

DOMESTIC MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING IN AMERICA:

FACTS AT-A-GLANCE

What is Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST)?

- Domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST) is the commercial sexual abuse of children through buying, selling or trading their sexual services. Forms of DMST include prostitution, pornography, stripping, escort services and other sexual services.
- DMST is modern-day sexual slavery of children and is demeaning, degrading and often life-threatening.

The Scope of the Problem

- 100,000 to 300,000 children in America are at risk for sex trafficking each year.¹
- 12 is the average age of entry into pornography and prostitution.²
- In the U.S. , the sale of child pornography is a \$3 billion annual industry; 55% of child pornography on the Internet comes from the U.S.³

The Victims

- 66% of minors arrested for prostitution in Las Vegas from 2004 to 2006 had been victims of sexual assault and/or familial molestation.⁴
- As many as 2.8 million children live on the streets, a third of whom are lured into prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home. ⁵
- One in five American youth who regularly use the Internet has been sexually solicited.⁶

The Traffickers and Pimps

- Pimps can earn up to \$632,000 per year by selling four young women or children.⁷
- 75% of minors engaged in prostitution have a pimp.⁸

The Buyers

- Three domestic minor sex trafficking victims interviewed were sold 10-15 times per night, 6 days a week, totaling between 9,360 and 14,040 sex acts in a year. Over 18 months, 207 children were arrested for soliciting prostitution in Las Vegas. If they also were sold for 10-15 sex acts per night for a year, buyers purchased between 645,840 and 968,760 sex acts from children.¹⁰

1 <http://caster.ssw.upenn.edu/~restes/CSEC.htm>

2 <http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/ceos/prostitution.html>

3 http://www.onenewsnow.com/2007/02/bill_tackles_us_child_porn_epi.php

4 STOP Program, Las Vegas. 2005.

5 http://www.nrscrisisline.org/about_nrs/faq.html

6 Center for Crimes Research, University of New Hampshire

7 http://www.ccatcoalition.org/ccatcoalition/vend/Domestic_Sex_Trafficking_Guide_3_1_06_FINAL.pdf

8 <http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/ceos/prostitution.html>

9 http://www.uri.edu/artsci/wms/hughes/race_prost.doc

10 Based on interviews by Shared Hope International

https://www.sharedhope.org/what/DMST_Facts_At_A_Glance.pdf