

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ITS LINK TO YOUTH TRAFFICKING

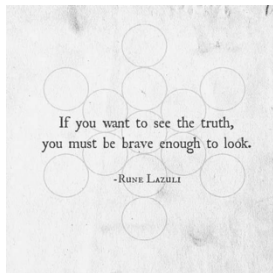
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MINNESOTA INDIAN WOMEN'S
SEXUAL ASSAULT COALITION

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WHAT DO YOU WANT TO TAKE AWAY FROM THIS SESSION?



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LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

What do we
know about
prostitution and
trafficking?



Who is involved?

How does it happen?

What does it look like?

How does it impact the
community?

Where does it happen?

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DEFINITIONS

PROSTITUTION

Exchanging in sex for food, money, housing, transportation, safety, visitation, drugs, and/or favors

SEX TRAFFICKING

Recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which the 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

(22 USC § 7102; 8 CFR § 214.11(a))

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SYSTEMS OF PROSTITUTION: A MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR GLOBAL INDUSTRY

- Adult and Child Pornography
- Massage Parlors/ Sauna's
- Stripping
- Truck Stops
- Street Prostitution
- Escort Services/ Out Call
- Phone sex
- Peep shows
- International and domestic trafficking
- Mail Order Bride Services
- Prostitution Tourism
- Internet
- Prostitution Rings

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PROSTITUTION IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

TACTICS USED BY PIMPS

- Isolation
- Intimidation and threats
- Economic abuse
- Physical violence
- Sexual violence
- Emotional/verbal abuse

TACTICS USED BY BATTERERS

- Isolation
- Intimidation and threats
- Economic abuse
- Physical violence
- Sexual violence
- Emotional/verbal abuse

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TACTICS OF CONTROL

TRAFFICKERS/PIMPS

- Sweet talk/token acts of kindness.
- Male privilege
- Controls women, threats
- Shows pornography/ forces women to do things in pornography
- Tells her she's his girlfriend, but has many other women
- Preys on social stigma of prostituted woman

BATTERERS

- Sweet talk/token acts of kindness
- Male privilege
- Controls partner, threats
- Shows/forces his partner to watch pornography and act those out on him
- May be cheating with other women
- Tells her she's crazy - makes it difficult for her to keep a job

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HOW WOMEN RESPOND TO CONTROL TACTICS

PROSTITUTED WOMEN

Believes pimp is her man
 Pimps needs over her own
 Feel like pimp saved her or treats her well
 Attempts to leave
 Justifies abuse/blames self
 Lose family, friends, job
 May become addicted

BATTERED WOMEN

Believes he is true to her
 Partners needs over own
 Feels like he treats her well most of the time
 Attempts to leave
 Justifies abuse/blames self
 Lose family, friends, job
 May become addicted

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VIOLENCE IN PROSTITUTION: A COMPARISON STUDY

	MN Native in prostitution (n=105)	9 Country Summary (n=854)
Current or past homelessness	98% (97)	75% (571)
As a child, was hit or beaten by caregiver until injured or bruised	56% (55)	59% (448)
Sexual abuse as a child	79% (78)	63% (508)

Garden of Truth: The Prostitution and Trafficking of Native Women in MN

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Warning Signs for those used in Prostitution

Gang Affiliation

Suddenly withdrawn or changes in daily activities.

Changes in sexual activity, more or less promiscuous, or fearful of sex

Inappropriate knowledge of sex that you wouldn't expect someone of that age to have.

Working in a strip club, or a sex shop.

Suspicious on-line activities

- Posting on-line, or community papers such as City Pages

Child sexual abuse survivors begin posing inappropriately (pornographic posing)

Compiled by Beth Jacobs, Guadalupe Lopez, and Christine Stark

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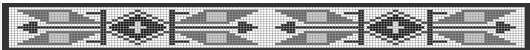
ADVOCACY

Educate entire staff on prostitution and trafficking so the survivors do not need to educate you

- Be patient
- Allow time and trust building
- Recognize fears
- fear of prosecution
- Focus on action, not on the person

Do not judge!

It's important to check your own biases before working with a survivor used in prostitution or those who are trafficked.



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ADVOCACY CONTINUED

Language is powerful

- Use "Prostituted Women" rather than "prostitute", "ho" or "hooker"

Many women do not view themselves as victims

- Society views them as criminals or as getting over on men
- Women might internalized these beliefs

Women/youth may not identify what they are engaged in as prostitution or trafficking

- Connect, provide education, let them identify for themselves

The women may carry a lot of shame and may feel disconnected from their culture

- Help them to reconnect, reassure them they are welcome

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**ADVOCACY
TO MEET BASIC NEEDS**

- Safe Housing
- Mentorship programs
- Reunification with their healthy family support system
- Health needs
- Safety from pimps/traffickers
- Civil and criminal legal assistance



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IMPLICATIONS FOR CHANGE

Address systems of oppression

- Tribal codes
- Change laws
- State and federal

Work to tear down the multi-billion dollar global industry

- Hold "buyers" accountable
- Hold Traffickers accountable!
- Restore cultural identity, values and customs

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