

# *Human Trafficking*

## *Modern Day Slavery*

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# What Is Human Trafficking?

- Act of compelling or coercing a person's labor, services, or commercial sex acts
- Forms of human trafficking
  - Commercial sex exploitation
  - Personal service
  - Forced labor
- 27 million people are trafficked around the world
  - 50% are children, 70% - 80% are female
- \$32 billion generated yearly in profits annually by the human trafficking industry
- Largest subset of human trafficking is sex trafficking
  - Average age of entry into commercial sex industry is 12-14

# Recruitment Strategies

- “Boy-friending”
- False-front agencies
- Local sex industries
- Abduction
- Families living in poverty
- Internet & social media
  - Increase in online solicitation

# Damaging Effects of Human Trafficking

Serious, lifelong, and even life threatening consequences in the following areas...

- Physical
- Psychological, Emotional
  - Spiritual
  - Moral
  - Social
- Addictions
- Legal

# Implications for Social Work Practice

## Challenges to Rehabilitation

- Relapse
  - For many years, this is the way they knew how to survive. Victims frequently run back to their traffickers
- Brainwashed
  - Not to trust law enforcement
  - Not to trust service providers
- Loyalty to trafficker/pimp
  - Trauma bonds
  - Stockholm Syndrome

## Clinical Treatment

- Trauma-Focused CBT

## Advocacy & Policy

- The Swedish Model



Center on Violence Against Women and Children

*NJ Human Trafficking Hotline: 877-986-7534*

*The National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC): 1-888-373-7888 or text BeFree (233733)*

National, toll-free hotline, available to answer calls and texts from anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year.

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RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

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