

Risk Factors for Sex and Labor Trafficking Among Homeless Youth

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Training Objectives

- Define Sex and Labor Trafficking
- Overview of the scope and types of cases of Child Sex and Labor Trafficking in Maryland
- Identify the Risk Factors for youth
- Overview of resources for survivors
- Strategies and guidelines for identification and reporting

Human Trafficking Defined

- “Severe forms of trafficking in persons” is defined by the U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 as:
 - (A) Sex trafficking: the **recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing or soliciting** of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act, in which the **commercial sex act** is induced by **force, fraud, or coercion** (or where victim is a minor); or
 - (B) Labor trafficking: 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**.



Maryland Human Trafficking laws...

- Defines child sex trafficking as a form of sexual abuse, including cases in which:
 - trafficker is not a caretaker, relative, or household member
 - victim does not have a trafficker
- Requires mandated reporters to report suspected child sex trafficking to LDSSs who are to investigate & respond

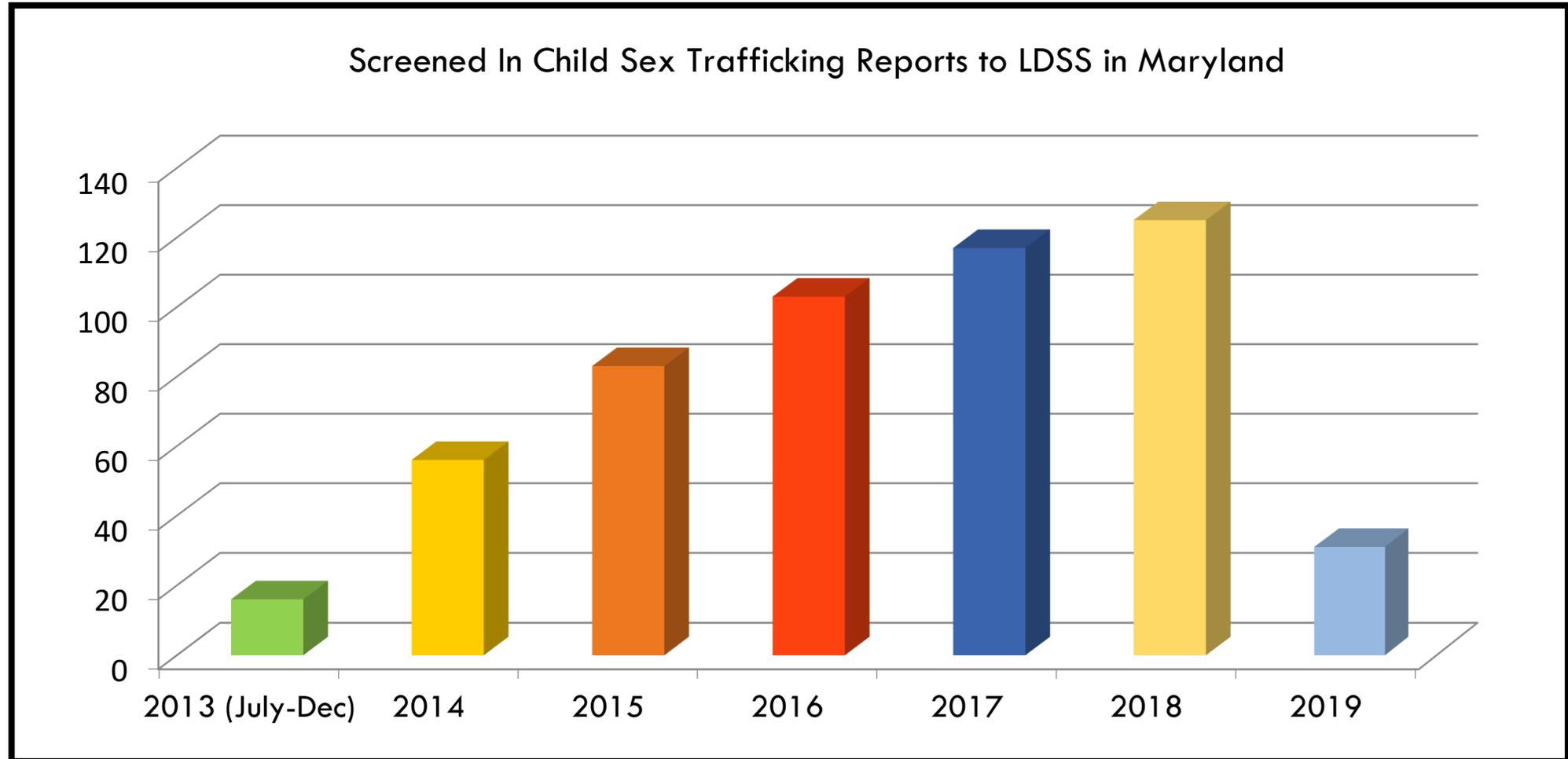
WHY MARYLAND?

- Centrally located: I-95 corridor, I-270, I-70
- International Airports
- Multiple vulnerable populations: Foster youth, unaccompanied minors, domestic servants, agricultural workers.
- Transnational gang presence



Child Trafficking in Maryland

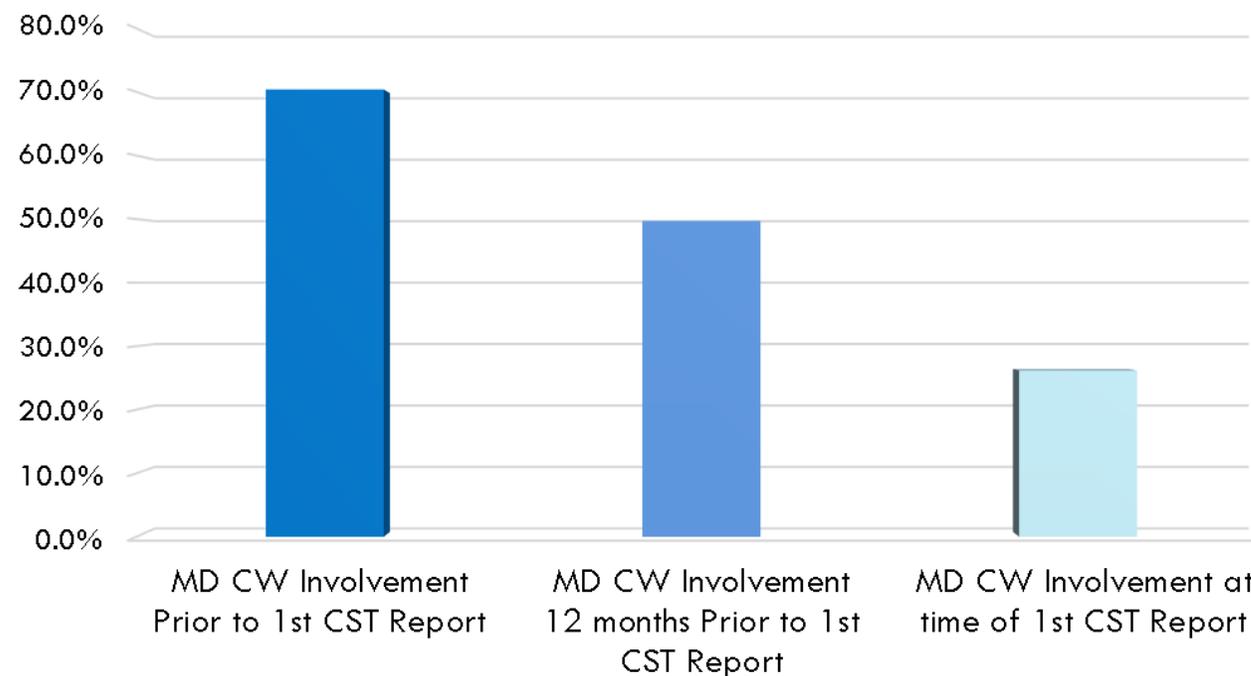
530+ reports of child sex trafficking (CST) screened in to LDSS involving 435+ individual alleged minor victims.



Child Trafficking in Maryland

- 70% of alleged victims* had prior involvement** with Maryland's child welfare system before the first CST report
- 50% had child welfare involvement in the year before the first CST report
- 26% had an open child welfare case at the time of the first CST report

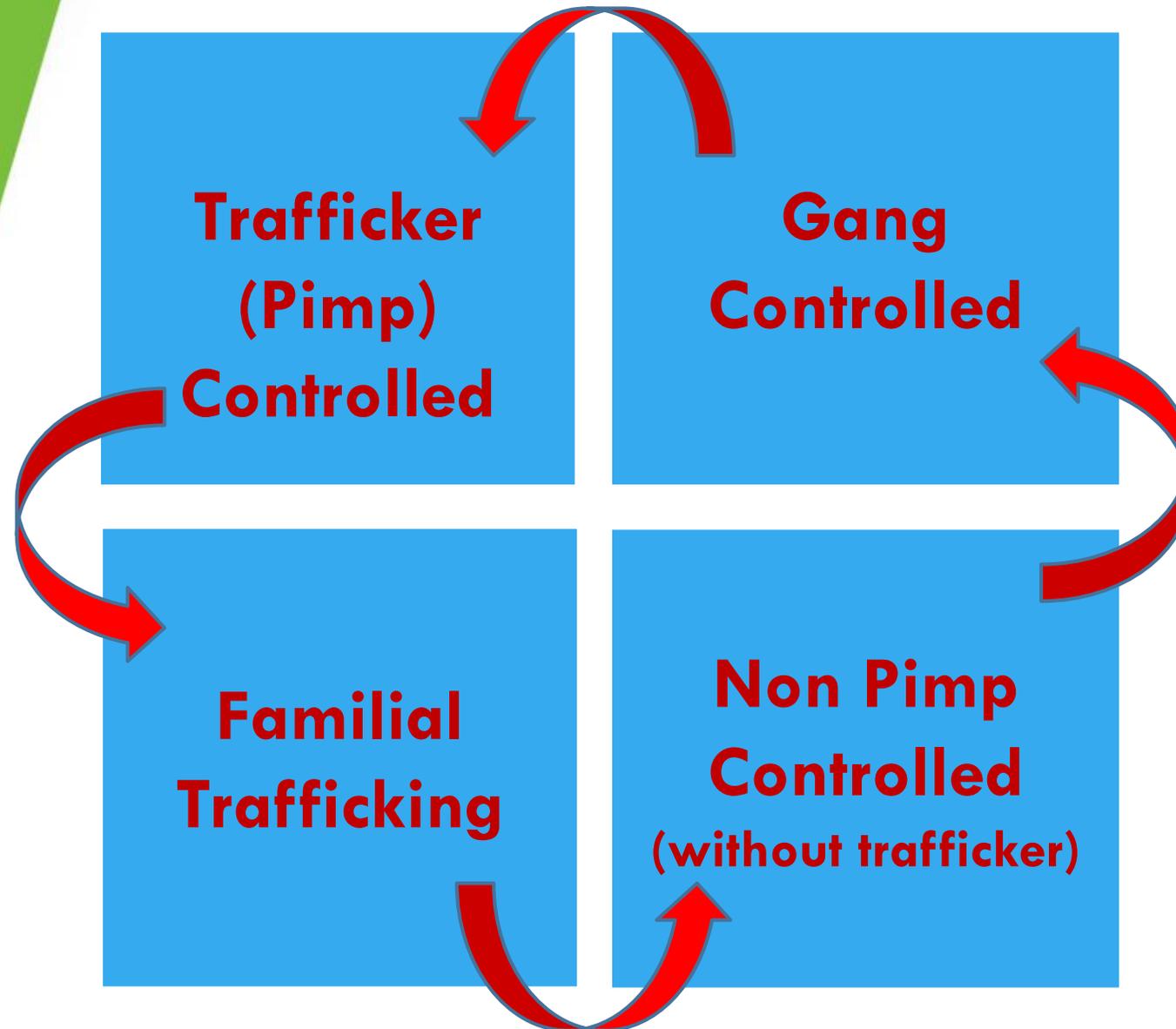
Prior Maryland Child Welfare Involvement of Alleged CST Victim



* Victims who reside in Maryland (n=348)

** Measured by program assignment

Types of Child Trafficking



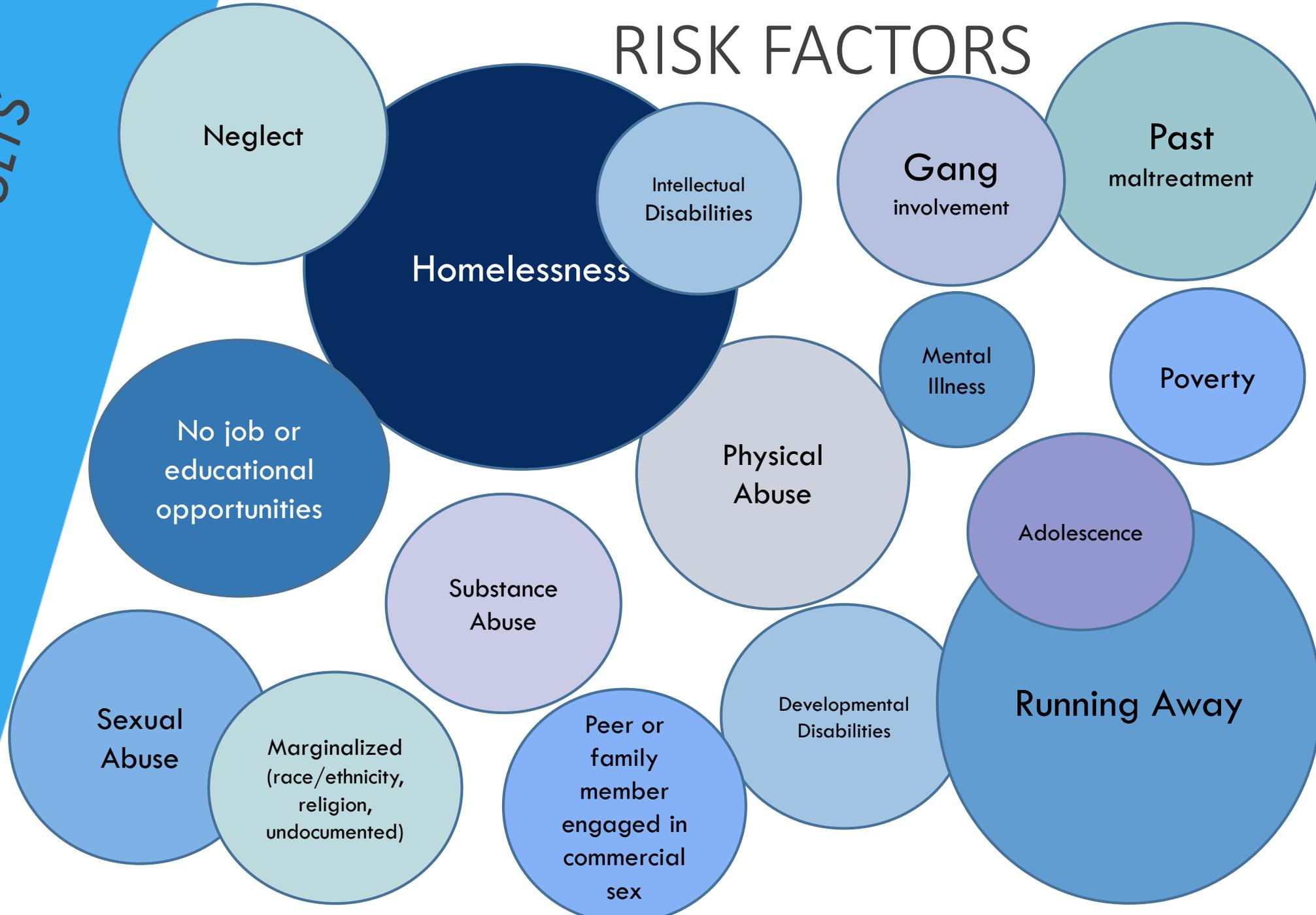
SEX TRAFFICKING SETTINGS	LABOR TRAFFICKING SETTINGS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Street/Track• Private Residences/Brothels• Escort Services• Online Ad/Hotel Motel Based• Commercial Front Brothels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Domestic Work• Traveling Sales Crews• Forced Peddling/Begging• Forced Criminality• Restaurant Food Services• Fraud in Foreign Labor Contracting

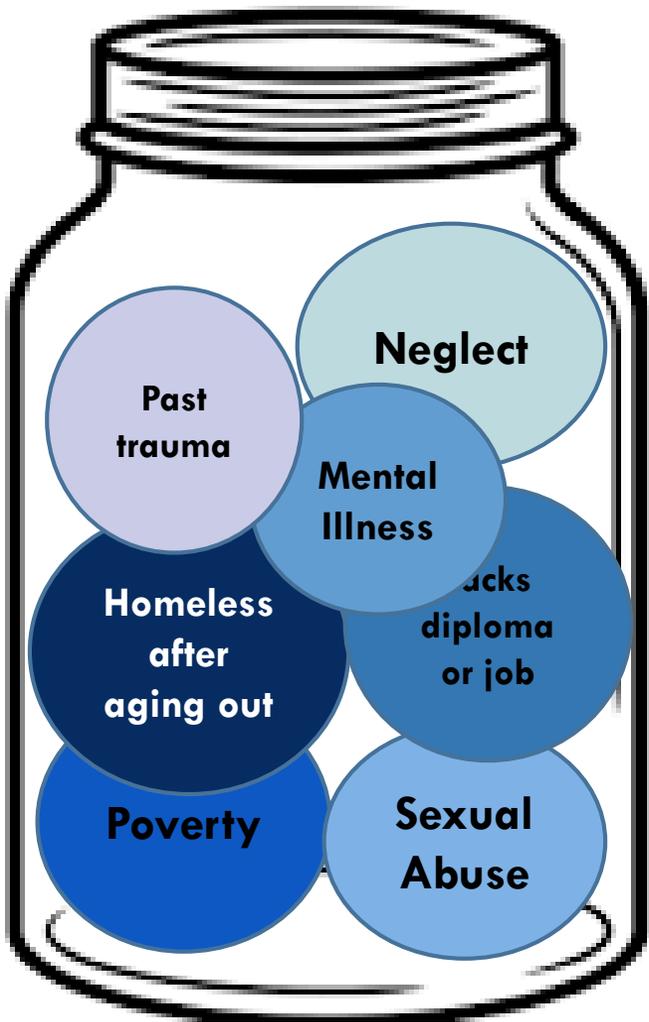
Sex and Labor Trafficking Can Overlap



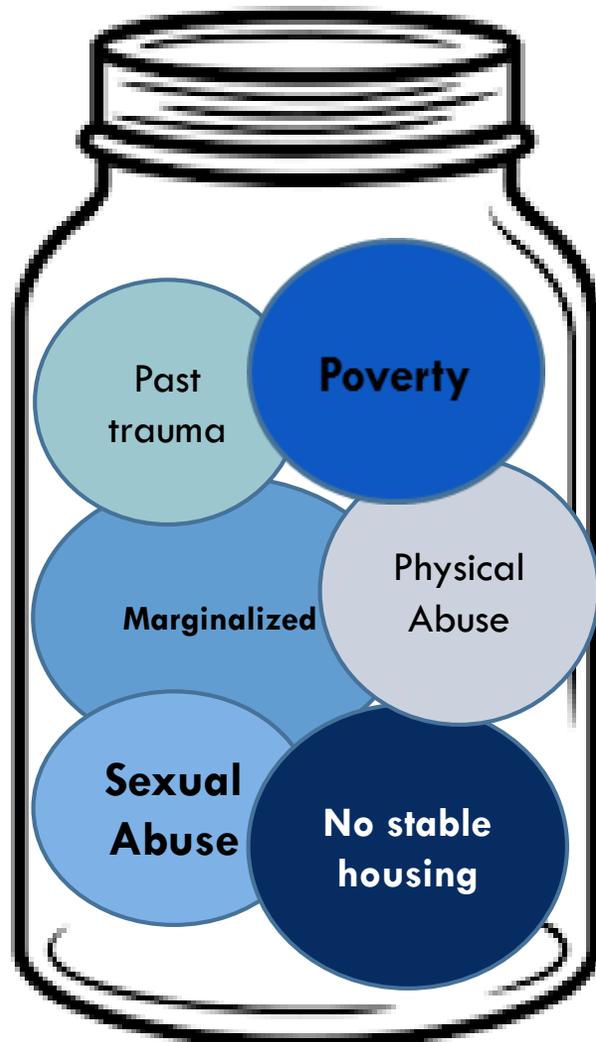
ADOLESCENTS & YOUNG ADULTS

RISK FACTORS

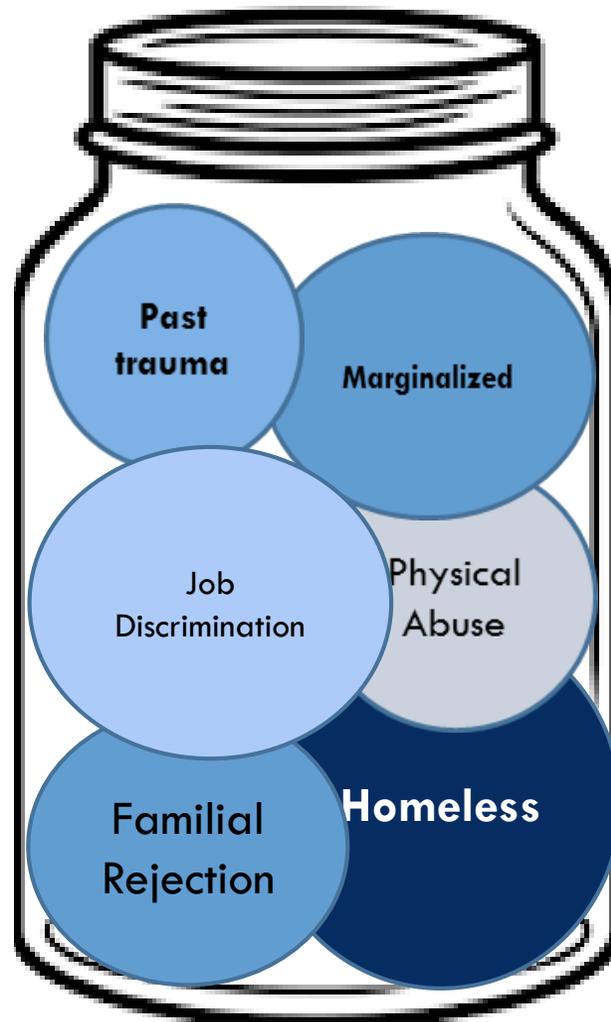




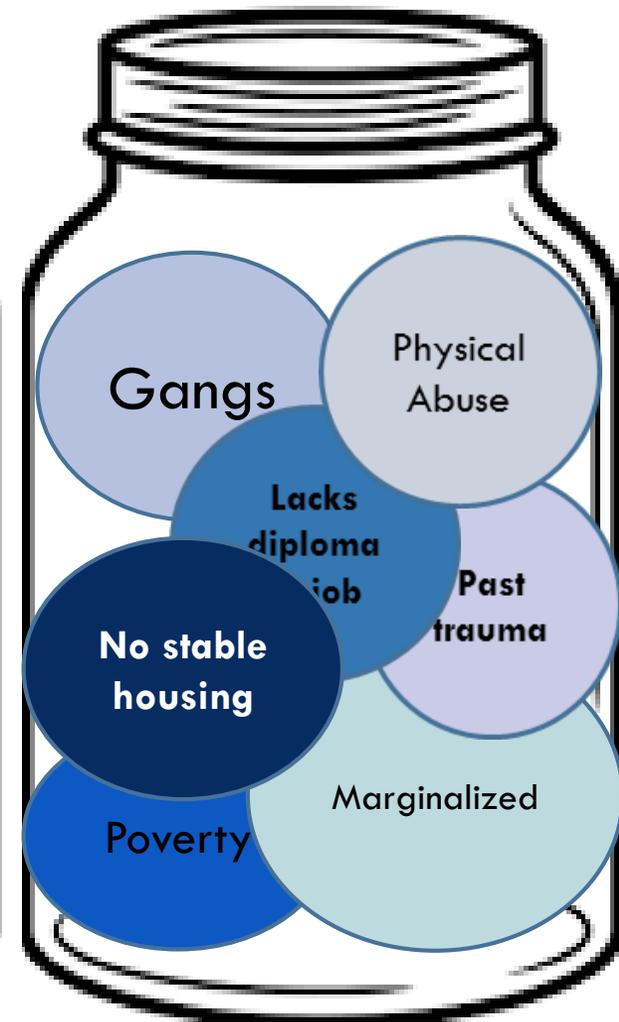
Youth in Out of Home Care



Runaway & Homeless Youth



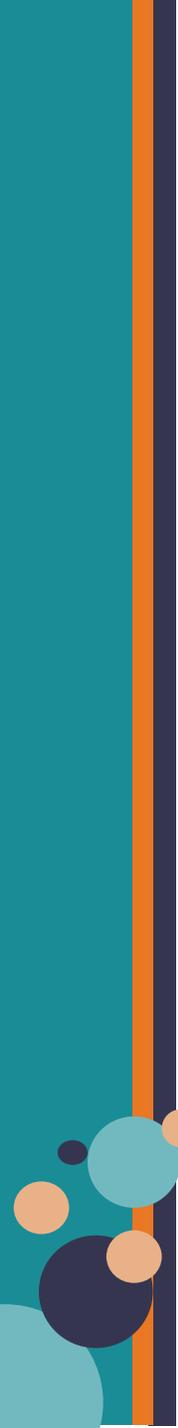
LGBTQ Youth



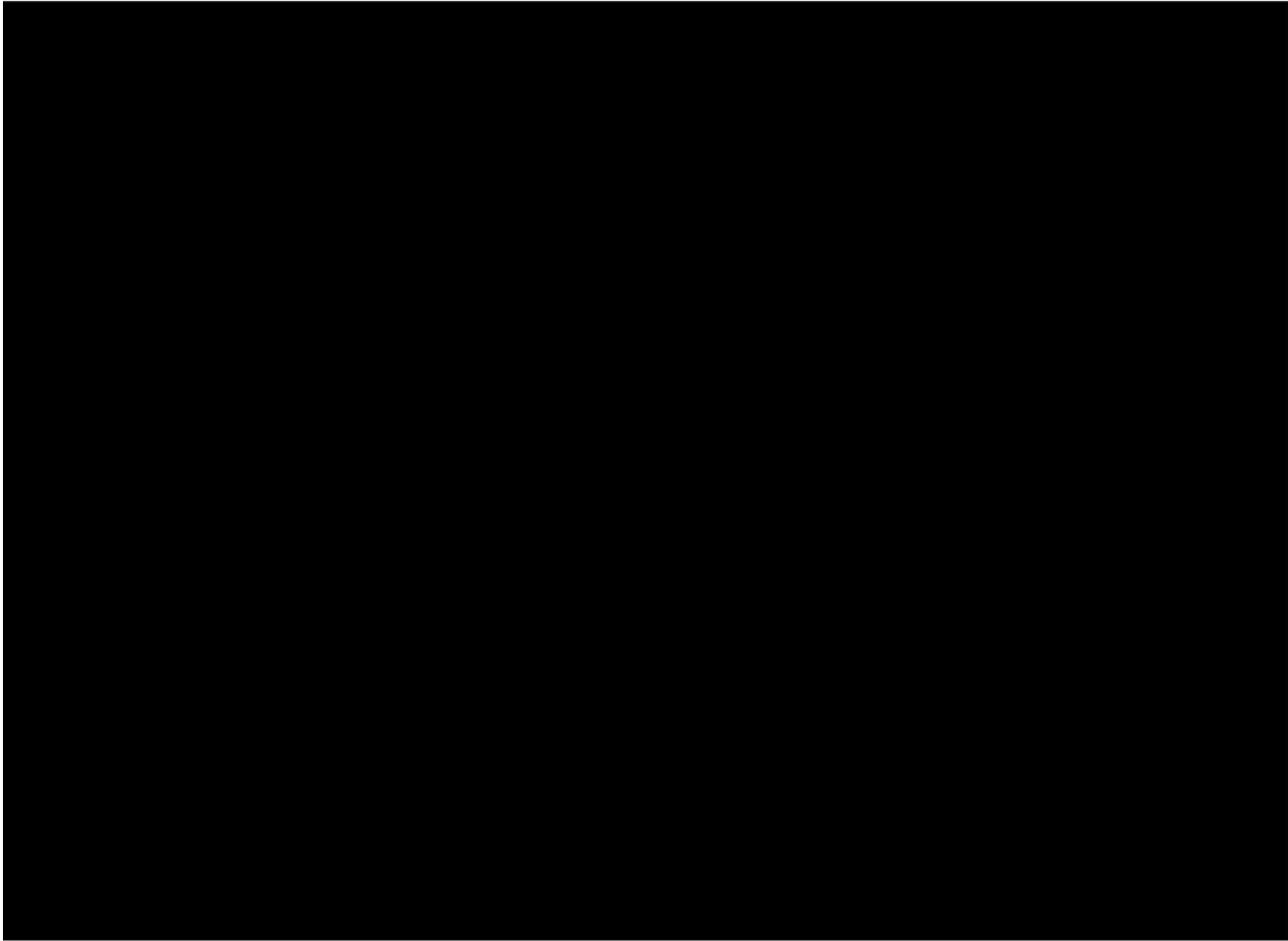
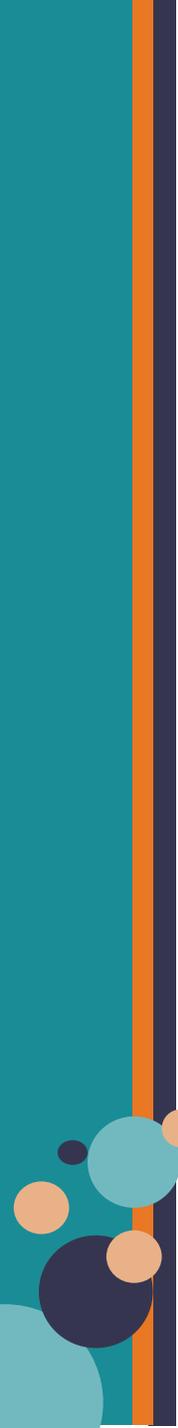
Undocumented Youth

Indicators of Sex and Labor Trafficking

Labor Trafficking	Sex Trafficking
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No control of their ID or legal documents• Not able to decline labor or exit situation• Unpaid promised wages or paid very little through tips• Owes and unable to pay off monetary debt to trafficker• Isolated from friends and families• Works long hours with very limited rest• May initially appear as child abuse or neglect, failure to enroll in school, truancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Involved in the commercial sex industry and has a “manager” or “boyfriend”• Chronic runaway• Has access to money or material items that do not fit their situation (hair, nails, clothing, shoes, electronics)• Signs of physical and sexual abuse• May not be in control of finances/partner may ask for survivor wages.• Monitors communication and movement• Is not able to make their own decisions• May initially appear as intimate partner violence• Multiple cell phones• Brands/tattoos



Kelly's Story

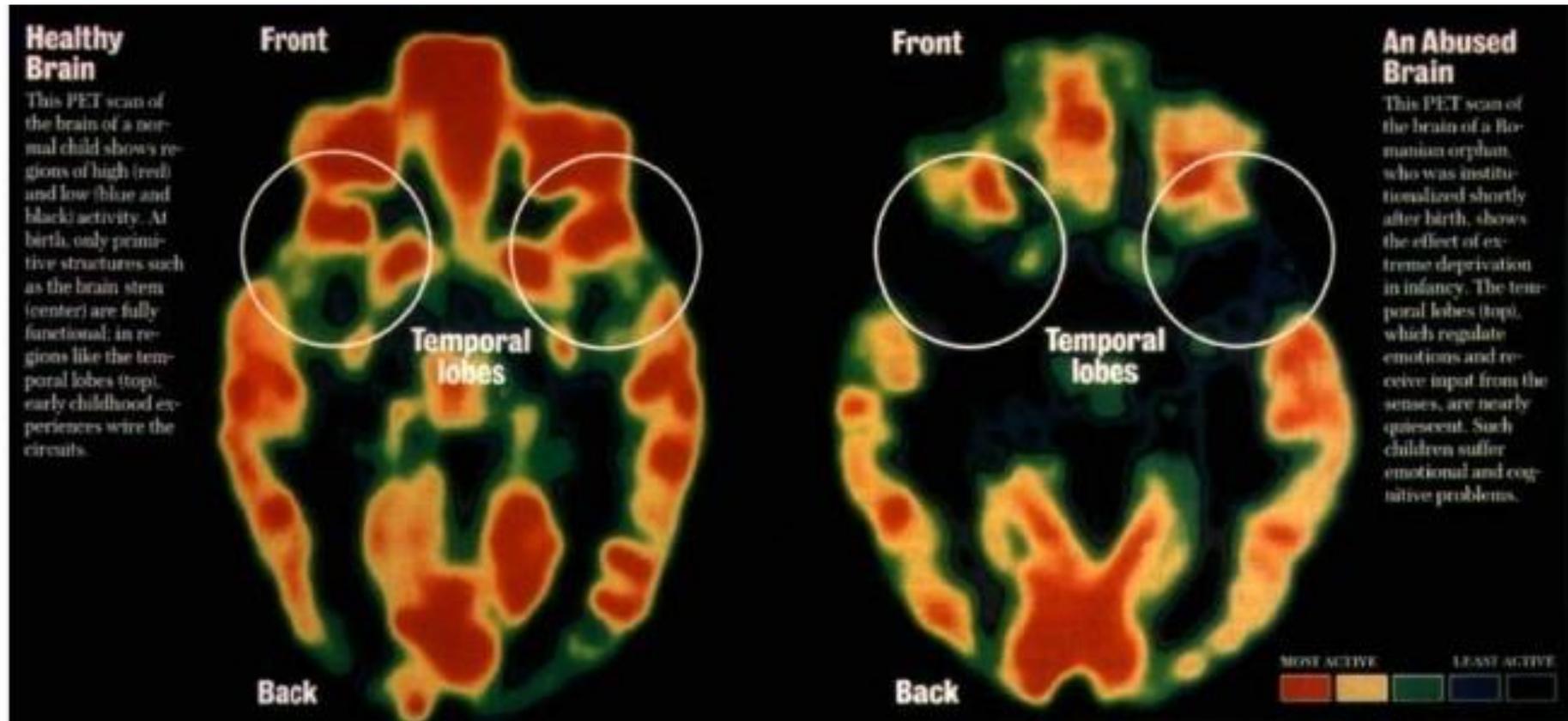


Complex Trauma

- Repetitive, prolonged, or cumulative
- Most often interpersonal, involving direct harm, exploitation, and maltreatment including neglect/abandonment/antipathy by primary caregivers or other responsible adults
- Often occurs at developmentally vulnerable times in the victim's life, especially in early childhood or adolescence

Credit: National Institute of Mental Health

Complex Trauma and the Brain



Complex Trauma and the Brain

- Over Development of the Amygdala
 - Increased hyper arousal states (i.e. Survival Instincts/Fight, Flight, Freeze)
- Under Developed Pre-Frontal Cortex
 - Decreased ability to self regulate
 - Decreased ability to think, reason, problem solve
- Under Developed Hippocampus
 - Decreased ability to discriminate between past and present experiences or interpret environmental contexts correctly

Effects of Complex Trauma on Emotion and Behavior

- Impact of Complex Trauma on Emotion & Behavior
 - Attachment/Relationships
 - Physical Health
 - Cognition
 - Affect Regulation
 - Self Concept/Future Orientation

Citation: <http://www.nctsn.org/trauma-types/complex-trauma/effects-of-complex-trauma>

Working with Survivors

- Impact/Effects of Trauma
 - May not recollect all details of their situation
 - May change their story
 - May appear ambivalent or show no emotional reaction
 - May need other outlets to communicate their experiences- Physical, Creative, Skill Building, Artistic, etc.
 - May return to trafficking situation

Working with Survivors

Create a Safe Place

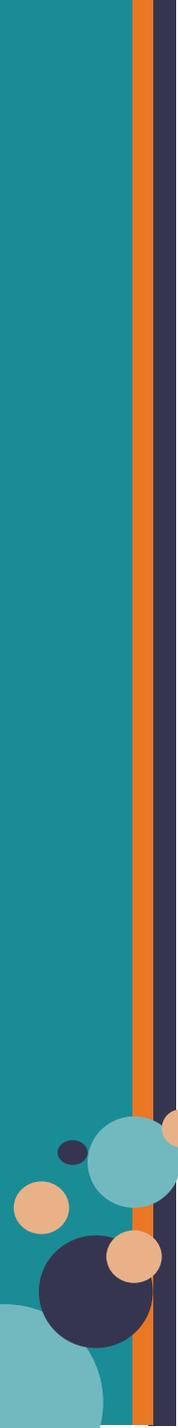
- May have a hard time trusting providers
- May have a difficult time talking about their experience
- May express a wide range of emotions
- May have a hard time understanding due to language barriers
- You may not get the full story during the first meeting

Build Trust

- Be careful about how you talk about the controller.
- Use open-ended questions or motivational interviewing techniques.
- Practice transparency and non-judgmental inflection
- Keep Stages of Change in mind

What to do if you suspect that someone has been Trafficked

- **National Human Trafficking Hotline 1-888-373-7888**
- When reporting Information to provide:
 - Type of Trafficking
 - Number of Potential Victims
 - Location of Trafficking and Current location of Victim
 - Victim demographics: Age, gender, nationality
 - Any information about the case and location if trafficker
- Mandated reports must report suspected cases of child sex trafficking to CPS



Thoughts? Questions?

Resources

The Ruth Young Center at the University of Maryland , School of Social Work.
Prevention of Adolescents Risk Initiatives, Child Sex Trafficking Victims Initiative

- <http://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/pari/the-projects/child-sex-trafficking-victims-initiative/>
- <https://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/pari/the-projects/maryland-human-trafficking-initiative-for-children--youth/>

The University of Maryland SAFE Center

- <https://www.umdsafecenter.org/>

The Institute for Innovation & Implementation at the University of Maryland , School of Social Work

- <http://theinstitute.umaryland.edu/>

Contact Us

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