

Human Trafficking and the Healthcare Professional

Jeff Barrows, D.O., M.A. (Bioethics)

Founder

Gracehaven

Educational Objectives

At the conclusion of this presentation,
attendees will be able to:

- Articulate the scope, presentation(s), and health effects of human trafficking.
- Identify indicators of possible human trafficking among patients, including risk factors and other signs
- Describe the barriers within health care that prevent health care professionals from recognizing victims of human trafficking
- Recognize the importance of protocol development in properly responding to victims of human trafficking within the health care setting

No Commercial or
Conflict of Interest to
Declare

Case Presentation- Jill

- 16-year-old female named Jill is brought into the ER by her brother with a chief complaint of moderate vaginal bleeding.
- Brother states bleeding “hasn’t been much”...but unsure when it started

Case Presentation- Jill

- Jill appears pale and needs assistance to stand.
- The triage nurse is immediately notified, and Jill and her brother are brought back into an exam room.

Case Presentation- Jill

- Upon questioning, Jill's brother does all the talking.
- He states that Jill was doing just fine until about 2 hours ago.
- When she began to show signs of blood loss, he brought her immediately into the ER.

Case Presentation- Jill

- He adds the following:
 - 2 years prior, their parents were killed in an automobile accident
 - Since that time, Jill has been suffering from schizophrenia and various delusions.
 - For that reason, he is Jill's full time caregiver.

Case Presentation- Jill

- Physical exam and lab revealed the following:
 - Pregnancy test is +
 - Uterus about 12-14 weeks
 - Signs of trauma at the cervix
 - Brisk bleeding through the cervical os
 - Hemoglobin is 7

Case Presentation- Jill

- Physical exam and lab revealed the following:
 - Scar across her neck
 - Scars on her wrists and ankles

Case Presentation- Jill

- Clinical course
 - Given several units of packed cells
 - Taken to OR for D & C
 - Stabilized over 2 days
 - Discharged to home with Bruce her brother.

Case Presentation- Jill

True situation:

- Jill is a 16-year-old runaway
- Bruce is not her brother...a trafficker who:
 - Tricked her into coming home with him
 - Beat and raped her until she agreed to work as a prostitute in his basement

Case Presentation- Jill

True situation:

- Jill has been living under the control of Bruce since she was 14
- She became pregnant
- Bruce attempted an illegal abortion
- Brought her to ER when bleeding became severe

Case Presentation- Jill

True situation:

- Not discovered until much later when police raided Bruce's home for drugs
- Found Jill tied up...naked in a closet
- Significant emotional problems

Case Presentation- Jill

True situation:

- Jill was not yet 18 years old!

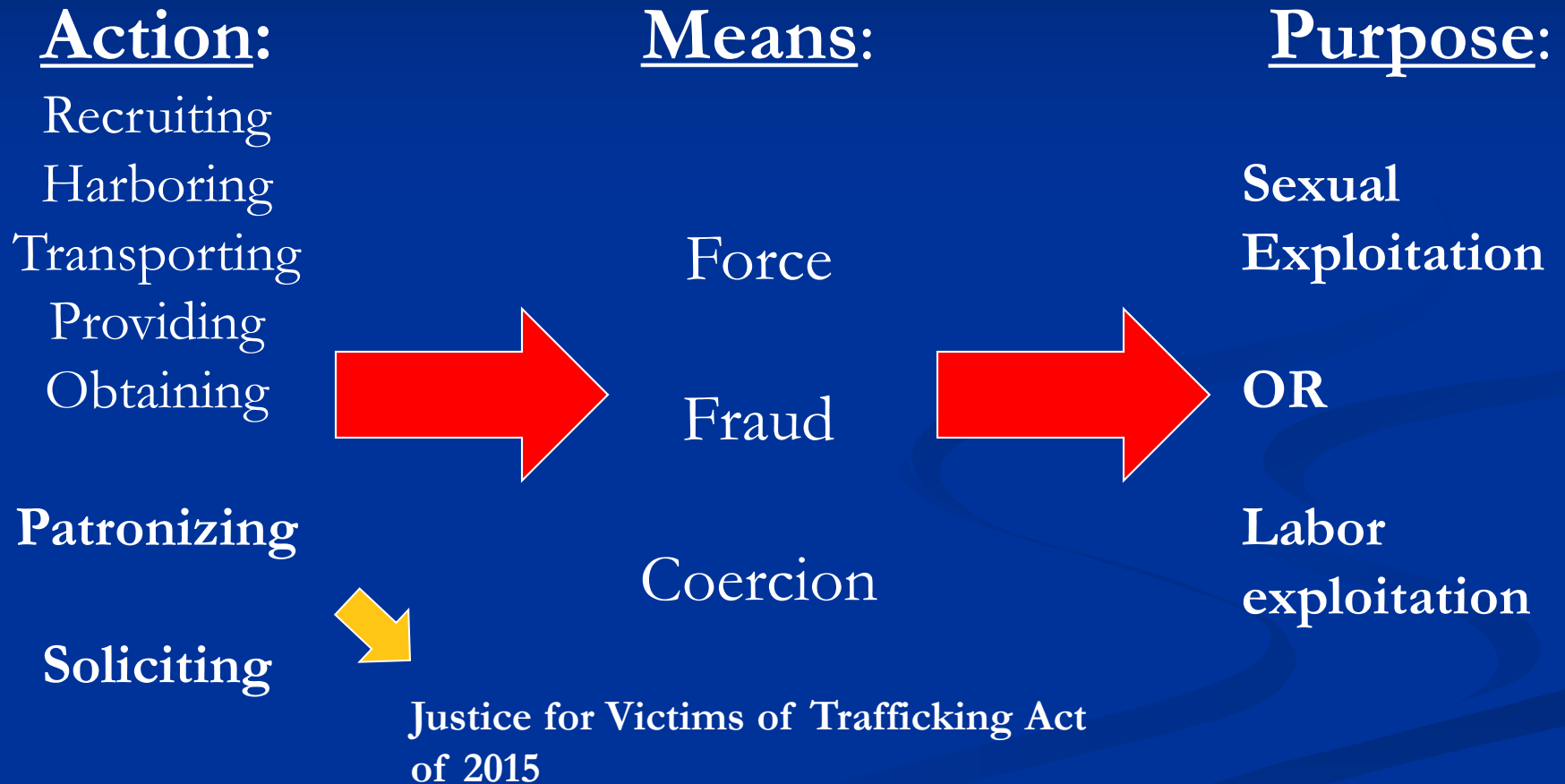
Human Trafficking: Legal Definition

Derived from federal legislation entitled:

The Trafficking Victims Protection
Act of 2000
TVPA

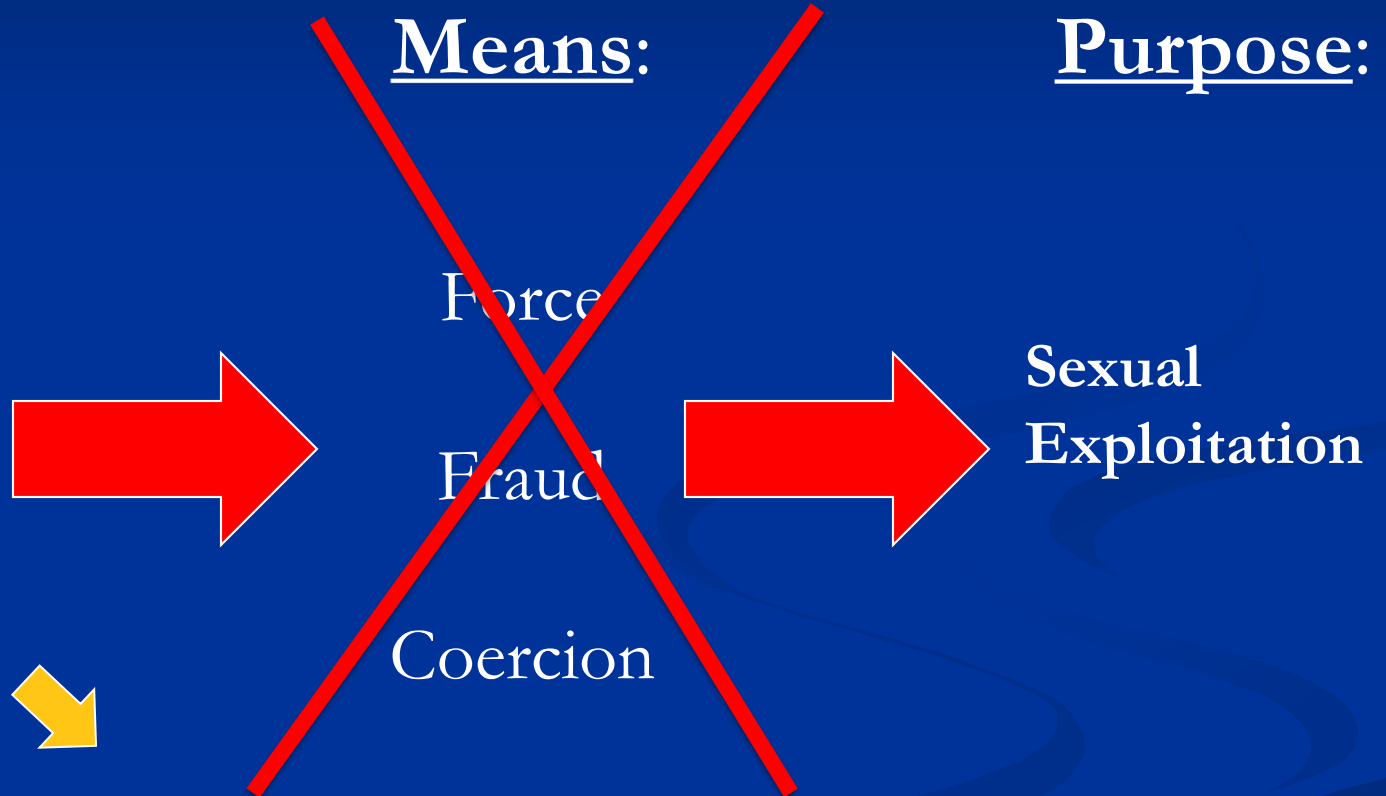
United States- TVPA

To be convicted of HT



One Exception: Minor <18 in commercial sex

Action:
Recruiting
Enticing
Harboring
Transporting
Providing
Obtaining
Maintaining
Patronizing
Soliciting
Advertising
(Knowingly)



Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act
of 2015

Ohio Law- 2905.32

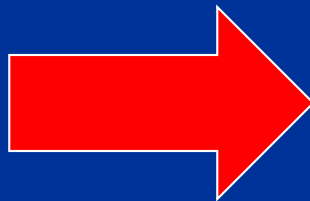
Adult (≥ 18)

Act or attempt

to:

Recruit
Lure
Entice
Harbor
Transport
Provide
Obtain
Maintain

KNOWINGLY



Purpose:

Subjected:

Involuntary servitude

Compelled*:

Sexual activity for hire
Sexual performance
Production of obscene
material

*Compulsion does not need to be openly displayed or physically exerted.

Compulsion is established if victims will is overcome by force, fear, duress, intimidation or fraud.

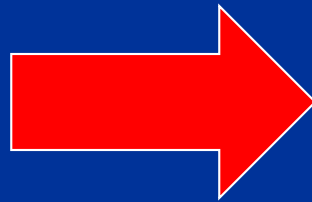
Ohio Law- 2905.32

<16 years old or DD

Act or attempt:

Recruit
Lure
Entice
Harbor
Transport
Provide
Obtain
Maintain

KNOWINGLY



Purpose:

Subjected:

Involuntary servitude

~~Compelled:~~

Sexual activity for hire
Sexual performance
Production of obscene
material

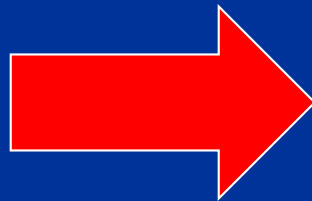
Ohio Law- 2905.32

16-17 years old

Act or attempt:

Recruit
Lure
Entice
Harbor
Transport
Provide
Obtain
Maintain

KNOWINGLY



Purpose:

Subjected:

Involuntary servitude

~~Compelled:~~

Sexual activity for hire
Sexual performance
Production of obscene
material



And:

Certain
relationship
of authority
from
2907.03

Ohio Law- 2905.32

16-17 years old

Offender is:

Parent	Teacher	Supervisory	Medical or	Detention
Stepparent	Coach	or disciplinary	mental health	facility
Guardian	or other	authority over	professional	worker
Custodian	person in	victim	Cleric	peace
	authority in	Scout leader		officer
	school			

Human Trafficking

```
graph TD; A[Human Trafficking] --> B[Sexual Exploitation]; A --> C[Labor Exploitation];
```

Sexual
Exploitation

Labor
Exploitation

Human Trafficking

```
graph TD; A[Human Trafficking] --> B[Sex Trafficking]; A --> C[Labor Trafficking];
```

Sex
Trafficking

Labor
Trafficking

Human Trafficking

```
graph TD; A[Human Trafficking] --> B[International Victims]; A --> C[Domestic Victims]
```

International
Victims

Domestic
Victims

Human Trafficking

```
graph TD; A[Human Trafficking] --> B[International Victims]; A --> C[Domestic Victims]; B --> D[Sex Trafficking]; B --> E[Labor Trafficking]; C --> F[Sex Trafficking]; C --> G[Labor Trafficking];
```

International
Victims

Sex
Trafficking

Labor
Trafficking

Domestic
Victims

Sex
Trafficking

Labor
Trafficking

Human Trafficking

```
graph TD; A[Human Trafficking] --> B[International Victims]; A --> C[Domestic Victims]; B --> D[Sex Trafficking]; B --> E[Labor Trafficking]; C --> F[Sex Trafficking]; C --> G[Labor Trafficking];
```

International
Victims

Domestic
Victims

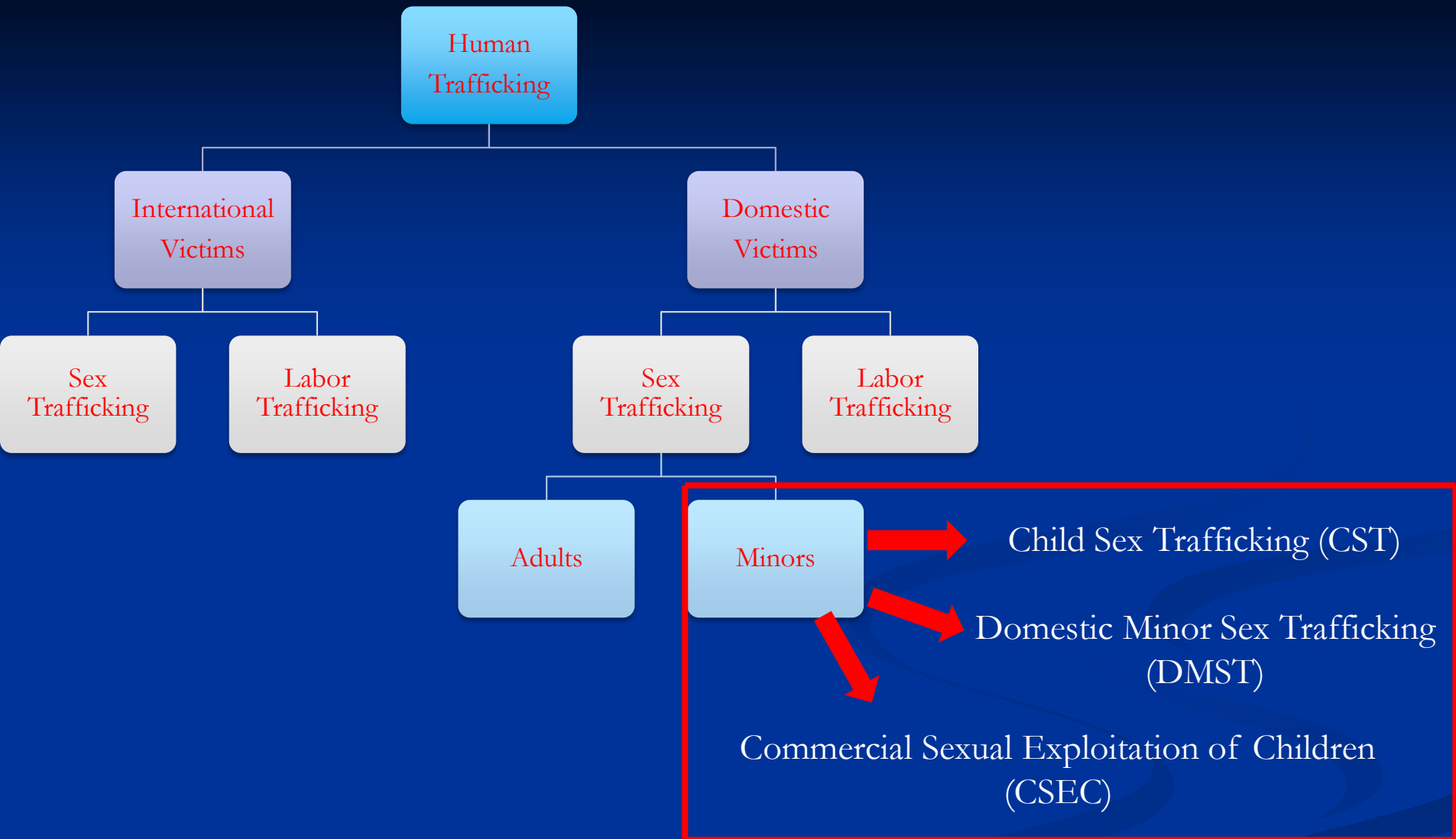
Sex
Trafficking

Labor
Trafficking

Sex
Trafficking

Labor
Trafficking

Most Common



Human Trafficking vs. Smuggling

Transnational Human Trafficking

- Is a crime against a person
- Once the border is crossed, the person is placed into either labor or sex exploitation

Human Smuggling

- Is a crime against a country's borders
- Once the border is crossed, those smuggled are free to leave

Prevalence of Human Trafficking

Existing data based on calculated
estimates, not actual counts

Global Estimates of Modern Slavery 2017



International
Labour
Office



WALK FREE
FOUNDATION

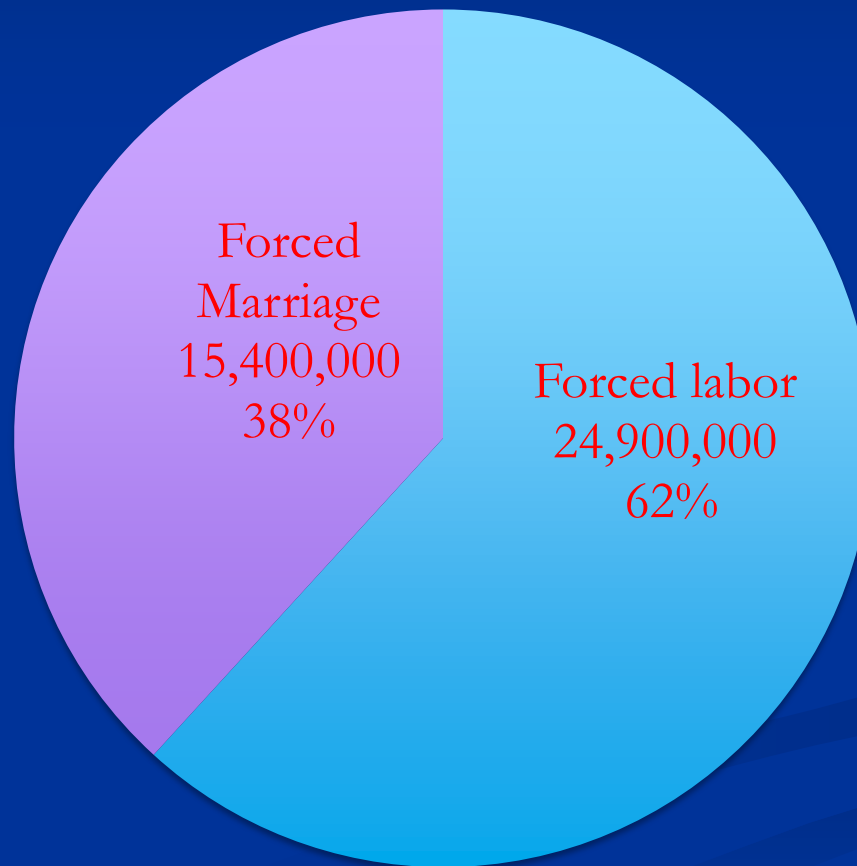
In partnership with



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

Total of 40.3 Million People Enslaved

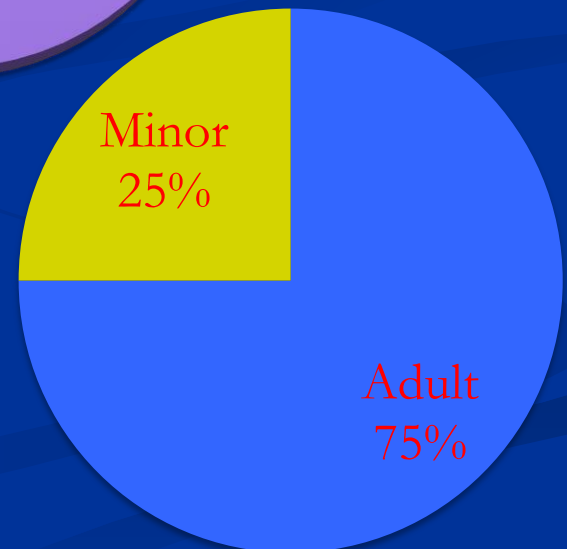
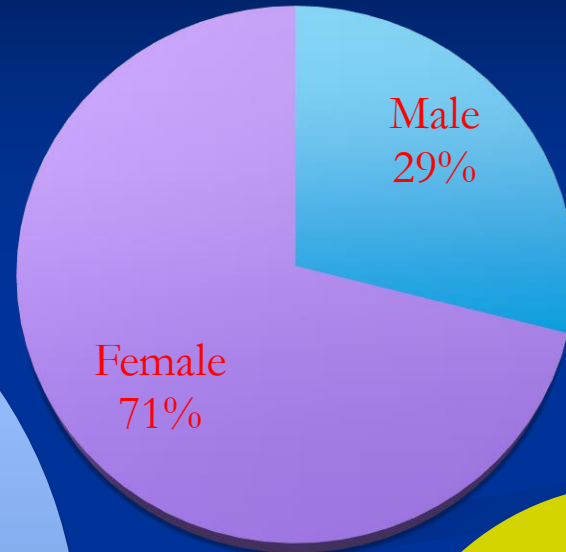
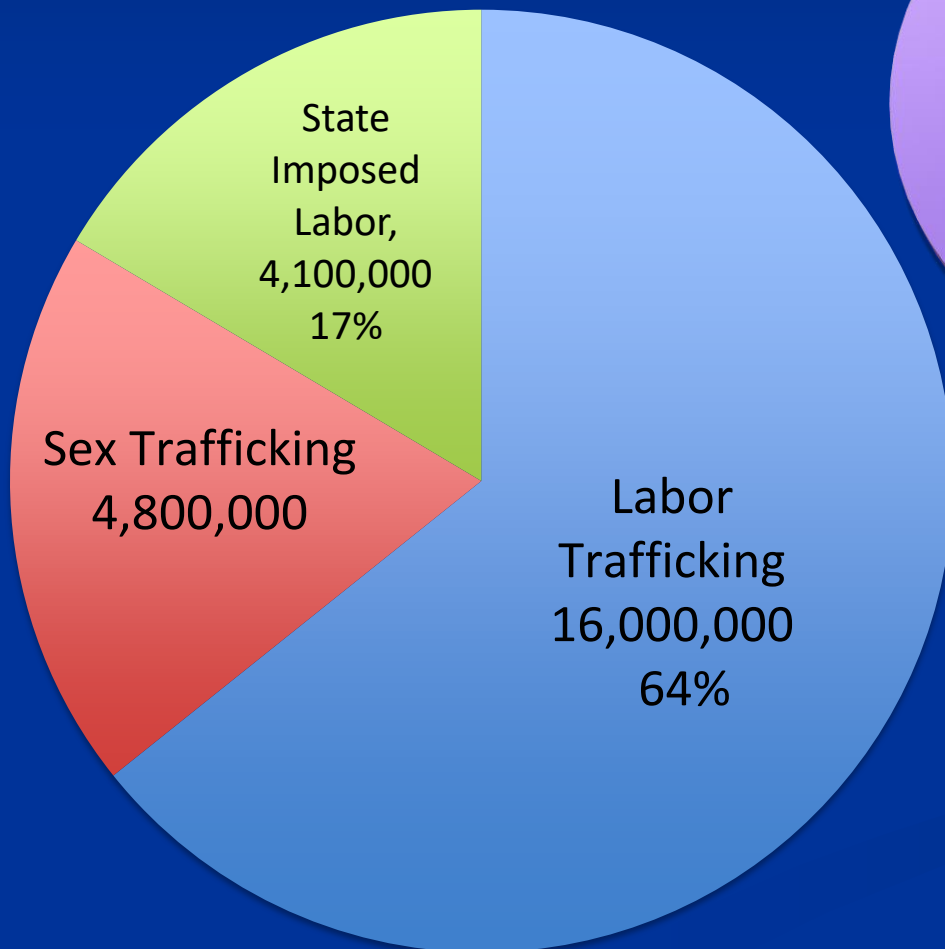
Modern Slavery



ILO 2017

Worldwide Scope- 24.9 Million

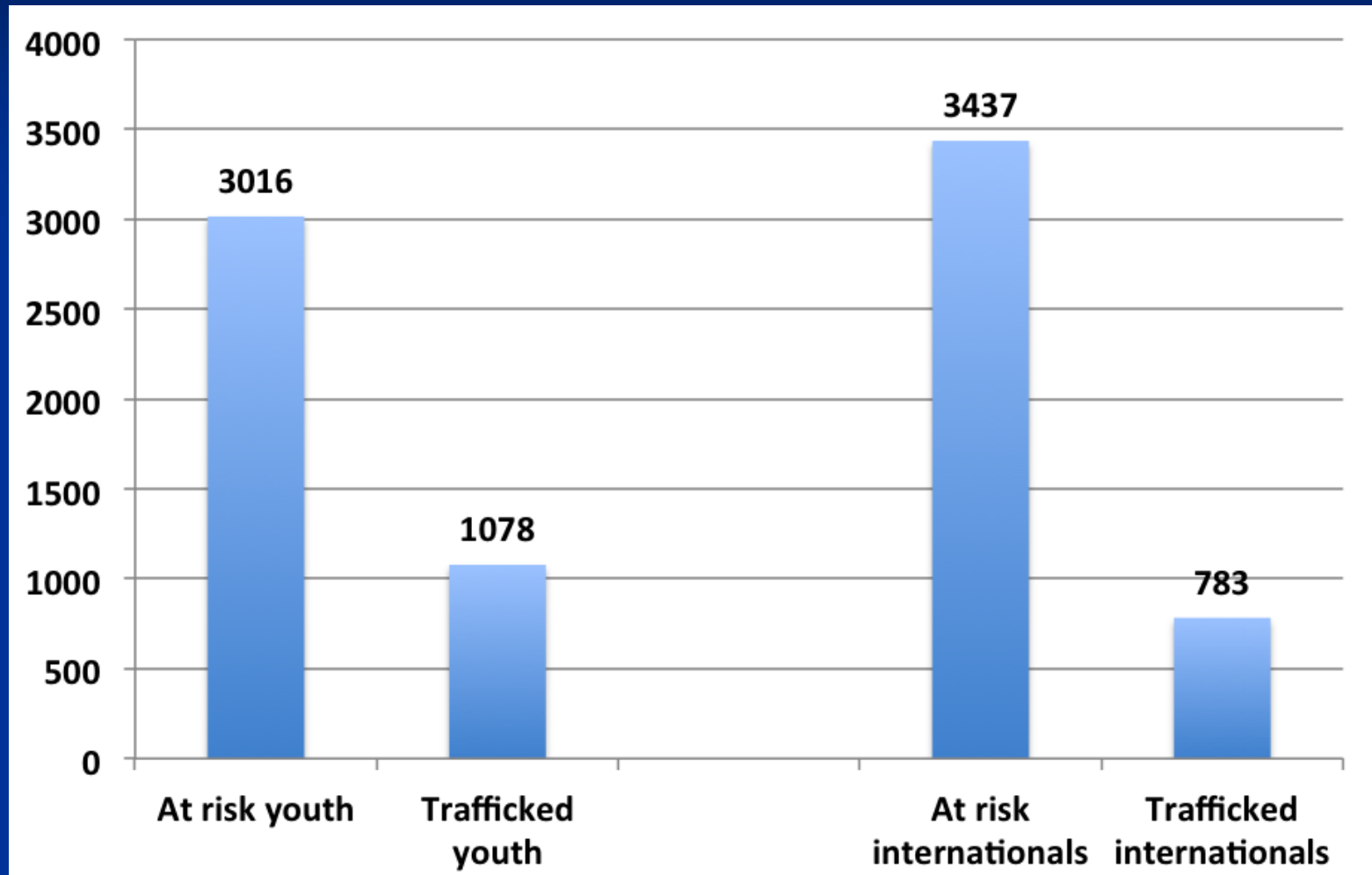
Forced Labor



$$1.3/1000 \text{ (323 million)} = 419,000$$

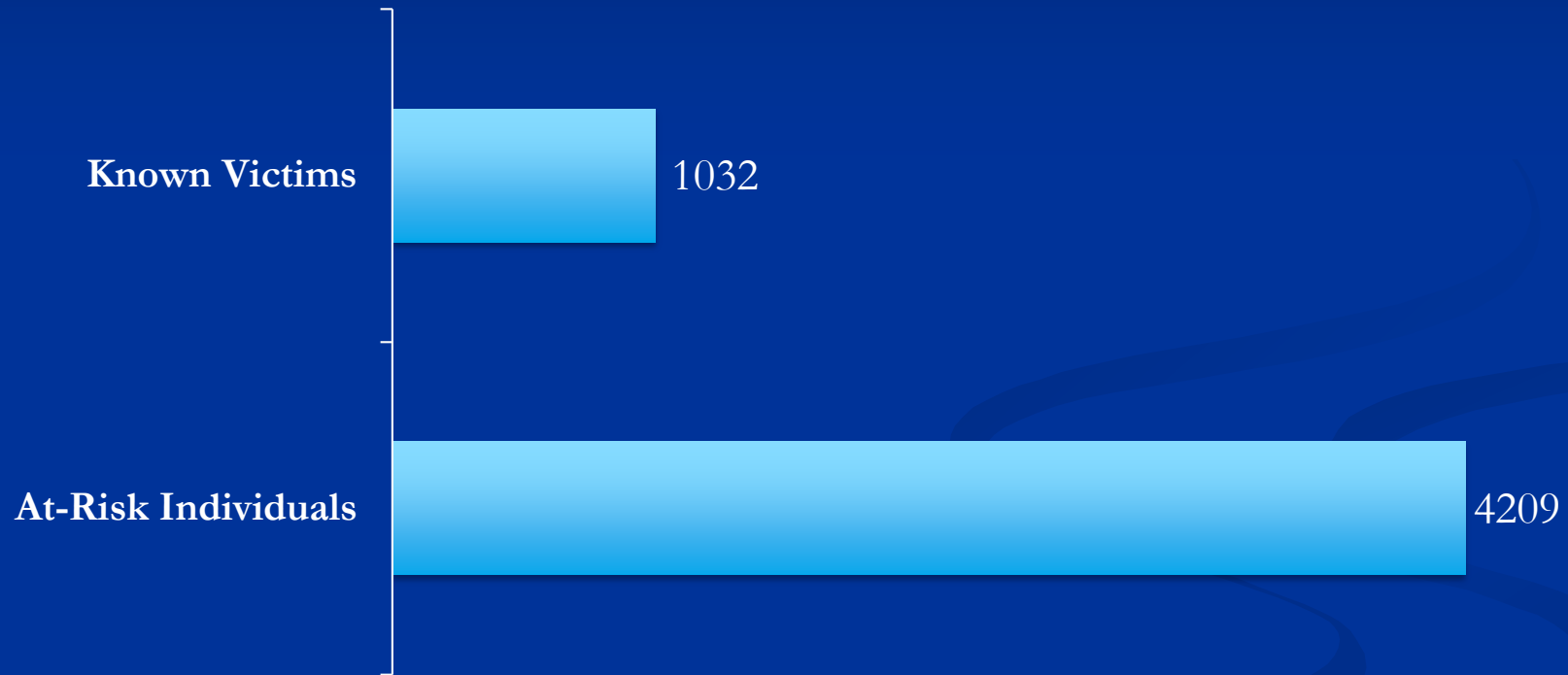


Ohio Trafficking Estimates



Williamson et. al. (2010)

Ohio Trafficking Estimates 2014-2016



Anderson et. al. (2019)

Worldwide Scope of Trafficking

\$150 Billion Profit each year
from human trafficking

Profits and Poverty: The Economics of Forced Labor. ILO 2014

International Trafficking within the U.S.



International Trafficking

Sex

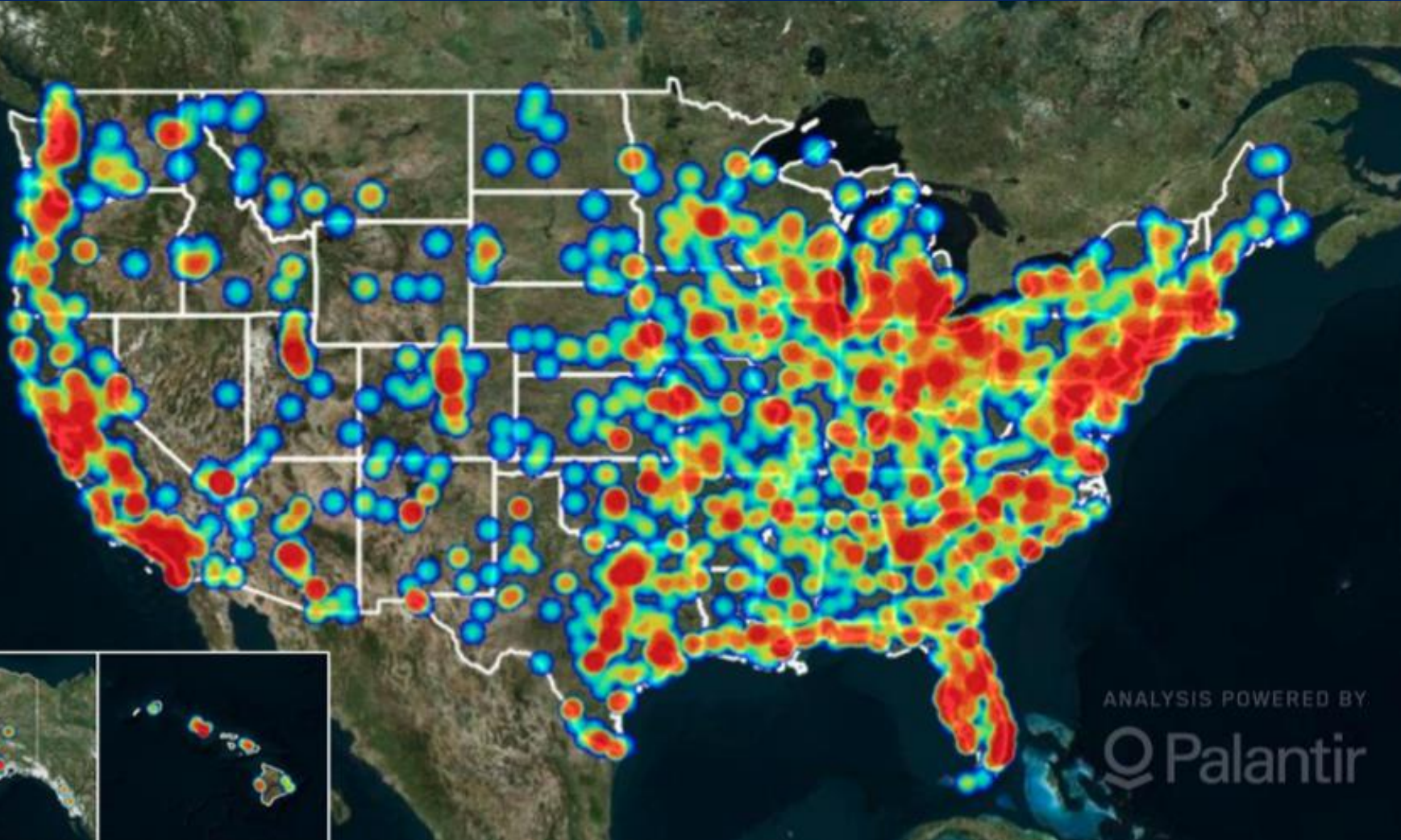
Labor

Trafficking = Trafficking

Number of foreign victims trafficked into the U.S.

- Exact number **unknown**
- Most estimates are in the thousands
- NHTRC reports **8757** foreign national victims from 2007-2016

Location of Potential Trafficking Cases



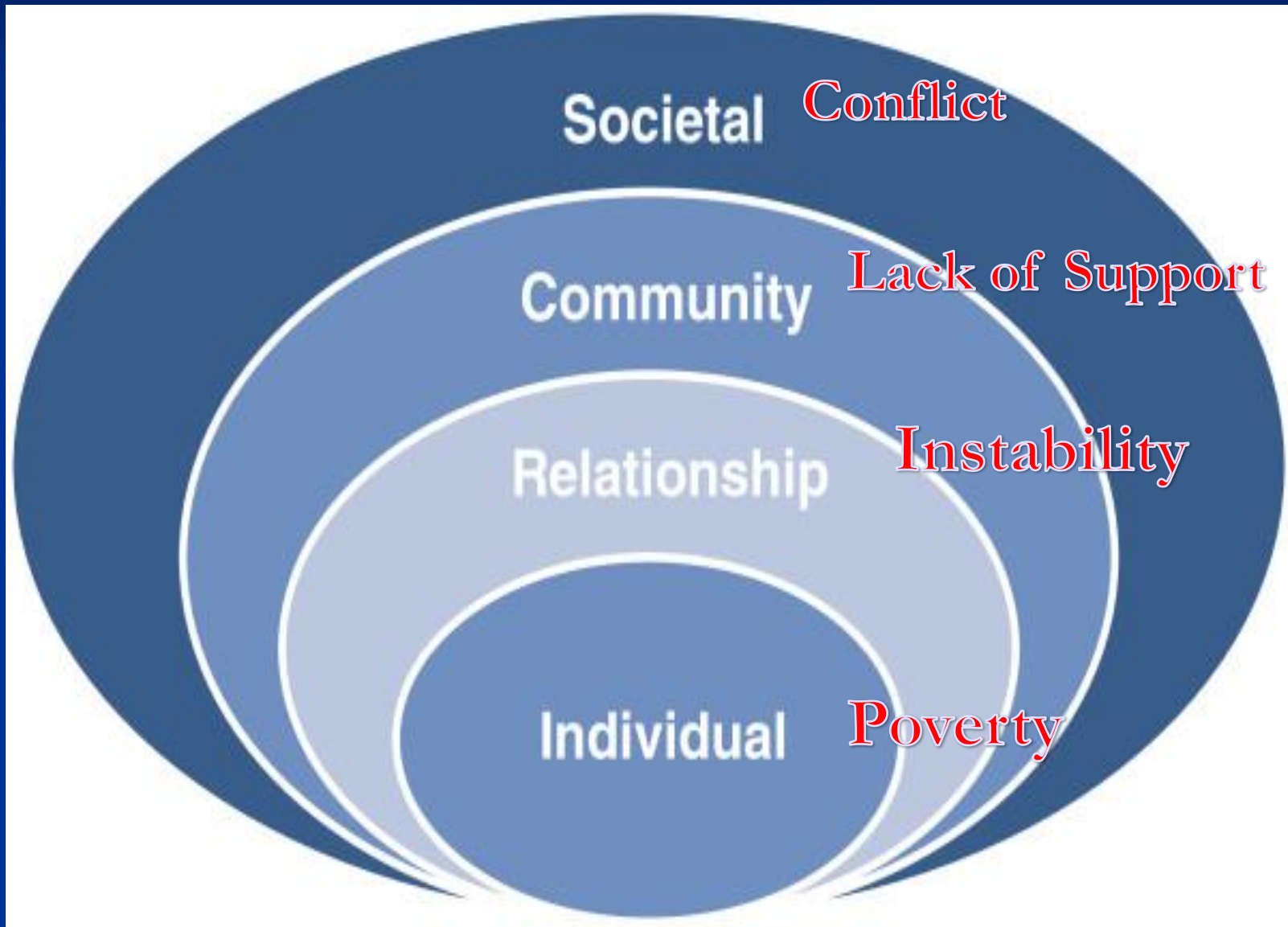
National Human Trafficking Resource Center 2018

Top 5 Countries of Origin

1. Mexico
2. China
3. Philippines
4. Guatemala
5. Honduras

NHTRC 2016

Push/Pull Factors- International



International labor trafficking venues:

- *Domestic servants*
- *Factories*
- *Janitorial jobs*
- *Construction sites*
- *Restaurants*
- *Hotels*
- *Farm work*

International Sex Trafficking Venues:

- Strip/topless clubs
- Asian massage parlors
- Online escorts
- Latino brothels
- Major sporting events

International Traffickers: The Profile

- Sophisticated
- National, international networks
- Organized crime syndicates

Domestic Trafficking

Trafficking of U.S. Citizens

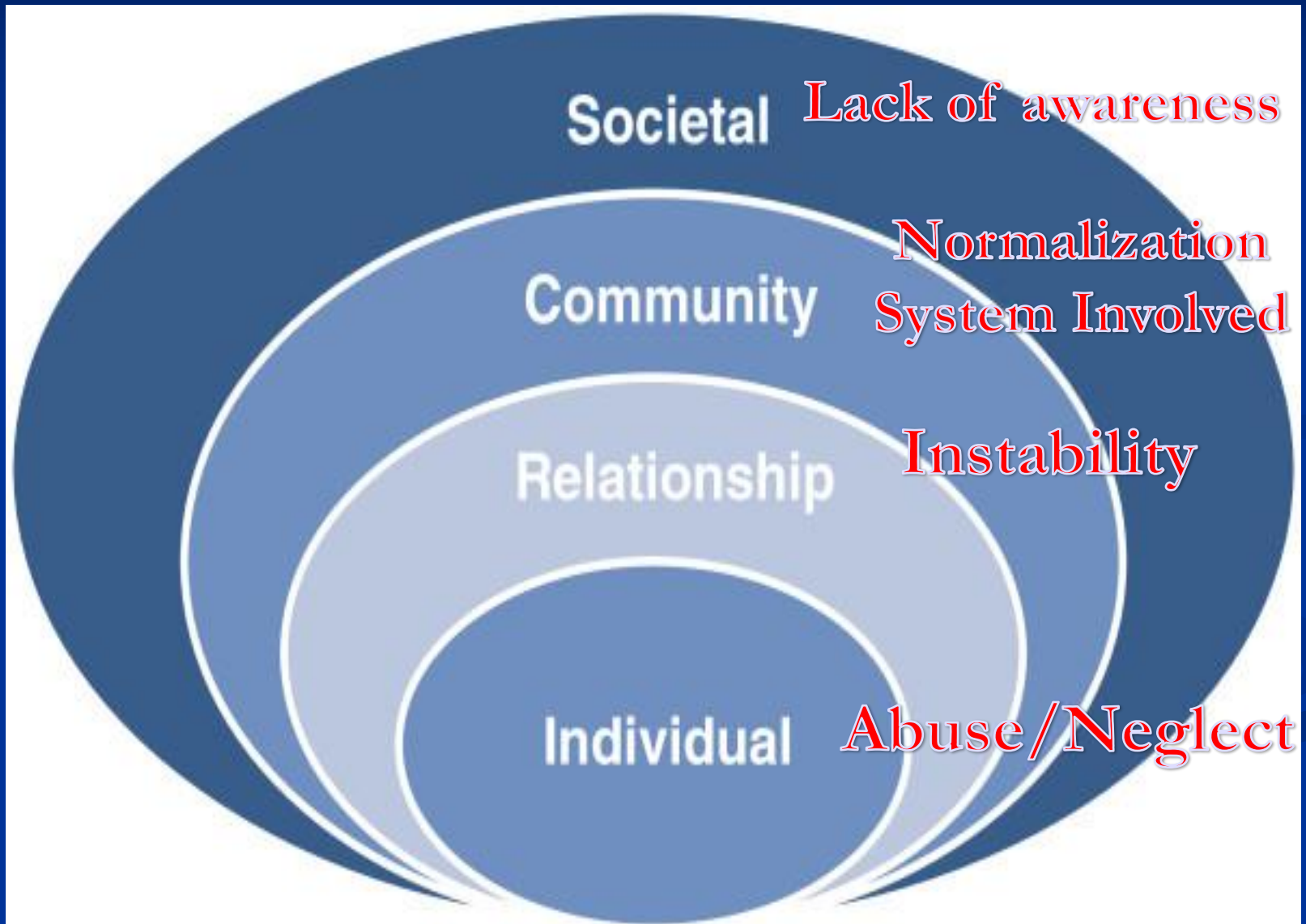
Domestic Trafficking

Sex
Trafficking > Labor
Trafficking

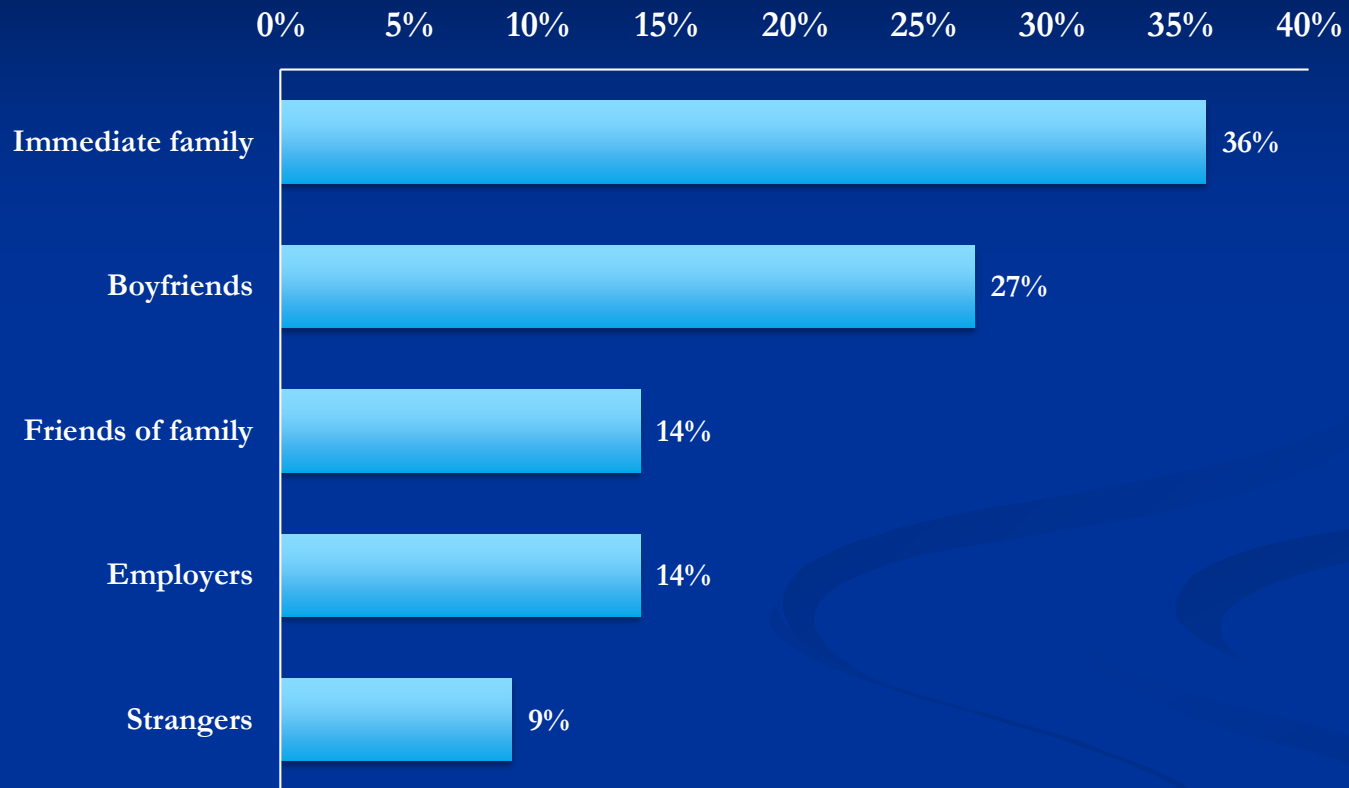
If a girl enters
prostitution prior to
age 18...average age is
13!

Williamson et. al. (2012)

Push/Pull Factors- Domestic



Who are the traffickers?



“Homelessness, Survival Sex and Human Trafficking: As Experienced by the Youth of Covenant House” New York (2013)

So why is this such a
HUGE problem?

Money!

Average girl will make between \$500 to
\$1000 per day selling sex

Recruitment- Gorilla Pimp

- Tricks the girl into coming with him through lies
- Uses brutal force and threats to control her
- Less common type of trafficker

Recruitment- Finesse Pimp

- Stage 1-Initial Contact
 - Internet
 - Malls
- Stage 2- Seduction
- Stage 3- Increasing control
- Stage 4- Separation
- Stage 5- Trauma bonding

**“You promise a girl
heaven, and she’ll
follow you to hell”**

Quote from a trafficker

Sex Trafficking vs. Prostitution

- All minors <18 are victims under federal law
- Majority of adult women work under circumstances that would fall under force, fraud, or coercion
- Only minority of prostitution is truly consensual

Domestic Sex Trafficking Venues:

- Street prostitution
- Strip/topless clubs
- Massage parlors
- Online escorts
- Truck stops
- Major sporting events

Where are the girls/women sold?

Internet

- ~~Backpage~~
- Craig's List
- Eros.com
- Facebook
- My Space
- Apps

Male Victims

- Under-recognized
- Victims of both labor and sex trafficking
- Commercially exploited males are perceived as less likely to be under the control of a trafficker

Role of Healthcare Professionals

Finding and Caring for victims of
human trafficking

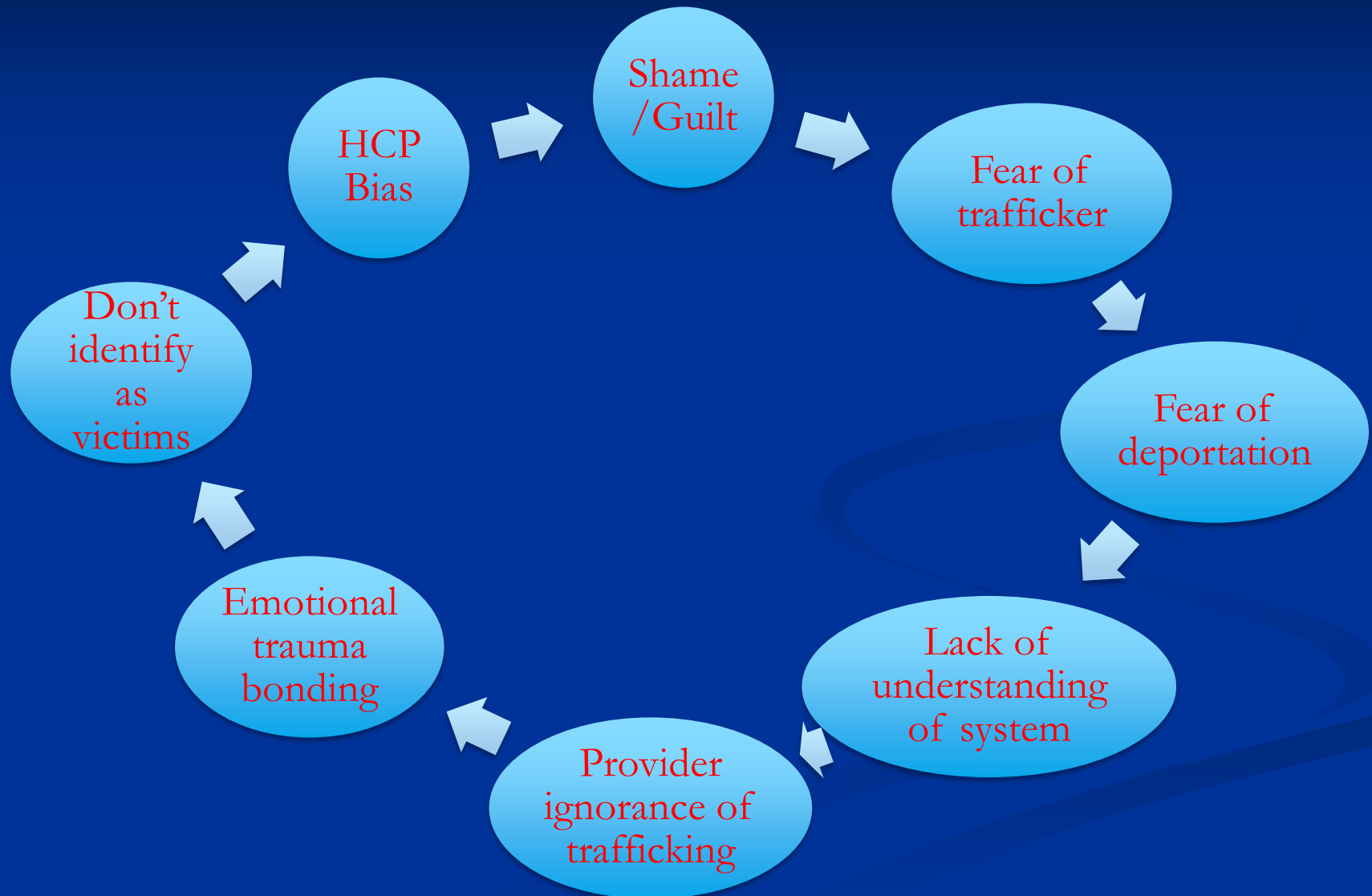
All types of HT victims and healthcare

- 68% were seen by a health care professional while being trafficked

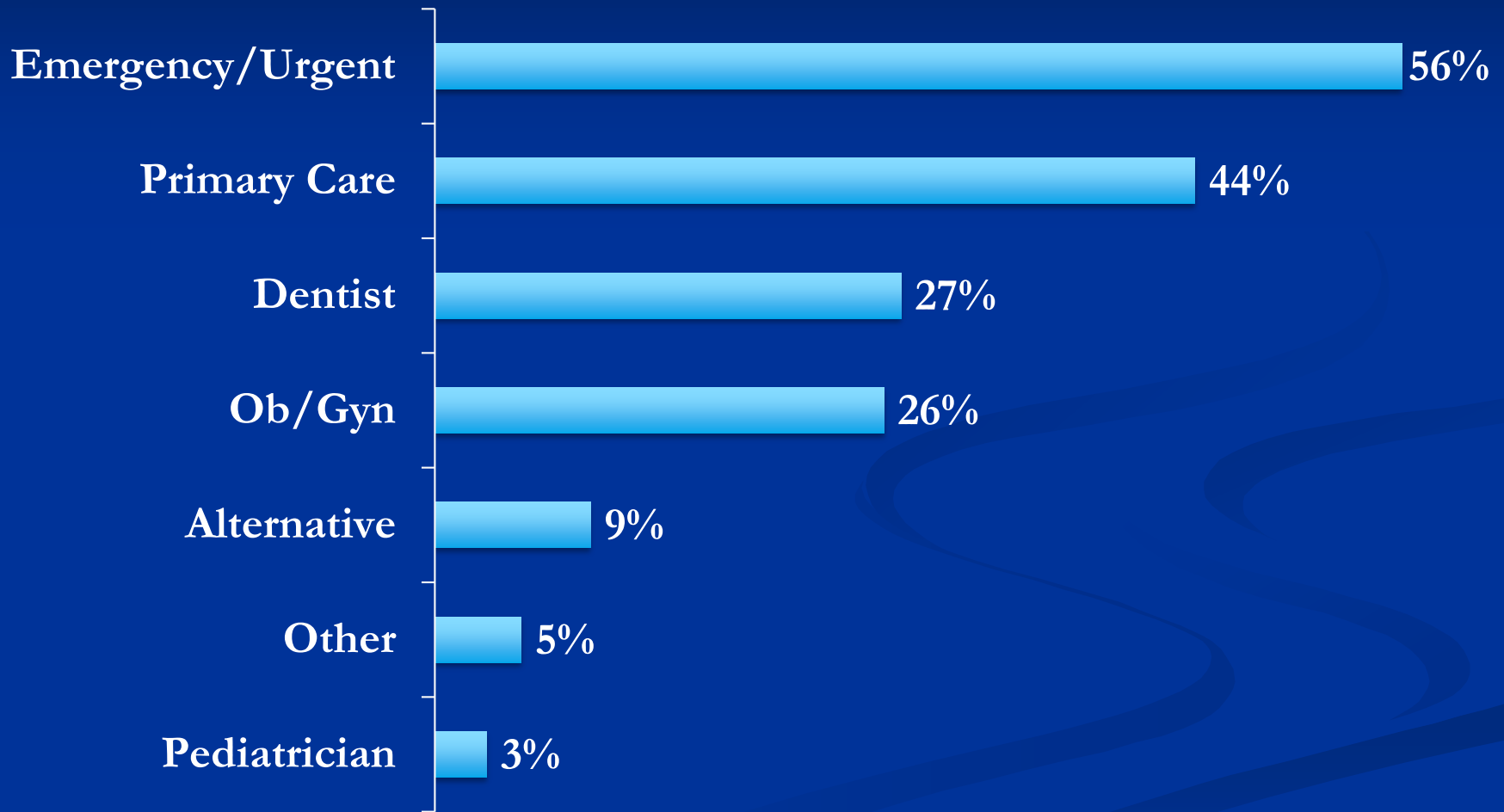
Chisolm-Straker et. al. (2016)

Barriers to identification-

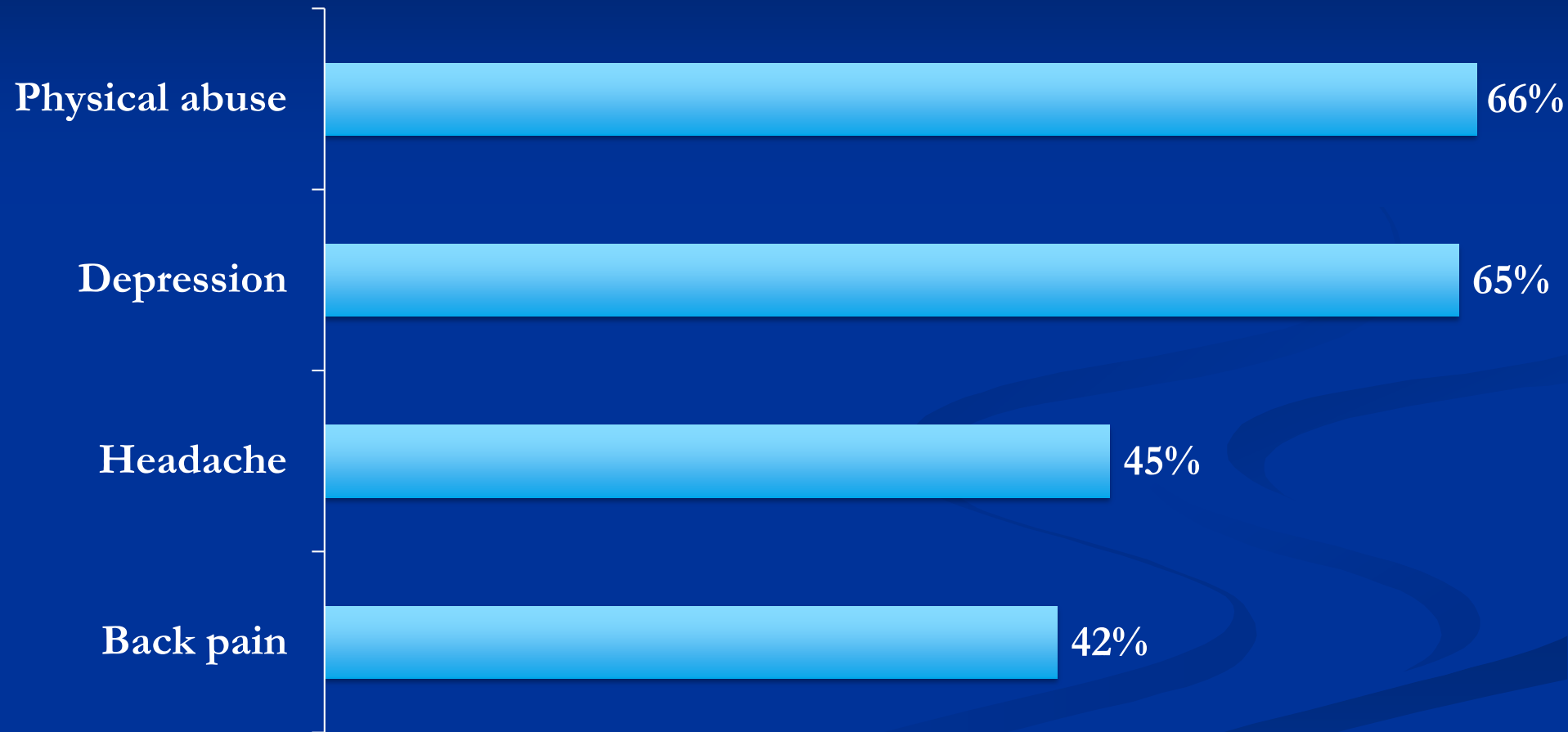
Lack of self-identification



Where victims are seen for healthcare



Presenting complaint- All types of HT victims and healthcare



Physical Health Consequences

- Physical injuries
 - Burns, fractures, cuts, bruises
- STI's/PID
- Unwanted pregnancies
- Unsafe abortions
- Worsening chronic health conditions

Mental Health Consequences

- Depression
- Anxiety
- PTSD
- Suicidal ideation
- Substance abuse

How to Identify and Treat Victims of Trafficking

How might a victim present?



3 Categories of Indicators

- Indicators of control
- Strange Red Flags
- Physical Indicators

Indicators of Control

- Other person with them may claim or actually be their boyfriend, uncle, husband, brother, sister, mom or dad.
- Person controls conversation
 - Corrects the patient
 - Person does not allow the patient to answer questions
- Person doesn't want to leave

Indicators of Control

- Patient may exhibit body language displaying:
 - Fear
 - Anger
 - Anxiety
 - Submission
- Not in control of ID documents
- Not in control of money
- Avoids eye contact

Indicators of Control

- If alone, may exhibit the following:
 - Frequent texting
 - Phone calls during or after exam
 - Appear in a hurry or unwarranted anxiety

Suspicious Red Flags

- Large amount of cash
- Patient doesn't know what city he/she is in
- Patient unable to give address
- Doesn't know how to get home
- Patient appears to be lying about age



Suspicious Red Flags

- Absent official documents
- Access to money and goods inconsistent with age
- Youth not living with parents
- Youth not attending school

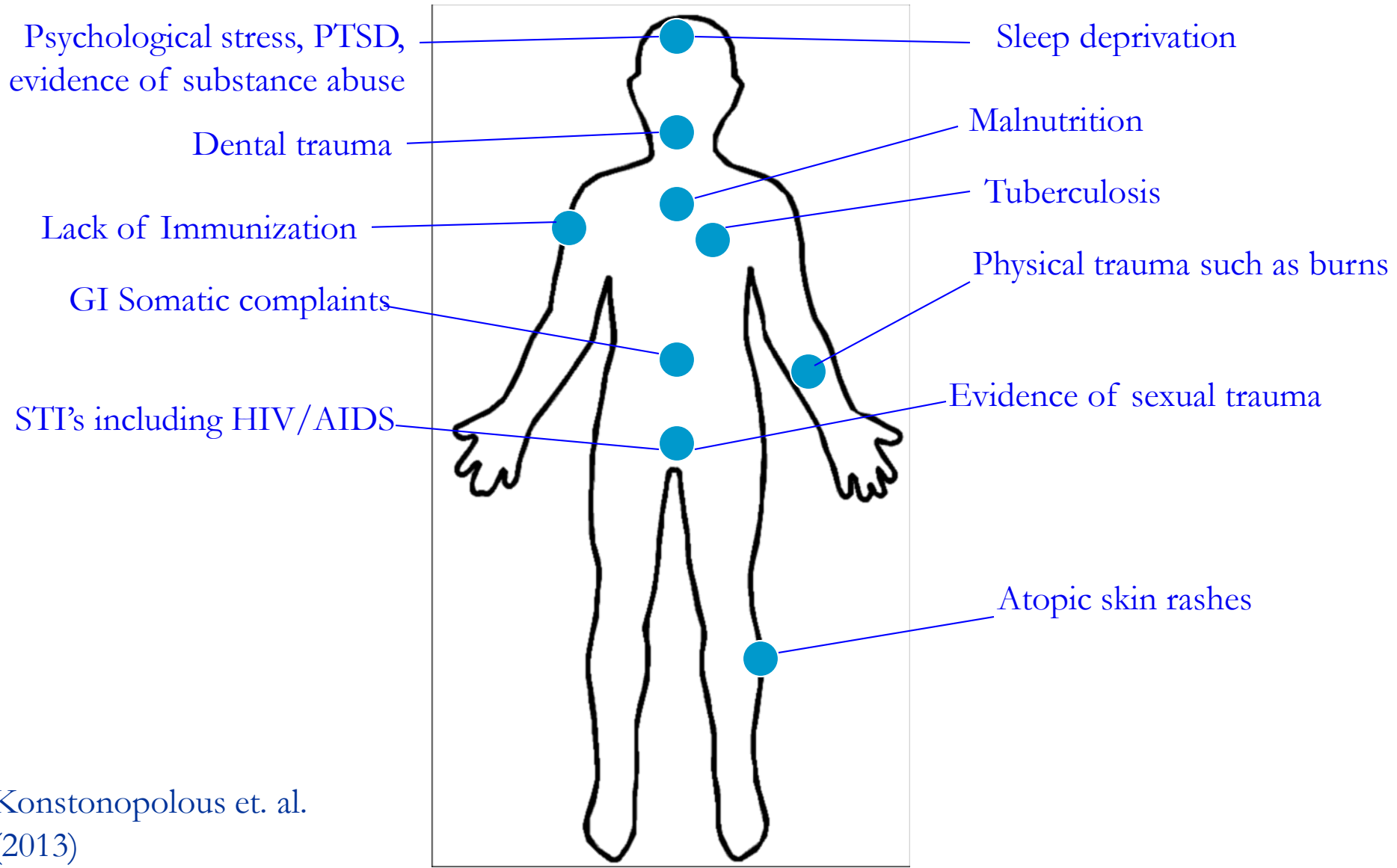


Suspicious Red Flags

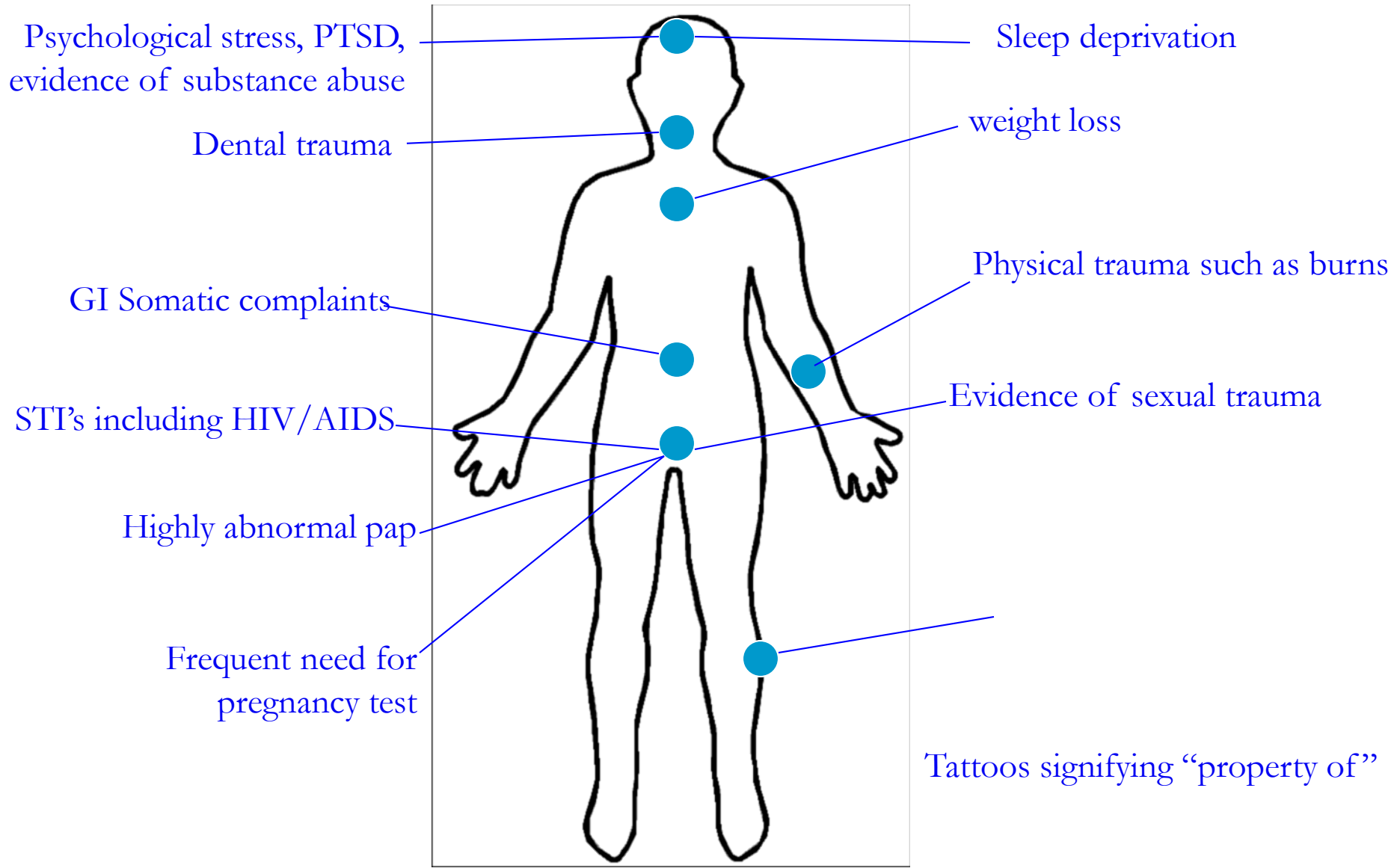
- Patient is a very poor historian
- History keeps changing or inconsistent
- All the pieces do not seem to fit together
- Do you get the feeling you're not getting the whole story
- Late presentation



Physical Indicators- International



Physical Indicators- Domestic



Tattoo's



6 Question Screening Tool for CST

- Is there a previous hx of drug and/or alcohol use?
- Has the youth ever run away from home?
- Has the youth ever been involved with LE?
- Has the youth ever broken a bone, had a traumatic loss of consciousness, or sustained a significant wound?
- Has the youth ever had an STI?
- Does the youth have a hx of > 5 sexual partners?

6 Question Screening Tool for CST

- Screened 203 participants in a pediatric ED
- Found 100 positive screens (2+ positive answers)
- Eventually identified 11 CST victims
 - 10 of the 11 had screened positive
- 91% sensitivity; 53% specificity; 10% PPV; 99% NPV

HHS Human Trafficking Screening Toolkit

Adult Human Trafficking Screening Tool and Guide

A guide for training public health, behavioral health, health care, and social work professionals who wish to use trauma-informed and survivor-informed practices to assess adult clients and patients for human trafficking victimization or risk of potential trafficking victimization.

January 2018

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/otip/adult_human_trafficking_screening_tool_and_guide.pdf

What do you do if you
suspicions increase
after the exam?

To respond properly,
you need to prepare in
advance

PROTOCOL TOOLKIT

for Developing a Response to

Victims of Human Trafficking in Health Care Settings



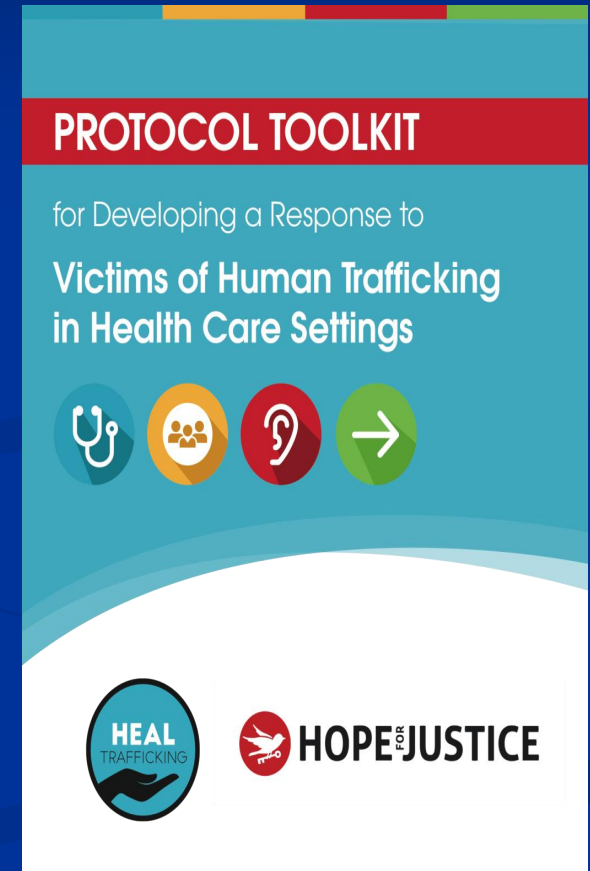
HOPE FOR **JUSTICE**

<https://healtrafficking.org/linkagesresources/protocol-toolkit/>

What if no protocol?

Until a protocol is in place, my recommendations for response are:

- Treat the medical problems
- Do not attempt to intervene
- Report suspected cases to NHTRC
 - 888-3737-888 or text 233733
- Report suspicions of danger to HT trained LE official



Elements of a response protocol

- Local trafficking indicators
- Separation procedures
- Interview procedures
- Forensic examination procedures
- Intervention procedures
- Reporting procedures
- Follow up procedures

Separate the Patient
from the Potential
Trafficker

Clear separation procedure

- When to do the separation
 - With a physical examination
 - With a purported X-ray or UA
- Words to say
- Who is to do the separation
- What to do if the person refuses to leave

Interview procedures

- If the patient is a victim of trafficking, they are probably highly traumatized, requiring:
 - Trauma-informed staff to establish trust
 - Staff to take whatever time possible

GEMS/ECPAT Video

**How to discuss sex trafficking
with a potential victim.**

Trauma Informed Care (TIC)

1. Safety
2. Trustworthiness/transparency
3. Peer support/mutual self-help
4. Collaboration/mutuality
5. Empowerment/voice/choice
6. Cultural/historical/gender issues

Interview procedures

- Trauma-informed personnel to consider:
 - Hospital social worker
 - SANE/SAFE nurse
 - Specially trained trauma nurse
- Provide translation as necessary
 - Use professional interpreters
 - Never use “family” members

Interview procedures

- Sit at eye level
- Make sure immediate needs are met (food, water)
- Maintain eye contact
- Use open ended questions

International Human Trafficking: Questions

- What are your working or living conditions like?
- Where do you sleep and eat?
- Do you have to ask permission to eat, sleep or go to the bathroom?
- Is there a lock on your door or windows so you cannot get out?

International Human Trafficking: Questions

- Can you leave your work or job situation if you want?
- When you are not working, can you come and go as you please?
- Have you been threatened with harm if you try to quit?
- Has anyone threatened your family?

Domestic Human Trafficking: Questions

- Where are you living now and with whom?
- Do you go to school?
- Do you have a boyfriend/girlfriend?
How old?
- Are you sexually active? How many partners in the past 6 months?
- Is anyone pushing you to do something you don't want to do?

Domestic Human Trafficking: Questions

- Have you been asked to have sex with multiple men each night?
- Do you have to meet a quota of money before you can safely return home?
- Has someone forced you to perform sexually before a camera?
- Has anyone taken sexually suggestive photo's of you to post on the Internet?

Terms to Avoid:

- Coercion
- Sex worker
- Prostitution
- Trafficking
- Call girl
- Escort
- Pimp

Strategy for working with minors

- Preparing a minor for mandatory reporting?
- Do you explain the limits of confidentiality when talking with minors?
- What do you do with a minor who refuses intervention?

HIPAA

From 2013 update on HIPAA from HHS:

CFR 164.512 (j)

- (1) Permitted disclosures. A covered entity may, consistent with applicable law and standards of ethical conduct, use or disclose protected health information, if the covered entity, in good faith, believes the use or disclosure:

HIPAA

From 2013 update on HIPAA from HHS:

CFR 164.512 (j)

- (i)(A) Is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the health or safety of a person or the public; and
- (B) Is to a person or persons reasonably able to prevent or lessen the threat, including the target of the threat;

ICD-10: Suspected Trafficking

Under Adult and child abuse, neglect and other maltreatment, suspected

- T76.5 – Forced sexual exploitation, suspected
- T76.51 – Adult forced sexual exploitation, suspected
- T76.52 – Child sexual exploitation, suspected
- T76.6 – Forced labor exploitation, suspected
- T76.61 – Adult forced labor exploitation, suspected
- T76.62 – Child forced labor exploitation, suspected

ICD-10: Confirmed Trafficking

Under Adult and child abuse, neglect and other maltreatment, confirmed

- T74.5 – Forced sexual exploitation, confirmed
- T74.51 – Adult forced sexual exploitation, confirmed
- T74.52 – Child sexual exploitation, confirmed
- T74.6 – Forced labor exploitation, confirmed
- T74.61 – Adult forced labor exploitation, confirmed
- T74.62 – Child forced labor exploitation, confirmed

Z codes for examination of HT victim

Under Encounter for examination and observation for other reasons

- Z04.81 - Encounter for examination and observation of victim following forced sexual exploitation
- Z04.82 - Encounter for examination and observation of victim following forced labor exploitation

Under Problems related to upbringing: Personal history of abuse in childhood

- Z62.813 - Personal history of forced labor or sexual exploitation in childhood

Under Personal risk factors, not elsewhere classified: Personal history of psychological trauma, not elsewhere classified

- Z91.42 - Personal history of forced labor or sexual exploitation

www.cmda.org/tip



Christian Medical & Dental Associations®

Changing Hearts in Healthcare

Members

Member Login

E-mail

Password

LOGIN

Not a member?

Home > Resources > Continuing Education: Human Trafficking > Human Trafficking Co



HUMAN TRAFFICKING

References

- International Labor Organization, Walk Free Foundation.
“Global Estimates of Modern Slavery: Forced Labor and Forced Marriage”. (2017) Available online at:
https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_575479/lang--en/index.htm.
- Williamson C. Perdue T. Belton L. Burns O. Barrows J. Smouse T. et. al. “Domestic Sex Trafficking in Ohio: A Study of Five Ohio Cities”. (2012) Research and Analysis Sub-Committee Report of the Ohio Attorney General’s Commission to Study Human Trafficking.

References

- Anderson, V.R., Kulig, T.C., Sullivan, C.J. “Estimating the Prevalence of Human Trafficking in Ohio, 2014-2016.” (2019) *Am J Public Health*. 109:1396-1399.
- International Labor Organization. “Profits and Poverty: The Economics of Forced Labour.” (2014).
http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_243391.pdf
- Williamson, C., Perdue, T., Belton, L. et. al. “Domestic Sex Trafficking in Ohio: A Study of Five Ohio Cities”. (2012) Research and Analysis Sub-Committee Report of the Ohio Attorney General’s Commission to Study Human Trafficking.

References

- Chisolm-Straker, M., Baldwin, S., Gaigbe-Togbe, B. et. Al. “Health Care and Human Trafficking: We are Seeing the Unseen.” *J Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*. (2016). 27(3):1220-1233.
- Konstantopoulos, W.M., Ahn, R., Alpert AJ. et. al. “An International Comparative Public Health Analysis of Sex Trafficking of Women and Girls in Eight Cities: Achieving a More Effective Health Sector Response”. *J Urban Health: Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine*. (2013) Vol. 90 (6):1194-1204.
- Hemmings et al. “Responding to the health needs of survivors of human trafficking: a systematic review”. *BMC Health Services Research* (2016) 16:320 DOI 10.1186/s12913-016-1538-8

References

- Greenbaum VJ, Dodd M, and McCracken C. “A Short Screening Tool to Identify Victims of Child Sex Trafficking in the Health Care Setting”. *Pediatr Emer Care* (2018) Jan; 34(1):33-37.
- Kaltiso S, Greenbaum J, Agarwal M, et. al. “Evaluation of a Screening Tool for Child Sex Trafficking Among Patients With High-Risk Chief Complaints in a Pediatric Emergency Department.” *Acad Emerg Med* 2018;25:1194-1203.