



# **At-risk Youth and Sex Trafficking:**

**Helping Schools  
Understand and  
Respond to the Issue**





# Getting to know NCHE and Traffick911

- **NCHE** is the U.S. Department of Education's technical assistance center in the area of homeless education.

Website: [www.serve.org/nche](http://www.serve.org/nche)

Listserv: [www.serve.org/nche/listserv.php](http://www.serve.org/nche/listserv.php)



- **Traffick911**, based in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, is driven to stop the buying and selling of American children through prevention, rescue and restoration.

Website: [www.traffick911.com](http://www.traffick911.com).





# Where we are headed

- Why is this issue important?
- What is domestic minor sex trafficking?
- How big is the issue?
- Who are the victims?
- How does trafficking work?
- What should I look for?
- How should I respond?





# *The case for action*





## A well-hidden American epidemic

*“Among children and teens living on the streets in the U.S., involvement in commercial sex activity is a problem of epidemic proportion.”*

- U.S. Department of Justice





# Media alert: Schools are a prime recruiting ground

NYDailyNews.com  
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## Schools hotbeds for luring young sex slaves

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ERICA PEARSON  
 Sunday, April 01, 2012

It's the most chilling of hunting grounds.

Sex traffickers who coerce kids into prostitution are using the city's schoolyards and playgrounds as recruiting offices.

It's such a troubling problem that Brooklyn prosecutors have started training educators on how to spot kids in peril on their turf.

"It happens enough that I can say it happens a bunch," Assistant District Attorney Lauren Hersh told the Daily News. "Many girls are forced to go to middle school playgrounds and recruit other young girls."

Brooklyn prosecutor Lauren Hersh said that in fighting those who prey on...

### RELATED ARTICLES

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[High Schoolers Go Back To Future](#)  
*December 10, 1998*

[http://articles.nydailynews.com/2012-04-01/news/31271468\\_1\\_guidance-counselor-backpage-com-schools](http://articles.nydailynews.com/2012-04-01/news/31271468_1_guidance-counselor-backpage-com-schools)



# Education = prevention and rescue

*“Shortly after that (Traffick911) training session, one of our homeless liaisons from an urban area contacted me to let me know that he had discovered a young woman—a student in his district—who was involved in the sex-trafficking trade.”*

- Barbara Wand James  
Director, Texas Homeless Education Office





# *Defining the scope*





# A profitable commodity

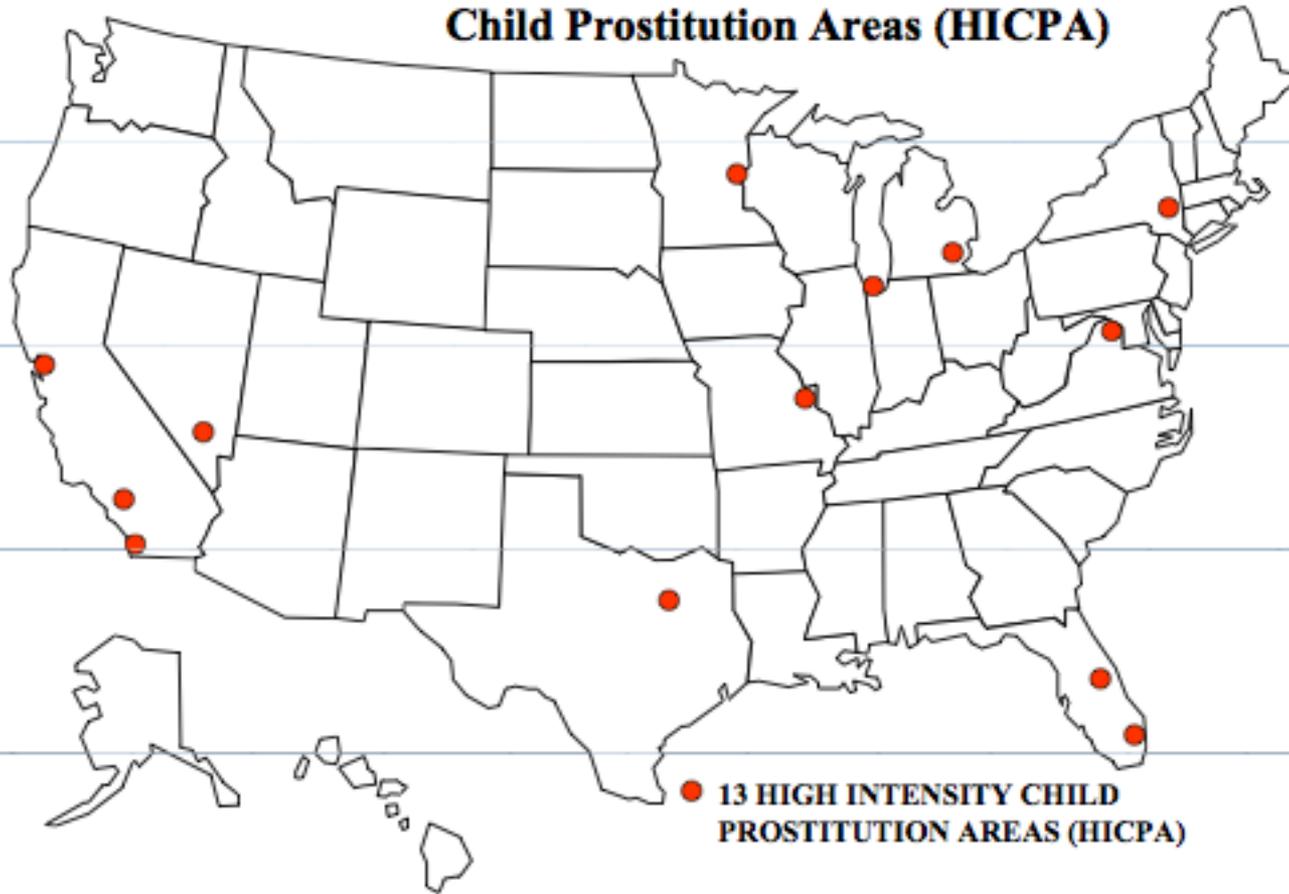


- *Thousands upon thousands* of U.S. children at risk for trafficking EACH YEAR...and growing.
- Average age of entry into sex trafficking is *12-13*.
- Brief “shelf life” – *7 years*.
- Surplus, low or no cost, disposable.
- An increase in minor arrests in suburban and rural areas suggests that prostitution is expanding beyond city limits.



# High Intensity Child Prostitution Areas

**Locations of High Intensity  
Child Prostitution Areas (HICPA)**



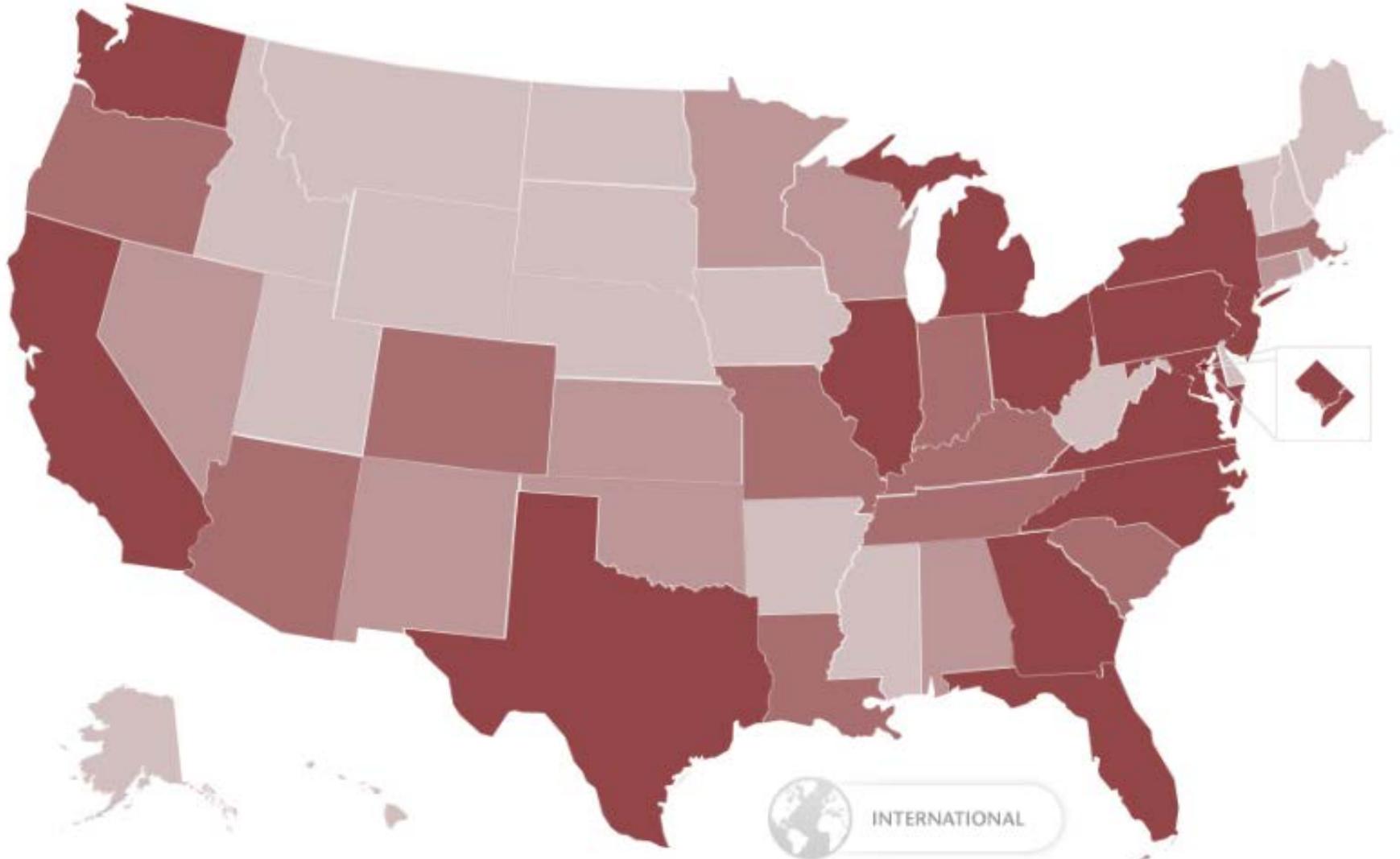
- Chicago
- Dallas
- Detroit
- Las Vegas
- Los Angeles
- Miami
- Minneapolis
- New York
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- St. Louis
- Tampa
- Washington, D.C.

# Total NHTRC Hotline Calls by State

Color map according to: Total NHTRC Hotline Calls by

This map shows the total number of NHTRC hotline calls by state.

State  
■ No Data ■ 1 - 250 ■ 250 - 500 ■ 500 - 750 ■ 750+



 INTERNATIONAL

<http://www.polarisproject.org/state-map>



# *What is domestic minor sex trafficking?*





# According to federal law

- NO PROOF OF FORCE, FRAUD OR COERCION IS NECESSARY.
- ANY person under 18 years of age.
- The minor must be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident.
- Exchange of *any* sex act for *anything* of value.
- Note: More protection, resources for international victims.

*Note: These definitions are from the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)*





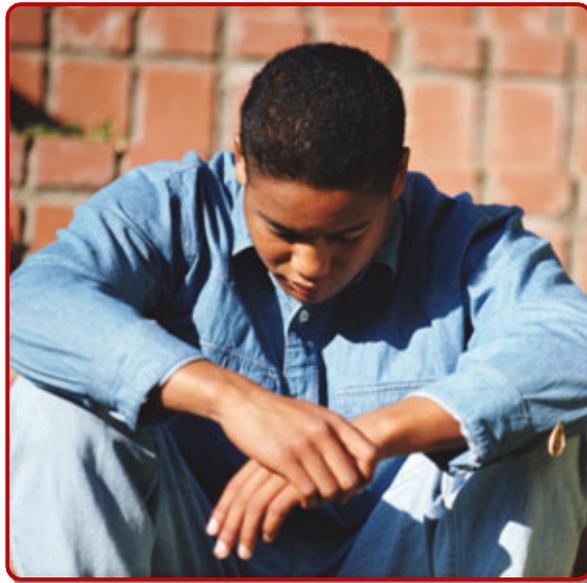
# *Who are the victims?*





# Any child can become a victim

- Children of any ethnicity, age, race or religion.
- Youth of any socio-economic class.
- Girls or boys: no educated guess to number of boys.
- Children of all ages.





# Case study

## Bailey

- 13-years-old.
- Average, everyday teen.
- Gifted-and-talented program.
- Dancer, gymnast who competed at the state level.
- **TAKEN:** From a school basketball game.





# Characteristics of a high-risk DMST victim



- Unstable home life.
- Parent-child conflict.
- Addiction to substances; parent addicted.
- Depression; Low self-esteem or self-worth.
- Hunger.
- Desire for protection, love.
- Poverty-stricken.
- Homelessness; chronic runaway; throwaway.
- Left behind by education system.
- Transient.
- Involvement with juvenile justice system, foster care or child protective services.





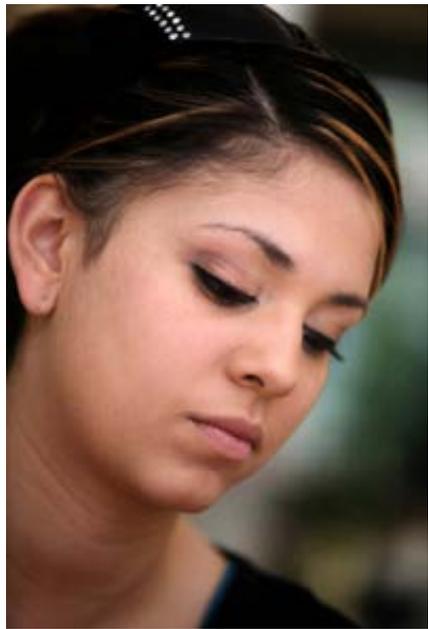
# Homeless students and victimization

- **1 out of 3** homeless youth in the U.S. at high risk of being approached by a trafficker within **48 hours** of running away or being kicked out.
- As many as 2.4 million runaways a year. Statistically, this means **at least 800,000** runaway children will be lured into commercial sexual exploitation each year.
- **30%** of shelter youth and **70%** of street youth are victimized through DMST.





# Why are homeless children at higher risk?



- Poverty, hunger, economic need.
- Instability.
- Higher levels of learning disabilities and academic difficulties.
- Higher levels of emotional and behavioral problems.
- Higher levels of abuse within the home.
- Isolation from family and support systems (unaccompanied homeless youth).





# High risk for kids involved with child welfare



- History of abuse and neglect.
- Instability.
- Lack of support system.
- Higher levels of homelessness (overlap).





# *Red flags*





# What to look for

- Truancy.
- Runaway/homeless.
- Malnourished.
- Older, controlling boyfriend or friend.
- Sudden change in attire, behavior, possessions.
- Withdrawn, depressed or fearful or more confident and boasting.
- Branding, tattoos or carvings.



"Lay Lows Property"





# What to look for

- Scripted answers; inconsistent stories.
- Travels to other cities frequently.
- Varied stages of bruising; clumps of makeup covering.



- Burns, scars



- Doesn't have proper documents; not allowed to talk.
- Uses terms common to sex industry; sexual situations beyond their age.

- Motel room cards; escort service cards.





# Let's get the lingo

- Trick
- Stable
- Sister-in-law/wife-in-law
- Seasoning
- Turn out
- Quota
- Bottom bitch
- Automatic
- Facilitator
- Trade up/trade down
- Choosing up
- Eyeballing
- Lot lizard
- Finesse pimp
- Romeo pimp
- Gorilla pimp
- Pimp stick





# Possible medical signs

- STDs
- Pelvic pain or inflammatory disease
- Rectal trauma
- Urinary difficulties
- Pregnancy
- Mutilations
- Infertility
- Infectious diseases
- Stunted growth
- Vaginal bleeding
- Torn colon

**Note:** Estimated that 28% of trafficking victims come into contact with the health-care system at least once.



- Malnourishment
- Poorly formed or rotted teeth
- Addiction/withdrawal
- Bruises
- Scars
- Undiagnosed/untreated diseases
- Unset broken bones





# Case study

## Katy

- 15-years-old.
- Talented, involved student who started having trouble at school.
- Ran away.
- Returned to school after missing for more than a month.
- **MISSING THE SIGNS:** Disappears again - this time for almost a year.





# *Professional intervention*





## What to do if you see signs

- Follow training procedures to try to identify.
- Separate the child from the person with them.
- Call law enforcement.
- Call Traffick911.
- Go through your normal, mandatory procedures.

*“This information has a short shelf-life. Trust your instincts. As we get older, we stop listening to our little Jiminy Cricket,”*

*- Vice Sgt. Chris Bray.*





# Helping them identify

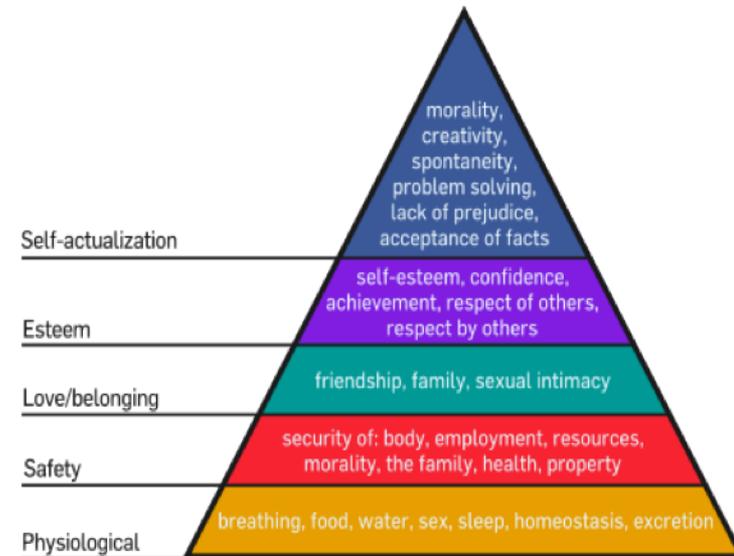
- Be non-judgmental and kind.
- Develop a rapport with the student.
- Allow them to guide the conversation.
- Use youth-friendly language.
- Ensure open body language.
- Limit personal references and interruptions.
- Meet them where they are.
- Be transparent; you have to earn their trust.





# Remember...

- You must meet their immediate needs **first**.
- If remove all defense mechanisms at once, can cause unintended consequences.
- Realize the way information is collected has a powerful impact on whether the experience is re-traumatizing.
- Being asked to tell the story can cause a cascade of physical and psychological symptoms.





# Let's ask..



- I like that tattoo. Where did you get it?
- Do you have a nickname?
- When you don't come to school, who do you hang out with?
- Are there things happening to you at home that make you not want to go home?
- Do you ever do any traveling when you're gone?
- How do you take care of yourself when you leave home?
- Has anyone forced you to do something you didn't want to do?





# Understanding the dynamics

- Recognize the abuse behind the abuse
  - 80% abused in home.
  - 28 times more likely to be arrested for prostitution.

*“I’d rather have sex with a stranger every day than have sex with my dad every day.”*



- After lockup
  - Higher recidivism rates.
  - Lower educational/economic opportunities.
  - Hang with delinquent peers.



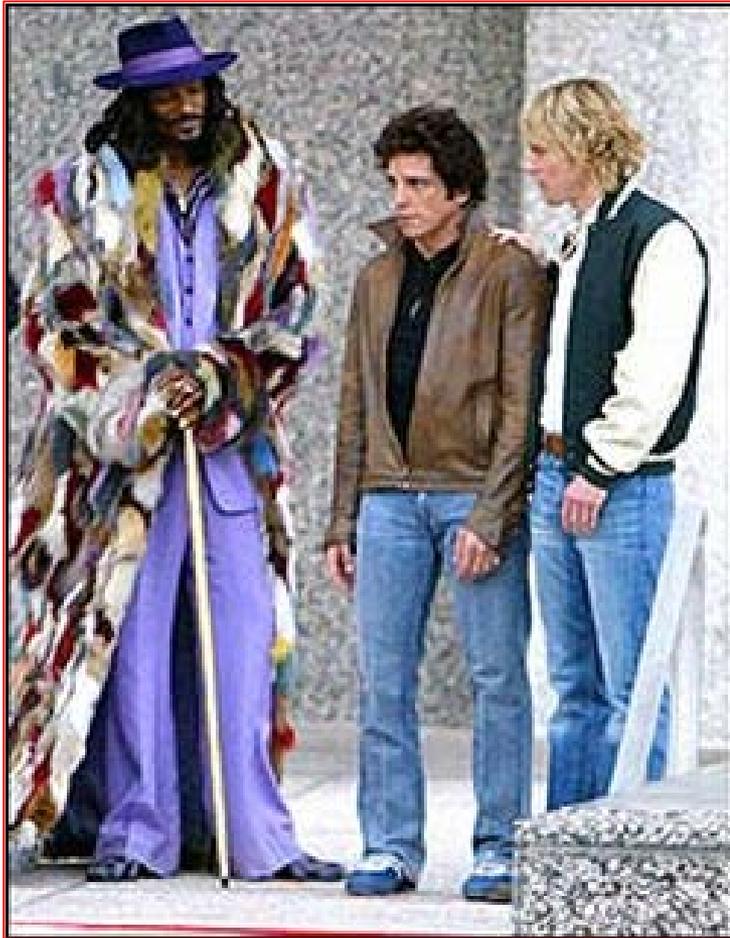


*Who are the pimps?*





# Not usually the guy in the fur coat and gold chain





# In the news: athletes

The screenshot shows the NBC Sports website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with sports categories: NFL, MLB, NHL, NBA, NCAA FB, NCAA BK, and SOCCER. Below that, there are links for Scores, Odds, TV Listings, Video, Photos, Mobile, Radio, Tickets, and Shop. A promotional banner for 'Fab.' is visible, featuring a blue mug and a white creature-shaped cup, priced at \$22. The main content area features a large headline: 'EX-NBA ALL-STAR ACCUSED OF SEX TRAFFICKING'. Below the headline, it states 'Alvin Robertson faces charges related to kidnapping of 14-year-old girl'. There are social media sharing buttons for Twitter and Facebook. The article is attributed to 'Ap Associated Press' and is dated 'updated 8:37 p.m. ET Feb. 26, 2010'. The text of the article begins with 'SAN ANTONIO - Former NBA All-Star Alvin Robertson faces sexual assault of a child and sex trafficking charges alleging he was among seven people who kidnapped a 14-year-old girl who was forced into prostitution and made to dance at a strip club, authorities said Friday.' To the right of the article is a large image of Alvin Robertson in a white Milwaukee Bucks jersey, dribbling a basketball during a game.

<http://nbcsports.msnbc.com/id/35606969/ns/sports-nba/>





# In the news: neighbors

## Houston Massage Therapist Charged In Child Sex-Trafficking Case

Jul 26, 2012 | 1 | By News 92 FM



*Jason Gandy from Houston has been charged in a sex-trafficking case. (Credit: Facebook)*

A Houston man and massage therapist arrested in London, has been accused of transporting a teen for paid sex acts. Immigration officials in London stated that they got suspicious of Jason Gandy when they noticed him traveling with a 15-year-old boy he wasn't related to.

Officials said Gandy purchased plane tickets and got a passport for the boy to get him to the Olympic city. According to investigators, Gandy runs a massage therapy business out of his Houston-area home and used the boy to give massages.

Officials further stated that Gandy's clients were given permission to fondle the teen during the massage and the boy was required to gratify the clients sexually.

<http://news92fm.com/265122/houston-massage-therapist-charged-in-child-sex-trafficking-case/>





# In the news: businessmen

Photo 1 of 1 | Zoom Photo +



Gary Reiner leaves federal court in Portland Maine Friday Sept. 30 2005 followed by his wife Bonnie and attorney Steve Gordon. [File photo / 2005]

AP / Portland Press Herald Shawn P. Oullette

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- 'Serial infector' trial scheduled in February - 12/4/2012
- City Council shelves parking garage at Worth lot - 12/4/2012
- Police: Portsmouth man facing drug charges - 12/4/2012

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By **Elizabeth Dinan**  
 edinan@seacoastonline.com  
 November 07, 2009 9:17 AM

BOSTON - Two Mass. men were found guilty of prostituting minors in several states, including at Kittery, Maine's former Danish Health Club, according to federal prosecutors.

Authorities say Darryl Tavares of Revere and Eddie Jones of Boston were convicted in U.S. District Court Friday on charges related to forcing teenage girls to work as prostitutes. Prosecutors said the 26-year-olds were members of a Boston-based group known as the Jones family, that operated from 2001 to 2005 in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, New York, New Jersey, Florida and Pennsylvania.

<http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20091107-NEWS-911079995>





# In the news: babysitters

## Three-year-old boy tortured and left for dead after his babysitter sold him for sex in exchange for meth and his mother did nothing to stop it

By PAUL THOMPSON

UPDATED: 02:28 EST, 29 June 2011

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A three-year-old boy has been left fighting for his life after being 'sold' by his babysitter to two men who raped and tortured the toddler.

Police said the boy from Oklahoma was forced to drink bleach and had part of his skull torn off during the horrific assault.

His face, eyes and throat were all covered in chemical burns and he had been hanged from a ceiling with a dog collar.

Investigators said Jennifer Chapman, who was looking after the boy, allegedly offered him to two men for sex in exchange for methamphetamine.

The two men allegedly raped and tortured the boy for several hours before returning him to 43-year-old Chapman at the Oklahoma motel where she was staying with the boy's mother Leana Lauck.



**Babysitter: Jennifer Chapman, 43, allegedly offered a three-year-old boy to two men for sex in exchange for meth**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2009142/Oklahoma-boy-3-sold-sex-babysitter-Jennifer-Chapman-exchange-meth.html>





# Easy to find...Easy to market

The screenshot shows the backpage.com website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the 'backpage.com' logo and a 'Post an Ad' button. Below this, the breadcrumb trail reads 'backpage.com > dallas adult entertainment > dallas escorts'. A search bar contains the keyword 'escorts' and a 'search' button. The results are displayed under the heading 'Wed. May. 4'. Several ads are listed, including 'Do You Need A Pick Me Up? LOW IN CALLS - 22 (North DFW)', 'S I M P L Y :: :T H E:: :B E S T:: : :★ Rylee Monroe - 23 (Outcalls all over DFW SPECIALS)', 'Y OUR GIRL IS BACK [TARA] with the SPECIAL that you cant beat \$40 469 532 2211 - 23 (635/coit north dallas)', 'MY Place Or Yours 24/7 PLANO Private APT---or---I come 2 U (HOTEL FRIENDLY) - 23 (Dallas/Plano)', '♥ NeW PiCs HOT SeXy BrUnEtTe WITH ThE BeST RaTeS!!!! ♥ AVAILABLE NOW - 22 (OUTCALLS----> Available Now)', 'A Treat 4 the Guys! Hurry & Call Me(IN &OUT)my apt.&Hotels ok 214 402-6018 - 24 (Plano/ Dallas)', and '°°°»-(50)-> HoTT NeW €BonY In ToWn CaLL NoW FoR• HoTT Sp€ciaL\$°°°»-(50)->130 FULL HOUR - 18 (635//AREA (UP ALL NIGHT) (O/SITNo))'.

- Trafficking exploded with the Internet.
- Traffickers immediately adopt new technology.
- Gangs turning to social networking sites; 40 years for Crips gang leader.<sup>1</sup>
- Facilitates more brutalization of children and more protection for their perpetrators; anonymous
- Humiliation, degradation and violence eroticized.
- backpage No. 1 site for sex ads; **no liability**.<sup>2</sup>
- In 4 years, prostituted children complaints from the Internet increased by **1000%**.<sup>3</sup>





# Methods of recruitment

- Seduction
  - Compliments
  - Attention
  - Promises
  - Gifts
  - “Love”
- False hope
  - “Pretty Woman” life
  - Modeling
- Force
  - Kidnapping; missing children
  - Someone they know





# Induction tactics

- Erases victim's sense of self, which induces willing submission, absolute obedience.
- Systematically attacks victim's humanness: Commodity, body parts.
- Isolates victim.
- Gives the victim a new name.
- Establishes new identity: "Whore."
- Takes away every corner of victim's mental space.
- Seasons: Rape, sexual humiliation.
- Punishes refusal, hesitation, or complaints.
- Cycles of abuse/affection; blames the victim.
- Threats to family.
- Attaches act of prostitution to proof of the victim's love.
- Transitions the victim to prostitution.





# Ongoing pimp control

- Captivity.
- Any form of insubordination quickly suppressed.
- Coercive control; masters at the art of torture.
- Promise of a better life...when.
- No alternative; resources.
- “Love” their pimp.
- Don’t trust authorities.
- Confiscation of identification.
- Control of money.
- Psychological manipulation.





# Living by his rules

Trust your pimp

Rules to Pimp Home

- 1) Never disrespect your pimp.
- 2) Never let anyone disrespect your pimp.
- 3) Trust your pimp.
- 4) Stay loyal, ~~never~~ lie, stay honest with your pimp.
- 5) Never let black people see your face or eyes. Black only see the back of your head. Your pimp should be the one <sup>to</sup> ~~only~~ <sup>that</sup> ~~see~~ <sup>you</sup> ~~see~~.
- 6) Respond and talk to your pimp with <sup>manner</sup> respect at all times using "daddy" in each sentence.
- 7) Be ~~down~~ and dirty, side or die for your pimp even if involves sacrificing yourself. Your pimp is your priority, your primary and your #1 and you are to see to his every <sup>need.</sup>
- 8) Always obey your pimp.

Use "daddy" in each sentence

Always obey your pimp

See to his every need





# *Who are the johns?*





# Not usually the guy in the mug shot



## ■ Pay-per-rapists

- I like to beat women (young girls) up.
- Unquestionable obedience. I mean that's powerful. Power is like a drug.
- Even us normal guys want to say something and have it done no questions asked.
- You get to treat a ho like a ho. You can find a ho for any type of need - slapping, choking, aggressive sex.





# In the news: athletes

## Former NFL star Lawrence Taylor pleads guilty to sex charges

January 13, 2011 | By Logan Burruss, CNN

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Hall of Fame NFL linebacker Lawrence Taylor pleaded guilty to two misdemeanors Thursday and is expected to be sentenced to six years' probation with sex-offender status, according to the Rockland County, New York, district attorney's Office.

Taylor was arrested in May on charges of "improper sexual conduct involving an underage girl in a Rockland County hotel," the district attorney's office said. Prosecutors said Taylor paid the teen \$300 after "sexual acts."

The girl was 16, according to a statement from prosecutors.



Taylor was arrested last May on charges of "improper sexual conduct involving an underage girl," officials said.

[http://articles.cnn.com/2011-01-13/justice/new.york.lawrence.taylor.plea\\_1\\_lawrence-taylor-guilty-plea-prostitute?s=PM:CRIME](http://articles.cnn.com/2011-01-13/justice/new.york.lawrence.taylor.plea_1_lawrence-taylor-guilty-plea-prostitute?s=PM:CRIME)

Lawrence Taylor interview: <http://foxnewsinsider.com/2011/03/22/watch-lawrence-taylor-talks-to-shepard-smith-about-soliciting-prostitutes-registering-as-a-sex-offender/>





# In the news: paramedic of the year

## solicitation sting



Jeremy Wert, a St. Pete Fire paramedic, was one of 43 people arrested in a child sex solicitation sting in Manatee County.

[http://baynews9.com/content/news/cfnews13/news/article.html/content/news/articles/bn9/2012/9/17/firefighter\\_among\\_43.html](http://baynews9.com/content/news/cfnews13/news/article.html/content/news/articles/bn9/2012/9/17/firefighter_among_43.html)





# In the news: kids' coach

## Little League Coach Arrested in Sex Sting, Charged With "Traveling to Meet a Minor for Sex"

Posted by [bobreno](#) on 8/17/10 • Categorized as [HS Coach Sex Scandals](#)

Coaches getting caught in police sex sting operations has happened in the past and will likely happen in the future. But what are the odds that a Little League coach will fall for a fake Craigslist ad, from an "parent" claiming they were looking for someone to provide sexual "guidance" for their underage daughter, arrive at the sting house and then be arrested by a cop who's kid played on the guy's team?

This thing just has sick written all over it.

*Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd says a little league baseball coach is among the 15 men undercover detectives rounded up during an online sting to find child sex predators. While this wasn't the first time Polk County sheriff's detectives have targeted people who use the Internet to prey on children, there was one arrest that seemed to shock everybody.*



<http://www.wtsp.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=141478>





*How can we change all this?*





# Issues to consider



- Lack of awareness, training, resources.
- Prevention programs.
- Early identification; flagging at-risk behaviors.
- Existing policies for abused/exploited children.
- Lack of standard protocol.
- Not settling for easy answers; missed clues.





# In the news: School taking back its kids

## Miami-Dade Schools Fighting Back Against Child Sex Trafficking

July 5, 2012 4:39 PM

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View Comments



(Source: miamiurbanleague.org.)

MIAMI (CBSMiami/Herald) — The Miami-Dade School District is serious about combating child sex trafficking.

CBS4's news partner [The Miami Herald](#) reports that, together with federal agencies, law enforcement, and social service groups, the district recently launched an awareness campaign to prevent school-age kids from being lured into prostitution.

They have good reason for concern.

### Filed Under

[Local, News, Syndicated](#)  
[Local](#)

### Related Tags

Last week, four Miami-Dade men were arrested for allegedly **recruiting foster children from a group home** to work at a Homestead brothel.

<http://miami.cbslocal.com/2012/07/05/miami-dade-schools-fighting-back-against-child-sex-trafficking/>





# Resources

- NCHE Human Trafficking webpage  
[www.serve.org/nche/ibt/trafficking.php](http://www.serve.org/nche/ibt/trafficking.php)
- Traffick911  
[www.traffick911.com](http://www.traffick911.com)
- Internet Crimes Against Children Training & Technical Assistance Program  
[www.icactraining.org](http://www.icactraining.org)
- OnGuardOnline.gov  
[www.onguardonline.gov/topics/protect-kids-online](http://www.onguardonline.gov/topics/protect-kids-online)
- Darkness To Light  
[www.darknesstolight.org](http://www.darknesstolight.org)
- Not 1 More Child  
[www.notonemorechild.org](http://www.notonemorechild.org)
- National Center for Missing & Exploited Children  
[www.missingkids.com/](http://www.missingkids.com/)





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