

Understanding the Fundamentals of Human Trafficking

January 23, 2025
1:00–2:00pm CST



Guardify

Housekeeping

- If you'd like a copy of the presentation slides today, you can access them in the chat box.
- Please look out for an email later this afternoon that will explain how you can complete the evaluation form & receive your certificate.
- If you have any questions during the presentation, please submit them in the Q & A Box (rather than in the chat box or by raising your hand).

Upcoming Events

Live Webinar 

YOLO: Strategies for Intentional MDT Leadership

 Tuesday, February 27, 2025
 1:00pm CT-2:15pm CT


Shelley Hitzel
LMSW, Executive Director
Child Advocacy Center of Niagara

 **THE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER OF NIAGARA**
A Service of Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center


REAL EVIDENCE PODCAST



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An Introduction to the Foundations of Sex Trafficking

Jessica Brazeal, MA, LPC-S, EMDR Trainer





Sex Trafficking

MYTH:

- Trafficking is defined by the **crossing of state or national borders**.
- Only **foreign nationals** can be victims of trafficking.



Sex Trafficking

FACT:

- Someone can be a trafficking victim in Dallas, TX who is a native of Dallas, TX.
- Victims of human trafficking can be **men and women, adults and children, and U.S. citizens and foreign nationals.**



Sex Trafficking

- **SEX TRAFFICKING** occurs when someone uses **force**, **fraud** or **coercion** to cause a commercial act with an adult, or causes a minor to commit a commercial sex act.

COMMERCIAL SEX ACTS include prostitution, pornography and sexual performance *done in exchange for items of value*, such as money, drugs, shelter, food or clothing.



Labels Used

Labels used for **YOUTH**:

- Child prostitution
- Child pornography
- Juvenile prostitution
- Teen prostitution
- Sexual exploitation of youth
- Domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST)
- **Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC, current identifier)**

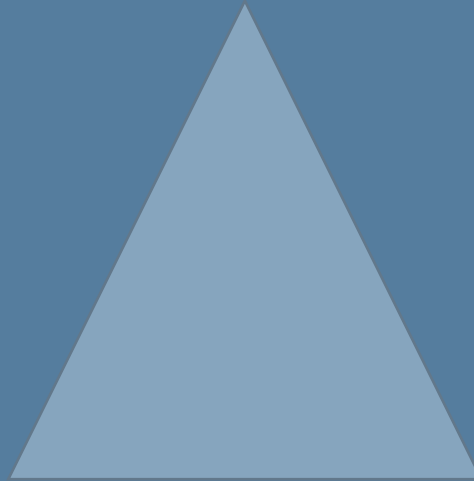
Labels used for **ADULTS**:

- Prostitution
- Pornography
- Forced trafficking
- Domestic sex trafficking
- Adult forced prostitution
- **Commercial sexual exploitation (CSE, current)**



3 Typical Elements

BUYER/JOHN: Fuels the market by purchasing victims



TRAFFICKER/PIMP: Exploits victims to earn revenue from buyers

VICTIM: Women, girls, boys and men who are bought and sold for profit



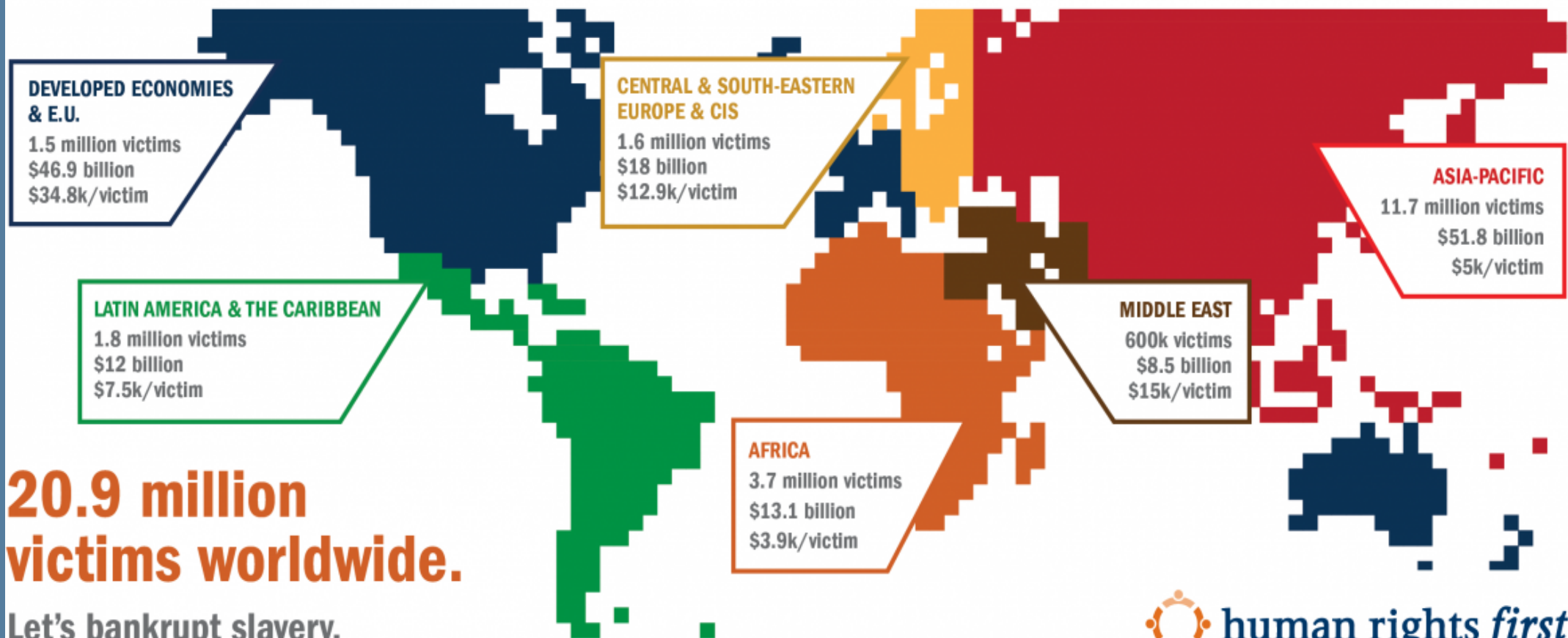
Methods Used

- Pornography
- Child pornography
- Escort prostitution
- Pimp-controlled prostitution
- Sex tourism
- Delivery services
- Pedophile rings
- Forced marriage/
mail-order brides
- Brothels
- Spas
- Saunas
- Massage parlors
- Street prostitution
- Survival sex
- Gang prostitution
- Bars
- Strip clubs
- Dance clubs
- “Gentlemen’s” clubs
- Topless clubs
- Adult video arcades



Across the Globe

MAP: VICTIMS & PROFITS BY REGION



20.9 million victims worldwide.

Let's bankrupt slavery.

For more information visit humanrightsfirst.org. Contact us at: antitraffickingcampaign@humanrightsfirst.org



American ideals. Universal values.



Across the United States



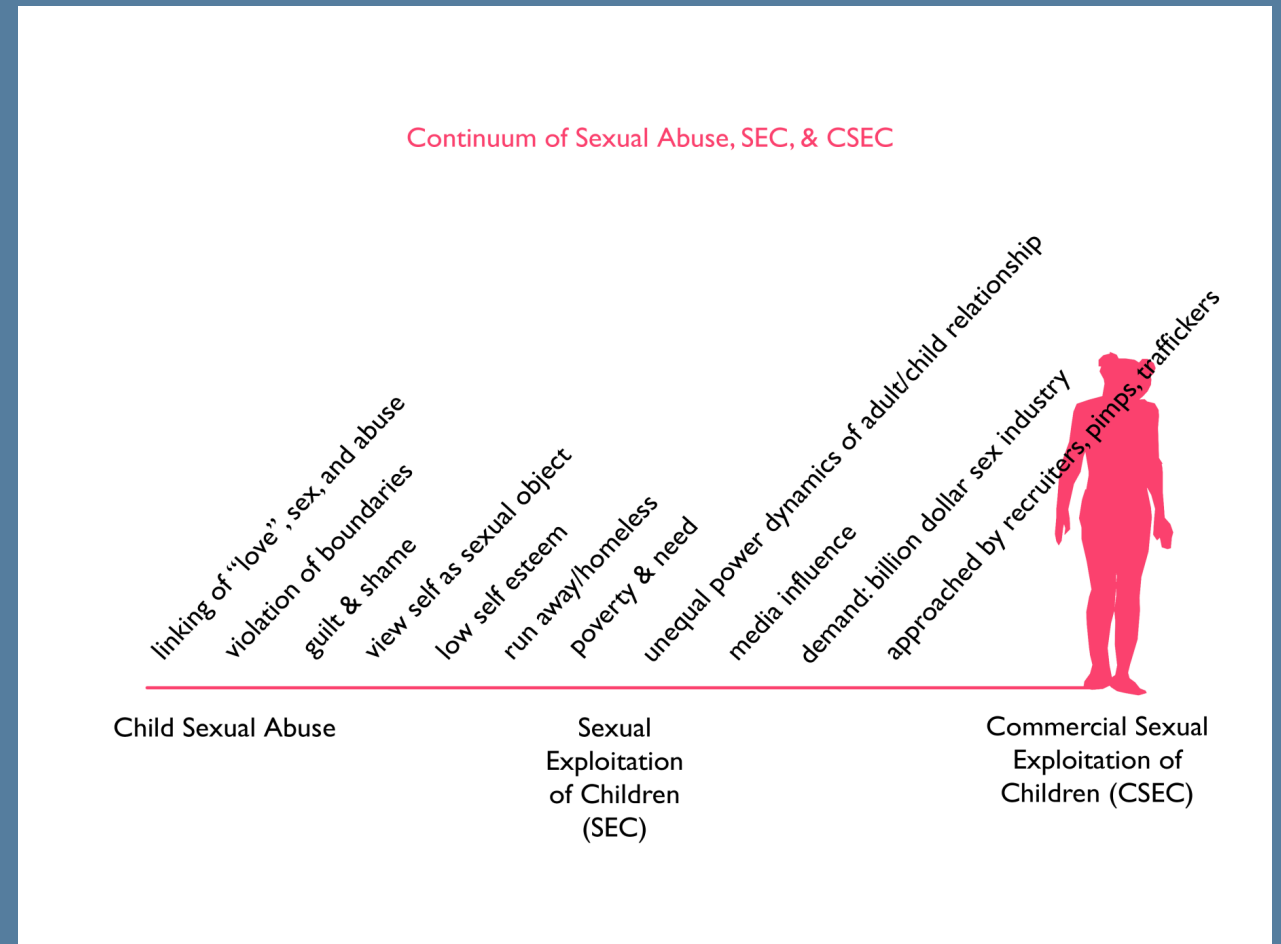
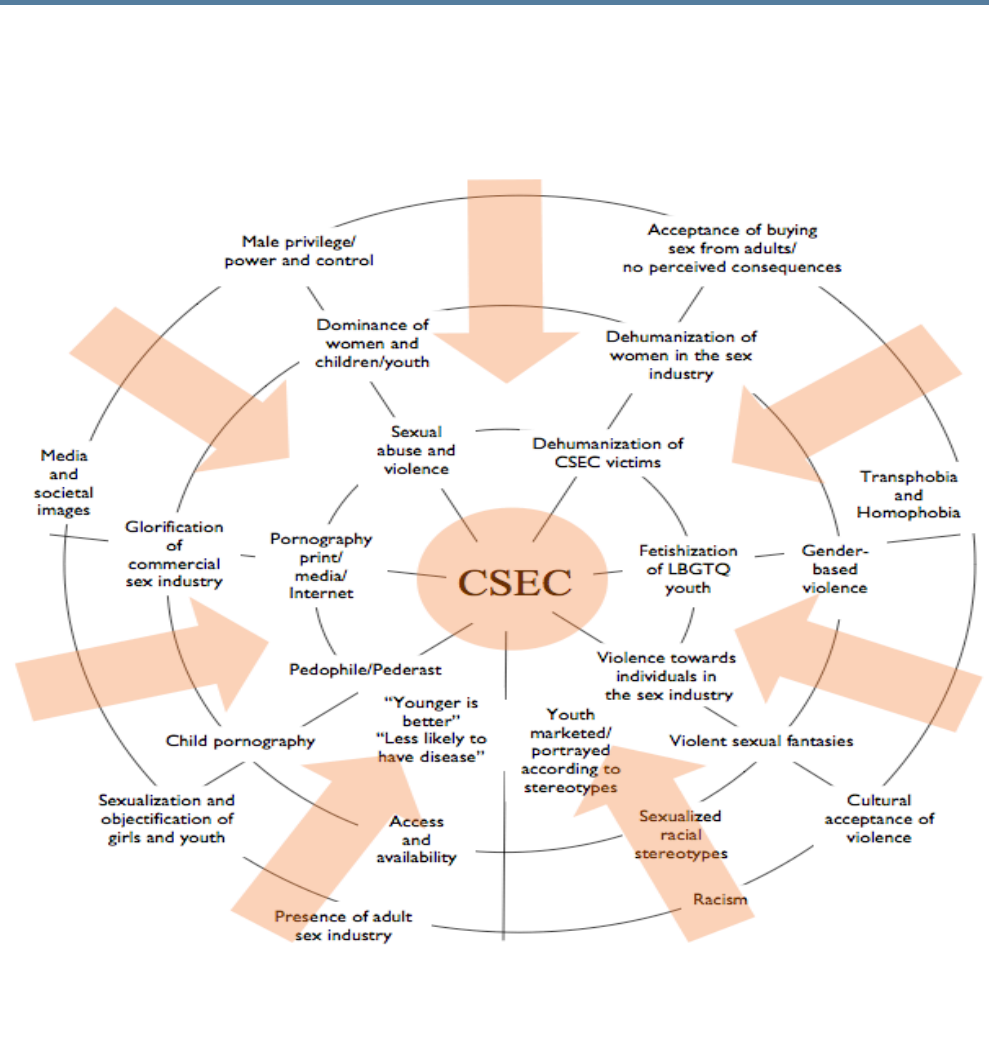


Across Texas





The Wheel of Demand & The Spectrum





Increased Risk

- Lack of education
- Family instability
- Housing instability or homelessness
- Poverty
- Substance abuse
- History of abuse, family violence, and/or trauma
- History of involvement in systems of child protection, foster care, and criminal justice system
- Identify as LGBTQ+
- Has a disability, particularly an intellectual disability



Stages of Change

- **Precontemplation** – Not considering change and does not believe change is necessary
- **Contemplation** – Considering change and struggling with its pros and cons
- **Preparation** – Thinking more seriously about change and taking small steps toward goal of change
- **Action** – When the change process actually occurs
- **Maintenance** – New behavior that is sustained for 6 months or more
- **Relapse (Returning)** – When the individual returns to the old behavior



Stages of Change

- The following issues and systems have to be taken into account in order to fully understand where a survivor is in the stages of change:
 - Sexism
 - Classism
 - Racism
 - Poverty
 - Lack of affordable childcare
 - Lack of affordable housing
 - Lack of living wage employment
 - Social and legal stigma faced by survivors of the commercial sex industry

Attendance Code

33681





The 3 C's of Support

○ **CONSISTENCY**

“The actions and attitude of the provider, while not responsible for the change process, can and do make significant difference in how an individual engages and responds to the provider, builds trust and rapport with the provider, and is able to receive intentional and directive support in moving to the next stage.”

○ **CLOSE ENGAGEMENT**

PEOPLE CONNECT TO PEOPLE, NOT PROGRAMS!!

○ **CONTINUED RESOURCES**



Red Flags

- If the age of an individual has been verified to be **under 18**, and the individual is in any way involved in the commercial sex industry, or has a record of prior arrest for prostitution (or related charges), then he or she **is a CSEC victim**.
- Most sexually exploited children have been trained to lie about their age. Sometimes a child's appearance and/or actions can contradict the information they give. Be sensitive to **clues in behavior or appearance that could indicate that a child is underage**.
- **Personal information** – such as: age, name, and/or date of birth – **might change** with each telling of his or her story, or the **information given might contradict itself**.
- **Has no identification** or is not in control of his or her identification documents.



Red Flags

- **Physical and sexual violence** are the everyday reality of many sexually exploited children and may leave visible signs of abuse, such as: unexplained bruises, blackeyes, cuts, or marks.
- Exhibit behaviors including fear, anxiety, depression, submission, tension, and/or nervousness.
- Exhibit “hyper-vigilance” or **paranoid behavior**.
- Sexually exploited children and youth often express interest in, or are in relationships with, adults or older men.
- **Truancy or tardiness** from school
- Evidence of **controlling or dominating relationships**, including: repeated phone calls from a “boyfriend” and/or excessive concern about displeasing partner.



Red Flags

- Unexplained shopping trips or possession of expensive clothing, jewelry, or a cell phone could indicate the manipulation of an exploiter.
- Not in control of their own money.
- Use of **lingo or slang** from “the life” among peers, or referring to a boyfriend as “Daddy.”
- Wearing **sexually provocative clothing** *can be* an indicator of sexual exploitation. But it should be noted, so as not to rely on stereotypes, that not all children in the commercial sex industry wear such clothing. Sexually provocative clothing is not a warning sign in and of itself. Wearing new clothes of any style, or getting hair or nails done with no financial means to this independently, is a more general indicator of potential sexual exploitation.
- Difficulty making or avoiding **eye contact**.

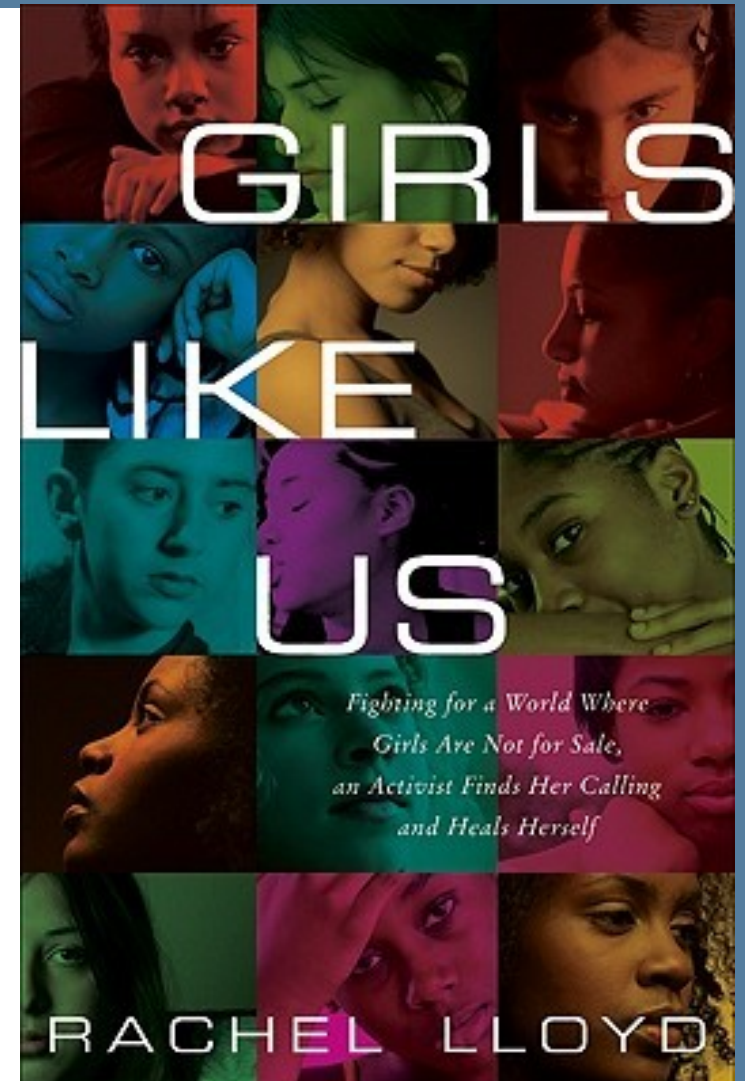
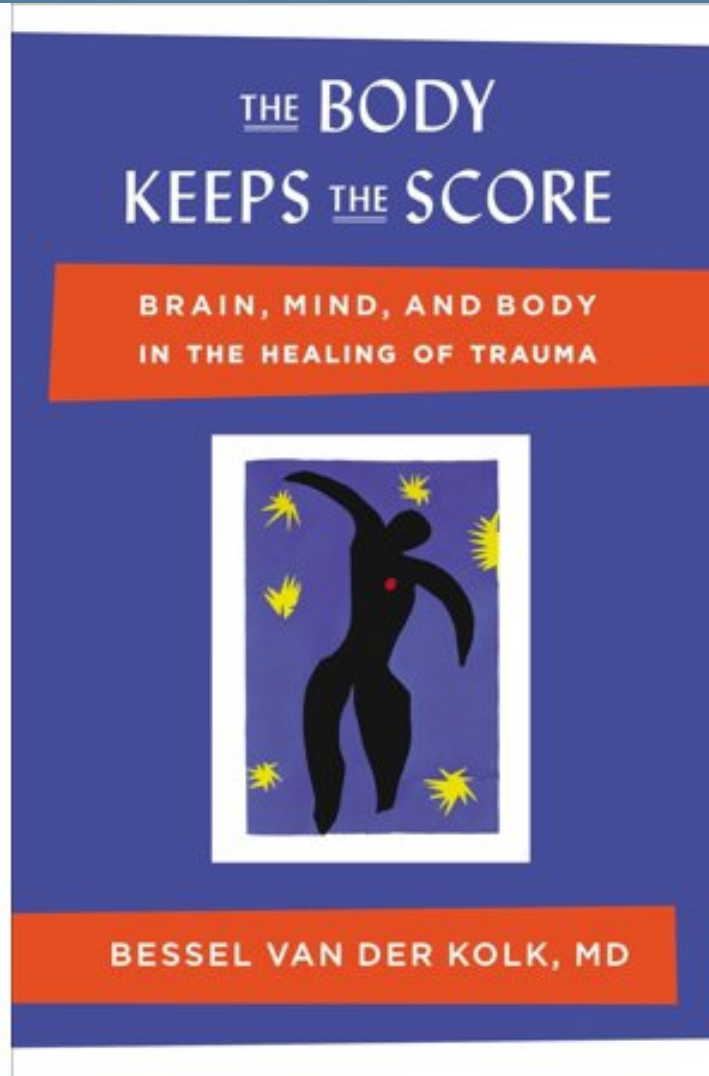
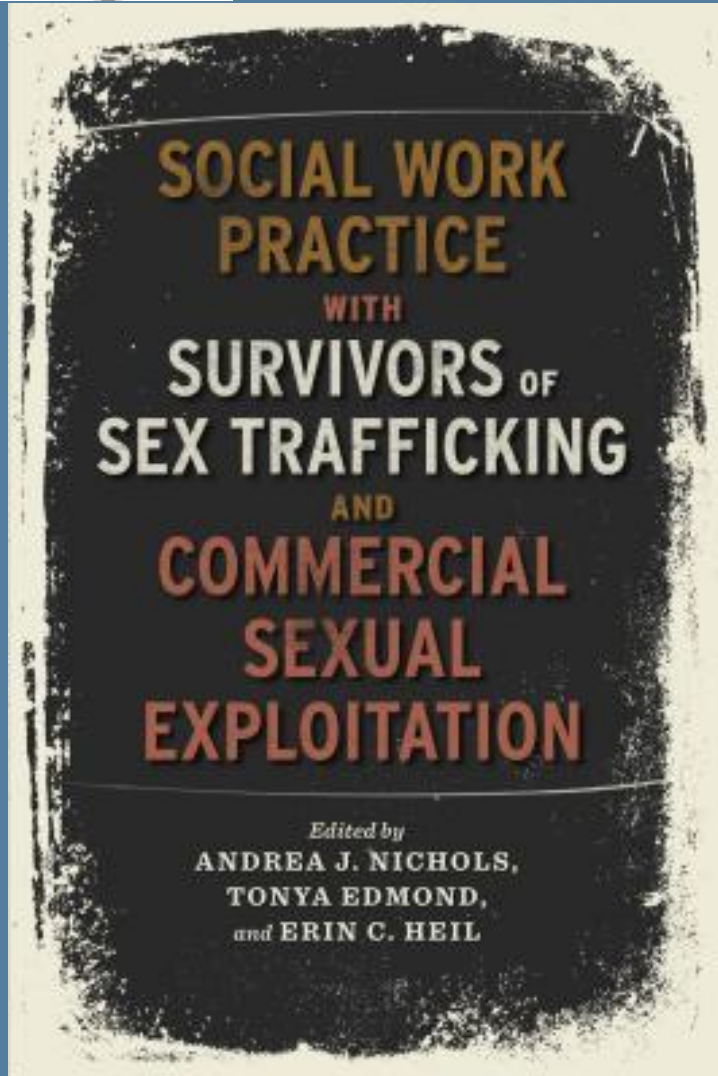


Red Flags

- A tattoo that he or she is reluctant to explain may be the result of tattooing or **branding by a pimp**. Pimps and other sexual exploiters often tattoo or brand children and youth, particularly girls. Youth are commonly branded with their exploiter's name tattooed on the neck, chest, or arms.
- Has an **explicitly sexual online profile** via social media sites
- **Excessive frequenting of internet chat rooms** or classified sites, such as former Backpage.com, known for recruitment.
- Doctors and nurses can consider **frequent or multiple sexually transmitted infections** (STIs), pregnancies or abortions a warning sign.
- Homeless, runaway, group home children



Resources





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