



### **ALIA DEWEES**

Director of Aftercare Development
Safe House Project

Member

CA CSEC Action Team Advisory

Board

Lived Expereince Expert

CSEC/CSE, Homelessness,

Foster System

Alia@SafeHouseProject.org



## BE A SAFE HOUSE. BUILD SAFE HOUSES.

Safe House Project is uniting communities to end domestic sex trafficking and restore hope, freedom, and a future to every survivor.

Safe House Project's mission is two-fold: increase survivor identification beyond one percent through education and ensure every survivor has access to safe housing and holistic care by accelerating safe house capacity and development across America.

Safe housing and restorative care is critical to ending the cycle of victimization. Education is key to spotting, reporting, and ultimately, preventing trafficking.



## WHEN WE BEGAN IN 2018, HHS REPORTED THAT 300K AMERICAN CHILDREN WERE BEING TRAFFICKED.

OF VICTIMS ARE IDENTIFIED

BEDS FOR ROUGHLY 3,000 KIDS RESCUED EACH YEAR

OF THOSE RESCUED END UP BACK IN TRAFFICKERS HANDS IF THEY DO NOT HAVE A SAFE PLACE TO GO WITH PROPER CARE



## SAFE HOUSE PROJECT PROGRAMS



#### PREVENTION AND IDENTIFICATION TRAINING

- Law enforcement, first responder, and military in-person training.
- Community-based, online training with OnWatch.
- Corporations



### **SURVIVOR EMPOWERMENT**

- Rescue operations / escape
- Emergency transport and services
- Skilling of survivors with professional mentors



### **ACCELERATE SAFE HOUSE DEVELOPMENT**

- Mentoring new organizations to launch safe housing programs
- Funding the national expansion of safe house capacity
- Uniting the anti-trafficking industry to drive collaboration and scale



# MYTHS AND ya TRUTHS

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Women and girls are not the only ones that can be victims of sex trafficking

#### **TRUE**

Men and boys are also victimized by sex traffickers. LGBTQ boys and men are seen as particularly vulnerable to trafficking.

@reallygreatsite



Sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion (22 USC § 7102).

individuals under the age of 18 are considered to be victims of sex trafficking, regardless of the use of force, fraud, or coercion.



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## HOPE

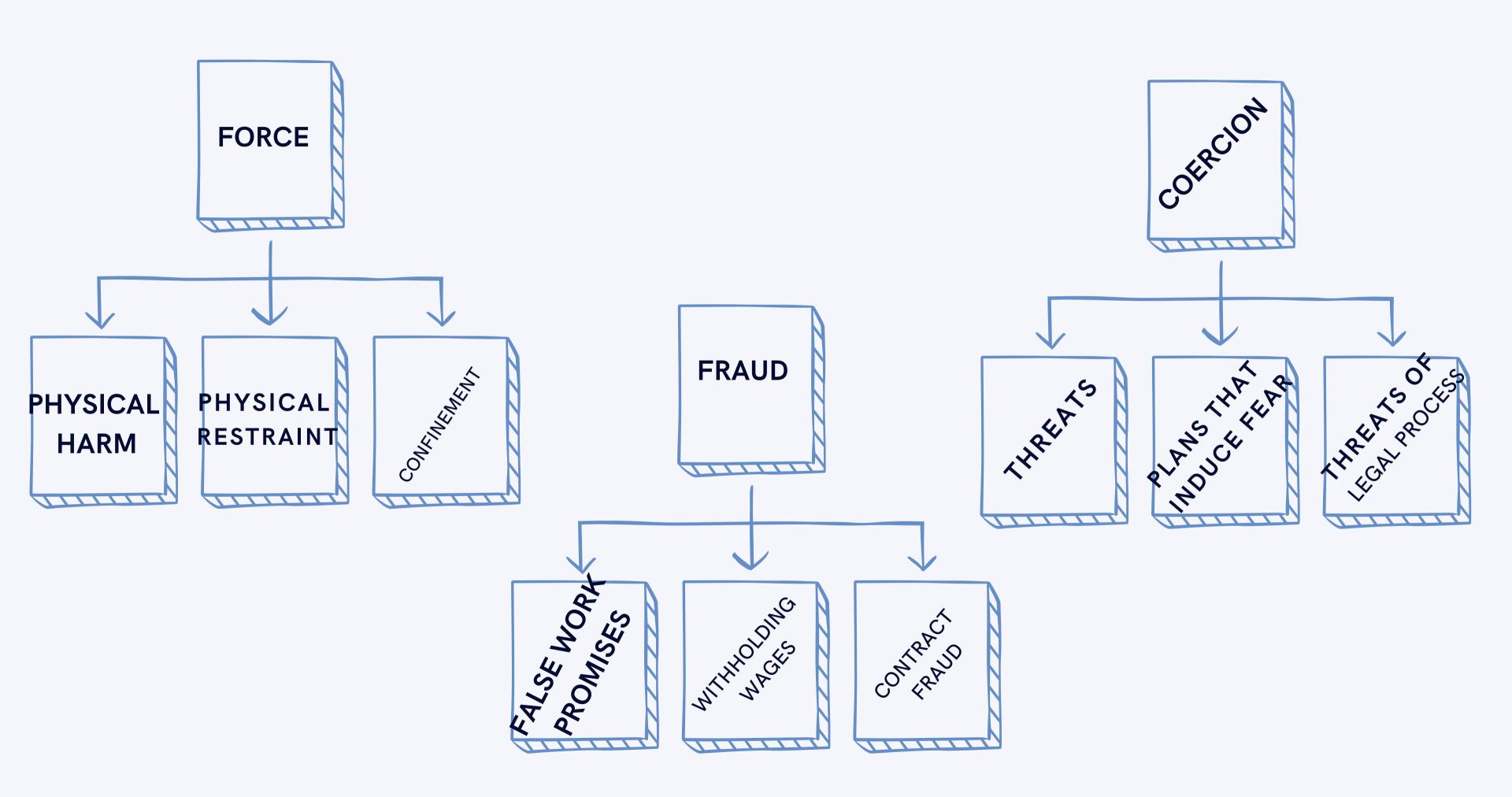
TRAFFICKED FROM AGES 6 TO 11



## INDICATORS IN HOPE'S STORY:

- Dissociation
- Physical Abuse
- Uncomfortable around the adult they are with
- Fearful of being touched
- Out of school at an odd time of day



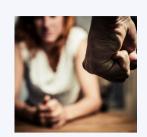


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### HOW ARE CHILDREN SEX TRAFFICKED IN AMERICA?



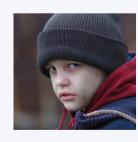
BOYFRIENDING - A "Romeo Pimp" prides himself on his ability to control his girls primarily through psychological manipulation. These pimps often shower their victims with expensive gifts, dates, and affection while recruiting them, but extreme violence is a constant threat.



FAMILIAL TRAFFICKING - 40% of children are trafficked by a family member. Familial trafficking is the most common type of child trafficking in America. Children often are unaware that money has exchanged hands, and have been groomed from a young age.



"GUERILLA TRAFFICKING - When a trafficker uses physical violence and force to control his victims. If a girl is resistant to being "turned out," she may be put through the "seasoning" process. This includes psychological abuse; gang rape; beatings; sodomy; deprivation of food, water and sleep; holding her children hostage; or threatening loved ones.



SURVIVAL SEX - Many homeless children engage in survival sex because of their extreme need. It describes the practice of an individual who is homeless or otherwise disadvantaged in society, trading sex for food, a place to sleep, or other basic needs, or for drugs.



SEXTORTION- It begins when a predator reaches out to a young person over a game, app, or social media account. Through deception, manipulation, money and gifts, or threats, the predator convinces the young person to produce an explicit video or image (which are usually sold as child pornography, escalating this crime to sex trafficking).

## A \$99 Billion dollar industry fueled by:

- FAMILY
- FRIENDS
- CARE TAKERS
- PEERS
- SIGNIFICANT OTHERS
- OTHER



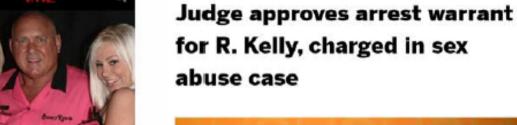
## sexual exploitation is a cultural epidemic







**DENNIS HOF BUNNY RANCH OWNER** DEAD AT 72





YouTube's pedophilia problem: more than 400 channels deleted as advertisers flee over child predators









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## WHO ARE THE VICTIMS?

- ADULT ORMINORS
- FOREIGN
  NATIONALS
- U.S.
  CITIZENS
- ANY GENDER IDENTITY

- Diverse ethnic and socio- economic backgrounds
- Varied levels of education
- Both
   documented and
   undocumented

+ VULNERABILITES

## RISK FACTORS FOR SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT

Parents who have been exploited are at a higher risk for system involvement before during and after their exploitation



Mental Health Crisis



**Domestic Violence** 



Systemic Vulnerability i.e. Race



Substance Abuse/Dependency



Innadequate Childcare



Lack of support system



Homelessness



Previous Child welfare involvement



Other poverty related disadvantages



### SIGNS & INDICATORS:

- Older boyfriend
- Hypersexualized relationship
- Expensive gifts
- Isolation
- Fearful & Easily Startled
- Physical Abuse
- Going or sneaking out



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## WHO ARE THE TRAFFICKERS?

# Former Marine Who Pleaded Guilty to Decades of Sex Trafficking Sentenced to 30 Years

Boone County attorney indicted on charges of human trafficking, bribing witness

Pastor, girls high school basketball coach among 79 arrested in Hillsborough County human trafficking operation

## Grandmother Arrested for "Selling" Granddaughter for Sex

Northwestern Cheerleaders Forced Into 'Commercial Sex Acts': Suit

A Northwestern University cheerleader says the university and athletic department staff violated Title IX and anti-human trafficking laws.



Hopkins high-schooler gets 3 years for prostituting cheerleader

021 at 1:27 pm CT | Updated Tue, Feb 2, 2021 at 12:33 pm C







# MYTHS AND help TRUTHS

Most victims of human trafficking don't seek help when they have the opportunity

# MYTHS AND TRUTHS TRUTHS

Human Trafficking is always or usually a violent crime

### **TRUE**

Many victims of trafficking may not seek help due to several factors including shame, fear, guilt, and self-blame, and expert manipulation. These factors listed are among the many factors that may keep a person from seeking help or identifying as a victim even if they are, in fact, being actively trafficked.

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Human trafficking only occurs in illegal or underground industries

#### **FALSE**

Human Trafficking cases have been reported and prosecuted in industries including restaurants, cleaning services, construction, factories, hotels/motels and more.

## SEX TRAFFICKING IN AMERICA

Sex trafficking is the second-largest criminal industry in the country and affects every age, gender, race, and social class. We need to come together to fight this horrible



Hundreds of thousands of children are trafficked each year in the U.S.



Trafficking reporting has increased by over 40% during COVID-19.



The average age a person is first trafficked is 12 years old.



40% of child sex trafficking victims are sold by a family member.



Only 1% of sex trafficking victims in the U.S. are ever identified.

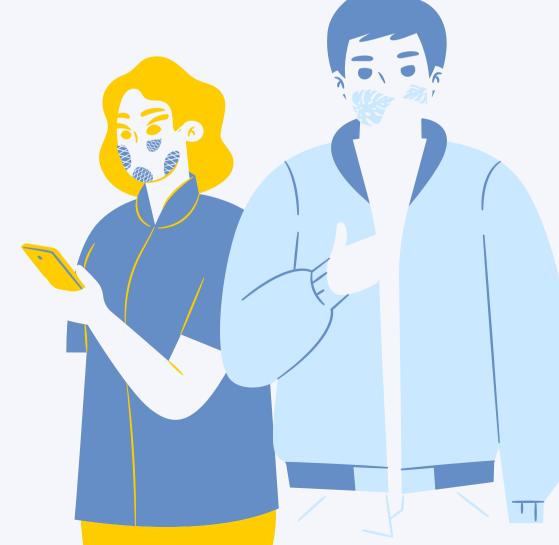
Loss of income has increased familial trafficking. Prior to COVID, aftercare providers reported that 40% of children were being trafficked by a family member. Now, 50% of child survivors report being sold by a family member to meet basic needs of shelter, food, and hygiene products.

Children were trapped with their abusers because of shelter in place. As a result, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) saw a 64% increase in child sexual abuse content reported to their CyberTipline between 2019 and 2020.

Kids are spending more time online than ever before. Child enticement porting to NCMEC has increased by 98% between 2019 and 2020.

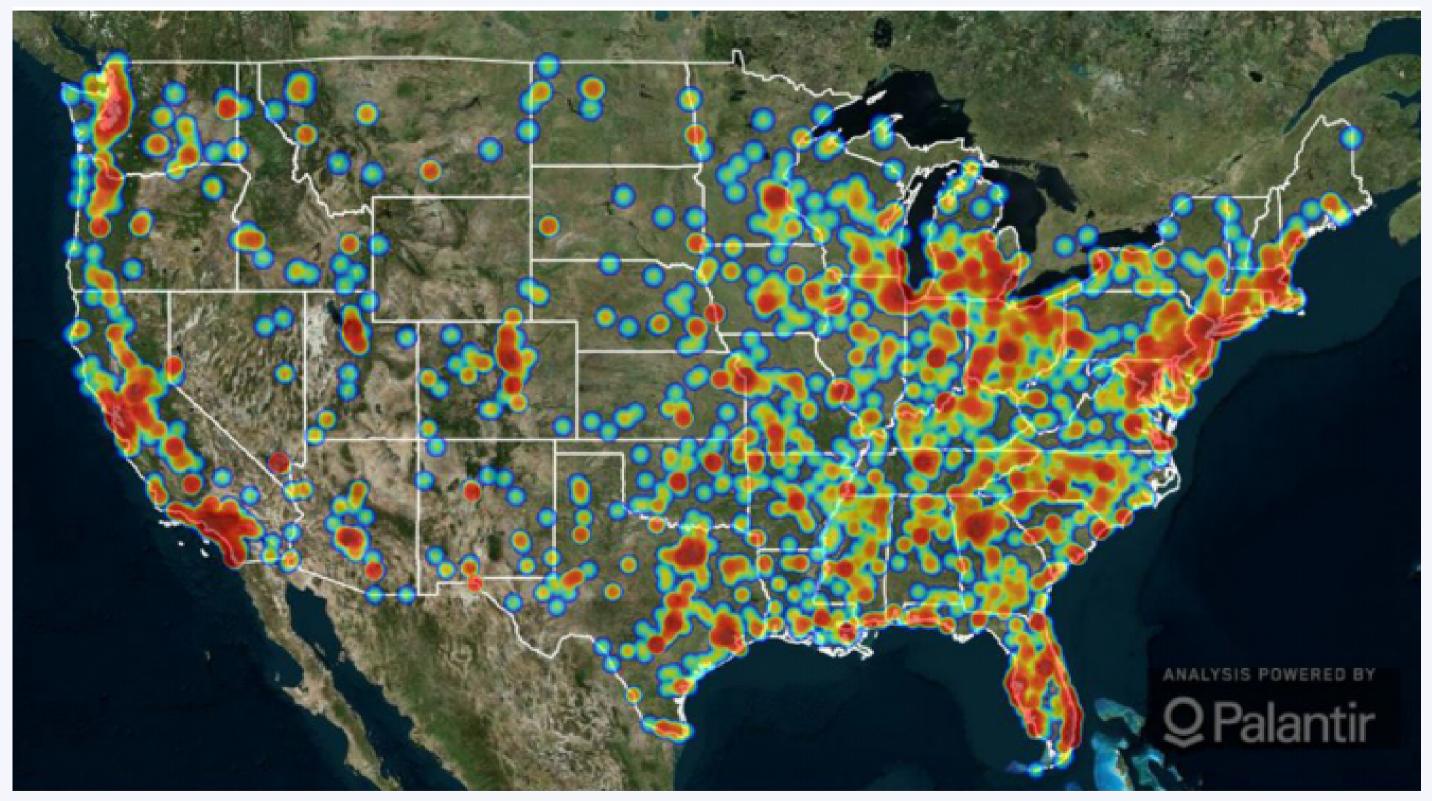
"We need targeted action to stop criminal traffickers from taking advantage of the pandemic to exploit the vulnerable."

- GHADA WALY, UNODC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The United States is 1 of the top 3 nations in the world for trafficking, according to the department of state.

AMERICANS are buying and SELLing AMERICANS FOR SEX



#### CALIFORNIA IS 1ST IN THE NATION FOR TRAFFICKING:

- 34% of identified victims are minors
- 1,118 of these cases were sex trafficking cases, 158 were labor trafficking, and 69 were both sex and labor.
- Most of the sex trafficking cases reported in California were illicit massage and spa businesses and hotel or motel based.
- 1,290 were female, 149 were male, and 10 were gender minorities
- American citizens made up 72% of victims.
- Anyone can be a victim of sex trafficking, but we know that kids who are homeless or runaways,
   LGBTQ, African American or Latino, and youth interacting with the child welfare system are more vulnerable to this type of exploitation
- COVID-19 is increasing familial trafficking of minors, according to HSI.



## What Can Commercial Sex Trafficking Look Like in California?

- Escort Services
  - Hotels/Motels
  - Night Clubs/Strip Clubs
  - Internet Ads
- Outdoor Solicitation
  - "Tracks" or "Strolls" (Street Side)
  - Truck Stops
- Residential
  - Organized Brothels
  - Private Homes/Drug Distribution or "Trap" Homes
  - Massage Parlors

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Issue		Grade	Score			
<b>တ</b> ို	1. Crim	inal Provisions	D	10.5 17.5		
<b>.</b>		tification of and onse to Victims	F	11 27.5		
<b>(</b> )	3. Cont	inuum of Care	D	10 15		
<u> </u>		ss to Justice for icking Survivors	C	11 15		
<u> </u>		for a Victim-Centered inal Justice Response	C	7 10		
	6. Prev	ention and Training	В	1 <u>2.</u> 5		
CREDIT	18+	2				
EXTRA CREDIT	CLT	3				
OVERALL GRADE D 67						





I was seen by many, ignored by most, and saved by **ONE**.
OnWatch trains heroes.

- Julie, Trafficking Survivor





OnWatch™ is a survivor-led training designed to empower you to spot, report, and prevent sex trafficking where you work, live, and play. Through true survivor experiences, industry experts explain the key signs of sex trafficking, as well as how you can support a survivor's path to hope and freedom.

Share the FREE One-Hour Training Available at IAmOnWatch.org





Emergency call 911

National Human Trafficking Hotline: Call 1-888-373-7888 or text "Info" to 233733 (BEFREE)



## Spread the Word www.lAmOnWatch.org

Support our Work www.SafeHouseProject.org/donate

Get Involved www.safehouseproject.org/get-involved



