



I'm going to give you the basics of trafficking, some of the definitions, numbers, why it exists, where it exists. So let me find this...

Modern-Day Slavery

Definition: The exploitation of a person through “force, fraud, coercion” for financial benefit. Transported from one locale to another not required.

– Agricultural & migrant labor	– Bars, strip clubs
– Mines	– Escort services
– Child soldiers	– Mail-order brides
– Factories & manufacturing	– Street prostitution
– Adult bookstores	– Construction labor
– Restaurants	– Cleaning services
– Brothels	– Nail parlors
– Massage parlors	– Sweatshops
– Pornography production	– Nannies & servants
– Debt bondage; peonage	– Involuntary servitude
– Private homes	– Organ trafficking

So human trafficking is often called modern day slavery. And I want to give you the definition from the TVPA which is the Trafficking Victims Protection Act which was passed by the federal government in the year 2000 and has been reauthorized every three years after that. Basically the definition is...so there's a long definition but the crux of it is the exploitation of a person through force, fraud, coercion, for financial benefit. And one thing to get clear on is that being transported from one locale to another is not required for the definition of trafficking. It sounds like that because it's called human “trafficking,” but being moved from place to place isn't part of it, what's part of it is the exploitation and making money from either the sexual...sexual exploitation or labor exploitation using people for various kinds of workers. So just to give you an idea of where slavery exists, as you can see there are many, many avenues and routes and opportunities for traffickers to put you to work: in agriculture, in migrant labor, in the mines, child soldiers, factories and manufacturing, adult book stores, restaurant workers, brothels, massage parlors, pornography production, debt bondage or peonage which means basically someone says oh I'll take you to America but you'll have to pay me back \$50,000 and you'll have to work it off and I'm not going to let you go until you pay that off--and of course you never get to pay it off. Working in private homes, bars, strip clubs, escort services, mail order brides, street prostitution, construction labor, cleaning services, nail parlors, sweat shops, nannies and servant, involuntary servitude and one people don't often think about--organ trafficking, people who are kidnapped or convinced and told to donate a kidney or donate some of their organs. Or if they're killed they just strip out all their organs and sell them on the international black market for organs. So there are many, many ways people can get involved in this.

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Not everybody is kidnapped, many people are lured, they are told they're going to get a good job, they're told they are going to have opportunity, be able to send home money to their families, etcetera. So there's a lot of deception involved.

The Numbers

- 27 million slaves worldwide
- 200,000-300,000 in the U.S.; in every state
- 50,000 trafficked into U.S. each year
- 80% women; 50% children
- Average cost: \$90
- \$32-billion industry; second only to drugs
- 1.8 million children forced into commercial sex trade every year
- Extreme physical/mental abuse, rape, sexual exploitation, torture, beatings, starvation, death threats, threats to family members, lack of medical attention, forced abortions, take away travel documents, short life span, murder & death

In terms of the numbers, of course these are estimates because organizations who do this don't stand up and say oh yeah I'm a trafficker, I've got a thousand girls. So these are worldwide estimates but the current one that's in use is that there are 27 million slaves worldwide. There are more slaves today per capita than ever before in history. There are approximately 200,000 to 300,000 slaves in the U.S. and they have been found in every state in the union. There are about 50,000 trafficked into the U.S. every year, many of them come through California; about 17,000 are said to come through California. Some of them stay in California and some of them are moved out to other states. Of these trafficked individuals 80 percent are women and 50 percent are children, minor children. The average cost of a slave today...can anybody tell me what do you think is the average cost of a slave today.

Three dollars?

Oh it's a little more than that, thank goodness for the traffickers. The average cost is \$90, you can buy a slave for \$90. So imagine if you're selling that person over and over and over again, or they're working for you and bringing in money you can really make huge profits. Basically human trafficking is a \$32 billion criminal industry. It's the second largest and the fastest growing illegal, illicit industry in the world today. Right now it's second only to drugs, after that comes guns. And the prediction is that within ten years human trafficking will be the number one illegal industry in the world. So it's big money.

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About 1.8 million children are forced into the commercial sex trade every year and several hundred thousand of those are here in the U.S. So this isn't just a problem that happens somewhere else, it happens here in our country and we're going to talk a little bit about that. So the two broad types of slavery that I've mentioned are sexual exploitation and forced labor. Generally these people suffer extreme mental and physical abuse, rape, sexual exploitation, torture, beatings starvation, death threats, threats to their family members, lack of medical attention, forced abortions, they have their travel documents taken away, they have a very short life span and they're often murdered and/or commit suicide or die of some dread disease because they aren't getting medical care. So it's easy to understand when you think about all the things that happen to these people why they aren't running away, they're absolutely trapped and they are in physical and mental states of deterioration, and Dr. [Kate] Transchel is going to talk a little more about that.

Why It's Hard to Gauge

- Clandestine nature
- Mobile population
- Precise definitions not followed
 - Smuggling vs trafficking
- Government corruption
- Faulty prostitution paradigm
 - The women are arrested
- Governments limit knowledge
 - Political favors

So why is it so hard to gauge the actual numbers? Well, first of all it is because of the clandestine nature of this industry, it's underground. People who know how to find it, know how to find it--know how to find the girls or the young boys or the workers that they're looking for. But it's a very underground, subterfuge kind of operation.

Secondly, it's a very mobile population. Slaves get moved around all the time, they get moved from country to country, they get moved from city to city, state to state, so it's very hard to trap them, to find out. By the time the authorities may find out about them they may be gone and we'll talk a little bit about some of the mobile avenues that they use.

Also many groups and many authorities don't follow precise definitions of who they include in trafficking, and one of the confusions is about smuggling. Smuggling is not trafficking. Smuggling may turn into trafficking but it does not start out as trafficking because it has the consent of the individual. The individual is either approached or finds a smuggler, a coyote, whatever they're called in different countries and contracts with them to take them across the border. Now when they get across the border they may be told they have to pay more than they thought they did, they may end up not being able to get away or whatever. Then it's very likely in many of these cases that it does turn into a trafficking case but human smuggling itself just for the purpose of getting someone across the border is not trafficking, so that's one of the confusions.

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Another reason it's hard to gauge is because of government corruption in many countries who are helping the traffickers, working with them, taking bribes. This doesn't happen so much in our country but there are many cases where the police, because they don't realize it's a trafficking situation, take the person back to the massage parlor or wherever or maybe some, I hate to say this, some dirty cops in our country who are working along with people (sorry there, Officer Kovaks). But this kind of thing does happen, less so in our country than certainly in other countries around the world.

Another reason it's hard to gauge is because of that many authorities are still using what we call the faulty prostitution paradigm; that they aren't recognizing that these victims are trafficked, that they need help and instead they're calling them prostitutes. They believe they've done it by choice and they end up arresting them, putting them back on the streets and not providing them with help, not seeing it as what it should be, which is a trafficking paradigm.

Finally governments limit knowledge about this, for example there's a report that the U.S. does every year that rates countries by the amount of trafficking that each country engages in and we actually excuse certain countries from being on the report because they're our allies. So for example Saudi Arabia does not turn up on that report when Saudi Arabia is one of the worst places in the world for trafficking, both sexual and labor trafficking. And so there's other countries that we have diplomatic agreements with and want to stay on the good side of and so they end up not being on these reports. Okay so, let me have a drink of water here...



So let's look at the market. Around the world, Germany is the top destination for trafficking and that's followed by the U.S. So we're the second largest trafficking destination in the world--how many people knew that? You knew that? Good, good, all right.

Most of the people being trafficked today come from Russia and other Eastern European countries, from the former Soviet block and I'll talk a little bit about why that is.

The foreigners who are trafficked into the U.S. primarily come from Asia, Mexico and the former Soviet block.

And how did they do this? They do this by illegal use of legal documents. They'll have somebody carrying someone else's documents, they do it by creating false documents and that's a big industry and so that's a whole industry that supports the trafficking industry is the making of fake passports and visas. And a third way is the use of Caucasian men and often military men as escorts, taking people across the borders as their girlfriend, as their wife--setting up fake marriages so that guys can get girls across the border for the traffickers.

Another big market is sex tourism and if you go on the web you can find websites and you probably don't want to do this at home because your parents might wonder what you're doing or you might not want to do it in the library. But you can find these websites that will actually book a whole trip for you, wherever you want to go, and you tell them what gender you want male or female, what age, what you would like to be done, how long. And so sex tourism is a really huge business and also happens here in America. People come from other countries here to America and arranged with these sex tourism operators to have access to the type of...generally child that they're wanting to be with.

The Market

- Germany is top destination, followed by U.S.
- Most from Russia & other Eastern European countries
- Into U.S.: Asia, Mexico, former Soviet Bloc
- Means: illegal use of legal docs; fake docs, Caucasian men (often military) as escorts
- Sex tourism
- Big sports events: Olympics, SuperBowl, World Soccer Cup

Another big market are the big sports events--the Olympics, the Super Bowl, the World Soccer Cup. Every time one of those events happens in those cities all the traffickers merge on those cities with their victims and are...pardon?

Republican Convention? Right, and probably the Democratic Convention as well. But these big events are a big place where people who are interested in buying sex can find loads of girls. The past few years there have been pickets and demonstrations at the Super Bowl. In fact this year there were a whole bunch of nuns who actually picketed in whatever city...where was the Super Bowl...who...Indiana, Indiana, right. So there were a bunch of nuns who picketed to make people aware that this kind of thing goes on.

The Perpetrators

- Ability to make huge profits: 5-20x original price
- Est. largest criminal industry w/in 10 yrs, more than drugs & guns
- Shift from large criminal orgs to small-time operators/entrepreneurs
- Int'l criminals & U.S. gangs shifting from drugs to humans
 - Low risk, more lucrative
 - Humans easier to move & store
- Negligible to low risk of prosecution
- Roles:
 - Organizers/planners of the network
 - Middle men: recruiters, transporters, brokers, sellers
 - Business operator: brother & nightclub owners, pimps
 - Aides: corrupt gov't officials & police

Okay, who are the perpetrators? The perpetrators are both men and women, but primarily men. The women are usually kind of recruiters or second rank. They are able to make huge profits, they can get anywhere from five to twenty times the original price of the person they buy

As I said earlier this is estimated to be the largest criminal industry within ten years.

What's interesting and what's happening today is that initially trafficking was pretty much the domain of large criminal organizations, international organizations. And it has more and more been shifting to also include small time operators and entrepreneurs because people are finding out how easy it is to do and how lucrative it is. So that's a big shift.

In the U.S., gangs are shifting from selling drugs to selling humans because they're finding out that it's low risk, that it's more lucrative and that humans are easier to move and store than drugs. So there, gangs are keeping up with the times.

In this whole area of trafficking the risk of prosecution is negligible to low, the federal statues are not always...the investigations that happen on a federal level often don't come up with suspected perpetrators, the cases often don't get closed. On a state and local level there aren't very good laws; in some states there aren't any laws at all. So the risk of prosecution is low.

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So in terms of the perpetrators there are four rolls, there's the guys at the top who are kind of the organizers and planners of the network, there are the middle men who are the recruiters, the transporters, the brokers, the sellers and then the next level is the business operator...that's supposed to say brothel not brother...my brother wouldn't be very happy about that...so the business operator owns a brothel, owns a nightclub and then of course pimps and varying levels of pimps. And then as I said earlier the aides, the corrupt government officials and police, particularly in many foreign countries. It always did shock me that how many women actually work generally at this middle men level--getting the girls across the borders, recruiting them, helping break them in, it's really quite shocking.

Push-Pull Factors

- **Push**
 - Poverty: local and global
 - Unemployment
 - Lack of good marriage partners
 - Political upheavals
 - Lack of education
 - Impoverishment of women; few career opportunities
 - Oppression of women/subservience
 - Sacrifice self to send money back home
- **Pull**
 - Traffickers offer false hope
 - Demand for cheap labor in global economy
 - Demand for commercial & illicit sex
 - Demand for sex tourism
 - U.S. bases abroad
 - Internet to advertise & access

So as a sociologist I want to talk to you about the “push and pull factors.” It's something we always look at in sociology, like what on a grander scale is pushing people into this industry and what is pulling them into it. So some of the “push” factors are poverty on a local and global level--people are desperate, people feel...again they're often tricked into it but it's one way they think they can support their family. There's massive unemployment on a global scale. In many countries there's a lack of good marriage partners so some guy comes along and woos you and says I'm going to take you to America and you think that's great. Political upheavals in many countries means that the countries are in chaos and crisis, and it's another way that people are trapped into this. Certainly that's true in the country in Africa where the child soldiers are kidnapped to fight for the rebel armies. Lack of education, although recently it's much more middle class and educated people who are getting into this and I'll talk a little bit more about that. The impoverishment of women around the world. Women are poorer than anyone else and have few career opportunities. In many countries women are terribly oppressed and subservient, and may see this as a way out, not realizing what they're getting into. And that also women tend to sacrifice themselves and some men also to send money back home, so they'll again pick up on some offer to go to another country and earn some money and be able to support their children or their parents or whoever back home.

So the “pull” factors are that these traffickers are very good at offering false hope. They're quite skilled at their recruitment. They often pose as modeling agencies, employment agencies--some of them are actually licensed employment agencies and this is so that they have a legitimate business that deals with some people but then a whole bunch of other people are duped and lured into a trafficking situation and so they're able to have...be in

the good graces of the government or, you know, get people referred to them.

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Or one girl will go there and say, “Oh yeah, I had a perfectly fine time, I got a job modeling,” not knowing that ten other girls were sold into trafficking. So they're very good at what they do. Another pull factor is the demand for cheap labor in the global economy and so this is where we see the sweat shops, the construction workers, the many ways in which people are used as slave labor. The huge demand for commercial and illicit sex around the world, the demand for sex tourism. Another pull factor are the U.S. military bases abroad, it's been shown,--this has been studied in many different studies--that wherever we have a base, brothels and prostitution have grown enormously in the areas around those bases and so our military personnel are, in fact, part of the problem. And in fact, a number of years ago, there's a great movie if you want to get it, it's on Netflix, called “The Whistle Blower,” and it's about an American cop who took a job with the U.N. Peacekeeping force because she wanted to earn more money--these are contracted-out jobs. And she was sent to Bosnia and this was just after the war and so the U.N. Peacekeepers were there. And she discovered that the men there who were the U.N. Peacekeepers were all involved in the human trafficking that was happening in Bosnia, which was one of the main sources of trafficking in the 90's (which I think Dr. Transchel is going to talk about). And so she blew the whistle on this, tried to raise attention to it and she got all kinds of flack and eventually lost her job. It's a great movie, it's based on this woman's true story, so check it out--I just saw it this weekend, it's really good. The other pro factors of course are from the internet. So much is happening now on the internet for advertising and access to just about anything that you want.

Four Waves into Western Europe and U.S.

- 1992 – Asian women
- 1993 – South American women
- 1993 – Africans
- 1994 – Central & Eastern Europe

Just to talk a little bit historically. There have been four waves of trafficked people into Western Europe and the U.S. The first big wave was in '92 when it was mostly Asian women; in '93 it was mostly South American women and children in...oh yeah...also in 93, sorry about that, the African people got more induced into this or kidnapped into this. And then in 94 was the big boom from central and Eastern Europe. In all of these places people are still being trafficked from today but this is kind of the historical generation of it

Growing Demand in U.S.

- At least 100,000 children live in slavery every year
- Younger & younger (from 18-24, now 12 & 13)
- Known locations: order what you want & it will be brought to you
- Hispanic girls brought to "service" Hispanic laborers & farmworkers
- Trafficking reported in all 50 states & U.S. territories
- Since 1997, # of child pornography images on Internet increased by 1,500%

Let's talk a little bit about here at home. There's a growing demand in the U.S. The Department of Justice estimates that at least 100,000 children live in slavery every year in the U.S., and several hundred thousand are recruited each year. Some get out so they take the places of the ones still in.

Right now the ages that traffickers are looking for and the demand is for younger and younger children. So traffickers used to look for 18 to 24 year olds, and now the target age is 12 and 13. So the average age of a girl who's starting out in forced prostitution, if you can believe it, is 12 years old. I mean think back when you were 12 years old--would you have been ready for something like that?

There are known locations where pedophiles and pornographers know to go to, to find what they're looking for. And you can basically order whatever you want and it will be brought to you.

In many cases, Hispanic girls are brought into America to service Hispanic laborers and farm workers. There was just a big bust a couple of years ago in Florida in the orange groves where they had Mexican and Central Mexican farm laborers there, many of whom were working as slaves. And then they had little shacks set aside where they brought in Mexican girls and basically locked them in these sheds and they had to have sex over and over again with these workers. So it was one way to quote "keep the workers happy."

Trafficking has been reported in all 50 states and U.S. territories, so it's happening all around us.

And in terms of child trafficking since 1997 the number of child pornography images on the internet has increased by 1,500 percent. There have been some big busts, which is very good, but this is still a huge problem.

A Magnet State

- California has 3 of the top 10 child sex trafficking areas in the U.S.
 - Source: California Against Slavery
- California is a top destination for human traffickers
 - Source: "Human Trafficking in California," California Alliance to Combat Trafficking and Slavery Task Force, 2007

Los Angeles
Oakland
Sacramento
San Jose
I-5 corridor
Disneyland

So let's come home to California. California is actually a magnet state. California has three of the top ten child sex trafficking areas in the U.S.

And California is a top destination for all human trafficking. And in part--and I'll talk a little bit about this more--but in part it's because of the various ports, our borders and things like that.

Some of the main sites in California where trafficking is huge is Los Angeles, Oakland-- Sacramento has become one of the biggest hubs so that's very near us--San Jose, what's called the I-5 corridor where girls are brought up and down from Seattle to Portland and down to San Jose and back and they're kept in motels or in travelling vans. It's posted on the internet where they're going to be each day or for a couple of days. And in fact, a few years ago there was a bust here in Chico at a motel where they found four underage girls who were trafficked from Portland and would have been going on down to San Jose. So that's happening right here in Chico. The reason California is such a big place is because we have extensive international harbors, we have major airports, international airports, we have the border along Mexico, we're not far from the Canadian border, we have a large immigrant population which is very vulnerable, we have the types of industries that are prime targets for trafficking. And we have, like everyone, a declining economy which opens up many avenues for traffickers because people are vulnerable and desperate. So the impact on our region and any region where there's lots of trafficking is increased crime, increased gang activity, child exploitation, public health problems, depressed wages. And again these areas are for both international and domestic trafficking.

Domestic Examples

- Craigslist/VV/Backpage: "erotic services"
- Missouri family
- Michigan set-up
- Ohio "boyfriend"
- San Jose, CA
- Kansas
- Paper route kidnap
- Oregon
- Arkansas
- Canada
- Polygamist groups
- Most at risk: runaway teens; throwaways
- New target: 12-14-year-olds
- Sites: homeless shelters, bus stations, malls, ads for models & actresses
- Pushed into it by pimps, family members, or as a means of survival

So I want to go over now some domestic examples, just to make you aware of what's going on here in the states. You may have heard a while ago there was a big campaign against Craig's List because they had their erotic services page where people could post pictures and many of these were underage girls. There was a big public campaign as well, in the state of Michigan--the Governor there got very involved. And at first Craig's List said they would give a portion of the profits from this page to trafficking organizations, people didn't think that was quite enough and I believe now that that page has been shut down. But immediately afterward, other pages opened up in the Village Voice and other internet sites. There's one called Back Page Dot Com, and Back Page is now the main site to put up these services for here in America. On those sites girls as young as 12 and younger are being advertised and sold. So to give you some other examples...in Missouri, an 18 year old girl was living with her boyfriend's family. The father forced her to become his sex slave, he beat and tortured her. She had nowhere to go, she was forced to work in strip clubs making about \$1,800 a night, which she had to turn over to her boyfriend's father. At one point she escaped and they caught her and he beat her so terribly that she went into cardiac arrest and they nicely called an ambulance. And basically while she was going to the hospital she told the EMT driver guys in the back with her, her story and that's how she was rescued. So sometimes people get rescued. The story from Michigan was that a girl was new at a school, she made a friend with another girl in her grade.

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The friend said, "Oh, why don't you come with me. We've got some cabins up in the country, my dad's going to take us and he's going to pay us some money to clean these cabins up in the country." So she thought this was cool, she made a new friend. She told her parents she was going off for the weekend with her friend and the friend's father and of course her parents thought it was okay because the father was going along. They basically kidnapped her, the dad kidnapped her and she was forced into sex slavery for two years until she finally escaped. The case in Ohio is that a 15 year old girl was leaving middle school one day. An older guy came up to her; he said that she was really pretty and that he wanted to be her boyfriend so she started hanging out with him. He eventually pimped her out of an office space for three years. And she had to service eight customers a day for \$150 each, and all of the money got turned over to him, until she finally escaped. The San Jose story that I have is about a woman who escaped from a massage parlor, she was trafficked, she ran to the cop car, she got into the cop car and the cop took her right back to the massage parlor because he was in cahoots with the owners of the massage parlor. He got caught, he got defrocked as a cop, he got removed from the force. So thank God that had a good ending. The story from Kansas-- a child gave up too much information on Facebook. She started chatting with a guy who said I'll pick you up tonight, he basically...they spent the night together in Wichita, the next night they went to another town--by the third night she was on the streets prostituting herself in Chicago for this guy. So that within 48 hours this 15 year old girl was in a different state with a 50 year old man and being prostituted in order to survive and she was eventually rescued. Paper route kidnap--and I'm sorry I don't remember which state this happened in--but this was a 12 year old boy who was on his paper route on his bicycle.

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He was abducted in the morning right off his bicycle and ended up in a pedophile ring for years, a victim in this pedophile ring being shot in pornography films, hog tied, abused, until eventually when he became an adult somehow his parents discovered him and they were able to rescue him. In Oregon, a 14 year old girl ran away from a group home in Medford, she was sleeping in parks and under bridges. She eventually accepted a young man's offer for a place to stay. He soon became her boyfriend then he threatened to kick her out if she didn't have sex with his friends for money. She felt she had no choice and nowhere to go, she didn't know her way about the town that they were in. She said that the first exchange led to a downward spiral of prostitution that lasted 14 months until she finally escaped. He would essentially lock her up in his garage apartment for months at a time and have her servicing his friends. In Arkansas a former basketball player was arrested on human trafficking and child sex charges along with seven others, including his girlfriend. They kidnapped a girl from Texas and forced her into working as a dancer and a prostitute. They at least got caught and convicted. Then in Canada, in Montreal, five men were arrested for trafficking three girls between 14 and 15. They kidnapped the girls from bus shelters to a private home or a motel and forced them into prostitution and child pornography. So these cases are happening everywhere. Another one we don't often think about are the various polygamist groups in our country especially the FLDS, the Fundamental Latter Day Saints which is the off-shoot group that you've probably heard about in Texas and Colorado, Arizona, and they have a big compound up in Canada.

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They basically take young girls and move them across state borders and also into Canada and back and down to marry these minor girls to older men in the polygamist cult. So today most at risk are run away teens and throw away teens. And last night we were on the radio on KCHO and Lorraine Dechter asked me, "What shall we tell parents?" And I said, don't ever kick your kid out of the house because this is where kids get lost. They get into trouble, they find some nice person who befriends them and before you know it they're trapped in some kind of very abusive situation. As I said the new target is 12-to-14 year olds. Traffickers look for little girls with pink backpacks who are running away from home or walking around the malls. So the main sites are homeless shelters, bus stations, malls, ads for models and actresses, some of which are in the papers right here in Chico--watch out for those kinds of ads--and places where homeless kids hang out. They essentially get pushed into it by pimps, sometimes by family members, or get into it as a means of survival.

The Results

- Est. 300,000 children & teens lured into prostitution; avg. age 12
- Victims are younger than ever
- Victims no longer come from just impoverished or broken homes
- Industry increasingly high-tech & underground
- Innocence Lost Fed. Initiative: as of 2009 rescued 900 victims in more than 30 cities & locked up 510 pimps

So the results are that we have about 300,000 children and teens lured into prostitution every year; the average age is 12.

The victims are younger than ever.

The victims no longer come from just impoverished or broken homes; it's really become a middle class phenomena. And that's true in Eastern Europe as well. The way I first got into this was one of my students after she graduated she went into the Peace Corps, and she got sent to Macedonia, which is an Eastern European country. And there was a lot of trafficking going on there of girls who graduated from college. And they would go to career fairs and these traffickers would be set up at career fairs, supposedly offering legitimate jobs to these girls. And so the Peace Corps group there in Macedonia started a little mini organization to try to educate the girls there to be aware of these deceptive employment agencies at these career fairs.

Trafficking is becoming increasingly high tech and underground. They did start an initiative, a federal initiative, in America in terms of child trafficking called Innocence Lost.

And I don't have any current figures but as of 2009 they have rescued...they basically do coordinated sting operations. sometimes on several cities at a time. So as of the last figures that I have they've rescued 900 victims, again these are children in more than 30 cities and they've locked up 510 pimps, probably those pimps are out by now but, because unfortunately the sentencing isn't great.



So in terms of top U.S. locations for all kinds of trafficking--not just child--in America, it's Oakland, Houston, Las Vegas, Atlanta, Toledo, Portland, Kansas City, Oklahoma City and New York. And cities that have big ports of entry such as Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York and Vancouver, Canada.

The Problem

- Unrecognized issue – hidden
- Enforcement patchy
- Prosecution rates low
- Little protection for victims
- Lack of training for first responders
- Few resources for victims

Okay so the problem, what's the problem besides everything I've just told you? The problem is that this is still an unrecognized issue. It's hidden, it's constantly swept under the rug. It's part of the reason we're having this conference to really raise awareness about this issue in America and also globally. There have been some TV programs recently. CNN has a project called the Freedom Project which is doing great, short videos on trafficking around the world, there's some excellent work that they're doing. And Al Jazeera in English online also has a great series that they're doing on trafficking. We met the producer of the CNN series at a conference that the STOP officers and I went to last fall and he's really devoted to bringing awareness to this issue. So we've at least got one guy in the main stream media. The other night I happened to turn on MSNBC and there was a documentary about trafficking in Oakland. So I was like, wow this is great. Only they just showed all the cops arresting these girls and putting them in hand cuffs and they kind of didn't talk about the problem with that. But the cops there along International Boulevard which is kind of the main site are in particular looking for underage girls and when they find someone underage they do help them and they don't just arrest them. So there is more awareness but not enough and I think most people still think this doesn't happen here, this happens in Asia, this happens in the Czech Republic but this couldn't possibly be happening in America, couldn't possibly be happening to our children. And the reality is that it is and the numbers are huge.

The other part of the problem is that the enforcement is very patchy. Again, because of this difference between the prostitution paradigm and the trafficking paradigm.

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And also the penalties are just ridiculously low and the prosecution rates are ridiculously low. I just want to read you something from Shared Hope International. They did a report in 2009 they said...this gives you an idea of both the amount of money a trafficker can make as well as the abuse: "A domestic minor sex trafficking victim who is rented for sex acts with five different men per night for five nights per week for an average of five years would be raped by 6,000 buyers during the course of her victimization through prostitution." So that's just in five years and that's just five john's a night, usually the women have to service many more than that, sometimes up to 30 a day, so if you can imagine that.

There's also little protection for victims, they don't know where to go, they're afraid, they're afraid if they get sent back to their pimp they're just going to have the crap beat out of them, sometimes they get killed, sometimes when someone escapes and comes back they actually beat that person very brutally in front of all the other girls so that they're used as an example which again just intimidates people and puts fear in them.

Another part of the problem is the lack of training of first responders. And this is why we want to keep having these conferences every year and invite more police officers, social workers, try to give some continuing education credit because people like EMTs, like the EMT's who rescued that one girl, social workers, police, shelter personnel, people answering suicide hot lines, they need to be more aware of what a trafficking victim may look like or may sound like because the person is not necessarily going to have the words for it. But there will be certain telltale signs.

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There are very few resources for victims both internationally and here. Last I checked there are only five residential facilities in the United States that provide healing and restoration for child prostitutes... So now there's only four, thank you. I don't know which one closed but they are in Los Angeles, New York, Dallas Texas and San Francisco, so one of those closed down, so only five residential facilities for child trafficking victims. Initially when the United States even became aware of this problem they had money set aside to help victims but the money was only for foreigners. So if you were an American and you got trafficked none of the money you could use for your own rehabilitation or to go to court or whatever you wanted to do. So a few years ago they actually expanded that pot of money and they now do on a federal level also have money available for victims' rehabilitation.

Solutions

- Raise awareness
- Increase efforts to overcome poverty
- Improve schools
- Educate families
- Educate law enforcement & social workers
- Fund shelters & rehab centers for victims
- Victim services & witness support
- Stop treating victims as criminals
- Work toward a sustainable global economy

In terms of solutions, obviously raising awareness is one of the most important things we can do. All of us educating each other, educating our families and friends, taking it to our churches, our clubs whatever we're a part of and just absolutely spreading the word about this, telling people about the links on the website where you can find videos to watch, all kinds of information and statistics. Our brochure in the back has a lot of the great organizations that have really good resource websites and some of the really good books that give basic information.

We need to increase our efforts at a global level because poverty is really one of the main sources that is pushing people into this and that the traffickers are using to exploit.

We need to improve our schools so that kids aren't running away and dropping out of school, and we need to also educate them in the younger grades about this.

We need to educate families.

We need, as I said, need to educate law enforcement and social workers.

We need to fund shelters and rehab centers for the victims

We need to set up a lot more victim services and witness support.

We definitely need to stop treating victims as criminals.

And on a global scale, and sort of in line with our university's sustainability effort, we need to work toward a sustainable global economy--because this, in my opinion, is the most important sustainability issue. I'm all for recycling and you know water bottles and whatever all that green stuff is but, really, in my opinion. this is the most important sustainability issue.

Gov't Responses

- Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 – TVPA made trafficking a federal crime. Reauthorized 2008 broadened & harsher penalties
- "T" Visa: allows victims to remain in U.S.
- DOJ's Model State Anti-Trafficking Criminal Statute (2004) to encourage state & federal partnership
- Innocence Lost 2006
- By 2006: DOJ 555 investigations & 146 convictions
- 2007: 32 states passed anti-trafficking laws
- Avg sentence: 8.5 yrs

Just to talk a little bit about government responses--as I mentioned at the beginning, the trafficking victims protection act was passed in 2000. It made trafficking a federal crime. In 2008, it was reauthorized and broadened because initially when it said "coercion," it had in the definition that trafficking meant forced fraud and coercion, and initially when the act was first out, basically the victim had to prove that. So victims had to get up and testify, which is basically almost impossible to do because they're afraid...or some of them are dead. They don't have the words for it. It's abusing them all over again. So in 2008 they broadened the act, they don't have to require this kind of proof from the victims and also the penalties were made much harsher.

We also established something called the T Visa, which allows foreign victims to remain in the U.S. for a certain number of years until they get rehabilitated or feel safe to go home. If they don't feel that, they can after two or three years apply for residency in the U.S. In 2004 the Department of Justice passed a...put forth a model state anti-trafficking criminal statute which is encouraging state and federal partnership and in particular educating police forces and law enforcement and sharing programs and resources with each other.

I mentioned earlier the Innocence Lost program which was started in 2006 to entrap, basically pull off these sting operations to rescue in particular child victims. And by 2007 yeah...so in 2006 the DOJ, Department of Justice had opened 555 investigations; out of that there were only 146 convictions. So again you can see the numbers of convictions aren't very high.

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And by 2007, only 32 states out of 50 have anti-trafficking laws. So obviously this is something that needs to happen at a local level and I just wanted to mention the...in California the laws and if any of...hopefully many of you signed the petition that was due on March 1 to increase the penalties. But the laws that are in place right now say that if a victim...if somebody is caught trafficking a victim under 18--under 18--the most he can get is two years in county jail and the most he can be fined is \$2,000. Now that is just ludicrous, that is for trafficking a minor, so it's even less if the person is over 18, which is absolutely ridiculous. So this initiative that we're trying to get on the ballot for the fall will increase the criminal penalties for human trafficking, including prison sentences up to 15 years to life and fines up to a million and a half dollars. The fines collected will be used for victims' services and law enforcement. It requires the person convicted of trafficking to register as a sex offender, it requires sex offenders to provide information regarding internet access and identities they use in online activities, it prohibits evidence that the victim had to engage in from being used again the victim in the court proceedings. And it require human trafficking training for police officers, not for them to become human traffickers obviously but for them to be able to better recognize it.

So just a final slide here...Yes, the average sentence is eight and a half years and that's nationally.

How to Help

- Any suspicions:
 - Call national hotline: 888-3737-888
 - DOJ Hotline: 999-428-7581
 - Call local law enforcement
- Get involved! Join S.T.O.P!
- Educate yourself!
- Change the way you shop!
- Be aware!
- Educate others!

How to help. The first part of our getting you here is to get you to help. So if you have any suspicions whatsoever--you have a woman you know works next door but you never see her let out of the house, you know somebody who ordered a male order bride and she has black eyes all the time. You know that there's some other illegal activity going on at your favorite massage parlor, you drive by massage parlors at midnight and you see the lights on. I mean how many legitimate masseuses do you know that work at midnight? This could be trafficking. So if you have any suspicions whatsoever, the least inkling, call the national hotline, the number is 888 373-7888, pretty easy to remember. Put it your cell phone. You don't have to give your name, it's completely confidential, and they will open up an investigation. If nothing comes of it fine, great but maybe you will alert them to something that's happening right here in Chico or in your neighborhood back home. There's also a Department of Justice hot line, 999 428-7581. You can also call local law enforcement; we want to get them more aware of this, call the national hot line but also call your local law enforcement and say, "you know I'm really worried..." I think about Jaycee Dugard, that little girl who was kidnapped when she was 11 and she was held in a shed in somebody's back yard for 18 years. And the...what were they called...probation officers, the probation officers even came to the house, they even saw her there. And for 18 years she was kept in this back yard, she had two children with that guy, she was kept in a shed for the first two years without any light, she literally didn't go outside, she had a bucket to pee in, they brought her food three times a day and it wasn't until she got pregnant that they even let her out of the shed to see the light of day and started giving her warm meals.

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She lived under horrendous circumstances and if the neighbors...the neighbors saw the sheds in that back yard, saw movement back there, saw that there were little girls back there, her two daughters. If people had been more vigilant and just complained and complained and complained until something was done she might not have been there for 18 years. Fortunately she's doing really well and she's started a foundation because of some of the money she got from the State of California because of the inattention of the probation officers. But really, any suspicions give somebody a call.

Get involved, join STOP. We've got our STOP table back there, Stop Trafficking in Persons, we've been on campus since 2008. Every year we do wonderful things. Join us. educate yourself, learn more, come to the rest of the things this week but also learn more on line, buy books, read stuff, change the way you shop—chocolate. We all love chocolate I know, and I know that fair trade chocolate is very expensive but chocolate is one of the biggest industries where child slaves are used in Africa to get you that chocolate and in South America. Diamonds are in Africa, if you're buying your girlfriend a diamond ring. make sure you get a blood-free diamond ring and even today the blood-free diamond rings aren't really blood-free. So get a different kind of ring, it doesn't have to be a diamond, that's just old...Yeah get a ruby...they're probably gotten that way, too. So change the way you shop, buy fair trade as much as you can. I know it's a little more difficult but it really will stop...hopefully stop the sweat shops and the child abuse in many of these other countries. Also be aware, be on the lookout, educate and educate others. So that's my bit. I'm going to turn it over to Kate in a minute. Are there any questions? Yes, sir.



Audience Member: You didn't mention anything about like how the girls are getting trafficked and moved into different countries around Europe, you didn't mention any kind drugs involved and that's a common occurrence is to get them hooked on like heroin.

Dr. Lalich: Yes.

Audience Member: Or any kind of strong drug and that's used to influence them and they'll actually willingly go prostitute themselves out for the drugs.

Dr. Lalich: Right, absolutely. I didn't talk that much about the breaking process which Dr. Transchel is going to talk about. And she has some great maps that she's going to show sort of the trafficking route But absolutely, the drugs--besides the physical violence getting the girls and children hooked on drugs is one of the biggest methods of control that the traffickers use. Thank you for bringing that up.

Audience Member: Wouldn't you call that like almost voluntary then, because if they are from the drugs and there are addicted and they do that on their own free will, I can see how that would be considered wrong, it's like they are doing it themselves so...[inaudible] from where you're coming from, it's hard to catch them because these girls do it by themselves.

Dr. Lalich: Well, they don't do it by themselves, they do it for their pimp or...I'm not talking about adult women who quote "choose" to become prostitutes, and even that's very iffy because it has a lot to do with how women are treated in our society. But if a girl or a child or a man or a young boy or whatever is trafficked and is deliberately hooked on drugs by their trafficker, and then wants to get more drugs to feed her or his habit, I don't see that as voluntary. That's coercion of the worst sort. So you know we have to go back to the source.



So, no. Certainly there may be some druggie kids who are out on the street and may prostitute themselves to get more drugs if that's what you're talking about. They perhaps haven't been trafficked, but unfortunately what happens is when people get into that zone and get into that life style they're going to be more vulnerable to getting picked up by a pimp who's going to tell them, oh I can, you know. I can ensure I'm going to take care of you. You can come stay with me, I'm going to be able to make more money. Then you feed your habit more, whatever, so it's a very vulnerable place to be. Any other questions? Yes.

Dr. Lalich: I would check with the Department of Justice, I would check with the State Department, the Health and Human Services, even maybe the local FBI. You know. the other day I went to get a root canal at this dentist's office that I'd never been to before and across the hall was the FBI. I was like I didn't even know we had FBI in Chico but I guess it must be stuff that you all engage in [laughter] but...but maybe even the FBI, call the local office. They can maybe direct you to the right people that will do that. I would also contact the Polaris Project, it's P-o-l-a-r-i-s. The Polaris Project is headquartered in D.C., and they're one of the best anti-trafficking non-profits and NGO's in our country. And I'm sure they can also help direct you because they would certainly want to know if someone is thinking about doing that. Are you thinking about doing that...fantastic...here in Chico?

Audience Member: Yes.

Dr. Lalich: Fantastic, fantastic good for you.

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Audience Member: Just to add to that the U.S. State Department if you go to their website they do have something called the VOT which stands for Victims of Trafficking and there are federal grants available for these kinds of projects or to put on a conference or the money is somewhat competitive because there's [inaudible] but you can find that information at the U.S. State Department website.

Dr. Lalich: Okay, any other questions? All righty. Well, I thank you for your attention.