

**Dynamics
of
Child Sex Trafficking**

**Sergeant Byron A. Fassett
Child Exploitation Squad
High Risk Victims & Trafficking Unit
Dallas Police Department
1400 S. Lamar
Dallas, TX 75201**

**Victimization of Children Through
Prostitution/Trafficking**

Domestic Trafficking of Children

- **What is it?**
 - National problem
 - Most overlooked form of child sexual abuse
 - Most under investigated
 - WHY?

Myths of Juvenile Prostitution

- It is a victimless crime
- They are willing participants
- Pays well

Domestic Child Trafficking Victim Profile

- Runaway, thrown-away, walk-away
- Often from dysfunctional homes
- History of prior physical/sexual abuse
- Low self-esteem or poor self-image
 - Labeled bad, troubled child
 - *Biggest contributing factor*

Domestic Child Trafficking Victim Profile

ABUSE:	FAMILY RISK FACTORS
	Parent Phy. Abused = 82%
	Parent Sex. Abused = 74%
	Parents Divorced = 71%
	Single Parent Home = 63%
DRUG ABUSE:	MENTAL HEALTH:
Youth Uses = 79%	Suicide Ideation = 89%
Family Usage = 86%	Lethal Suicidal Plan = 54%

Profile of the Pimp

- "Expert" in human nature
- "Expert" in manipulation

Recruitment Process

- Plays up freedom and the good life
- Wants to alienate child from family and friends
- Overwhelms child with love and affection, *special relationship*
- Needs to make child totally dependent on him, emotionally, financially
- Will use other girls to help in recruitment process

Controlling the Child Victim

- Psychological controls
- Blackmail, degradation
- Pregnancy

Case Study

Identifying and Locating
Child Victim of Sex Trafficking

11

Domestic Victim of Sex Trafficking

↓

High Risk Victim

12

Identifying Entry Point

- Reactive “traditional” identification
- Proactive identification

High Risk Victims Model

- Making the Invisible, *Visible*
- Victim Centered:
 - Intervention
 - Prevention
 - Suppression

Increased Reporting

- Training on dynamics for Stakeholders:
 - Vice
 - Patrol
 - Juvenile department
 - CPS
 - Shelters

Getting Results

- Dallas Picture:
 - Avg. 5,000 to 6,000 (*reported*) runaways a year
 - Avg. 426 reported runaways a month (2006)
 - 11/05 identified 64 HRV (4 or more times in 12 month period)
 - Reduced to 34 by 1/06
 - Average 12 per month now

Getting Results- HRVT Unit

- 11/04 thru 11/05
 - Identified/Located 136 HRV
 - 61% involved in prostitution
 - Opened 83 investigation
 - 70% prior runaway events
 - Filed 63 Felony cases on 42 suspects:
 - Compelling Prostitution
 - Trafficking in Persons
 - Sexual Assault
 - Engaging in Organized Crime

Getting Results- HRVT Unit

- 1/08 thru 12/08
 - Identified/Located 207 HRV
 - Identified/Located 91 actively involved in prostitution
 - 74 located by patrol
 - 17 by Vice
 - Filed 94 Felony cases on 54 suspects:
 - Compelling Prostitution
 - Trafficking in Persons
 - Sexual Assault
 - Engaging in Organized Crime
