

4-18-2019

Should Prostitution be Legal or Remain Illegal? A Discussion on Human Trafficking

Lily Brow

La Salle University, browl1@student.lasalle.edu

Brian Gelbach

La Salle University, gelbachb1@student.lasalle.edu

Bethlehem Mulugeta

La Salle University, mulugetab1@student.lasalle.edu

Jessica Wright

La Salle University, wrightj35@student.lasalle.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.lasalle.edu/explorercafe>

Recommended Citation

Brow, Lily; Gelbach, Brian; Mulugeta, Bethlehem; and Wright, Jessica, "Should Prostitution be Legal or Remain Illegal? A Discussion on Human Trafficking" (2019). *Explorer Café*. 83.

<https://digitalcommons.lasalle.edu/explorercafe/83>

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Explorer Connection at La Salle University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Explorer Café by an authorized administrator of La Salle University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact careyc@lasalle.edu.

Should Prostitution be Legal or Remain Illegal? A Discussion on Human Trafficking

Presented by: Freedom Project 2019

**Lily Brow, Brian Gelbach, Betty Mulugeta & Jess
Wright**

Trigger Warning & Language Use

Discussion Questions:

What do you know about human trafficking?

What do you know about prostitution in relation to human trafficking?

Legal Definitions & Misconceptions

Human Trafficking - the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons by improper means (such as force, abduction, fraud or coercion) for an improper purpose such as forced labor or sexual exploitation

Sex Trafficking - a commercial sex act induced by force, fraud or coercion or in which the person is not of legal age (18)

Prostitution - performing sexual acts for payment through money or drugs

Pander - soliciting customers for a prostituted person

Human Trafficking vs Human Smuggling - trafficking is a crime against a person, smuggling is a crime against a country's borders



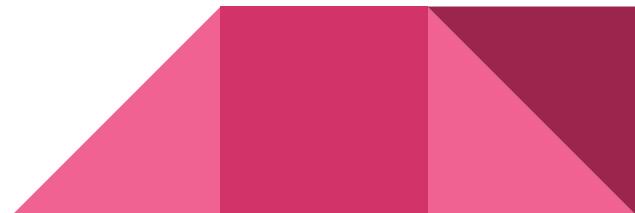
Sex Work vs Sex Trafficking

Sex Trafficking:


- **Force**
 - **Someone forcing an individual at gunpoint**
- **Fraud**
 - **Making false “promises” to buy luxurious items/materials, etc.**
- **Coercion**
 - **Typically happens in a relationship-- by the means of manipulation, threats and verbal/physical abuse**

Sex Work:

- **Prostitution, working at a strip club, participating in adult films**
- **Enter into the trade “willingly”**
 - **No way of knowing someone’s experience**
- **Can still be sex trafficking**



Trafficking Statistics

- **300,000 children enter Human Trafficking each year**
 - **1.6 million children run away each year in the U.S. $\frac{1}{3}$ will be recruited by a pimp within 48 hours**
 - **\$21 million is spent every day on the sex industry**
 - **20.9 million men/women and children are trafficked each year worldwide**
 - **36% of traffickers are women**
 - **Human trafficking victims will see up to 30-40 customers in a single night**
 - **LGBTQ+ youth are 3-7 times more likely to engage in survival sex to meet basic needs**
- 

Who are the Victims?

Female
83%



Male
16%



Gender
Minority
1%



Out of 526 Cases
where Victim
Gender was
reported

43%

Foreign National

57%

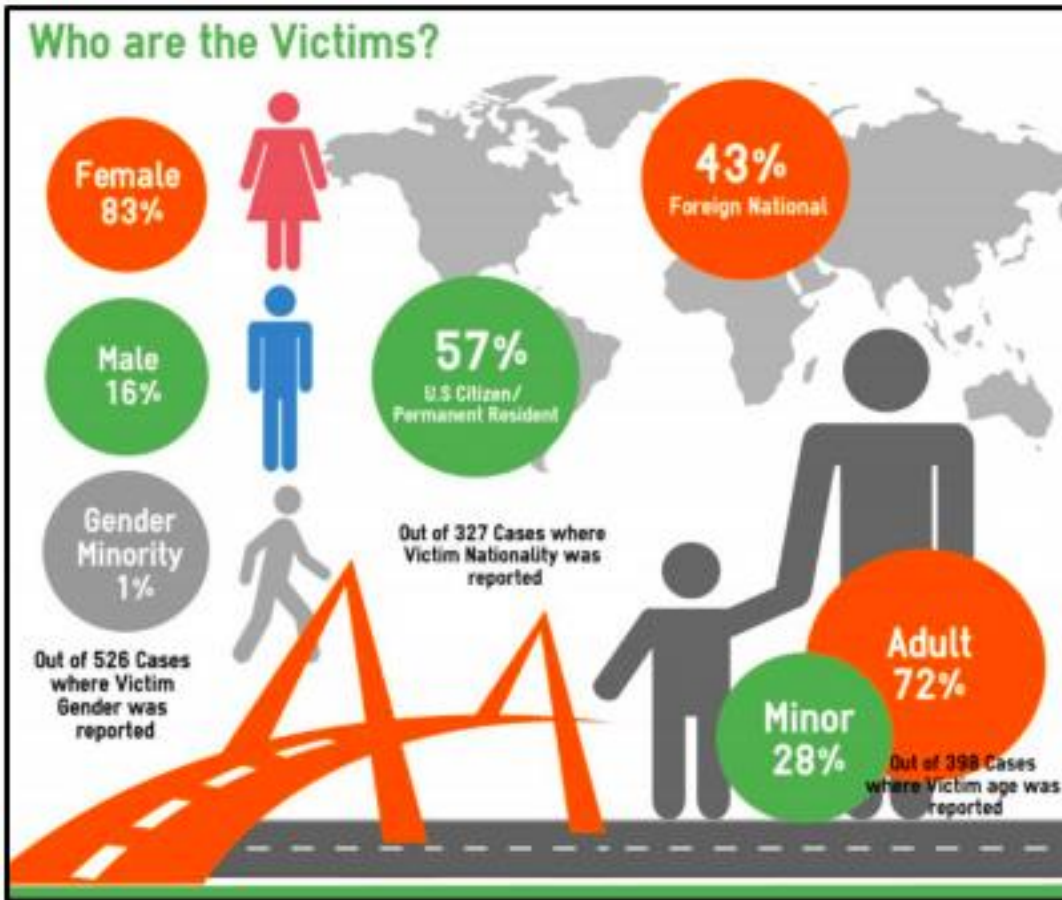
U.S. Citizen/
Permanent Resident

Out of 327 Cases where
Victim Nationality was
reported

Adult
72%

Minor
28%

Out of 398 Cases
where Victim age was
reported



Different Types of Pimps...

***Romeo:* controls the vulnerable with what they need**

***Gorilla:* uses aggression and physical force**

***Gang Control:* use of a sense of belonging and family**

***Family:* parents/siblings soliciting children/siblings**



Freedom Project 2019



What We Learned from Freedom Project

Child Pornography

- ❖ **The most searched type of porn on the Internet.**
- ❖ **28,000 Internet users currently searching and viewing porn every second.**
- ❖ **The average age of a child that is exposed to adult material is 11.**


Labor Trafficking

- ❖ **Modern Day Slavery**
- ❖ **Performing labor or services through force, fraud or coercion**
- ❖ **Different situations--debt bondage, forced labor and involuntary child labor**

Abuse/Trauma

- ❖ **Restoration and Rehabilitation**
- ❖ **Trauma-informed Therapy**

Statistics of Prostitution

- **About 40% of prostitutes are former child sex workers who were illegally forced into the profession through human trafficking**
 - **60% of children reported missing as a result of running away enter prostitution for some period of time to survive**
 - **58% of American prostitutes reported violent assault at the hands of clients**
 - **Women who are trafficked typically have shorter lives due to abuse from both clients and pimps**
- 

Types of Prostitution

Street: picking up clients in public places

Brothel: locations dedicated specifically for providing sex

Escort: often have a catalog of frequent clients

Massage Parlor: state they provide massages but also offer sexual acts

Survival: trading sexual favors for basic necessities (i.e. food, shelter)



Shandra Woworuntu



- **Victim of trafficking**
- **Came to America from Indonesia for a job opportunity**
- **Forced into prostitution and sexual slavery**
- **Was able to escape, but was homeless and without help**
- **Was eventually able to bring her traffickers to justice**
- **Now is an inspirational speaker and a member of the U.S. Advisory Council for Human Trafficking**

How to Handle Prostitution

Criminalization

- **Every aspect (sale, purchase) is punishable by law**

Legalization

- **Regulated**

Decriminalization

- **Not regulated**

Nordic Model

- **Sale of sex is legal; purchase of sex is illegal**

Discussion Question:

What do you think should be done about prostitution?

How to get Involved in the Fight against Human Trafficking

Recognizing the Warning Signs of Human Trafficking:

- **Poor Physical and Mental Health**
- **Lack of control**
- **Works excessive or long hours**

Warning Signs for Legitimate Businesses

NOT A
GAME

VICTIM WARNING SIGNS



Avoids eye contact, talking and other social interaction



Looks malnourished and/or shows signs of physical abuse



Appears to have few or no personal possessions



Is not in control of his/her own money or identification



Is not allowed or able to speak for him/herself



Is fearful or anxious, especially around law enforcement



Is “just visiting” and can’t say where he/she is staying



Has numerous inconsistencies in his/her story

Helpful Resources & Hotlines to Tackle Human Trafficking in Greater Philadelphia

National Human Trafficking Resource Center (hotline): 1-888-373-7888

Commercial Sexual Exploitation Institute @ Villanova University: 610-519-7183

<https://cseinstitute.org>

Dawn's Place: <http://www.ahomefordawn.org> 215-849-2396

The SAVE Center: 215.951.1357



The background is a solid pink color. In the top right corner, there is a decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping triangles and squares in various shades of pink and magenta, creating a geometric pattern.

Questions?