

IMPACTS AND EFFECTS OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL ON VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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What is Human Trafficking

- Human Trafficking: The use of force, fraud or coercion to compel a person into any form of work against his or her will.

Federal Definitions

- Labor Trafficking: Using force, fraud or coercion to recruit, harbor, transport, obtain or employ a person for labor or services in involuntary servitude, debt bondage or slavery

- Sex Trafficking: Commercial sex act induced by force, fraud or coercion, or in which person performing the act is under age 18

History of Human Trafficking in Washington State

- 1995 murders inside the KC Courthouse
 - Phoebe Dison, Victoria Laureta, Suzanna Blackwell (mail order bride)
- 1999 Murder of Anastasia King (mail order bride)
- 2001 1st U.W. Women's Center conference on HT
 - study OCVA study Does HT exist in WA
- 2003 HB 1175-making human trafficking a crime
- 2003 Joint Oversight Committee on Trade Policy (impact to global workforce)

Root causes

- Poverty
- Natural Disasters
- International Free Trade Policies
- Greed

Who are the victims?

- Men, women and children
- Various ages and educational backgrounds
- Documented and undocumented migrants

Who are the traffickers?

- Women & Men
- Friends
- Family
- Neighbors
- Village Leaders
- Religious Leaders
- Government Officials
- (i.e. diplomats)

Agricultural Landowners /
Farmers

Owners of small/medium
size businesses

Organized crime

Individuals unknown to
the victim(s)

Local Manifestations

- Sex and Labor Trafficking – American Citizens vs. Foreign Nationals
- Under 18 yrs old runaways
- Drug and alcohol abuse

Runaways

- Disproportionately involved in commercial sexual exploitation;
- Average entry is 12-14 yrs for girls; 11-13yrs for boys;
- 75% are controlled by their traffickers;

Intersections of Human Trafficking and Drug and Alcohol Abuse

- **Recruitment:** use drugs to target those who are already; to entice non users into recruitment;
- **Control:** keep victim in a trafficking situation; used as a way to punish, reward, decrease victims will to escape;
- **Coping:** victims use drugs to dull the pain;
- **Drug Purchase and Sell:** traffickers may ask for drugs in exchange for victim; use victim to traffick or sell drugs.

VICTIM IDENTIFICATION

Signs to Observe



Underage Commercial Sex
Forced/Coerced Commercial Sex
Servile Marriage

Control , Fear, Submission
Language/Cultural barriers
Control of documents
Ability to come and go
Work conditions
Voluntariness of work
Living conditions
Debt
Threats

Suspect someone is a victim of human trafficking?

- What are your working or living conditions like?
- Has anyone forced you to do something you did not want to do?
- Can you leave your work or job situation if you want?
- When you are not working, can you come and go as you please?
- Where do you sleep and eat?
- Do you have to ask permission to eat, sleep or go to the bathroom?
- Have you been threatened if you try to quit?

Serving Survivors of Trafficking

- Trauma Informed Approach
- Build Trust
 - We are here to help you.*
 - Our first priority is your safety.*
 - We can find you a safe place to stay.*
 - We can help get you what you need.*
 - You are entitled to assistance. We can help you get assistance.*
- Confidentiality
- Sensitivity – trauma, culture, language
- Check in with client: explanations, understanding, permission, comfort, questions, informed decisions

Working with Interpreters

- Prior experience
- Not family member or friend
- Independent and neutral
- Language accuracy
- Confidentiality
- No expression of opinions or beliefs
- Respectful and courteous

Cultural Considerations

- Culture

 - Shared experiences, background, values, history, ethnicity, race

 - Cultural identity

- Cultural Misinformation

 - Assumptions based on race, geography, socio-economic status, behavior, prior experience

 - Prejudice

 - Racism

Washington Anti trafficking Response Network (WARN)

• Services

-Urgent & Long-Term
Response:

•24-hour victim assistance line:
206.245.0782

•Physical and mental health
treatment

•Access to safe housing, food
and clothing

•Intensive Case Management

-Criminal justice-system/ victim
rights advocacy

-Safety awareness/planning

-Using the bus; grocery
shopping; public benefits

•Immigration advocacy and
legal assistance

•Interpretation services

•English classes and job
readiness training

•Repatriation, if desired by
client

Washington State Crime Victim Services

Office for Crime Victim Advocacy (OCVA)

- Provides funding to 56 crime victim service centers covering all counties across Washington state
- Advocates on behalf of victims obtaining needed services and resources;
- Administers grant funds for community programs working with crime victims;
- Assist communities in planning and implementing services for crime victims;
- Advise local and state government agencies of practices, policies, and priorities which impact crime victims

GAPS in Services

- Lack of all types of housing (emergency, under 18yrs and over 18)
- Drugs and alcohol prevention programs sensitive to the needs of victims (detox, inpatient and outpatient)
- Mental health (psychiatric, outpatient and inpatient)
- Culturally relevant training for all professionals

What can you do?

Raise Awareness:

❖ Spread the word with your family, friends, church and school groups, businesses and the public – host training

Encourage Govt. Agencies to develop policies that protect and prevent children and adults from becoming victims

What can you do?

Make Conscious Consumer Choices:

- Look for “sweat shop free” clothing and fair trade products – productsofslavery.org

Support policies for the prevention of human trafficking:

- corporate responsibility bill; international fair trade policies
- Assets seized from drug bust to fund drug abused victims of human trafficking

THANK YOU

