

What is human trafficking?

Positioned to care:

Improving identification of victims of labor
and sex trafficking in Colorado

Module 1

Please complete the pre-education survey below before continuing:

To reach the survey – you can do any of the following:

- Click on the link below:

<https://redcap.childrencolorado.org/surveys/?s=F9DEYFWA999HY8JK>

- Type the following into a browser:

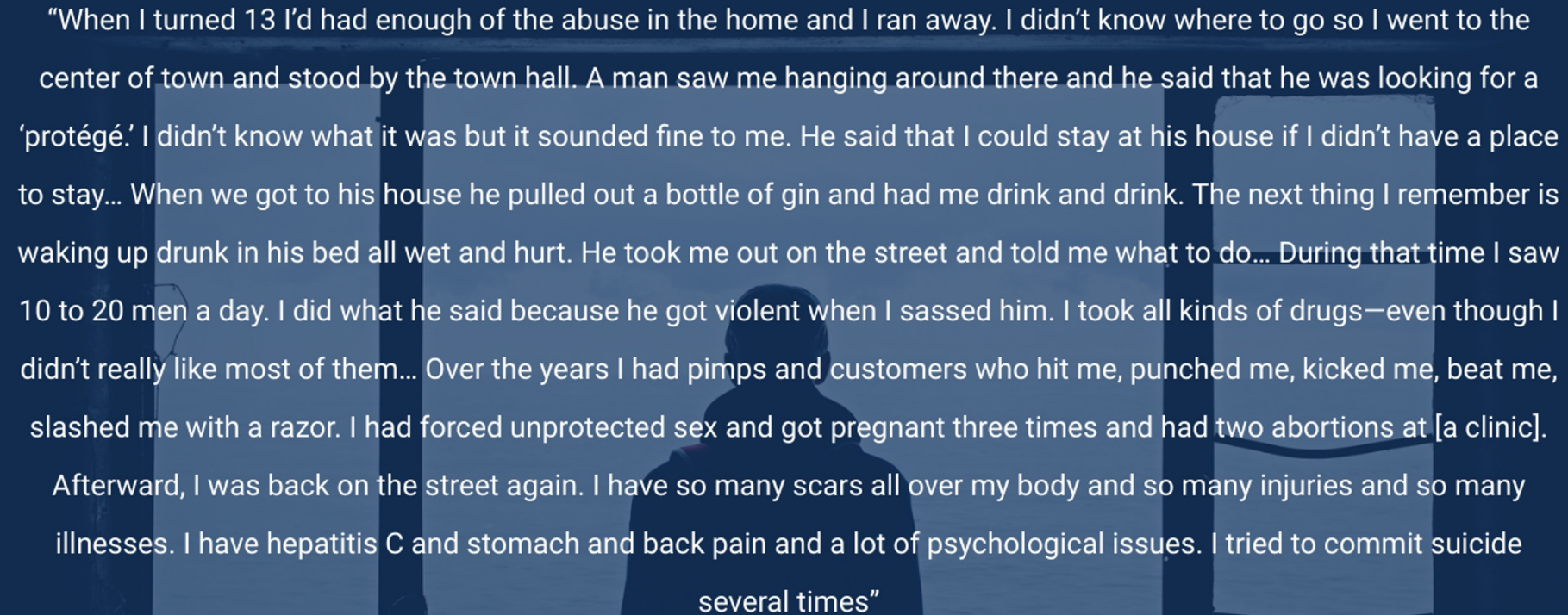
<https://redcap.childrencolorado.org/surveys/>

And enter the code below:

P7NHCMX9K

- Scan the QR code below





“When I turned 13 I’d had enough of the abuse in the home and I ran away. I didn’t know where to go so I went to the center of town and stood by the town hall. A man saw me hanging around there and he said that he was looking for a ‘protégé.’ I didn’t know what it was but it sounded fine to me. He said that I could stay at his house if I didn’t have a place to stay... When we got to his house he pulled out a bottle of gin and had me drink and drink. The next thing I remember is waking up drunk in his bed all wet and hurt. He took me out on the street and told me what to do... During that time I saw 10 to 20 men a day. I did what he said because he got violent when I sassed him. I took all kinds of drugs—even though I didn’t really like most of them... Over the years I had pimps and customers who hit me, punched me, kicked me, beat me, slashed me with a razor. I had forced unprotected sex and got pregnant three times and had two abortions at [a clinic]. Afterward, I was back on the street again. I have so many scars all over my body and so many injuries and so many illnesses. I have hepatitis C and stomach and back pain and a lot of psychological issues. I tried to commit suicide several times”

- Survivor of domestic sex trafficking [Lederer, L, Wetzel, C. “The Health Consequences of Sex Trafficking and Their Implications for Identifying Victims in Healthcare Facilities.” *Annals of Health Law*. 2014;23(1): 61-91.]

Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 and its subsequent reauthorizations define human trafficking as:

- a) Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced **by force, fraud, or coercion**, or in which the person induced to perform such act **has not attained 18 years of age**; or
- b) 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. (22 U.S.C. § 7102(9)).

Human trafficking is a crime.



Labor Trafficking:

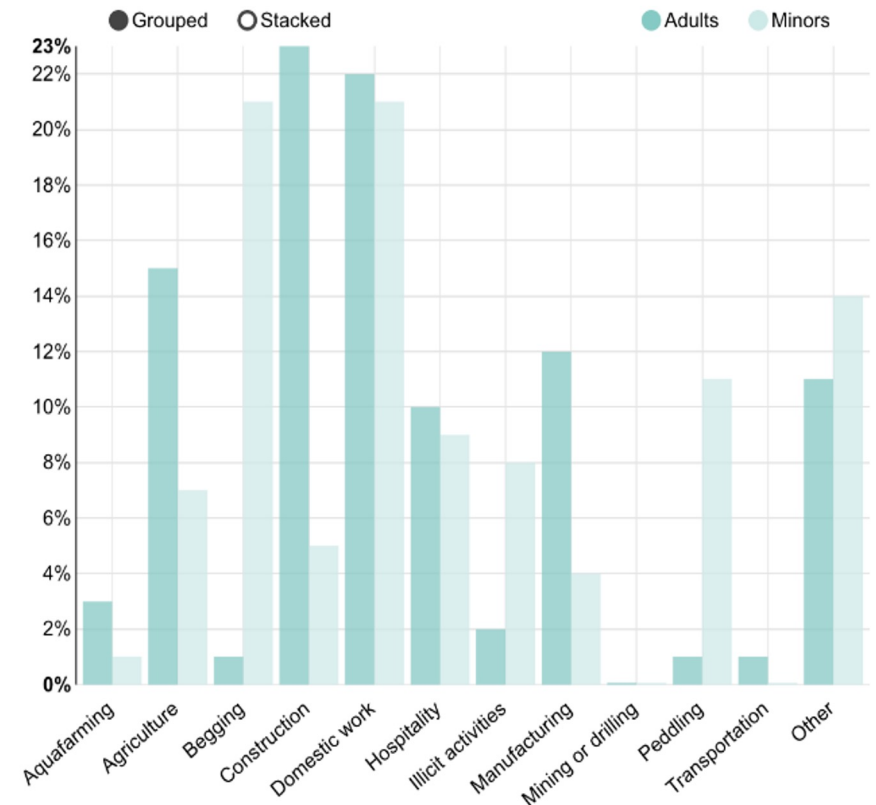
- Happens to kids and adults
- Includes US Citizens and immigrants
- Hidden in plain sight...

- Includes large and small operations
- Is unpaid and / or forced labor often in dangerous conditions

- Debt bondage – workers need to pay off an overwhelming initial debt to the traffickers – passports or paperwork may be held by the traffickers

- Occurs in Colorado
 - Agriculture
 - Personal care (nail salons, massage, etc)
 - Hospitality
 - Construction
 - Begging/panhandling
 - Domestic work / home care / child-care

AGE AND WORK SECTOR OF VICTIMS OF LABOUR EXPLOITATION



Counter trafficking Data Collaborative (CTDC) Feb 2020

- Hussein Abdi Kahin was a 4 year old boy who fled Somaliland with his family after his father was killed during the war
- Separated from his mother and brother and sent to live with his uncle in Djibouti
- 8 or 9 years of age brought to the UK under the name of another child. He was brought by a woman who was said to be a “family friend”.
- Thought he was going to live with family in the UK and had their contact information on a piece of paper.
- The woman took the paper threw it away, told him his name was changed.
- Forced to work for the woman → clean, cook, care for their children (he was a child....)
- Finally allowed to attend school at the age of 12
- A track coach took him under his wing and helped him find a foster family
- Eventually he became a decorated long-distance runner and Olympic Gold medalist.
- He kept quiet about his childhood trafficking because he worried he’d be deported.

This is the story of Sir Mo Farah

Sexual trafficking

Sexual trafficking:

- The recruitment, harboring, provision or obtaining of a person for sex acts through the use of force, fraud or coercion

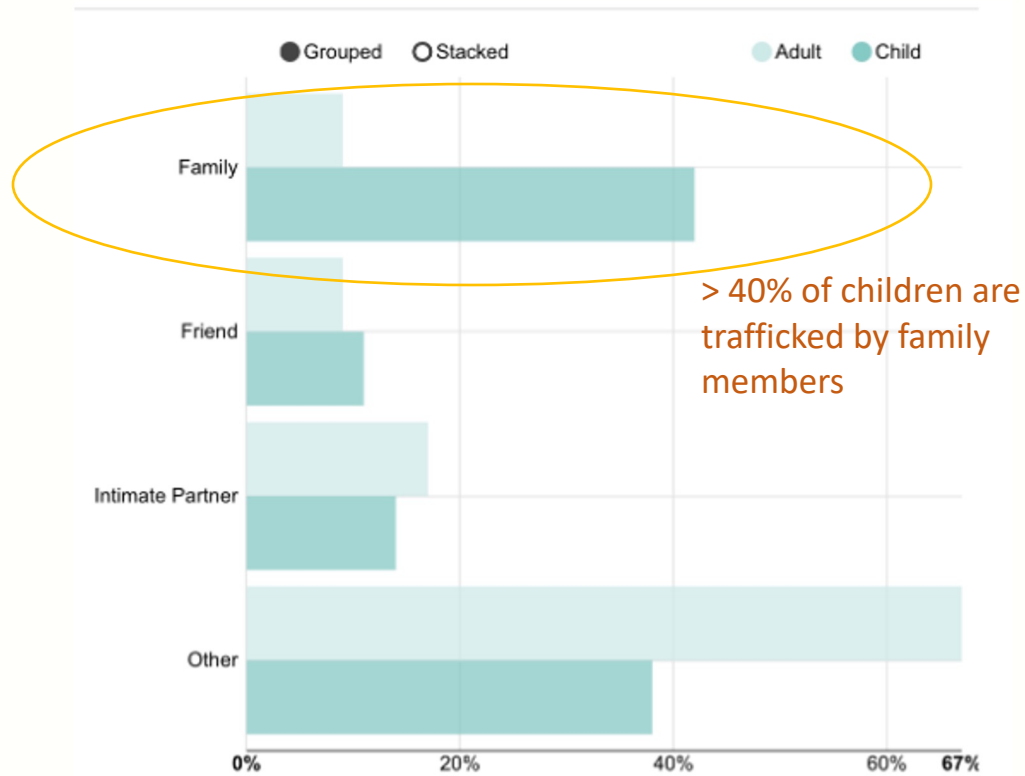
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children is CHILD ABUSE:

- Any person under 18 years of age who has been subject to sexual exploitation as a result of their loitering for the purpose of prostitution or their engagement in an offer to exchange sexual conduct in return for food, clothing, a place to stay, drugs, or a fee

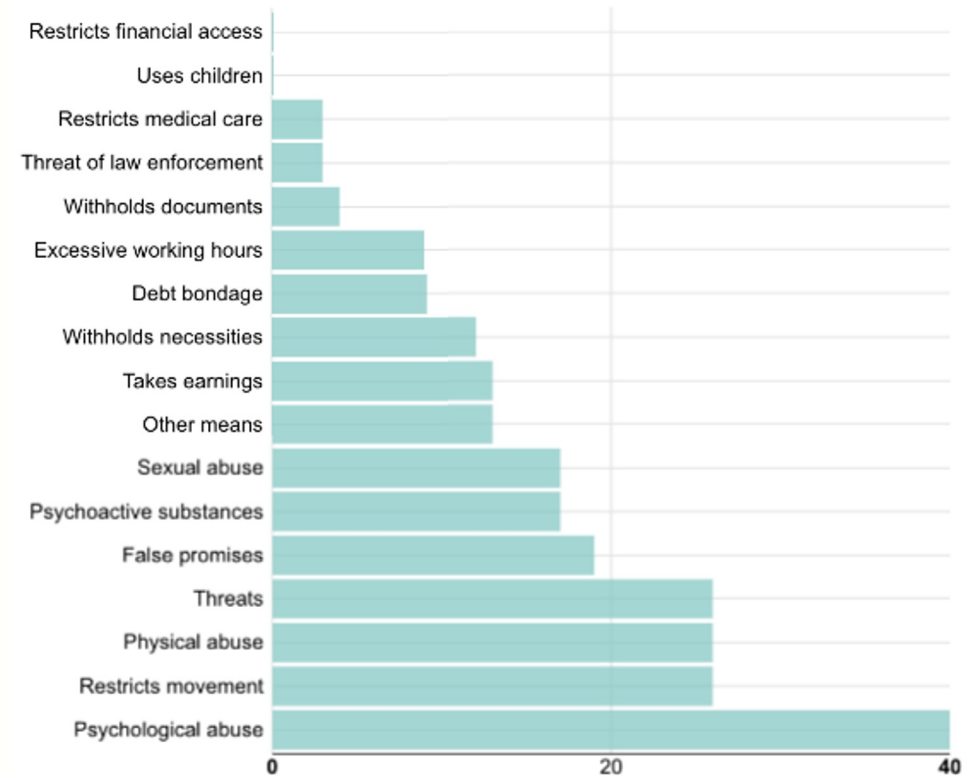
There is no such thing as a child prostitutethey are abused and exploited children.

Who are the traffickers?

RECRUITER RELATIONSHIP ADULTS AND CHILDREN

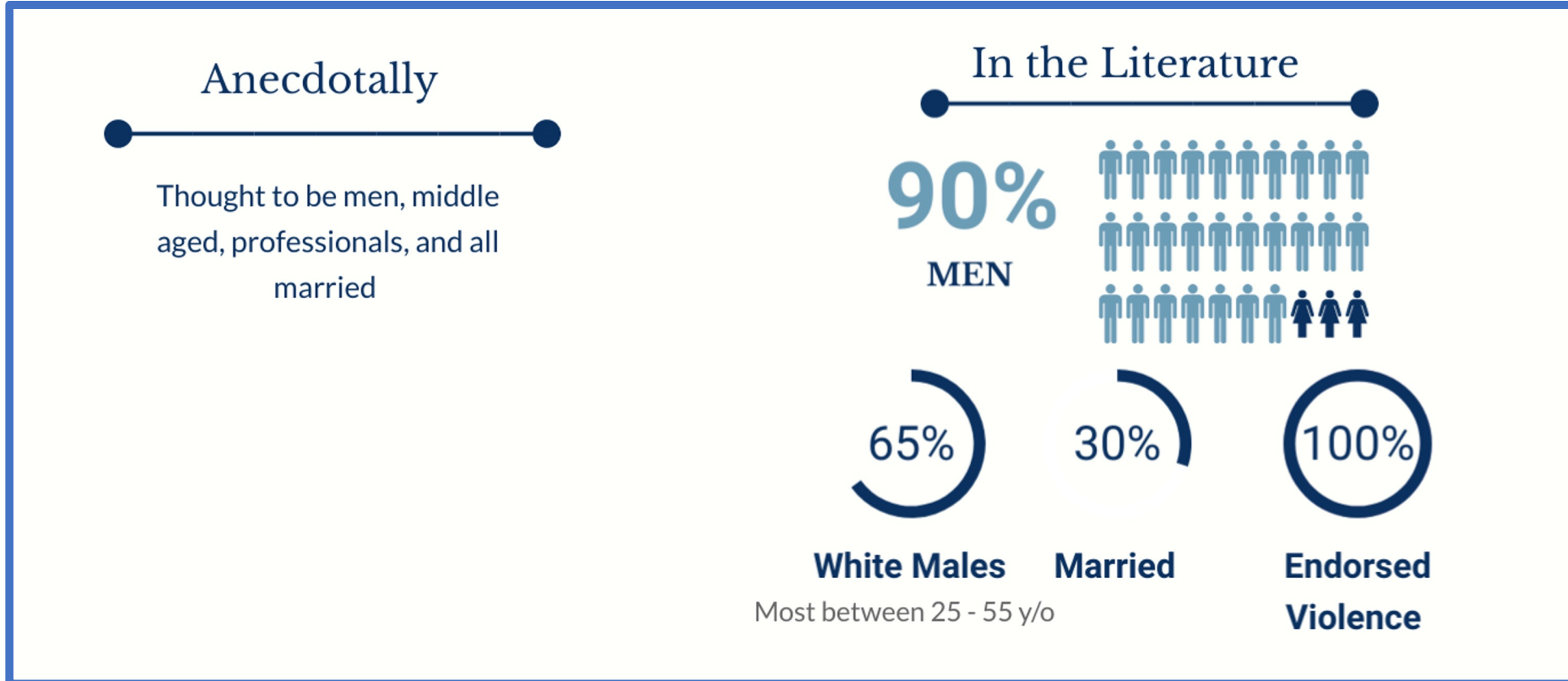


MEANS OF CONTROL USED ON CHILDREN



Who are the "Johns" ?

(or in other words....Who buys children for sex?)



- Mostly men, many are white, some are married.... Almost all are violent
- All are committing child abuse

Why does trafficking exist? (it's the money)

Sex industry is a billion-dollar industry

Sex trafficking is more profitable than illegal drugs

Labor trafficking provides cheap labor without safety restrictions

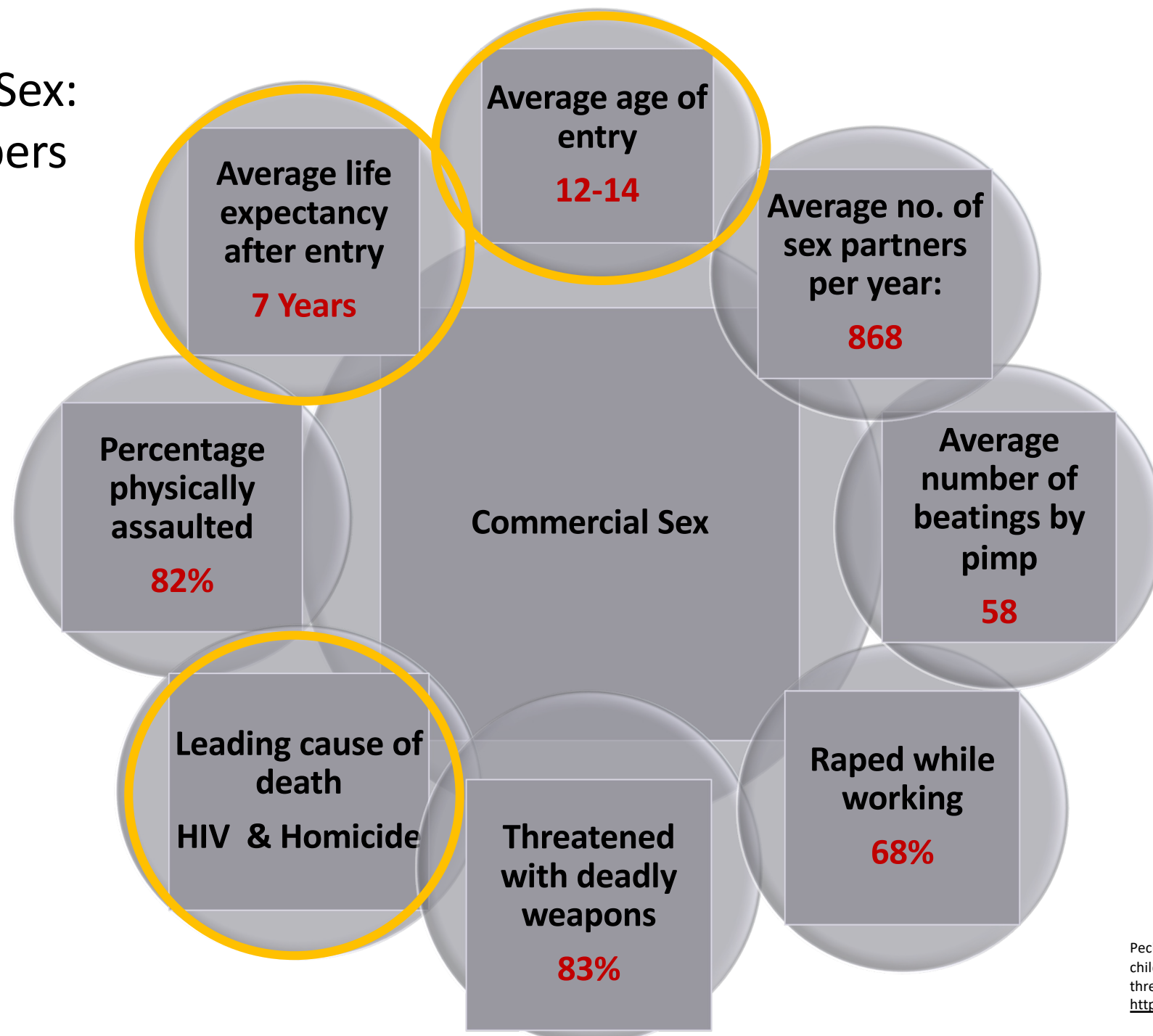
Table 3.1 Estimates of Illicit Markets for Sex, Drugs and Guns and UCE/CE for Other Goods

City	Year	Sex	Drugs	Guns
Atlanta	2003	\$238	\$104	\$169
Atlanta	2007	\$290	\$117	\$146
Dallas	2003	\$99.4	\$134	\$171
Dallas	2007	\$98.8	\$191	\$171
Denver	2003	\$47.2	\$54.7	\$58.4
Denver	2007	\$39.9	\$63.9	\$47.4
Miami	2003	\$302	\$75.4	\$100
Miami	2007	\$235	\$95.7	\$118
San Diego	2003	\$124	\$105	\$46.6
San Diego	2007	\$96.6	\$96.3	\$47.7
Seattle	2003	\$50.3	\$87.3	\$83.1
Seattle	2007	\$112	\$87.4	\$60.1
DC	2003	\$155	\$111	\$150
DC	2007	\$103	\$103	\$160

Amounts listed in millions of US dollars

Dank, M, Khan, B., Downey, P. M., Kontonias, C., et. Al (2014) Estimating the size and structure of the underground commercial sex economy in eight major US cities. The Urban Institute, 348

Commercial Sex: By the Numbers



Trafficking happens in Colorado

- In 2016-2020: 149 cases of child trafficking reported in CO
- 12% of high-risk teens (12-17 years old) screened in a pediatric ED in Denver were found to be likely victims of human trafficking
- 88% of people who are trafficked visit a medical facility during their time of being exploited
- An estimated 150,000-300,000 children in the US are at risk for commercial sexual exploitation each year

Owners of Denver metro-area spas indicted in human trafficking ring

Julia Cardi julia.cardi@gazette.com Apr 8, 2022 Updated Aug 16, 2022

Trail Gazette

Larimer County authorities arrest eight in...



LATEST HEADLINES

Larimer County authorities arrest eight in human trafficking sting



FBI Denver locate victims of human trafficking during operation

11 child victims, 27 missing and endangered children, and 11 adult victims were located in the Denver area, according to the FBI.



BUSINESS

Meat plant cleaning service fined \$1.5M for hiring minors to work in Colorado, other states

Over the past three years, children were found to be using caustic cleaning chemicals and cleaning "dangerous power-driven equipment, like skull-splitters and razor-sharp bone saws"

Author: Wilson Beese (9NEWS)
Published: 8:46 AM MDT August 16, 2022
Updated: 4:33 PM MDT August 16, 2022

AP The Associated Press 6:45 PM MST on Feb 20, 2023



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NEWS

4 people arrested in a Larimer County child prostitution sting

Sady Swanson
Fort Collins Coloradoan

Published 12:42 p.m. MT Dec. 7, 2021 | Updated 3:45 p.m. MT Dec. 7, 2021

View Comments



People who are being trafficked DO present to medical care.....

- 80% of people who have been trafficked were seen by a medical provider within the first 6 months of being trafficked!
- The trafficker will often accompany the victim, and may be
 - Male or Female
 - Present as family member or friend
 - Appear caring, parental, sympathetic
 - Well spoken
 - Reluctant to leave the patient alone
- Patient may refer to pimp as “boyfriend”, “aunt”, “uncle”, “mom”, “daddy”



Yes.

Trafficking happens in Colorado.

Yes.

Commercial child sexual exploitation (sexual assault of a child for money) happens in Colorado

Yes.

There's something you can do to help.

(go to Module 2 to continue to learn...)