



Sex Trafficking of Young Adolescent Females in Manhattan



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Introduction

Sex trafficking is the enslavement of human beings for the sole purpose of the exploiter to make large sums of money through sexual acts of the people they enslave.

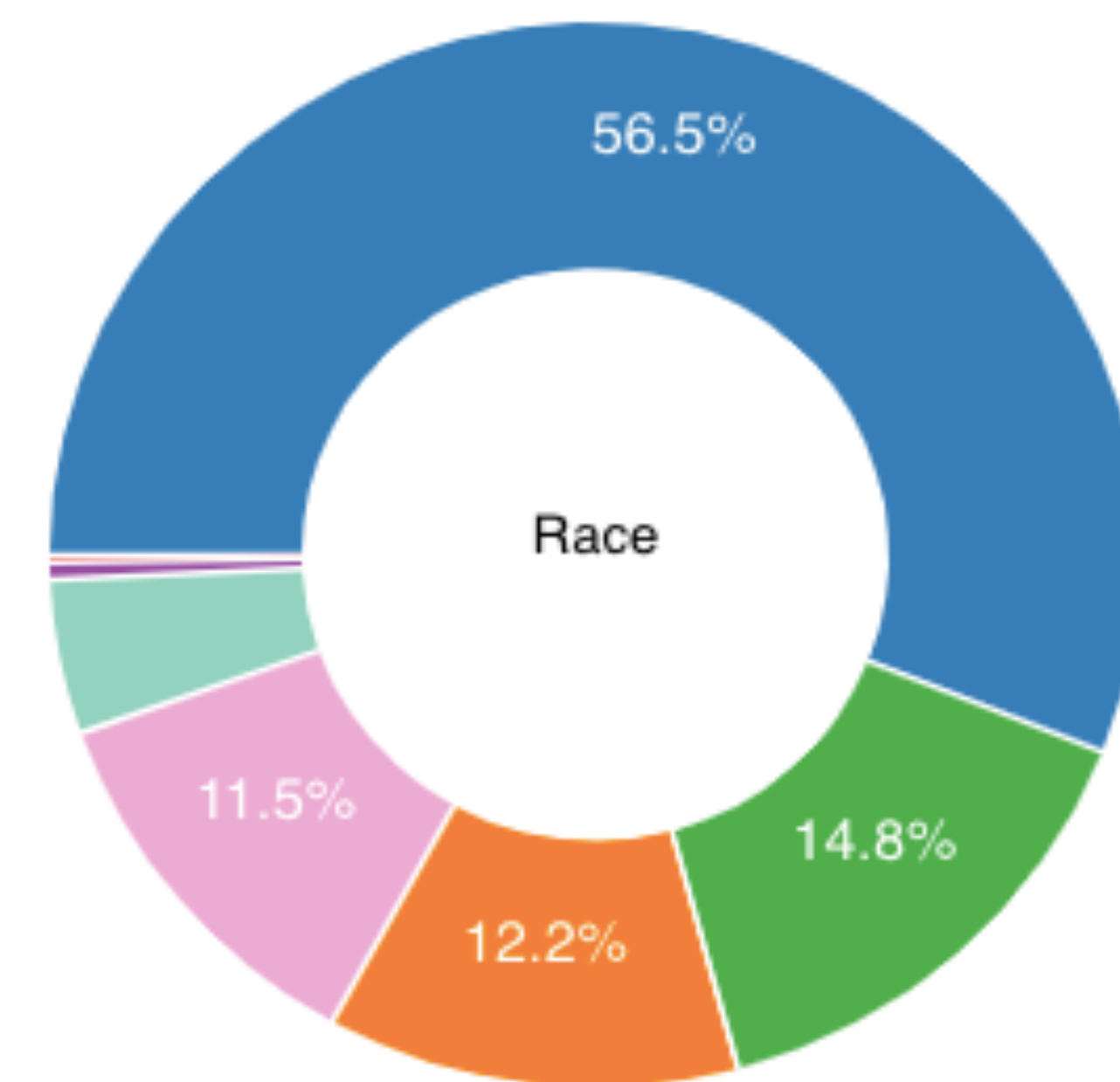
Why has a problem that has been around for thousands of years, still continuously on the rise? Is the Manhattan community neglecting to look into a problem that does not directly affect oneself. Everyday innocent men, women, and children are being lured into sex trafficking directly in front of our eyes.

Specifically in Manhattan, female adolescents are our greatest target. These females are believed to be the greatest target because of the wide areas of transportation, employment sites and residential areas in Manhattan (1) Whether you are a bystander or survivor it is important for Manhattan to implement prevention and protection. As a community we need to advocate for survivors and show the prevalence amongst sex trafficking.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has made it easier to hide sex trafficking, it is easier for these victims to slip through the cracks.

Community Assessment

(2)



■ White
 ■ Black or African American
■ American Indian and Alaska Native
 ■ Asian
■ Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander
■ Some Other Race
 ■ Two or More Races

(2)

Manhattan Sex Ratio

Female 859,379 52.66%

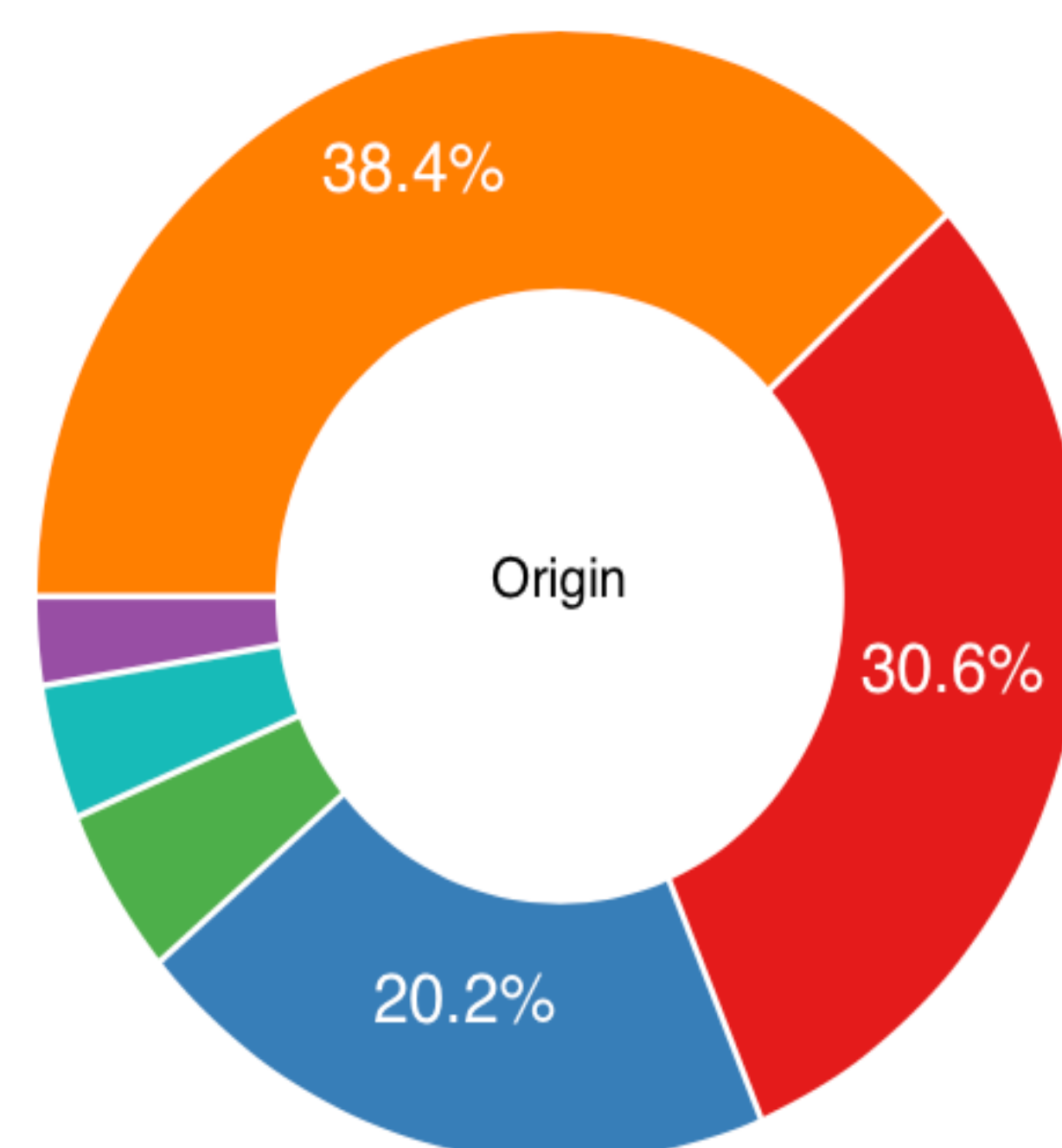
Male 772,614 47.34%

Place of Birth

71.27% of Manhattan residents were born in the United States, with 42.67% having been born in NY. 14.23% of residents are not US citizens. Of those not born in the United States, the largest percentage are from Latin America.

Origin of Non-Citizens

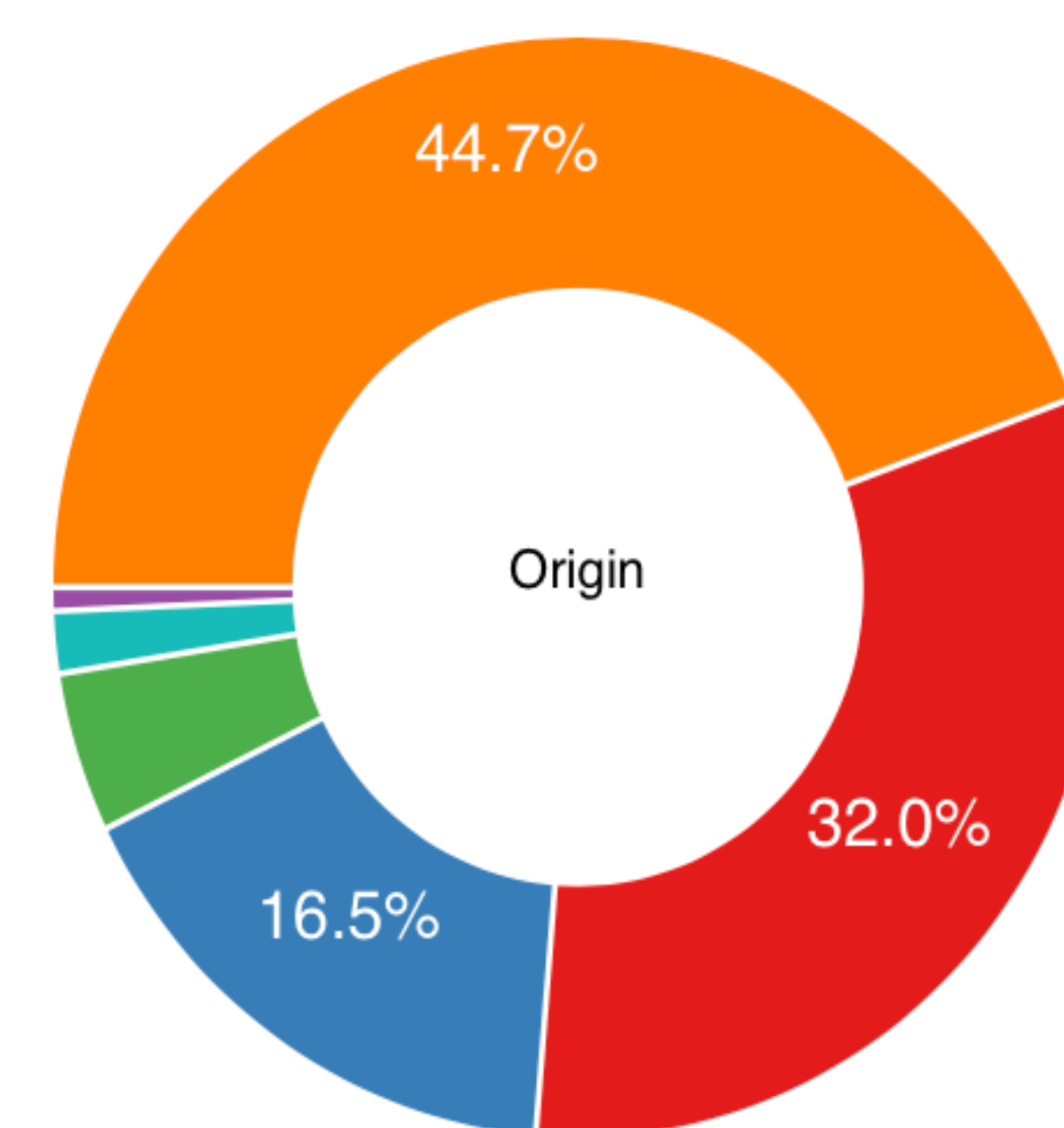
(2)



■ Europe
 ■ Asia
 ■ Africa
 ■ Oceania
■ Latin America
 ■ North America

Origin of Naturalized Citizens

(2)



■ Europe
 ■ Asia
 ■ Africa
 ■ Oceania
■ Latin America
 ■ North America

(2) 42.67%

Born in NY

71.27%

Native Born

28.73%

Foreign Born

14.23%

Non Citizen

14.49%

Naturalized

Problem

Limited access to healthcare

- In many cases “healthcare” is provided by an unqualified individual hired by the trafficker themselves (4).

Major problem is deep psychological trauma to the person exploited

Other problems include but are not limited to: (4)

- Contracting sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)
- Physical abuse
- Rectal trauma
- Infertility
- Urinary difficulties
- Unsafe abortions

Physical and psychological abuse human trafficking victims experience lead to health consequences including: (4)

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Feelings of severe guilt
- Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Substance abuse
- Eating disorders

References

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Solutions

There are many active programs which focus on the needs of the Women who have experienced issues related to sex trafficking. Through the theory basis of Sr. Callister Roy the Women Sex Trafficking Survivors program will focus on the treatment of maladaptive mental health associated with the trauma. Although the main goal is treating those affected by sex trafficking by use of various therapeutic manners and some focus on education would be useful.

Many of these adolescent women will experience mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and Stockholm syndrome(3). It's important especially in this group of young individuals to focus on resilience and reintegration eventually which the program will be geared toward(3). It will do this by utilizing a peer-to-peer support group since, adolescents are usually poly-victimized(3). We will also focus on therapeutic sessions with a licensed practitioner to help develop healthy ways of coping with anxiety, depression and Post traumatic stress. Addressing trauma bonding is also a very important aspect regarding Stockholm syndrome because, they may sympathize with the people who put them in the situation and no longer see themselves as individuals being victimized (3). Sex Trafficking is still an ongoing problem despite much of the interventions. In place currently, so it should be addressed more with programs such as this one as it would be very beneficial to the community and helping those through such a traumatic time.

Since, the program has so many tiers it will rely on crowd and community funding which utilizes raising small amounts of money through a large amount of people. It will also look to secure Office of justice program funding from the government as well as health department funding(6). Government funding will help ensure that the program remains sustainable without the use of other outside funding. Any excess in funding will be used to expand and ensure the program continues to help as many survivors as possible.