Human Trafficking Around the World

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A service of Children’s at Scottish Rite
Objectives

• Global vs. US Trafficking
• Be familiar with common vulnerability factors
• Recall common recruitment strategies used by traffickers
• Understand the experiences and needs of trafficked children
Human Trafficking Definition

• 3 components:

  Action ➔ Means ➔ Purpose
What is Human Trafficking?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Means</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recruits</td>
<td>Force</td>
<td>Involuntary servitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbors</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entices</td>
<td>Fraud</td>
<td>Debt Bondage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transports</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides</td>
<td>Coercion</td>
<td>Slavery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtains or maintains a person</td>
<td></td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sexual exploitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[patronizes /solicits sex]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TVPA, 2000; Justice for Victims Trafficking Act, 2015

TVPA, 2000; Justice for Victims Trafficking Act, 2015
Sex Trafficking of a Minor

**Action**
- Recruits
- Harbors
- Entices
- Transports
- Provides
- Obtains or maintains a person
  - [patronizes /solicits sex]

**Means**
- Force
- OR
- Fraud
- OR
- Coercion

**Purpose**
- Involuntary servitude
- OR
- Debt Bondage
- OR
- Slavery
- OR
- Sexual exploitation

TVPA, 2000; Justice for Victims Trafficking Act, 2015
Human Trafficking Is NOT Smuggling

**Trafficking**
- Crime against a person
- Transportation is NOT required
- Involves exploitation of person for compelled labor or commercial sex
- Involves F/F/C (adults) or minor status
- Exploitation continues for indefinite time period

**Smuggling**
- Crime against a country
- Involves transportation
- Person voluntarily enters into agreement with smuggler
- Transaction with smuggler is over after cross border and pay fee
Human Trafficking Globally

- Exact incidence and prevalence unknown
- ILO estimate: nearly 25 million in forced labor; 4.5 million children
- Extremely profitable: low risk, high gains

UNODC 2016; ILO 2017
Global Demographics

Shares of detected victims of trafficking in persons globally, by age group and sex, 2016 (or most recent)

21% 49%
23% 7%

Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

UNODC, 2018
FIG. 12 Detected victims of trafficking in persons, by age group and sex, by subregion of detection, 2016 (or most recent)
**FIG. 17** Share of forms of exploitation among detected girl victims of trafficking in persons, 2016 (or most recent)  
54 countries (n=2,350 victims)

**FIG. 18** Share of forms of exploitation among detected boy victims of trafficking in persons, 2016 (or most recent)  
54 countries (n=711 victims)

Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.
Global Demographics

FIG. 20 Number of detected trafficking victims, by form of exploitation and region of detection, 2016 (or most recent)

- Trafficking for sexual exploitation
- Trafficking for forced labour
- Trafficking for organ removal
- Trafficking for other purposes

UNODC, 2018
How does this differ from US domestic trafficking?

- Problems with immigration status
- Fraudulent employment agencies
- Local economies dependent on sex industry
- Sold into sex slavery in order to support family
- Armed conflicts, social upheaval, forced migration
- Extensive police corruption
- Greater discrimination against women/children

Reid, 2012
Who is at risk?
Socioecological Model

Child

Family

Community

Society

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
• Aashi: 13 year old female from a very poor, rural village in India. She is the youngest girl in a family of 8. She is recruited by a respected village man and sent to Mumbai to work as a domestic servant to support family. The man ultimately sells her into a brothel.

• *What are her vulnerability factors?*
Hector is a 17 year old male from a small village near Villa Nueva. Two of his brothers have been recruited by gangs and are involved in drug sales. His parents are very worried for Hector’s safety, especially since he has mild mental retardation. The mother sees a newspaper ad requesting men for agriculture work in the US. The employment agency offers to obtain a visa and passport for Hector, and secure his passage into the US.

What are Hector’s vulnerability factors?

Unicef and IOM, 2017
Individual Factors

- Gender
- Missing
- No skills, job
- Prior victimization
- Cognitive delays

- Living on street
- Drug/alcohol use
- Violence/neglect
- Low level education
- Mental health issues

Family Factors

Family
• Minority group
• Extreme poverty
• Poor education
• Homeless

Family
• Socially isolated
• Family secrecy
• Violence/abuse
• Other stress

Community Factors

Community
- Corruption
- Increased tourism, travel flow
- Natural disasters
- Criminal networks

Willis 2002, Konstantopoulos, 2013
Societal Factors

Society
- Gender bias
- Social intolerance
- Economic disparities
- Migration
- Cultural beliefs
- Social upheaval

Willis, 2002
Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta

Cultural Beliefs

“Boys can’t be victims!”

Sex with a virgin cures AIDS

Children (girls) should support the family

Child marriage is part of the culture

“It’s really better to have a son.”
Vulnerabilities Related to Migration:

- Poverty and debt
- Sexual/Gender-based violence
- Risk of Exploitation/Trafficking
- Inadequate access to humanitarian aid
- Lack of migration options
- Language and cultural barriers
- Cultural tensions, discrimination
- Lack of accommodation
- Lack of legal status

ICMPD, 2015
Special Child Vulnerabilities During Migration

- May be unaccompanied
- Lack birth documents
- Barriers to education
- Lower wages in jobs
- Risk of early marriage

ICMPD, 2015
# Who Are the Traffickers?

## Typology on the organization of trafficking in persons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Small Local Operations</th>
<th>Medium Subregional Operations</th>
<th>Large Transregional Operations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic or short-distance trafficking flows</td>
<td>Trafficking flows within the subregion or neighboring subregions</td>
<td>Long distance trafficking flows involving different regions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One or few traffickers</td>
<td>Small group of traffickers</td>
<td>Traffickers involved in organized crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small number of victims</td>
<td>More than one victim</td>
<td>Large number of victims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited investment and profits</td>
<td>Some investments and some profits depending on the number of victims</td>
<td>High investments and high profits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No travel documents needed for border crossings</td>
<td>Border crossings with or without travel documents</td>
<td>Border crossings always require travel documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No or very limited organization required</td>
<td>Some organization needed depending on the border crossings and number of victims</td>
<td>Sophisticated organization needed to move large number of victims long distance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimate partner exploitation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Endurance of the operation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNODC, 2014
Female Traffickers

• Relatively high rate of female involvement
• Typically low-level positions, but varies
• Often used as recruiters
• May have been victims in the past
• May still be exploited by pimp/network

UNODC, 2018; Vienna Forum 2008; Harris, 2012
How are children recruited?

- Smuggling
- Job offers (‘employment agencies’)
- False promises/fraud
- Familial trafficking
- Romance (intimate partner)
- Pose as benefactor with promise of better life
- Coercion/abduction

Polaris, 2016, Silverman 2007
Unicef/IOM 2017
Control Tactics

- Economic Exploitation
  - Debt bondage
  - Control victim’s money
- Confiscate ID papers
- Threats, misinformation
- Violence
- Psychological manipulation

TIP, 2017
Life on the Volta

- JM: A 6-year-old boy taken to fishing village on the lake.
- Start at 3:00 AM; fish long hours
- Fish in storms
- Untangle nets, keep canoes from hitting trees
- Fall overboard, drown if tangled in net
- Starvation (control mechanism)
- Denial of provision of clothing, health care
- Slept ~3 hours
- Abuse
Labor Trafficking Around the World
Forced Marriage in Jordan

LP is a 17-year-old female. She and her family (no father) fled to Jordan during the Syrian crisis, LP was left there while the others continued to Lebanon. The woman caring for her forced LP to marry an older man, who disappeared 3 days after the ‘marriage’. The woman forced additional marriages (~15). She forced LP to have surgery to ‘restore her virginity’.

ICMPD, 2015
MS is a 16-year-old female from a poor village outside of Tijuana. She was sexually abused by her father for 2 years as a child (10-12 years old). She ran away from her home, lived on the streets of Tijuana and began using illicit drugs. She engaged in ‘survival sex’ and became pregnant. She had an induced abortion. She met an older man who became her trafficker.

Oza, 2015
Exploitation in Armed Conflict

• Various armed groups recruit
  ▪ Boys or boys and girls
  ▪ Parents may or may not know and give consent
  ▪ Lured by money, protection of family; may be abducted
  ▪ Roles for children:
    ▪ Soldiers
    ▪ Informants
    ▪ Executioners,
    ▪ Human shields
    ▪ Suicide bombers
    ▪ Military labor jobs
    ▪ Sex slavery
Child Trafficking in the United States
When we think of child trafficking in the US, we think of.....
But, there’s more to it….

- Girls and
  - Direct exchange of sex for item of value
    - Survival sex
    - Luxury items
  - Child sexual exploitation materials (Pornography)
  - Sex-oriented businesses

- What about boys?? What about LGBTQ youth?
Labor Trafficking of Children In U.S.

Work as:

- Domestics in private homes
- Cleaners in restaurant kitchens
- Launderers in hotels
- Nannies
- Care services
- Garment industry
- Agriculture
- Magazine sales**; performing groups
- May involve sexual exploitation as well

Estes & Weiner 2002, Hepburn & Simon 2013
What are their risk factors?

- 13 year old girl is approached at a bus stop outside juvenile court, befriended by 2 men in car...
- 15 year old transgender girl from Atlanta runs away from parental rejection, peer bullying. After 3 days, is hungry and exhausted; she’s approached by a man who offers....
- 12 year old gay male living at home meets man on the internet, is befriended, eventually arranges to meet him for sex....
Who Are The Traffickers?

Reid, 2016
Pathways to Entry

- False advertising for modeling, acting, or dancing
- Internet: Chat rooms or profile-sharing sites
- Peer recruitment
- Parents selling children
- Drugs/alcohol
- Survival sex

Anderson, 2014; Edinburgh, 2015, Reid, 2016
“Friend” asked her to do a ‘two-girl special,’ saying, “I treat you good; I let you in.” Victim agreed. She said she felt that she owed her “everything,” and if she didn’t do it, “I’m gonna go to jail.”

Teen said her mother, “taught me how to trick and how to have anal sex without it hurting as bad.”
Recruitment Techniques

- Flattery!
- Romance
- Become ally
- Isolate
- Normalize sex
- Abduct +/- drug
- “Bait and Switch”

Reid, 2016, Bayley, 2011
Control Tactics

- Shame, belittlement, low self-worth
- Blackmail
- Obligation
- Pregnancy

Anderson, 2014; Reid, 2016; Bayley 2011
Control Tactics

• Make complicit in a crime
• Isolation
• Financial control
• Intimidation, threats, violence
• False hope, sense of family

Anderson, 2014; Reid, 2016; Bayley 2011
“Why Don’t they just leave?”

• Trafficking life perceived as preferable
  • ‘Perks’
  • Sense of belonging
  • Home is worse

• Don’t realize they are being exploited
Why Not Get Out?

• Why not leave the trade?
  ▪ Economic reasons
  ▪ No place to live, no job
  ▪ Stigmatized by family, peers, society
  ▪ “You sort of become what you’re doing”

• Often blame selves for circumstances

• Most had no plan for getting out though 85% wanted to leave

Curtis, 2008
Violence and Trauma Bonds
Adolescent ‘Pimping’ Relationships

• Traffickers:
  – Boys and girls
  – Age-related differences

• Target:
  – Estranged
  – Homeless
  – Needy

“Teen pimps don’t get the same level of respect and they might use more violence because of it. Because the girls just view them as peers.”

Anderson, 2014
Adolescent ‘Pimping’ Relationships

• “Helping my man.”

• Sometimes selling sex is okay

• What are the benefits?

• Leaving isn’t necessarily easy

Anderson, 2014
Are Girls The Only Victims??
The “Invisible Boy”

- Boys largely ignored in articles, studies of HT
- Why?
  - Some studies show predominance of girls
  - Public discomfort with male-to-male sex
  - Males not viewed as powerless, vulnerable
  - Males are not objectified

The “Invisible Boy”

• Focus on pimp trafficking

• Boys don’t identify selves as victims

• Lack of screening

What Are The Consequences?

- Lack of services
- 'Offender' vs 'victim' status
Under the Radar: Canadian Data

• Risk factors
  ▪ 55% had **CPS** history
  ▪ 83% had **runaway** at least once
  ▪ 51% **thrown out** of home
  ▪ 75% history of **sexual abuse**
  ▪ 85% history of **physical abuse**
  ▪ 86% **witnessed violence*/aggression
  ▪ 27% used drugs/alcohol while working
  ▪ 57% intravenous drug use

McIntyre, 2009
Homeless Youth and Survival Sex

Very common behavior: ~10-50%

Walls, 2011; Greene, 1999; Chettiar, 2010
“I didn’t really think about], you know, trading sex for anything when I first moved here. And then whenever I got here I realized it was just so popular....So I was a very conservative person. I didn’t really think about doing that but times got really, really hard and I didn’t eat for about a week and I didn’t have anywhere to stay. I was sneaking on the train and so I decided that I was going to clean myself up a little bit. Decided to go out there and do what I have to do.”

21 yo trans female

Dank, 2015
Risks for Homeless Youth Engaging in Survival Sex

- Older youth
- Antisocial behavior
- More time on the street
- Drug use (esp. injection drugs)
- Young age when first ran away
- Hx psychiatric hospitalization
- Hx suicide attempt
- Hx sexual or emotional abuse
- Hx STI or pregnancy
- LGBTQ

Increased Risk of Survival Sex

Wall, 2011; Greene, 1999; Stoltz, 2007; Kerr, 2009, Chettiar, 2010; Whitbeck, 2004; Reid 2012
Risks for Transgender Youth

• Family and societal rejection
• Seek acceptance
• Job discrimination
• Substance use to cope
• Need money for gender-affirming medical treatment

Grossman, 2006; Dank, 2015
“When my mother, who is a PhD, found out what I was (i.e., transgender), she used to hurt me with things. She hit me on the head with an iron once, and I had 5 staples. Finally she disowned me.”

Words of trans female, NYC
### CSEC in New York City

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Living situation</th>
<th>Boys (n-111)</th>
<th>Girls (n-119)</th>
<th>Transgender (n-19)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‘Living on the street’</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living alone</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family home</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend’s home</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another home</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelter</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market facilitator</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Curtis, 2008
## CSEC in New York City

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Boys (n-111)</th>
<th>Girls (n-119)</th>
<th>Transgender (n-19)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ave age of initiation</td>
<td>15.28 years</td>
<td>15.15 years</td>
<td>16.16 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How recruited?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relative</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trafficker</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer approached</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Curtis, 2008
Case Example- Paul

Paul is a 15 yo boy who ran away from home because his mother told him that his being gay disgraced the family. He started out living with a friend, but this did not work well and he ended up on the street. He slept in the park for a few days but his money ran out and he didn’t know what to do. He was approached by some other boys who allowed him to join their group. He watched Joel ‘turn some tricks’ and Joel told him what he needed to do. It seemed like all the boys were doing it so Paul did, too.
Paul had been using marijuana for years but when living on the streets he began using cocaine and alcohol. After awhile he could only see clients if he was ‘high’. He seldom used a condom although he saw up to 4 clients per day. He and his friends went to the public STI clinic every few months to get tested, although Paul did not agree to HIV testing.
Facilitators

• Mutual support
• Help get clients, support person
• May or may not involve monetary payment
• Over 80% got along well with facilitator
Exploiter

• More likely to occur with girls (34%) than with boys (4%) or transgender youth (18%)

• 80% youth with an exploiter were female

• Most exploiters had multiple victims

• Leaving exploiter often took several attempts
Attitudes About Survival Sex

• Positives:
  ▪ Income
  ▪ Fulfilled basic needs
  ▪ Sense of community
  ▪ Enjoyed sex
  ▪ Made person stronger

• Negatives:
  ▪ Sex
  ▪ ‘Everything’
  ▪ Customers
  ▪ Homelessness
  ▪ How it made person feel
  ▪ Dangerous
  ▪ Sense of stigma, ‘degrading’
“Things I dislike—there are a lot of things. First there’s the safety issue; you don’t know what’s going on, ...you don’t basically have control over the situation in a way, so you never know if this person might physically abuse you or because of the riskiness you never know if he might chop you up and stuff.....Second thing is the fear of not getting paid. So it’s like you feel like you did this and getting nothing out of it...There’s also the nervousness about what will happen if your friends find out, how they will look at your...it’s like it’s a memory that’s scarred into your life and its hard to cope with it especially how like you have to keep things away from friends or family...”
MORE THAN DRINKS FOR SALE
EXPOSING SEX TRAFFICKING IN CANTINAS & BARS IN THE U.S.
The Cantina Business

“Houston model”

- Run by criminal networks
- Clientele limited to Latino males in community
- Victims flirt, encourage drinking, have sex on- or off-site
- Cantina owner directly involved with business
So, Who Are the Victims?

**NATIONALITIES OF POTENTIAL VICTIMS BY CASE**
(Non-Cumulative) N=201

- Mexico: 35%
- All Central America: 24%
- Other Latin America (Excl. Brazil): 8%
- USA: 8%
- Brazil: 5%
- Other Non-Latin American Country: 2%

These statistics are non-cumulative. Cases may reference multiple victims of different genders and nationalities or may not provide this type of information.
ADULT/MINOR AT START OF EXPLOITATION
N=116

- Minor: 63%
- Adult: 26%
- Unknown / Not Specified: 11%
Who Are the Traffickers?

![Bar chart showing top 5 countries of origin for potential traffickers. The USA is the highest at 35%, followed by Mexico at 24%, El Salvador at 11%, Brazil at 10%, and Nicaragua at 4%.]

*TOP 5 COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN FOR POTENTIAL TRAFFICKERS*

N=101
Maintaining Control

**TOP TEN FORCE, FRAUD, OR COERCION METHODS USED**

N=248

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potential Minor</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confinement</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Abuse</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploits Substance Abuse</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Abuse</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Abuse</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withholds Important Documents</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job Fraud</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring Important Documents</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How do trafficked children leave their exploitation?

- Identified by law enforcement
- Identified by other professionals
- Assisted by family or friends
- Assisted by buyer
- Decide to leave on their own
Leaving the Exploitation: Complex Needs of Victims

- Housing
- Food, clothing, etc.
- Emotional support
- Medical care
- Mental health care
- Legal advocacy
- Case management
- School enrollment
- Life skills and job training
Additional Needs of Foreign Nationals

• Interpreter services
• Immigration assistance
  ▪ Contact professionals who can assist with applications

• Language training
Conclusions

• Child trafficking complex problem with multiple root causes

• No reliable estimates for prevalence

• Multiple steps in process, with ongoing trauma

• Victim needs are extensive, services limited
Resources
## National Referral Organizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Contact info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polaris Project (policy, training, advocacy, National Resource Center)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.polarisproject.org">www.polarisproject.org</a> 1-888-373-7888 202-745-1001 (office number)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline</td>
<td>(1-888-3737-888) Report tips, receive technical assistance, operates 24/7.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared Hope International (training, research, advocacy, policy)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sharedhope.org">www.sharedhope.org</a> 1-866-HER-LIFE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Contact info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (search for missing children, cybertipline, training, collaboration) | [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com)  
1-800-THE-LOST (National Hotline, 24/7)  
703-224-2150 (office number) |
| National Children’s Advocacy Center (training, advocacy, find other CAC’s)   | [www.nationalcac.org](http://www.nationalcac.org)  
[www.nationalcac.org/locater](http://www.nationalcac.org/locater) (find local CAC)  
256-533-KIDS (5437) |
| Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS) (National)                   | [www.gems-girls.org](http://www.gems-girls.org) |
My contact info:

jordan.greenbaum@choa.org

404-785-3829

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The Institute on Healthcare and Human Trafficking

Funded by:
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References


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Thank You!

Please help by sharing your knowledge of child sex trafficking with others.

If you have not already done so, please register for other webinars in this series: [www.choa.org/csecwebinars](http://www.choa.org/csecwebinars)

- The Fundamentals of Child Sex Trafficking
- The Hidden Victims of Trafficking: Issues Related to Male and LGBT Victims
- Supply and Demand: The Roles of Traffickers, Buyers, and Gangs in CSEC
  - Technology and CSEC: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly
  - The Medical Evaluation of Victims of Child Sex Trafficking
- Moving Forward After Victimization: Helping Victims Survive and Thrive