WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

A form of modern-day slavery involving the illegal trade of people for exploitation or commercial gain. (TRUST)

- —Sex Trafficking: Use of **force, fraud or coercion** to recruit, harbor, transport or obtain a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act. (AZ Gov. Office of Youth, Faith & Family)
- Labor trafficking: Use of force, fraud or coercion to recruit, harbor, transport or obtain a person for the purpose of labor or services. (AZ Gov. Office of Youth, Faith & Family)

IS IT REALLY A PROBLEM?

- Growth rate of human trafficking outpacing all other forms of illegal enterprise (United Nations)
- \$150 billion per year business (United Nations)
 - 2/3: sex trafficking
 - 1/3: labor trafficking
- 27 million slaves in the world today; more than any other time in history (International Justice Mission)

COMMON MYTHS (TRUST)



- "Somewhere else"
- "Somebody else"
- "Victimless crime"
- "Bad part of town"
- "Women's issue."

SOME FACTS

 80% of children involved in sex trafficking in the US are US citizens (Dept. of Justice)

• 1 out of 3 teens on the street will be lured into the "life" of sex trafficking within 48 hours of leaving home. (TRUST)





- Victim rented for sex acts with 10 different men per night, 7 nights/week, for 5 years = 18,000 rapes (Shared Hope International)
- Sex traffickers make \$175,000 (average) per year on one child (TRUST)

YAVAPAI COUNTY

April 2014 – 2016

- AGGRESSIVE approach to issue
- "Stings" implemented, using social media
- 422 responses to ads for sex with young women
 - √ 2014: 23 arrests
 - √ 2015: 12 arrests
 - √ 2016: 3 arrests

WHO IS AT RISK?

- Average age a teen enters the sex trade in AZ is 14, some as young as 8 (Shared Hope Int'l).
 - Average life span will be 7 years. (FBI)
- The vulnerable (homeless, runaway, bullied, abused, foster children) are most at risk.

Confident & self-assured are also at risk

HOW ARE VICTIMS OF SEX TRAFFICKING RECRUITED?

(AZ Gov.'s Office of Youth, Faith & Family)

TARGETED: Traffickers "shop" for their victims through: social media, shopping malls, bus stops, schools, after school programs, foster homes, parks, restaurants & other places where teens gather.

TRICKED: Traffickers invest a lot of time and effort in forming a bond with their victim.

TRAUMATIZED: Traffickers use of psychological manipulation, physical violence and rape can make the victim feel trapped & powerless.

WARNING SIGNS

- Older boyfriend
- Tattoos or brandings
- Expensive items
- Vocabulary
- Isolation
- Signs of abuse

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Educate
- Be aware
- Observe & listen
- Report
 - Sedona Dispatch (928) 282-3100
 - National Human Trafficking Hotline: 1-888-3737-888
- Support CAHT efforts



MANDATED REPORTERS

- Following required by law to report:
 - Health care professionals
 - Counselors, social workers
 - Peace officers
 - Members of the clergy
 - School personnel
 - Parents or stepparents of minors
 - Domestic violence victim advocates
 - Anyone having responsibility for care or treatment of minor



TIPS FOR PARENTS

- ✓ Know the warning signs
- ✓ Know the social networks and "apps" your child uses
- ✓ Monitor your child's online friends
- ✓ Discourage posting "selfies"
- ✓ Turn off Geo-location features

(AZ Gov.'s Office of Youth, Faith & Family)

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

