Human Trafficking: Businesses, Hotels, Apartment Buildings, and Strip Malls Are All on the Front Lines

How Can We Prevent this Tragedy from Happening

Human Trafficking

**Polaris Definition**

Human trafficking is a form of modern slavery—a multi-billion dollar criminal industry that denies freedom to 20.9 million people around the world. And no matter where you live, chances are it's happening nearby. From the girl forced into prostitution at a truck stop, to the man discovered in a restaurant kitchen, stripped of his passport and held against his will. All trafficking victims share one essential experience: the loss of freedom.

**Dictionary Definition**

Sex Trafficking - The illegal business of recruiting, harboring, transporting, obtaining, or providing a person and especially a minor for the purpose of sex

Statistics

Since 2007, the National Human Trafficking Hotline, operated by Polaris, has received reports of:

**22,191 sex trafficking cases inside the United States.**

In 2016, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children estimated that 1 in 6 endangered runaways reported to them were likely sex trafficking victims.

Polaris estimates that the total number of victims nationally reaches into the hundreds of thousands.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Cases</th>
<th>Cases Involving Visas</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>294</strong></td>
<td>H-2B 50% H-2A 0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>228</strong></td>
<td>J-1 46% F-1 0.5%</td>
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I Statistics

BROWARD COUNTY 2015-2017

788 HUMAN TRAFFICKING SCREENING TOOL ASSESSMENTS WERE COMPLETED

274 males (35%)

514 females (65%)

II CRIME / COLLABORATION / LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Miami-Dade Human Trafficking Unit – (State Attorney’s Office)
- South Florida Human Trafficking Task Force
- Statewide Council on Human Trafficking
- Broward County Human Trafficking Coalition
- Human Trafficking Coalition of Palm Beach
- Miami-Dade County Human Trafficking Coalition
- Greater Orlando Human Trafficking

III WAR ON DRUGS – How are we doing?

Ronald Reagan Speech to the Nation on the Campaign Against Drug Abuse (September 14, 1986)

III WAR ON DRUGS – Next Man Up?

Grissela Serrano Delgado 70s/80s
Garrino Felise 70s
Andre Fuentes Morden 80s
Pablo Escobar Colombia 80s
Joey Buttafousi 90s

IV LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Hotel/Motel-Based (36)
Illicit Massage/Spa Business (19)
Escort Services (18)
Other Venues (12)
Residence-Based Commercial Sex (12)

V TOP VENUES/INDUSTRIES FOR SEX TRAFFICKING

Special-needs woman rescued from motel as 2 others are charged with sex trafficking

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. - Described as "very childlike," the victim told police the couple used cellphones to write the Backstage advertisement and answer text messages. The victim also said Clark had given her marijuana at the motel and hit her when he was on drugs.

She told police she had sex with about two men every night.

The motel manager told investigators that he had seen the victim for the past 21 days, but she was never allowed to leave the motel room alone.
**Nightmare at the Truck Stop**

**SUMMER, 13, WAS FOR SALE FOR $40. A BUBBLE, PONYTAILED GIRL FROM OKLAHOMA CITY, she found herself far from home and stranded at a truck stop along Texas’s Interstate 40 on a chilly January night three years ago. In jeans and T-shirt, she waited to a strip of tobacco where several 18-wheelers were parked—an area known as “Dirty Row”—and waited for a trucker to flash his headlights. When one did, Summer pulled herself into the cab of his rig and, as the trucker casually watched a small TV, turned her first trick, “I was scared,” she says, now 15, recalling the first of hundreds of forced encounters with truckers two or three times her age, “I didn’t know how to get out of it. So I thought, ‘Just do it, and don’t cause problems.’”**

**Miami Beach shut down 4 massage parlors suspected of human trafficking**

**Miami Beach has shut down four massage parlors where police believe women may have been forced into sex work.**

Police are working alongside state prosecutors in the human trafficking unit of the Miami-Dade State Attorney’s Office and immigration officials. Also involved in the raid were the Florida Department of Health, Miami Beach Code Enforcement and Sunny Isles Beach police.

**Two arrested for forcing two 16-year-olds into prostitution in Brooklyn apartment**

Two 16-year-old girls were forced into prostitution in a Brooklyn apartment where younger children were living.

In July 2018, a study conducted by the non-governmental organization (NGO) Polaris revealed **80% of forced commercial sex acts occur at a motel or hotel.**
BUDGET MOTELS
were identified as the venue of choice for human trafficking in 2000 – and remain popular for such purposes even today.

Motel

Despite legislative attempts, global human trafficking generates an estimated $150 BILLION ANNUALLY with commercial sexual exploitation accounting for $99 BILLION.

Sex trafficking victims’ accounts identified security failures and inadequacies that allowed victims to either remain captive or meet with traffickers and customers at the budget motel.

VICTIMS WERE SUBJECT TO ROUGHLY 10 TO 20 VIOLATORS PER DAY.

Each time, the trafficker, victim and violator entered and left the premises undetected.

The National Human Trafficking Resource Center, which hosts a confidential hotline for victims and survivors, reported:

1. 6,656 phone calls on the hotline, emails and online tips received
2. 2,386 of those provided enough information to identify an instance of potential trafficking
3. 2,181 were identified as sex trafficking and of those 80% involved a hotel or motel

According to the NHTH, motel owners may or may not be aware of how their businesses are used to perpetuate these crimes.

The motel industry business model LACKS OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES to document criminal acts.

As a result, the most overt and heinous crimes are permitted to occur.

3 men charged in human trafficking investigation
Lake Worth woman accused of sex-trafficking girls in South Florida

Amber Lynn Peak faces multiple child sex-trafficking charges. LAKE WORTH — For months, a 33-year-old Lake Worth woman sex-trafficked teenage girls throughout Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties, one of the teenagers told Palm Beach County sheriff's investigators Sunday. Amber Lynn Peak gave them cocaine and the mood-altering drug Molly “so they could stay awake and have more prostitution dates,” a 17-year-old told investigators. Peak also coached the girls on how to word the hundreds of prostitution ads they posted online and then took half of their profits, the teen alleged. Peak was arrested Sunday on multiple child sex-trafficking, child abuse and prostitution-related charges after a

Deerfield Beach man lured girls to be sex slaves, investigators say

Robert Miner is accused of prostituting at least five women, ages 18 to 22, according to court records. A Deerfield Beach man promised young women careers as models and dancers but instead forced them into prostitution and cut them off, according to court records. Robert Miner, 27, posted their photos on websites such as backpage.com and intimidated them into sex acts with other men — in one case 100 men over four days, authorities say. Miner told a 22-year-old woman from Orlando that she'd be modeling swimsuits for a photo shoot, according to court records. He picked her up from a bus stop in Fort Lauderdale on June 13, drove her to a hotel room and then pulled out a large hunting knife and sexually assaulted her, police say. A Deerfield Beach man accused 18 to 20 sexual abuse victims with investigators, alleging that Miner threatened them if

Marriott International Has Trained 500,000 Hotel Workers to Recognize the Signs of Human Trafficking

Security Professionals should train associates to monitor guests and take action if one or more of the following occurs:

- Guest specifically requests room near exits
- Guests with visitors who stay in their vehicle
- Multiple guests visiting the same room
- Guests who refuse to show government issued photo ID
- Guests who refuse to register
Management at hotels/motels should require:

- Vehicle information and photo ID at check in
- Strategic placement of cameras to capture guests in lobby and parking areas
- Establishment of relationships with local law enforcement
- Blocking of internet access to popular websites for online sex ads

**EXAMPLE: HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASE**

JANE DOE a minor

v

AVB HOTEL
EXAMPLE: HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASE

ROOM 206
- 21 DAYS RENTAL
- DIFFERENT "GUESTS" INQUIRING ABOUT ROOM
- DIFFERENT MEN AS VISITORS
- ROOM SMELLS OF MARIJUANA
- REFUSING CLEANING SERVICE
- DO NOT DISTURB SIGN ALWAYS POSTED
- MINOR VICTIM NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE ROOM
- MINOR VICTIM WONDERING THE HALLS AT NIGHT

HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASE

ROOSEVELT INN

HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASE

JACKSONVILLE MOTEL
HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASE = SIMPLE NEGLIGENCE

- ACTS AND OMISSION OF EMPLOYEES
- CONTROL PREMISES = UNIQUE POSITION TO OBSERVE
- FAILED TO REPORT OBSERVATION OF HUMAN SEX TRAFFICKING
- RECEIVE MONEY AND FINANCIALLY PROFIT FROM HUMAN TRAFFICKING
- KNEW OR SHOULD HAVEKnown

LEGISLATION

Act 105: Pennsylvania’s First Comprehensive Anti-Trafficking Legislation

In September 2014, Pennsylvania enacted its first comprehensive anti-trafficking statute, “Act 105.” The new law expands Pennsylvania’s legal definition of human trafficking, giving prosecutors better tools to hold traffickers accountable. It provides new and enhanced protections for victims of human trafficking, including a robust civil remedy that allows survivors to sue those who participated in or profited from their victimization. And, it calls for a state plan to coordinate anti-trafficking initiatives and to educate the community and stakeholders about human trafficking, to prevent it from happening in the first place.

LAW SUITS

Hotels Are Key In The Fight To End Human Trafficking

Lawsuits are on the rise, but there’s little proof staff training can solve the problem. A 14-year-old victim of trafficking filed a suit earlier this year against the Roosevelt Inn in Philadelphia for allegedly turning a blind eye while she was sex trafficked. That set off a chain of other suits: In Houston this spring, a mother sued the Plainfield Inn, alleging the motel knew her 21-year-old daughter had been trafficked there for two years before showing up dead in a ditch less than 10 miles away. And there are four more lawsuits by victims who are accusing America’s Best Value Inn in Salisbury, Maryland, of knowing that they had been held there against their will and were forced to perform sex acts with men—reviewers on travel websites even complained of the prostitution there.

Enemy numbers do not matter if you take their coveted territory.

- Unknown Roman general

Thank you.

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