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# Colleges **A**ligned Against **S**exual **E**xploitation: A Toolkit and Resource Guide

Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation

2010



## Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation

**(CAASE)** is committed to building a global community free from sexual exploitation. We know that all forms of sexual exploitation, including sexual assault and the commercial sex trade, are detrimental to a healthy society and undermine the dignity of all people.

**CAASE** believes in stopping sexual exploitation by directly addressing the culture, institutions, and individuals that perpetrate, profit from, or tacitly support, sexually exploitive acts against people. To accomplish our mission, CAASE: seeks legal repercussions on behalf of survivors against perpetrators of sexual harm; advocates for policies and legislation that hold sexual exploiters accountable; creates and implements prevention initiatives including providing safe spaces for survivors to give testimony about their experiences; and develops resources that empower individuals and communities to stand with victims of sexual harm and take actions against sexual exploiters.

*Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation: Toolkit* is a resource created by the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation (CAASE) for college students to create their own chapter. The toolkit provides background information on issues surrounding prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation both generally and in Chicago, including: pathways to entry, barriers to exiting, and the role that customers and pimps play in maintaining and profiting from the sex trade. This kit has two purposes. The first is to serve as a blueprint for how to start your own chapter. The second is to provide information and activities that can be used to raise awareness *and* mobilize other students to join the fight to end sexual exploitation. Effective activism often begins on college campuses. College students create real impact on social justice issues and can be leaders in the fight to end sexual harm.

This toolkit includes the following resources:

- Background information on sexual exploitation and the trauma it inflicts on the women and children involved.
- A CAASE Charter that outlines the expectations and values of the group.
- Specific steps college students can take to educate their campus communities and help end the exploitation of women and children.
- A calendar of suggested events and campaigns that could be held on campus.
- An evaluation to measure the Chapter's social impact.
- A list of local, national, and international resources.

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# Information on Prostitution

One out of every three teens on the street will be lured toward prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home.

-Chicago Police Department

In the U.S., the average age of entry into prostitution is 12-14 years old.

It surprises people that there's actually a very large number of slaves in the world today—our best estimate is 27 million. And that is defining a slave in a very narrow way; we're not talking about sweatshop workers or people who are just poor, we're talking about people who are controlled by violence, who cannot walk away, who are being held against their will, who are being paid nothing.

—Kevin Bales, President of *Free the Slaves*

**Peace can only last where human rights are respected, where the people are fed, and where individuals and nations are free.**

**Human Beings, indeed all sentient beings, have the right to pursue happiness and live in peace and freedom.—14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama**

## Why the Focus on *Demand* for Paid Sex?

Solving the issue of prostitution is complicated. Individuals involved in the sex trade need a variety of social services and other resources to exit the sex trade safely. Unfortunately, instead of viewing these individuals as victims in need of assistance, society tends to label them as criminals. This leads to a criminal justice response that disproportionately targets those selling sex and not the men who are purchasing or the pimps and traffickers who are profiting. In 2008, nearly two-thirds of prostitution-related arrests in Chicago were of the women and children who were being prostituted, while one-third were of customers, and only about 1 percent were pimps.<sup>1</sup> Although ample research informs us that the customers (or "johns"), pimps, and other traffickers are fueling the sex trade and abusing the women and girls in prostitution, the criminal justice and legal systems continue to target and punish the victims.

**".prostitution is not a victimless crime. It's a terrible life, and a caring society has a responsibility to help these women."**

– Mayor Daley

**This one-sided focus fails to address the root cause of prostitution: the demand to purchase sex.** As long as this demand exists, more vulnerable women and children will be forced, coerced, and manipulated to meet the demand. The equation is simple: eliminate demand, eliminate commercial sexual exploitation.

In Illinois, incarceration rates for felony prostitution (again, just the selling side of the transaction) have increased by nearly 1000 percent since 1995, causing women in prostitution to face further barriers towards rehabilitation since an arrest record makes it more difficult to secure a job or home. **The approximate cost of incarcerating the women is \$9-million-a-year.** The Johns, on the other hand, receive lesser punishments such as car impoundment, fines, and municipal violations, resulting in very little deterrence. Clearly, this \$9-million-a-year<sup>2</sup> strategy is not working.

Prostitution will not end unless we end the demand for it. By shifting the community focus from targeting women in the sex trade to eliminating the demand for paid sex, we believe we will see a real reduction in prostitution and the harms associated with it in our communities and in our city.

## Prostitution in Chicago

**Between 16,000 and 24,000 women and girls are impacted by the sex trade in Chicago every day.<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Data compiled by the Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence for the *Innersystems Assessment* and obtained through the Chicago Police Department.

<sup>2</sup> City of Chicago's estimated cost of arresting, prosecuting and detaining people for prostitution offenses (Sentencing Project 2002), [www.sentencingproject.org](http://www.sentencingproject.org).

<sup>3</sup> C. O'Leary and O. Howard, *The Prostitution of Women and Girls in Metropolitan Chicago: A Preliminary Prevalence Report* (Center for Impact Research, 2001).

## Prostitution is not the oldest profession, but the oldest form of oppression.

— US Department of State, Bureau of Public Affairs, "The Link between Prostitution and Sex Trafficking"

Prostitution is an act of violence which is intrinsically traumatizing.	
<b>Average Age Entering Prostitution</b>	<b>13.5</b>
reported a history of sexual abuse in childhood	85%
reported a history of incest	70%
<b>Percentage That Said Porn Taught Them What Was Expected Of Them</b>	<b>52%</b>
said porn was used to illustrate client demands	80%
said pimps regularly exposed them to porn	30%
<b>Rough Percentage Of Prostitutes Who Were Victims Of Rape</b>	<b>75%</b>
prostituted women who had pimps	90%
prostituted women raped by pimps	85%
Prostituted Women Were Raped 16 Times Yearly By Pimps	
<b>Of 475 Women, Men And Transgender People In Prostitution From 5 Countries (South Africa, Thailand, Turkey, USA, Zambia):</b>	
raped in prostitution	62%
physically assaulted	73%
currently or formerly homeless	72%
Wanted To Escape Prostitution Immediately	92%
<b>Girls And Women In Prostitution Have A Mortality Rate 40 Times Higher Than The National Average</b>	
women in escort prostitution that have attempted suicide	75%
completed suicides of prostituted women of all completed suicides reported by hospitals	15%
Ingredients: Excerpted from the Prostitution Fact Sheet, compiled by Melissa Farley, at the Prostitution Research & Education site, prostitutionresearch.com.	
MR © 2011 Melissa Farley (www.prostitutionresearch.com)	

Many people believe that most people in prostitution are there of their own free will, or choose to do it to earn lots of money. But research conducted both in Chicago and nationwide reveals that a substantial percentage of women in prostitution are homeless, and/or survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, and often start selling sex at a very young age. Many also experience mental health and substance abuse issues that go untreated.

Additionally, these individuals often experience extreme physical violence, sexual harm, and psychological trauma. Research on women working as prostitutes in Chicago shows that approximately 90 percent are physically, sexually, and emotionally abused at the hands of pimps and johns. This abuse results in a myriad of health problems, including sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, migraines, memory problems, sleeplessness, severe depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and eating disorders.

### The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

The overwhelming majority of individuals engaged in prostitution have a history of physical and/or sexual abuse, with estimates ranging from 65 to 90 percent.<sup>4</sup> **Incest has**

**long been considered a form of "boot camp" for prostitution because it teaches its victims to expect and accept abuse, even from the people who claim to love and care for them most.** It also teaches young people how to disassociate their bodies from their minds, and as many women in the sex trade have expressed, being able to disassociate is necessary to survive the trauma of prostitution.

Commercial sexual exploiters in the U.S., commonly referred to as pimps, target particularly vulnerable youth, such as runaway and homeless adolescents (one out of every three teens on the street will be lured toward prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home<sup>5</sup>), and are constantly searching for younger victims, which often bring higher profits. Pimps understand the circumstances and tactics necessary to compel an individual into the sex trade, and seek out the most vulnerable women and girls to physically coerce or emotionally manipulate

<sup>4</sup> M. Farley et al., "Prostitution and Trafficking in Nine Countries: An Update on Violence and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder" in M. Farley, ed., *Prostitution, Trafficking, and Traumatic Stress* (New York: Haworth, 2003), 33-74.

<sup>5</sup> National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, www.missingkids.com.

through false promises, verbal/physical abuse, and threats of harm to the victim and her family.<sup>6</sup>

Nationally, **the average age females enter the sex trade is 12-14.**<sup>7</sup> In Chicago, according to the Center for Impact Research, 35 percent of all women in the sex trade entered before the age of 15.<sup>8</sup> The effects are devastating for these children. Youth in prostitution are seriously affected developmentally, suffering from lack of sleep, malnutrition, loss of appetite and concentration, addiction to drugs, sexually transmitted diseases, and a feeling of intense isolation. Additionally, they are often treated as criminals by law enforcement and judges, even though federal law states that any child under the age of 18 who has performed a commercial sex act is a victim of a severe form of human trafficking.<sup>9</sup>

“He promised me everything and better. Clothes, cars, house, himself. I was just looking for someone to love and love me.”  
—prostitution survivor

## What is Human Trafficking?

Victims of human trafficking are people forced, coerced, or deceived into labor or commercial sex. Labor trafficking is widespread in a variety of work situations that include small-scale businesses like restaurants and cleaning services and domestic workers held in homes, as well as large-scale operations such as farms, factories, sweatshops, and the supply chains of major multinational corporations. Sex trafficking occurs in all sectors of the sex industry, including street prostitution, online escort services, strip clubs, pornography, brothels, and the use of children for commercial sex. Some “mail order brides” become victims of both labor (domestic work) and sex trafficking. Under international law, any child involved in commercial sex is considered a trafficking victim, even if no force or coercion occurs.

In the U.S., a person is a victim of sex trafficking if s/he is being exploited to engage in commercial sex. A person is a victim of a severe form of sex trafficking if:

- S/he is being forced, coerced, or tricked to either work or engage in sex for money, and s/he believes s/he would experience serious harm if s/he tried to leave the situation.

OR

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<sup>6</sup> J. Raphael and J. Ashley, *Domestic Sex Trafficking of Chicago Women and Girls* (Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, DePaul University College of Law, 2003).

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Department of Justice. (2007). *Domestic Sex Trafficking of Minors*. Washington, DC.

<sup>8</sup> Raphael, J. & Shapiro, D. (2002). *Sisters Speak Out: The Lives and Needs of Prostituted Women in Chicago*. Center for Impact Research.

<sup>9</sup> *William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008*, Public Law 110-457, 110<sup>th</sup> Cong. (December 23, 2008), codified at US Code 18 section 1591.

- S/he is under 18 and is having sex for money. (It isn't necessary to prove force or coercion for minors; the law recognizes that children cannot meaningfully consent to sex).

It's important to remember that:

- Anyone can be a victim of human trafficking, including U.S. Citizens, foreign nationals, men, women, adults, and children.
- Trafficking is not smuggling or forced movement. While transportation or movement may be involved in human trafficking, trafficking is simply forced/coerced labor; it doesn't require transportation or movement across borders.
- Trafficking does not require physical abuse, force, or restraint. Often, traffickers use psychological manipulation/abuse, deception, threats of harm, or debt manipulation to control their victims.

### Prostitution vs. Human Trafficking: Similarities and Differences

When we think of a woman in prostitution compared to a victim of sex trafficking, different images come to mind. We tend to blame women in prostitution for their involvement in the sex trade, but view victims of sex trafficking as innocent. Indeed, our response to victims of sex trafficking is almost uniformly sympathetic, while our response to women in prostitution is usually arrest, incarceration, and blame for "getting themselves in that situation". So what is the real difference between sex trafficking, and prostitution?

The William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 defines "severe forms of trafficking in persons" as the following:

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood . . . Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

—United Nations, articles 1 and 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)

- 1) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion or in which the person induced to perform such an act is under 18, or
- 2) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or

obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.<sup>10</sup> Sex trafficking is one form of human trafficking, which includes both exploitation for commercial sex (sex trafficking), and exploitation for other labor (labor trafficking). Pimps use similar tactics to other

**"We're talking about money here. Millions of dollars and these people don't think about these women as human beings. They think of them as dollars and cents. Chicago, Houston, St. Paul, Minnesota—these crimes are happening in every community in America, big and small."**

—Marcie Forman, Director of Investigations for Immigration and Customs Enforcement

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

sex traffickers, including violence, threats of harm, and dishonest recruitment tactics.

Even though an adult in prostitution who entered the sex trade entirely of her or his own volition and does not have a third-party involved is not legally considered a victim of trafficking, it is important to move *beyond* legal definitions to understand the human rights violations experienced by both trafficked and non-trafficked individuals in prostitution.

The sexual and physical violence and psychological harm inherent in prostitution erodes an individual's human dignity, concept of self-worth, and even basic health. This is because prostitution inhibits an individual's ability to live a life free from violence and harm. For example, a study by the Center for Impact Research confirmed that prostituted women in Chicago face a wide array of violence, including physical and sexual assault, as well as high rates of psychological trauma, homelessness, drug addiction, and chronic health problems.<sup>11</sup> The trauma of prostitution creates a startling fact: according to an FBI estimate, a woman's average life expectancy is only seven years after the date of entry into prostitution. **Girls and women in the sex industry also have a mortality rate 40 times higher than the national average<sup>12</sup>.**

Further, when we compare the life circumstances that precede entry into prostitution and sex trafficking, and assess the overall devastation of sex trade involvement, the line between prostitution and trafficking becomes even more blurred. Regardless of whether or not an individual is involved in prostitution as a result of human trafficking or because of limited life opportunities or past abuse, the reality is that the sex trade is incredibly harmful, dangerous and demeaning. It is important to move past legal definitions to understand that prostitution harms everyone involved.

**“We’ve created a legal dichotomy in America in which the federal government views prostituted children as victims, yet most states treat them as criminals. If state laws treated child prostitution more like human trafficking, then state social service agencies would play a more important role in helping this vulnerable population.”**

## Olivia's Story...

Olivia grew up on the south side of Chicago, and to the outside world her childhood seemed like that of any other girl. She would spend time with her friends, create adventures around the neighborhood, and spend hours at a time escaping into worlds of play and creativity. Yet by the age of 16, Olivia had already begun her descent into the world of strip clubs, prostitution, and drug addiction.

Olivia was raised by her mother and father, parents who might have seemed loving and caring to the outside world. Yet in the home, both were struggling with alcohol addiction. Olivia's father was physically abusive to her mother on a regular basis. With alcohol always

<sup>11</sup> Raphael and Shapiro, *Sisters Speak Out*.

<sup>12</sup> Melissa Farley, *The Prostitution Fact Sheet*, prostitutionresearch.com.

present in her house, Olivia became accustomed to a lifestyle of drinking at a very early age. She began to use alcohol when she was only nine years old in order to block out her parents' fights and the abuse in her family. Much of their childhood, Olivia and her siblings were left to care for themselves.

As Olivia got older, her father had health problems which eventually progressed to the point where he could no longer work and support their family. When her father became seriously ill, the family moved into a housing project. At twelve years of age, money was scarce for Olivia's family and Olivia began to earn extra money by helping a family friend, or "uncle", with groceries. Soon this "uncle" became sexually abusive and would reinforce the abuse with money given to Olivia and her sister.

Desperate to escape an abusive family and the hardships of life in the projects, Olivia left her home, following her older sister to Job Corps. Though she was only sixteen, Olivia gravitated towards an older crowd in the program, drinking and partying much of the time. Despite her substance use, in ten months she completed Job Corps with a G.E.D. and a nursing certificate.

Life could have taken a positive turn at this point; Olivia was finally free from an abusive home and the addictions of her parents. But finding work was hard. When finding a job proved challenging, an older friend helped Olivia secure a job as a barmaid on the south side of Chicago. Not long after being hired at the bar, Olivia moved on to more lucrative work through employment at a strip club on Rush Street. When she joined the club, she thought they were actually searching for dancers. It didn't take her long before she realized that authentic dance talent was not what they were searching for. As she began to strip and endure the harassment and degrading comments from patrons, Olivia turned again to using alcohol to cope and numb herself against this reality that had become her life.

**"You kind of desensitize yourself to what is really happening, and you are using more and more alcohol."**

Olivia craved attention when she worked on Rush Street, and would do almost anything to gain the interest of adult patrons—the type of attention that she never got from her parents. While working at the strip club, Olivia began to see that there was more going on than just dancing: "I was very naïve, I had been to dancing school. I thought I was this great dancer...It doesn't take long to see what's going on in the club". The longer she was there, the more she was pressured to perform beyond just the dance floor.

At 17, Olivia walked in on her friend injecting drugs. "I do this because I hurt so bad inside" her friend told her. Always searching for new ways to numb her pain, she injected. Olivia will always remember the intense sense of relief and freedom she felt the first time she injected drugs. She spent the next 18 years chasing that first high. Once Olivia began using heroin, she started turning tricks in the back rooms of the clubs where she was working to support her habit. According to Olivia, when using drugs, she no longer cared about the abuse of "johns" or the verbal cruelty that had become a daily reality within the club's walls. As Olivia's drug habit began to spiral out of control and the tracks on her arms became harder to conceal, she left the club and began an 18 year involvement in prostitution on Rush Street in downtown Chicago. Olivia's drug habit eventually left her homeless, and she became increasingly more dependent on her violent "partner". This "partner" was responsible for collecting the money she made in prostitution, providing shelter, and supporting their collective drug habits. When Olivia didn't make enough money to support their lifestyle, he often violently abused her.

Prostitution transformed Olivia into a shell of the woman she had once been. "I was so tired. I was so totally abused. I was in such bad shape. I felt nothing. I cared about nothing. I was a walking zombie."

The streets could have been the end for Olivia, just as it was the end for many of her friends in prostitution. Luckily, when she got to the point where the only solution was contemplating her own death, Olivia was approached on the street by an outreach worker who had been doing research on women in prostitution.

**“I had become so comfortable with the idea that this is how I was going to die, that I just wanted it to happen and get it over with, because it was so painful.”**

To her own surprise, the next morning Olivia went to meet with the researcher who then referred her to a substance abuse program for her drug addiction. Although it was difficult, Olivia resisted the urge to use and began her journey to recovery.

Olivia's childhood was unstable and she experienced incest, rape, domestic violence, alcohol abuse, and drugs, all of which pushed her towards a life of stripping, prostitution, and alcohol and drug addiction. Thankfully, with resilience and determination, Olivia lives to share her story and to help others overcome similar issues.

## **The Goal Is Not the Legalization of Prostitution; The Focus Should Be on Ending Demand.**

Legalization of prostitution is often touted as a progressive solution to issues associated with the sex trade. However, the experiences of other countries, as well as here in the United States, have shown that legalization does not solve the problems that arise from prostitution and further fails to protect prostituted women and children. Rather than advocate for the legalization of prostitution, activists should acknowledge that legalization merely institutionalizes and legitimizes the abuse of women and children.

- The argument that the legalization of prostitution will protect individuals involved in the sex trade ignores the fact that the vast majority of prostitution in a legalized system still occurs outside the reach of the law. In countries that have legalized prostitution, the illegal sector is estimated to be roughly three times larger than the legal, regulated sector. Therefore, even within this legalized system, the vast majority of prostituted women still face the same dangers as they would in a system where prostitution is illegal.
- Pimps, traffickers, and participants in organized crime do not suddenly become legitimate entrepreneurs simply because prostitution has been legalized. Rather than comply with regulations like workers' rights, minimum wages, safety and health screenings, and tax laws, these exploiters merely find it more profitable to continue selling sex outside the legal system. The only difference is that legalization now provides them with a legitimate pretense for their actions.
- As shown in places like Amsterdam and certain counties of Nevada, legalizing prostitution usually results in an increase in demand, as buying sex in these places is seen as a normal and encouraged activity. Tragically, this rise in demand then fuels an increase in human trafficking. To meet the new demand, pimps and traffickers force and coerce more women and girls into prostitution. Reports from countries that have legalized prostitution, such as the Netherlands and Germany, have shown dramatic increases in the number of sex trafficking victims, especially child victims, into those countries.
- The experience of the most notorious location for legalized prostitution — Amsterdam — has shown that legalization does not provide the protection supporters often claim it does. Recorded telephone conversations between pimps and traffickers have revealed that they believe the legality of prostitution in the Netherlands makes it an ideal market in which to operate. One study estimated that up to 80 percent of women working in legal brothels

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in the Netherlands are actually victims of human trafficking. The government of Amsterdam has decided to shut down nearly a third of the infamous windows in the red-light district because it fears they are being used by organized crime cartels as destinations for human trafficking victims. In one study done in the Netherlands, only three percent of individuals involved in prostitution stated that they believed that legalization was a good thing.

- Legalizing prostitution in Nevada has done little to protect the human rights of prostituted women and children. According to the FBI, Nevada is one of the main destinations for child trafficking in the country. The bus depot in Las Vegas has become notorious for pimps and traffickers who prowl it looking for homeless and runaway youth to recruit into prostitution.
- The violence that women experience in the sex trade does not simply disappear when prostitution becomes legal. Many studies have shown that women are regularly beaten and raped in Nevada's legal brothels, and according to one study, 81 percent of the women that work there desperately want to escape prostitution.
- Arguments stating that individuals involved in the sex trade would prefer to work in a regulated environment are negated by the fact that very few of the women in legalized prostitution actually register with the government or join unions. For instance, membership in official "Sex Workers' Unions" remains very low. In Germany it is around four percent. Though the stigma of buying sex is lessened when prostitution is legalized, the stigma of selling it is not. Evidence shows that women are not eager to self identify as prostitutes and tend to avoid official registrations, even when registering comes with substantial incentives such as retirement benefits. Many individuals involved in the sex trade have stated that they would prefer help exiting prostitution rather than having their names on an official list of "whores."
- Legalization is often cited as a way to ensure better health standards for individuals in the sex trade. But this concern for health is one-sided. Although prostituted women are regularly screened for sexually transmitted diseases, their customers never undergo similar checks. Since either party can transmit STIs, the claim of "better health" applies to only those who are purchasing, not to the women who are selling.
- Legalizing prostitution sends the message that it is acceptable to objectify women. A society that accepts that a woman can be reduced to a purchasable object to provide sexual gratification sends a very strong message to all women and young girls: "Your sexuality is for sale." In places with zones where sex is legally sold, women who are not involved in prostitution, but who live in those areas, experience frequent street harassment and solicitation since the men cruising there tend to view all women in the neighborhood as "for sale."
- Being exposed to legalized prostitution sends a strong message to children - boys and girls alike - about the worth of women and a man's entitlement to sex. One purchaser of sex in a study done by the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation observed, "Kids are impressionable. They see [women in prostitution], and it's how they begin to look at all women." Legalized prostitution may also impact young women's sense of self and sexual boundaries. For example, a 13-year-old girl trying to work out her sexual boundaries could be affected

considerably by the knowledge that the boys in her life can purchase any sex act that she refuses to perform. These types of pressures can have serious implications for youth living in areas with legalized prostitution.

**The campaigns and events your group organizes should highlight the fact that fighting the demand side of the sex trade is the only proven way to reduce prostitution and the harm suffered by prostituted women and girls.**

- The argument that focusing on fighting demand endangers prostituted women assumes that prostitution, as it currently exists, is somewhat safe. Prostitution already occurs in illegal venues and hidden places, and it is violent and extremely harmful. Research nationwide has consistently found that there is no such thing as “safe work” in the sex trade. Physical and psychological harm occurs at similar rates irrespective regardless of where the sex act is being sold. Focusing on demand helps identify perpetrators and reduce violence, not increase it.
- Fighting demand is one of the only strategies proven to reduce the number of women and girls involved in prostitution. Reducing the number of participants is the surest way to decrease the number of at-risk women and girls and the violence and harm that they suffer.
- Prostitution is not legal, and focusing on demand does not change that dynamic. It simply shifts the attention of law enforcement from criminalizing the exploited women and children to a more appropriate and effective goal- stopping the perpetrators of this exploitation and harm.

**Prostitution/trafficking/pornography systematically discriminate against women, against the young, against the poor and against ethnically subordinated groups. Specific acts commonly perpetrated against women in prostitution and pornography are the same as the acts defining what torture is: verbal sexual harassment, forced nudity, rape, sexual mocking, physical sexual harassment such as groping, and not permitting basic hygiene. The psychological consequences of these acts are the same whether it is named state-sponsored torture or prostitution.**

—Melissa Farley, Director of Prostitution Research and Education

Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), commonly occurs among prostituted people, and is indicative of their extreme emotional distress. PTSD is characterized by anxiety, depression, insomnia, irritability, flashbacks, emotional numbing, and hyper alertness. In nine countries, we found that sixty-eight percent of those in prostitution met criteria for a diagnosis of PTSD, a prevalence that was comparable to battered women seeking shelter, rape survivors seeking treatment, and survivors of state-sponsored torture. Across widely varying cultures on five continents, the traumatic consequences of prostitution were similar.

—Melissa Farley, Director of Prostitution Research and Education

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# Introduction to **C**olleges **A**ligned **A**gainst **S**exual **E**xploitation

## How College Students Can Help

Student groups on college campuses who focus on issues of social justice are rooted in the concepts of compassion and activism. These overarching values form the foundation for students' leadership roles in human rights efforts throughout the world. With a long history of striving to make the world a better place, campus communities can play a key role in the fight to end human trafficking and sexual exploitation. This toolkit can be a catalyst for activism on college campuses.

Prostitution and human trafficking are human rights violations that occur in communities all over the world, including throughout the United States. As long as people remain unaware of the root cause and extent of sexual exploitation, the trauma experienced by victims will continue. College students can be a vehicle for both raising awareness and advocating on behalf of the victims of sexual exploitation.

This toolkit focuses specifically on the importance of ending *the demand* for paid sex. While this is just one piece of a complicated puzzle, it is the piece that is most commonly overlooked. Providing prostituted individuals with social services and other resources is vital for helping them exit prostitution, but as long as demand exists, vulnerable individuals will continue to be recruited and coerced into the sex trade. Purchasing sex is never justified, and only serves to support an industry that profits from sexual exploitation and harm. That is why we are reaching out to you to help us **end demand**.

We hope that you will use this toolkit to educate other students about the harms of human trafficking and sexual exploitation and work with your campus communities to take action toward change. If you have any questions or suggestions about ways that we can improve the content of this kit, please contact the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation at: [info@caase.org](mailto:info@caase.org)

**Prostitution is the driving force behind sex trafficking. The demand fuels the industry. The U.S. must address the demand side of the equation if there is going to be success in combating the problem.**

—Janice Crouse, Author

**We are asking people to understand that slavery still exists today; in fact, according to a recent New York Times article, if you count the number of women and children in bonded labor, domestic slavery or sexual slavery today, there are more slaves in the world than at any other time in history.**

—Charlotte Bunch, American Founder of the Center for Women's Global Leadership

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# **CAASE** Charter for Campus Groups

## CHARTER FOR CAASE CAMPUS AFFILIATES

As an Affiliate, the campus organization agrees to abide by the following principles and standards:

- Equality, non-discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, race, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, religion, ethnicity, age, marital status, national origin, or disability.
- Non-violence and the elimination of violence against women.
- Dedication to the end of sexual exploitation, sex trafficking, and prostitution.

The Purpose of the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation Campus Affiliate is:

- To act as a non-profit, non-sectarian, non-partisan, voluntary organization affiliated with the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation.
- To establish a constituency to work in pursuit of the elimination of sexual exploitation.
- To study and take action on international, national, state, local, and campus issues related to sexual exploitation.
- To educate the campus community about issues regarding sexual exploitation.

The Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation Campus Affiliate will be responsible for:

- Designating a committee, officer, or member to communicate over phone and/or email regularly with the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation liaison, including but not limited to updates at the beginning and end of each semester.
- Planning at least one event from the Calendar of Suggested Events each semester.
- Hosting at least one fundraiser per academic year for the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation.

The Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation will provide the Affiliate with:

- Access to countless resources designed to educate people about sexual exploitation.
- Use of the name Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation. The group will be considered officially affiliated with CAASE when it has submitted a signed copy of this Affiliate form, along with a copy of its current constitution. CAASE will then send the group a certificate of affiliation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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## **Suggested Constitution for Student Groups**

### CONSTITUTION OF Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation

#### **Preamble**

We, the members of Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation do hereby establish this Constitution on X Y, (Year) in order that our purposes (as set forth in Article II) are realized to their fullest extent.

#### **Article I. Name**

The name of the organization will be Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation.

#### **Article II. Purpose**

1. We, the members of Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation, seek to raise awareness at our School and within the campus community about sexual exploitation and to coordinate efforts to end sexual harm. To achieve this awareness and education, Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation shall pursue the following missions:

- a. To promote action to stop sexual exploitation.
- b. To raise awareness about sexual exploitation within the campus community and beyond.
- c. To serve as a public forum where people concerned about issue of sexual exploitation can exchange ideas and experiences.
- d. To raise the awareness of and teach leadership skills to the anti-sexual exploitation leaders of tomorrow.
- e. To foster dialogue and collaboration with other socialjustice-oriented campus groups.
- f. To work with anti-sexual exploitation student groups on other college campuses.

2. Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation seeks to draw on the expertise and resources of outside organizations but shall not enter into a formal affiliation with any outside organization besides the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation.

3. Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation understands and is committed to fulfilling its responsibilities of abiding by their college or university's policies.

#### **Article III. Membership**

1. Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation openly admits all students to its membership and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, gender, race, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, religion, ethnicity, age, marital status, national origin, size, or disability.

2. Voting membership shall be limited to persons officially connected with the University as enrolled students, irrespective if they are full-time, part-time or correspondings. In addition, the following requirements are necessary to qualify as a voting member:

- a. The member has been in the group and has attended meetings for atleast one semester.
- b. The member is in good academic and judicial standing with the University.

- c. The member participated actively in at least 75% of all activities sponsored by Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation, unless the activity interfered with prior commitments.

#### **Article IV. Officers**

1. Officers of Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation will be governed by an elected Board, who are responsible for attending all meetings and events unless it conflicts with a class, job, or other engagement that the rest of the Board deems excusable. The Board shall consist of the following positions:

- a. President – will be the point of contact for the college or university. The President will serve an administrative role but will not have decision-making authority greater than any other member of the Board. The President will be responsible for sending out listserv emails, creating meeting agendas, leading the meetings, following the agenda, and holding votes during Board meetings and general meetings for all decisions.
- b. Treasurer - will handle all financial accounts and expenditures. The treasurer will ensure that any fundraising proceeds are delivered to the organization or charity of the group's choice, (including the proceeds from one fundraiser per academic year that must be sent to the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation as set forth in Article VI).
- c. Secretary – will keep a list of active and voting members, take minutes at all meetings, and create a contact list of all members. The Secretary will also be in charge of organizing volunteer shifts for any activities or events of Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation.
- d. Public Relations Coordinator – will promote all activities of Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation to the campus and community. The PR Coordinator will send press releases to the college or university newspapers as well as local media outlets when appropriate.
- e. Activities Coordinator- will search for guest speakers and hosts for pannels, other events to possibly co-sponsor, and volunteer activities. The Activities Coordinator will bring these ideas to meetings to be voted on by other group members.
- f. Liaison to University Groups – will be responsible for both helping group members find an appropriate faculty advisor (when needed) and for maintaining relations with other anti-trafficking student groups at other universities. The Liaison will be responsible for reaching out to different universities to provide them with a Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation toolkit, inviting them to the Student Conference, and maintaining a year-round relationship.

#### **Article V. Operations**

##### 1. Voting Eligibility

Those members meeting all requirements of active membership (as set forth in Article III) by April 15th will be eligible to vote.

##### 2. Election Process

- a. All officers shall be elected by a majority vote of eligible voting members of Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation. Elections will be held on an annual basis each academic year, at a meeting comprised of a quorum (50% + 1) of Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation members.
- b. The President will take nominations from the floor. In order to be added to the ballot, each nomination must be seconded. The process is then closed and voting will take

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place. The nominated parties will be allowed to vote if they are eligible voting members.

- c. If there are members running for different offices, the voting members will vote on the positions in order listed in Article IV.
- d. All voting shall be by secret ballot to be collected and tabulated by the Secretary of Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation.
- e. Newly elected officers will assume office at the beginning of the next academic year.

### 3. Removal

Any officer of Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation who violates the Organization's purpose, constitution, or fails to fulfill duties as set forth in Article IV may be removed from office by the following process:

- a. A written request by at least three members of the organization.
- b. Written notification to the officer of the request, asking the officer to be present at the next meeting prepared to speak in their own defense.
- c. Written notification to the membership of the issue.
- d. 75% of the voting membership must be in attendance to vote on removal of an officer. A two-thirds (2/3) majority is necessary to remove the officer.

### 4. Replacement

Should an officer resign or be removed, a special election will be held one week after written notification to all voting members. Mid-term elections shall be conducted as specified in Article IV, Section 2.

### 5. Meetings

All meetings will occur on a weekly basis or other regular basis and at a time and place designated by members at a time selected by Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation.

## **Article VI. Finances**

Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation will finance its activities by requesting money from the student government body of the school or through hosting fundraisers. It is requested that proceeds from one of the groups fundraisers are sent to the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation. Proceeds from all other events can be sent to the organization or charity of the members' choice, to be voted upon at meetings by all eligible members.

## **Article VII. Amendments**

- 1. Amendments to the constitution may be proposed in writing by any voting members of Colleges Aligned Against Sexual Exploitation at any meeting at which 2/3 of the voting members are present.
- 2. Proposed amendments will be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the organization.
- 3. Proposed amendments will become effective following approval of two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of voting members.

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# Take Action

**Likewise, for those of us who are in position to do something to combat human slavery, however small our contribution, neutrality is a sin.**

—Inspector General Joseph E. Schmitz, Department of Defense

Some words hide the truth. Just as torture can be named enhanced interrogation, and logging of old-growth forests is named the Healthy Forest Initiative, words that lie about prostitution leave people confused about the nature of prostitution and trafficking. The words 'sex work' make the harms of prostitution invisible.

—Melissa Farley, Director of Prostitution Research and Education

This section provides tangible actions individuals and groups can take to counter the harm of prostitution and human trafficking. We hope these suggestions will help individuals feel empowered to take action and improve the world for all of us. Any of these activities can be incorporated into the suggestions we provide for monthly activities.

**Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.**  
—Martin Luther King Jr.

- **Learn more about the issue** – There are many films and books about human trafficking and prostitution. Expand your personal knowledge about these issues by checking out any of our recommended resources (listed below), as well as a more comprehensive lists available at: [www.caase.org](http://www.caase.org), or facilitate a book club or film screening for a group of friends or your campus community. Develop action steps based on what you learned from these resources. Reach out to groups on campus and engage them in your activities.
- **Add a personal dimension** – Sometimes we feel so removed from an issue that we cannot imagine that it is happening in our communities. As a campus group, you can help raise awareness about sexual exploitation by hosting an “educational hour” and where a prostitution survivor or expert on sexual exploitation to share his or her experiences and expertise with your group. This is a great opportunity to create dialogue on these important issues. If you are interested in having someone speak to your community, please contact Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation at [info@caase.org](mailto:info@caase.org).
- **Ask professors to address the issue in class or host a panel** – Raise awareness about sexual exploitation on your campus by addressing the issue in an academic context.
- **Build a relationship with your local elected officials** – Help your representatives understand how important it is not to revictimize women in their community. Advocate for policies that targeting those causing the harm—pimps, traffickers, and customers—instead of revictimizing prostituted individuals. Most political leaders allot one day per week to meet with their constituents. Call ahead to confirm times and schedule a meeting to introduce yourself and your group and offer your recommendations.
- **Contact your legislators** – Your voice counts! Keep abreast of relevant legislation and support initiatives that provide resources to women and hold perpetrators accountable. An easy way for you and your campus group to voice your opinions and make an impact on this issue is to write, call, or meet your local legislator. Each US legislator has a DC office and a local office. You can find your local and national representatives at <http://capwiz.com/cfw/state/main/?state=IL&view=myofficials#0>.
- **Talk with community members who are government and law enforcement officials** – Set up a meeting to discuss the reality of human trafficking and the efforts of anti-trafficking organizations working on the issue. Connect them with ways to get involved in the work of these organizations.
- **Serve fair trade coffee or have traffic-free chocolate parties** – Buy fair trade and traffic-free chocolate and coffee and use them as an entry point for conversations with campus community members and friends about human trafficking, both domestic and abroad. Use fair trade coffee at functions on campus and encourage other campus groups to do the same.

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- **Volunteer** – Partner with organizations that are working to end sexual exploitation. Many organizations/coalitions are looking for individuals to help support their goals through volunteer time, collaborative community efforts, and donations. Work with the members of your campus community to identify their skill sets and how they can contribute to the missions of potential partnering organizations. Areas of need are medical care, translation, job placement, housing, legal services, and mentoring. Your campus community can also help by organizing a clothing, blanket, and/or food drive. Chicago-based organizations working to end sexual exploitation can be found in the Resources section of this kit. If you need assistance finding an organization that matches your volunteer strategy, please contact CAASE.

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# Calendar of Suggested Events

The following events are suggestions only, and should be tailored to each group's campus community. Suggestions made for the summer months are provided if group members plan to be on campus during that time, and want to maintain active.

## **JANUARY**

**International Quality of Life Month:** Host an event focusing on poverty, violence, and the impact of substance addiction experienced by prostituted and trafficked women and children.

**Women's Self Empowerment Week (4-10)** – Events or campaigns run this week can contrast the concept of self-empowerment and the constrictions impacting the lives of exploited women and children. Ideas include self-defense classes, reading a book from a survivor's perspective, and film screenings.

**National Day to End Human Trafficking/Commemorate Slavery (11)** - On this day, organizations around the country hold events to raise awareness about human trafficking and take action against human trafficking. Host an event or join an event planned by another organization to commemorate this day.

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day** – Plan an event to show the connection between sexual exploitation and institutionalized racism, systemic injustice, and the continuing need for equal rights and opportunities. Invite a survivor of prostitution to speak at your campus or hold discussion groups about the role that modern-day racism and inequality play in perpetuating the sexual exploitation of vulnerable individuals.

**Host a film screening.** A film recommendation for this month is "Cargo: Innocence Lost," A compelling documentary, this film includes interviews from the nation's leading authorities on trafficking of youth and offers narratives from victims of modern day slavery themselves (75 min).

### **Discussion Points for the Documentary "Cargo: Innocence Lost"**

- 1- What are some signs you learned in the film to identify a pimp's manipulation and coercion?
- 2- What would an environment look like that respects vulnerable youth rather than treat them like, as the film says, "throwaways"?
- 3- After viewing the coercive chart, how do you think these behaviors impact the psychological wellbeing of trafficked women and girls?

**Host a book club.** A book recommendation for this month is "A Piece of Cake," by Cupcake Brown. Crown Publishers, 2006. Cupcake's story encompasses foster care, child abuse, rape, drug dealing and addiction, alcoholism, gang activity, prostitution, and homelessness. In this original narrative, she describes overcoming these obstacles with the help of friends and strangers.

### **Discussion Points for the Book "Piece of Cake"**

- 1- What impact do you think the sudden death of her mother and being uprooted into a violent foster home has on Cupcake's decision to enter prostitution?
- 2- What does Vette's description of Pete assaulting her tell you about her state of mind (27-29)? Why does Diane allow Pete to repeatedly assault Vette?
- 3- Why do you think the psychiatrist didn't believe Vette's story about the abuse she was receiving in her foster home with Diane(68)? Why does she stop telling the police and other adults about the physical and sexual abuse, does this limit her view and force her into prostitution?
- 4- How did you react to Vette's pregnancy, and the how the other foster children beat her ending it (84-89)?
- 5- What are your first impressions of the guys Cupcake meets at her Aunt Becky's (98)? Does your impression of them change? Why or why not?
- 6- Does Cupcake's time in foster care make her susceptible to finding a gang alluring? Does it put her at a higher risk of wanting to join a gang?
- 7- Did Cupcake's faith, when she pleads with God after being shot, surprise you (137)? What does this tell you about her resilience and strength?
- 8- Cupcake sometimes denies a drug and alcohol problem (201). What do you think causes her changing interpretation of her addiction?
- 9- Ken is different from Cupcake's other bosses. What do you think drives his desire to help her (335)?
- 10- Did Cupcake's rapport with professors at SDSU surprise you? Why or why not?

## **FEBRUARY**

**Black History Month** –Events or campaigns this month should focus on the role that racism can play in the perpetuation of sexual exploitation (for example: police disproportionately target individuals of color who are in the sex trade, men who purchase sex sometimes making decisions on who to purchase based on racist beliefs, or the role of racism in limiting people's opportunities which can lead to sex trade involvement.)

**Abraham Lincoln's Birthday (12)** Host a panel on the topic of Modern Day Slavery, discuss what can be learned from abolitionists of the past and present.

**Valentine's Day (14)** Hold a workshop recontextualising about what it means to enter relationships when full options and consent are available.

**Host a film screening.** A film recommendation for this month is "Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes". This film provides a riveting examination of manhood, sexism, and homophobia in hip-hop culture. Director Byron Hurt, former star college quarterback, longtime hip-hop fan, and gender violence prevention educator, conceived the documentary as a "loving critique" of a number of disturbing trends in the world of rap music. He pays tribute to hip-hop while challenging the rap music industry to take responsibility for glamorizing destructive, deeply conservative stereotypes of manhood (56 min).

### **Discussion Points for the Documentary "Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes"**

- 1- Who do you believe is to blame for hip-hop's negative portrayal of women: musicians, the music industry, consumers, or all of the above?
- 2- How does hip hop define gender roles and how do these roles constrict both men and women ?
- 3- How does listening to Hip-Hop and buying into the Hip Hop lifestyle normalize sex trade patronage?

**Host a book club.** A book recommendation for this month is "Listening to Olivia", by Jody Raphael. Northeastern University Press, 2004. Raphael gives voice to a woman formerly in prostitution and stripping in Chicago, Olivia, who suffered from drug addiction, abuse, and poverty. Olivia overcame her obstacles and now works to help women exit the sex trade and leave behind a life of shame and harm.

### **Discussion Points for the Book "Listening to Olivia"**

- 1- Olivia does not identify her actions as prostitution, for example on page 17, why do you think this is?
- 2- Olivia says that you must have some kind of void to be lured to work in strip clubs, however she also mentions how persuasive the advertisements are, do you think these messages can be just as powerful (41-42)?
- 3- Do you think Tom Leykis' idea of a ratio is common among men (46-47)? Why or why not?
- 4- Did you agree with the comparison made on page 56 between domestic violence and working in the club?
- 5- Elisabeth Eaves discusses her "edge", the farthest she would exploit herself as a stripper, on pages 69-70. Why did she stop when so many women can't?
- 6- Olivia's substance abuse escalates from alcohol to heroin (75). Do you think increasing substance use is common among exotic dancers? Why or why not?
- 7- Of the experiences Olivia describes as part of her transition to street prostitution, which stood out to you as most influential to her entry into prostitution(91-111)?
- 8- On page 127 Olivia describes the power differential that exists in prostitution. Do you think this view is common among prostituted women? Why or why not? What about with johns?
- 9- Olivia experienced the harm of prostitution and survived, what challenges did she face exiting the sex trade and during recovery?
- 10- In chapter 10, Raphael discusses possible approaches to ensuring women and girls do not become victims of the sex industry. What are the merits and drawbacks to possible solutions?

## **MARCH**

**National Women's History Month** – An event could discuss the work of Harriet Tubman in fighting slavery, connecting her story with a call to action for members of the campus community to fight modern day slavery. This could include a panel of guest speakers, a poster campaign, and a campus demonstration.

**International Women's Day (8)** – Host a film screenings that raises awareness about sexual exploitation worldwide.

**Host a film screening.** A film recommendation for this month is "Turning a Corner," This documentary tells the stories of those affected by the sex trade in Chicago and examines efforts to implement policy reforms necessary to end the harm experienced by those in prostitution (60 min).

### **Discussion Points for the Documentary "Turning a Corner"**

- 1- What similar life experiences did the women in the film share, which of these similar experiences impacted their entry into the sex trade and how does this impact your idea of "choice"?
- 2- What insight is provided by the women who share their stories in the film to those who are ignorant about prostitution?
- 3- Looking at the activism of the women in the film who have exited the sex trade, what impact does the role of the survivor have in providing effective activism to end demand?

**Host a book club.** A book recommendation this month is "Ordeal", by Linda Lovelace. Citadel Press, 2006. Lovelace became a household name in 1972, when "Deep Throat" became the first pornographic movie ever to cross over to mainstream audiences. Despite being the face that launched the film's phenomenal success, behind the scenes Linda was suffering unspeakable torture and abuse at the hands of her husband, Chuck Traynor. A harrowing tale of the pursuit of happiness and the will to survive amid years of horrific abuse, "Ordeal" reveals the dark reality behind "Deep Throat", and its star's tragic, yet ultimately triumphant, life.

### **Discussion Points for the Book "Ordeal"**

- 1- How does Linda's mother's behavior influence her decision to live with Chuck? Does her mother's actions set the stage for Chuck to later exert coercion and control over Linda? If yes, how so, if no, why not?
- 2- How does the gang rape that Linda experiences make her more vulnerable to entering prostitution and in general to entering situations that she is uncomfortable with?
- 3- Linda mentions throughout the book how she wanted to get away, particularly when the abuse first begins, but that she felt she could not. What are some reasons you believe both Linda and other women in prostitution or sexually exploitive situations might stay with their pimp despite continued abuse?
- 4- Linda is forced to perform sexual acts on others and Barbara feels obligated to perform sexual acts with others to keep her husband happy (pg 90) is this type of exploitation similar? Do you empathize with both women equally, why or why not?
- 5- On pg 111 Linda's life is threatened if she does not make a pornographic movie, what was your reaction to the scenario? Do you think she had alternative options?
- 6- How did you react to how little Chuck gets paid for Linda making *Deep Throat* (\$1,200) compared to how much money the producers eventually made (millions)? Did this change your perception of the pornography industry seeing how power dynamics vary financially?
- 7- Linda mentions that Chuck never beats the women he is prostituting the same way he does her, even when they talk back to him or tell him no. Why do you think this is?
- 8- How is Hugh Hefner similar to Chuck? How is he different? Are you more likely to judge Chuck or Hefner harshly, why or why not?
- 9- Even with fame Linda was still a slave to Chuck, what are the circumstances that allowed this happens?
- 10- Why is *Deep Throat* so widely circulated and celebrated but Linda's story of abuse and exploitation is not heard?

## **APRIL**

**National Child Abuse Awareness Month** – The sexual exploitation of children is child abuse. Poster campaigns and film screenings that heighten visibility of this issue can be used this month in educating the campus community about how the sexual abuse of children is sexual exploitation, and how prostituted individuals experience extremely high rates of childhood sexual abuse.

**Sexual Assault Awareness Month** – *Take Back the Night* is an event that is hosted in cities across the country. Sexual exploitation is often ignored at this event. Your group could find tactful ways of including the issues of sexual exploitation, such as providing informational handouts at the event or having a speaker or survivor of prostitution at the event.

**Consumer Awareness Week (19-24)** – Remind the campus community that sex is not a commodity to be bought and sold. Sex trafficking and exploitation is a violation of human rights, and it is the responsibility of the consumer to refuse to purchase sex.

**Host a film screening.** A film recommendation this month is “Bangkok Girl”. Nineteen-year-old Pla tells of her experience trying to avoid prostitution while working in a bar in Thailand since the age of 13 (42 min).

### **Discussion Points for the film “Bangkok Girl”**

- 1- Prostitution in developing countries is often defended as a means of survival in an economically devastated environment. Do you still think this argument is valid after learning that the Thai bars which attract sex tourists are mainly owned, operated, and staffed by Western European and US ex-patriots?
- 2- What was your reaction to hearing that Pla sold herself to pay for an operation for her friend? Were you surprised or not surprised by her compassion as a person despite the numbing environment she is subjected to daily?
- 3- What signs were you able to identify that showed Pla's smile was a coping mechanism to deal with the realities of life working as a prostitute in Thai bars? What other options did Pla have and what other choices could she have made instead of working as a prostitute?

**Host a book club.** A book recommendation this month is “Caught in the Web,” by Julian Sher. Da Capo Press, 2007. Sher reports the story of police officers, prosecutors, and high-tech analysts worldwide who, using undercover work and computer forensics, are combatting child abuse on the Internet and fighting to protect these young victims. Interviews and rescue accounts are described.

### **Discussion Points for the Book “Caught in the Web”**

- 1- Do you believe pedophilia is caused by nature, nurture, or both?
- 2- Chapter 2 of the book discusses the approach taken by authorities to end pedophilia on the internet, what are some other ways?
- 3- The book compares large child sexual abuse image websites to madams in brothels. What are some other similarities?
- 4- The collaboration of Microsoft and police had a substantial impact on how the children exploited on the web can be found by authorities.. What other potential collaborations could have a similar impact on working to eliminate internet child pornography?
- 5- What were your reactions to the invisibility of child abuse and forced child pornography, how did it make you feel that the children whose stories were shared were out in public and going to school, but being abused when at home without anyone noticing?
- 6- When does internet fantasy end and where does reality begin?
- 7- What impact does advanced technology, like video chat, have on the ability to catch “travelers”?
- 8- What strategies can be used to help poor countries enforce laws for sex travelers?
- 9- Why is sentencing inconsistent for child sex offenders, even within the same country?
- 10- With the increasing availability of technology that can facilitate abuse, i.e. social networks, what more can be done to protect children?

## MAY

**Heal the Children Month** – May is a good opportunity to provide a space for willing adult survivors of childhood sex trafficking to speak about their experiences. Contact a local nonprofit organization working against sex trafficking to see if they have a Speaker's Bureau.

**National Mental Health Month** – Although oft ignored, victims of sexual exploitation typically suffer immense psychological trauma. One way to raise awareness would be to have a visual display on campus, including signs describing said effects (examples: flashbacks, anxiety, nightmares, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, etc.).

**Join Hands Day (1)** – This is a national volunteer day that teams youths and adults in community-service projects and is a great way for healthy adult/child relationships to form. By reaching out to local youth communities, you can provide mentorship that might prevent future sexual exploitation. You can also contact local shelters for prostituted individuals to see if they have appropriate volunteer opportunities for adults and youth.

**Host a film screening.** A film recommendation for this month is "Lilya 4-Ever," At 16 in the former Soviet Union, Lilya is left by her mother and tricked into prostitution. The film tells the story of the horror Lilya's life soon becomes (109 min).

### **Discussion Points for the Documentary "Lilya 4-Ever"**

- 1- How does Andrei prey on Lilya's vulnerabilities? How does he begin the process of manipulating and then selling her?
- 2- Does the stigmatization Lilya faces after being falsely labeled as a prostitute act as one of the many forces that lead her to start prostituting? What other messages does Lilya receive about her self worth throughout the film and how do you think this impacts her decisions?
- 3- At the end of the film why do you think Lilya decides make the decision she does after she is finally free?

**Host a book club.** A book recommendation for this month is "The Natashas," by Victor Malarek. Arcade Publishing, 2004. Malarek uncovers the trend of Eastern European girls being forced into the sex trade—how they get there, what happens and how they survive. He also investigates the sex trade's relationship to globalization.

### **Discussion Points for the Book "The Natashas"**

- 1- What does Marika's story tell you about the extent to which poverty and desperation can be exploited?
- 2- Why do you think Malarek chose to name the book "The Natashas"? What is the significance of this term?
- 3- On page 4, the word "chosen" is italicized. What do you think about this emphasis? Do you agree that some people choose to sell their bodies?
- 4- What insight did the introduction give you about human trafficking in Eastern Europe?
- 5- Does it surprise you that many trafficked women have received formal education? Why or why not?
- 6- What can be done with the orphanages that are actively exploiting the girls?
- 7- As discussed on page 18, *Pretty Woman* romanticized prostitution. Can you think of other examples within pop culture that glamorize the sex trade?
- 8- Do you think the view of Fenster on page 95 and of Wild Man on Pages 96-97 are common?
- 9- Do you think increasing the number of trafficked women will really reduce sexual assault (130)? Where do views like this come from?
- 10- What do you think of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act outlined on pages 186 and 187? Do you think it will be effective?

## **JUNE**

**National Safety Month** – This would be a good month to highlight the physical dangers and threats to safety for exploited women and children. To do this you can utilize posters, film screenings, and other visual displays that emphasize the lack of safety and amount of physical and psychological violence suffered by the women and children involved in the sex trade.

**International Men's Month** – Create a campaign or event to inspire men on campus to action in fighting sexual exploitation.

**Host a film screening.** A film recommendation for this month is "Demand". This documentary exposes the men who buy commercial sex, the vulnerable women and children sold as commodities, and the facilitators of the trade within the marketplace of exploitation (45 min).

### **Discussion Points for the Documentary "Demand"**

- 1- What are some universal messages men in the film have internalized that influence sex trade patronage?
- 2- What do you think would happen to the demand for prostitution if a john understood that there was no way to tell if the individual in prostitution was being forced to perform the trick?
- 3- Do you think there is truth to the statement that "the most imminente way to end sex trafficking is through buyers"? Why or why not? What else can be done to end prostitution and sexual exploitation?

**Host a book club.** A book recommendation for this month is "The Macho Paradox," by Jackson Katz. Sourcebooks, Inc., 2006. In this book Katz speaks to all men who, he argues, have the key role to play in preventing male violence against women. His basic assertion is that rape, battering, and sexual abuse and harassment are so widespread that they must be viewed not as issues relevant only to troubled individuals but rather as a social problem rooted in our culture.

### **Discussion Points for the Book "The Macho Paradox"**

- 1- What do you think of the challenge presented by Katz to the common idea that men's violence against women is a women's issue (5)?
- 2- To what extent has insufficient media coverage on famous individuals and violence inhibited men from focusing on gender violence? What did you think of Katz's critique of Lakers fans after the Kobe Bryant rape scandal (154)? Do you think Eminem's popularity has had as much impact as Katz suggests (158-169)?
- 3- What aspect of Katz's MVP program make it appealing to boys? What other positive ways can boys be engaged to discuss sexually exploitive thoughts and acts; what can be done to prevent these from being normalized?
- 4- On page 67 Katz emphasizes the importance of woman in leadership positions in social movements. Do you think woman in leadership is intimidating for men and prevent them from getting involved?
- 5- What does Katz mean when he says that "a primary risk factor for violence is gender" (95)? Why is the fight against gender violence so often confused with male bashing?
- 6- Which of the described views of "masculine traditional doctrine" do you think is most prevalent in many men not taking action against gender violence (127-130)?
- 7- Of the things discussed in the chapter on Race and Culture, which did you find most compelling? Why?
- 8- Do you agree with Katz's linking of stripping and pornography with gender violence?
- 9- How is athletic and military culture related to gender violence (207-225)?
- 10- Which of Katz's actions suggestions for men do you think will be the most effective (259-270)? Why?

## July

**Social Wellness Month** – Social wellness is dependent on the wellness of all members of society, and societies suffer when sexual exploitation exists. Remind the campus community that the women and children who are being exploited are people who deserve the rights and resources to heal physically and psychologically.

**Host a film screening.** A film recommendation for this month is “Very Young Girls”. This film follows 13- and 14-year-old girls in New York and addresses the mistreatment and abuse that they endure as prostituted young women. Rachel Lloyd, a survivor herself, runs the program GEMs which is featured in the film, a recovery center dedicated to supporting young girls as they exit the sex trade (84 min).

### **Discussion Points for the Documentary “Very Young Girls”**

- 1- What was your reaction to the average age of entry into prostitution?
- 2- During the John School clip the men are shown to not be taking the group seriously. Why do you think this is? From what you saw of the John School, did you think it was effective?
- 3- Rachel Lloyd mentions there is no detox to prostitution. What does this statement mean? , What insight does comparing the relationship between pimp and prostitute to a drug addiction give you?
- 4- How does the complex relationship between pimp and the young women they exploit act as a barrier to exiting the sex trade?

**Host a book club.** A book recommendation for this month is “Sold” by Patricia McCormick. Hyperion, 2006. SOLD is the fictional story of 13-year-old Lakshmi from Nepal who is sold into prostitution as a means to secure money for her family. Once in prostitution she is held against her will in a brothel in India. This book is suitable for young adults.

### **Discussion Points for the Book “Sold”**

- 1- What did you think of the spare prose writing style? What effect do you think it had on the emotional impact of this book?
- 2- Which parts of the book, if any, were the hardest for you to get through? Why do you think that is?
- 3- The book describes how new girls are inducted into life at the brothel. What do you think makes this breaking process so effective?
- 4- There were several people who brightened life at “Happiness Home” for Lakshmi (the Tea Boy, Harish, Anita and Shahanna). How did the juxtaposition of these characters against their harsh surroundings affect you as a reader?
- 5- How did the girls keep up hope?
- 6- Lakshmi spends a good deal of time focusing on the “mathematics” of her captivity. What do you think are some similarities and differences between Lakshmi’s situation and that of bonded laborers?
- 7- After reading in detail about the hardships of life in a brothel, what do you think are some of the obstacles to healing?
- 8- The author talks about gender roles in Lakshmi’s village. What are the similarities and differences between gender roles in her village and gender roles in the US?
- 9- How did you feel about the way Americans are portrayed in this book? Does it bother you that Americans are presented primarily as saviors while South Asians are presented as greedy, corrupt, and exploitative?
- 10- In reading through online reviews, there seems to be a pattern of people expressing that they feel grateful to have been born in a country where this doesn’t happen. Why do you think people fail to make the connection between what happened in the book and to the commercial sexual exploitation of children in the US? What do you think can be done to change that?

## **AUGUST**

**International Youth Day (12)** – For this day create visual display of statistics on sexual exploitation of youth. Focus on both domestic and international sex trafficking and exploitation.

**Women's Equality Day (26)** – For this day you can highlight the stark inequality that still exists between men and women, especially the disadvantage women suffer in the realm of sexual exploitation. If this day coincides with Freshman Orientation, it would be a good day to recruit women and men to join the organization.

**Host a film screening.** A film recommendation for this month is "At the End of Slavery". Narrated by Danny Glover, this documentary shows the inner workings of the modern day slave trade, from the Phillipines to India. Testimony is given by former slaves and human trafficking experts.

### **Discussion Points for the Documentary "At the End of Slavery"**

- 1- The film depicts law enforcement as sometimes part of the problem with perpetuating prostitution when certain individuals feed off of the economic problems of poor countries, why does the solution to this need to come from within the country?
- 2- "Systematic Rape" is a term used to describe the system of poverty, inequality, and marginalization that poor countries face. How much of a choice do these poor countries really have in turning a blind eye to sex traffickers? Do you believe the term "systematic rape" extends to describing the exploitation of these poor countries?
- 3- What was your reaction to the sentencing of 8-12 years imprisonment for traffickers? Is this enough? If not, what message does this send?

**Host a book club.** A book recommendation for this month is "Not for Sale," a compilation of different essays written by activists perpetuating against prostitution.

### **Discussion Points for the Book "Not for Sale"**

- 1- Did you agree with Joe Parker's classification of different types of johns (3-5)? Why or why not? What do you think of Parker's descriptions of the three types of pimping (5-10)? Also, Parker discusses several ways in which women enter prostitution (10-12). Which of these do you think is most prevalent among women who enter the sex trade and why?
- 2- Given Donna Hughes' analysis (38-55), which of the new technologies do you think has enabled sex trafficking most prevalently?
- 3- Taylor Lee likens stripping to prostitution (57). Do you consider stripping a separate entity, or do you agree with this assertion?
- 4- Vednita Carter addresses race in the sex trade, comparing prostitution to slavery. What were your reactions to this essay (85-88)?
- 5- How did you react to Andrea Dworkin's speech on pages 137-145? What did you learn about the link between pornography and prostitution?
- 6- Were you surprised at some of the examples of traffickers listed on page 151? Do you agree with Clarke's classification of them as traffickers?
- 7- Why would the Left Labor Conference have speakers lobbying for prostitution (206)? How effective do you think the feminist response was to this decision (207)?
- 8- What were your reactions to Mary Lucille Sullivan's piece about applying health standards to prostitution (252-268)?
- 9- What was your reaction to the tie in Sherry Lee Short's piece on the sex trade in the Midwest of rural strip clubs and trafficked children?
- 10- Part of Jane Caputi's essay deals with language and word choice. To what extent do you think how we discuss and label issues impacts our reactions to things like prostitution?

## **SEPTEMBER**

**World Tourism Day (27) Use this opportunity to host a panel to discuss the harms of sex tourism and the political and economic difficulties in regulating and ending sex tourism.**

**Host a film screening.** A film recommendation for this month is "Price of Pleasure". Goes beyond the liberal versus conservative to provide a holistic understanding of pornography and debunks common myths about the genre (55 min).

### **Discussion Points for the Documentary "Price of Pleasure"**

- 1- How does the mainstream media influence the acceptance pornography?
- 2- If men are taught that pornography is normal sexual behavior, when does the porn world end and the real world begin?
- 3- Supporters of pornography claim that pornography is financially lucrative for the women that act in it. However, the film shows that men are at the top of the porn industry. Does this power dynamic fuel the exploitation of women and girls systematically?
- 4- Do you consider pornography to be prostitution, why or why not?
- 5- What are some potential solutions to the exploitation actors receive in the porn business?

**Host a book club.** A book recommendation for this month is "Getting Off," by Robert Jensen. South End Press, 2007. Jensen critiques the relationship between masculinity and pornography and explores how pornography relates to constructs of manhood and contributes to the issues of violence against women.

### **Discussion Points for the Book "Getting Off"**

- 1- Jensen reinforces the belief that our goal should be to eliminate masculinity. Is this a realistic goal? Will this goal address the root issues of the negative constructed aspects of masculinity?
- 2- On page 33 Jensen talks about pornography as being a whisper- that it starts with the soft voice that speaks to men's deepest fear of not being manly enough. Others have described pornography as a constant affront that drives its way into our lives. Which do you think reflects pornography's role in society?
- 3- Jensen points out that at first the issue of pornography started as a morality debate and then the academic paradigm shifted to a debate about violence and a power dynamic. Where do we think the "debate" is today in the public's eye?
- 4- On page 46 Jensen brings up the issues of many liberals defending pornography without evaluating it and its content. Why do you think the sexual content of pornography derides people from analyzing its content?
- 5- On page 58 Jensen says that, "Pornography, with its overwhelming male clientele, moves toward sexual acts that women in day-to-day life do not seek out because most women find them either not pleasurable, painful, or denigrating." If this is the case, why do we find more and more women claiming to enjoy sex that they describe as pornographic?
- 6- People defend pornography as being an equal-opportunity objectifier, which Jensen addresses on page 64. What do we think about this argument?
- 7- Why is pornography the one media genre in which overt racism is still routine and acceptable?
- 8- Jensen mentions several times throughout the book, including on page 70, that men use porn to get even with women they can't have. Do we think this is true? Have you heard men discussing this motivation in public or among friends?
- 9- On page 88 Jensen says that a consumer has no reliable way to judge which women are participating in the industry as a result of a meaningful choice. Do we think this argument could be a powerful advocacy platform towards change?
- 10- Do you think pornography teaches men to disassociate which can lead to other behavior such as purchasing sex?

## **OCTOBER**

**National Crime Prevention Month** – Since prostitution is a crime, call the campus community to action to prevent prostitution by ending demand. This is a good way to promote the idea that ending demand is the most effective solution. Distribute the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation's "Demand Change" toolkit to students.

**Protest-** Use the Pimp and Ho Packet in the Appendix to protest the normalization of prostitution at college parties or in protest of the sexification of women's Halloween costumes.

**Host a film screening.** A film recommendation for this month is "Call and Response". CALL+RESPONSE is a first-of-its-kind feature documentary film that reveals the world's 27 million dirtiest secrets: there are more slaves today than ever before in human history. CALL+RESPONSE goes deep undercover where slavery is thriving, from the child brothels of Cambodia to the slave brick kilns of rural India, to reveal that in 2007, slave traders have made more money than Google, Nike, and Starbucks combined (89 min).

### **Discussion Points for the Documentary "Call and Response"**

- 1- What was your reaction to the statement "you can buy people for less money today than when slavery was legal"?
- 2- Why do you think that currently children are becoming more frequent victims of sex trafficking?
- 3- What role do musicians and other famous individuals play in changing not only public discourse but the hearts and minds of others on the issue of sexual exploitation?

**Host a book club.** A book recommendation for this month is "A Crime so Monstrous," by E. Benjamin Skinner. Free Press, 2008. Journalist E. Benjamin Skinner gives several accounts of current slaves and traffickers, but emphasizes slavery victims in Haiti, Sudan, Romania and India. In this book their stories and conditions are recorded and analyzed.

### **Discussion Points for the Book "A Crime So Monstrous"**

- 1- On page 8, Skinner discusses the value of education in Haiti. What is the link between child slavery and the cost of education? What changes can be made to the education system to reduce the incidence of child slavery?
- 2- On page 23 Skinner discusses the United States' involvement with slavery and human trafficking in Haiti. Do you think the actions taken were effective? Why or why not? How has the recent earthquake in Haiti potentially impacted human trafficking in the country?
- 3- How have US politics affected the fight against human trafficking? Skinner gives specific examples in Chapter 2. Can you think of any others?
- 4- Skinner provides examples of some of the key people involved in the fight to end trafficking. Why do you think so many have strong religious ties?
- 5- Why was it so difficult for Miller to convince the world slavery existed (106)?
- 6- What was your reaction to Tatiana's entry into slavery (133-136)? How can activists reach out to current and former trafficking victims in a way that avoids the anger shown by Tatiana on page 118?
- 7- With whom do you agree: Michael Gerson, whose views are ambiguous, or the Bush administration, which asserted that voluntary prostitution does not exist (157-158)? Given that Gerson was an aide to President Bush, is it unusual that their stance on prostitution and sex slavery differed?
- 8- On page 159, Skinner questions the idea of a slave being a free agent. What do you think? Can a slave be a free agent?
- 9- Why did the Dutch government think legalizing prostitution was a good idea (185)? Was it?
- 10- On page 192, Congressman Frank Wolf is quoted discussing the factors that motivate people to get involved. Would you agree that these motivators are the strongest? What others would you recommend?

## **NOVEMBER**

**International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (25)** – Women who are sexually exploited face immense violence at the hands of pimps, johns, and traffickers. A poster campaign and film screening to raise awareness can be launched to help the college community understand this.

**Transgender Day of Remembrance (20)** Is a day to remember those killed as a result to transphobia. It is also a day to highlight the continuing violence endured by the transcommunity. Host a guest speaker that is in alliance with or that is from the transcommunity to discuss the violence this community faces and why. Use this time to remind the community that transgendered people are victims of prostitution too, not just women and children.

**Host a film screening.** A film recommendation for this month is "Human Trafficking" which is a mini-series that follows the story of two Eastern Europeans who are trafficked as prostitutes into the United States. This film tells the story of not only how these women are trafficked but about the efforts that ICE undergoes to rescue them (176 mins).

### **Discussion Points for the Film "Human Trafficking"**

- 1- Why do the girls who are trafficked seek to kill themselves instead of attempting escape?
- 2- What are the signs that the modeling agency is a front for human trafficking?
- 3- How does an engaging mini-series like "Human Trafficking" help the movement to end exploitation and how might it hurt it?

**Host a book club.** A book recommendation for this month is *The Johns*, the follow-up to *The Natashas* by Victor Malarek. Arcade Press, 2009. The journalist and author of *The Natashas* writes another exposé on the sex industry, its customers, and the women who are trafficked from around the world into sexual slavery to meet the demand for paid sex.

### **Discussion Points for the Book "The Johns"**

- 1- Why do you think Malarek chose to use the term "john" as opposed to other terms such as customer or sexual exploiter?
- 2- On page xiv, Malarek calls prostitution "survival sex." What do you think of this description? Does it change the way you view prostituted women?
- 3- What do you think is the strongest motivation to purchase sex, as outlined by psychotherapist Michael Bader (pp 10-11)?
- 4- What are your reactions to the Madonna/whore complex expressed by johns in the book? Do you think this view is typical of society, or just johns?
- 5- On page 63, a john warns about "exploitation by a rental girl." Do you think the john is being deliberately ironic, or is he simply ignorant?
- 6- Why do you think Randolph, and similar johns, choose to continue to purchase sex despite feeling guilty about their decisions (p 108)?
- 7- Were you surprised by Mei's descriptions of johns from different countries? Why or why not?
- 8- Were you surprised at how easy it was for Malarek to find prostituted children to purchase?
- 9- What does the phrase "body rentals" bring to mind? Do you think this is an accurate way to describe prostitution?
- 10- Should cyber johns be prosecuted for purchasing cyber sex?

## **DECEMBER**

**Human Rights Month-** Consider hosting a film screenings accompanied by an intensive poster campaign that emphasizes the loss of human rights that occurs within sexual exploitation.

**World AIDS Day (1)** Individuals in prostitution who are HIV positive are often infected by johns. Many do not receive HIV testing or quality medical care, espeicailly if they have been trafficked. Often individuals in prostitution that are HIV positive are then considered "throw aways". Pair with other campus groups to raise awareness about the impact HIV has on the lives of marginalized groups.

**Bill of Rights Day (15)** Embrace the first amendment; the freedom of speech, press, assembly, and right to petition, to make change. Join the End Demand Illinois (EDI) Campaign Adovacy Team in organizing for change, share information from the research provided by EDI in a poster campaign or contact EDI to see how your Chapter can help current efforts to make effecitive legislation to end prostitution in Illinois. ([www.enddemandillinois.org](http://www.enddemandillinois.org)).

**Host a film screening.** A film recommendation for this month is "Not for Sale". This documentary investigates the 27 million individuals ensnared in the modern-day slave trade. Undercover footage highlights trafficking operations and what today's abolitionists are doing to fight the rampant terrors of human trafficking in the US and abroad (85 min).

### **Discussion Points for the Documentary "Not for Sale"**

- 1- Why do you think "player's balls" and other events that glorify and celebrate the Pimp lifestyle continue to be held? What does this say about institutions and dominant forms of masculinity?
- 2- The film discusses the importance of community level engagement, What can be done on the community level to change the larger system and end the demand for prostitution in the longterm?
- 3- How does sex trafficking change when a country is at war? Does the political will and capacity change? What are some exampled highlighted in the film?

**Host a book club.** A book recommendation for this month is "Stop the Traffik," by Steve Chalke. Lion Hudson, 2009. "Stop the Traffik" contains real-life stories, photographs, and practical action suggestions to end this human rights violation. The book is divided into 6 sections - Stop: The right to freedom; Look: Trafficking is on your doorstep; Think: Attitudes and awareness; Buy: The power of the consumer; Act: Join the movement; and, Start: Resources to get you started.

### **Discussion Points for the Book "Stop the Traffik"**

- 1- Why do you think women and girls make up the majority of sex trafficking victims?
- 2- What links exist between poverty and prostitution? How much of a role does poverty play in the entry of sex trafficking?
- 3- The Spotlight on Leeds (pg 81) shares ideas about how the community can promote safe migration. Can these ideas be applied to any community? What role do you think Leeds has in impacting safe migration from a local micro-level?
- 4- Fair trade consumer goods are one way to combat trafficking from the micro-level to a macro-level. What are some others?
- 5- Do you think people or organized crime groups that traffick individuals are influenced to traffick by some of the similar circumstances as the individuals they traffick, for example quick money or economic hardship? If yes, what are some actions that can be taken to give such people incentives to deter trafficking?
- 6- What are some obstacles to making arrests for international trafficking? Are there ways you can think of to overcome these obstacles?
- 7- Why do you believe the modern slave trade is the fastest growing form of organized crime?
- 8- Why do you think the government is quick to peanilize women and girls who are forced into prostitution when they are really viticms of the sex trade?
- 9- Drawing from the question on pg 77, if you were bring exploited, what would you do?
- 10- On pg 127 the authors discuss four levels of action. Which one(s) would you engage in and why? Which might have the most mainstream appeal?

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# Outreach Evaluation

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One of CAASE's hopes is that this tool kit helps college groups challenge commonly held misconceptions about prostitution. To measure the success of this goal CAASE has created this evaluation tool. It can be used by your College Chapter to measure the impact of your activist efforts on your campus. This evaluative tool also provides Chapters a way to provide feedback to CAASE about the toolkit's effectiveness and offers ways CAASE can improve the material included in the kit.

One possible idea for the distribution of the evaluation includes keeping a list of contact information from those individuals that attend the Chapter's events, then distributing the evaluation to those who have attended. This tool can not only measure the impact your Chapter has but it can allow you to gear group action around myths that still appear prevalent within the community.

## Community Attitudes Toward Prostitution Scale

1. **Prostitutes enjoy their work.**  
A) Agree B) Slightly Agree C) Slightly Disagree D) Disagree
2. **Prostitution is rare in Chicago.**  
A) Agree B) Slightly Agree C) Slightly Disagree D) Disagree
3. **The majority of prostitution occurs on the street.**  
A) Agree B) Slightly Agree C) Slightly Disagree D) Disagree
4. **Women in prostitution are in control of the majority of the sex acts they engage in .**  
A) Agree B) Slightly Agree C) Slightly Disagree D) Disagree
5. **Women in prostitution are in control of the majority of the money they make.**  
A) Agree B) Slightly Agree C) Slightly Disagree D) Disagree
6. **Most people freely choose to enter prostitution.**  
A) Agree B) Slightly Agree C) Slightly Disagree D) Disagree
7. **Trafficking doesn't happen in the United States.**  
A) Agree B) Slightly Agree C) Slightly Disagree D) Disagree
8. **Prostitution will always exist because "boys will be boys"**  
A) Agree B) Slightly Agree C) Slightly Disagree D) Disagree
9. **Women can leave the sex trade whenever they want to.**  
A) Agree B) Slightly Agree C) Slightly Disagree D) Disagree
10. **Every woman is a prostitute to some degree; all women have a "price".**  
A) Agree B) Slightly Agree C) Slightly Disagree D) Disagree
11. **Prostitution and pornography are two separate entities.**  
A) Agree B) Slightly Agree C) Slightly Disagree D) Disagree
12. **Legalizing Prostitution would end the exploitation and trafficking of prostitutes**  
A) Agree B) Slightly Agree C) Slightly Disagree D) Disagree

\* This scale has not been tested for validity.

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# Resources

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## Chicago-Based Organizations

### Direct Service/Outreach:

#### Anne's House

First long-term residential trauma program in Illinois for young women/girls who have been victims of sex trafficking or sexual exploitation. The group home is run by the Salvation Army's PROMISE (Partnership to Rescue Our Minors From Sexual Exploitation) and offers to women 12 to 25 group and individual therapy, life skills training, support with academic and vocational goals, social and recreational activities, and spiritual guidance.

For additional information:

| <http://www.sapromise.org/anne.htm>

#### Dream Catcher Foundation

A survivor-driven agency, the Dream Catcher Foundation provides health services, counseling, referrals to transitional housing and addiction treatment facilities, employment placement and educational support for young women ages 12 to 25 who have survived the sex trade.

For additional information:

<http://dianetye.com/dreamcatcherfoundation/index1.html>

773-936-9898

#### Footprints

This organization offers hope and rehabilitative services to girls and women exposed to trauma in the sex trade including facilitating substance-abuse and HIV-prevention programs for women arrested for prostitution in Cook County.

For additional information:

[www.cchc-online.org](http://www.cchc-online.org)

773-533-5600

#### Illinois Department of Human Services-Illinois Rescue and Restore Campaign

The state of Illinois has partnered with the Federal government to combat labor and sex trafficking in Illinois. Under former Governor Rod Blagojevich, Illinois joined the US Department of Health and Human Services and other law enforcement, social service, healthcare, and advocacy organizations across the state to fight what the Governor termed a modern-day form of slavery.

For additional information:

<http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=313322>

To report suspected cases of trafficking, find victim resources (including crisis intervention and urgent and non-urgent referrals) and to request comprehensive anti-trafficking resources or technical assistance, call the **24-hour hotline at 1-888-3737-888**.

#### Night Ministry

The Night Ministry connects with Chicago's vulnerable youth and adults through street outreach, youth shelter and supportive services, and a mobile health outreach bus. They provide basic resources, free healthcare, and housing and supportive services for youth as well as referrals to other agencies for additional needs.

For additional information:

<http://www.thenightministry.org/>

773-784-9000

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## **STOP IT**

STOP IT fights human trafficking by rescuing victims, protecting survivors, and prosecuting traffickers and exploiters. They are committed to teaching the community to recognize and identify possible victims of trafficking. Call the **STOP IT 24-hour hotline at 1-877-606-3158** to report a suspected case of human trafficking, including commercial sexual exploitation of children, sex trafficking and labor trafficking.

For additional information:  
773-275-6233 X3029

## **Women of Power Alumni Association**

WOPAA is a group of female ex-offenders who have attained successful transition from the Cook County Sheriff's Department of Women's Justice Services. WOPAA members are working towards self sufficiency through collaborative efforts with support from DWJS staff. WOPAA offers support groups for maintaining recovery and moving forward after incarceration. Other programs include education workshops, health fairs, financial literacy programs, and cultural awareness events.

For additional information:  
[www.youarepriceless.org](http://www.youarepriceless.org)  
773-869-7877

## **Young Women's Empowerment Project:**

The Young Women's Empowerment Project is a community-based youth-led project that was founded in 2001 by a radical feminist and harm-reduction-based collective of women and girls involved in the sex trade and street economy and their allies. It was created by women and girls who believe that all girls are priceless, creative, and smart and can be empowered and leaders in their communities. YWEP offers girls involved in the sex trade and street economy ages 12 to 23 non-judgmental support, harm-reduction information and resources.

For additional information:  
[www.youarepriceless.org](http://www.youarepriceless.org)

## **Advocacy:**

### **Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation**

CAASE is committed to building a global community free from sexual exploitation. We know that all forms of sexual exploitation, including sexual assault and the commercial sex trade, are detrimental to a healthy society and undermine the dignity of all people. CAASE believes in stopping sexual exploitation by directly addressing the culture, institutions, and individuals that perpetrate, profit from, or tacitly support sexually exploitive acts against people. To accomplish our mission, CAASE seeks legal repercussions on behalf of survivors against perpetrators of sexual harm; advocates for policies and legislation that hold sexual exploiters accountable, creates and implements prevention initiatives, and develops resources that empower individuals and communities to take actions against sexual exploiters.

For additional information:  
[www.caase.org](http://www.caase.org)  
773-244-2230

### **Partnership to Rescue Our Minors from Sexual Exploitation**

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PROMISE is a Chicago faith-based organization working against the sexual exploitation of minors. Its mission is to address, in a holistic manner, the commercial sexual exploitation of youth under 18 in the Chicago area by focusing on prevention, intervention, outreach and service provision.

For additional information:

[www.sapromise.org](http://www.sapromise.org)

312.286.2011

### **Prostitution Alternatives Round Table**

Prostitution Alternatives Round Table (PART) is a network of governmental and private non-profit organizations and survivors of prostitution dedicated to addressing the many issues surrounding prostitution and homelessness in Chicago. PART is a project of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless and is led by an active Steering Committee and Committee of Survivors of Prostitution.

For additional information:

[www.chicagohomeless.org](http://www.chicagohomeless.org)

312-435-4548

### **Traffick Free**

Traffick Free is an organization dedicated to raising awareness about human trafficking by conducting presentations for churches, schools, and groups. They also serve as a liaison with the community, linking community members with trafficking service providers for training, educational, and volunteer opportunities.

For additional information:

[www.traffickfree.org](http://www.traffickfree.org)

### **Voices and Faces Project**

The Voices and Faces Project is a national documentary project created to give voice and face to survivors of sexual violence, offering a sense of solidarity to those who have lived through rape and abuse while raising awareness of how this human rights and public health issue impacts victims, families and communities.

For additional information:

<http://www.voicesandfaces.org>

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# National and International Organizations

## **Captive Daughters**

Captive Daughters is the first anti-trafficking group established in California. They focus solely on ending the sexual bondage of women and children. Captive Daughters emphasizes the role of demand, and works to educate the public about the dynamics of demand in order to develop the legal and political policies necessary to control and end this horrific practice.

For additional information:

<http://www.captivedaughters.org>

## **Coalition Against Trafficking in Women**

The Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW) is creating real and lasting changes in countries around the world by launching and supporting anti-trafficking projects in areas that few programs address: the links between prostitution and trafficking; challenging the demand for prostitution that promotes sex trafficking; and protecting the women and children who are its victims by working to curb legal acceptance and tolerance of the sex industry.

For additional information:

<http://www.catwinternational.org>

## **CounterQuo**

CounterQuo seeks to develop a blueprint for challenging the way that our culture responds to sexual violence — and a system of accountability for those who will be charged with executing such a plan. Their goal is to foster new alliances and information sharing between anti-violence leaders from the worlds of advocacy, law, media, public health and the academy. They provide resources that will enable people to enact both legal and cultural change.

For additional information:

<http://www.counterquo.org/home.html>

## **Free the Slaves**

Free the Slaves believes that all people have the right to be free from any form of slavery, and the opportunity to realize their full potential. They are committed to supporting sustainable solutions which don't hurt those they're trying to help. They seek to base all their strategies on accurate research. They are committed to building a diverse movement and to seeking guidance from local and regional anti-slavery programs around the planet.

For additional information:

<http://www.freetheslaves.net>

## **Girls Education Mentoring Services**

Girls Educational and Mentoring Services' (GEMS) mission is to empower young women, ages 12-21, who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation and domestic trafficking to exit the commercial sex industry and develop to their full potential. GEMS is committed to ending commercial sexual exploitation and domestic trafficking of children by changing individual lives, transforming public perception, and revolutionizing the systems and policies that impact sexually exploited youth.

For additional information:

<http://www.gems-girls.org/>

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## **Global Centurion**

Global Centurion has a three-pronged approach to combating demand including Research and Development; Education, Awareness, and Advocacy on Demand-Related Issues; and Operations. Global Centurion is conducting an International Case Law Research project to document the case law on sex trafficking, labor trafficking, child sex tourism, commercial sexual exploitation of children and other related issues. In addition, Global Centurion is speaking about child sex slavery and the need for a demand focused approach at community centers, faith-based organizations, universities and colleges, and other venues. Finally, Global Centurion is building a network of citizen groups, faith-based organizations, law enforcement officials, policy makers, and others committed to a pro-active approach to stopping human trafficking in all its forms.

For additional information:

<http://globalcenturion.org/>

## **Initiative Against Sex Trafficking**

Initiative Against Sex Trafficking (IAST) exists to create and equip a new abolition movement for the eradication of sexual trafficking, the protection of survivors, and the prosecution of traffickers and exploiters. The resources on their website seek to educate people about sex trafficking and provide ways for people to help.

For additional information:

<http://www.iast.net/>

## **Love 146**

Love 146 realizes that in order to end child sex slavery and exploitation, prevention work is essential. They are continually examining the most effective and diversified ways to prevent children from becoming victims of slavery, rape, and exploitation. The Love 146 model of aftercare strives to be holistic and as such, subscribes to the bio-psychosocial model of treatment and care.

For additional information:

<http://love146.org/>

## **Men Can Stop Rape**

Men Can Stop Rape (MCSR) is an international organization that mobilizes men to use their strength for creating cultures free from violence, especially men's violence against women. Since its inception in 1997, MCSR has led the call to redefine masculinity and male strength as part of preventing men's violence against women. MCSR provides agencies, schools, and organizations with direct services for youth, public service messaging, and leadership training.

For additional information:

<http://www.mencanstoprape.org>

## **National Center for Missing & Exploited Children**

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's (NCMEC) mission is to help prevent child abduction and sexual exploitation; help find missing children; and assist victims of child abduction and sexual exploitation, their families, and the professionals who serve them.

For additional information:

[/en\\_US/documents/NCPCSE\\_NationalPlan.pdf](/en_US/documents/NCPCSE_NationalPlan.pdf)

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### **National Immigrant Justice Center**

The National Immigrant Justice Center ensures human rights protections and access to justice for immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers through direct legal services, policy reform, impact litigation, and public education.

For additional information:

<http://www.immigrantjustice.org>

### **National Runaway Switchboard**

The mission of the National Runaway Switchboard is to help keep America's runaway and at-risk youth safe and off the streets. Their 24-hour crisis line has experienced front-line team members ready to help. Their services are anonymous, confidential and free.

For additional information:

<http://www.1800runaway.org/>

1-800-RUNAWAY

### **Not for Sale: End Human Trafficking**

Not For Sale is a Campaign of students, artists, entrepreneurs, people of faith, athletes, law enforcement officers, politicians, social workers, skilled professionals, and all justice seekers united to fight the global slave trade and end human trafficking. The Campaign aims to recruit, educate, and mobilize an international grassroots social movement that effectively combats human trafficking and slavery through "Smart Activism". It deploys innovative solutions for every individual to re-abolish slavery -- in their own backyards and across the globe.

For additional information:

<http://www.notforsalecampaign.org/>

### **Polaris Project**

Polaris Project's comprehensive approach to combating human trafficking includes conducting direct outreach and victim identification, providing social services and transitional housing to victims, operating the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) serving as the central national hotline on human trafficking, advocating for stronger state and Federal anti-trafficking legislation, and engaging community members in local and national grassroots efforts.

For additional information:

<http://www.polarisproject.org/>

### **Prostitution Research and Education**

Prostitution Research & Education (PRE) conducts research on prostitution, pornography and trafficking, and offers education and consultation to researchers, survivors, the public, and policymakers. PRE's goal is to abolish the institution of prostitution while at the same time advocating for alternatives to trafficking and prostitution - including emotional and physical healthcare for women in prostitution.

For additional information:

<http://www.prostitutionresearch.com/>

### **Shared Hope International**

Shared Hope International's prevention programs examine the conditions that allow women and children to be bought and sold and documents the marketplaces of victimization around the world. They work to enhance awareness of modern day sexual slavery and build

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international alliances to combat sex trafficking. Shared Hope International's rescue programs are integrated into the work of local restoration centers to successfully remove women and children from sexual exploitation. Restoration programs are developed and operated by local partners, addressing both the immediate and long-term needs of each victim of trauma. Restoration services include residential facilities, medical and mental health care, education, job training and economic development programs.

For additional information:

<http://www.sharedhope.org/index.asp>

### **Soroptimist**

Soroptimist is an international volunteer organization comprised of professional women working to improve the lives of women throughout the world through raising public awareness, fundraising, programming, and membership.

For additional information:

<http://www.soroptimist.org/>

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# APPENDIX: Pimp 'N Ho Packet

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# **Making the Connection**

## **Pimp 'n 'Ho Parties & Violence Against Women**

Included in this packet:

Information Guide  
Fact Sheet Template  
Email Template  
Poster Template  
Resources

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# Information Guide

*Pimp 'N 'Ho theme parties are lies about prostitution.*

## **Prostitution is Not Entertainment. Prostitution is Not a Job**

"92% women prostituting said they wanted to get out of prostitution." (Farley, 1998).

Prostitution is sexual harassment, rape, battering, verbal abuse, and domestic violence. It is a racist practice, a violation of human rights, and often results from childhood sexual abuse. Prostitution is the manifestation of misogyny in our culture.

## **"Pimp 'N 'Ho" Parties Set Up a Model for How Men Can Hurt Women and Make a Joke of It**

"Pimp N' Ho" parties teach men that pimping women is fun rather than what it really is - coercion, verbal abuse, battering, and sexual assault. Pimps target girls or women who seem naive, lonely, homeless, and rebellious. At first, the attention and feigned affection from the pimp convinces her to "be his woman." But soon the pimp's kindness is replaced by control and abuse. Pimps keep prostituted women in virtual captivity by verbal abuse - making a woman feel that she is utterly worthless which they frequently reinforce through physical coercion - beatings and the threat of torture. (Barry, 1995). In a study by the Council on Prostitution Alternatives, 85 percent of women in prostitution reported being raped by pimps. (1994).

The answer to the question "why do prostitutes stay with their pimps?" is the same as the answer to the question "why do battered women stay with their batterers?" Humans bond emotionally to their abusers as a psychological strategy to survive under conditions of emotional stress and abuse.

## **Prostitution is the Legacy of Colonialism and Gender Inequality**

Prostitution is racist. Women are frequently purchased for their appearance based on race and ethnic stereotyping. Institutions that deal with issues of prostitution also tend to racial profile. Arrest statistics in Chicago reflect this phenomenon since women of color are far more likely to be arrested for charges of prostitution than white women. In 1999, the Chicago Police Department arrested 5,437 women and girls for prostitution. 75 percent of them were black women. (Hughes, 2005)

Life in prostitution is almost uniformly violent for those involved. Research conducted about prostitution in Chicago found that 100 percent of survey participants have experienced some type of violence while in the sex trade including being raped, kicked, threatened with a weapon, punched, and

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slapped. Another study conducted in San Francisco yielded similar statistics about the incidence of violence: 82 percent of respondents report having been physically assaulted since entering prostitution (with 55 percent having been assaulted by customers), 80 reported physical attacks by pimps and customers that have resulted in serious injury and 68 percent of respondents reported having been raped since entering prostitution (Farley & Barkan, 1998).

Most women enter prostitution as young teenagers, not as worldly women who are playing 'ho' to have a good time. The average age of entry into prostitution is now twelve years (GEMS, 2008).

### **Prostitution Exist Because There is a Demand to Buy Sex**

In prostitution, demand creates supply. Were there no men wanting to buy the vulnerable bodies of women and girls there would be no prostitution. And buying sex is about entitlement as can be seen by these quotes from 'johns':

"[Prostitution is like] going to Circuit City or Best Buy, what's the bigger and better deal?"

"I want to pay someone to do something a normal person wouldn't do. To piss on someone or pay someone to do something degrading [who] is not my girlfriend."

"[When I'm with a prostitute she] feels a lot of force between her legs, because I'm not going to be lenient. I'm going to give her everything I've got. You can pound them, she don't mind." (CAASE, 2008)

### **All Prostitution Causes Harm to Women**

Whether it occurs indoors or outdoors, whether it is a stranger or family member pimping you, whether you are a runaway or someone who enters the sex trade out of economic necessity: all forms of prostitution hurt the women in it.

Like combat veterans, women in prostitution suffer from high rates of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), a psychological reaction to extreme physical and emotional trauma. Symptoms include acute anxiety, depression, insomnia, irritability, flashbacks, emotional numbing, and being in a state of emotional and physical hyper alertness. Sixty eight percent of 854 individuals in prostitution from nine countries had PTSD — a rate similar to that of battered women, rape victims, and state-sponsored torture survivors. (Farley, Baral, Kiremire, Sezgin, 1998)

### **What Should We Do About Prostitution?**

When we understand that prostitution is violence against women, it makes no sense to legalize or decriminalize prostitution. The violence in prostitution is not a result of "social stigma" as some maintain. Decriminalizing or legalizing prostitution would normalize and regulate practices which are human rights

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violations, and which in any other context would be illegal: sexual harassment, physical assault, rape, captivity, economic coercion, or emotional damage.

In 1999, the Swedish Parliament defined the purchasing of sex as an act of violence against the person selling. To substantiate this definition, Sweden passed a law that criminalizes the buying of sexual services but not the selling. This is a compassionate, social interventionist legal response to the cruelty of prostitution, which gets at the root of the problem: the demand side – pimps, traffickers, and “johns”. The Swedish law does not criminalize women in prostitution; instead, it created additional needed social services such as housing, drug & alcohol treatment, healthcare, and job training. By addressing the root cause, Sweden has seen street prostitution and international sex trafficking reduce radically.

### **Speak OUT!**

*Now that you have been empowered with the knowledge . . . what can your group do about it?*

1. **Educate:** Distribute fact sheets about the harms of prostitution in common student areas.
2. **Enlist:** Enlist the help of Resident Assistants and Hall Directors to educate students about the harms of the sex trade and how these parties normalize that harm.
3. **Action:** Get your school on board with taking a stance against these parties on your campus. Work with the Residence Life or Student Affairs office to release a statement against “Pimps N’ Ho” parties. Work with them to develop strict penalties for people that do host these parties.
4. **Pass It On:** Spread this knowledge to other school clubs and local colleges/ universities.
5. **Results:** Share your “lessons learned” and success stories with us! We’d love to hear about it and spotlight your efforts on the CAASE website.

# Fact Sheet About Individuals in Prostitution



2001  
Melissa Farley 2001 All Rights Reserved

- Prostitution is:
- a) sexual harassment
  - b) rape
  - c) battering
  - d) verbal abuse
  - e) domestic violence
  - f) a racist practice
  - g) a violation of human rights
  - h) often the result of childhood sexual abuse
  - i) a consequence of patriarchy
  - j) a means of maintaining male domination of women
  - k) all of the above

**FACT: 62% reported having been raped in prostitution.**

**FACT: 73% reported having experienced physical assault in prostitution.**

**FACT: 72% were currently or formerly homeless**

**FACT: 92% stated that they wanted to escape prostitution immediately**

Melissa Farley PhD  
Prostitution Research & Education

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## Email Template

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing as a concerned student in response to “Pimp N’ Ho” parties that take place on our campus. As you probably know, the phrase “Pimp N’ Ho” is used to describe acts of prostitution. It’s a sad fact that many women who are involved in prostitution often start out believing that the industry is glamorous, as these parties make them out to be, but they soon discover that the sex trade is violent, degrading and psychologically harmful.

As a student of \_\_\_\_\_ College/University I am disappointed to discover that parties of this nature are taking place on campus and on designated off-campus housing with no response from administration. This is an issue of normalizing violence against women, and \_\_\_\_\_ College/ University should take a stand against any student activity that normalizes harm.

Women involved in the commercial sex trade are exposed to physical, emotional and sexual violence on a daily basis. The majority suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, disassociation, and long-term physical harms. Making light of a destructive industry perpetuates the harm that is done when we normalize abuse against women and girls.

I know that this is not the image that your college envisions to promote. [insert comment about the mission statement of the school]. As a student and member of [insert women’s group] I implore you to take an outspoken stance against these parties.

Some ways in which \_\_\_\_\_ college/ University can take a proactive stance is through: educating Resident Assistants and Hall Directors about the inappropriateness of these parties and how to discipline students who host them; releasing a campus-wide statement that takes a stance against these types of parties; and hosting educational forums on the realities of the sex trade.

\_\_\_\_\_ is a College/ University with a long history of championing the rights of all minority and marginalized individuals. We now need you to take a leadership role to ensure that women who are harmed in the sex trade do not become the sexualized subject of college parties. Please create a campus wide declaration that \_\_\_\_\_ College/ University will not tolerate “Pimp N’ Ho” parties and that those who host such parties will be held accountable and face disciplinary action.

Thank you,

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# Poster Template

## Why Attending a Pimp N' Ho Party is a Good Time for Everyone!

Ladies: Have **You** ever wanted to dress up as a “ho”? To let your inner- prostituted self come through? Well now you have the chance! Attend the upcoming Pimp N' Ho party to celebrate what really makes a “ho”.

Plan your outfit carefully because you want your costume to be the most realistic at the party. Remember that the glamour of prostitution often includes being raped, hit, spit on, yelled at, stolen from, kicked, drugged, infected with STI's and even murdered!

What is more fun then dressing up as an abused woman in a sexy outfit?!

And make sure your p\*i\*m\*p partner portrays his role accurately as well. Pimps are consistently identified as violent rapists who prey on young girls and homeless women, now if that's not sexy, I don't know what is...