes it easy for the traffickers to take advantage of people. Traffickers take advantage of peoples’ vulnerabilities. Whether its financial, emotional, or drug related, traffickers will take advantage of anyone (Prevention, 2016).

- Women are targeted the most. “Traffickers excessively target women because they are disproportionately affected by poverty and factors that impede their access to employment, educational opportunities and other resources” (Shah, 2017). Not only are there dramatic gender discriminations, but there are also racial ones:



#### WOMEN & GIRLS

80% of sex trafficking victims are women and girls and up to 50% are minors. (U.S. State Department)

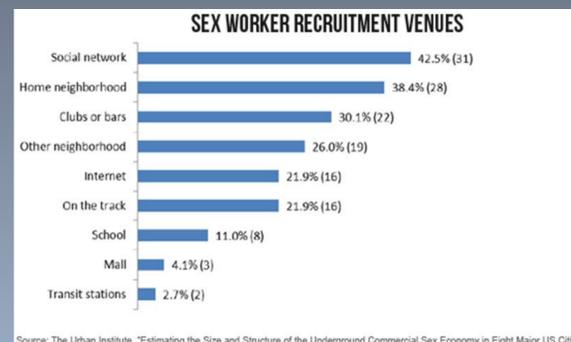
#### 90% ABUSED AS A CHILD

90% of prostituted women have been physically abused as children (Encyclopedia of Women and Gender).

#### 70% LINKED TO ORGANIZED CRIME

70% of sex trafficking is linked to organized crime (Real Stories: Legal Efforts to Curb Sex Trafficking).

- (In Plain Sight, 2015)



### Sex Trafficking in New Hampshire

There are many organizations and resources available to sex trafficking victims in New Hampshire. Throughout New Hampshire there are fourteen crisis centers. Voices Against Violence, located in Plymouth, NH, offers an emergency shelter service along with many other resources such as:

- Walk in Services
- 24 Hour Hotline
- Sexual Assault Support
- Court Advocacy
- DCYF Advocacy
- Support Groups

They also offer low income housing, homelessness prevention, job assistance, food services, food pantries, kitchens, heat and fuel assistance and many medical resources.

### Outcomes

Our group had very high hopes for this project. Something that we really wanted to get out of this project was to have an impact on people who are affected by human trafficking. By putting out flyers, we hope to give people a good understanding of what human trafficking is and what resources are available for anyone who needs help. Furthermore, we hope to educate ourselves and our community about the violence against all types of people in concerns to human trafficking. Our group is looking forward to the future opportunities we have to make a difference in the lives of victims of sex trafficking.

### Overall

1. Traffickers use violence and threats to manipulate victims against their will.
2. Internet and social media play a role into sex trafficking.
3. China, Russia, and Uzbekistan were named the worst offenders.
4. Slavery is commonly thought of dealing with sex trafficking.
5. Sex trafficking is a wicked problem around the world.
6. Millions of people end up with disease, bad mental health, and physical health.

### References

- Catherine, A. (2011, July 7). Human and drug trafficking. Retrieved November 08, 2017, from <http://www.talkingdrugs.org/human-trafficking-fuelled-by>
- In Plain Sight – Documentary and Music Album – Natalie Grant. (2015, December 11). Retrieved November 11, 2017, from <http://www.inplainsightfilm.com/sthsh.ZzG2GgbV.dpbs>
- Infographic: Global Look at Human Trafficking. Retrieved November 11, 2017, from <https://www.unicefusa.org/stories/infographic-global-human-trafficking-statistics>
- Lillie, M. (2013). Gang Involvement with Human Trafficking. Retrieved November 09, 2017, from <http://humantraffickingsearch.org/gang-involvement-with-human-trafficking/>
- Prevention, V.S. (2016, December 16). What Makes Someone Vulnerable to Human Trafficking? Retrieved November 11, 2017, from <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/victims-of-crime/human-trafficking/human-trafficking-training/module-1/vulnerabilities>
- Shah, N. (2017, October 14). Why are women trafficked more than men? Retrieved November 11, 2017, from <https://thesociologicalmail.com/2017/08/04/why-are-women-trafficked-more-than-men/>