

Human trafficking has been a federal crime since the passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000.



For more information about CAASE and our work, please visit www.caase.org and www.enddemandillinois.org.

**STRATEGIES TO
END COMMERCIAL
SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION**

**BALTIMORE, MD
SEPTEMBER 2011**

**PRESENTATION BY:
CHICAGO ALLIANCE AGAINST
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**



AGENDA FOR PRESENTATION

- About CAASE
- Sex Trafficking 101
- Myths about Prostitution and Trafficking
- Harms of the Commercial Sex Trade
- Why Does the Commercial Sex Trade Thrive?
- Strategies to End Demand
- Goals and Activities of End Demand Illinois
- Successes, Challenges, Lessons Learned



ABOUT CAAASE



- CAASE believes in stopping sexual exploitation by directly addressing the culture, institutions, and individuals that perpetrate, profit from, or tacitly support, sexually exploitive acts against people.
- Our strategies:
 - * Litigation
 - * Prevention
 - * Policy and Advocacy Reform



Federal Criminal Definition of “Severe Forms of Trafficking in Persons”

Three categories of human trafficking:

- 1) Minors involved in commercial sex acts (no proof of force, fraud, coercion req.);
- 2) Those 18 or over involved in commercial sex acts via force, fraud, or coercion;
- 3) Those in forced labor or services, via force, fraud, or coercion (both minors and adults)



THE A-M-P MODEL – UNDERSTANDING THE ELEMENTS OF THE CRIME “SEVERE FORMS” OF TRAFFICKING

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>MEANS</u> <i>(Force, Fraud, Coercion)</i>	<u>PURPOSE</u>
Recruits, Harbors, Transports, Provides, OR Obtains (or so attempts)	Force - Causing serious harm or physical restraint	Commercial sex acts
	Fraud	OR
	Coercion – Threats of serious harm to, or physical restraint against, a person or another person	Labor or Services
	Coercion – Abuse or threatened abuse of law or the legal process	
	Coercion – Any scheme, plan, or pattern...	

Modified by Polaris Project from Original model – MIHRC, copyright 2003



Biderman's Chart of Coercion

Polaris Project, B. Myles, Texas 2009

Method of Control	Behavioral Variations or Examples	How This Applies to Sex Traffickers
Isolation	Solitary confinement; semi-confinement; group isolation	Locking in closets, in rooms, in trunks of cars, in isolated areas
Monopolization of Perception	Physical isolation; restricted movement; monotonous food	Eroding social support systems; Isolating victims from mainstream society;
Induced Debility Exhaustion	Semi-starvation; over-exertion; sleep deprivation; prolonged constraint	Starvation, sleep deprivation, forced to provide commercial sex for 48 hours straight
Threats	Threats of death; of endless isolation; of non-return; and against family	Consistent daily threats
Occasional Indulgences	Occasional favors; fluctuations of attitudes; promises	Occasional affectionate behavior
Demonstrating Omnipotence	Demonstrating complete control over victim's fate	Enforcing God-like power and control; Branding
Degradation	Demeaning punishments; insults, taunts; denial of privacy; preventing personal hygiene;	Constantly using the word "bitch, "; constant emotional abuse
Enforcing Trivial Demands	Enforcement of minute rules;	Forcing others to tie pimp's shoes, etc.

WHERE DOES COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OCCUR?

- Street Prostitution
- Pornography
- Strip Clubs
- Massage Parlors
- Escort Services
- Truck Stops
- Private Parties
- Hotel Rooms
- Brothels
- Interfamilial Pimping
- Internet-based exploitation



Polaris Project's "4 Myths about Trafficking in Persons"

Myth 1: Trafficked persons must be foreign nationals/only are immigrants.

Reality: Trafficked persons can be either U.S. citizens or foreign nationals - both are equally protected under the federal trafficking statutes. Many trafficked persons in the US are legal residents.

Myth 2: Trafficking requires transportation across state or national borders.

Reality: The legal definition of trafficking does not require transportation, although transportation may be involved, and although the word connotes movement. Unlike the Mann Act, no interstate transportation is required.

Myth 3: If the trafficked person consented before the abuse or was paid, then it can not be trafficking.

Reality: Consent prior to an act of force, fraud, or coercion (or if the victim is a minor with sex trafficking) is not relevant, nor is payment.

Myth 4: There must be elements of physical restraint or bondage for it to be trafficking.

Reality: The legal definition of trafficking does not require physical restraint. Psychological means of control are sufficient elements of the crime.



PROFITS GENERATED FOR DOMESTIC SEX TRAFFICKERS

 /  = \$500/ night quota x 7 Days = \$3,500

= \$10,500 per week with   

1  = \$588,000 per year with   

80  in Metro DC area = \$47,040,000 each year



FACTS ABOUT PIMPS/TRAFFICKERS

2010 STUDY OF 25 CHICAGO AREA PIMPS

○ History of Abuse

- 88% reported domestic violence in their homes as children
- 88% were physically abused in their homes as children
- 76% reported being sexually abused as children

○ Pimping As Power and Control

- Helped them regain a sense of missing power
- Pimped minimum of 4,135 women
- Controlled between 2 – 30 women at any time
- Made \$150,000 - \$500,000/annually
- *“All my life I was pushed around, beat up...I was never shown any love or care. But when I got these ladies who let me control and run their lives and gave me their money, and would do whatever I said, I had all the cards in my hand. Every man wishes they were me. For the first time in my life I was number one.”*



FACTS ABOUT PIMPS/TRAFFICKERS

2010 STUDY OF 25 CHICAGO AREA PIMPS

- The Business of Pimping
 - Recruiting young girls is ongoing to meet demand for new faces.
 - Pimps learn to identify girls who had runaway, were abused, in foster care, or desperate for love and attention.
 - Pimps used scams to coerce girls such as posing as an agent, a boyfriend who loved and cared for them, a musician looking for groupies, or provided alcohol or drugs.
 - *“I wanted very pretty girls and young because they took orders better.”*



FACTS ABOUT PIMPS/TRAFFICKERS

2010 STUDY OF 25 CHICAGO AREA PIMPS

- The Business of Pimping
 - 88% of surveyed pimps transported prostituted girls and women to customers – around Chicago, Illinois, and the country.
 - Pimps agree that “customers seemed to be falling off the trees.” They came from the internet, referrals from hospitality industry, cab drivers, and bachelor parties.
 - Over half of sample did not allow some of their girls and women to keep any money.
 - *“You can’t control your stable if you allow your hos to keep a dime of the money.”*



FACTS ABOUT PIMPS/TRAFFICKERS

2010 STUDY OF 25 CHICAGO AREA PIMPS

- Cultural Support for the Business of Pimping
 - 60% of sample paid law enforcement to protect business
 - Profits were often shared for customer referrals from the hospitality industry, convention information centers, bartenders, cab drivers, and gangs.
 - Results in shared attitude that the sex trade industry is a safe activity.
 - *“As long as there are people with money and power, there will be poorer people who they will be able to buy.”*
 - *“As long as men can get away with it, there will always be prostitution.”*
- 

MAY 19, 2010

HUFFINGTON POST ARTICLE

- It is a very lucrative business, according to Justus. "An average pimp with one kid will make between \$800 and \$1,000 a day. That's seven days a week, 30 days a month," he said. And the pimps usually have a stable of young girls. No wonder so many criminals in the drug trade have turned to it ...in droves. There's less chance of being caught, less chance of being prosecuted if caught, lighter sentences -- if any -- if convicted.



FACTS ABOUT PURCHASERS

2008 STUDY OF 113 CHICAGO AREA JOHNS

- Demographic Information = **They're regular guys**
 - Average age was 39 with range of 20 to 71 years
 - Diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds
 - The majority had attended some college or earned a college degree
 - 55% bought sex for the first time when they were between 18 and 23
 - 62% reported having a salary of at least \$40,000
 - 62% of interviewees identified as having a regular partner such as a girlfriend or a wife



FACTS ABOUT PURCHASERS

2008 STUDY OF 113 CHICAGO AREA JOHNS

○ Frequency of Purchasing Sex

- 53% of interviewees purchased sex as frequently as once a month to several times a week.

○ Why Are Men Buying Sex?

- to obtain sex acts they either felt uncomfortable asking of their partner or which their partner refused to perform
- to avoid emotional involvement or commitment
- to pretend they had a relationship with the woman
- 83% felt the use of women in prostitution was an addiction
- desire to act out scenes from pornography
- expected of them as men
- To take out their frustrations



FACTS ABOUT PURCHASERS

2008 STUDY OF 113 CHICAGO AREA JOHNS

- Opinions About Why Women are in Prostitution
 - Poverty
 - Youth
 - Sexually or Physically Abused as Child
 - Trafficked
 - Awareness of Violence Against Prostituted Women
 - 42% stated prostitution causes psychological and physical damage
 - 19% of our sample said they had raped a woman
 - 41% had tried to help or rescue woman in prostitution
 - 21% said not possible for women in prostitution to be raped
 - 39% believed availability of prostitutes makes rape of other women much less likely
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FACTS ABOUT PURCHASERS

2008 STUDY OF 113 CHICAGO AREA JOHNS

○ What Would Make them Stop?

Photo and/or name in the local paper	87%
Jail time	83%
Photo and/or name on a billboard	83%
Photo and/or name on internet	82%
A letter sent to your family saying you were arrested for soliciting a woman in prostitution	79%
Having driver's license suspended	76%
Greater criminal penalties in general	75%
Car impounded	70%
Larger amount of money (more than \$1,000) for a fine	68%
Having to do community service	58%
Being required to attend an educational program for men who buy individuals in prostitution	41%



Who Could be a Victim of Human Trafficking?

Polaris Project “The A-M-P Model can happen to anyone”

- Gender – Men and Women
- Age – Adults and Children (Don't forget adults!)
- Nationality – U.S. Citizens and Foreign Nationals
- Documentation – Undocumented and Documented
- Education – Formal Education or Illiterate
- Number – Individuals, Families, and Groups



CAASE's "3 MYTHS ABOUT PROSTITUTION"

Myth 1: Women and girls choose to be prostitutes.

The Reality: A 2008 Chicago study of 100 women up to age 25 found their average age of entry into prostitution was 16. Girls this young are often exchanging sex for clothes, shelter, or food—in order to survive. Many have run away from dysfunctional homes and are often in foster care. Pimps and traffickers look for people to recruit into the sex trade who have few, if any, meaningful choices in life.



CAASE's "3 MYTHS ABOUT PROSTITUTION"

Myth 2: Prostitution is a Victimless Crime.

The Reality: Prostituted women experience rates of post-traumatic stress similar to that of combat war veterans. Most women involved in prostitution have experienced routine physical and emotional abuse, theft and sexual assault. Most women involved in prostitution do not believe they will be treated fairly by our court system and do not report the crimes against them. Survivors of prostitution and trafficking say that the violence they experienced was "normal."



CAASE'S "3 MYTHS ABOUT PROSTITUTION"

Myth 3: Women and girls involved in prostitution make a lot of money.

The Reality: The profits made in the sex trade are kept by a multi-billion dollar industry that includes brothel and strip club owners, traffickers, pimps, and websites that facilitate sex trafficking. The overwhelming majority of women and girls involved in street prostitution live in poverty, are frequently homeless, and have substance abuse problems. In a recent Chicago study, 53% of prostituted women said they had to give ALL their money to a pimp--many said they couldn't leave prostitution because they were afraid of what their pimp would do to them.



HARMS OF COMMERCIAL SEX TRADE

- **Physical Illness** – According to 2002 Chicago research, over 90% of women involved in prostitution suffer from multiple serious health conditions such as headaches, STD's, and chronic pain.
- **Mental Health** – Survivors of prostitution have rates of post traumatic stress disorder similar to or higher than combat war veterans. Of 130 people interviewed in a 1998 study, 68% met DSM III-R criteria for a diagnosis of PTSD.



HARMS OF COMMERCIAL SEX TRADE

- **Physical and Sexual Violence** - In 1998 San Francisco research, 82% of prostituted women had experienced physical assaults in prostitution, with 55% of them at the hands of customers. According to 2002 Chicago research, violence was documented at alarming rates:
 - Regardless of the type of prostitution activity, high percentages of women had experienced violence while engaged in prostitution from customers, pimps, intimate partners, managers, police officers, and neighbors.
 - Women on the streets, in drug houses, and in hotels reported high rates of forced sex and physical violence, with almost one-fourth of women in drug houses being raped more than 10 times.
 - Women in escort services and exotic dancing were also subjected to high rates of sexual and physical violence, with 21.4% of women in escort services being raped more than 10 times.
 - Customers were most frequently identified as the perpetrators of violence, across all venues, followed by intimate partners, pimps, police officers, and neighborhood residents.

HARMS OF COMMERCIAL SEX TRADE

- **Homelessness** – According to the 2006 Mayor's Office Intersystem Assessment on Prostitution, housing is repeatedly identified as a primary barrier for those impacted by the sex trade. Multiple research studies confirm substantial percentages of homelessness or transience.
- **Substance Abuse** – In the cited research, 75% reported having a current drug problem, and in the Chicago study, over 90% of women in both street and off-street activities increased their drug or alcohol usage during those activities.
- **Hopelessness** – Survivors repeatedly identify feeling isolated, afraid of police and prosecutors, and the feeling that they have no where to go and no other life to look forward to.

CHALLENGES PRESENTED BY VICTIMS

- Mistrust of authority
 - Fear of violence and retaliation from exploiter
 - Fear of losing an intimate relationship with exploiter
 - Fear of going into system, or returning into the system
 - Children lie about name, age, and personal information
 - Children minimize abuse and/or effects of the abuse
 - Children protect exploiter
 - Children often run away from protective placement
 - “Relapsing”/Will get out of “the life” and go back
 - With a history of abuse, a victim may be convinced she/he has no abilities or identity outside of it
 - With a history of abuse, the situation can seem normal and not worth reporting
 - Prostituted/trafficked people often do not present themselves as a victim that wants help or rescuing
- 

STOCKHOLM SYNDROME & TRAUMA BONDS

- presence of a perceived threat to one's physical or psychological survival and the belief that the abuser would carry out the threat.
- presence of a perceived small kindness from the abuser to the victim
- Isolation from perspectives other than those of the abuser
- The perceived inability to escape the situation



STOCKHOLM SYNDROME DISPLAYED

- Positive feelings by victim toward the abuser/controller
 - Negative feelings by the victim toward family, friends, or authorities trying to rescue/support them or win their release
 - Support of the abuser's reasons and behaviors
 - Inability to engage in behaviors that may assist in their release or detachment
- 

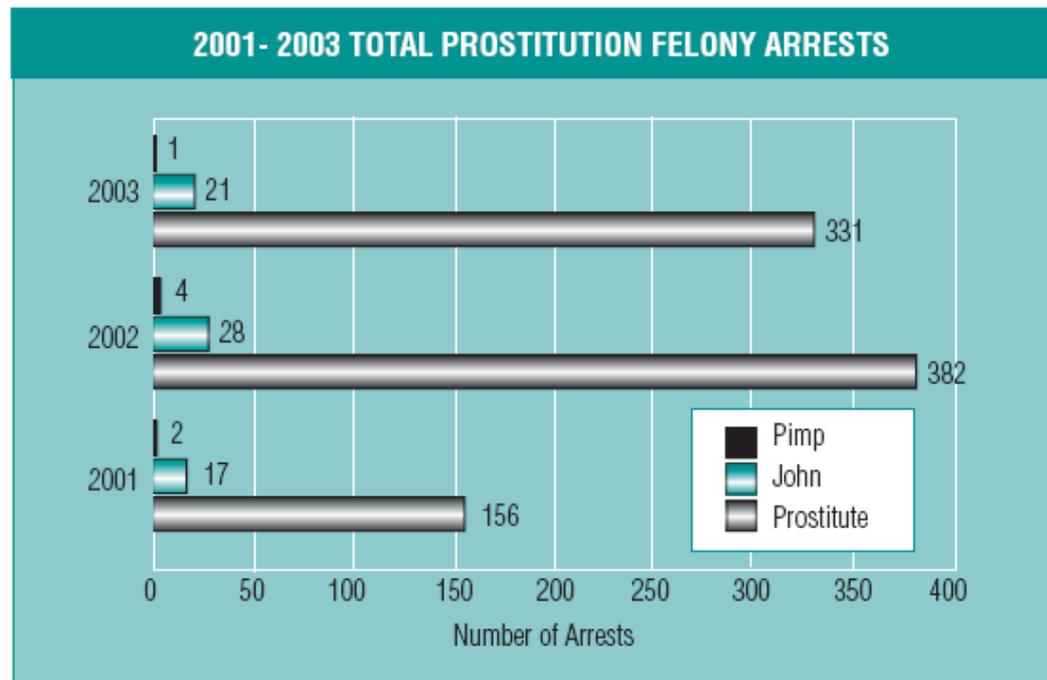
WHY THE COMMERCIAL SEX TRADE THRIVES

- **DEMAND** People who buy sex create an enormous demand for commercial sex. In a 2008 Chicago study, women and girls in prostitution reported serving an average of 6 clients per day, with a high of 20 clients per day.
- **DEMAND** Johns are infrequently arrested and rarely convicted. 7% of johns in CAASE's "Deconstructing Demand" had ever been arrested for solicitation. 4 of 129 johns in a 2004 CCH study had ever been arrested for solicitation.
- **DEMAND** is met by the nonstop recruitment of very young girls. The average age of entry into prostitution ranges from 12 – 16. The University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work, in a report published in 2001, estimated 200,000 to 300,000 children currently are at high risk for being involved in commercial sexual exploitation.



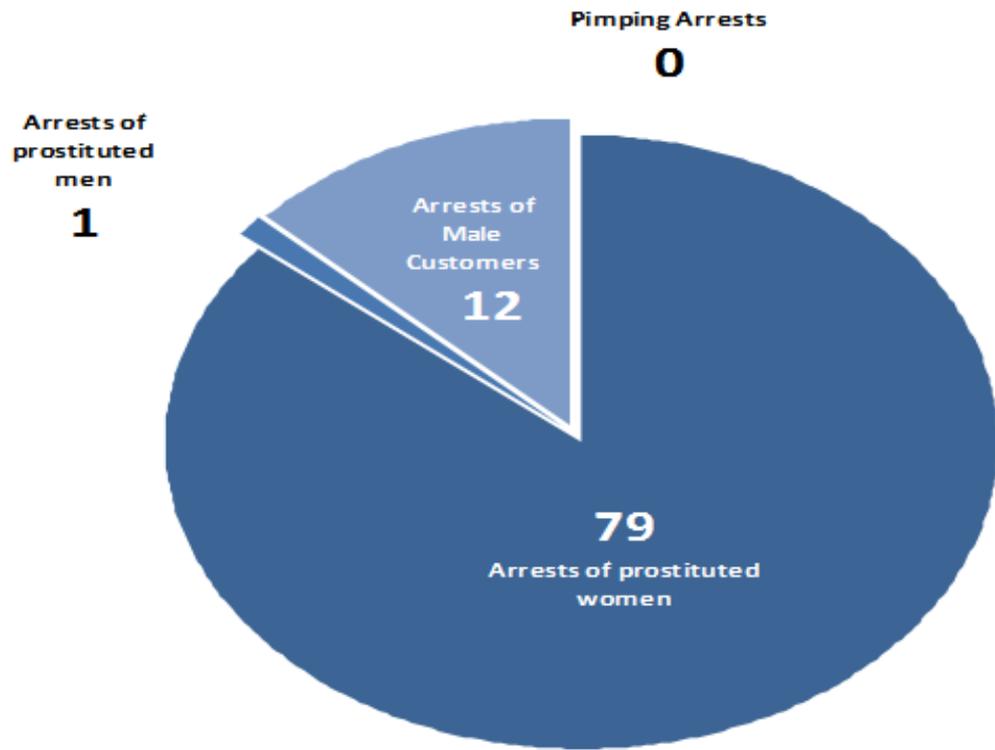
WHY THE COMMERCIAL SEX TRADE THRIVES

- Traditional law enforcement response of arresting and re-arresting prostituted/trafficked people (74% of women interviewed in Chicago's 2002 study had been arrested)
- Traffickers and pimps almost never held accountable;



WHY THE COMMERCIAL SEX TRADE THRIVES

Rockford's 2008 Sex Trade Arrests



IN THE JOHN'S OWN WORDS

- T08-13-10 22:09 “Wiseguy100” Discussing the Illinois Safe Children Act

“This is a very serious stuff if become the Law on August 24. I think we all need to say good by to this Hobby or get ready for Felony charges which also means loss of Job for professionals. LE will pursue it hard due to the Felony Charges. See this link from End Demand organization who are behind this Bill.”



IN THE JOHN'S OWN WORDS

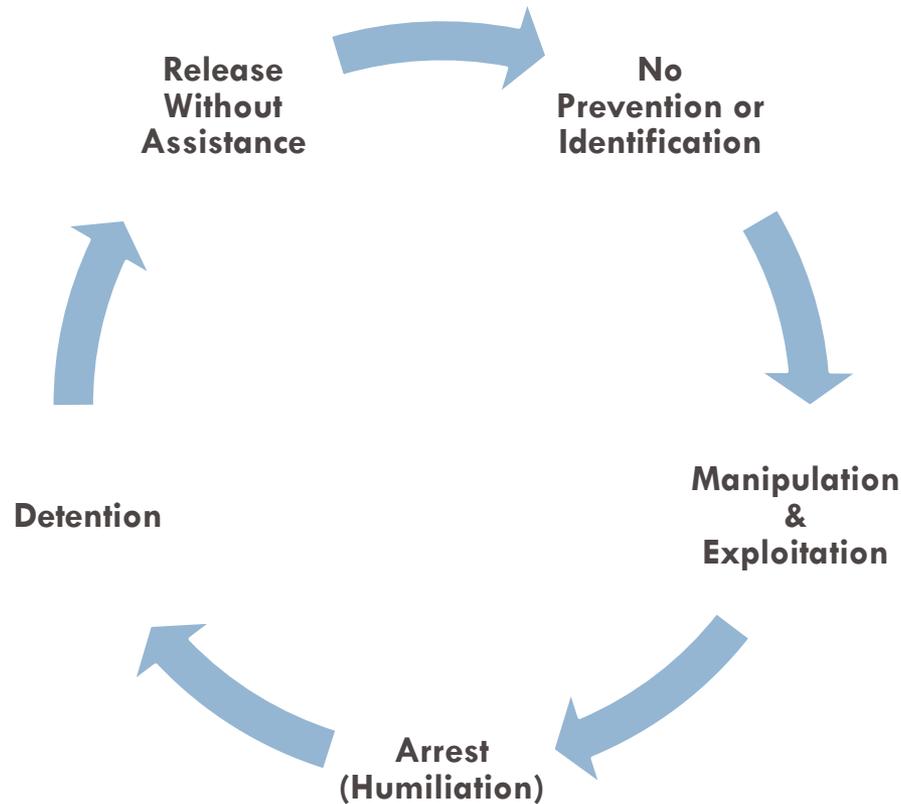
○ 02-20-11 21:37 "Chigod7"

" I was BUSTED! Well boys after 20+ years being in this hobby it has finally came to an end. I WAS BUSTED in Chicago. Thats all I will say for now regarding the bust. I will say I am OUT! But I need help to keep my record cleaned. Can you please pass on to me any attorneys that can get me exspunged (is that the word?) from this? I talked to 1 already but he said it will be in the Thousands of dollars to clear me! Damn if I had that kind of money I would be with escorts. Please help. Also if you were busted can you txt me back and tell me what happened? I can swap stories with ya. Thanks usasexguide community for all these years of help!"



WHY THE COMMERCIAL SEX TRADE THRIVES

- Insufficient, nonexistent, or inappropriate services for victims;



WHY THE COMMERCIAL SEX TRADE THRIVES

- People are unaware of realities of prostitution and trafficking or don't know how to take action.
 - “The single most surprising and actually shocking statistic to this sample was the fact that the average age of entry into prostitution in Illinois was between 12 and 14. The low entry age heightened a sense of the severity of the problem, and challenged some people’s notion that many women working in prostitution enter into it by choice.”
 - “Another of the most surprising facts was that no trafficker has ever been convicted under Illinois’ human trafficking law. Universally, respondents considered trafficking to be reprehensible and illegal, so they couldn’t understand why absolutely no one had been convicted of the crime.”
 - “A third statistic that surprised people was another that described the size of the problem. “16,000 – 25,000 U.S. born women and girls are being prostituted every day in Chicago... every minute in Chicago 11 men buy...American women and girls for sex...”

STRATEGIES TO END DEMAND

- Elements of Comprehensive Legislative Reform
 - Prohibit the prosecution of prostituted people
 - Develop and fund specialized social services
 - Increase penalties for pimps, traffickers and buyers
 - Improve the child welfare system's response
 - Training for law enforcement & service providers
 - New tools for law enforcement
 - Prevention, identification, and demand deterrence
 - Removing stigmatizing language



STRATEGIES TO END DEMAND

○ Sample Legislative Models

- Trafficking Victim Protection Act (2000)
- IL Safe Children Act (PA 96-1464)
- Compare with similar state reform (See Protected Innocence Project at sharedhope.org)
- S 596 Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Deterrence and Victim Support Act (Wyden/Cornyn)
- Minnesota has highest rank for best anti trafficking laws

○ Municipal Ordinances

- Cook County Public Nuisance Citation Sec 58-163.1 - fines for purchasers \$500 - \$1000 to support services for women
- Regulation of Indoor Venues – limiting hours, requiring licenses, prohibiting minors or alcohol, etc



STRATEGIES TO END DEMAND

- Law Enforcement Willing to Use New Tools and Resources
 - Investigate owners and customers of indoor venues and business fronts
 - Build cases that do NOT rely solely on victim testimony
 - Prosecute pimps, johns, traffickers under state or federal trafficking laws
 - See prostituted/trafficked people as crime victims worthy of supportive services



STRATEGIES TO END DEMAND

○ Prevention

- CAASE's curriculum "Empowering Young Men Toward Ending Sexual Exploitation"
- My Life, My Choice curriculum for young women

○ Case law

- Texas Supreme Court decision, IN THE MATTER OF B.W. ruled that a minor who has not reached the age of consent cannot be prosecuted for prostitution offenses.



STRATEGIES TO END DEMAND

- Community Attention and Awareness





The PROSTITUTION MYTH

**“Pretty
Woman”
is pretty
accurate.
Right?**

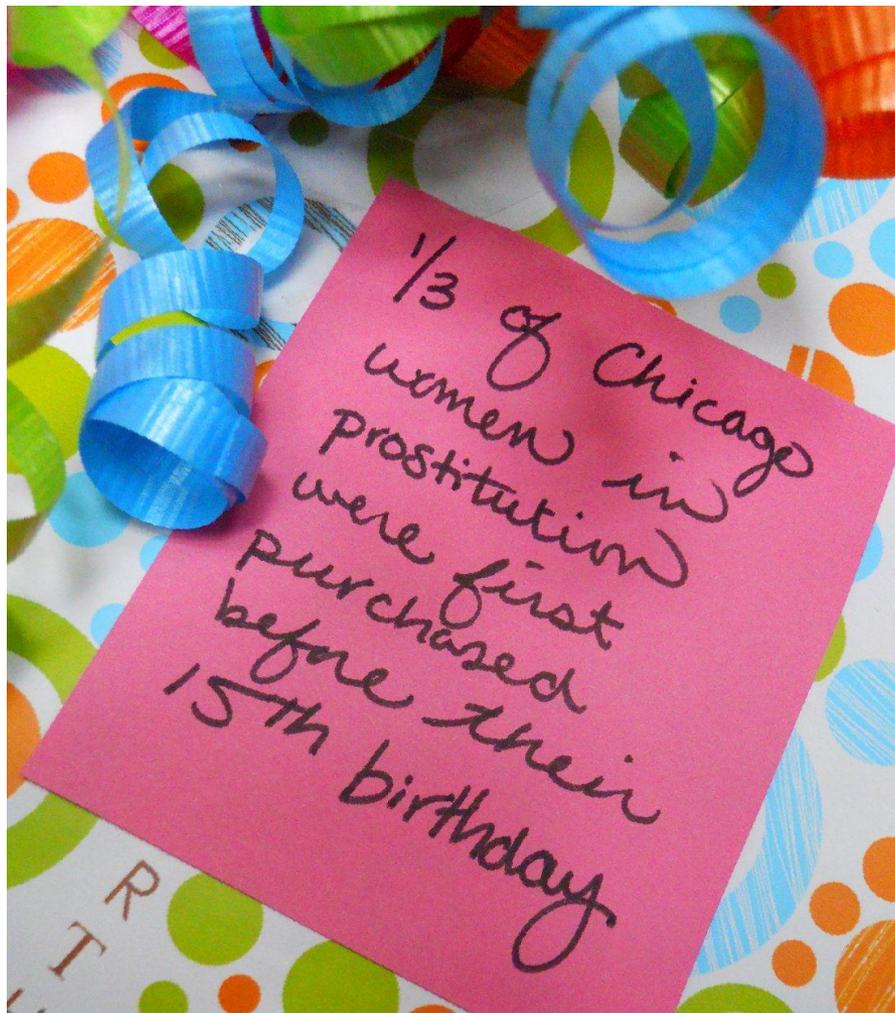
The UGLY TRUTH

**Hollywood films may make prostitution
look pretty, but the truth for the women
working in it isn't so glamorous.**

*If we don't act, there will be no end.
Visit enddemandillinois.org*

**END DEMAND
ILLINOIS**





...probably not the gift they were hoping for.

People choose to buy sex,
women often do not choose to sell it.
Stop the demand and stop the harm.

END DEMAND
ILLINOIS
www.enddemandillinois.org

A Campaign of the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation





- End Demand Illinois (EDI) is a multi-year organizing and advocacy campaign to transform Illinois' response to prostitution and trafficking.
- EDI's philosophy - sexual exploitation will never end until our community focuses its resources on providing specialized services to those harmed and holding accountable those who create the demand for the domestic sex trade – the traffickers, pimps, and people who buy sex.





- GOAL - Traffickers, pimps, and the people who buy commercial sex are held accountable for their crimes and are deterred from future trafficking and prostitution offenses.
- GOAL - Prostituted and trafficked people receive comprehensive, specialized supportive services to address their complex needs and provide meaningful alternatives to prostitution.
- GOAL - Illinois residents, elected officials, policy makers, and opinion leaders are educated about the realities of prostitution and trafficking and are moved to take action against demand and end sexual exploitation.



- creating and advocating for public policies and legislation to achieve the goals of the campaign;
- educating the community, public policy makers, and opinion shapers about the campaign and need for reform; and
- researching and proposing a model statewide infrastructure of supportive services for survivors of prostitution and trafficking.
- organizing and training survivors of prostitution and trafficking to serve as public spokespeople for the campaign;



EDI PARTNERS



- Polaris Project – legislative and policy expertise
- DePaul Law School – research and evaluation
- Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault – fiscal agent, lobbying
- The Voices and Faces Project – communications and social media engagement
- Cook County Sheriff’s Women’s Justice Programs - survivor engagement and community education
- Chicago Coalition for the Homeless – staff and survivor lobbying





○ **Successes**

- **Law Enforcement Partnerships**
- **Legislative Reforms**
- **Survivor Lobbying**
- **Increased Investigation and Charging of Trafficking Crimes**
- **Increased Penalties for Purchasers**
- **Purchasers are Paying Attention**
- **Fines collected for survivor's services**
- **Research on pimps disseminated**



CRITICAL ROLE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

○ Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez

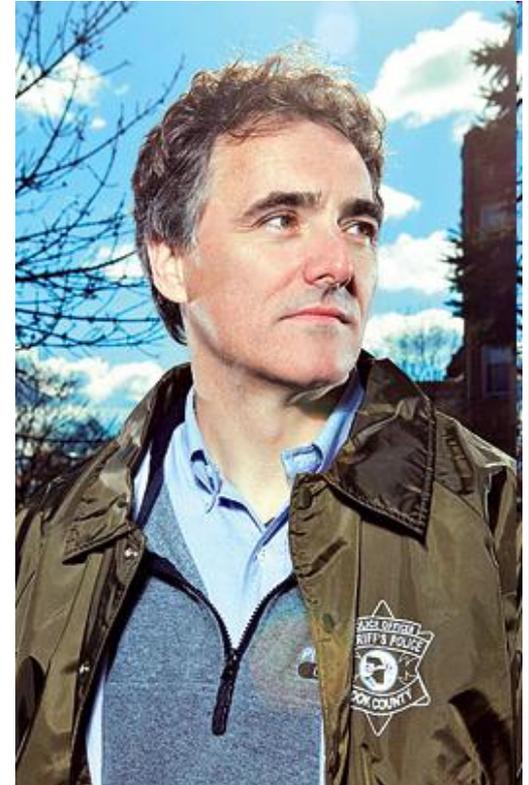
- Legislative advocacy
- Created Human Trafficking Unit
- Public support for responding to prostituted/trafficked people as crime victims
- Convened Human Trafficking Task Force



CRITICAL ROLE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

○ Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart

- One of Time's 100 Most Influential People in 2009;
- Longstanding support for reforming the community's response to prostitution, and partner in End Demand Illinois;
- Created Human Trafficking Response Team with Survivor Led Intervention with Victims;
- Empowered Dept of Women's Justice Services to provide supportive services and assistance to prostituted women and girls;
- Public leader in effort to redirect law enforcement resources toward demand;
- Implemented enforcement of new ordinance to fine pimps and johns and direct money toward services;
- Sued craigslist in federal court to stop their facilitation of prostitution and seek damages on behalf of victims.





○ Challenges, Lessons Learned

- **Online media/website communications capacity**
- **Capacity for statewide implementation of bill**
- **Child welfare system barriers**
- **Bring on several survivor organizing partners**
- **Collect data before and after to measure success**
- **Best Practice Standards for Service Providers**
- **Broad multi-disciplinary coalition**
- **Messaging focuses on ending trafficking**



RESEARCH, ONLINE TOOLS, RESOURCES

- J. Raphael, Listening to Olivia, 2004
- End Demand Illinois, www.enddemandillinois.org
- Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation, www.caase.org
- Prostitution Research and Education, www.prostitutionresearch.com
- Polaris Project, www.polarisproject.org
- Shared Hope International, www.sharedhope.org
- The National Human Trafficking Resource Center, (NHTRC) 1.888.3737.888





Questions, Comments, Feedback

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