

COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN OHIO

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Overview

- Understanding the crime of Human Trafficking-
Global, US
 - Defining sex and labor trafficking, recognizing the signs
- Trafficking in Ohio:
 - Why Ohio?
 - State and Federal laws
 - Key State Policy Initiatives
 - ❖ Ohio Human Trafficking Commission
 - ❖ Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force
 - ❖ Rescue & Restore Coalitions
 - ❖ Other efforts



Understanding Human Trafficking: Definition

Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery where people profit from the control and exploitation of others.

-Often referred to as compelled service

-In the United States, must include elements of force, fraud, coercion (similar to UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol)

-Ohio's legal definition varies slightly, but idea is the same- trafficker uses compulsion to bring about exploitation of others



Human Trafficking: A global crime



Above: Traffic light in Delhi, India- Children who are trafficked for the purpose of begging work late into the night. Children are forced to beg for long hours, commonly beaten by their bosses, and suffer abuse from individuals they encounter as they beg. (US Dept of State)



Above: Eritrean refugee who lost his hands to traffickers in Egypt (US Dept of State)



Above: Women from Colombia are subjected to sex trafficking within Colombia, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America, and Western Europe. Victims suffer psychological and physical abuse—some at the hands of organized crime and gangs who use threats and debt bondage to force their victims into prostitution.



Global scope of the problem

- Estimated 21 million people globally thought to be trafficked (IOM).
 - For more info, visit US DOL, International Org on Migration, US Dept of State's websites.
- Most victims globally are labor trafficking victims, including women, children and men.
- Polaris Project estimates that nearly 100,000 children in the US are victims of commercial sexual exploitation,

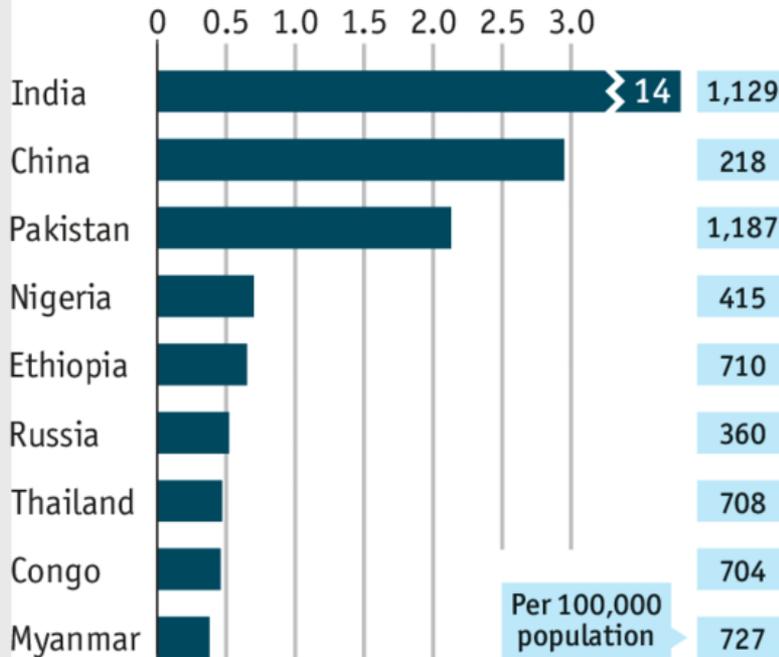


Where are most people enslaved in the world?

Global slavery*

2013

Estimated number in slavery, m



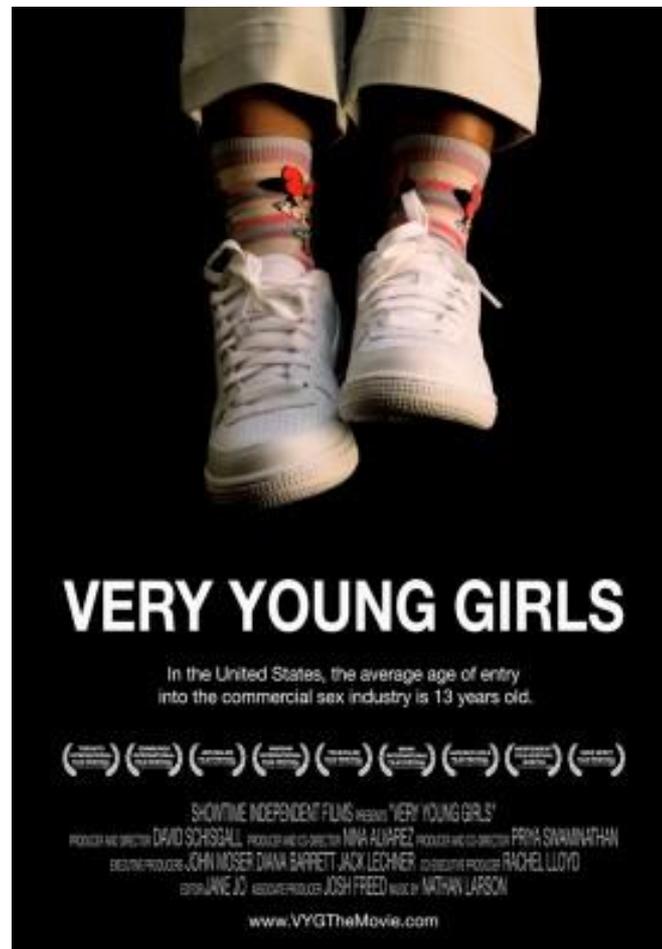
Per 100,000 population



Source: Walk Free Foundation

*Including child marriages, and people trafficked and in forced labour

Human Trafficking in the United States



Very Young Girls: Discussion

- Does the film validate or change your idea of human trafficking?
- What did you find most surprising about human trafficking as depicted in the film?
- Would you have thought of these situations as trafficking if you saw this outside of class?

Common Myths About Trafficking

- We know how many people are enslaved today.
- Most child trafficking is for sex.
- Only girls are trafficked for sex.
- During a rescue operation, children are always happy to be helped.
- Victims are usually kidnapped and held under lock and key.
- Human trafficking must involve a victim being moved.
- This doesn't happen in the United States.
- These children are prostitutes and criminals.
- Those who hurt children like this look creepy and menacing.
- Only pedophiles have sex with minors.

-From Love146.org



Sex Trafficking: Types

- Hostess” Bar/Club Operations with Inflated-Price Schemes
- Eastern European/Russian stripping or exotic dancing “Go-Go Clubs”
- Latino cantina bars
- Asian room salons, hostess clubs, and other karaoke clubs
- Domestic strip clubs and gentleman’s clubs
- Residential/Underground Brothel Settings
- Escort Services (Both Incall and Outcall)
 - Bar/Hotel-based
 - Internet-based
 - Private parties (house, club, lap dance clubs)
 - Boat cruises
 - Phone chat lines
- Pimp-Controlled Prostitution
 - Hotel-based
 - Internet/Escort-based
 - Private parties
 - Street-based
 - Truck stops
 - Other miscellaneous locations

Recruitment Methods- Sex Trafficking

From “The Criminal Operations of the American Pimp” (Polaris Project):

- Pimps engage in constant recruiting to attempt to entice women and children into their web of control.

Recruiting locations include:

- Junior high and high schools
- Courtrooms
- Hallways of court buildings
- Foster homes
- Bus stations
- Group homes
- Homeless shelters
- Halfway houses
- Restaurants and bars
- Parks and playgrounds



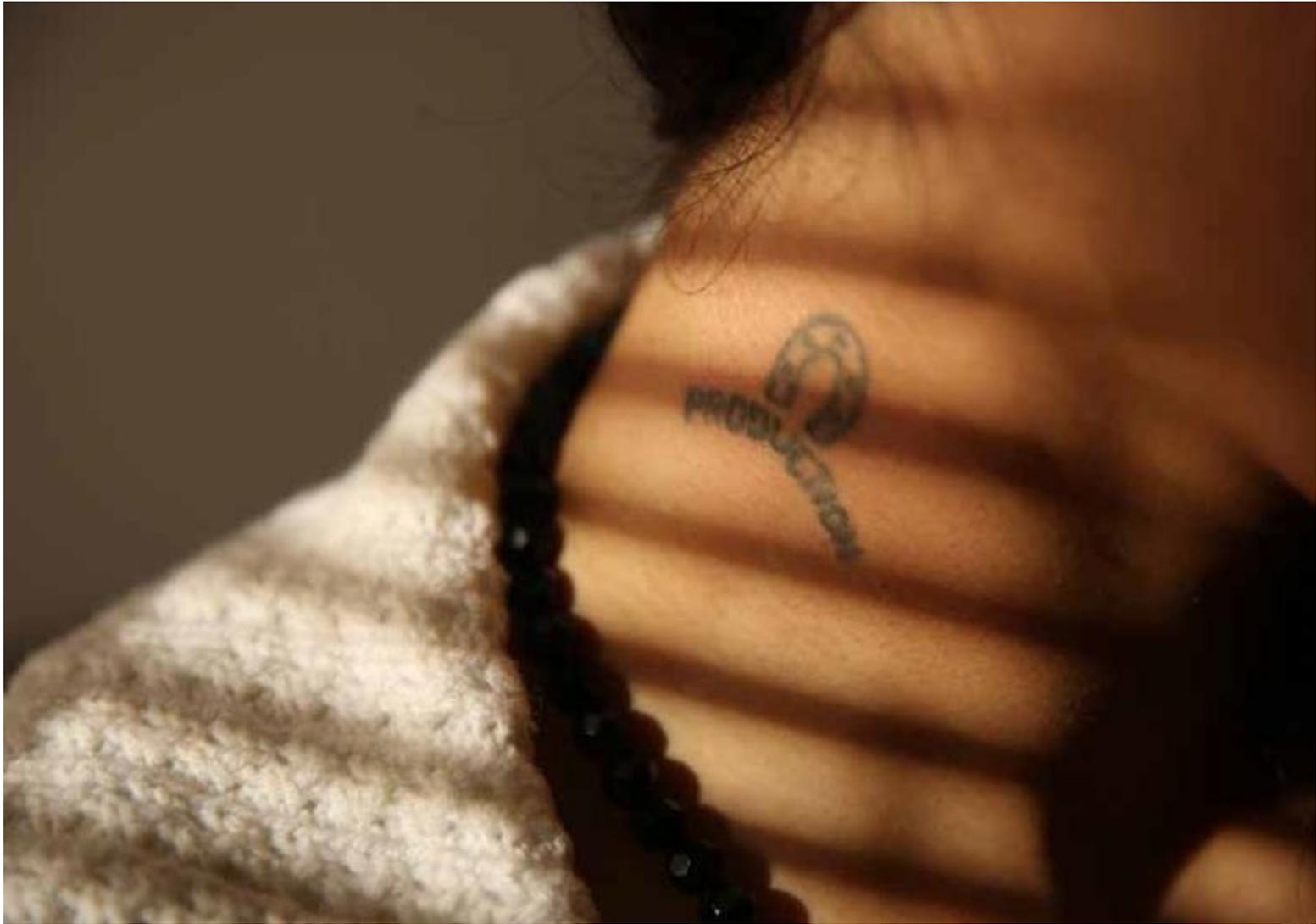
Recruitment Methods- Sex Trafficking

- Pimps manipulate their victims beginning with an initial period of false love and feigned affection.
 - Critical to attaining long-term mind-control. This period often includes:
 - Warmth, gifts, compliments, and sexual and physical intimacy
 - Elaborate promises of a better life, fast money, and future luxuries
 - Purposeful and pre-meditated targeting of vulnerability (e.g., runaways, throwaways)
 - Purposeful targeting of minors due to naiveté, virginity, and youthful appearance

***Relationship and Trust Building is KEY- in person or social networks**

Who are sex traffickers? (US)

- Pimps- organized crime, low-level street crime
- Parents
- Guardians
- Strangers/acquaintances
- People of all races
- Men and women (women are often traffickers)
- **There's not a clear "trafficker profile"**



CALL 911 or 888-3737-888
TEXT HELP to #233733
www.polarisproject.org

Labor Trafficking: Types

- Domestic Servitude/Domestic Worker Cases
- Nannies
- Maids/Housekeepers
- Small Businesses/“Mom and Pop” Operations
- Landscaping
- Nail salons
- Restaurants
- Industrial cleaning
- Construction
- Hospitality
- Peddling Rings/Sales Crews
- Magazine sales crews
- Flowers/Candy sales crews
- Large-Scale Labor Cases
- Agricultural
- Factory settings (i.e. garments; food processing)
- Other large factory work environments (i.e. industrial welding)
- Child soldiers

Recruitment Methods- Labor Trafficking

- Agriculture, domestic servitude, etc:
 - Exploitation becomes trafficking when the employer uses force, **fraud and/or coercion** to maintain control over the worker and to cause the worker to believe that he or she has no other choice
i.e. Ashland, Ohio case

*Note: farm workers frequently face abusive and exploitative treatment, but not all labor exploitation constitutes human trafficking



Thailand: After being enslaved as a domestic servant from the age of seven and horribly abused for five years, this young survivor was displayed to the news media by the police. Released on bail, her traffickers have absconded and are currently fugitives from justice. (US Dept of State)

Who are labor traffickers?

- Businesses
- Domestic employers
- Season farm employers
- There's not a profile- anyone using force, fraud or coercion to exploit another for profit!

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Dayton roofing company owner pleads to federal charges

Associated Press • Wednesday January 8, 2014 10:09 AM

Comments: 0 Recommend 6 Tweet 5 ShareThis

DAYTON — The owner of a southwest Ohio roofing company has pleaded guilty to charges of employing immigrants who are in the country illegally, filing false tax documents and insurance fraud.

Gregory Oldiges, 55, could be sentenced from two years to nearly five years in prison after pleading to the federal charges yesterday in Dayton, authorities said.

Court documents accused Williams Brothers Roofing and Siding of paying human traffickers to bring migrant workers from Texas and paying them less than their regular roofing crews, [according to the Dayton Daily News](#).

Oldiges' attorney, Greg Lockhart, called the situation "unfortunate" and said many roofing companies use immigrants who are in the country illegally as laborers.

"There was a level of greed here," U.S. Attorney Vival Patel said.

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THE BOTTOM LINE

Start looking: \$16 billion worth of savings bonds no longer earning interest

OTHER BUSINESS FEATURES

Halted construction might recover at

Labor Trafficking: Case study from Iowa

- For over 20 years, the owners and staff of a turkey processing plant subjected 32 men with intellectual disabilities to severe verbal and physical abuse.
- The company housed the workers in a “bunkhouse” with inadequate heating, dirty mattresses, and a roof in such disrepair that buckets were put out to catch rainwater; the infestation of insects was so serious the men swatted cockroaches away as they ate.
- Although the men were as productive as other workers, the company paid them only \$15 a week (41 cents an hour) for labor that legally should have been compensated at \$11-12 an hour.
- The employers hit, kicked, and generally subjected the men to abuse, forcing some of the men to carry heavy weights as punishment and in at least one case handcuffed a man to a bed.
- Supervisors dismissed complaints of injuries or pain, denied the men recreation, cellphones, and health care.



Iowa case cont'd

The U.S. government filed an abuse and discrimination case against the company for damages under the Americans with Disabilities Act. During the trial, the attorney representing the men said: “The evidence is these men were treated like property...these men are people. They are individuals.” A jury awarded the men a total of approximately \$3,000,000, the largest jury verdict in the history of U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.



Understanding how trafficking happens



The A-M-P Model

Elements of the Crime of “Severe Forms” of Trafficking in Persons

A Conceptual Model to Understand the Federal Framework of the Crime, as Defined in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000

Whoever Knowingly...

ACTION

Induces,
Recruits,
Harbors,
Transports,
Provides,
OR
Obtains

MEANS*

Force - Causing serious harm or physical restraint

Fraud

Coercion – Threats of serious harm to, or physical restraint against, a person or another person

Coercion – Abuse or threatened abuse of law or legal process

Coercion – Any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a belief that...

PURPOSE

Commercial sex acts
OR
Labor or Services

***Sexual Servitude of a Minor**: Means (entire 2nd column) not required for minors under age 18 induced into commercial sex acts.

Other related crimes include involuntary servitude, conspiracy to commit trafficking, and benefiting financially from trafficking



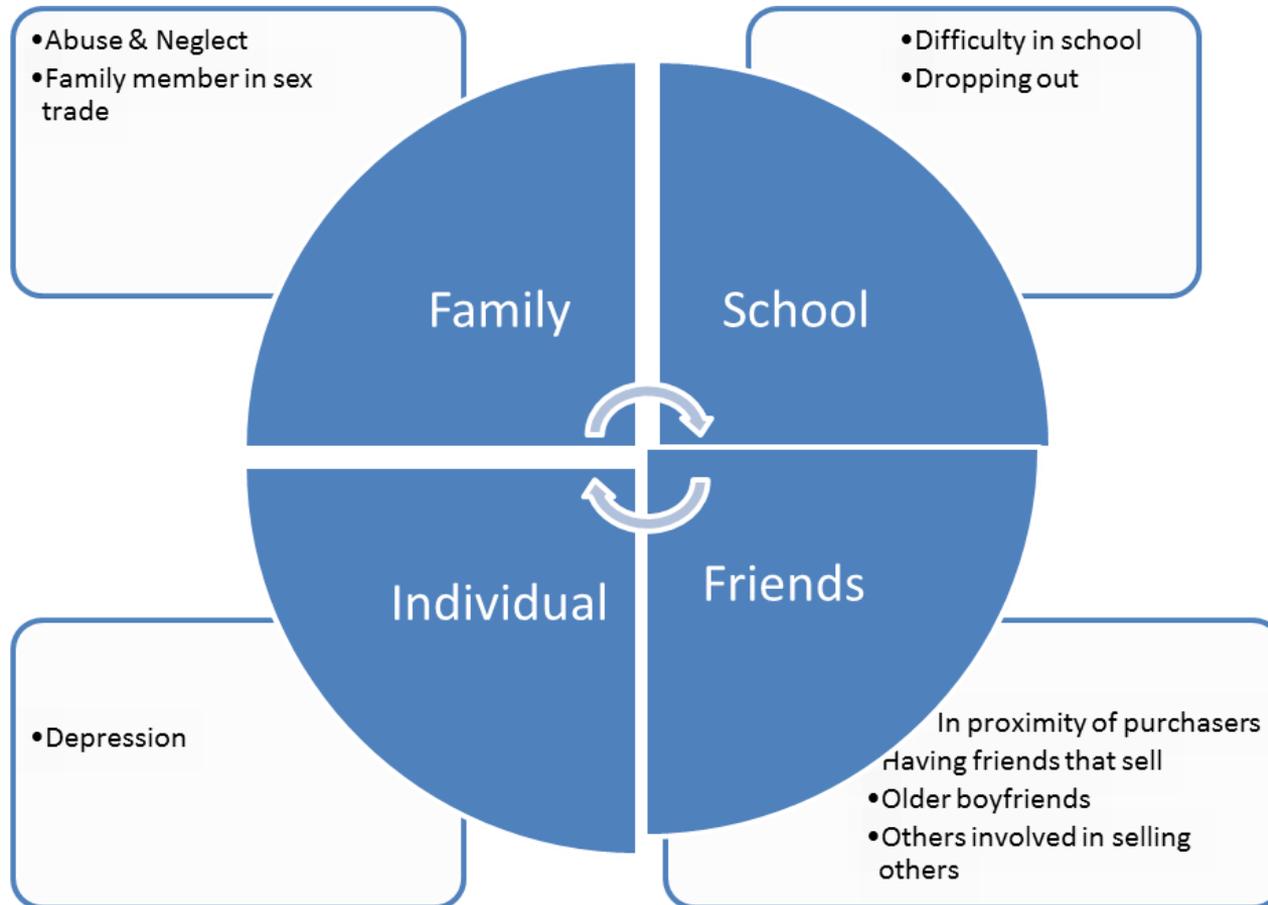
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Vulnerabilities to Victimization

- Disproportionately affects vulnerable people
 - i.e. runaways, foster care kids, migrant workers-legal and illegal, people with disabilities
 - There are affluent, upper/middle class victims
 - Kids with past sexual abuse and kids already involved in illegal activities are especially vulnerable to sexual exploitation
- AG's office: In Ohio, 13 is the most common age of entry into the commercial sex market
- Children who experience sexual abuse are 28 times more likely to be arrested for prostitution (HHS report- [Guidance to States and Services on Addressing Human Trafficking of Children and Youth in the United States](#))
- Victims often do not self identify
 - Their vulnerabilities can make it difficult to reach and inform them about human trafficking.



Missing & Trafficking: Common Risk Factors



Missing Children and Trafficking

- FBI Database
 - 82 potential victims
 - 51 verified were victimized in trafficking
 - reported missing 483 times
 - One was reported missing 37 times and another 34 times
 - 4 reported missing 20 plus times
 - The average time reported missing 6
- Verbal, physical & sexual abuse correlated with high runaway rates
 - Verbal abuse victims are twice as likely to runaway (23.4%)
 - Physical abuse victims are 3 times as likely to runaway (17.4%)
 - Sexually abused victims are two times as likely to runaway (17%)
- 30% had been in foster care

Signs of Trafficking: Children

Red flags to look for:

- *Context of whole child important*
- Inconsistencies in stories
- References to working long hours and getting poor pay under abusive bosses
- Look at demeanor, affect and appearance
- Unusual knowledge of work
- Fearful or anxious behavior
- Presence of a controlling, abusive or older boyfriend
- Possession of gifts/cash that can't be explained
- Chronic runaways



Questions to Ask

- Can you leave your job if you want to?
- Can you come and go as you please?
- Have you been hurt or threatened if you tried to leave?
- Has your family been threatened?
- Do you live with your employer?
- Where do you sleep and eat?
- Are you in debt to your employer?
- Do you have your passport/identification? Who has it?

****Key assumption:** You have ability to speak to potential victim privately, w/o jeopardizing his or her safety



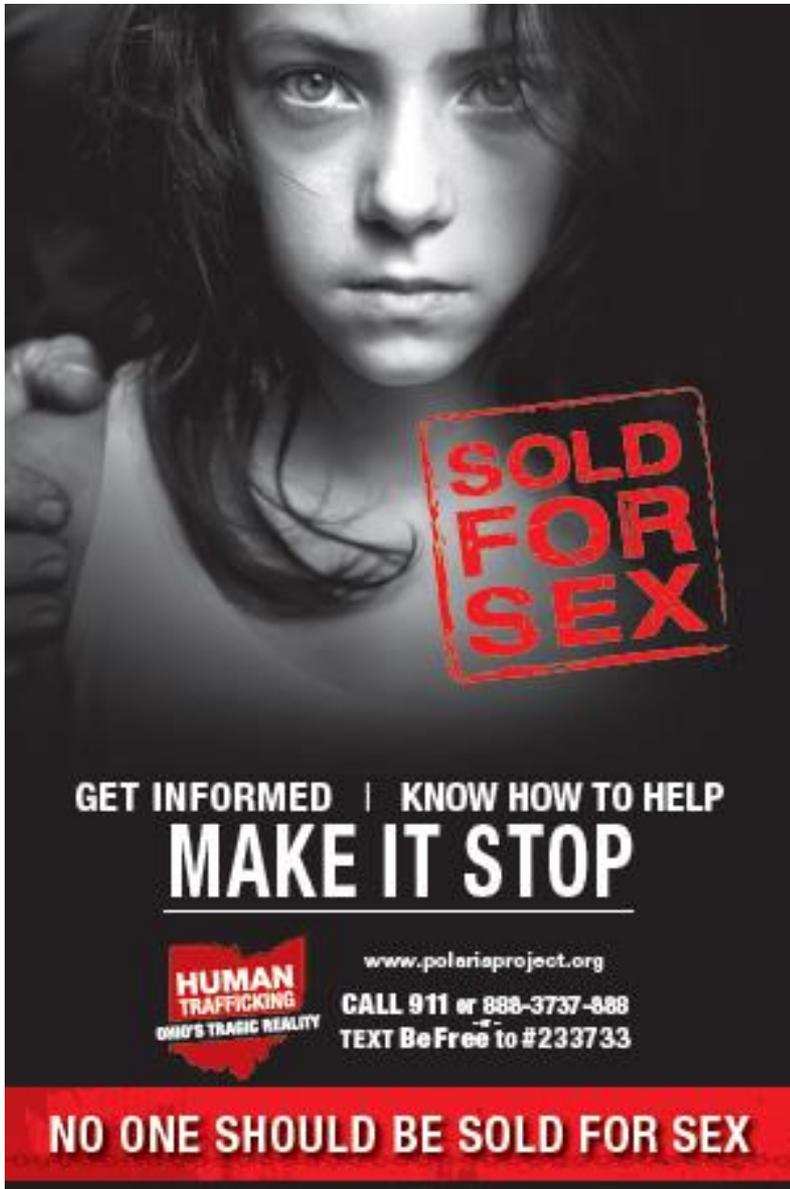
If you suspect human trafficking:

- Call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center

888-3737-888

- If someone is in immediate danger, call 911 or local law enforcement





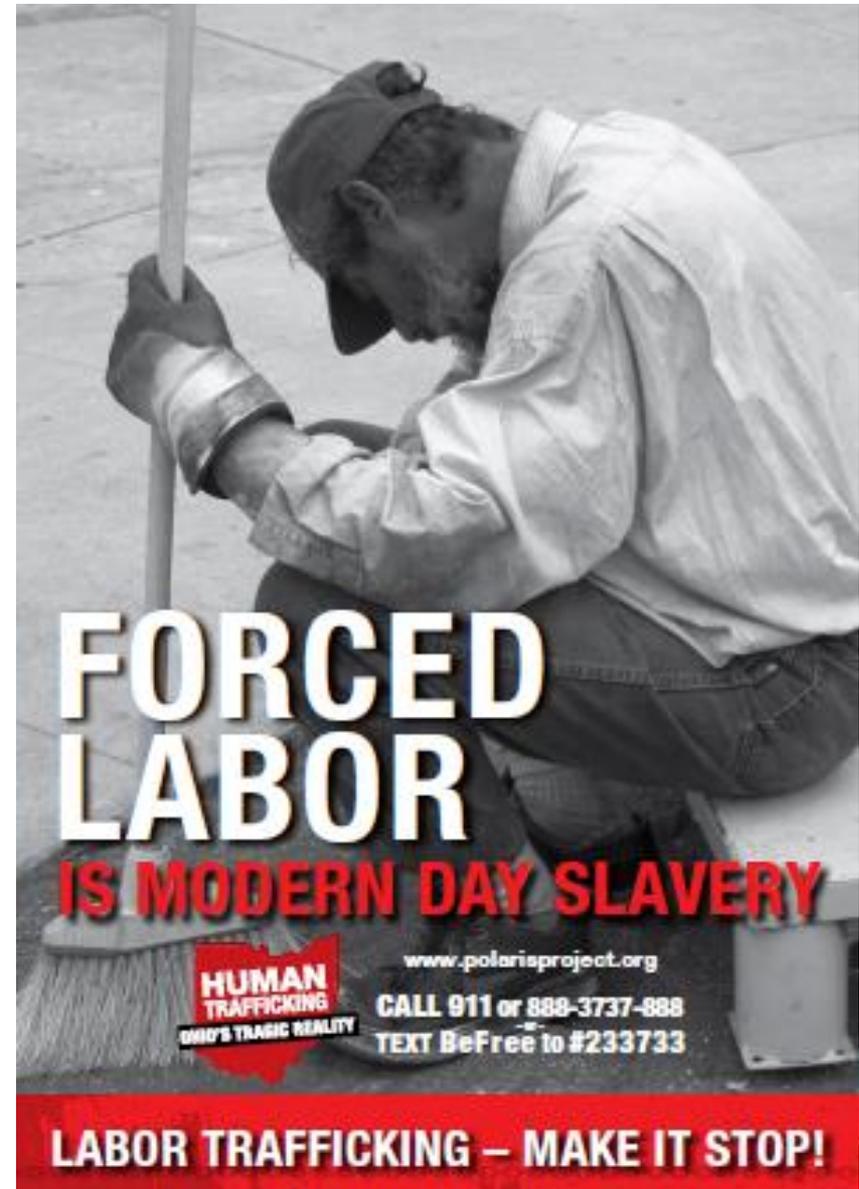
SOLD FOR SEX

GET INFORMED | KNOW HOW TO HELP
MAKE IT STOP

HUMAN TRAFFICKING
OHIO'S TRAGIC REALITY

www.polarisproject.org
CALL 911 or 888-3737-888
TEXT BeFree to #233733

NO ONE SHOULD BE SOLD FOR SEX



FORCED LABOR
IS MODERN DAY SLAVERY

HUMAN TRAFFICKING
OHIO'S TRAGIC REALITY

www.polarisproject.org
CALL 911 or 888-3737-888
TEXT BeFree to #233733

LABOR TRAFFICKING – MAKE IT STOP!

Recap so far:

- ✓ Trafficking is a global and domestic problem.
- ✓ It is happening right here in Ohio
- ✓ Victims can be children, women and men (anyone!)
- ✓ Traffickers do not fit a typical profile
- ✓ If something looks wrong, say something
- ✓ Who to call (888-3737-888)

Human Trafficking- Why Ohio?

- Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)- passed in 2000
- Awareness in Ohio Increases- Operation Precious Cargo
 - December 2005 Harrisburg, PA
 - 151 victims recovered
 - 45 were minors
 - 78/151 victims from Toledo, OH
 - Youngest Victim was 12 years old
- PA State Troopers Convicted
 - Offered to reduce charges in exchange for sex
 - Gave pimps information about prostitution stings



Human Trafficking- Why Ohio?

- Close proximity to international airports, Canada, the East Coast, and military bases
- Intrastate highways
- Prevalence of agricultural farms, massage parlors, strip clubs
- Large immigrant communities (easy to hide foreign-born victims)

Current efforts are finally giving us numbers- more to come in discussion of policy initiatives



Who shapes and implements state ATIP policy?

Attorney General

Governor/state agencies

Legislature

Law enforcement-
state, local, federal

NGOs

Survivors

Federal Govt
Initiatives- TVPA
(Congress) , Executive
Branch, US Attorney's
Offices

Rescue & Restore
Coalitions

Federal Law: TVPA of 2000

As defined in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, the legal definition of “severe forms of trafficking in persons” is:

- a) **sex trafficking** 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; or

- b) 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.



State Laws

- '07-'08
 - Two state-level human trafficking bills introduced → both fail to pass
- Jan. '09- HB 280 finally passes
 - Rep. Schneider
 - Enhanced penalties when person is charged with two sex trafficking related felonies (compelling/promoting prostitution, abduction)
 - Mandatory prison term
 - Created TIPS Commission (now “Human Trafficking Commission”)
 - Extremely complicated



State Laws

SB 235

- Sen. Fedor
- Effective March 2011
- Stand-alone crime
 - Both sex and labor
- 2nd degree felony
- Criminalized taking of victim's docs



**HUMAN
TRAFFICKING**
OHIO'S TRAGIC REALITY
MAKE IT STOP

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Ohio Human Trafficking Statutes

Three main statutes used to combat human trafficking at the state level-

- ORC 2905.32: Trafficking in persons
- ORC 2907.21: Compelling prostitution
- ORC 2907.22: Promoting prostitution



Ohio Law: Trafficking in Persons (TIP)

- No person shall knowingly recruit, lure, entice, isolate, harbor, transport, provide, obtain, or maintain, or knowingly attempt to **recruit, lure, entice, isolate, harbor, transport, provide, obtain, or maintain**, another person knowing that the person will be subjected to:
 - Involuntary servitude, or be
 - Compelled to engage in:
 - Sexual activity for hire
 - Engage in a performance that is obscene, sexually oriented, or nudity oriented, or
 - Be a model or participant in the production of material that is obscene, sexually oriented, or nudity oriented.
- “Compulsion”- victim’s will was overcome for **force, fear, duress, or intimidation**
- “Involuntary Servitude”- compelled to perform labor or services for another against one's will



Ohio Law: Compelling Prostitution

- No person shall knowingly...**compel** another to engage in sexual activity for hire
- Compulsion”- victim’s will was overcome for **force, fear, duress, or intimidation**
- The definition of “compulsion” in the trafficking in persons statute was directly taken from the compelling prostitution statute
- (Statute also contains added protections for minors)
- Passed by the General Assembly in 1996



So...if the compelling prostitution and trafficking in persons statute contain virtually identical elements, why charge under the trafficking in persons statute?



Ohio Law: Compelling Prostitution vs. TIP

- Acknowledges victim as a victim of human trafficking, not a prostitute
- Could impact ability to apply for victim's compensation
- Much higher penalties
 - TIP first-degree felony, mandatory minimum 10 years
 - Compelling prostitution has tiered penalties
 - Felony of 3rd degree for adults, felony of 2nd degree for 16 and 17 y.o., under 16 y.o. is a felony of the 1st degree

Ohio Law: Promoting Prostitution

- No person shall knowingly:
 - Establish, maintain, operate, manage, supervise, control, or have an interest in a brothel or any other enterprise a purpose of which is to facilitate engagement in sexual activity for hire;
 - Supervise, manage, or control the activities of a prostitute in engaging in sexual activity for hire;
 - Transport another, or cause another to be transported, in order to facilitate the other person's engaging in sexual activity for hire;
 - For the purpose of violating or facilitating a violation of this section, induce or procure another to engage in sexual activity for hire.
- Penalties:
 - 3rd degree felony if minor involved
 - 4th degree felony otherwise

Ohio versus Federal Law

State Law

- ORC 2905.32
- “Compelled”- force, fear, duress or intimidation
- State must prove compulsion for minors
- Sex and labor under same statute
- Doesn’t include FRAUD

Federal Law

- Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000
- Force, fraud, or coercion or a minor
- All minors are victims
- Labor and sex trafficking in separate statutes; T-visas for labor trafficking victims

State Laws: HB 262



- “Safe Harbor Law,” enacted in June 2012
- Penalties and Prosecution
 - Raised the penalty trafficking in persons to a first degree felony
 - Mandatory minimum- 10 years
 - Sex traffickers must register as sex offenders (Tier II)
 - Adult traffickers must [register](#)
 - Cannot live within 1,000 feet of a school
 - Obstruction of Justice 2nd degree felony in human trafficking cases

State Laws: HB 262

- Protections for Victims

- Created a diversion program for juvenile victims of human trafficking
 - Judge can sentence to diversion to receive protection and treatment they need through the juvenile justice system
- Prior convictions of prostitution or solicitation may be expunged
- Allows victims to pursue civil damages against a pimp or trafficker

- Law Enforcement

- Mandated human trafficking training
- Local law enforcement must report number of human trafficking cases to be released annually
 - Underreported: 30 state-level cases since June 2012





- Started by the previous AG, Richard Cordray and continued by current AG, Mike DeWine
- Members include Coalition members, non-profit leaders, politicians, law enforcement, and concerned citizens
- Meet every other month





OHIO HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION

MIKE DEWINE
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Legal &
Legislative

Prevention,
Edu. &
Awareness

Research &
Analysis

Law
Enforcement

Demand
Reduction

Victims
Services

Other AGO Human Trafficking Work

- Law Enforcement Initiatives
 - Law Enforcement Subcommittee: working group of officers working on human trafficking cases across the state
 - Focus- training existing task forces
 - Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA)
 - HT training woven into basic peace officer training
 - Series of online courses, in-person, and advanced trainings for existing officers
 - Central Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force
 - Only state-run task force in Ohio
 - Officers, prosecutors, and victim services from Central Ohio
 - 2013 Statistics:
 - Referred 57 victims to social services and offered assistance to 100 potential victims
 - 7 convictions



Other AGO Human Trafficking Work

- Grants
 - Main source VOCA and SVAA funding
- Currently Funding:
 - Salvation Army in Central Ohio and Cincinnati
 - Drop in Center for Youth in Toledo
 - Star House- homeless youth shelter
 - Daybreak Dayton- homeless youth shelter



Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force

- Governor Kasich's Task Force created by Executive Order in March 2012
- Created to marshal the resources of the state to coordinate HT prevention and response efforts
- 11 state agencies are members and are working to identify service gaps and meet those gaps
- Important: Many of these initiatives work hand in hand with grassroots and coalition initiatives



Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force

- Made 26 recommendations, including:
 - ✓ Hiring a state Anti-Trafficking Coordinator
 - ✓ Creating screening tools to use at mental health, correctional and community level mental health providers
 - ✓ Increasing access to services for victims of trafficking
 - ✓ Partnership with 26 Children's Advocacy Centers
 - ✓ Development of a Public Awareness Campaign
 - ✓ Mandated and developed training for foster caregivers

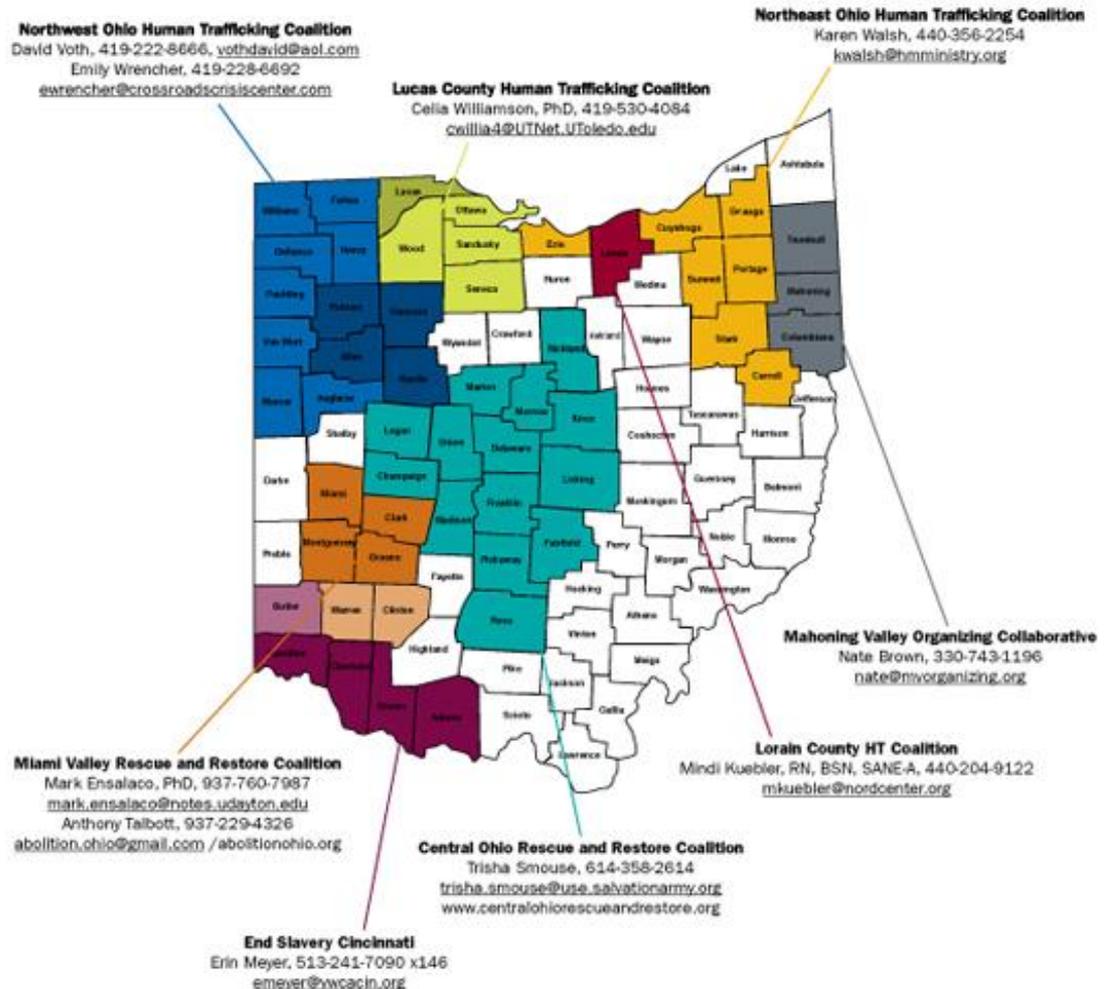


Rescue and Restore Coalitions

- Opportunity for law enforcement to link with victim service community to identify and obtain assistance in getting services to human trafficking victims
- 2011 Map

Service Areas of Ohio Human Trafficking Coalitions

*The darker colors depict the areas currently served, while the lighter colors associated with the darker one illustrates target areas for that particular coalition.



How Does Ohio Compare?

- Polaris Project ratings

- Compares all 50 states by 10 elements of an ideal “Safe Harbor Law”
- Ranked as one of 4 “Most Improved in 2012” (along with Massachusetts, South Carolina, West Virginia)
- “Faltering 4”: Wyoming, Arkansas, Montana, South Dakota

- Shared Hope International

- Ranks all 50 states
- Ohio received a “C”
- Top SHI rated states- Louisiana, Texas, Illinois, Missouri, Florida



Recent Legislative Efforts

- HB 59- State Budget Bill

- Human Trafficking provisions included:

- Required training for teachers
- Statute of limitations increased from 6 to 20 years
- Remove requirement that victims be moved across county lines (trafficking doesn't require movement)

- HB 130- End Demand Act

- New human trafficking legislation- currently in the Ohio Senate
- Introduced in the Ohio House of Representatives in April 2013
- Removes need to prove force, fear, duress or intimidation for MINORS
- Increases penalty for johns/buyers when they purchase sex with minors

Other efforts: Improving Data Collection

Mapping Project

- Effort to gauge “Who is doing what, where” to combat trafficking in the State of Ohio

Partnership with Ohio Network of Children’s Advocacy Centers

- July-September 2013 **identified 20 child victims of trafficking, all female**

Local Law Enforcement Statistical Data

- First year- **30 TIP cases were investigated by local law enforcement**
- Problem- LE still identifying HT cases as promoting or compelling prostitution
 - **105 arrests for promoting prostitution** during same time period
 - **52 arrests for compelling prostitution** during same time period
- Many barriers



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Demand Reduction

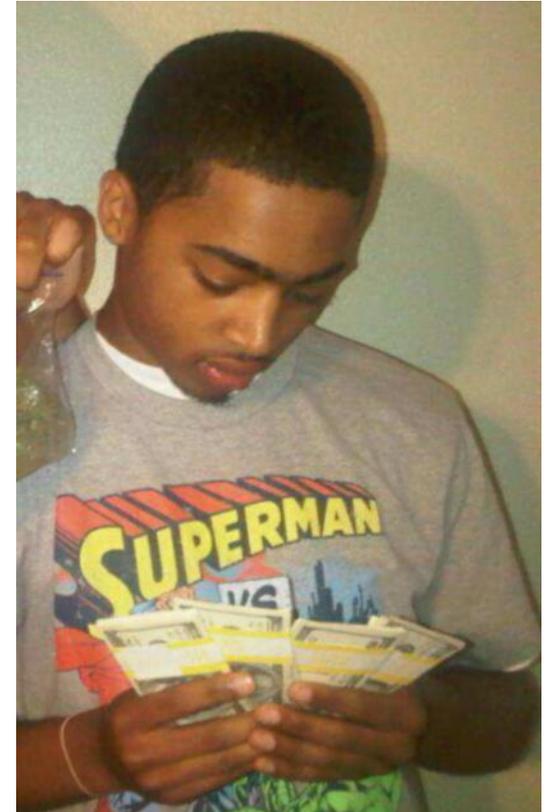
- Human trafficking is a supply/demand industry
 - If must reduce the demand for sex and labor trafficking by targeting purchasers to truly combat trafficking
- Demand Reduction Strategies:
 - Street Level Reverse Stings & Web Based Reverse Stings
 - John Schools
 - Shaming
 - Publishing ID of johns on billboards, news outlets, police websites
 - Police can issue press reports
 - Letter home to john's spouse including warnings about STIs
 - Automobile Seizure
 - Surveillance Cameras



Ohio Cases

State v. Donaldson (Wood County)

- Kevin Donaldson “Meech”
- Undercover sting on backpage.com
- Girls and pimp were from NY
- Evidence:
 - Text messages
 - “Pocket litter”
 - Recorded interview with agents
- Difficulty with victim witnesses



Ohio Cases

- Proving Compulsion- using text messages
 - Directing victims:
 - “I want u to post in columbus tomorro jus so I can c the feedback”
 - “Daddy need y'all to make \$ tommoro”
 - Dispelling notion that “she wanted to do it” :
 - Meech: U always have an issue smh never happy
 - Victim: **Im bleedn srry dad**
 - Violence
 - Victim: **I cnt forget after u put me in my place wen u smackd me dwn**
 - Meech: Did u deserve it?
 - Meech: I don't like hitn u. U kno that right
 - Victim: **would u do it again**
 - Victim: **N yes i did**
 - Meech: If u deserve it. I try not to hopefully my words affect u enough
 - Victim: **U shudnt have too**

Ohio Cases



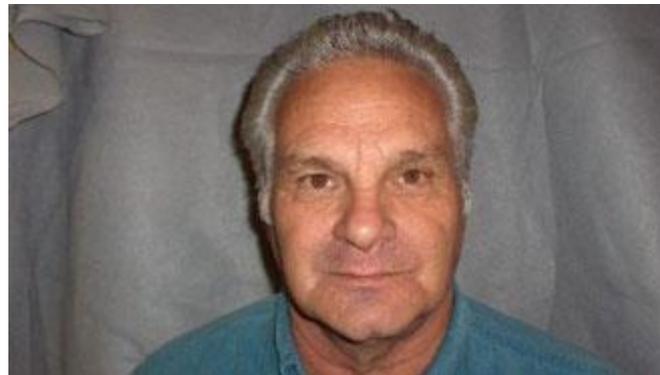
Convicted in jury trial-
12 years in prison

Ohio Cases

- Nelms
 - Took advantage of drug addictions to make at least 12 women engage in commercial sexual activity
 - Drug charges and human trafficking
 - 3 continuances
 - Pled to a RICO charge
- Franklin County cases
 - 4 co-defendants brought woman from Chillicothe to Columbus and forced her to engage in sex for hire
 - Ultimately pled down
- Athens County case
 - Stepmother traffics 16 yo daughter to sex offender

Ohio Cases

- Athens County case
 - Stepmother traffics 16 year old ex- step daughter
 - John- 69 year old sex offender Fred Kittle
 - Stepmother in prison; Kittle released
 - Juvenile is in custody of Athens County Children Serv.





Service Providers & Coalitions



To Report a Human Trafficking Tip Call 1-888-3737-888



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 TEXT HELP to #233733
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QUESTIONS?
