

Response to Patients Experiencing Human Trafficking

University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing
Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion March 24, 2022

Patricia M. Speck, DNSc, ARNP, APN, FNP-BC, DF-IAFN, FAAFS, DF-AFN, FAAN

Professor & Coordinator Advanced Forensic Nursing

Acknowledgement

Dr. Rosario Sanchez who was willing to explore my clinical experiences throughout her PhD education.

Dr. Speck's Disclosure Information Under ACCME Guidelines



I have a financial affiliation with MyEcoHealth™
(Husband & Son, Owners & Patent holders)



The financial affiliation is not associated with my presentation today.



I receive an honorarium from Medical Education Speakers Network, but have no other financial support



I will not discuss off label use and/or investigational use of products in my presentation

Additional Disclaimer

While the author(s) strive to make the information as timely and accurate as possible, the authors makes no claims, promises, or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the contents in this presentation, and expressly disclaim liability for errors and omissions in the contents.



No warranty of any kind, implied, expressed, or statutory, including but not limited to the warranties of non-infringement of third-party rights, title, merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose or freedom from computer virus, is given with respect to the contents of this virtual presentation or its links to other Internet resources.



While not included, reference in this presentation to any specific commercial product, process, or service, or the use of any trade, firm or corporation name is for the information and convenience of the public, and does not constitute endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the author(s).



Photographs from Creative Commons or government web sites are used for educational processes only without intent to harm copyright holders.

Professional Responsibility



While the author brings the published evidence to the topic discussion, evidence emerges daily

It is the responsibility of licensed professionals to seek out, understand, interpret, and implement best evidence for their practices as well as peer review for competence and competency

The author(s)/presenter(s) assume(s) no responsibility for your interpretation of the material presented or application to your practice

Objectives

1

Describe the intersection of trafficked persons and the healthcare industry

2

Be better able to understand the lived-experience and circumstance experienced by trafficked persons

3

Implement trauma-informed and person-centered care strategies, in order to create a safe transparent environment necessary to assist the patient

Objective 1

*Describe the intersection
of trafficked persons and
the healthcare industry*



Definition: Human Trafficking

“Trafficking in persons” and “human trafficking” and “human slavery” is an umbrella term

- **Act** of recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing, or obtaining a person
- **For** compelled labor or commercial sex acts, or soldiers or organ harvesting
- **Using** force, fraud, or coercion



Sources: www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2013/210543.htm and www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2013/210543.htm and 2019 US Dept of State Eliminate VAW <https://www.state.gov/on-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence-against-women/>

Number of trafficking situations and victims identified

Situations of trafficking identified: **10,583**

Sex	7,648
-----	-------

Labor	1,052
-------	-------

Sex & Labor	334
-------------	-----

Other/Not Specified	1,549
---------------------	-------

Victims of trafficking identified: **16,658**

Sex	10,836
-----	--------

Labor	3,583
-------	-------

Sex & Labor	631
-------------	-----

Other/Not Specified	1,634
---------------------	-------

The Statistics – Risk Factors

Top 5 Risk Factors/Vulnerabilities - Labor

Recent Migration/Relocation

Self-Reported Economic Hardship

Unstable Housing

Criminal Record/Criminal History

Substance Use Concern

Top 5 Risk Factors/Vulnerabilities - Sex

Substance Use Concern

Runaway/Homeless Youth

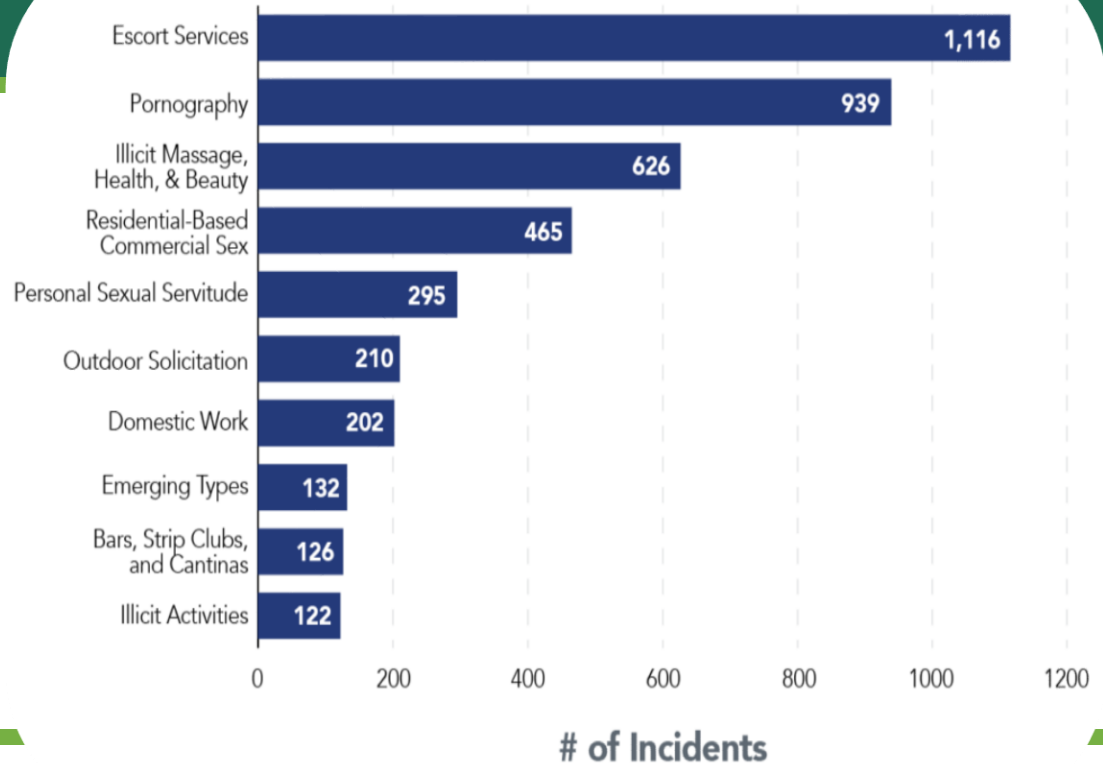
Unstable Housing

Mental Health Concern

Recent Migration/Relocation



Typology of Modern Slavery



Main international human trafficking routes

→ 5% and above of the total victims in destination region

■ Destinations



2021 Trafficking in Persons Report



- Umbrella terms
 - Trafficking in persons
 - Human trafficking
 - Modern slavery
- Sex trafficking (adults and children)
- Forced labor (Bonded Service or Debt Bondage)
- Domestic Servitude
- Child Soldiers

Six Major Types



[LEARN MORE](#)

Domestic Servitude

Employees working in private homes are forced or coerced into serving and/or fraudulently convinced that they have no option to leave.



[LEARN MORE](#)

Sex Trafficking

Women, men or children that are forced into the commercial sex industry and held against their will by force, fraud or coercion.



[LEARN MORE](#)

Forced Labor

Human beings are forced to work under the threat of violence and for no pay. These slaves are treated as property and exploited to create a product for commercial sale.



[LEARN MORE](#)

Bonded Labor

Individuals that are compelled to work in order to repay a debt and unable to leave until the debt is repaid. It is the most common form of enslavement in the world.



[LEARN MORE](#)

Child Labor

Any enslavement — whether forced labor, domestic servitude, bonded labor or sex trafficking — of a child.



[LEARN MORE](#)

Forced Marriage

Women and children who are forced to marry another without their consent or against their will.

Trafficking Methods

What – Act

- Recruitment
- Transport
 - Local
 - National
 - Transnational
- Transfer
- Harboring
- Receipt of persons

How – Means

- Threat of force
- Coercion
- Abduction
- Fraud
- Deception
- Abuse of power
- Vulnerability
- Bribery, payments

Why – Purpose

- Exploitation
- Prostitution
- Sexual
- Forced labor
- Slavery
- Organ removal
- Forced soldiering
- Exploitation

Source: <http://www.unodc.org>

Who are the Pimps?

- 19-45 years old
- Average education is 9.3 years
- 50% completed high school
- 95.5% have a history of drug or alcohol abuse
- 90% had a criminal record
- Makes \$150,000-\$200,000 per child each year
- Exploits an average of 4-6 girls
- Often family or neighbors

Three Types Pimps – Known by Ploy

Business Pimps

- Economic perspective
- Promise careers.....
Modeling or acting
- Create a debt bond – force to pay off

Boyfriend Pimps

- Common
- They are in love – romantic relationship
- Leads to toxic (necrotic) trauma bond
- Starts to isolate them
- Grooms them to exchange sex for money

Guerilla Pimps

- Physical force and fear manipulate victims
- Kidnaps and abuses to control

Common “Control” Method

- Continue to “break”
- Threats or abuse/torture
- Making an “example”
- Withholding money, identity
- Threats to family or children
- Causing/exploiting pregnancy/their child
- Emotional pressure/guilt playing “boyfriend”



Where do you find victims?

- Street exploitation
- Truck Stops
- Commercial-Front Brothels
- Hotels and Motels
- Private Residences
- Internet/webcam
- Pornography/strip clubs
- Escort Services

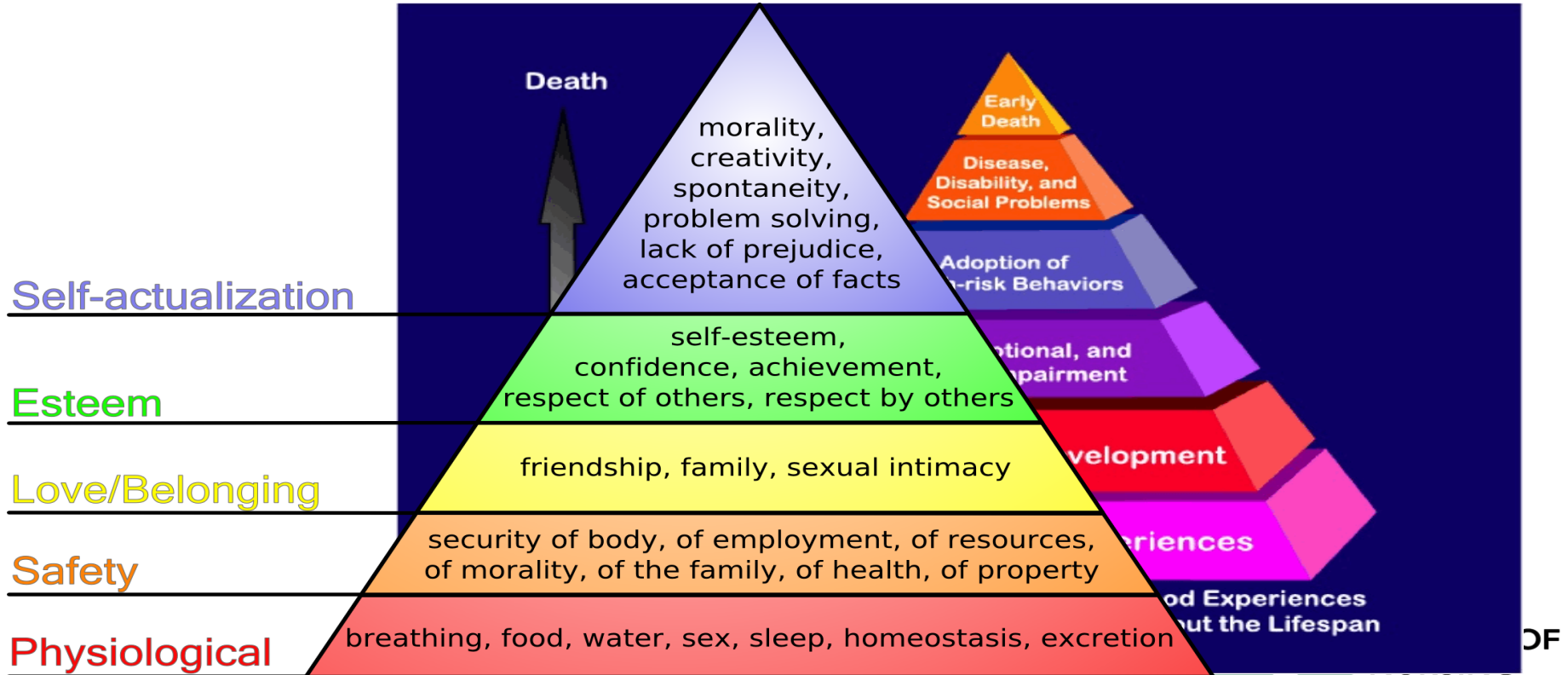
Seeking Healthcare

Objective 2

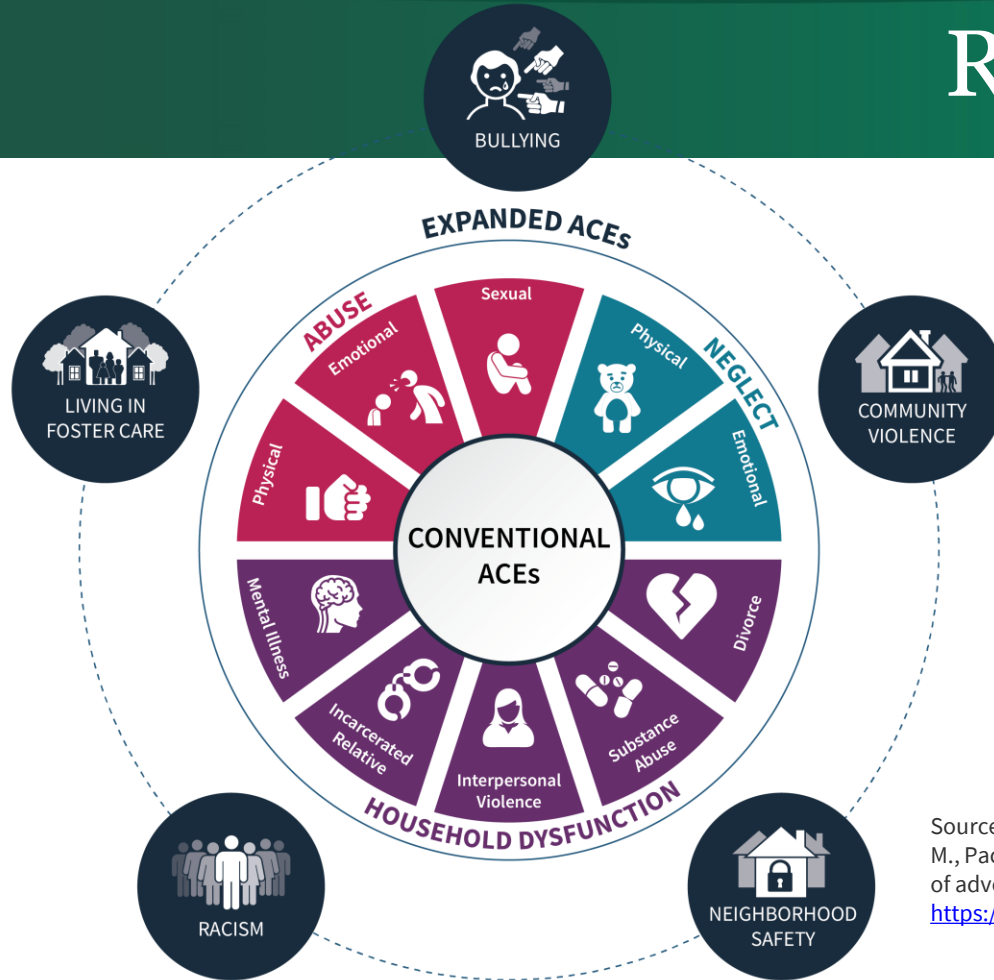
1. Introduce types of trafficking
*Be better able to understand
the lived-experience and
circumstance experienced by
trafficked persons*



ACEs v Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



Reimagined ACEs



Original ACEs

- Abuse
- Neglect
- Household Dysfunction

Expanded ACEs

- Bullying
- Foster Care
- Racism
- Community Violence
- Neighborhood Safety

Source: Cronholm, P. F., Forke, C. M., Wade, R., Bair-Merritt, M. H., Davis, M., Harkins-Schwarz, M., Pachter, L. M., & Fein, J. A. (2015). Adverse childhood experiences: Expanding the concept of adversity. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 49(3), 354–361.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26296440/>

THE ONE SUBJECT
YOU REALLY
NEED TO
STUDY:
YOUR OWN
CHILDHOOD



Theories that Guide Understanding



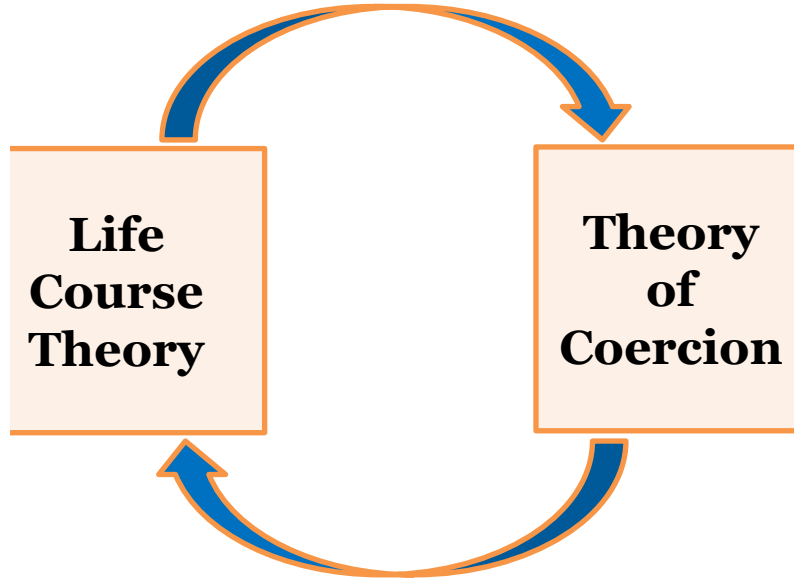
Life Course Theory (Elder, 1994)

- Events do not occur in isolation, but rather in context
 - Experience an event and another at a different time & place
 - Each experience influences and affects later experiences
- Social Relationships
- Social Timing
- Historical Events



Theoretical Foundation

- Social Relationships
- Social Timing
- Historical Events



Human Rights Based Approach

- Isolation
- Monopolization of Perception
- Induced Debility & Exhaustion
- Threats
- Occasional Indulges
- Demonstrating Omnipotence
- Degradation
- Imposing Trivial Demands

Trauma Coercive Bonding

Journal of Pediatric Nursing 46 (2019) 48–54



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Pediatric Nursing

journal homepage: www.pediatricnursing.org



A concept analysis of *trauma coercive bonding* in the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children



Rosario V. Sanchez, RN, MSN, CCRN, SANE-A^{a,*},
Patricia M. Speck, DNSs, ARPN, APN, FNP-BC, DF-IAFN, FAAFS, DF-AFN, FAAN^b,
Patricia A. Patrician, PhD, RN, FAAN^b

^a Rutgers University-Newark, School of Nursing, United States of America

^b University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Nursing, United States of America

The Results: The War Maze



DOMESTIC MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING

TRAUMA:

- Worthless
- Naive
- Fading
- Fear
- Non-person
- Hopeless

PRE-ENTRY CONTEXT

- Dysfunctional family
- Economic necessity
- Addiction



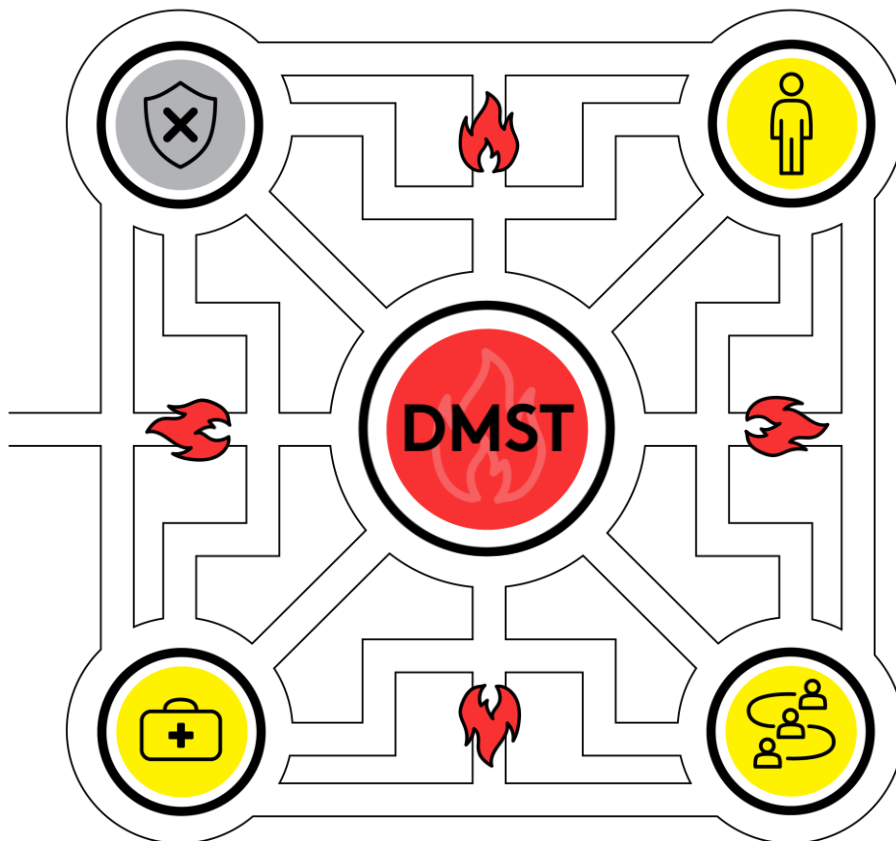
SEEKING SAFETY

DEVELOPMENTAL AGE

- "I was young."
- "I was an empty page."

ADOLESCENT VICTIM NEEDS

- Positive support
- Follow up
- Understanding the why



BARRIER

BARRIERS TO ELOPE



INDIVIDUAL

- Shame & guilt
- Worthless & hopeless
- "I was my trafficker"
- Addiction



INTERPERSONAL

- Lack of family support
- Intimate Partner Violence
- Coercion



PROFESSIONAL SILOS

- Lack of attention
- Lack of trust
- Labels
- Lack of support

Conquering The War Maze



DOMESTIC MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING

TRAUMA:

- Worthless
- Naive
- Fading
- Fear
- Non-person
- Hopeless



READINESS TO ELOPE

AWARENESS OF TRAFFICKING

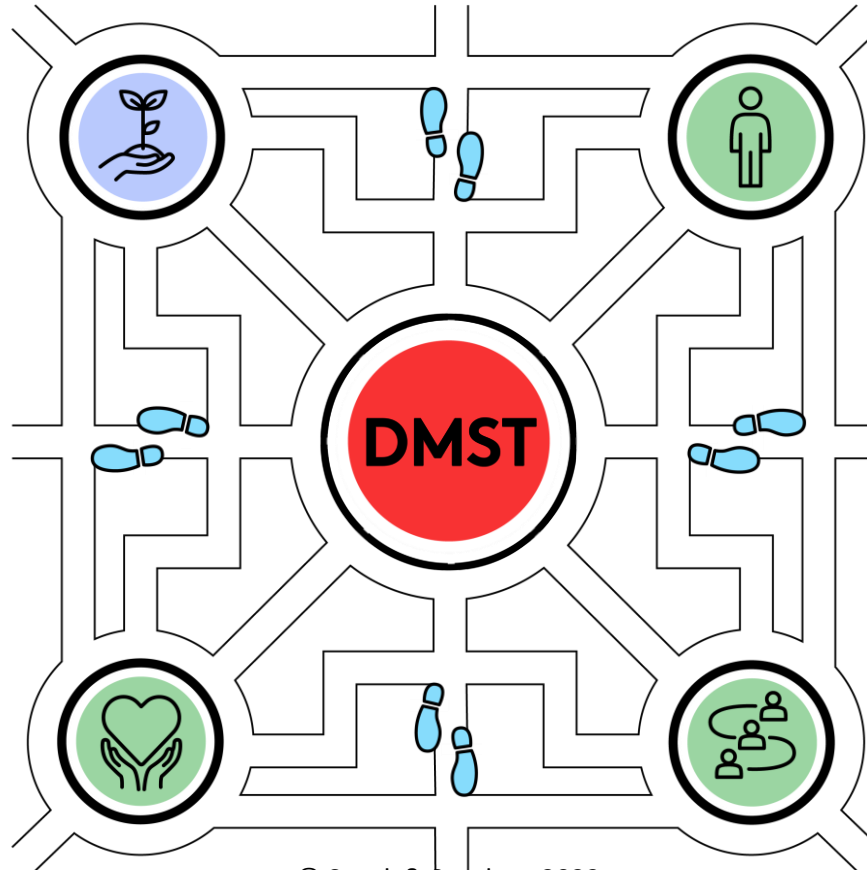
- Reading an article
- Being told

SAFETY

- Safe moment
- Safe person

MATURING OUT OF "THE LIFE"

- Tired
- Breaking down
- Letting go of the past
- Alchemy



SUPPORT

ELOPEMENT VICTORY



INDIVIDUAL

- Spirituality
- Acknowledging the guilt
- Transmutation
- Help others



INTERPERSONAL

- Positive support



SURVIVOR NEEDS

- Safe place
- Comprehensive services
- Positive step program

Objective 3

Implement trauma-informed and person-centered care strategies, in order to create a safe transparent environment necessary to assist the patient



American Academy of Nursing on Policy

American Academy of Nursing on Policy, Council for the Advancement of Nursing Sciences

Policy brief on the nursing response to human trafficking



Patricia M. Speck, DNSc, APN, APRN, FNP-BC, DF-IAFN, FAFS, FAFN, FAAN^{a,*},
Stacey A. Mitchell, DNP, MBA, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, FAFN, FAAN^b,
Rachell A. Ekroos, PhD, APRN-BC, AFN-BC, DF-IAFN, FAAN^c,
Rosario V. Sanchez, MSN, CCRN, SANE-A^d,
DeAnne K. Hilfinger Messias, PhD, RN, FAAN^e

^a Department of Family, Community, & Health Systems, The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing, 1720 Second Avenue South, Birmingham, AL 35294-1210

^b College of Nursing, Texas A&M University, Mail Stop 1359, 8447 Riverside Parkway, Bryan, TX 77807-3260

^c School of Nursing, Affiliate Faculty, Center for Biobehavioral Interdisciplinary Science, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 4505 S Maryland Pkwy, Las Vegas, NV 89154

^d School of Nursing, Rutgers University, 195 University Ave, Newark, NJ 07102

^e College of Nursing and Women's and Gender Studies, University of South Carolina, 1601 Greene Street, Columbia, SC 29208

Trauma Under our Noses

- Richie-Zavaleta study (2019)
 - N=21 in 2 cities
 - 76% in EDs
 - 71% in Community Clinic
- STI primary complaint (81%)
- Barriers included
 - Ashamed (84%)
 - Lack of inquiry (77%)
- Recommendations
 - Fill training gap, teach trauma informed care and patient centered approaches



Why Do Victims Leave the Life?

Sanchez (2021) – process developmental and non-linear

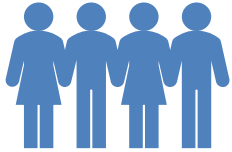
- *The War Maze* and barriers to elopement
- *Conquering the War Maze* and gradual awareness with barrier reduction and wrap-around support services to enhance recovery

Voergever (2019) – a willingness to work towards their future

- A strong need to turn over a new leaf in life, leaving negative experiences of the past behind
- Moving towards a life with a job, a family and friends
- In contrast, ALSO FELT a lack of autonomy and a frustrated sense of support for their recovery

C. R. Snyder's Hope Theory

Munoz, R., Hanks, H., & Hellman, C. (2019). Hope and resilience as distinct contributors to psychological flourishing among childhood trauma survivors. *Traumatology (Tallahassee, Fla.)*, 26(2), 177–184. <https://doi.org/10.1037/trm0000224>



Study about
childhood trauma
survivors (N=219)
divided into 2
groups



Distinguished
between resilience
and flourishing (a
characteristic of
hope)



Results: a hopeful
mindset again
significantly
predicted
flourishing, whereas
resilience proved a
nonsignificant
predictor



Recommends
HOPE
with trauma
survivors

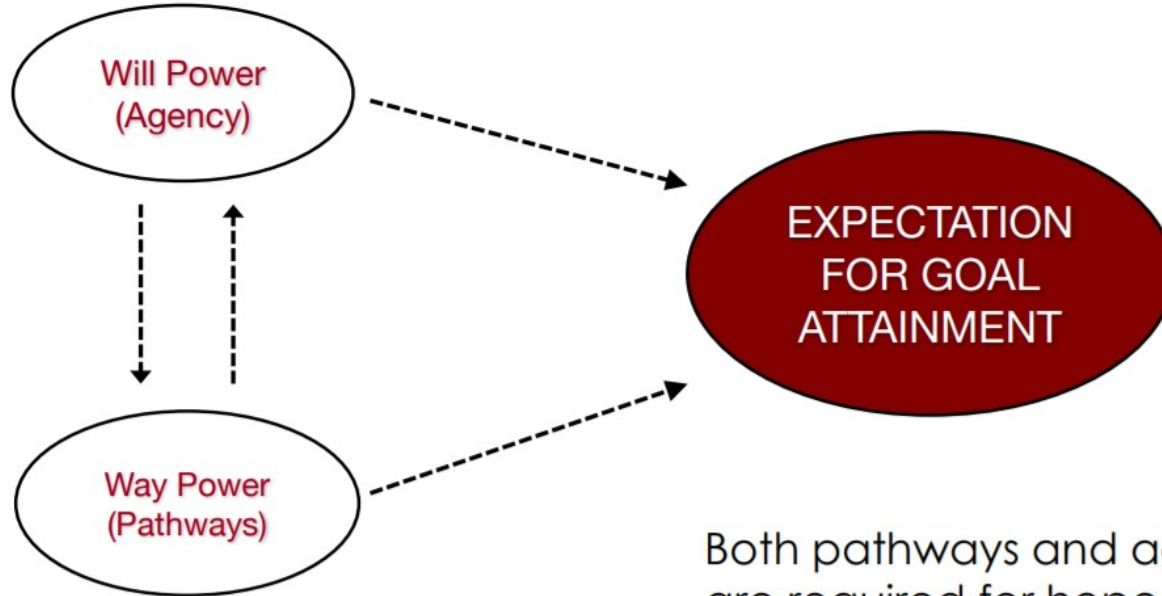
Improve a Person's Health Outcome?



- Hope Theory
 - "Belief in yourself, believing in others, and believing in your dreams." (Chan Hellman, PhD)
 - Hope is a belief that the future will be better AND you have the power to make it so
 - Hope Theory requires
 - Will Power
 - A Pathway
 - A wish means no pathway!

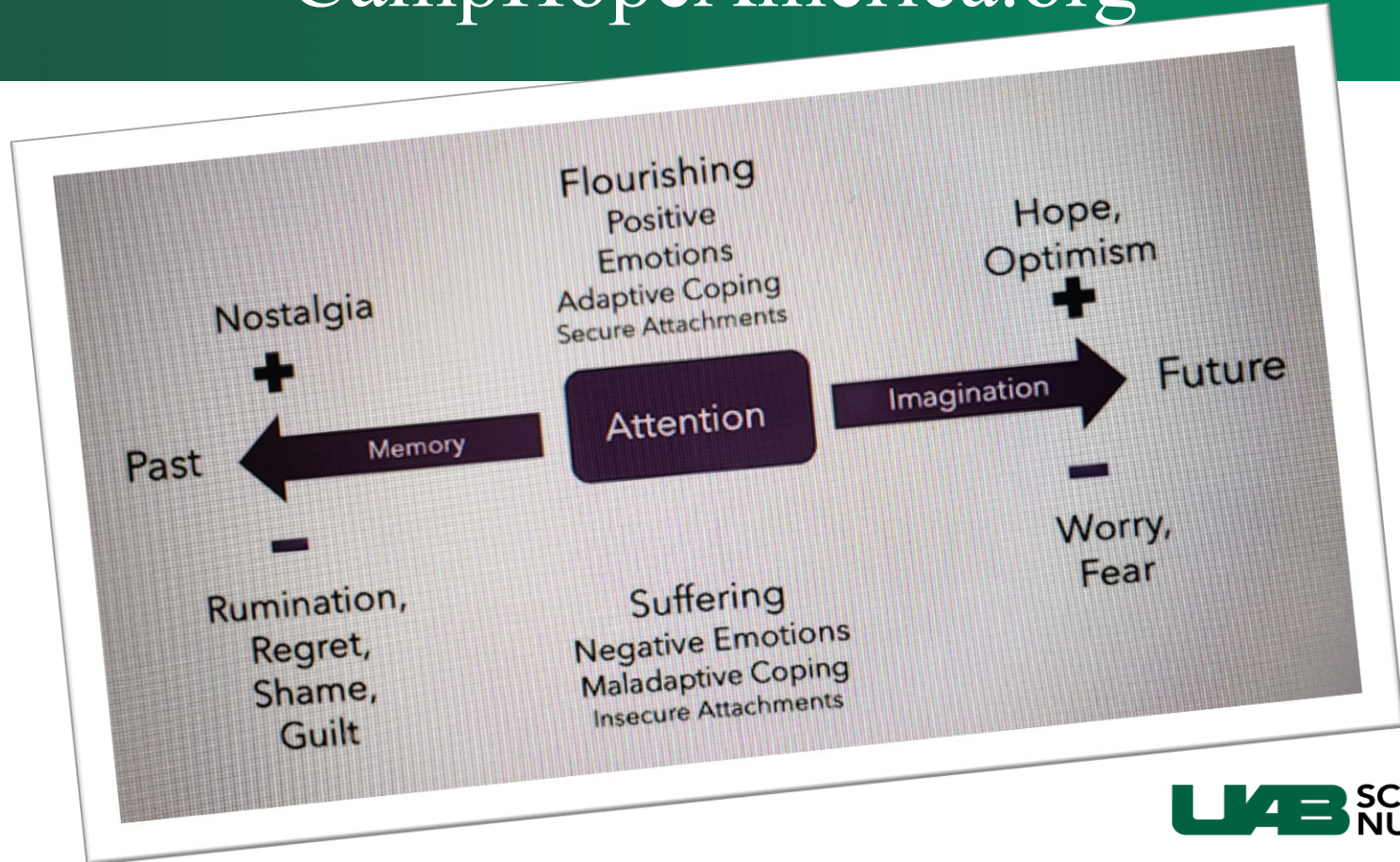


Pathway to HOPE

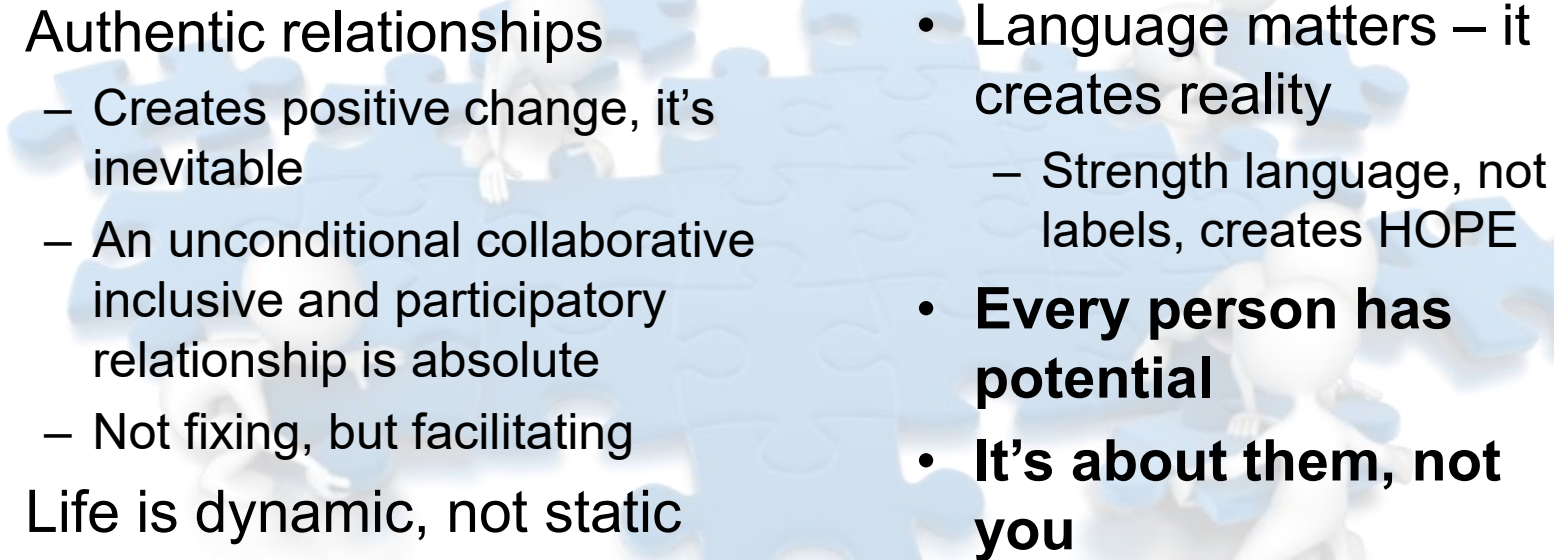


Both pathways and agency are required for hope...agency without pathways is more likely a wish!

CampHopeAmerica.org



Core Principles – Strengths-Based Practice

- 
- Authentic relationships
 - Creates positive change, it's inevitable
 - An unconditional collaborative inclusive and participatory relationship is absolute
 - Not fixing, but facilitating
 - Life is dynamic, not static
 - Language matters – it creates reality
 - Strength language, not labels, creates HOPE
 - **Every person has potential**
 - **It's about them, not you**

Recognizing Trauma Informed Care

- A program, organization, or system that is trauma-informed:
 - *Realizes* the widespread impact of trauma and understands potential paths for recovery;
 - *Recognizes* the signs and symptoms of trauma in clients, families, staff, and others involved with the system;
 - *Responds* by fully integrating knowledge about trauma informed principles into policies, procedures, and practices;
 - Seeks to actively resist *re-traumatization*.

SAMHSA's Six Key Principles

These principles may be generalizable across multiple types of settings, although terminology and application may be setting- or sector-specific:

- Safety
- Trustworthiness and Transparency
- Peer Support
- Collaboration and Mutuality
- Empowerment, Voice and Choice
- Cultural, Historical, and Gender Issues

TIC Competencies

- Knowledge about trauma, trauma informed practice and normal development
- Values and attitudes to provide services
- Patient-centered
- Quality Improvement
- Therapeutic communication to provide care
- TIC practices the skills
- Communities collaborate to reduce risk and increase protection
- Organization and system policy changes

Who do you see in your work?

- Trauma survivors are the majority of clients in human services systems, including health care
- Notions to consider...
 - Since you cannot know which person is affected (infected), hence Universal Precautions...
 - Consider treating all with growth promoting processes and procedures to **avoid re-traumatization** in patient-centered approaches
 - Ask *Permission* for all activities
 - *May I ask personal questions that may be uncomfortable?*
 - *Would you like to follow me to the room?*
 - *Are you ready? May I touch you now?*



What is a Trauma Specific Intervention?

- Trauma-specific intervention programs generally recognize the following:
 - The survivor's need to be respected, informed, connected, and hopeful regarding their own recovery
 - The interrelation between trauma and symptoms of trauma such as substance abuse, eating disorders, depression, and anxiety
 - The need to work in a collaborative way with survivors, family and friends of the survivor, and other human services agencies in a manner that will empower survivors and consumers

Crisis Intervention

- Identification of crisis
 - Coping difficulties to overwhelming situation
 - Temporary vs. continuous
 - Phases
 - Precipitating Event & Perception
 - Disorganized, Seeking resources
 - Series of crisis with Linking crisis
 - Mobilization of new resources = Adaptation



EBP Interventions

- Motivational Interviewing
- A goal-oriented, patient-centered counseling style for eliciting behavior change by helping clients to explore and resolve ambivalence

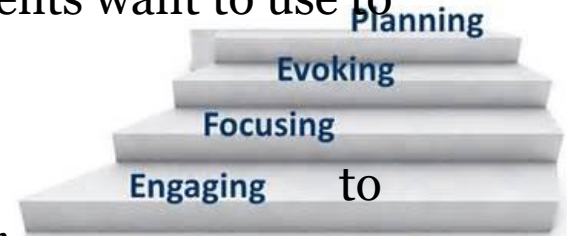


EBP Interventions

- Motivational Intervention

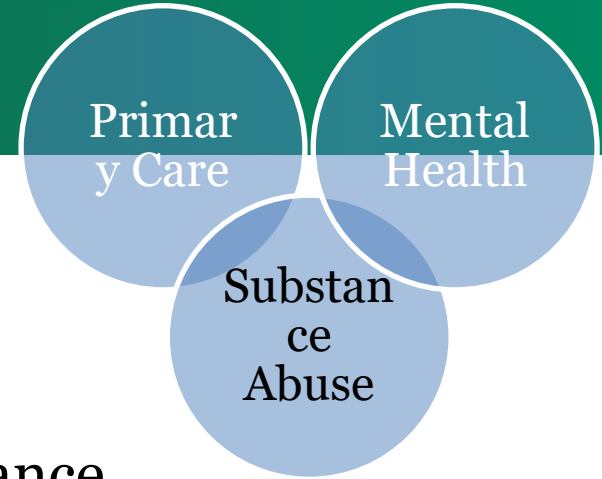
- Planning - used to develop the practical steps clients want to use to implement the changes they desire.
- Engaging/Evoking - used to involve the client in talking about issues, concerns and hopes, and establish a trusting relationship with a counselor.
- Focusing - used to narrow the conversation to habits or patterns that clients want to change.
- Evoking - used to elicit client motivation for change by increasing clients' sense of the importance of change, their confidence about change, and their readiness to change.

Four Processes in MI



Adapted from Miller and Rollnick, 2013, p. 26

EBP Interventions



- Illness Integration Support
- Philosophy
 - Integrating mental health, substance abuse, and primary care services produces the best outcomes and proves the most effective approach to caring for people with multiple healthcare needs.

EBP Interventions

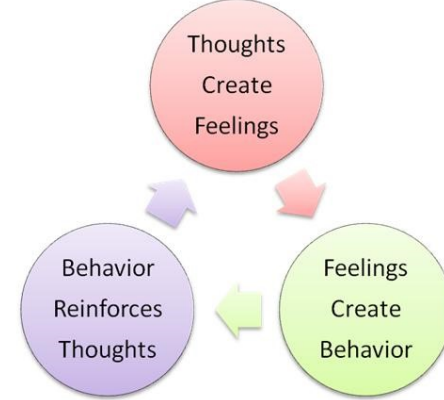
- Guided Self-Determination
- Definition:
 - Guided self-determination (GSD) is an educational method developed to promote patient autonomy, participation, skills building and intrinsic motivation



EBP Interventions

- Trauma Focused
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

- An evidence-based psychotherapy that aims at addressing the needs of children and adolescents (ages 3 to 18) with PTSD and other difficulties related to traumatic life events
- The goal of TF-CBT is to provide psychoeducation to both the child and the caregivers and help them to identify and cope with emotions, thoughts and behaviors.



Implementation the Six principles of Trauma Informed Care

- Safety, trustworthiness and transparency, collaboration, empowerment, choice, and [system] intersectionality
- Goal setting to teach skills to create forward movement toward “resilience, ..., determination, empowerment, and self-sufficiency” through skills necessary for overcoming
- Reduction coercive practice through recognition and intolerance to the behavior in systems and institutions

Implementation the Six principles of Trauma Informed Care

Change your language

NO! “What’s wrong with you?” “It’s not your fault”

YES! “What happened to ... <name> to bring you to me today?”

Implementation the Six principles of Trauma Informed Care

- Engage patients in conversations about their health (patient-centered care)
 - “If you begin anew from this point, what story do you want to create for yourself? [Or] ...
 - “Where do you want your [life experience] to take you?
 - “How can we help you get there?”
- Learn basics of therapeutic options in TIC

Conclusion

- The Elopement process is non-linear – with few opportunities to leave
 - The WAR Maze provides a comprehensive understanding of the complexity of the DMST lived experience
 - The barriers and the need for safety – humanness to our understanding
 - Conquering the WAR Maze provides insight in the development of future interventions and screening tool/protocol
 - Explore Readiness to elope among the DMST person
 - Promote Elopement Victory
- Survivors are the experts
- Healthcare is part of the solution

References

- Abolishing Injustice in the 21st Century. (2015). Human Trafficking. Retrieved from <http://www.a21.org/content/vulnerable-to-traffickers/gjdpjy?permcode=gjdpjy>
- Becker, G. (1974). A theory of social interactions. *Journal of Political Economy*, 82, 1063-1093. doi: 10.1086/260265
- Bronfenbrenner, U. (1986). Ecology of the family as a context for human development: Research perspectives. *Developmental Psychology*, 22, 723-742. doi 101037/0012-1649.22.6.723
- Cecchet, S. J., & Thobum, J. (2014). The Psychological Experience of Child and Adolescent Sex Trafficking in the United States: Trauma and Resilience in Survivors. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice & Policy*, 6(5), 482-493 12p. doi:10.1037/a0035763

References

- Clawson, H, Small, K., Go, E., & Myles, B. (2003). Needs assessment for service providers and trafficking victims. Fairfax, VA: National Criminal Justice Reference Service. Retrieved from <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles/nij/grants/202469.pdf>
- Farley, M. & Kelly, V. (2000). Prostitution: A critical review of the medical and social sciences literature. *Women and Criminal Justice*, 11, 29-64. doi: 10.1300/J012v11n04_04
- Farrell, A., & McDevitt, J. (2014). Hidden in plain sight: Challenges to identifying, investigating, and prosecuting human trafficking. *JRSA Forum*, 32(3). 1-4. www.jrsa.org/pubs/forums/sep2014_32-3/trafficking.htm
- Lorber, J. (2005). *Gender Inequality: Feminist Theories and Politics*. Los Angeles, CA: Roxbury Publishing.

References

- Lorber, J. (2005). *Gender Inequality: Feminist Theories and Politics*. Los Angeles, CA: Roxbury Publishing.
- McClain, N. M., & Garrity, S. E. (2011). Sex Trafficking and the Exploitation of Adolescents. *JOGNN: Journal Of Obstetric, Gynecologic & Neonatal Nursing*, 40(2), 243-252 10p. doi:10.1111/j.1552-6909.2011.01221.x
- Muraya, D. N., & Fry, D. (2015). Aftercare services for child victims of sex trafficking: A systematic review of policy and practice. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 1-17. doi: 10.1177/1524838015584356
- US Department of State. (2013). Trafficking in person report: Definition and methodology. Retrieved from www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2013/210543.htm
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2016). Human Trafficking. Retrieved from <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/what-is-human-trafficking.html>
- Video: The faces of Human Trafficking. (2015). The office for Victims of Crime. Retrieve from <http://www.ovc.gov/videos/htvideo.html>

References

- More provided upon request