Coming Together to Address Human Trafficking in Native Communities

Human Trafficking in the United States
Trafficking Victims Protection Act

Sex Trafficking

The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, soliciting, or advertising 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.

A-M-P Model

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action*</th>
<th>Means**</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recruits</td>
<td>Force</td>
<td>A Commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbors</td>
<td>Physical assault, sexual assault, confinement</td>
<td>Sex Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transports</td>
<td>Fraud</td>
<td>Labor or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides</td>
<td>False promises about work/living conditions, withholding promised wages</td>
<td>Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtains</td>
<td>Coercion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Threats of harm or deportation, debt bondage, psychological manipulation, confiscation of documents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Additional actions that constitute sex trafficking, but not labor trafficking, include patronizes, solicits, and knowingly advertises.

**Neither force, nor fraud, nor coercion are required to be shown for minors under the age of 18 induced into commercial sex acts.
Who are the Victims?

Populations Affected
- Adults or minors, foreign nationals or U.S. citizens, any gender identity

Demographics
- Diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, varied levels of education, documented or undocumented

Vulnerabilities
- Homelessness, prior abuse or violence, temporary status, substance use, poverty

Who are the Traffickers?

Diverse
- Age
- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Socio-economic background

Individuals/networks
- Small business owners
- Family members
- Labor brokers
- Intimate partners
- Pimps
- Gangs
- Diplomats

Manipulators
- Force
- Threats
- Lies
- Document
- Confiscation
- Psychological coercion

Exploiters
- Compel people into forced labor and commercial sex.
Where does Sex Trafficking Occur?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commercial Front Brothels</th>
<th>Hotels and Motels</th>
<th>Internet-Based Commercial Sex</th>
<th>Residential Brothels</th>
<th>Street-Based Commercial Sex</th>
<th>Escort Services</th>
<th>Pornography</th>
<th>Casinos</th>
<th>Bars and Clubs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Where Does Labor Trafficking Occur?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domestic Work</th>
<th>Illicit Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Retail/Small Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling Sales Crews</td>
<td>Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restaurants/Food Service</td>
<td>Landscaping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peddling/Begging Rings</td>
<td>Health &amp; Beauty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Indicators of Human Trafficking

#### Labor Trafficking
- Workplace restrictions and abuse
- Debt bondage
- Recruitment fraud
- Document confiscation
- Lack of payment
- Monitored movement/communication
- Physical or sexual abuse

#### Sex Trafficking
- Controlling/dominating relationships
- Child under the age of 18 is providing commercial sex acts
- Engaged in commercial sex under a “manager”
- Document confiscation
- Lack of control of personal finances
- Monitored movement/communication
- Physical or sexual abuse

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### Sex Trafficking of Native People

#### Historical and Cultural Context
Human and Sex Trafficking is not new to Indigenous Peoples of “Turtle Island”
Prostitution is not the oldest profession, it is the oldest oppression

Before colonization
Women were held in high regard, as life bearers and the future of our people
Women were political, spiritual, ceremonial leaders
Most Indigenous languages have no words for rape, prostitution
Concepts of “property” and ownership” did not exist in our language or culture
Violence against women was forbidden
In their writings, colonial men defined Native women as:

- Over sexed
- Without morality
- Exotic & sexually interesting
- Lacking “appropriate” male control
- A major threat to civilized society

Colonists’ treatment of Native women

- Targets for men’s sexual “entertainment”
- No moral or legal consequences for sexual harassment, rape and sexual exploitation
- European men sold & traded Native women and girls for alcohol
- Major efforts took place to convert Indian men to patriarchal attitudes and beliefs
What sex trafficking looks like today in tribal communities

- Family
- “Boyfriend” pimping
- Trafficking operations
- Foster care

Barriers and Challenges for Native Victims

- FEAR, shame, “Don’t Talk”
- Awareness/education
- Stigma/stereotypes
- Myths/misconceptions
- Jurisdiction
- Resources
Polaris Operated Anti-Human Trafficking Hotlines

What is the NHTH?

1-888-373-7888

1-888-373-7888
Contact BeFree

Text “HELP” or “INFO” to:

233733 (BEFREE)

CONFIDENTIAL  |  MON-SUN  |  3-11PM

Human Trafficking and the NHTH
These statistics are based on 5,544 cases of human trafficking and are non-cumulative. Cases may involve multiple victims and callers do not always provide demographic information.
## NHTH Case Trends Cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age of Trafficking Victim</th>
<th>Gender of Trafficking Victim</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults: 59</td>
<td>Female: 84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minors: 41</td>
<td>Male: 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transgender: 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These statistics are based on 94 cases of human trafficking and are non-cumulative. Cases may involve multiple victims and callers do not always provide demographic information.

### Relevant Statistics

- “...the U.S. Department of Justice [estimates] that Native American and Alaska Native women are more than 2.5 times more likely to be raped or sexually assaulted than their non-Native counterparts.”
- “…more than one in three American Indian and Alaska Native women will be raped during her lifetime.”
Relevant Statistics

* 7.7 out of 1,000 NA victims of SA & Rape
  * 1.1 White
  * 1.5 Black
  * .2 Asian
  * .6 Hispanic
* 25% of Indian children live in poverty
  * 13% national average

Anecdotal Trends

* Increase in trafficking
  * Oil & gas on tribal lands – man camps
    * Native woman are 40% of sex trafficking victims in SD
  * Technology to recruit reaching natives
  * Lack of resources in tribal communities
Anecdotal Trends Contd.

- Casinos & hotels on reservations
- Gangs
- Unreported RHY
- Pipelines:
  - I90 & 29 in SD—“Midwest Pipeline”
  - I40 & 25 in NM—“SW Pipeline”
  - Great Lakes—ships in port, Duluth Harbor

Anecdotal Trends Contd.

- Native girls perceived to be ethnically ambiguous by traffickers and buyers (ie. “exotic appeal”)
- Forced drug manufacturing on reservation
- Sales Crews – recruiting disillusioned youth off the reservation
- Glamorous life off reservation
Group Activity

Current Models

- Native domestic violence/sexual assault coalitions
- National Human Trafficking Hotline
- Strong Hearts Helpline
- Native Student Engagement Toolkit
- Native Shelter
Future Ideas/Call to Action

• Tribal coalitions and tribal governments coming together
• Educating native communities

Resources

National Indigenous Women’s Center (NIWRC)
http://www.niwrc.org/

Polaris & National Human Trafficking Hotline
https://polarisproject.org/ ; https://humantraffickinghotline.org/

• Trauma-Informed Approaches for Supporting Domestic Trafficking Survivors (NIWRC/Resources)
• How Pimps Select Their Victims (NIWRC/Resources)
• Breaking Process and Trauma Bond (NIWRC/Resources)
• Normalizations of DV to Turning Your Wife or Girlfriend Into a Prostitute (NIWRC/Resources)
• Human Trafficking Power & Control Wheel (Polaris/Resources)
• Shattered Hearts: The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of American Indian Women and Girls in Minnesota (MIWRC/Resources)
• Garden of Truth: The Prostitution and Trafficking of Native Women in MN (MIWRC)