Jennifer Montgomery
Director, Human Trafficking Education & Outreach
Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt
• **Human Trafficking** is based on recruiting, harboring and/or transporting people solely for the purpose of exploitation

• **No freedom to leave situation**

• Includes *labor trafficking* and *sex trafficking*

• Human Trafficking, a modern form of slavery, is the second largest and fastest growing criminal industry in the world

• Exploits a person’s vulnerabilities

• Trafficking industry thrives on ignorance and preys upon the uneducated.
Trafficking is NOT the same as Smuggling, but they overlap

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Human Trafficking</th>
<th>Alien Smuggling</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victims do not consent to their situations</td>
<td>Includes those who consent to smuggling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entails forced exploitation of a person for labor/services</td>
<td>Contract ends after border crossing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime against each persons fundamental rights</td>
<td>Smugglers need only to entail physical movement of “customers”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occurs domestically - victims held captive in own country</td>
<td>Is always international</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime Against Person</td>
<td>Crime Against Border</td>
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Human Trafficking in Kansas

- More than 83% of human trafficking involves domestic victims and the majority of these are children.

- Kansas has adopted new laws that seek to protect and rescue human trafficking victims.
Why Kansas?

- Centrally located
- Intersection of major federal interstates: I-70 and I-35
- Hub of mid-western commerce
- Exchange points
Kansas Stats

• Polaris hotline reported 220 calls from KS in 2017 which resulted in 65 cases. (Labor & ST)

• Comprehensive data elusive. Underground nature of crime.

• Local law enforcement/prosecutor numbers.

National Human Trafficking Hotline
1-888-3737-888
# Human Trafficking Victims Served by Grantees of the Office of the Attorney General Per Fiscal Year
Characteristics of a Sex-Trafficking Victim

- Average age of entry is 12 – 14 years old
- Majority are runaway and/or youth within the foster care system & child protective services: some come from middle class, or wealth and prosperity
- 70-90% of sexually exploited children have a history of child sexual abuse
- Most are female
- Not likely to consider themselves as victims
Obstacles to Identification

- Almost never self-identify as trafficking victims
- View trafficker as “boyfriend”/trauma bonding
- Fear of retaliation/acting on threats
- Lured into false sense of “choice”
- May have been given new name, branded
- Conditioned to view others as “family”
- Fearful of law enforcement
- Street smart and difficult to interview

Source: National Human Trafficking Resource Center
• Physical abuse
  – Depravation of basic needs
  – Physical restraint, captivity or confinement
  – Withholding medical care
  – Physical assault
  – Murder

• Sexual abuse
  – Rape
  – Forced prostitution
  – Sexual humiliation

• Psych/emotional violence
  – Intimidation/fear
  – Lies, deception, blackmail
  – Unsafe environments
  – Isolation/forced dependency (controlling victims personal docs)
  – Shame and self blame
Additional ways...

- **Substance abuse/misuse**
  - Forced and coerced use of drugs & alcohol which can create longer-term addiction and monetary dependency.

- **Manipulation/Romance**
  - Many use romantic relationships to access victims (Romeo pimps).

- **Cultural disorientation**
  - Movement across state or international borders may put victims in areas where they don’t speak the language = *vulnerability*.
Services Critical for Protection

- Medical needs
- Safety Planning
- Treatment for Major Trauma, Complex PTSD
- Long term counseling and assistance
- Housing
- Assistance dealing with and testifying against pimps/traffickers
- Addiction treatment
- Educational needs
- Employment assistance
- Specific Assistance
Risk Factors

- Isolation
- Emotional Distress
- Substance Abuse
- Poverty
- Family Dysfunction
- Homelessness
- Developmental Delay
- Learning Disabilities
- **Lack of Social Support**
- Childhood Sexual Abuse
- Mental Illness
- Lack of Personal Safety
Recruitment

• Traffickers set up fake accounts online to “friend” teens
• Teens are approached online and/or in person, at malls, bus stops, parties, at school and other public places
• Traffickers will use other teens who are already recruited to scout and recruit new teens
• Traffickers may pretend to “date” teens to manipulate and gain their trust
• Drugs, alcohol, money and expensive gifts are often used to manipulate teens
Sex Trafficking

DEMAND

These are the buyers of commercial sex.

Source: Veronica’s Voice
Kansas has launched **Demand an End** which is a sex trafficking-specific public awareness campaign targeting the demand for commercial sex in KS. The campaign focuses on sex buyers – attacking the root of the problem – those who perpetuate the sex trafficking industry by purchasing individuals for sex.

Online petition: [www.DemandanEndKS.gov](http://www.DemandanEndKS.gov)
Human Trafficking Crimes-  KS

**Victim under 18:**
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a Child
- Aggravated Human Trafficking

**Victim 18 and older:**
- Human trafficking if coerced into labor or sexual exploitation.
- Related crimes that can involve trafficking:
  - Buying sexual relations.
  - Promoting the sale of sexual relations.
  - Selling sexual relations
Change in Kansas Law

The law recognizes the victimization of minors who are commercially exploited in selling sexual relations – even when they don’t believe they are victims (2013 change)

In 2015, new law was passed allowing victims of human trafficking to seek civil remedies and restitution from convicted traffickers.

2017, new law requiring CDL holders in KS to take basic HT awareness training
Human Trafficking

HEALTH & BEAUTY INDUSTRY
Labor trafficking-Sexual Exploitation

- Nail salons
- Hair salons
- Health spas
- Massage parlors

*Traffickers typically have an employer relationship with victims, sometimes trafficker is victim’s intimate partner or spouse.*

Polaris 2017 report
Characteristics of a trafficking victim in health/beauty industry

• Recently arrived from China, S. Korea.
• Under extreme financial pressure.
• Speak little or no English.
• Have no more than a high school education.
• Are mothers in mid 30s to late 50s.
• Recruited through fraudulent ads. Misled.

Source: Polaris IMB report
Human trafficking in massage parlors is the second most common type of trafficking reported to the National HT Hotline. (Polaris)

More than 9,000 IMB in U.S. w/total revenue around $2.5 billion annually.

Businesses are hidden in plain sight.

Likely not a stand alone business, connected to other businesses (nail salons, restaurants) and organized crime, money laundering etc. *Part of a larger network.*
Red Flags

• Advertised prices are significantly below market level – workers not earning a fair wage.
• Back or side entrance that clients looking to engage in illegal activity use. Buzzer entrance.
• Covered windows or no windows.
• Clients coming in and out at odd hours, non business hours. Primarily male clientele.
• Workers appear to be living on site.
• Online advertisements/reviews that are graphic.

Source: Polaris IMB report
Red Flags for Labor Trafficking

• Is not free to leave or come and go as he/she wishes.
• Is unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips
• Works excessively long and/or unusual hours
• Is not allowed breaks or suffers under unusual restrictions at work
• Lives with employer

• Poor Mental Health or Abnormal Behavior
• Is fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid
• Avoids eye contact
• Poor Physical Health
• Appears malnourished
• Shows signs of physical and/or sexual abuse.

• Lack of Control
• Has few or no personal possessions
• Is not in control of his/her own money, no financial records, or bank account
• Is not in control of his/her own identification documents (ID or passport)
• Is not allowed or able to speak for themselves (a third party may insist on being present and/or translating)
Potential Challenges

• Language barriers between employees and clients make it difficult for them to reach out and get help.

• Limited data available. Crime in the shadows.

• Immigration issues/fear of deportation, threats.
Report Human Trafficking

- 911 (local law enforcement)
- Polaris Project National Hotline: 1-888-3737-888 or TEXT INFO or HELP to 233-733 (24 hours, 7 days a week)
- To report a sexually exploited or abused minor, call the National Center for Exploited and Missing Children (NCMEC) hotline 1-800-THE-LOST or cyber tip reporting http://www.cybertipline.org.
- KSAG Anti-Human Trafficking Unit: 1-800-828-9745