HUMAN TRAFFICKING

in Nebraska and the American Great Plains
within the Great Plains, efforts at preliminary research and teaching have begun in order to…

- combat stereotypes
- increase public awareness
- assist law enforcement
- provide statistics for victim-support services
- heal victims
- change policy
- prevent future incidents
DOMESTIC HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- occurs nearly everywhere
- to see it, must...
  - know what to look for
  - look
GEOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (H.T.)
"...GEOGRAPHY MUST BE...A MEANS OF...CREATING OTHER FEELINGS MORE WORTHY OF HUMANITY."

A GEOGRAPHIC LENS

- in its spatial examination of interdisciplinary concepts, Geography has much to offer

- trafficking is better understood through...
  - core/periphery power relationships
  - culture
  - demographics
  - development
  - economics
  - identity
  - migration
  - networks
  - politics
  - urban dimensions
**SOURCES**

- victims and survivors
- law enforcement
  - e.g., detectives, police officers, deputies, FBI special agents and victim-specialist agents, state attorney generals, attorney general office’s state human trafficking coordinators
- legislators
  - e.g., Nebraska state senators
- non-governmental organization (NGOs) and service providers
  - safe house and transitional housing coordinators, non-profit domestic and sexual assault shelter directors
- researchers
  - e.g., Kansas State Clinical Psychologist, Human Trafficking Specialist from Women’s Fund of Omaha, Creighton University Human Trafficking Initiative
APPROACHES

- Humanistic Geography
- Applied Geography
SAMPLE RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- examining and understanding human geography complexities
  - enslavement processes
    - location
    - motivation
      - i.e., middle-aged Vietnamese man enslaved and prostituted in Lincoln in order to “keep him in his place”
  - source regions
  - transfer locations
  - destinations
SAMPLE RESEARCH OBJECTIVES CONTINUED

- identify common characteristics and patterns
  
  - victims
    
    - socio-economic status
      
      - push/pull factors
        
        - i.e., Minneapolis teens lured to Omaha by promises of modeling, but instead forced into prostitution
Sample Research Objectives Continued

- identify common characteristics and patterns
  - traffickers
    - economic demand situations
      - examples
        - College World Series
        - Sturgis
        - pheasant hunting season
        - pipeline construction
        - truck stops
        - state fairs
  - clients
RAPID CITY — A Loup City man has been charged in federal court with attempted sex trafficking at the 2015 Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.

Marcus L. Dorsey, 35, of Loup City is charged in U.S. District Court of South Dakota with one count of attempted commercial sex trafficking of children and one count of attempted enticement of a minor using the Internet.

Dorsey and three others were arrested in Sturgis, S.D., in early August during a sting set up by the South Dakota Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce, South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation and Homeland Security Investigation.

According to court documents, Dorsey allegedly responded to an online advertisement for sex with minors posted by the task force. Dorsey negotiated with undercover agents and agreed to pay $70 for sex with a 15-year-old girl.

Dorsey was arrested Aug. 5 when he went to meet with the undercover agents.

A jury trial is set for Dec. 8 in Rapid City, S.D.
→ just because there isn’t media
coverage of, research on, public
conversation about, etc. doesn’t mean
human trafficking isn’t happening
TEACHING CHALLENGES

- overcoming stereotypes
- more questions than answers
  - lack of...
    - literature
    - background knowledge
TEACHING CHALLENGES

- intense content
  - emotionally disturbing
  - incredibly difficult to...
    - stay objectively removed from the course content
    - maintain an atmosphere of respectfulness
    - between students
  - fear of Information Technologies staff
RESEARCH CHALLENGES

- limited literature
  - Entire regions, like the Great Plains, lack significant, comprehensive research projects and findings.
RESEARCH CHALLENGES

- collecting data
  - illegal activity
- trendy topic
- approaches
  - quantitative
  - qualitative

HELP END CHILD PROSTITUTION
AMERICA'S CHILDREN ARE NOT FOR SALE.

1-800-CALL FBI
CALL FBI (225-5324)
RESEARCH CHALLENGES

- remembering and understanding that place matters, places differ
  - e.g., sex workers' rights literature
    - "Sex trafficking has been used as a smokescreen in a moral crusade to end prostitution." - Ruth Jacobs, "Northern Ireland's Criminalisation of Buying Sex Puts Sex Workers at Risk." Huffington Post, October 22, 2014.
  - The Culture Wars– Liberal Bleeding Hearts or Right Wing Radicals?
    - balancing sophisticated academic theory with on-the-ground realities
DEFINITIONS

▪ “trafficking in persons”
  → “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.”

  ▪ Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children
    ▪ Article 3
  ▪ *the primary legal instrument used to combat transnational organized crime
human trafficking

→ “the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery” (8 U.S.C. § 1101)

Source: U.S. State Department’s Trafficking Protection Act (2000)
“sex trafficking”

→“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, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age” (22 USC § 7102; 8 CFR § 214.11(a))

Source: U.S. State Department’s Trafficking Protection Act (2000)
A McCook man who gave two teenage girls cigarettes in exchange for sex at a Lincoln park in 2013 has been sentenced to 18 to 30 years in prison.

Adam Brunswick, 32, put his hands over his eyes and cried after Lancaster County District Judge Andrew Jacobsen announced the sentence on Tuesday.

One of the teenagers had told police she and a friend met Brunswick on a social networking website and ultimately agreed to meet him at Ballard Park, where he engaged in a sex act with each of them, the prosecutor said Monday.

The girls, who were 14 and 15 at the time, said Brunswick claimed to be in his 20s.

After the first meeting, he continued to contact the girls by text and instant messaging, and a day later, they met him again but had no sexual contact.

When investigators talked to Brunswick in 2014, he told them he thought the girls were 18 or 19 based on their online profiles but admitted that after he met them he realized they likely weren't that old.

He continued to message them for several months.
WHERE?

- wherever a market demand exists
  - entrepreneurs will meet market’s demands
- everyday trafficking and special event trafficking
  - situation in which transient population away from family with dispensable income is willing to engage in risky behavior
- can occur anywhere to anyone at anytime
**PEOPLE**

- Daddy
- "Romeo"
  - Prides himself on controlling others primarily through psychological manipulation. Although he may shower his victims with affection and gifts (especially during the recruitment phase), the threat of violence is always present.
- "Bottom B****/Girl"
  - A female appointed by the trafficker/pimp to supervise the others and report rule violations. Operating as his "right hand," the Bottom may help instruct victims, collect money, book hotel rooms, post ads, or inflict punishments on other girls
- John

**MISC.**

- The Life/The Game
- "Seasoning"
  - A combination of psychological manipulation, intimidation, gang rape, sodomy, beatings, deprivation of food or sleep, isolation from friends or family and other sources of support, and threatening or holding hostage of a victim’s children. Seasoning is designed to break down a victim’s resistance and ensure compliance.
- Track
- Trick
- Quota
- "The Circuit"
  - A series of cities among which prostituted people are moved.
BASIC PICTURE OF H.T. IN THE C.P.

- sex trafficking & labor trafficking are regular everyday and special event occurrences
- local, static victims and nonlocal, moving victims
- occurs nearly everywhere
Sample Entities
Involved with H.T. in Nebraska

• AmeriCorps, Lincoln Literacy
• Catholic Charities-Omaha, Domestic Violence Services
• Central Nebraska Human Trafficking and Immigration Outreach
• Christ Community Church, Omaha
• FBI Child Exploitation Task Force (formerly the Great Plains Innocence Lost Task Force)
• Free The People Movement
• Heartland Family Service-Emergency Services and Safe Haven Shelter
• Homeland Security Investigations
• Human Trafficking Task Force of Nebraska
• I AM for Freedom, Norfolk
• I’ve Got a Name, The Bay
• Lincoln Berean Church

• Nebraska Alliance of Child Advocacy Centers
• Nebraska State Patrol, Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault (DV/SA) Program
• Notre Dame Sisterhood, Omaha
• NUSAMS
• Project Harmony, Children and Family Services
• Salvation Army
• UNL Christian Student Fellowship
• UNL Human Trafficking Conference Team
• Women’s Center for Advancement, Omaha
• Women’s Fund of Omaha
• workgroup on Public Awareness for the Governor’s Task Force
SEX TRAFFICKING AS A MARKET-DRIVEN ENTERPRISE

- “human trafficking is a business” (Tidball, Human 2020)
  - supply and demand factors compounded by power, culture dynamics

- “no Johns equals no sex trafficking” (O’Meara)

- complexities of creating disincentives
  - increasing risk, decreasing benefits
  - “a law that is not enforced is just a nice wish” (Tidball)
EVERYDAY SITUATIONS AND SPECIAL EVENTS PROVIDE THE SETTINGS

- economic demand situations
- everyday situations
  - traffickers mostly small (sometimes “mom and pop”) operations
    - not large, sophisticated networks
  - transaction locations
    - hotels/motels
    - traffickers’ place of residence
    - mutually (trafficker and client) agreed upon location
    - truck stops
“festive atmosphere attracting large numbers of transient men” (Price)
- Roe-Sepowitz (2014)
- e.g., major sporting events
  - e.g., Super Bowl (Dubrawski et al. (2015), Latonero et al. (2011))

- preliminary investigation by Scheer’s office of Backpage ad greatest frequency
  1. College World Series
  2. Berkshire Hathaway Convention
  3. Husker football games
Creighton University study of Backpage ads enumeration via data scraping

- “movers”
  - 84% sex workers advertising in Omaha had advertised elsewhere
  - i.e., “movers” (not locals) account for 84% of all sex workers during CWS

- “locals”
  - increased quotas during CWS

- 44% sex workers advertising in Lincoln also posted in Omaha

- distance decay not prominent
  - interstate access matters more
    - e.g. same phone number would post in several communities along I-80
  - less of an issue for major events
    - posts from Washington, Florida
Nebraska has 5 cities with Backpage escort sections: Omaha, Lincoln, Grand Island, North Platte, and Scottsbluff.

- 92 phone numbers on Backpage nationally have Nebraska area codes.
- There were on average 45 females advertised in Nebraska on a given day in early summer.
- Of these, 81% were advertised in more than one city.

**Number of Females Advertised per Day across Nebraska Cities**

Nebraska is embedded in a regional trafficking network largely defined by I-80 and I-29. These interstates also facilitate national movement. For example, the map shows routes taken by sex workers traveling to and within Nebraska for the College World Series. The national reach of these routes illustrates that Nebraska is part of and affected by the national system. Moreover, this movement into Omaha affected other Nebraska cities located along these routes.

Continued research using Backpage is necessary to understand market dynamics related to fluctuations in demand. Additional research must also identify population vulnerabilities to assess pockets of potential supply across Nebraska and the United States, given that there are numerous paths to victimization. Specifically, more information is needed on trafficking in underreported populations including immigrants, Native Americans, LGBTQ+ individuals, males and high class escort agencies.
**Quick Facts: TRAFFICKING in NEBRASKA**

### What is Human Trafficking?
Human trafficking is the umbrella term that encompasses both the exploitation of individuals for labor as well as exploitation for commercial gain through sex. Acts of commercial sex with anyone under the age of 18 is de facto sex trafficking.

**84%**
The current services landscape in Nebraska is bleak. 84% of service providers do NOT believe they are adequately meeting the needs of trafficked individuals.

Adequate service provision is complicated by **barriers** that limit the ability of trafficked individuals to access services:

- Shame
- Embarrassment
- Isolation
- Lack of trust
- Fear of violence
- Lack of awareness
- No information
- No available services
- Safety concerns

There is a disparity between services needed and the services Nebraska agencies currently provide. For each service identified as a top need, fewer than 30% of Nebraska providers can adequately meet these needs.

Due to this, trafficked individuals have extremely limited avenues to access the services they need.

### WHO IS BEING TRAFFICKED?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA Native</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska Native</td>
<td>36%</td>
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</tbody>
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### TOP 3 NEEDS:

- Mental Health
- Emergency Shelter
- Crisis Intervention

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For more information, please contact Meghan Mask, Trafficking Coordinator at (402) 827-4990 or MMask@OmahaWomenFund.org

Women's Fund of Omaha
7602 Pacific Street, Suite #300, Omaha, NE 68114
www.OmahaWomenFund.org

All of the data represented is from the "Human Trafficking Capacity and Needs Assessment" survey conducted by the Women's Fund of Omaha in 2015.
84% do NOT believe they are adequately meeting needs of trafficked individuals

As a result, the services landscape is bleak:

**Map 1:** Regional concentration of 129 providers who responded “Yes” to the question “Does your program/department currently respond to or provide services for human trafficking victims?”

Of the providers represented above, **the majority provided services that were neither comprehensive nor long term.**

- 42% provided referral for services
- 27% provided service coordination & crisis services

**Map 2:** Regional concentration of 64 providers who responded “Yes” to the question “Do you provide residential/shelter services (overnight accommodations) for individuals who are or have been victims of human trafficking?”

Of the 129 providers responding to trafficked individuals, **only 14% offer long-term housing.**
African Americans represent only 5% of Nebraska’s population, and yet they make up half of all individuals sold for sex in the state.
Many locations without their own Backpage sites—such as Gretna, Council Bluffs and York—have similar per capita numbers of individuals sold for sex as those with sites. The heat map illustrates that commercial sex advertising reaches nearly every town and city along I-80.

Advertising in western Nebraska extends out to Sidney, Kimball and Bridgeport. In the central part of the state, Lexington and Hastings stand out.

AN INTERCONNECTED MARKET

Not only does Nebraska exist within the larger national system, but its cities are part of an integrated state-wide system with a clearly defined structure.

- The overwhelming majority of individuals sold for sex in Nebraska are based in the state.
- Individuals from 27 states are sold for sex throughout Nebraska on a monthly basis. These individuals are located in other states including New York, Massachusetts, Florida, Oregon and California.
- 51% of individuals travel and 45% cross state lines in order to be sold for sex.
OMAHA NOV. 2016-MAY 2017

Creighton University HT Initiative recent Backpage analysis
Market Analysis

Where are they from?
1. Sioux City
2. Des Moines
3. KC
4. Lincoln
5. Chicago

Where do they go?
1. Sioux City
2. Lincoln
3. Sioux Falls
4. KC
5. Minneapolis

- Static Locals 74%
- Traveling Locals 9%
- Visitors 17%
Market Analysis

- 1,692 Sex workers
- Young
  - 12% are 18-20 years old
  - 48% are under 24 years old
- Evidence of Pimps
  - Average stable size is 2.3
  - 914 girls (54%) share a phone number with at least one other girl
Market Analysis
KANSAS IS A HIGHLY LOCAL MARKET

Creighton University HT Initiative recent Backpage analysis

▪ Where do they go?
  ▪ Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Nebraska, Arkansas

▪ Where do they come from?
  ▪ Missouri, Texas, Oklahoma, California, Colorado

▪ “everyday” ads in Wichita, Topeka, Manhattan, Lawrence, Salina

▪ “military friendly workers”
  ▪ hot spot (heat map) over Fort Riley
Creighton University HT Initiative recent Backpage analysis
Market Analysis

- Average: 2.7 sex workers
- Pimps tend to have stables of 2-5 girls
  - Some sex workers collaborate in small groups without pimps
- Larger stable sizes are associated with brothels
- The largest stable sizes are likely escort agencies and out-call services
COMMON ASSUMPTIONS IN THE GREAT PLAINS
Common Assumptions

*It happens over there, not here.*

“THE AVERAGE PERSON IS NAIVE [THINKING] THAT THIS IS NOT GOING ON IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD OR IN THEIR COMMUNITY.”

SARGENT BOB CHRISTENSEN
COUNCIL BLUFFS POLICE DEPT.
NOVEMBER 2014
4 YEARS OF TRAFFICKING = BEING FORCED TO HAVE SEX/RAPE 7,000 TIMES
LABOR TRAFFICKING VICTIMS TYPICALLY ARE IMMIGRANTS OR FORMERLY CONVICTED FELONS

- Central Nebraska Human Trafficking and Immigration Outreach commonly sees
  - victims frequently immigrants (legal and illegal) and ex-convicted felons (American citizens)
- at least 16 cases in last few years
- can be characterized by
  - harsh conditions and long hours (e.g. 14 days straight, 1 day off) with disproportional pay
  - business manipulates books to appear as legal/legitimate pay
  - docking of pay
    - e.g., caught eating lunch, with chew
  - victims often remain quiet because they are afraid of losing job, being deported, and/or not being able to support family
Common Assumptions

*Only big cities have that problem.*
“January 2013: Michelle Randall (35) of Upland, Nebraska sentenced to up to 90 years in prison for first-degree sexual assault of a child and possession of child pornography. The investigation revealed Randall ...had arranged numerous sexual acts with the two children in several counties.”

“A [41 year-old] Lincoln man[,] Shad Chandler[,] convicted of paying a Nebraska mother to let him have sex with her 14-year-old daughter was sentenced to 15-45 years in prison. The crime…happened in Buffalo County.

The Nebraska State Patrol says [Michelle Randall] allowed at least seven men to have sex with her teenage daughter at least 20 times. The mother is also accused of pimping out her 7-year-old daughter to at least three men.

Others charged in the prostitution case include 22-year-old Logan Roepke of McCook, 37-year-old Donald Grafe of Columbus and 28-year-old Alex Rahe of Omaha.”

Common Assumptions

The girls trafficked here are from elsewhere.
“December 2008: Leonard Russell convicted in Iowa of harboring, transporting and coercing two Nebraska girls (ages 15 and 16) to perform commercial sex acts (i.e., performances at strip clubs.) The girls had run away from a group home in Fremont and Russell picked them up, later telling them the only way to earn money was by ‘getting dates’ in exchange for... food, shelter, transportation and clothing.”

SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIMS ARE FREQUENTLY HOME-GROWN

- commonality of some kind of vulnerability
  - lack of discernment
    - believe enticement of recruiter
  - inability to fight back
  - unstable home situation
    - e.g., had fight with mom so I’m going to go party with this guy I met once
    - e.g., foster home
    - e.g., ran away from youth home
Common Assumptions

*Pimps are male.*
TRAFFICKERS HAVE NO ONE DEMOGRAPHIC

- can be related (e.g. mother, father, husband) to those they traffic
Common Assumptions

Victims are female.
Moore Dad Posts Sex Ad On Craigslist, Involves 6-Year-Old Son

From Staff Reports

Havannah Johnson, News 9 & News9.com

NORMAN, Oklahoma -- Police have arrested a Moore father for allegedly allowing a man to fondle his young, autistic son while masturbating.

Police say Jonathan Mark Smith listed the ad for oral sex on Craigslist, and at least one man responded to it. Teddy Dean Davis is accused of showing up at Smith’s door back in January, and asking to see the 6-year-old boy.

Police say Smith’s children were asleep and his wife was at work at the time.

According to the police report, Smith led Davis to the boy’s room and

Jonathan Mark Smith is out on bond and is charged with-enabled child sexual abuse and lewd molestation.
CLEVELAND COUNTY, Oklahoma - A convicted Craigslist predator is out of jail on probation.

Teddy Davis spent approximately a year and half in prison for molesting a 6-year-old autistic boy.

In a plea agreement with Cleveland County Prosecutors, Davis admitted he responded to a sex ad on Craigslist that led to an invitation to Jonathan Smith's home in Moore.

Once there, the two men carried out a sex crime against the child. Court records show Davis fondled the boy while Smith watched and touched himself.

Davis pleaded guilty to lessen his punishment.
“In my work, there are an equal number of boy and girl victims.”

-Rachel (Davis) Pointer, Omaha Home for Boys
Common Assumptions

*Incidents occurred in the past.*
Bellevue West football player charged with sexual assault, human trafficking

By Allia Conley / World-Herald staff writer  Mar 11, 2017 Updated Mar 11, 2017

A Bellevue West football player has been charged with first-degree sexual assault of a child and human trafficking.
Common Assumptions

Prostitution is different from sex trafficking.

Those girls chose prostitution and, therefore, their rough lives.

- They created the situation; now they need to suffer the natural consequences.

Patronizing strip clubs is harmless.

- The females there actively work out of their own free will.

Patronizing an escort and/or prostitute is harmless.

- This is just a business, detached transaction for this sex worker.

- She is safe. Neither I nor others are harming her.
THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ESTIMATES

THE MOST FREQUENT AGE OF ENTRY

INTO THE COMMERCIAL SEX INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES

IS BETWEEN 12-14 YEARS OLD.

-GEMS (Girls Educational and Mentoring Services), www.gems-girls.org and Department of Justice, www.usdoj.gov
ESTIMATES AS HIGH AS 98% OF PROSTITUTED WOMEN
WERE SEXUALLY ABUSED AS CHILDREN,
LEAVING THEM CONDITIONED TO SEXUAL EXPLOITATION.

-Dr. Melissa Farley, founding director of Prostitution Research and Education
72% of prostituted women are currently or formerly homeless.

73% report being physically assaulted by customers, with 83% of these being assaulted with a weapon.

75% in escort prostitution had attempted suicide.

-Dr. Melissa Farley, founding director of Prostitution Research and Education
“1 in 6 endangered runaways reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children in 2014 were likely sex trafficking victims.”

“68% of these likely sex trafficking victims were in the care of social services or foster care when they ran.”
Common Assumptions

*Human trafficking laws have been on the states’ books for a long time.*
Oklahoma's first-ever federal human trafficking sentences announced in Tulsa

TULSA, Okla. – Oklahoma’s first-ever federal human trafficking sentences, including six people sentenced over two days, were announced Tuesday following their guilty pleas to sex trafficking by force, fraud and coercion, and coercion and enticement to travel in interstate commerce to engage in prostitution.

These sentences, which were handed down Monday and Tuesday, were announced by U.S. Attorney Danny C. Williams Sr., Northern District of Oklahoma.

The case, dubbed “Operation Poker Chip,” was investigated starting in January 2012, by the following law enforcement agencies: U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), the FBI, the Internal Revenue Service’s Criminal Investigation (IRS-CI), and the Tulsa County Sheriff’s Office (TCSO).

Following are the sentences that were handed down over two days by U.S. District Judge James H. Payne:

- Juan Rosales Garza, aka “Fernando,” pleaded guilty March 28, 2012, was sentenced Monday to a term of imprisonment for 135 months; to pay restitution of $15,340 and $3,750 to pay jointly and severally with his co-defendants and $100 special monetary assessment.

- Sermaas Samuel Sanchez Alm, pleaded guilty March 28, 2012, was sentenced Monday to time served and $3,750 restitution to pay jointly and severally with his co-defendants and $100 special monetary assessment.

- Antonio Felix Velasquez-Lopez, aka “Tony,” pleaded guilty April 24, 2012, was sentenced Monday to a term of imprisonment for 87 months; $1,530 restitution and $100 special monetary assessment.

- Israel Velasquez-Ramirez, aka “Marcos,” pleaded guilty April 11, 2012 sentenced Tuesday to a term of imprisonment for 18 months, $420 restitution and $100 special monetary assessment.

- Piedad Garcia, pleaded guilty Aug. 7, 2012, was sentenced Tuesday to a term of imprisonment for 24 months; $6,580 restitution; $200,000 money judgment and $100 special monetary assessment.

- Maria Velasquez-Ramirez, pleaded guilty Aug. 7, 2012, was sentenced Tuesday to a term of imprisonment for 24 months; $6,580 restitution; $200,000 money judgment and $100 special monetary assessment.
*first law proposed to address h.t.
-senators McGill, Christensen, Mello, and Cook introduced
-into effect in 2012
-established Governor’s H.T. Task Force
-required public posting of information regarding h.t. (e.g. nat’l trafficking hotline)
-established mandatory training (esp. for law enforcement)
-no definition of h.t. provided
-revised statute 28-830 addresses & into effect 4/10/14

-senators McGill and Christensen introduced
-into effect in 2013
-amends statutory definitions in 28-830 to be more consistent with federal statutes
-maintains distinction between labor and sex trafficking
-safe harbor provisions for child sex trafficking victims

-aka “Human Trafficking Victims Civil Remedy Act”
-Senator Scheer introduced 1/15
-“change(s) and adopt(s) provisions relating to service of process, sexual assault, crimes relating to morals, human trafficking, search warrants, juveniles, intercepted communications, and forfeiture of assets” (Peterson)
-“cracks down on traffickers, cracks down on consumers of human trafficking, and creates a fund (using non-taxpayer dollars) to help victims” (Scheer)
-Governor Ricketts signed into law 5/19/15
Common Assumptions

“Johns” are single, low socio-economic, recluse males.
If only the public knew who the most common clients were, the demand for sex slaves would drastically drop.
IN NE, “JOHNS” USUALLY ARE MIDDLE-AGED, MARRIED WITH CHILDREN, CAUCASIAN MEN

Jerry Wayne Stanton
Crete

James Nicholas Burton
Fairmont

Ronald Bernard Sladky
Wahoo

Jeffrey Dale Bomberger
Omaha

Shad Chandler
Lincoln

*images courtesy of KETV.com

- problem of experts’ observations, anecdotal, and no place-specific research
8 Arrested in Guardian Angel Human Trafficking Operation

Update
One of the men arrested, Dan Durr, is listed as the CEO/President of Don’s Car Washes, Inc. here in Fargo according to the company’s website. The local business has two locations, one on 13th Avenue South and one on 52nd Avenue South.
THE CULTURE WARS--
LIBERAL BLEEDING HEARTS OR RIGHT WING RADICALS?

▪ These so-called experts are lying. They have an agenda.

▪ There are already programs to help people in these situations.

▪ Law enforcement is getting all the appalling people.
A.G. Doug Peterson
- pre-office concern over h.t.
- campaign platform
- took office 1/15
- encouraged Scheer to propose LB 294
- “government has a responsibility to protect the most vulnerable”
4/21/15 A.G. established position of State Human Trafficking Coordinator
- appointed Stephen O’Meara
  - retired Assistant U.S. Attorney
  - former prosecutor for Omaha/Council Bluffs FBI Child Exploitation Task Force
- tasked with creating and implementing strategic plan
  - foci of law enforcement, services, community
  - e.g. training of law enforcement, education officials, and healthcare providers
- LB 294 allocated money to A.G.’s office to travel state and train law enforcement
  - 10 “child protection” law enforcement training programs
    - all within 1 hour of any community in Nebraska
NUREROS CHALLENGES

- to advocacy, education, law enforcement, policy change, and prosecution
- many do not recognize h.t. for what it is
  - e.g. some 911 operators, health care providers, law enforcement, educators, general public
- collaboration issues
  - reinventing the wheel, mistrust, power dynamics
- journalists frequently do not label trafficking for what it is
  - fine lines of “reporting” vs. “investigative journalism”
MUCH YET TO RESEARCH AND UNDERSTAND

- (still) too little existing literature
- methodology challenges
  - h.t. is very anecdotal and qualitative (O’Meara)
  - “Nebraska Sex Trafficking Background Summary”
  - 3/10/16
must have rigorous, carefully thought through, scientific studies with substantial samples

danger in rushing to yield statistics for statistics’ sake

incorrect conclusions can be used by policy makers

“When it comes to statistics, trafficking of girls and women is one of several highly emotive issues which seem to overwhelm critical faculties. Numbers take on a life of their own, gaining acceptance through repetition, often with little inquiry into their derivations. Journalists, bowing to the pressures of editors, demand numbers, any number. Organizations feel compelled to supply them, lending false precisions and spurious authority to many reports.” (UNESCO Trafficking Statistics Project)
“Harriet Tubman did not wait around for a proper measurement of how many slaves were in the South. Neither should we. The work needs to be done while we try to measure it.”

-- Timothy McCarthy, Harvard Kennedy School

The Freedom Ecosystem, Monitor Deloitte/Deloitte Consulting LLP
OBSTACLE- CULTURAL NORMS

- can impede acknowledgement, identification, and reporting of h.t.

- e.g., “Nebraska Nice”

  - social norm default to polite manners, believing the best in people, and staying out of others’ “business”
Law enforcement are frequently unaware of how human trafficking manifests in local jurisdictions.
  - e.g., “see the victim, not the criminal” - KS detective

They can be understaffed, preventing them from effectively investigating and making arrests.
  - e.g., “enforcement is uneven around the state” - KS Attorney General Derek Schmidt

When arrests are made, human trafficking offenses are seldom charged.
  - e.g., domestic assault, rape, prostitution, pandering

Lawyers rarely prosecute accordingly.
  - though situations embody federal definitions of human trafficking
  - if feel not enough evidence for successful prosecution of h.t., might pursue “easier” charges or not prosecute
Advocates argue that sentences are too short.
- e.g., Johnson 4 years maximum for felonies of human trafficking/pandering

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sentence Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Facility</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Sentence</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sentence Begin Date</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>To</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Good Time Law</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Projected Release Date</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parole Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parole Eligibility Date</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parole Discharge Date</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parole Hearing Date</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Next Parole Board Review Date</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Release Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Release Date</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reason for Release</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUMAN TRAFFICKING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felony - -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PANDERING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felony - -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OBSTACLES, YET PROGRESS

- takes a while- domestic violence in 1970s
- increased awareness
  - e.g., KS Wesleyan Women’s Extravaganza Hesston 3/16
  - e.g., ND “Trafficked” & NET radio series and documentaries
  - e.g., more training for law enforcement, educators, hospitality industry, and medical providers
- some convictions
OBSTACLES, YET PROGRESS

- fostering informed, active citizens who make a difference educating others
  - NGO workers
  - senator’s intern
  - art- chains of quotes, photography
  - websites and videos
  - NUSAMS president
  - Free the People Movement-- “Talk a Walk” pamphlet & Facebook event page
OBSTACLES, YET PROGRESS

- NGOs and service providers strengthening
  - e.g., I’ve Got a Name new executive director, marketing
  - e.g., more resources for transitional houses

- new legislation
  - e.g., NE senators drafting new legislation (e.g., stronger penalties)
Human Trafficking by the Numbers:
The Initial Benchmark of Prevalence and Economic Impact for Texas
Final Report
December 2016

Approximately 79,000 minors and youth are victims of sex trafficking in Texas.

Approximately 234,000 workers are victims of labor trafficking.

There are currently an estimated 313,000 victims of human trafficking in Texas.

Traffickers exploit approximately $600 million from victims of labor trafficking in Texas.

Minor and youth sex trafficking costs the state of Texas approximately $6.6 billion.
Overall Findings

Table 1

*Statewide Prevalence of Human Trafficking in Texas*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Human Trafficking</th>
<th>Estimated Number of Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minor and youth sex trafficking</td>
<td>78,996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor trafficking</td>
<td>234,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>313,453</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2

*Economic Impact of Human Trafficking in Texas*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Economic Impact of Human Trafficking</th>
<th>Estimated Economic Impact ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net present value (NPV) of estimated lifetime cost of minor and youth sex trafficking victims</td>
<td>$6,566,529,071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated annual value of lost wages for labor trafficking victims</td>
<td>$598,127,942</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3

**Minor and Youth Sex Trafficking in Texas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High-Risk Sex Trafficking Community Segments*</th>
<th>Community Size Segment</th>
<th>Victimization Rate</th>
<th>Estimated Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child abuse/maltreatment</td>
<td>290,471</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>72,618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At-risk youth being served by DFPS</td>
<td>24,097</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>6,024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless</td>
<td>1,416</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>354</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The research team acknowledges the limitations of this narrow definition of human trafficking. Phase 2 benchmarks will incorporate additional segments such as adult sex trafficking, other economic sectors, etc.

Table 4

**Labor Trafficking in Texas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High-Risk Labor Trafficking Segments*</th>
<th>Community Size Segment</th>
<th>Victimization Rate</th>
<th>Estimated Victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Migrant farmworkers</td>
<td>132,034</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>36,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning services</td>
<td>233,610</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>84,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>101,250</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>35,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen workers in restaurants</td>
<td>190,390</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>60,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscaping and grounds keeping workers</td>
<td>63,050</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>17,024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Table 5

**Lifetime Cost of Care for Victims of Minor and Youth Sex Trafficking**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High-Risk Sex Trafficking Community Segments*</th>
<th>Estimated Victims</th>
<th>NPV of Cost of Care Required as Consequence of HT (Lifetime)</th>
<th>Estimated Lifetime Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child abuse/maltreatment</td>
<td>72,618</td>
<td>$83,125</td>
<td>$6,036,358,905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At-risk youth being served by DFPS</td>
<td>6,024</td>
<td>$83,125</td>
<td>$500,743,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>$83,125</td>
<td>$29,426,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$6,566,529,071</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Table 6

**Annual Value of Labor Exploited from Trafficking Victims**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High-Risk Labor Trafficking Segments*</th>
<th>Estimated Victims</th>
<th>Estimated Annual Value Wages Lost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Migrant farmworkers</td>
<td>36,970</td>
<td>$94,314,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning services</td>
<td>84,100</td>
<td>$214,549,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>35,438</td>
<td>$90,406,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen workers in restaurants</td>
<td>60,925</td>
<td>$155,426,986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscaping and grounds keeping workers</td>
<td>17,024</td>
<td>$43,430,267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>$598,127,942</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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RECOGNIZING H.T.
SUMMER COURSE

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN NEBRASKA AND THE GREAT PLAINS

The course will examine temporal and spatial dimensions of human trafficking in the Great Plains. Interdisciplinary concepts of cultures, demographics, development, economics, politics, power relationships, and urban dimensions will be featured. Topics of study will include enslavement processes, source regions, transfer locations, and destinations. Common characteristics and patterns of victims, traffickers, and clients will be identified. Class activities will include—but are not limited to—guest speakers, field trips, discussions, research, and meaningful project creation.

GPSP/GEOG/HIST 400 (3 credits)
Summer 2015 Pre-Session (May 18-June 5)
Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Burnett 119
Instructor: Dr. R. Buller
Brand}

Characteristics of a Brand:
- **Recognition**: The brand is easily recognizable.
- **Distinctiveness**: The brand stands out from competitors.
- **Memory**: Customers can recall the brand.
- **Emotional Connection**: The brand evokes positive feelings.
- **Credibility**: Customers trust the brand.

Types of Brands:
- **Product BRAND**: Focuses on the product.
- **Company BRAND**: Focuses on the company.
- **Person BRAND**: Focuses on the individual.
I am excited to announce, we have partnered with Old Town Tattoo in Kearney!! They will be helping with the removal and/or cover ups for those that have been branded by their pimps!! Please contact me if any one is in need of this service! Together we can do great things!!!
“Children or adults who have been trafficked into various markets of exploitation exhibit a variety of characteristics.” (Aronowitz 2009, 215)

according to United Nations (UN) Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) (handout)
- General
- Children
- Domestic Servitude
- Sexual Exploitation
- Labor Exploitation
- Begging and Petty Crime

list continues to grow
RISK FACTORS OF CHILD TRAFFICKING

(Aronowitz 2009, 163-164)

- individual
  - general
  - in-source/sending areas
  - in transit
  - at destination

- family

- community

- external and institutional

- workplace
H.T. INDICATORS CONT.

**General**
People who have been trafficked may:

- Believe that they must work against their will
- Be unable to leave their work environment
- Show signs that their movements are being controlled
- Feel that they cannot leave
- Show fear or anxiety
- Be subjected to violence or threats of violence against themselves or against their family members and loved ones
- Suffer injuries that appear to be the result of an assault
- Suffer injuries or impairments typical of certain jobs or control measures
- Suffer injuries that appear to be the result of the application of control measures
People who have been trafficked may:

- Be distrustful of the authorities
- Be threatened with being handed over to the authorities
- Be afraid of revealing their immigration status
- Not be in possession of their passports or other travel or identity documents, as those documents are being held by someone else
- Have false identity or travel documents
- Be found in or connected to a type of location likely to be used for exploiting people
- Be unfamiliar with the local language
- Not know their home or work address
- Allow others to speak for them when addressed directly
- Act as if they were instructed by someone else
- Be forced to work under certain conditions
- Be disciplined through punishment
- Be unable to negotiate working conditions
People who have been trafficked may:

- Receive little or no payment
- Have no access to their earnings
- Work excessively long hours over long periods
- Not have any days off
- Live in poor or substandard accommodations
- Have no access to medical care
- Have limited or no social interaction
- Have limited contact with their families or with people outside of their immediate environment
- Be unable to communicate freely with others
- Be under the perception that they are bonded by debt
- Be in a situation of dependence
- Come from a place known to be a source of human trafficking
- Have had the fees for their transport to the country of destination paid for by facilitators, whom they must payback by working or providing services in the destination
- Have acted on the basis of false promises
H.T. INDICATORS CONT.

**Sexual Exploitation**

- People who have been trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation may:
  - Be of any age, although the age may vary according to the location and the market
  - Move from one brothel to the next or work in various locations
  - Be escorted whenever they go to and return from work and other outside activities
  - Have tattoos or other marks indicating “ownership” by their exploiters
  - Work long hours or have few if any days off
  - Sleep where they work
Sexual Exploitation cont.

- People who have been trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation may:
  - Live or travel in a group, sometimes with other women who do not speak the same language
  - Have very few items of clothing
  - Have clothes that are mostly the kind typically worn for doing sex work
  - Only know how to say sex-related words in the local language or in the language of the client group
  - Have no cash of their own
  - Be unable to show an identity document
Sexual Exploitation cont.
The following might also indicate that children have been trafficked:

- There is evidence that suspected victims have had unprotected and/or violent sex.
- There is evidence that suspected victims cannot refuse unprotected and/or violent sex.
- There is evidence that a person has been bought and sold.
- There is evidence that groups of women are under the control of others.
- Advertisements are placed for brothels or similar places offering the services of women of a particular ethnicity or nationality.
- It is reported that sex workers provide services to a clientele of a particular ethnicity or nationality.
- It is reported by clients that sex workers do not smile.
COUNTERING H.T.

- “4 P’s”
  - Prevention of the crime
  - Prosecution of the trafficker/buyers
  - Protection for the victims and survivors
  - Partnerships across all levels of society
LEARN

• intentionally educate yourself
  • learn from resources
  • redflags
    • take, and encourage others to take, trainings
      • e.g., for hospitality industry workers, travelers, school employees, students, parents, ER/first responders
  • legislation
  • who to contact

I put the National Human Trafficking Hotline in my cell phone, will you?

1-888-373-7888

Text BeFree (233733)
DO

• don’t ignore

• figure out your niche

• support entities that are already helping
**DO CONTINUED**

- educate others
  - i.e., protect/educate your children about what to look out for
    - “You’re so beautiful; you should be a model; you should be an actress/singer. Want to do a photo shoot?“
    - “I love you and I’ll take care of you forever. Come away with me.”
  - i.e., protect/educate children/others about what healthy relationships look like/are
- be aware
- report
- societal change
  - prevent vulnerability
  - change perceptions of purchase of human beings
  - heal people
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

in Nebraska and the American Great Plains