

Community Response to Child Sex Trafficking and Exploitation

Bringing Our Children Home





Important Works

- New language, old problem: Sex trafficking of American Indian women and children, Alexandra (Sandi) Pierce and Suzanne Koepplinger
- Garden of Truth: The Prostitution and Trafficking of Native Women in Minnesota - October 27, 2011, William Mitchell College of Law, Saint Paul, Minnesota
- Shattered Hearts - © 2009 Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center
- Relocation Revisited: Sex Trafficking of Native Women in The United States, Sarah Deer, William Mitchell College of Law



Scope and Scale

- In the U.S., research on sex trafficking of Native women and girls is limited but findings suggest that Native women and girls are over-represented among trafficking victims





Example

- An analysis of 2007 prostitution arrest data in the county encompassing Minneapolis found **24%** of arrests to be of Native women, more than twelve times their representation in the county's population (Martin & Rud, 2007)
 - Similar studies in Washington, Oregon and Montana show similar results

**I PERPETUATE DAMAGING STEREOTYPES
I MAINTAIN THE FETTERED, OVER SEXUALIZED IMAGE
OF NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN**





Challenges

- Sex trafficking investigations involving American Indian reservations incur complex jurisdictional questions due to wide variation in federal, state, and tribal roles (Bureau of Indian Affairs, 2011; Goldberg & Valdez Singleton, 2005; Tatum, 2003).
- This complexity has a tremendous impact on effective identification and protection of Native victims (Deer, 2010)
- Traffickers know this
- They take advantage of the confusion and lack of resources



In the News

- Prostitution Arrests at Clearwater Casino in Washington
 - Eight female prostitutes and one male were arrested in conjunction with a prostitution ring at the Clearwater Casino in Suquamish, Washington. The Suquamish tribe helped authorities conduct the sting operation which led to the arrests



42 Arrests at Northeast Oklahoma Casinos

- Authorities arrested 42 people in a four-day undercover prostitution sting conducted by the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drug Control
- Three women and a 15 year-old girl — were identified as victims of human trafficking and were taken to a shelter
- Traffickers moved from casino to casino advertising in online forums such as Backpage.com



In The News

- Rhode Island Woman Charged With Trafficking at Connecticut Casino
 - 24-year-old woman was arrested at the Two Trees Inn at Foxwoods Casino for her involvement with human trafficking and the promotion of prostitution
 - A 16-year-old female victim was rescued after the Mashantucket Pequot tribal police collaborated with the FBI on an investigation at the Foxwoods
- Hotel staff noticed excessive use of adult escort sites mentioning the casino



Vegas Casino Fined in Prostitution and Drug Sting

- The Mandalay Bay Resort plans to pay a half-million-dollar fine after employees at an upscale Las Vegas Strip lounge provided prostitutes to undercover officers
- Officials say employees also connected officers with four prostitutes and a private room for sex.
- The sting caught 10 employees and five non-employees engaging in this kind of illegal activity



Choctaw Casino Arrest

ARRESTED IN SEX STING



ARRESTED IN SEX STING



ARRESTED IN SEX STING



Tribal police with the Choctaw Nation arrested 10 people, including four men and six women, in an undercover prostitution sting at Choctaw Casino Hotel in Oklahoma



Rise of Exploitation and Violence

- Recent developments have contributed to an upswing in trafficking and exploitation
 - Discovery and recovery of oil and natural gas in traditional tribal lands
 - The spread and influence of technology that helps facilitate exploitation
 - The historical lack of resources in tribal communities



Man Camps

- Both law enforcement officials and native and women's rights advocates cite the emergence of these 'man-camps'—temporary housing for transient workers—as major contributors to a rise in violence against all women wherever they are established
- As OPEC introduces new cutbacks in oil production, the US oil fields will rebound





The Problem

- Every year, men, women and children all over the world are transported within or across borders for the purpose of forced labor and sexual exploitation
- Most people don't realize that indigenous women have been exploited since the arrival of the first Europeans in the western hemisphere
- Worse, many in our own communities refuse to believe that it could happen here



A Generational Threat

- Native women have been victims of human trafficking for two centuries



Bir Zamanlar Anadolu'da Ermeniler Vard Hala Var Anatolian Armenians





Native Women and the Sex Trade

- Native women and girls are likely significantly overrepresented in the United States sex industry
- We know that Native women and girls suffer disproportionately from risk factors which social scientists have identified as correlated with prostitution



Cultural Gaps

- Unfortunately in many destination cities where native women and children are trafficked, the police and service providers do not understand the unique dynamics associated with the trafficking of Native peoples



Tactics and Techniques

- The tactics used by sex traffickers today were used against Native peoples from the first moment of contact
 - Force
 - Fear
 - Coercion
 - Fraud
 - Exploitation
 - ◆ Taking advantage of poverty, homelessness, lack of connection



Methods

- “Finesse” pimping, posing as a boyfriend or friend, treating the victim kindness, offering a free place to stay, and when the victim feels obligated, insisting that she/he “help out” by prostituting (Pierce, 2009; Sethi, 2007)
- “Guerilla” pimping (often by gang members), using violence against the victim (including gang rape) and/or threatening violence against the victim’s family (Native Women’s Association of Canada, 2007; Nimmo, 2001; Pierce, 2009).



SEX TRAFFICKING IS...

NOT JUST GIRLS
CHAINED
TO A BED 

SOME OF THEM WALK FREELY, BUT ARE
COERCED INTO
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

LONGED BY **DREAMS** OF A
BETTER
LIFE

WHEN THEY ARRIVE
THEY ARE TIED INTO
DEBT BONDAGE; 

AN UNREALISTIC SUM OWED TO THEIR BOSS

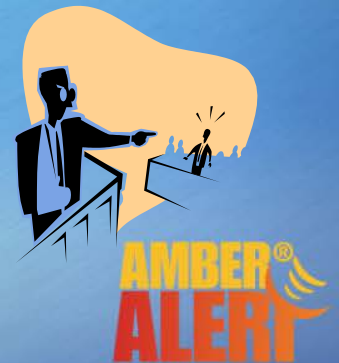
PROSTITUTION
IS THEIR ONLY OPTION.

UNITEWOMEN.ORG
equality for all



Who are our Victims?

- Where do we find the trafficking victims?
 - Runaways
 - Incurable or Disobedient
 - Truancy
 - Abused nor Neglected
 - Drug use offenses
 - Gang activity
 - “Closed” communities





Risk Factors

- A National Institute of Justice report states that minors who were sexually abused were 28 times more likely to be arrested for prostitution at some point in their lives than minors who were not sexually abused (Spangenberg, 2001)
- One study of 222 women involved in prostitution found **83 percent had grown up in a home where one or both parents were involved in substance abuse**
- Exploited youth are more likely to have witnessed domestic violence in their home; specifically, girls are likely to have seen their mother beaten by an intimate partner (Raphael, 2004) (Center for Impact Research, 2001)



Factors Supporting the Child Sex Trade

- Children in these families become targets for procurement agents in search of young children
- They are lured away from broken homes by "recruiters" who promise them jobs in a city and then force the children into prostitution
- Some families prostitute their children or sell their children into the sex trade
- Gender discrimination also works in tandem with poverty to push young girls into the sex trade



Targets

- Traffickers target young women and children because of their vulnerability and gullibility, as well as the market demand for young victims
- Native youth are especially vulnerable
- Those who recruit minors into prostitution violate federal anti-trafficking laws, even if there is no coercion or movement across state lines



Runaways and Throwaways

- *Runaways are especially attractive recruits because most are already engaging in survival sex for a place to stay”, said Evelyn Diaz, who is serving a nine-year sentence in a federal prison in Connecticut for three counts of sex trafficking of minors*
- *“Some become very loyal to you since you take them under your wing,” she wrote*



The Risks of Running Away

- The risks young people encounter included involvement in;
 - Criminal activity
 - Substance abuse
 - Sleeping on the streets
 - Sexual exploitation, including prostitution
 - ◆ One fifth of those surveyed indicated that they had engaged in sexual activity in exchange for money, drugs, food, shelter or survival
 - Physical assault and other forms of victimization



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Interview with 'Star.'



Physical Restraint, Force, or Bondage

- Not all victims are controlled through violence
- The majority of trafficking victims do not self-identify as victims of human trafficking
- The trafficker may use promises of love, security, income or even drugs to compel compliance
- Some victims stay in the life, hoping to provide for a child or family members
- Victims, particularly those from poverty stricken lives may actually see their situation as an “improvement” or “way out”



Force and Violence are Not Always Necessary

- Many trafficking victims are merely trying to remove themselves from unstable or unsatisfactory living conditions
- One common characteristic or risk factor for prostituted young people is a history of childhood sexual abuse – some see the life of being exploited as a continuation of what they knew at home – or even an improvement



Use of Technology for Recruiting of Victims

- Many victims enter into human trafficking through luring, social coercion, blackmail, or similar threats
- Vulnerable populations are often targeted
- The recruitment process may take months of grooming
- Evidence suggests that social media is used by perpetrators to identify, recruit, traffic and control victims



Technology

- Technological blackmail—such as the threat of releasing nude videos or photos to loved ones or the threat of using such photos to expose the individual if the act is illegal—serves as a critical mechanism of control
 - *A Texas trafficking case arose when a 16 year old was blackmailed when “sexting” photos she had sent to a young man were used to compel her to have sex for money*



Role of the Internet

- The Internet has also facilitated the recent rise in trafficking, exploitation and child sex tourism by providing a marketing channel
- Websites provide potential offenders with pornographic accounts written by others with similar desires



Use of the Internet (cont.)

- Websites detail sexual exploits and supply information on sex establishments and prices in various destinations, including information on how to specifically procure children or prostitutes
- Despite efforts by police, traffickers continue to evolve their tactics



Some of the Dangers

- Sexual predators
- Cyber stalking
- Identity theft
- Cyber bullying
- Online scams
- "Sexting"
- Illegal downloads
- Viruses, worms, spyware, etc..



Technology Provides Access

- Craigslist and Backpage Sites with NA women and girls:
 - Albuquerque
 - Phoenix
 - Dallas
 - Duluth
 - Oklahoma City
 - Las Vegas
 - Portland
 - Seattle



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Claudia Strawberry was online! (41 min 18 sec ago)

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★★★★★ 1 review

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Read	04-28-2012	Megan Love	35 & Walnuthill	Texas
Read	03-27-2012	Sara	Corpus Christi	Texas

Dakota - Dallas Texas

General Information

Name [Dakota](#)
Service Independent Escort
Location [Dallas, Texas](#)
Personal Website [JOIN](#)
Incall/Outcall [JOIN](#)
On Time? [JOIN](#)
Rate [JOIN](#)

[Review Me!](#)

Age 22
Height 5'5
Weight 114
Hair Color Brown
Eye Color Hazel
Ethnicity Other
Body Art No, None
Body Piercings No, None

Breast Size 34
Breast Cup C
Implants No
Waist 24
Hips 34
Build Skinny
Shaved Yes, Fully Shaved

Public Comments

loved her body gave me BBBJ CIM DATO DATY DAP BLS DDP DT Greek TUMA 69 with an impressive ad on eros

Full Review

[JOIN to read the full 'dirty details'...](#)



WHAT'S NEW

EROS MAP

ADVERTISE

LINKS

Search Dallas



Drea

Southern Sweet-Heart, Who Loves Please YOU! [More»](#)

GENDER: Female **AGE:** 19
HAIR: Brunette **EYES:** Brown
HT: 5'7" **BUST:** 32A
WT: 112 lb **WAIST:**
AFFIL: Independent **HIPS:**
ETHNICITY: Caucasian
AVAILABLE TO: Men, Couples
AVAILABILITY:
LOCATION: Dallas, Ft. Worth



Go to contact information

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new from the ocean 18 fresh jayla - 21

Posted: Monday, January 16, 2012 12:20 AM

Reply: [click here](#)

Hey fellas new beautiful 18 year old looking to try new things native american natural green eyes long dark brown hair and much more c pics below will go that extra mile to please u i will do fetish and try new things if interested set up a date with lexi call 6125983178 we have specials!!!! no emails ask about the new beautiful jayla she's a beautiful ebony new gg rre eekk

Poster's age: 21

• Location: Ramsey Co, between my legs

backpage.com

Post an Ad

[backpage.com](#) > [minnesota adult entertainment](#) > [minnesota escorts](#)

>*>*>> (((Pretty & Sexy Petite ... 5'0 ... 115 lbs ... Real Pics))) <<<*<*< - 19

Posted: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 8:10 PM

My name is Lexi. I'm a pretty petite & sexy native american woman. I'm 19 years old, 5'0, 115 lbs, long hair. I'm looking to meet a respectful guy to spend some time with.
763 - two 8 zero - 4925
THESE ARE MY REAL PICS!!!

Poster's age: 19

• Location: Ramsey Co, Twin Cities & Suburbs

backpage.com

Post an Ad

[backpage.com](#) > [las vegas adult entertainment](#) > [las vegas transsexual escorts](#)

Pocohantas - 36

Posted: Wednesday, January 11, 2012 8:19 AM

Reply: [click here](#)

backpage.com

Post an Ad

seattle, wa free classified

[backpage.com](#) > [seattle adult entertainment](#) > [seattle escorts](#)

Tyger Lilly - 25

Posted: Friday, January 6, 2012 1:26 PM

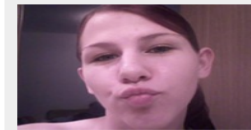
Reply: [click here](#)

Please call me Lilly. I'm a beautiful native snow bunny with long silky burnett hair. I have juicy pink lips and striking blue eyes. I would love to give you a night to remember! I love to be dominated behind closed doors or if it's a take charge type of woman you need I'm more than ready! I always aim to please and enjoy every moment I succeed at just that...Pleaseing YOU! I am very open minded so please don't be shy!

24hrs
in/outcall
Serious Inquires Only!
206 679 8972

Poster's age: 25

[backpage.com](#) > [dallas adult entertainment](#) > [dallas escorts](#)



♥ FrEaKy Native BeAuTy ♥

Posted: Tuesday, December 20, 2011 11:58 AM

Reply: [click here](#)

Native beauty standing 5'8, 120 l*b*s of pure sexiness, I'm always clean and like to have lots of fun, Extremely open minded, Real and Down to earth. Give me a call anytime! I'm available now!

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Native American Pornography



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Raina

- Gallup New Mexico –
- Lived in single parent home with three brothers
- Runaways starting at 12 years
- Dropped out of school in 9th grade
- Runway in Albuquerque when she met “Shimmy”



Post an Ad

backpage.com > albuquerque adult entertainment > albuquerque escorts

Report Ad

19yr old Native American Navajo hottie RAINA, web starlet - 19

Posted: August 19, 2011, 01:22 AM

Reply: [click here](#)

Abq hometown hottie as seen on ! \$30 Specials!

Poster's age: 19

- Location: Albuquerque, Central Ave / UNM
- Post ID: 3214348 albuquerque

[Email this ad](#)



Backpage.com

- Backpage.com accounts for about 70 percent of prostitution advertising among five websites that carry such ads in the United States, earning more than \$22 million annually from prostitution ads, according to AIM Group, a media research and consulting company



Advertising and Selling of Victims

- Technology is often used to advertise and coordinate the sale of victims
- “Pimps” often coordinate the sale of victims, but it is also important to recognize that victims can and do market themselves to potential buyers (sometimes under the control of “pimps”)
- All major online services—as well as more niche services and underground services (e.g., the “dark net”)—are employed in this process

Now Hiring Native Sluts!

Rent past due? Car payment late? Need more dope??

Don't be poor, be a whore! Sell your ass @ NDNgirls.com and earn up to \$600/day!

LOCATIONS: NDNgirls primarily films onsite in six major cities: Albuquerque, Phoenix, Winnipeg, Thunder Bay, and Oklahoma City. If there are enough native girls in your city looking for work, let us know and we will travel there with cameras in hand or cover your roundtrip airfare to our studio in Florida.

We also pay recruiters/agents/pimps a \$100 finders fee for each native model that we use.

In addition [NDNgirls](http://NDNgirls.com) purchases amateur sex tapes and photos from native couples. If interested, fill out the modeling application on our website and email sample photos/videos to shimmy@NDNgirls.com. Look forward to working with you!



New Areas for Trafficking

- Tribal businesses such as casinos, travel plazas and resorts are sometimes directly targeted by traffickers because they are in locations frequented by potential customers
- However, other businesses and programs may see or be impacted by trafficking and can provide an opportunity to rescue the victim



Movement

- Because these locations are also geographically isolated, it is difficult for victims to leave their situations and allows traffickers to quickly and frequently move victims
- This allows the trafficker to stay ahead of law enforcement and further control the victim



Advertising

- Customers seeking commercial sex can search online advertisements (e.g. Backpage, Craigslist, etc.) while at a truck stop
- Customers can also signal their interest for sex by responding to broadcasts offering “commercial company” over the Citizen Band (CB) radio
- *Truckers will often be seen flashing their truck headlights at women or children walking the tarmac (parking lot) to indicate they are looking for sex*



Misidentification

- When encountered by law enforcement, sex trafficking victims often provide canned or false stories provided by their traffickers
- They will often claim to be homeless or hitchhiking
- When caught in the act they often deny they have a pimp and claim they are voluntarily engaging in commercial sex to earn quick money



Technology

- Watch the Internet, you will see signs of the use of your facilities there before you will recognize them on site



Local Craigslist

★ go Fast all night at the Casino? - m4w - 42 (Diamond)

Hello,,

Im new in town just moved here. If your reading this i hope your at the casino or would like to be here. Its 1:18am and im looking for a go fast partner now. Im up here alone and it would be noce to have a little company. Lets get together for some PNP and see if we can finish the night off with a big bang. Send age and discription and chance the subject to the Casino i am at. Hurry tine is waisting away

- do NOT contact me with unsolicited services or offers

★ Casino Fun! - m4w (tucson Green valley)

I am a 60'S WM looking for a female to have some fun at the Casinos! I am searching for younger women who want a daddy:



Warning Signs at Casinos, Travel Plazas and Hotels

- Anyone who is being restricted from moving or communicating with others
- Young people made up to look much older
- Young people with significantly older boyfriends
- Young girls who loiter in parking lots and outside the facility and do not frequent dining areas, arcades or other facilities for young people
- Possible pimps and traffickers who sit in cars in parking lots
 - You will often see victims go back and forth to the car



Warning Signs

- Individuals loitering or soliciting
- Individuals exchanging money
- Requests that might signal possible illegal behavior—perhaps something as blunt as asking for an escort
- Individuals appearing to monitor common areas
 - Be aware of lookouts – many are armed and may be violent



Warning Signs

- A room often paid for by a male or older female but occupied by one or more underage women or girls who seldom leave the room
- Numerous male guest – short visits
- Unusually frequent request for clean sheets, towels
- Complaints from other guests about knocking on doors and doors opening and closing throughout the night
- Frequent calls asking for a specific room number without knowing the guest's name



Warning Signs

- More dirty towels than usual
- More requests for room service
- An occupant who rarely leaves the room but has many visitors
- Children on property during school days
- The child also might appear very subdued and might refuse to make eye contact
- A child or occupant who appears fearful or disoriented
- A child or occupant who shows signs of physical abuse



Warning Signs

- Refusal of housekeeping
- Excessive porn or any child pornography, which should be reported immediately
- Condoms, lubricants and sex toys
- Use of hotel computers to visit adult websites
- Laptops or tablets in rooms that display adult advertising sites like Backpage, Craigslist, etc.



Warning

- Traffickers will often try to bribe hotel and casino staff into ignoring or even assisting them in their activities
- Staff should be aware that doing so effectively makes the employee a party to the crime of human trafficking which could result in fines and imprisonment



What Do You See?



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What Do You Do?

- Never interfere with a situation or attempt to assist the victim directly
- Immediately follow procedures casino or hotel management already have in place
- Report any suspicions to your supervisor
- Communicate and share information with law enforcement, security and surveillance
- Call 911 if someone is in immediate danger
- Contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1-888-373-7888
- No concern is too small



Sex Trafficking and Murder: An Undeniable Link

- Prostitution puts women and girls at a higher risk for other forms of violent victimization, including murder
- In Canada, an estimated five hundred aboriginal women and girls have disappeared (presumably abducted, most likely murdered) in the last thirty years. *AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, STOLEN SISTERS: DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS WOMEN IN CANADA 24 (2004)*



Risk/Need Based Intervention

- Profiling our High Risk Victim
 - Low socio-economic status and economic need
 - Early sexual behavior
 - Victim of sexual abuse
 - Victim of physical abuse
 - Parental substance abuse issues
 - Domestic Violence
 - Chaotic/Ineffective parenting
 - History of runaway





Opportunities for Identification

- Early Identifiers
 - Domestic Violence
 - Abuse Neglect Complaints
 - School Issues
 - Runaway
- Opportunities for Early Identification
 - Educators
 - Child Protective Services
 - Law Enforcement
 - Probation/Detention Intake
 - Judiciary
 - Medical providers



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Response

- One thing is clear about child trafficking:
 - Traditional responses and victim treatment approaches - are not necessarily appropriate or successful with sex and labor trafficking victims





Engaging Victims

- Engaging victims is complex as most youth ensnared in sex or labor trafficking feel that they are consenting to the exploitation and/or do not have better options
- Effective strategies help them understand their own victimization and programming
- *Take them from trafficking victim to trafficking survivor*



Engaging Victims (cont.)

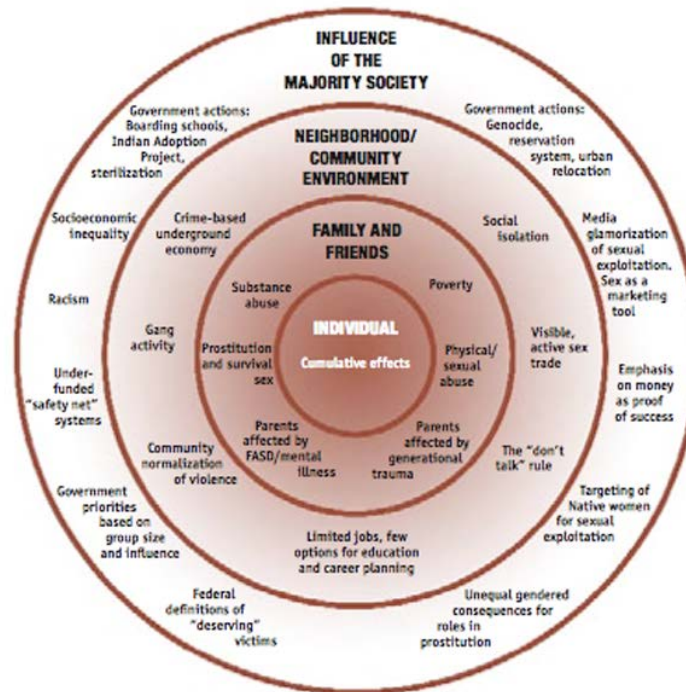
- There are serious cultural considerations that impact how cooperative a victim will be with investigators, prosecutors, and social services
- It is critical that these are understood prior to engaging a victim
- Cooperation is improved with culturally sensitive restoration efforts



Engaging Victims (cont.)

- Criminal justice representatives also need to clearly understand that these youth are victims and not offenders; and treat them as such

The social ecology of Native girls' vulnerability





Investigations and Prosecution

- Experienced and well qualified investigators and prosecutors with the expertise and experience to properly handle the case are essential
- This is not an area for the new investigator or prosecutor until they have been trained and developed a level of expertise



Investigation and Prosecution

(cont.)

- From the first responder to the investigator and prosecutor:
 - Children caught up in trafficking should be thought of and referred to as sexual exploitation victims rather than juvenile prostitutes



Investigation and Prosecution

(cont.)

- Cases should be victim centered, but not victim built
- Obtain evidence to support conviction independent of the victim's statements
- This takes undue pressure off the victim, increases rapport with criminal justice officials, and enhances the overall relationship



Restoration

- Immediate needs of victims include:
 - Being treated as a human being
 - Basic human needs
 - ◆ Food
 - ◆ Water
 - ◆ Shelter
 - ◆ Clothing
 - ◆ Safety/comfort
 - Medical/psychological treatment
- Plans and resources need to be identified before they are needed



Restoration (cont.)

- Long-term needs may include:
 - Continuous therapy and support through the entire process
 - Life skills training (tools to function in society)
 - Drug/substance abuse treatment
 - Long-term housing
 - Education/job skill training
 - Assistance with getting identification documents.
 - Certain victims may also require access to affordable childcare and immigration relief



Restoration (cont.)

- Finally, victims should not be negatively impacted by legal records, financial problems or issues that arose as a result of their exploitation
- Criminal charges, credit issues and a lack of opportunities can all hinder restoration efforts long after rescue



Casey Jo Pipestem

- Oklahoma
- Used to solicit johns in OKC area truck stops in over CB radios
- A father and daughter stumbled across Pipestem's bloodied and bruised body in in a creek bed in Grapevine, Texas
- Her body had been thrown 37 feet from a bridge along a highway
- Believed to be the victim on an "Interstate" serial killer





Casey Jo Pipestem

- A lanky girl with a bright smile, she wrote poetry and excelled at basketball in high school, even drawing the interest of a few small colleges
- As a child, she was shuffled through the homes of several family members as her mother tried to get out of a difficult and abusive relationship
- Substance abuse and running away from home began in her early teens
- As a teen she was believed to exchanging sex for drugs
- She was dead at age 19



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A Poem By Casey Jo Pipestem

- each and every day of life I pray to the one tru god that I will find that last seed to fill my pod
- for all I feel is pain and there's not to much for me to gain
- so at nights I cry and ask that question why, why I am who I have come to be
- sometimes momma is who I blame for gettin me in this game but its not her
- so I ask her to forgive and say sorry for the way I live but thugarific is what I chose

