

Introduction to Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: Understanding and Supporting Male Survivors



CSEC Overview



- Street prostitution
- Survival sex
- Internet-based exploitation
- Pornography
- Gang-based prostitution
- Stripping
- Erotic/nude massage
- Escort services
- Phone sex lines
- Private parties
- Interfamilial pimping
- Child sex tourism



What is Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) refers to a range of crimes and activities involving the sexual abuse or exploitation of a child for the financial benefit of any person or in exchange for anything of value (including monetary and non-monetary benefits) given or received by any person.

Examples of crimes and acts that constitute CSEC:

- child sex trafficking/the Sexual Exploitation (prostitution) of children;
- child sex tourism involving commercial sexual activity;
- commercial production of Child Sexual Abuse Material (Child Pornography);
- online transmission of live video of a child engaged in sexual activity in exchange for anything of value.

CSEC also includes situations where a child, whether or not at the direction of any other person, engages in sexual activity in exchange for anything of value, which includes non-monetary things such as food, shelter, drugs, or protection from any person.

Fundamental Concepts



Below are some key concepts, terminology, and information you need to know when discussing CSEC:

- Survival Sex
- Gay for Pay
- Commercial Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM)
- Sextortion
- Rape vs Unwanted Sexual Contact/Experience(s)
- “Johns”/”Janes” vs Abusers/Exploiters/Traffickers
- “Underage Sex Worker” vs Victim of Sexual Abuse
- Survivor/Trafficked vs Lived Experience
- Stereotypes
- Apps
- Digital Currencies (Crypto)
- In-Game Currencies

*Children, especially BOYS,
are not likely to disclose
their abuse*



Myths and Facts



Boys and Men are being exploited in the commercial sex industry but are left out of the conversation because of

- Gender stereotypes
- Myths of male sexual abuse
- Failure to acknowledge male victimization

Studies in Canada, Norway and Sweden have found **similar rates** of exploitation amongst males and females

Young men are 3x as likely to trade sex for a place to stay compared to females





CSEC/Trafficking Myths & Facts

- Gender Stereotypes
- Sex trafficking only happens overseas to young girls
- Minors who are commercially sexually exploited or trafficked for sex are recognized as victims of crime and abuse
- People who buy sex with minors or engage in the sale of sex with minors are caught and punished for these crimes
- It is easy for professionals who interact with minors to recognize victims, survivors, and youth at risk of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking



CSEC/Trafficking Myths & Facts

- Help is readily available for victims and survivors of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking
- Only happens in impoverished communities
- Victim choose to be a “Sex Worker”
- Young men are 3x as likely to trade sex for a place to stay compared to females
- Studies in Canada, Norway and Sweden have found **similar rates** of exploitation amongst males and females

LGBTQIA+ Homelessness



Too many LGBTQ youth still face significant challenges during adolescence and early adulthood, fighting discrimination, misconceptions, and abuse by peers, family members, and others in their communities.

Up to **40%** of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ. Of these:

Sex Trafficking and LGBTQIA+ Youth

- **46%** ran away because of family rejection
- **7.4x** more likely to experience acts of sexual violence than their heterosexual peers
- **3-7x** more likely to engage in survival sex to meet basic needs, such as shelter, food, drugs, and toiletries
- **8x** more likely for Transgender youth than non-transgender youth in New York City to trade sex for a safe place to stay

<https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/publications/serving-our-youth-lgbtq/>

<https://nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/lgbtq.html>

<https://www.library.ca.gov/crb/homeless-youth/>

<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/sites/default/files/Homelessness,%20Survival%20Sex,%20and%20Human%20Trafficking%20-%20Covenant%20House%20NY.pdf>

Quintana, N. S., Rosenthal, J., & Krehely, J. (2010). On the streets: The federal response to gay and transgender homeless youth. *Center for American Progress*. as cited in Dank, M., et al. (2015). Surviving the streets of New York: Experiences of LGBT youth, YMSM, and YWSW engaged in survival sex.



Trauma Bonding

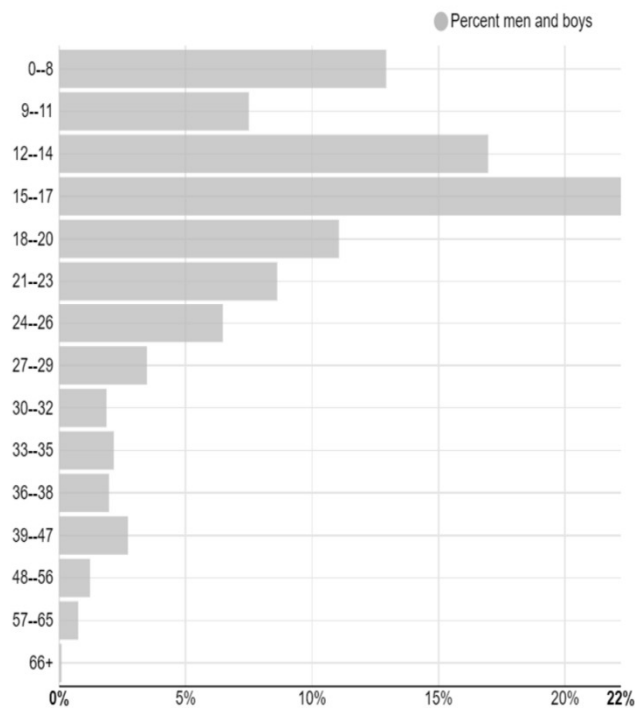
A trauma bond is an emotional attachment that can form in an abusive relationship, specifically the connection the victim feels toward the perpetrator.

A trauma bond is characterized by cycles of negative reinforcement interspersed with occasional bursts of positive reinforcement; this so-called intermittent reinforcement makes it very difficult to leave an abusive relationship. But with support, healing is always possible.

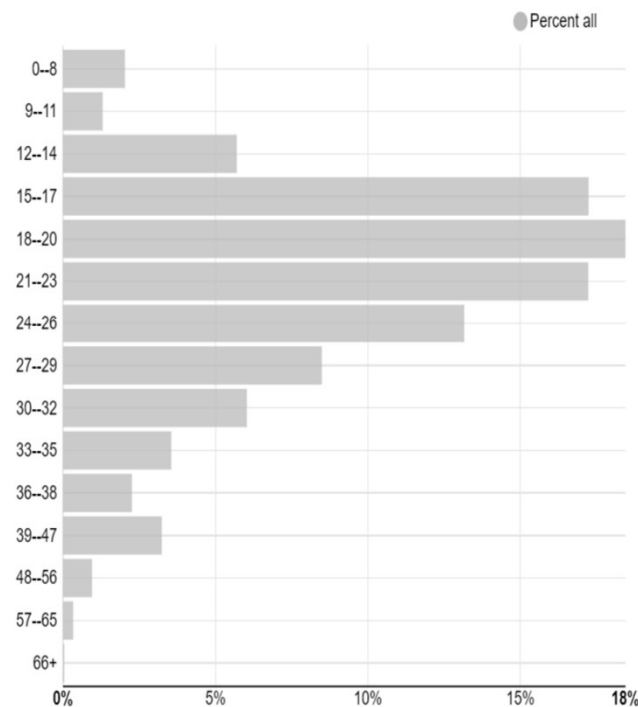
Fundamental Concepts



AGE OF MEN AND BOYS TRAFFICKED INTO SEXUAL EXPLOITATION



AGE OF ALL VICTIMS TRAFFICKED INTO SEXUAL EXPLOITATION



First Incident of CSA

Ages of CSA	Number of cases	%
1m to 4yrs old	n = 16	40 %
5yrs to 8 yrs old	n = 15	37.50 %
9yrs to 11yrs old	n = 4	10 %
12yrs to 17yrs old	n = 3	7.50 %
18yrs and above	n = 2	5 %

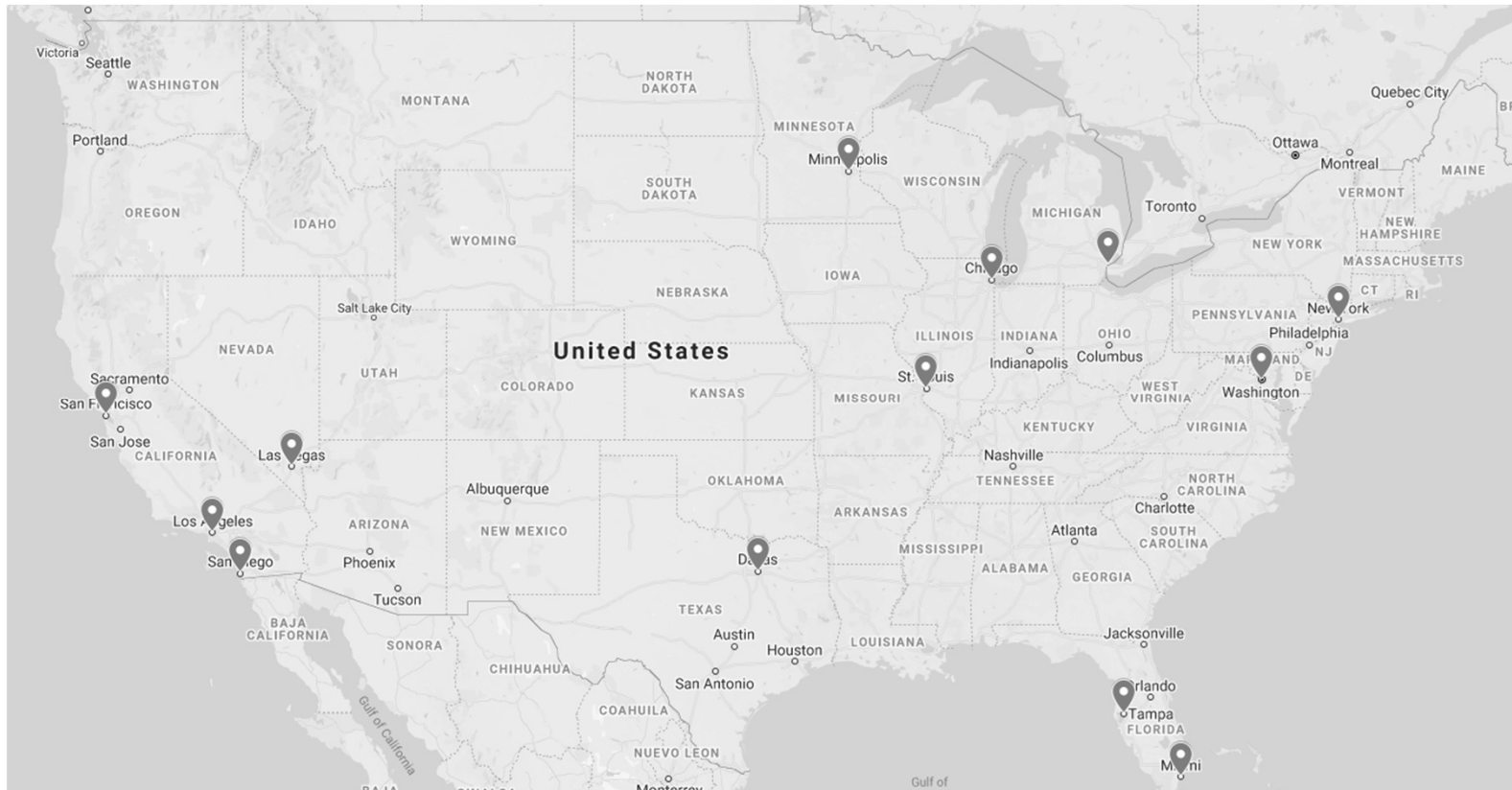
87.50% of male victims under the age of 8

Fundamental Concepts



Between **50%** and **90%** of child sexual exploitation survivors in the United States have been involved in the child welfare system at some point in their lives.

CSEC in the United States



The FBI has identified 13 major hubs for CSEC in the United States.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of LGBTQIA+

There is an over representation of homeless LGBTQIA+ youth



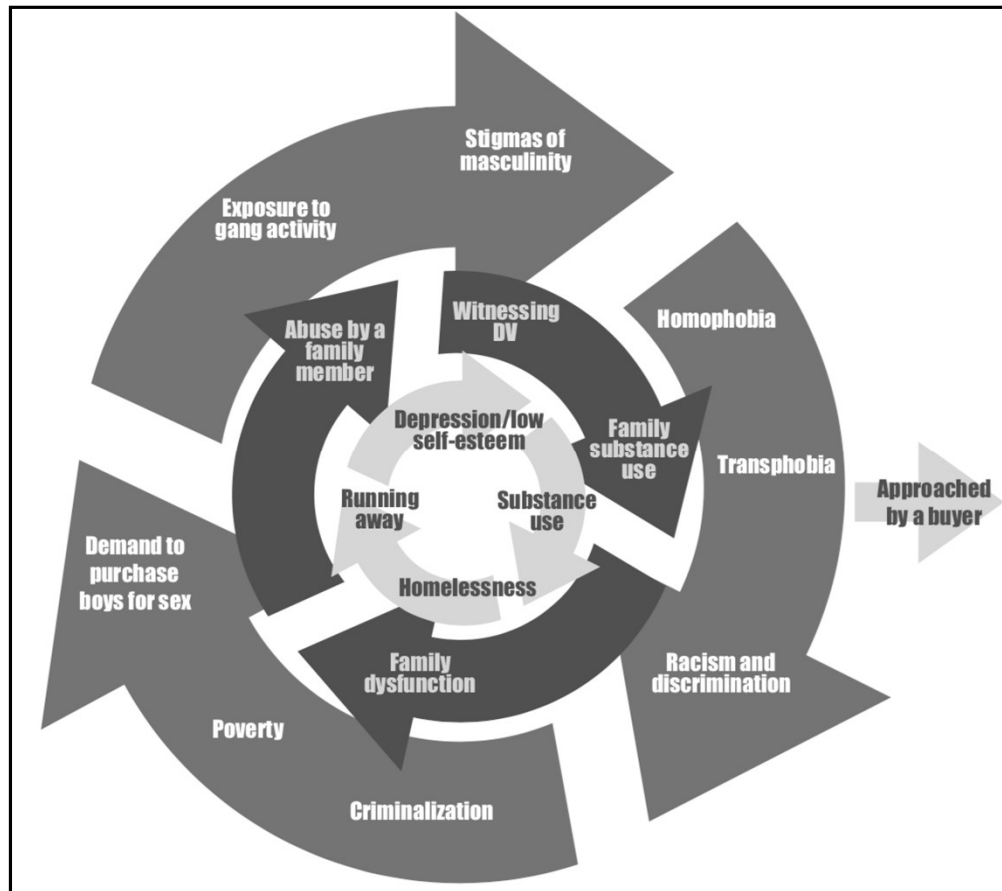
- LGBTQ youth make up 5-7% of the youth population but 20-40% of the homeless youth population
- Transgender youth in New York City have been found 8x more likely than non-transgender youth to trade sex for a safe place to stay
- Most common pathway of entry into CSE/CSEC was through a peer followed by being approached by a buyer

Co-Occurring Forms of Maltreatment



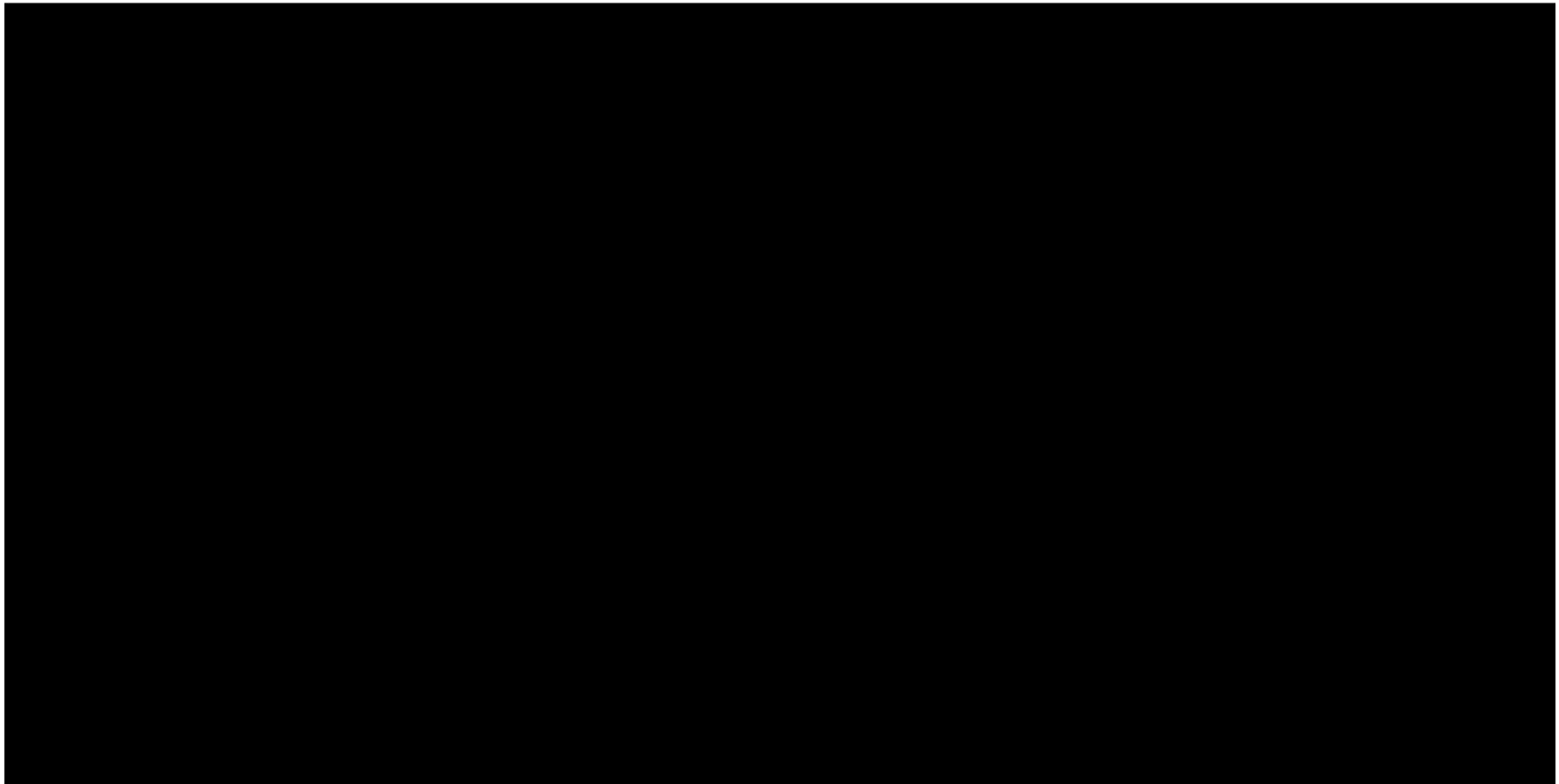
Gibbs, D. A., Aboul-Hosn, S., & Kluckman, M. (2020). Child labor trafficking within the U.S.: A first look at allegations investigated by Florida's Child Welfare Agency. *Journal of Human Trafficking*, 6(4), 435-449, <https://doi.org/10.1080/23322705.2019.1594551>

Risk Factors



4. Klasey, N. (2018). Becoming a Victim. as cited in Klasey, N., & Peck-Soblewski, G. (2018). What Are We Missing?

Societal Views



Societal Views



"I want you to know, Sheila, that you'll always be more than just a babysitter to me."

Description

Artist: Jack Ziegler

Publication: New Yorker

Pub Date: 08/25/1997



Sexual Exploitation in High School



Trading Sex and Sexual Exploitation among High School Students

Data from the 2019 Minnesota Student Survey

This is the first population-based prevalence estimate of high school students who report trading sex for something of value (including trafficking of minors for sexual exploitation). Trading sex presents many harms to young people. In 2019, the Minnesota Student Survey – a tri-annual census of young people in Minnesota’s schools – included a new question for 9th and 11th graders:

Have you ever traded sex or sexual activity to receive money, food, drugs, alcohol, a place to stay, or anything else?

NO YES

1.4% answered “yes”

At least 5,000 Young people in Minnesota have traded sex¹

This is likely an underestimate because the MSS is completed by students enrolled in school. It does not include youth who were not in school on the day of the survey or who do not attend school. Young people may also be reluctant to answer “yes” for many reasons, including shame or fear.

¹ This estimate of 5,000 young people is based on the 2018 Census number of 15-19 year-olds in the State of Minnesota. We used this formula $1.4\% \text{ of } 357,809 = 5009$.

Why Aren't Boys Being Identified?



Boys don't come forward and in fact will often deny the CSE - Why:

- Cultural context: women are victims, men are strong
- Fear of being outed as gay or perceived as gay
- May think service providers do not serve males even when they do
- Not believed when they do come forward
- Routine CSEC screenings are often completed with girls only by juvenile justice, service providers, schools, etc.

Why Aren't Boys Being Identified?



Possible contributing factors include:

- Very few are looking for boys or are not looking in the right places. For example:
 - CSEC/trafficking street outreach teams very rarely reported visiting areas know for male prostitution/“male tracks”
 - Law enforcement may be looking in female specific “markets” - backpage.com female section versus male section, hourboy.com, rentmen.com, etc.
- Researchers and service providers report that boys often experience an extreme sense of shame regarding their exploitation. It is widely speculated that this sense of shame leads boys to redefine themselves as “hustlers”
- A similar attitude can be seen with girls “in the life” who tout the money they make and the lavish lifestyle they lead while embracing terms like “ho” or “bottom bitch.”

Why Aren't Boys Being Identified?



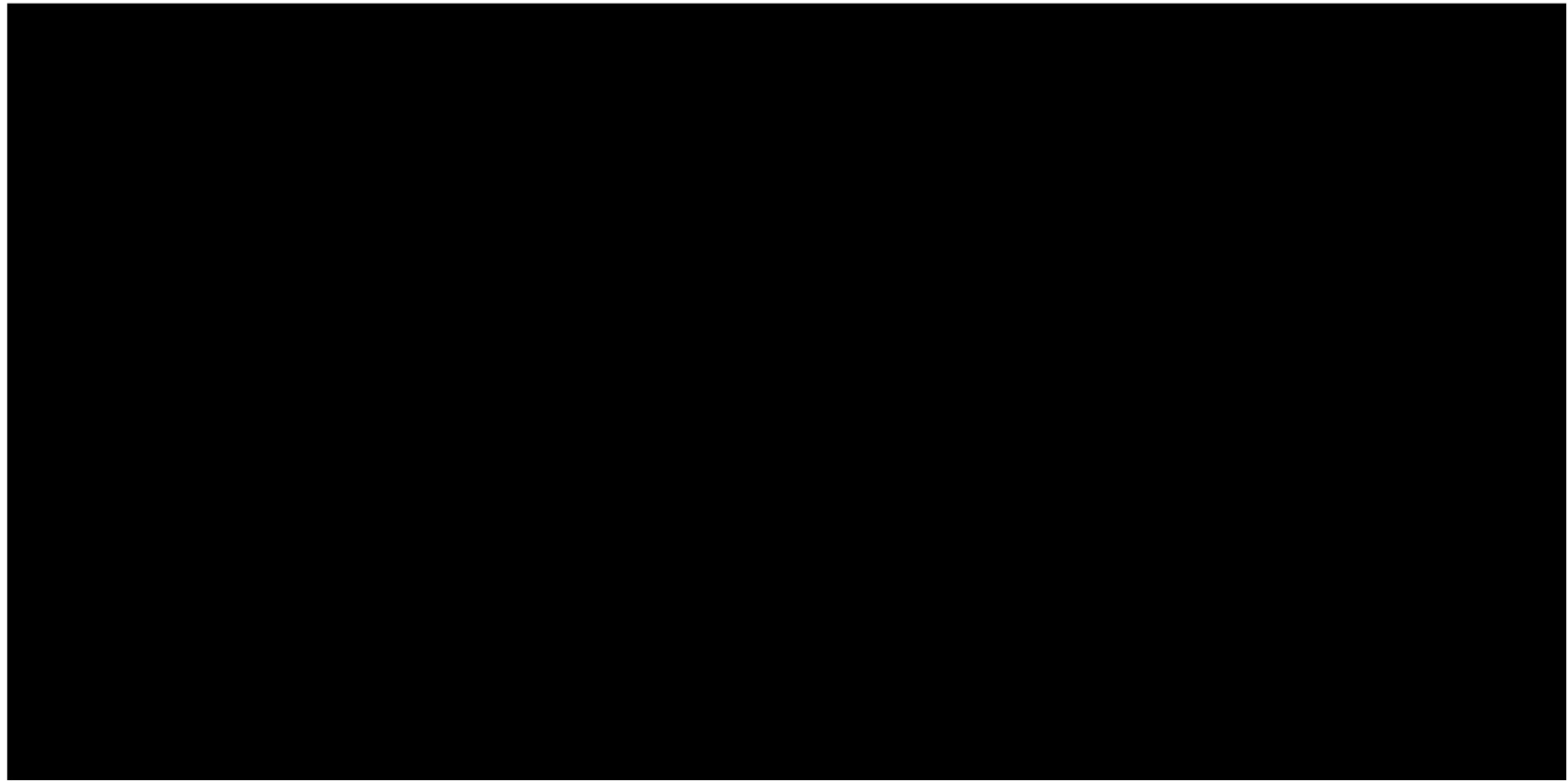
Estes and Weiner (2001) sum this up best when they state:

“Boys experience a **profound sense of shame** about what they do. As a result, few would discuss with us the specifics of their sexual encounters indicating, instead, that they were able to keep some measure of control over these experiences (and their psyches) by refusing to participate in certain types of sexual acts, e.g., mostly anal intercourse.

At a certain point, many boys redefine themselves as “**hustlers**” and “**escorts**,” rather than “prostitutes” in order to deal both with their own sense of shame and with the omnipresent stigma they experience in their travels” (Adams as quoted in Estes & Weiner, 2001).

Men walk this tightrope where any sign of weakness elicits shame, and so they're afraid to make themselves vulnerable for fear of looking weak. ~ Brené Brown

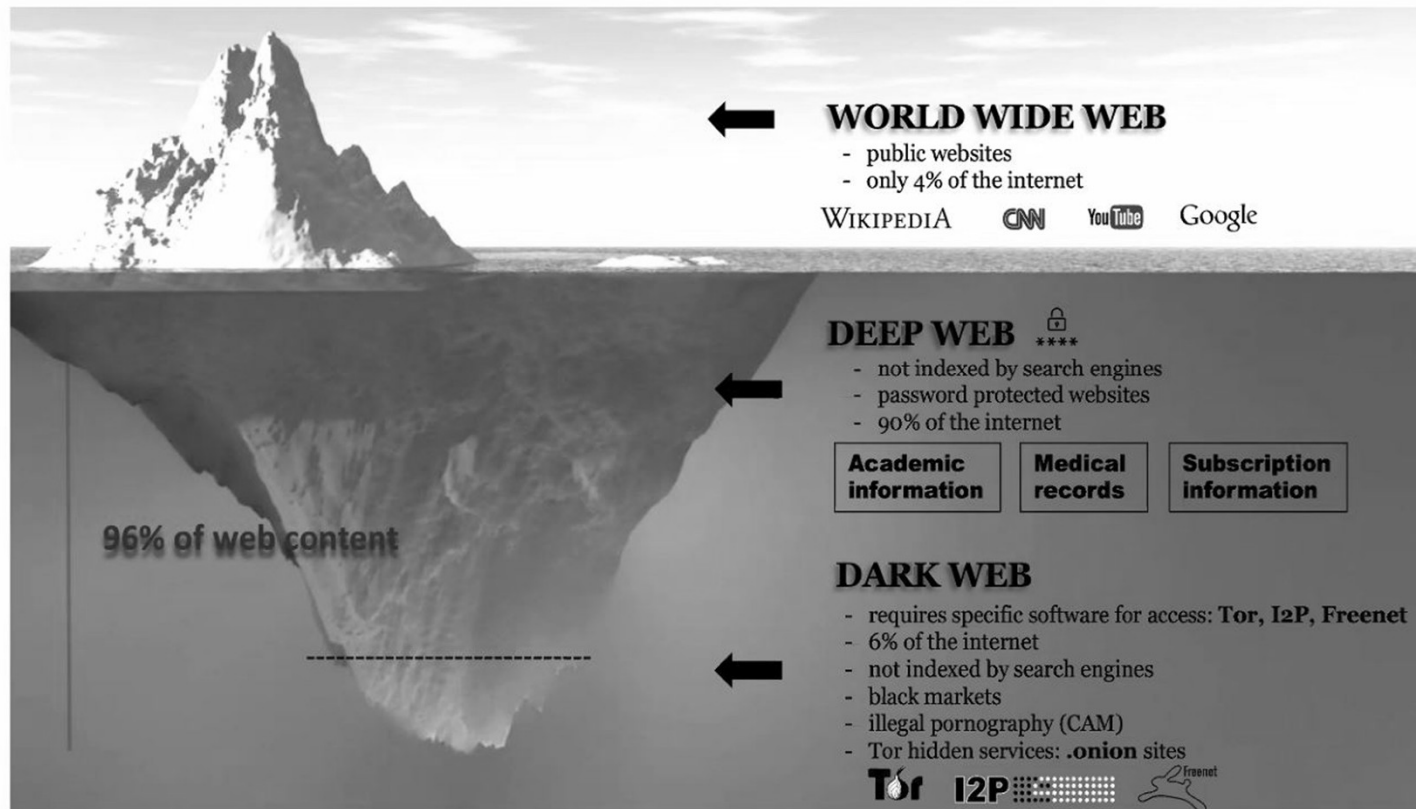
Societal Views



The Internet



Rise of the Internet: Anonymity (The dark Web)





Dark Web Usage

The Dark Web, in simple terms, is a network available on the Internet. This network requires specific software and an individual's Internet-capable device configured in a way that marks the Dark Web available to their device. At present, the World Wide Web has **5.07 billion users per day**. While the number of daily users on the darknet is estimated to account for only 0.04% of the total number of daily Internet users, this still amounts to around **2.5 million users per day**.

According to the police, the forum had been online for 2 years and, at the time it was shut down, had over **400,000 registered members**. Research conducted in 2015 found there were **900 child sexual abuse forums** like "Redacted" active on the darknet at the time, together receiving an average of **168,152 requests per day**.

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11757-023-00790-8#ref-CR5>
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11757-023-00790-8#ref-CR37>
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11757-023-00790-8#ref-CR2>
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11757-023-00790-8#ref-CR26>
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11757-023-00790-8>

The Internet



Basics

Activism/Advocacy/etc.
What is BoyLove?

Discussion

Boards
Chat
News Groups

Literature

Arts & Photography
Authors
Coming of Age
Gay Youth
Intergenerational
Non-Fiction
Poetry
Resources

Movies and T.V.

Actors
Actors (now adults)
Coming of Age
Documentaries
Gay Youth
Intergenerational
Resources

Music

Choirs
Musicians
Boys to Men
Resources
Video Clips

Personal Sites

Art
Blogs
BoyLovers
Boys
Pictures
Servers
Sports
Videos

BoyLinks

The Internet's most comprehensive listing
of boy-related and boylove websites

[Home](#) [Terms of Service](#) [Contact](#) [FAQ](#) [About](#) [Donate](#)

If you find any illegal content in any of the included links,
please [notify the Webmaster](#) immediately.

Below you'll find recently added links.
Use the index on the left to browse through all available links.

Freestpirits Fundraiser

Help keep boylinks online!

Submit a New Site!

Just Added!

- ▲ [blsafety.net](#)
- ▲ [supreme.findlaw.com](#) - Are Pedophile-Free Zones Constitutional?
- ▲ Inner Visions: A forum for Imagine Magazine
- ▲ [barefoot boys](#)
- ▲ [Glass Animals](#) - Youth (Official Video)
- ▲ [COPENHAGEN ROYAL CHAPEL CHOIR](#)
- ▲ [Heretic TOC](#)
Not the dominant narrative
- ▲ [The Undercover Boy](#)
- ▲ [MAP Accuracy](#)

Resources

[Age Of Consent](#)
[BoyLove](#)
[Censorship](#)
[Child Abuse](#)
[Child Pornography](#)
[Child Sexuality](#)
[Fun](#)
[Gay Youth](#)
[History](#)
[Hysteria](#)
[Involvement](#)
[Legislation](#)
[Miscellaneous](#)
[Pedophilia](#)
[Podcasts & Radio](#)
[Privacy & Security](#)
[Research](#)
[Surveys](#)

Onion sites

[Message Boards](#)
[Various Links](#)

Pathways of Entry

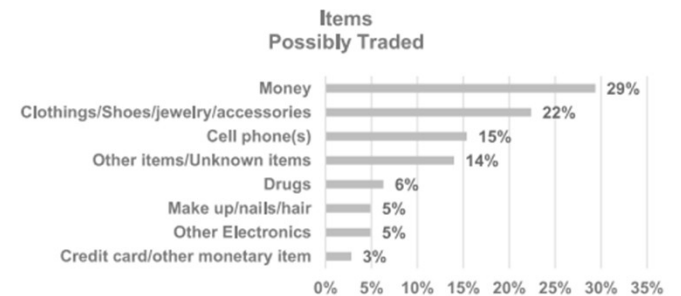


3 OUT OF 4 VICTIMS ARE TRAFFICKED ONLINE

Over three-quarters of underage sex trafficking victims we spoke with said they had been advertised or sold online. The Internet simplifies illegal transactions for johns, and helps create new opportunities for pimps who profit from the sexual victimization of children.

Source: Thorn Survivor Survey

Boys comprised about 50% of sexually exploited children in a sample study done in New York.



FOSTER YOUTH ARE AT
A GREATER RISK FOR BECOMING
VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

60%

**OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIMS
HAVE A HISTORY IN THE CHILD
WELFARE SYSTEM**




























NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCE
CENTER HOTLINE 1-888-373-7888



Pathways of Entry



iPhone Apps

 Zoosk - #1 Dating App Social Networking Download In-App Purchases	 POF - Free Dating App Social Networking Download In-App Purchases	 OKCupid Dating Social Networking Download In-App Purchases	 Tinder Lifestyle Download In-App Purchases	 Badoo - Meet New People... Social Networking Get In-App Purchases	 Dating DNA Free - #1 Date App f... Social Networking Get In-App Purchases	 ayi - Dating App for Adult Singles Lifestyle Get In-App Purchases	 Match.com - Find your match on... Social Networking Get In-App Purchases	 The Game by Hot or Not Lifestyle Download
 High School Story Games Get In-App Purchases	 Skout - Meet, Chat, Friend Social Networking Get In-App Purchases	 Grindr - Gay, same sex, bi,... Social Networking Get	 MiuiMeet - Live Flirt & Dating [...] Social Networking Get In-App Purchases	 iSingles - FREE Dating Chat for... Social Networking Get	 Sex Life - 100+ Positions Entertainment Get In-App Purchases	 Allwomenstalk - Be smart. Be... Entertainment Get	 Tagged - Meet New People... Social Networking Get In-App Purchases	 MeetMe - Chat and Meet New... Social Networking Get In-App Purchases
 Amazing Free	 SCRUFF: Gay	 Chat for Omegle	 Mate1.com -	 happn	 Oasis - Free	 College Girl	 Singles	 eHarmony



Pathways of Entry



Familial Pathways of Entry



65%

Trafficked by mother

32%

Trafficked by father

3%

Trafficked by other family member



Recruitment



- Schools
- Neighborhoods
- The mall
- Outside county buildings
- Group homes
- Foster homes
- Bus stops
- The Internet
- Social Media/Apps
- Homeless shelters

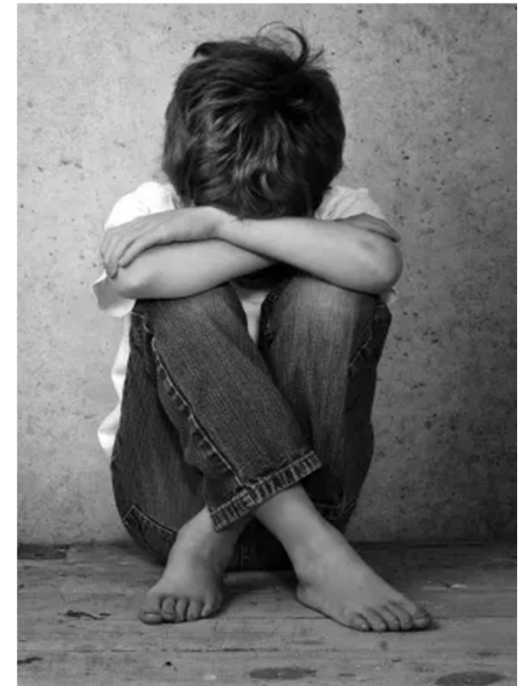


Child Welfare System



60%

of children being sexually exploited have a history with the child welfare system



The Demand



21
Average number of buying sex
first time with a range of 1

54
number of times of
with a range of



Industry

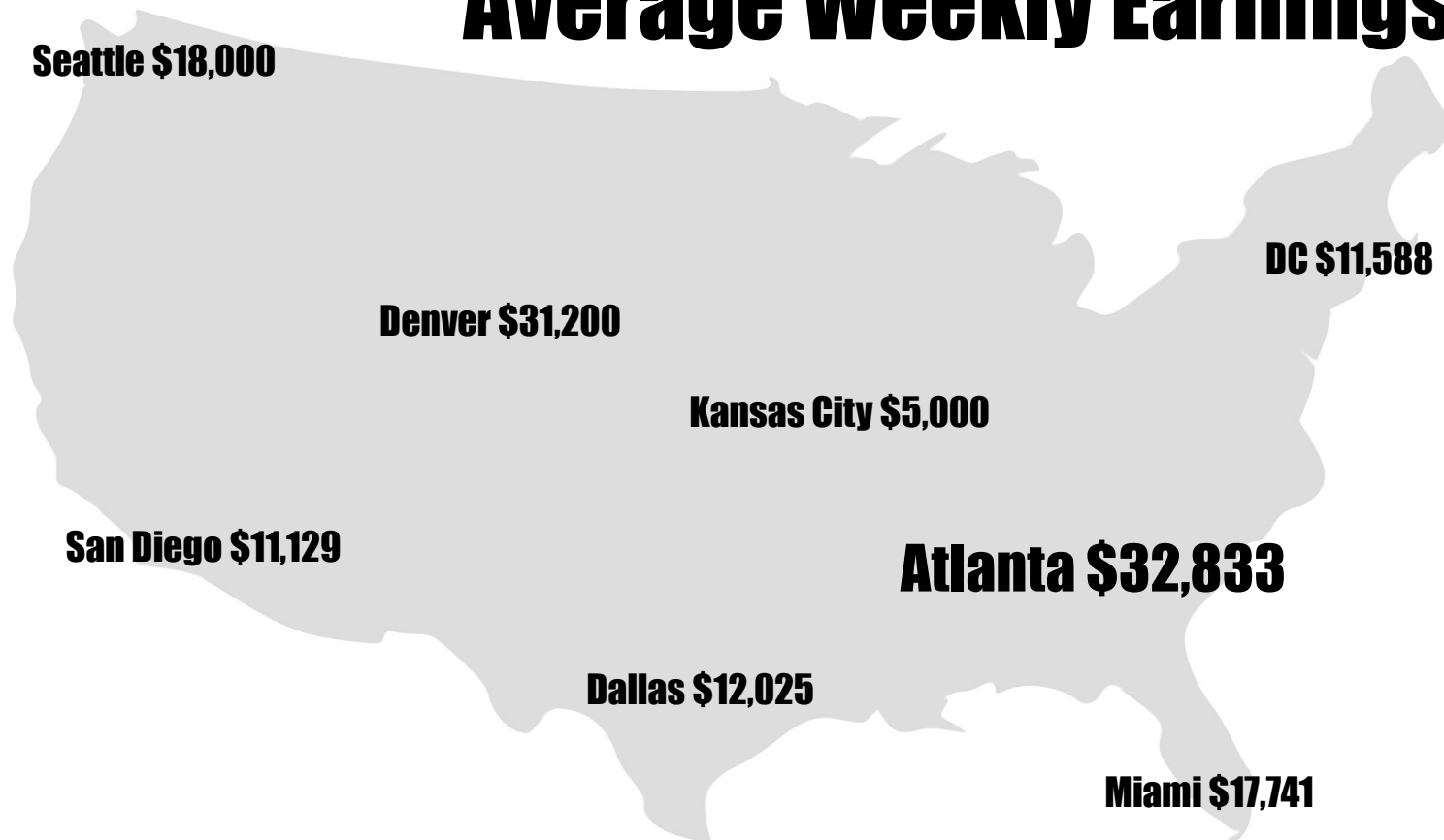


Human Trafficking is a **\$244 billion-dollar global industry**, involving over **100,000 children in the United States**. After Drug Trafficking and Counterfeiting, it is the world's **most profitable** criminal activity. It is estimated that an exploiter may earn as much as **\$650,000 in a year** by exploiting as few as **four children!**

https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/BTB_XXII_IIH_7.pdf
World Bank, 2021 Gross World Product, accessed on 20 July 2023.
https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/BTB_XXII_IIH_7.pdf

The Profit

Average Weekly Earnings



8. Dank, M., et al. (2014). Estimating the size and structure of the underground commercial sex economy in eight major US cities..

Convicted Trafficking Cases in US (2021 - 2022)

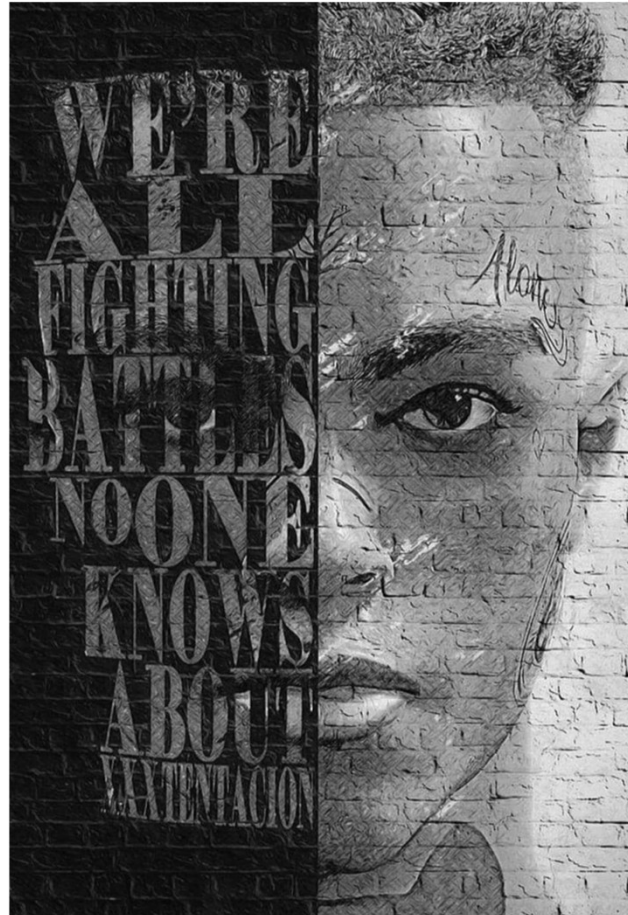


<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/45b740c6a7e440e98817a614ce9e4841>



The United States has the second largest concentration of past and current trafficking victims, and Washington state is currently the 6th largest epicentre of sex trafficking in the United States.

Conclusion



Conclusion



*The main reason boys aren't getting
the services they deserve is because
they're not being identified as
CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIMS*

Questions?



MaleSurvivor.org