

Sex Trafficking In Sacramento, California

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Abstract

In Sacramento, California, there has been an increase of victims who have been involved in the crime of sex trafficking. Both nationally and globally, people are still not aware of the severity of this issue, due to the lack of awareness. The implementation of human trafficking programs and task forces will provide guidance, in regards to the prevention, protection and prosecution approach. As a result of this, nurses will be the key to diminishing the occurrences of sex trafficking. By instilling a program in the community's hospital, nurses will be trained for these specific situations. Through training, awareness, and prevention, sex trafficking can decrease as a whole.

Key words: prevention, sex trafficking, victims, community, awareness

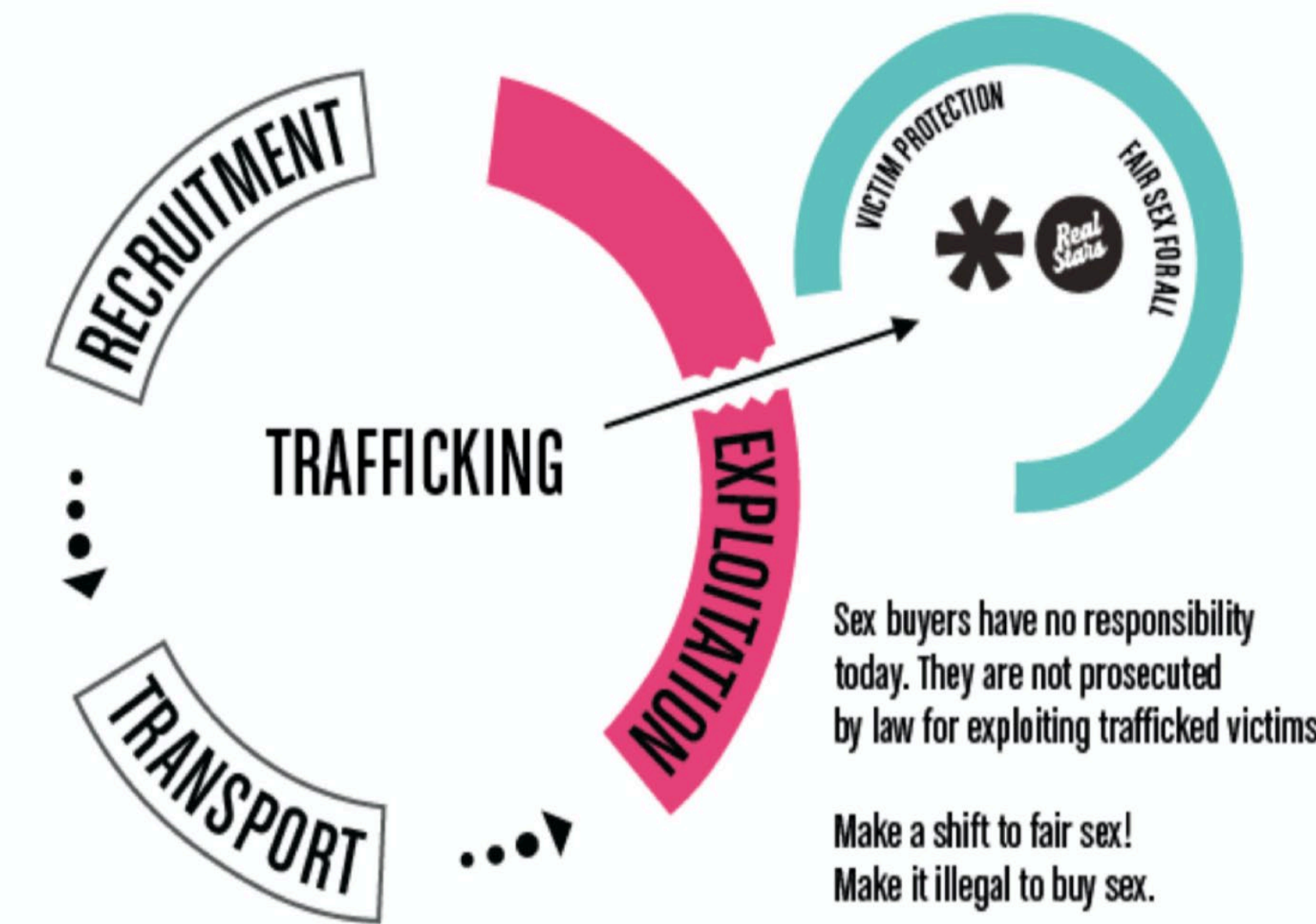
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Community Assessment

- The city of Sacramento, California has approximately 503,000 residents with a median age of 35 years old. English is the primary shared language with 90.7% of residents being US citizens, with White ethnicity as highest percentage. In 2017, California had the highest estimated number of 35,798 homeless individuals in the US. "The largest demographic living in poverty are Females 25 - 34, followed by Males 25 - 34 and then Females 18 - 24" (1).
- The current unemployment rate, is at 4%, a dramatic decrease from 13% in 2010. "While median wages increased by 6% between 2011 and 2016, this was offset by rapidly rising housing costs, such as a 30% increase in rents" (2). In the year 2020, the median household income was \$65,847, more than the annual income of the entire country.
- The prevalent issues that primary care physicians are seeing are related to sexually transmitted infections, a smoking rate of 13.3%, and asthma, which is responsible for 9.9% of the county.
- As for mental health, a growth of depression in the Medicare population, is most commonly seen in women.
- "The Age-Adjusted Death Rate due to Diabetes is 29.2 deaths/100,000 population" (3).
- Through research at Sacramento State, interviewing the victims helped to understand the motives and experiences as a survivor" (4).

Countless thousands of trafficking victims lack protection from exploitation. Someone has to be held responsible for this.



Problem in the Community

- Sex trafficking is described as, "involving the use of force, fraud, or coercion in order to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act" (5). This can occur to people of any age, gender or race.
- Sex trafficking is a known worldwide problem and numbers have increased to 84%.
- The majority of victims targeted are female, of adult age and trafficked for sex" (7).
- Criminals of sex trafficking are tricking their predators by luring them in with bribing techniques.
- The majority of these predators stated that trafficking occurred by working for a "third party" involuntarily. Others were trapped by their relationships.
- The major problem following these instances is, "over 75% of our people in our country do not know that sex trafficking and human trafficking is a prevalent issue in our county" (6).
- The rising numbers of sex trafficking instances have greatly affected the community of Sacramento as they are losing many young adults whom they share similar characteristics with.
- This ongoing occurrence is making many people in the community feel uncomfortable and unsafe.
- In order to avoid the community from falling apart, they have decided to work together and bring awareness to this problem.

Proposed Solution

- Our solution is "The Protection Awareness Program" which heightens awareness of sex trafficking and the methods of prevention.
- The more people aware of this the less victims there will be
- The Program will be placed in new hire training at hospitals
- There will be three specific activities
 - orientation for new nurses
 - a yearly staff competency
 - a yearly simulation
- Funds for this will come from hospitals and people in the community
- Hospitals will want their employees to have this training, therefore they will not hesitate to purchase it.
- The community health goal for sex trafficking would be to increase awareness and identification for victims of sex trafficking in the community's hospital which will host this program
- There are many learning objectives that should be implemented about sex trafficking in this population. Specifically for nurses here are three:
 - nurses will be aware of specific signs of human trafficking
 - nurses will know how to treat a patient who they believe or is being trafficked
 - nurses will report any signs of trafficking in or outside of work

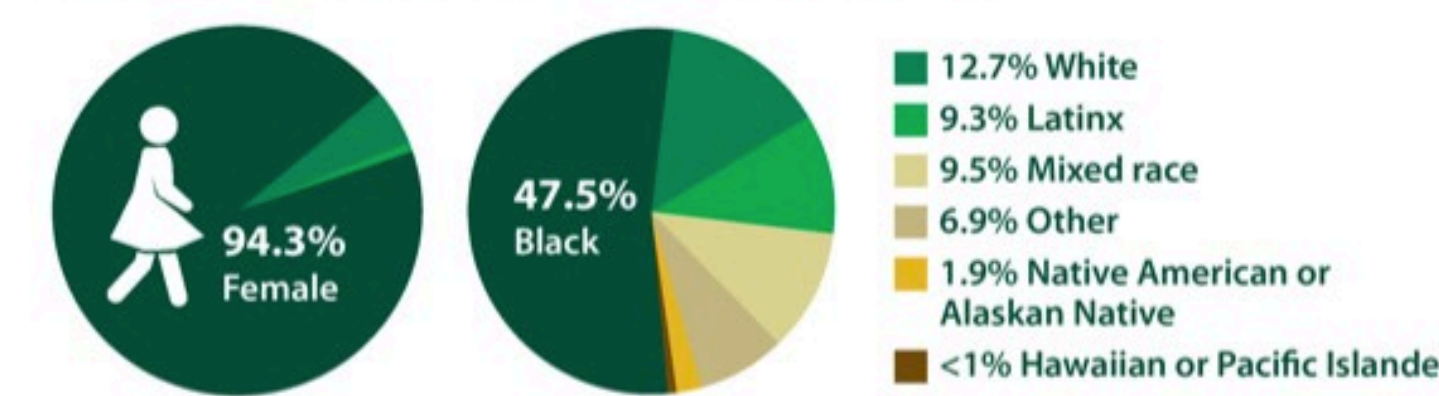
Estimating Sex Trafficking in Sacramento County

Report prepared by Community Against Sexual Harm, Sacramento State's Institute for Social Research, and RTI International. The study estimates sex trafficking victims in Sacramento County between 2015 and 2020.

13,079 Victims



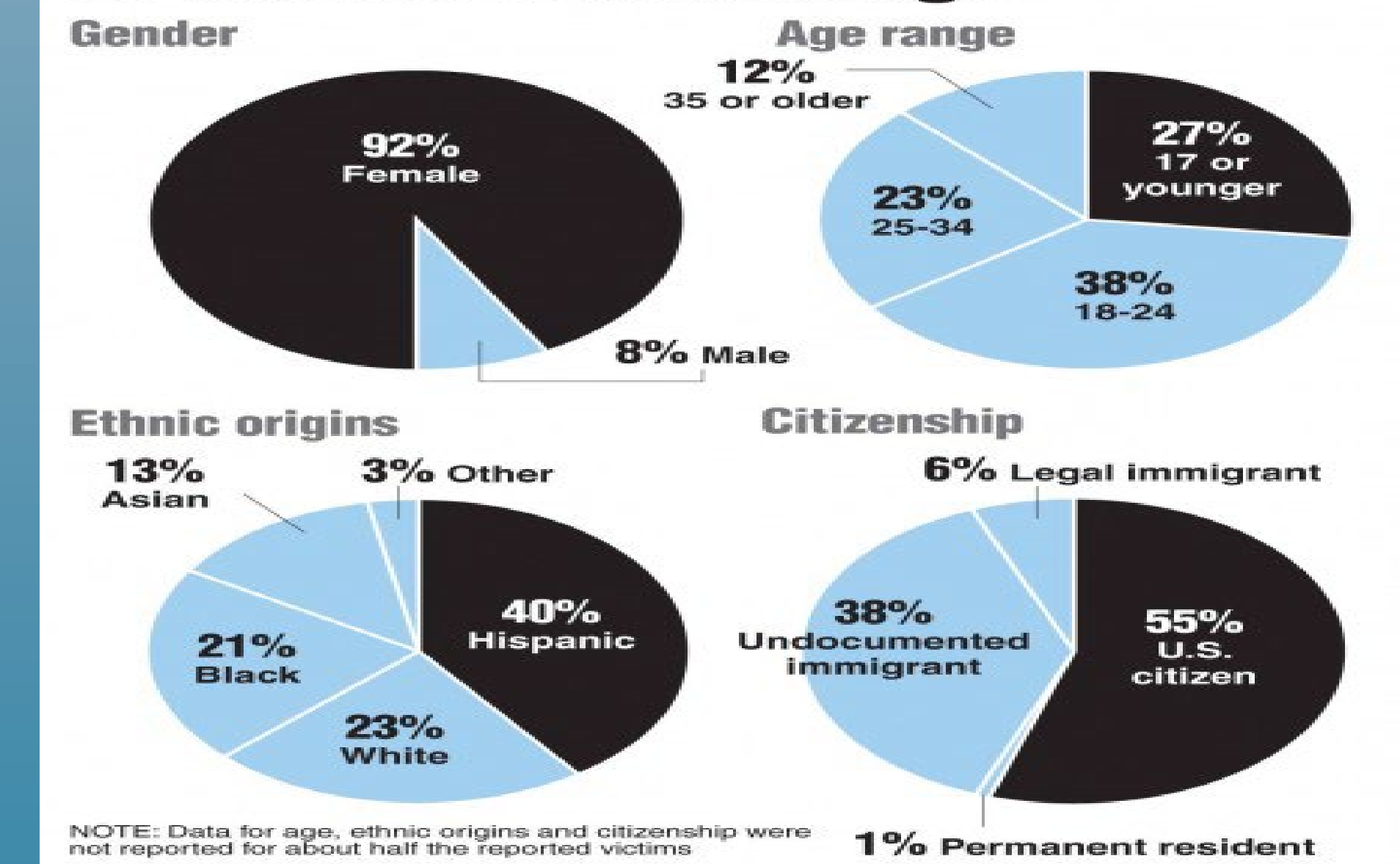
158 Survivors Were Interviewed:



How Survivors Became Connected With Sex Trafficking:



Who are the victims of human trafficking?



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Source: Characteristics of Suspected Human Trafficking Incidents, 2007-08, U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics, January 2009
Graphic: Dave Eames and Mark Morris, The Kansas City Star