

# Look Deeper: Are You Working with Victims of Human Trafficking?

NJPN 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ADDICTION CONFERENCE



**CREATING  
CONNECTIONS**  
THE PATH TO WELLNESS

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# UNDERSTANDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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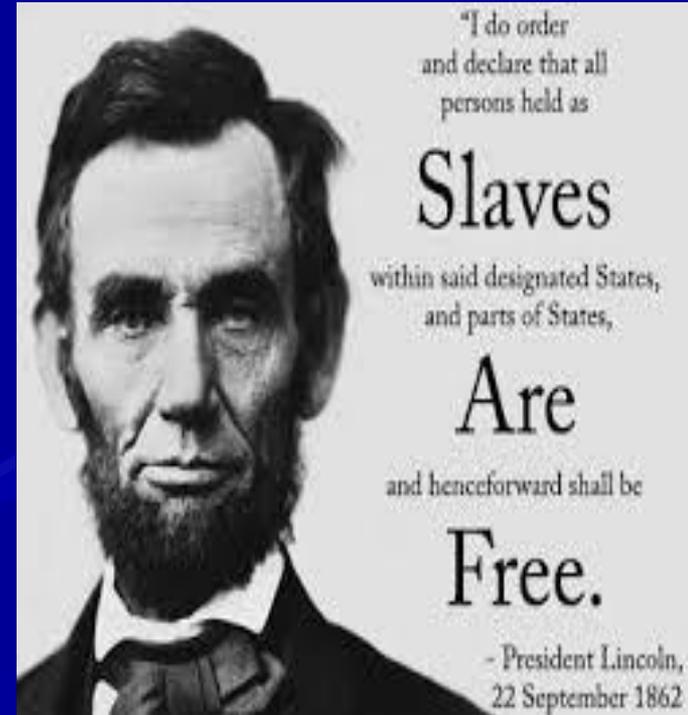
# OBJECTIVES

**As a result of this presentation, you will:**

- Learn the different types of Human Trafficking
- Understand about the crime of Human Trafficking and it's victims/survivors
- Learn why New Jersey is considered a prime location for Human Trafficking
- Understand Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) victims, how they are recruited and controlled
- Engagement of Human Trafficking victims/survivors

# WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

- A form of modern-day slavery
- A violation of human rights
- A crime



# Legal Definition of HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

# Legal Definition of HUMAN TRAFFICKING? -CHILDREN-

The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of a CHILD, for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered “trafficking in person” even if this does not involve any of the means set forth.

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS:

- the illegal use of a variety of means
- to force an individual (the trafficked)
- to relinquish his/her personal freedom
- for the profit of another person (the trafficker).
- often, simply considered “involuntary servitude” or “modern-day slavery.”

# Types of HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- International/Domestic Human Trafficking
- Labor Trafficking-nails, farms, hair braiding etc.
- Sex Trafficking-porn, prostitution, brothels, strip clubs etc.
- CSEC – Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
- Debt-Bondage
- Child labor
- Mail order brides
- Involuntary Domestic Servitude...
- Organ Trafficking
- [www.slaveryfootprint.org](http://www.slaveryfootprint.org)

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS



Domestic/International

Male/female

Adult/Child

Citizen/Non-citizen

U.S. citizen/Legal or illegal immigrant ...

*Anyone can become vulnerable to a  
trafficking situation*

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

- ▶ Up to 60,000 people are trafficked into the U.S. annually
- ▶ 80% of trafficked persons are woman and children
- ▶ U.S. Citizens and Residents
- ▶ Both Documented and Undocumented Immigrants
- ▶ Runaway Youth
- ▶ Urban pop.
- ▶ Suburban pop.

# FOR WHAT ARE PEOPLE TRAFFICKED?

- Prostitution
- Agricultural work
- Factory work
- Domestic work
- Child care
- Construction work
- Landscape work
- Begging/street peddling
- Restaurant work
- Hotel housekeeping

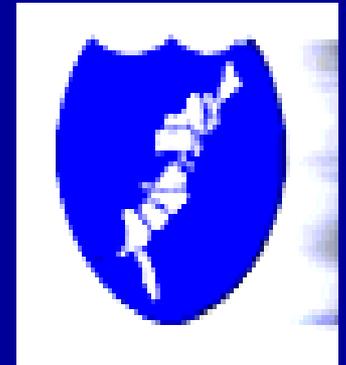
## SUPPLY AND DEMAND

As long as there is a demand for cheap labor  
and commercial sex,  
people will continue to be exploited

# NEW JERSEY- RIPE FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING WHY?

**LOCATION** – Prime spot along the I-95  
Corridor

**EASY ACCESS** – Using one of its many  
major interstate routes, airports,  
seaports, and terminals



# NEW JERSEY- RIPE FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING MIGRANT FARM WORKERS

It is estimated-

- Over 300 migrant labor camps in NJ
- Average 32, 000 migrant farm laborers with families come to NJ annually

*Slavery is always a matter of poor economics...*

# WHY???

- Fastest Growing Criminal Industry as of 2016.
- \$32 Billion enterprise (sex). Over \$100 billion in profit of made goods (Nike, goods etc...)
- Easy Targets with home issues and self esteem problems.
- Victims do not understand they are victims.
- GANGS
- Hard to prosecute
- Societal views
- Supply/Demand

# IT IS A “HERE” PROBLEM!

## Human Trafficking Victim Found Walking On I-295 In Lawrence 1/18/18

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP, NJ A 17-year-old girl says she was forced into prostitution, being taken from hotel to hotel against her will and forced to engage in sexual acts with multiple men. When she finally escaped, she was found by state police officers walking along I-295 in Lawrence Township. She told them her story, and two Trenton residents were arrested. Ashley Gardener, 29, and Breon Mickens, 26, both of Trenton, have been charged with human trafficking.

# Woman Coerced Runaway Teen Into Prostitution 11/10/16

- A 22-year-old NJ woman is facing child endangerment and human trafficking charges for urging a 16-year-old girl to engage in prostitution with her, sometimes meeting with up to 4 men in a single day.
- Barbara B. Cantz of Westville was indicted Thursday on 1st degree charges of human trafficking, promoting prostitution and organized street crime, and 2<sup>nd</sup> degree charges of facilitating human trafficking and endangering the welfare of a child.

# It's a "HERE" Problem!

- OCEAN CITY, NJ -12/17/18 A 61-year-old woman was running a "house of prostitution" out of an Ocean City spa, authorities announced Monday morning.
- PATERSON –10/23/18 City police arrested 39 suspected hookers and johns in a neighborhood where the proliferation of streetwalkers prompted one homeowner to erect "Just Say No to Prostitution" signs during the summer.

# It's a "HERE" Problem!

- TOMS RIVER, NJ — 5/11/18-The owners of a former wellness center on Lakehurst Road have been indicted on prostitution charges, accused of running a brothel at the spa, according to a report.
- James M. O'Brien, 60, and Nina X. Meng, 57, both of Berkeley Township, were indicted earlier this month on a single count each of prostitution (Redwoods Wellness Center)

# It's a "HERE" Problem!

- 1/25/18-A Berkeley Township man was arrested Tuesday after authorities discovered he was operating a "crack house" and offering prostitution in a retirement community, the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office announced.
- Jason Scala, 47, was charged with possessing and dealing in cocaine after detectives raided his house in the Holiday City section of Berkeley

# 45 arrested, 16 juveniles rescued in Super Bowl 2014 prostitution bust

- 45 people were arrested and 16 juveniles rescued in a two-week crackdown on prostitution in the New York-New Jersey area leading up to last Sunday's Super Bowl, Federal Bureau of Investigation officials said on Tuesday.
- The FBI said some of those arrested say they traveled to the site because of the high-profile football game, which drew an estimated 400,000 visitors to the region. The minors rescued ranged in age from 13 to 17 and included high school students and children reported missing by their families, the FBI said.

# Multiple studies estimate that...

- 70 to 90% of victims were sexually abused in their lives.
- About 75% of all Trafficking victims have had involvement in the CPS system.
- Over 83% of all identified HT victims in the US are born citizens.
- The average age of entry of prostitution is 12-14 years old.
- Trafficking=93% female/83% sex trafficking

# Multiple studies estimate that..

- In 2008, the United Nations estimated nearly 2.5 million people from 127 different countries are being trafficked into 137 countries around the world.

# Let's Talk About Demand

## Internet Pornography

- There are over 100,000 sites offering illegal child pornography and hundreds of thousands more offering legal 'teen' or 'barely legal' pornography.
- In 2006, there were over 20 million searches using the words 'teen porn' or 'teen sex'.

<http://internet-filter-review.toptenreviews.com/internet-pornography-statistics.html>

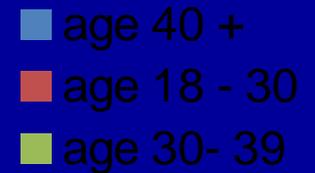
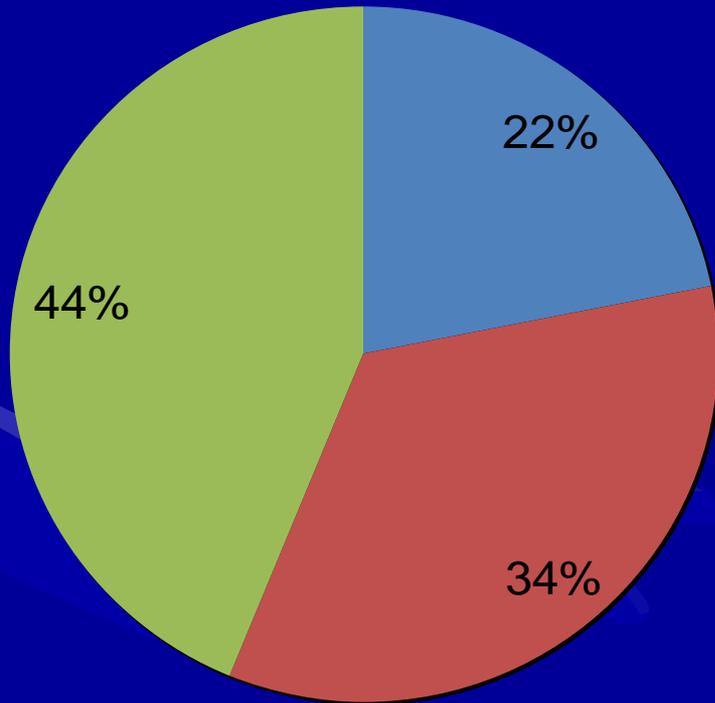
# Let's Talk About Demand

If there are an estimated **300,000**  
CSEC victims in the U.S....

Who do you think is buying our  
children for sex?

# Men are the biggest Purchasers..

by age



# Demand...DID YOU KNOW??

That Hooters has a children's menu?

That the AC phone book has as more pages of adds for ESCORTS than it does for doctors?

New Jersey has more Strip Clubs than ANY OTHER State?

Atlantic City is “ALWAYS TURNED ON”, “AMERICA’S PLAYGROUND”, and “DO AC”?



# What Is CSEC

- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
- Also known as DMST-Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking

# Let's Change Our Language



# They've already been victimized

# They've already been traumatized

- They are not hookers
- They are not sluts or prostitutes
- They are not criminals
- **THEY ARE VICTIMS OF A CRIME**
- **THEY ARE BEING EXPLOITED BY ADULTS**
- The language you use here matters...

# Changing the Language:

- Reframes the issue as a form of child abuse
- Expresses the philosophy that sexually exploited children deserve support services instead of jail sentences
- More accurately represents the scope of the issue and the reality of exploited youth's experiences
- Creates a common language to facilitate moving toward facilitating a community response plan

## CSEC in the United States

- The National Incidence Studies of Missing, Abducted, Runaway, and Thrownaway (NISMAART) children estimate that **1.6 million children runaway** from home each year in the U.S.
- One in three teens will be **recruited by a pimp within 48 hours of leaving home** and becoming homeless.

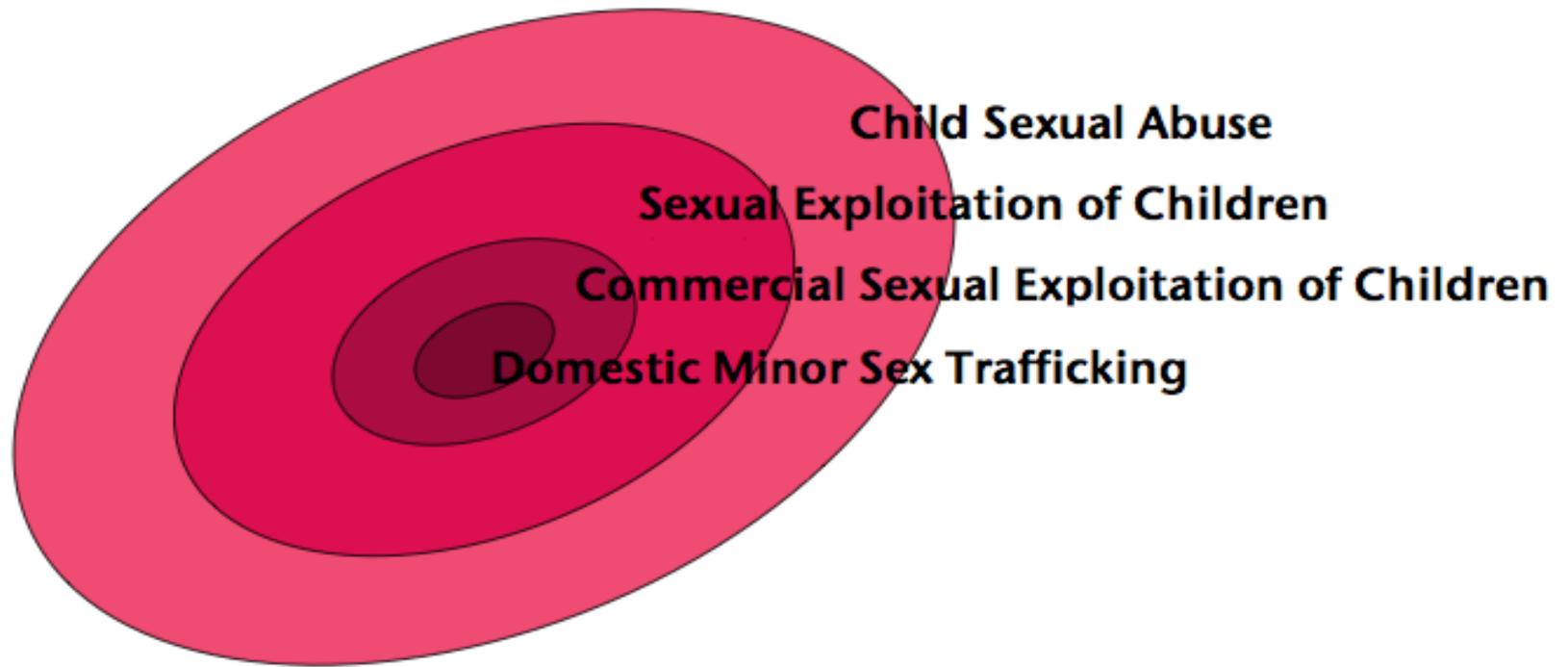


# Pathways and Precursors

- Are under 18 years old
- Walk to school or to the store alone
- Own or have access to a computer
- Are attracted to consumer goods
- Desire to develop romantic relationships
- Sometimes feel insecure
- Feel misunderstood
- Fight with their parents
- Sometimes feel their parents don't care
- Want more independence
- Test boundaries and take risks

# Forms of Entry

- Parents selling children
- Violence and force
- Kidnapping
- Seduction and coercion
- False advertising for “modeling,” “acting,” or “dancing” opportunities
- Peer recruitment
- Internet enticement through chat rooms or profile-sharing sites



## Continuum of Sexual Abuse, SEC, & CSEC



Child Sexual Abuse

Sexual  
Exploitation  
of Children  
(SEC)

Commercial Sexual  
Exploitation of  
Children (CSEC)

# ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT

## PHYSICAL

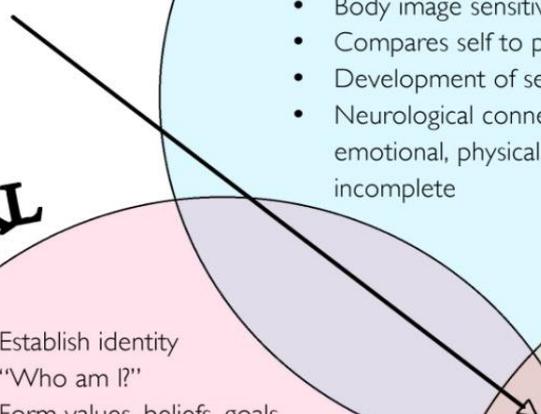
- Physical growth & hormonal changes
- Development of secondary sex characteristics
- Body image sensitivity
- Compares self to peers
- Development of sexual desire
- Neurological connections between emotional, physical, & mental abilities incomplete

## PSYCHOSOCIAL

- Establish identity
- "Who am I?"
- Form values, beliefs, goals
- Establish autonomy
- Becoming less dependent on parents
- Establish intimacy
- Growing sense of achievement & competency
- Rely on surrounding messages for education
- Seek out direction and information outside of parents
- Question adults' values & judgments

## COGNITIVE

- "What if?"
- Begin to think hypothetically
  - Begin to think abstractly
  - Developing ability to reason
  - Consider multiple possibilities
  - Impulsive decision making
  - Inability to determine consequences
  - Feelings of being invincible
  - "It can't happen to me"
  - High level of self consciousness
  - "No one else has ever felt like this before"





# Pimp Tactics

## Of Coercion and Control

- Enforcing trivial demands
- Isolation
- Monopolization of perception
- Induced debility & exhaustion
- Degradation
- Demonstrating “omnipotence”
- Threats
- Occasional indulgences

# Rules of the Game

- Constantly having to lie about your age
- All of your identification is taken away
- Having to change your name
- Constantly moving wherever someone else wants to
- Being kidnapped
- Being raped, repeatedly
- Being beaten for not making enough money
- Having to give all the money you make away
- Having threats made against your family
- Having to completely change your appearance
- Getting a tattoo on your neck of the name of the person who constantly abuses you
- Being constantly threatened with violence
- Living with a group of people you call “family” who you could never depend on for support
- Feeling trapped in an abusive and violent situation

# Rules of the Game

- Not being allowed any contact with the world outside of your abusive situation
- Not being able to make eye contact with men other than the one who abuses you
- Having to call a man who is not your father, who abuses you, “daddy”
- Being punished and beaten when someone else breaks an abuser’s “rules”
- Having to meet a nightly quota based on how much money you make for having sex
- Having to compete for attention from your from your abuser with five other girls
- Having sex with strangers every night
- Getting an STD
- Getting arrested again and again
- Having to trade sex with a police officer in exchange for not getting arrested
- Being beat up by a group of 5 pimps for looking one in the eye

...ALL AT ONCE AND AT THE AGE OF 13



## Identifying CSEC Victims

- **Evidence of controlling or dominating relationships**, including: repeated phone calls from a “boyfriend” and/or excessive concern about displeasing partner. Hovering Boyfriends
- **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.”**

# Identifying (cont'd) ...

- **Secrecy about whereabouts. Hotel stays**
- **Unaccounted for time, vagueness concerning whereabouts, and/or defensiveness in response to questions or concern.**
- **Keeping late-night or unusual hours.**
- **A tattoo or brand that he or she is reluctant to explain** may be the result of tattooing or branding by a pimp.
- **Frequent out of town/state visits to “family”.**

# Identifying (cont'd) ...

- **Has an explicitly sexual online profile** via social media (multiple profiles)
- **Excessive frequenting of internet chat rooms or classified sites**, such as backpage.com, known for recruitment.
- **Depicts elements of sexual exploitation or the commercial sex industry in drawing, poetry, or other modes of creative expression.** Prints lyrics to sexually explicit music or songs that allude to the sex industry
- **Doctors and nurses can consider frequent or multiple sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) or pregnancies** a warning sign.

# Identifying (cont'd) ...

- **Homeless or runaway** youth who are in the position of surviving on their own may be forced to exchange sex for survival needs, such as housing or shelter. This can lead to recruitment into the commercial sex industry or a more organized or regular trading of sex for money, shelter, or things of value.
- Frequent phone number changes or using “friend’s phone”.
- **Truancy or tardiness from school** may be a sign that sexual exploitation is occurring during school hours, or during hours when the young person should otherwise be sleeping.
- **Family dysfunction**—including: abuse in the home (emotional, sexual, physical, etc.), neglect, absence of a caregiver, or substance abuse—is a major risk factor for CSEC, and therefore may be a warning sign.

# Identifying (cont'd)...

- 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.**

## Reflection Question ...

If the violence and abuse are this severe...

why don't children just **leave**  
or **call out for help?**

## Psychological/Emotional Impact of CSEC

Disruption of healthy psychological development

- Self-concept, intimacy, beliefs and goals

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

- Impulse to revisit traumatic events,

intrusive emotions & memories, flashbacks, hyper arousal, exaggerated startle reaction, panic symptoms

Self-injurious and suicidal behavior

Dissociative disorders

Anxiety

Paranoia

Clinical depression

Explosive outbursts

Sleep disturbance & nightmares

Bond with perpetrators

Hyper-sexualization

## Emotional Impact of CSEC

Anger and rage

Deep emotional pain/grieving

Feelings of humiliation/shame

Stigma of exploitation

Self-blame/Self-loathing

Loss of sexual desire, feelings, or response

## Spiritual Impact of CSEC

Despair

Hopelessness

Lack of belief in humanity

Lack of faith in spiritual power

## Physical Impact of CSEC

Continuous physical abuse

Rape & gang rape

STDs & STIs

HIV & AIDS

Loss of bowel control

Pregnancy (wanted and unwanted)

Sterility

Facial/dental reconstruction

Tattoos & branding

Brain damage

Substance abuse/addiction

Self-cutting

Suicide/Death

## Social Impact of CSEC

Isolation from peer group

Disconnection from community

Isolation from mainstream society

Homelessness

Incarceration/Criminal record as obstacle

Disempowerment

Lack of life skills

Trust issues/Difficulty maintaining relationships

Obstacles to vocation

- Lack of access to legal economies, lack of job experience/skills

Educational deprivation

- Missed school, disconnection with school system

# Do and Don't of Engagement

- **DON'T** react verbally or physically in a way that communicates disgust or disdain. Refrain from displaying a shocked face or talking about how “awful” the child’s experience was. This may shut the child down.
- **DO** be **nonjudgmental** when listening to a sexually exploited child.

# Do and Don't of Engagement

- **DON'T** use strategies that switch intermittently between treating the child as an offender, then as a victim.
- **DO** recognize the various symptoms of **trauma** exhibited, and **coping mechanisms** used, by a CSEC victim that may not be those one typically associates with victims.

# Do and Don't of Engagement

- **DON'T** dispute facts or comment on a child's motivation. This is likely to stop the flow of information.
- **DO** keep the child **talking** and make him or her feel comfortable.
- (don't pressure the topic or the information or mistrust and retreat will occur)

# Do and Don't of Engagement

- **DON'T** expect a child to recognize their situation as **exploitative**, or to present themselves as a victim in need of immediate intervention or rescuing.
- **DO** meet a sexually exploited child **where they are** and on their terms, and try to meet the needs they present.



# Tangible Needs

- Crisis housing
- Longterm housing
- Food
- Clothing
- Education
- Job or income
- Viable alternatives for employment
- Transportation
- Legal representation and/or advocacy
- Opportunities to develop new skills and strengths
- Medical and/or dental care
- Health education
- Mental healthcare
- Counseling and/or case management
- Safety plan
- Childcare and/or parenting skills

# Intangible Needs

- Safety
- Protection
- Nonjudgmental environment
- Respect
- Acceptance
- Engagement in positive community
- Healthy adult relationships
- Mentors and/or positive role models
- Supportive peers
- Understanding of the recovery process
- Affirmation of skills and strengths
- Recognition of abuse and trauma
- An opportunity to not be defined solely by abuse and trauma
- Options
- A sense of empowerment in one's own healing and restoration process
- Political education to understand the issue of CSEC
- Youth leadership opportunities
- Love & Holistic care

# Addressing Concerns:

## Asking Youth About CSEC

- “It seems like you’re a little scared of your boyfriend. Would you like to talk about that with me?”
- “It’s tough to be out there on your own, how are you surviving?”
- “Has anyone ever asked you to, or made you feel like you had to have sex in exchange for money, shelter, clothes, or food?”
- “How does that make you feel?”
- “It seems there are eyes constantly on you...should I ask them to leave so we can talk (I’ll say it’s me)?” \*\*\*ALWAYS CHECK IDs

# BARRIERS

- Lack of trust
- Misdiagnosed Mental Health. i.e. borderline
- Do not identify as victims
- Do not understand the concept of trafficking
- Frequent Runaways and ambivalence

# TREATMENT

- Dreamcatchers/Avanzar
- NJ Hotline
- Complex Trauma Therapy
- Sexual abuse specific therapy
- CTS BASE Program
- DCBHS/Perform Care
- NCMEC

# NJ HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

**1.877.986.7534**

**Collaboration ... Victim Assistance ...  
Experienced law enforcement personnel ...**

# National Human Trafficking Hotline

**National Human Trafficking Hotline**

**1-888-3737-888**

Operated by  
Polaris

National Human Trafficking Resource Center

# Avanzar/DreamCatchers

- 1-800-286-4184 -24 hour hotline
- Or 609-646-6767
  - Provides comprehensive services
  - All ages/genders
  - Active or At-risk
  - Respond 24 hours a day.
  - DCPP not needed to be open

# Other Important information..

- <https://www.nj.gov/oag/dcj/humantrafficking/liaisons.html#ocean>
- DCPP has policy on this...