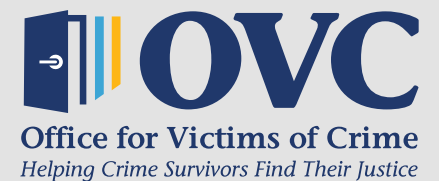


Understanding Human Trafficking

January 9, 2025



Purpose

Survivors and victims of human trafficking are often vulnerable due to complex and intersecting issues and identities. This training will enable participants to understand how traffickers groom their victims, using coercive tactics in recruitment and retention. Participants will learn how the use of violence can be a part of the survivor's unique experience and lead to the need for medical attention, which often is their only place to get help to escape this criminal exploitation.

Learning Objectives

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

- Define and discern between multiple forms of human trafficking.
- Recognize the process of grooming, recruitment, and retention tactics of trafficking and those intersections with intimate partner violence and gender-based violence.
- Describe at least three common trafficking markers that can be identified in medical settings.
- Apply trauma informed responses to those who reveal their victimization while seeking medical treatment.

Human Trafficking Awareness Month

January

Awareness Color
Denim Blue

Definition of Sex Trafficking

Sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of 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 act has not attained 18 years of age.

Definition of 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 modern-day form of slavery, labor trafficking is a fundamental violation of human rights.

Sex Trafficking are exploitative practices “IRL” and online

- Forced prostitution: In Real Life, the “Stroll”, the ”Circuit”, the “Lot”
- Digital or online: sex trafficking/porn sites, financial fraud, labor
- During and after COVID 19: the daily quota and methods expanded
- Youth endangerment: online grooming/blackmail
- Marginalized communities most profitable
- Recruitment **DEPENDS** and **REQUIRES** vulnerable individuals*

*Food Survivor Storytelling

Labor Trafficking are exploitative practices across a life spectrum

- **Bonded labor**, or debt bondage, is the method of enslaving people. Victims become bonded laborers when labor is demanded as a means of repayment in which its terms and conditions have not been defined toward the liquidation of their debt.
- **Forced labor** is when victims are forced to work against their own will, under the threat of violence or some other form of punishment and/or their freedom is restricted. Forced labor can include domestic servitude; agricultural labor; sweatshop factory labor; janitorial, food service and panhandling.
- **Child labor** is a form of work that is likely to be hazardous to the health and/or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development of children and can interfere with their education. The International Labor Organization estimates worldwide that there are 246 million exploited children aged between 5 and 17 involved in debt bondage, forced recruitment for armed conflict, prostitution, pornography, the illegal drug trade, the illegal arms trade and other illicit activities around the world.

(U.S. Health and Human Services)

Four Basic Rules

Human Trafficking is a Billion Dollar Industry

Human Trafficking is often an Organized Crime/Network

**Not all Sexual Violence is Sex Trafficking
But ALL Sex Trafficking is Sexual Violence**

**Exploitation of Human Lives is Considered a Replenishable
Resource, Considered More Profitable Than Drug Trafficking**

Grooming & Seasoning Red Flags

Listen and Look for the Tiny Clues with
Patients

(All language in **BLUE** are terms used
“in the life” and will be defined
throughout the presentation.)

Grooming & Seasoning Red Flags

- Identified as easy **targets** (runaways, homeless, youth)
- Retained with violence, psychological abuse, or drugs/alcohol)
- A victim may be the only 'one' - or entered into a “family of wife-in-laws” of multiple survivors in a monitoring **hierarchy**
- **"Stables/Kennels"** can be in plain site
- On the **"circuit"** or **"stroll"** move to large events (rodeo, sport, arena), **"going down river or up/down country"**
- Operating in plain sight (parlors, motels, houses, apartments, shell businesses, truck stops)
- Can be **fully aware** of service providers and shelters*

*ED Shelter Storytelling

Grooming & Seasoning Red Flags

- Dating Violence with a “Romeo”- coercion, threats, gaslighting, guilt, and love bombing
- Dating violence can be a year long investment or a 2 hour investment to turn someone into a “trap”
- Cannot leave, owes years of “payback” (balance of what is owed)
- Salvation: “I will help you” with food, shelter, clothes, money, promises of modelling, a music career, any dream career options (American Dream)
- Looks for especially vulnerable or lonely as a potential victim
- Tribal communities with jurisdictional barriers and illusions of “protective sovereignty”
- Gang related trafficking recruitment crimes in casinos, truck stops, rodeos, sports arenas, concerts and areas of poverty (urban or rural communities)

Pause

Wellness Moment

Grooming & Seasoning Red Flags

- Psychological grooming is **power and control**; with the use of a photo or video, pimps will threaten to send the images to teachers, family, employers, etc. to gain control by threat of character assassination which leads to compliance and fear
- There can be a personality change. Looking into a pimp's eye is called "**eye-balling**". This is received as a rebellious act and is often met with severe violence
- Many victims show signs of **domestic or sexual violence** before even identifying themselves as a trafficking victim
- Tactical recruitment can take months*

* Teen Pact Storytelling

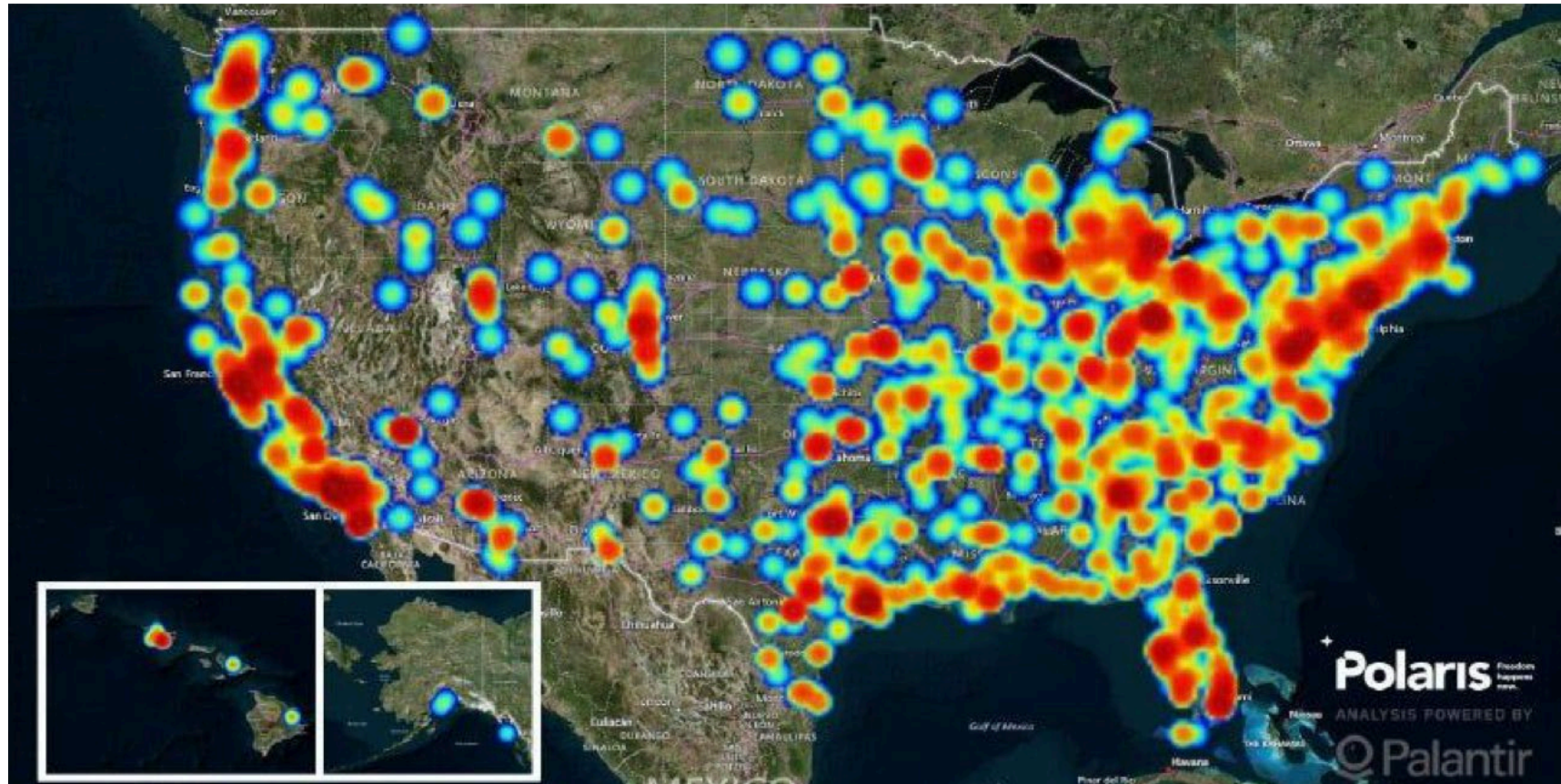
Grooming & Seasoning Red Flags

- "Opportunity" is the ultimate power and control model;
- "Coyotes" are groomers, their main job and income is securing potential victims
- Current immigration issues have nearly tripled trafficking exploitation with international coyotes as "dream makers" with violent street "enforcers" who are "posted" before, after, and continually in migrant shelters
- Debt bondage for entire families/generations
- Concurrent trafficking between sex trafficking, labor trafficking, and drug trafficking in concert with immigration debts

Grooming & Seasoning Red Flags

- Survivors will rarely self-identify they are being trafficked
- You might notice a lack of eye contact, abused for having a “peep” (an act of aggression instead of submissive in their world);
- Trafficking will mostly be identified by ‘peeling back the onion’ of the disclosures of the violence experienced;
- Survivors of are largely disproportionate in number of LGBTQ/Two-Spirit and immigrant individuals
- Sometimes it is intergenerational families recruiting family members, including young children for family financial benefit

Understanding Human Trafficking Pipelines



Using This Training Information to Begin Identifying Human Trafficking Patients

- A victim seeking medical attention is incredibly dangerous, this is often a punishable offense (endangering the trafficker)
- A victim seeking medical attention with approval from their trafficker will not be alone, but will have a “post” nearby observing for compliance (is often posing as a friend or partner)
- The best approach is operating in a similar way of identifying domestic or sexual violence as markers (most trafficking survivors do not self identify or even understand they are being trafficked)
- Work closely with local trafficking prevention and responder teams to learn the local operations, branding, and trends

Trafficking Crisis Support

- Polaris- National Human Trafficking Organization: the National Human Trafficking Hotline 1-888-373-7888
- Strong Hearts Native Helpline: Tribal specific 1-844-762-8483
- Opening Doors: Immigrant and Refugee specific 1-916-504-1118

Local Support: Advocacy, Resources, & Shelters

- Barbara Sinatra Children's Center 1-760-773-1640
- Covenant House California 1-323-461-3131 (Youth sex trafficking intervention and shelters)

Thoughts and Questions?

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Evaluation Link & QR Code

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SS_EisenhowerHealth_Jan2025_UnderstandHT



