Human Trafficking for Health Care Workers

Leisa Chancey MS, RNC-OB, C-EFM
Objectives:

At the end of this discussion about Human Trafficking the healthcare worker will be able to:

- list 3 clues to help identify victims
- recognize 3 common healthcare issues
- verbalize 3 local or national resources available to assist victims
What is Human Trafficking?

“The recruitment, harboring, 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”

1
Slavery was abolished 150 years ago...

and yet there are more people in slavery today...

than at any other time in our history.
Human Trafficking Facts:

- $32 billion annually $^2$
- Second only to drug trafficking ($^3$-$^5$)
- 600,000 to 800,000 victims are trafficked across international borders annually $^6$
- 80% of victims are female and 50% of those are children $^7$
Facts:

- 30 million children in 30 years \(^9\)
- Most are violated by sexual acts 1000-1500 times annually. \(^{11-12}\)
- An estimated 250,000 American teens are at risk for sex trafficking annually \(^{10}\)
Facts:

- Fewer than 1,000 victims have been identified since 2001\(^\text{13}\)

- 80% of trafficked people are women and girls who may be at risk for OB/Gyn issues\(^\text{14}\)

- We are likely to be the only professional the victims encounter while they are captive\(^\text{14}\)
Who are the victims?

- 1.3 – 2.8 million runaway, throwaway, and push-out youth\(^\text{18}\)
- 75% female, 60% Caucasian, 24% African American, 35% GLBT\(^\text{18}\)
- Abducted women and children
- Survival sex for shelter/food
Recruiting in America

- Facebook
- Craigslist
- Runaways
- Bus stops
- Recruiters
“Seasoning”:

- Beating/whipping/slapping
- Burning
- Sexual assault
- Pornography immersion to learn about sex
- Confinement
- Withholding food/water
- Creating dependencies
- Document confiscation

10/28/2013
Clues:

- Overbearing companion
- Silence – companion speaks for them
- Lack of any official identification papers
- Vague or inconsistent stories
- Submission/fearful/no eye contact
- Inappropriate attire
Healthcare issues:

- HIV, Hepatitis, multiple STI’s
- Drug addiction
- Poorly healed injuries
- Malnourished
- Lice, tuberculosis
- Scarring burns/cuts
- Chipped, broken teeth
Healthcare issues:

- Complications from unsafe abortion\textsuperscript{16}
- Chronic generalized pain/pelvic pain\textsuperscript{16}
- Untreated fractures
- Ligation marks\textsuperscript{16}
- Flat affect, lack of interaction\textsuperscript{14}
- Panic/terror attacks
- Suicidal ideation\textsuperscript{15}, depression or PTSD\textsuperscript{14}
Assessment environment and tone:

- Safety first \(^\text{16}\)
- Create a comfortable, calm environment. \(^\text{16}\)
- Provide individual space. \(^\text{16}\)
- Be approachable, compassionate, open in your tone, demeanor and body language \(^\text{16}\)
What to say:

- You did nothing to deserve this
- We are here to help you
- We can find you a safe place to stay
- You will not be deported
- You will not lose your children
- You are entitled to assistance
- You can rebuild your life in this country
Assessment environment and tone:

- Use empathetic and reflective listening.¹⁶

- If at all possible, do not take notes, stay engaged.

- Be comfortable with silence

- Be clear about your role, goals and what services you can and cannot provide.¹⁶
Questions:

☐ Are you in a safe place?

☐ Can you come and go as you please?

☐ Are there locks on your door or window so you cannot get out?

☐ What is your home or work address?16
Questions:

- Are you paid for your work? \(^{16}\)
- Have you been forced to have sex to pay off a debt? \(^{16}\)
- Does anyone keep your identity documents from you? \(^{16}\)
- Has anyone lied to you about the type of work you would be doing? \(^{16}\)
Follow up:

- Make follow up appointment.
- Appointment card with office ph #
- Have a policy/plan in place to respond
- Do not put in harm’s way
- Convince ‘companion’ follow-up is necessary
- National hotline (888) 373 - 7888
Lingo:

- Daddy
- Facilitator
- Bottom _itch
- Recruiter
- Quota
- Automatic
- Wife in law
- Turn out
- Choosing up
- Exit free
- Finesse pimp
- Renegade
- Lot lizard
- Ho line
Trafficking Victims’ Protection Act

- Established HT as a federal crime enforced by the 13th amendment
- Created T-visas and recovery support
- Victims can sue traffickers in federal court
Resources:

- National Human Trafficking Hotline
  1-888-3737-888

- Houston Rescue and Restore Coalition
  Main: (713) 874-0290         www.houstonrr.org

- Polaris Project
  www.polarisproject.org

- The United States Department of State
  www.state.gov/g/tip

- Houston Innocence Lost Task Force
  Crimestoppers at 713-222-TIPS (713-222-8477)
Resources:

- Redeemed Ministries (832) 447-4130  
  www.redeemedministries.com
- Free the Captives - 501(c)(3) non-profit that fights the exploitation and trafficking of Houston's youth
- Texas Family and Protective Services  
  1-800-252-5400
- Houston Children’s Assessment Center  
  (713) 986-3300
Polaris Project has rated all 50 states and the District of Columbia based on 10 categories of laws that are critical to a basic legal framework that combats human trafficking, punishes traffickers, and supports survivors. These ratings are based on statutes enacted by July 31, 2013.
“Recently the I-10 corridor between El Paso and Houston was identified as the main human trafficking route, and Houston is recognized as one of the main hubs and destinations for traffickers”

“The I-10 corridor is a hotspot for transportation of trafficking victims”

“Houston is well known as a set up for ‘training brothels’”
Texas

25% of all human trafficking victims are in Texas (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.)

30% of all human trafficking tips to the National Rescue Hotline came from Texas (Polaris Project)

Texas and the Southwest border continue to serve as the biggest point of illegal entry into the U.S., largely because traffickers are able to get aliens across without documents.
Texas

- May 25, 2011 Senate Bill 24 made Human Trafficking of children a 1st degree felony

- March, 2011 House Bill 3000 states a trafficker that compels a child into prostitution can receive a life sentence.
Trafficking Women and Children: USA Routes

http://www.thefuturegroup.org/id20.html
Welcome to the movement to end slavery.
Slavery thrives in the shadows. An estimated 27 million live in bondage today – yet we know about the plight of so few of them. The battle to end slavery begins by revealing it.

What You Can Do:
In order to provide the best data to map modern-day slavery, we have implemented controlled access to SlaveryMap. To learn how to map documented cases of human trafficking in your community and around the globe, visit our [Not For Sale Academy](http://www.notforsale.org) website for training in SlaveryMap protocols at either the NFS Investigator Academy in San Francisco or Backyard Academy.

- Report An Incident
- Signup for an account

Donate
EMPOWER OUR INVESTIGATION AND INTERVENTION AGAINST SLAVERY

Slaverymap.org
Supply and Demand

Real Men Don’t Buy Girls
Maria Bonita Cantina
SIGNS OF HUMAN SLAVERY
The Maria Bonita Cantina in 2005 was designed to conceal the sale and storage of women and girls used as sex slaves.
Las Palmas II in the 5600 Telephone Rd. 10/11/2013

The girls were kept locked in a second-story room and were charged $20 fee for a condom and $15 to use a prostitution room. Room and condom fees topped $1.26 million from 2/12 to 8/12
Make a difference

lachance@texaschildrens.org
Every 2 minutes another child is forced into sex trafficking
References:


