Dr. Janja Lalich: These are two students from my class last semester: Kelsey Cotton Wray and Renee Saechao and last semester in my Women and Contemporary Society's class. The teams did projects in different areas and I thought that theirs was really great and asked them if they wanted to present at the conference. One thing we are trying to get started with the President and the Provost, is to have a research award as part of the conference so that people from all difference colleges on campus who are researching this, which I know there are, in economic classes, in business classes, whatever, that we'll have a contest. People can present at the conference and there will be some kind of monetary award hopefully coming from the Provost Office. So that's in the works, so you guys can think about that for your future classes, but right now I'm just going to turn it over to Kelsey first.
Kelsey Cotton-Wray: Hi, we are going to show you a video. First, and I’m just going to give some facts about human trafficking. Human trafficking is when a person is recruited to the held captive and controlled for the purpose of exploitation. An estimated 12.3 million people are enslaved around the world today; that’s more than the population of 18 states, or more than the population of New York and Virginia combined. There are anywhere between 600,000 and 800,000 victims trafficked through international borders every year, which does not include the millions trafficked domestically within their own countries. It is the fastest-growing criminal enterprise in the 21st century; it’s a $9 billion industry. Trafficking ranks second after drug smuggling, in tying with arms-dealing and organized crime activities.
According to the 2008 Trafficking in Persons Report, human trafficking is a multidimensional threat; it deprives people of their human rights and freedoms. It increases global health risk and it fuels the growth of organized crime. Human trafficking exists all over the United States. The average entry age of an American minor into the sex trade is 12 to 14 years old.

**Video clip:** In fact the Bay Area is fast becoming a hotbed for child sex trafficking.

**Kelsey Cotton-Wray:** And the prevalence of the Internet has fueled the rapid growth of sex trafficking; making the trade of women and children easier than ever before.

**Video clip:** [inaudible]
Narrator: She says most if not all of the girls advertised on the adult services section are underage girls forced into prostitution to make money for the pimps. [Inaudible] And it is a lucrative business. It is estimated that a pimp makes $50-$60,000 a year selling children. And younger girls 10, 11, 13 years old are sold to the highest bidder. Interviewee-There is no bigger bang for your buck these days, no other job opportunities [inaudible].

Narrator: Alameda DA Sharmin Bock, says that the child sex industry skyrocketing because the laws are so lax.

Sharmin Bock: [inaudible] there are far more consequences for selling drugs [inaudible]

**Kelsey Cotton-Wray:** Foreign nationals are also brought into the U.S. for labor or commercial sex through force or fraud.

**[Inaudible video clip]**

**Kelsey Cotton-Wray:** According to CIA estimates, as many as 15,000 and 17,500 men, women, and children are trafficked into the United States every year. The United States is one of the top three destination points for trafficked victims. California harbors three of FBI's 13 highest child sex trafficking areas in the nation including: Los Angeles San Francisco, and San Diego.
KCRA Video clip: It is a Sacramento dirty little secret. One of 18 cities singled out by the FBI for a hotspot for human trafficking including child prostitution.

Kelsey Cotton-Wray: So what's being done? The media has done PSAs. MTV has put some out like this one

Video clip: Young woman - I lived in 44 foster homes. I don't even know how many men had been to bed with. I've been doing this since I was 14. I'm tired. I don't like this. Is this all on good for? Do you even care who I am? Man's voice- Just Relax.

Kelsey Cotton-Wray: Celebrities have been getting involved. There's the “Real Men Don't Buy Girls” campaign and there've been other Internet ads that have been created and they're being shown in magazines and stuff to create awareness, but it's really not that much, but it helps.
Just to give you an idea of like a true story, there's a young girl named Denise who was 13 and she was in and out of foster homes.
She craved the love and attention of a parental figure which she founded an older boyfriend,
Who convinced her to become a prostitute and he was her pimp. She was arrested and put in jail for being a prostitute and he didn't get in any trouble and instead of being helped by law enforcement and receiving social services, she entered the juvenile justice system as an offender. She has never had her prostitution convictions expunged and those convictions of made it impossible for her to find work. She admits that most in her financial situation would have returned to prostitution by now.

*Unidentified sex trafficking victims are routinely arrested and prosecuted for crimes related to commercial sex, resulting in convictions that prevent them from securing meaningful alternatives to trafficking and exploitation.*

[http://globalfreedomcenter.org/GFC/humantraffickingstories](http://globalfreedomcenter.org/GFC/humantraffickingstories)

So it just shows that the women are getting in trouble and the Johns and the pimps are getting away with it and these girls are victims. I am going to pass it over to Renee to go into detail about what's being done.
Renee Saechao: So Kelsey just gave you a general overview of what the U.S. is like, here's a little closer to home.
California is one of the top destination states in the country for trafficking,
A lot this is due to the large population, international borders, large economy, extensive ports, and just a lot of cities.
It is also one of the three, it also harbors of the first three of FBI's 13 highest sex trafficking rings for children. There is an estimated of 100,000 children in the US every year a lot of them end up in California in Los Angeles, San Francisco, or San Diego. And so trafficking happens everywhere, even here in Chico.
So January 7th of 2013, there was a prostitution ring bust. It stretched from Stockton to Chico; Involves women being trafficked from Mexico and Central America. These women were moved from brothel to brothel and not allowed to leave. The men typically paid $40 to 15 min which averaged about $60,000 a day per girl. So exploiting women has become an easy cash enterprise basically, if they can get 60,000 one day with low-cost. There were three arrests made, none of them on trafficking charges just because it is so difficult because this involves victims’ testimonies which are hard to get sometimes.
But what is being done? There have been progressional laws made.
The U.S fully complies with tier one which compiles with the minimum standards of eliminating trafficking.
Such laws include Trafficking Victims Protection Acts, which was enacted in 2000 and has been reauthorize several times just to keep up with progress.
Also initiatives such T-visas have been handed out so that women are not being re-trafficked.
Also agencies, there are a lot of agencies involved such as the FBI, ICE, Department of Justice, along with a nonprofits like the Polaris Project, UNICEF, Not For Sale, there is a lot out there.
Here is just a timeline of what has been done. 2000 was the first law passed addressing the issue. 2001 there was an estimate given how many women and girls were being trafficked into this country every year. 2003, the Protect Act for children was passed and also in 2009 Craigslist removed their erotic ads which attempted to eliminate the problem of trafficking performed through the site. 2011-President Obama declared January to be Human Trafficking Awareness month, and Jan. 11, 2011 was named National Human Trafficking Awareness Day.
So there has been a societal shift
In 2000 and there was a report
of 5,200 women being trafficked every year.
It's got down to about 15 to 20,000.
So there has been progress being made.
Slavery was abolished 150 years ago...
and yet there are more people in slavery today...
than at any other time in our history.
So push for awareness and advocacy has made lots of impacts.
More prosecutions, more convictions of sex offenders, strengthened training of government officials
As well as each of the 50 states adopting an anti-trafficking law.
Also more comprehensive services for victims which include T-visas and not re-entering the sex trade.
Here are some ways you can help, even though there is progress there’s a lot to be done. You can get educated. Check out some of the sites mentioned. Be Aware, join Advocate, and report if you have any suspicions. Here are a couple hotlines here in the U.S.
And that's our PowerPoint.