

SAFE HOUSE  
PROJECT

# Combatting Trafficking as Essential Service Providers

[WWW.SAFEHOUSEPROJECT.ORG](http://WWW.SAFEHOUSEPROJECT.ORG)





ALIA AZARIAH

Director of Aftercare

Alia @SafeHouseProject.org



KATHLEEN ARNOLD

Senior Director of Programs

Kathleen@SafeHouseProject.org



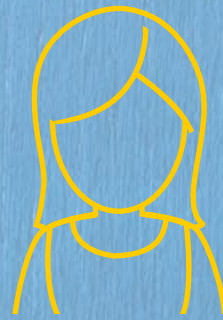




# EDUCATE

# AMPLIFY

# ELEVATE



## Identifying Victims

Increasing victim identification through education and training opportunities for healthcare workers, law enforcement, educators, employees, and community members. To date, we have trained over 200k individuals.



## Supporting Survivors

Providing emergency transportation, basic necessities, and safe house placement to survivors exiting a trafficking situation. Hiring survivors to live into their career goals through a trauma-informed work environment. In 2021, we supported 207 survivors in different areas of their journey.

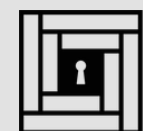


## Restoring Lives

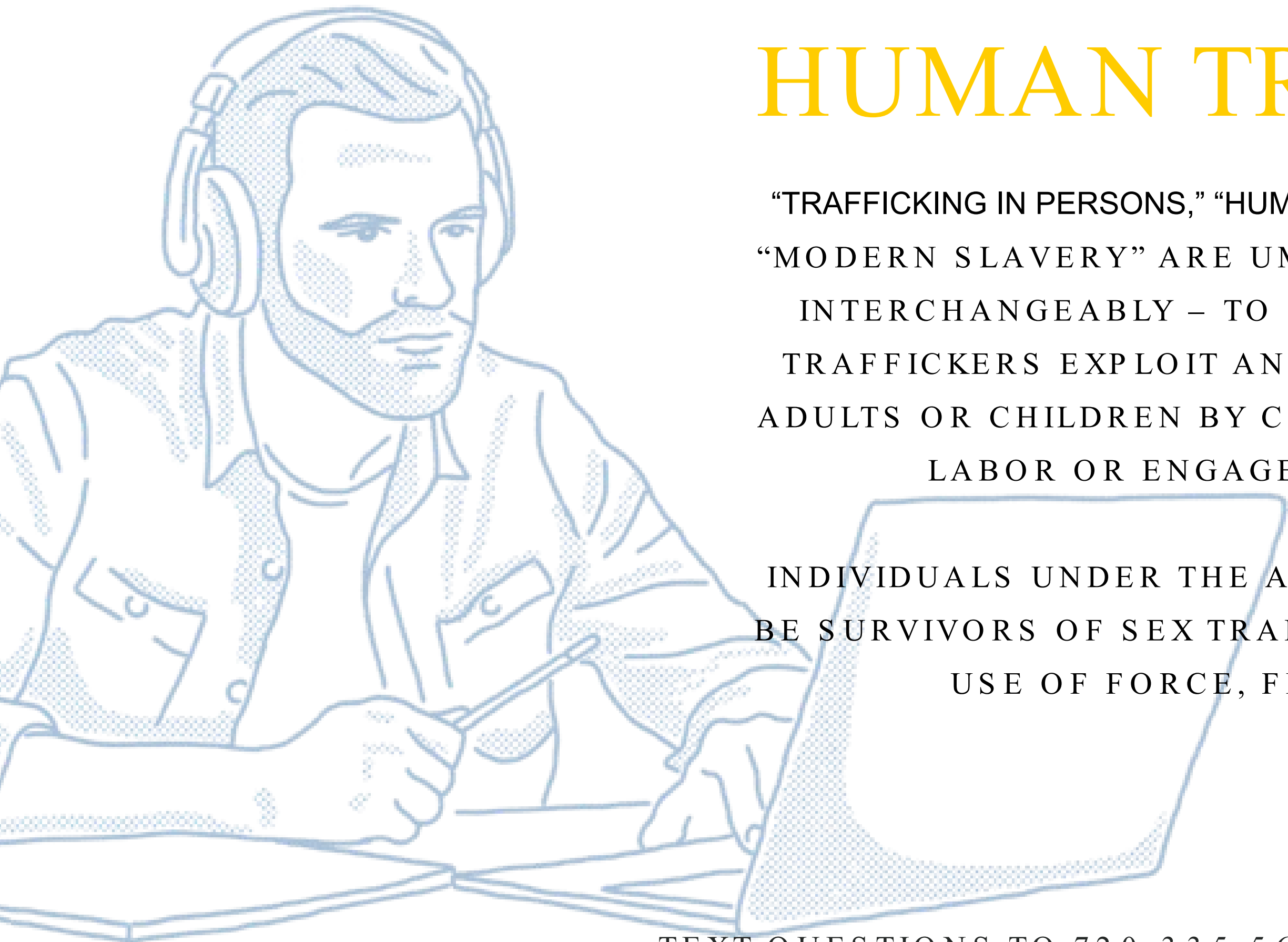
Elevating the national standard of aftercare through Safe House Project Certification. Investing in new or expanding safe house programs through mentorship and funding. Innovating to address the deepest needs and biggest gaps in survivor care. In addition to launching Safe House Certifications, our funding allowed for an additional 272 new beds to be added to the national landscape last year.



# HUMAN TRAFFICKING



SAFE HOUSE  
PROJECT



# HUMAN TRAFFICKING

“TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS,” “HUMAN TRAFFICKING,” AND “MODERN SLAVERY” ARE UMBRELLA TERMS – OFTEN USED INTERCHANGEABLY – TO REFER TO A CRIME WHEREBY TRAFFICKERS EXPLOIT AND PROFIT AT THE EXPENSE OF ADULTS OR CHILDREN BY COMPELLING THEM TO PERFORM LABOR OR ENGAGE IN COMMERCIAL SEX.

INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 ARE CONSIDERED TO BE SURVIVORS OF SEX TRAFFICKING, REGARDLESS OF THE USE OF FORCE, FRAUD, OR COERCION.

TEXT QUESTIONS TO 720.335.5686

Induce | Recruits | Harbors | Transports | Provides | Obtains | Solicits

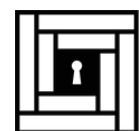
ACTION

Force | Fraud | Coercion

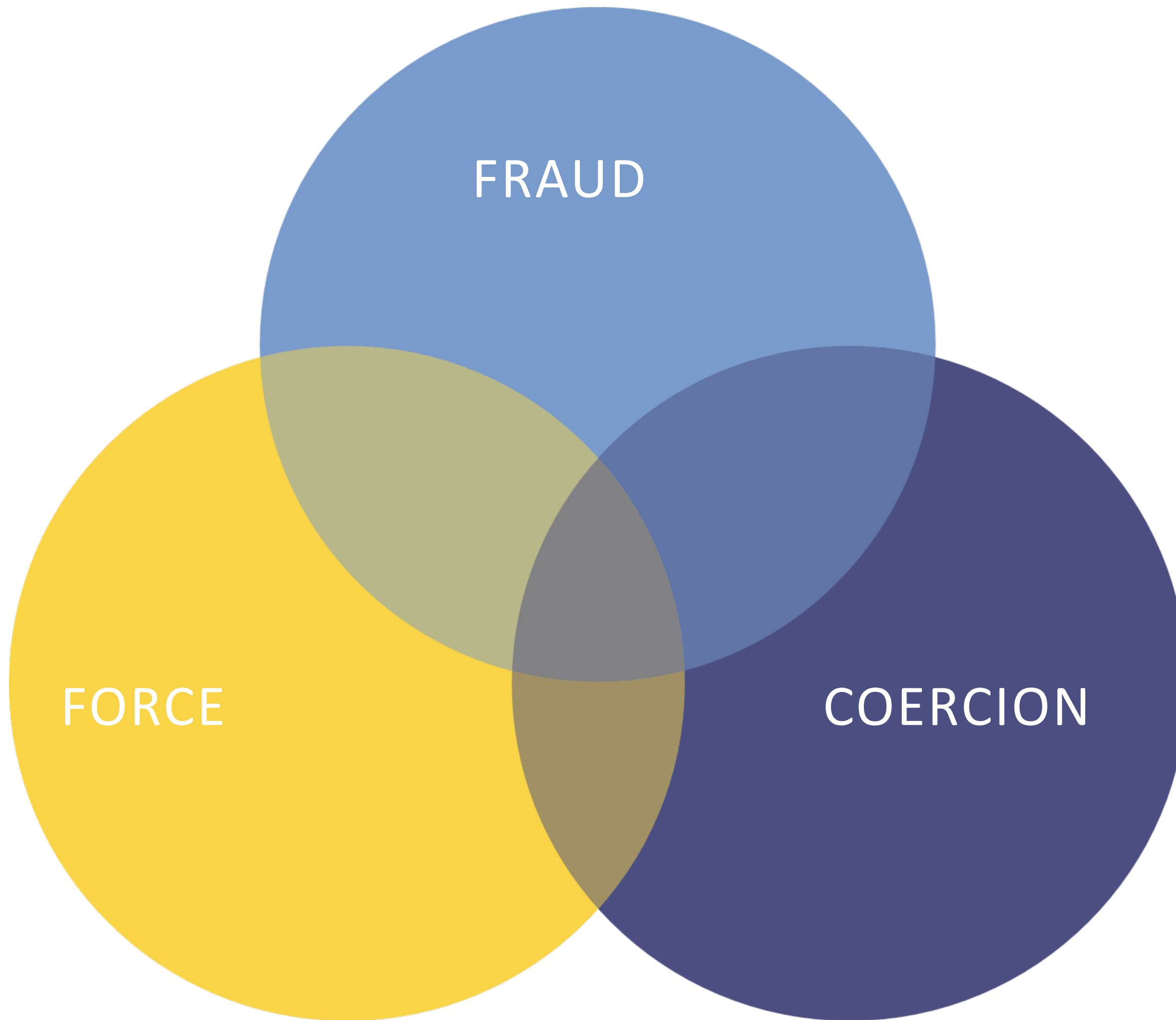
MEANS

Commercial Sex | Labor

PURPOS



# Methods of Control





## PROSTITUTION VS. SEX TRAFFICKING

### Prostitution

No Force, Fraud, or Coercion

&

18+

Is **not** dependent on another person to further their commercial sex activities.

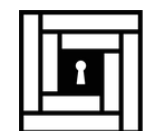
### Sex Trafficking

Force, Fraud, or Coercion

OR

<18

**Is** dependent on another person to further their commercial sex activities.





## 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 injustice.



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 survivors are sold by a family member.

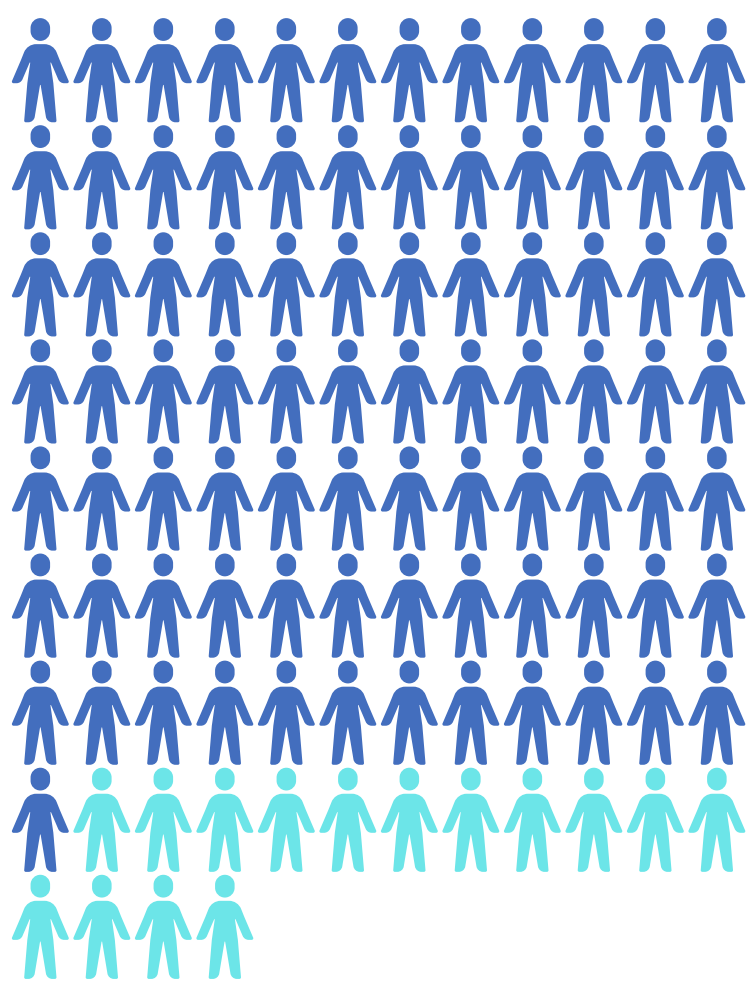
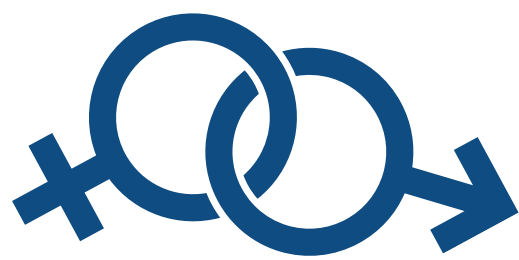


Only 1% of sex trafficking survivors in the U.S. are ever identified.

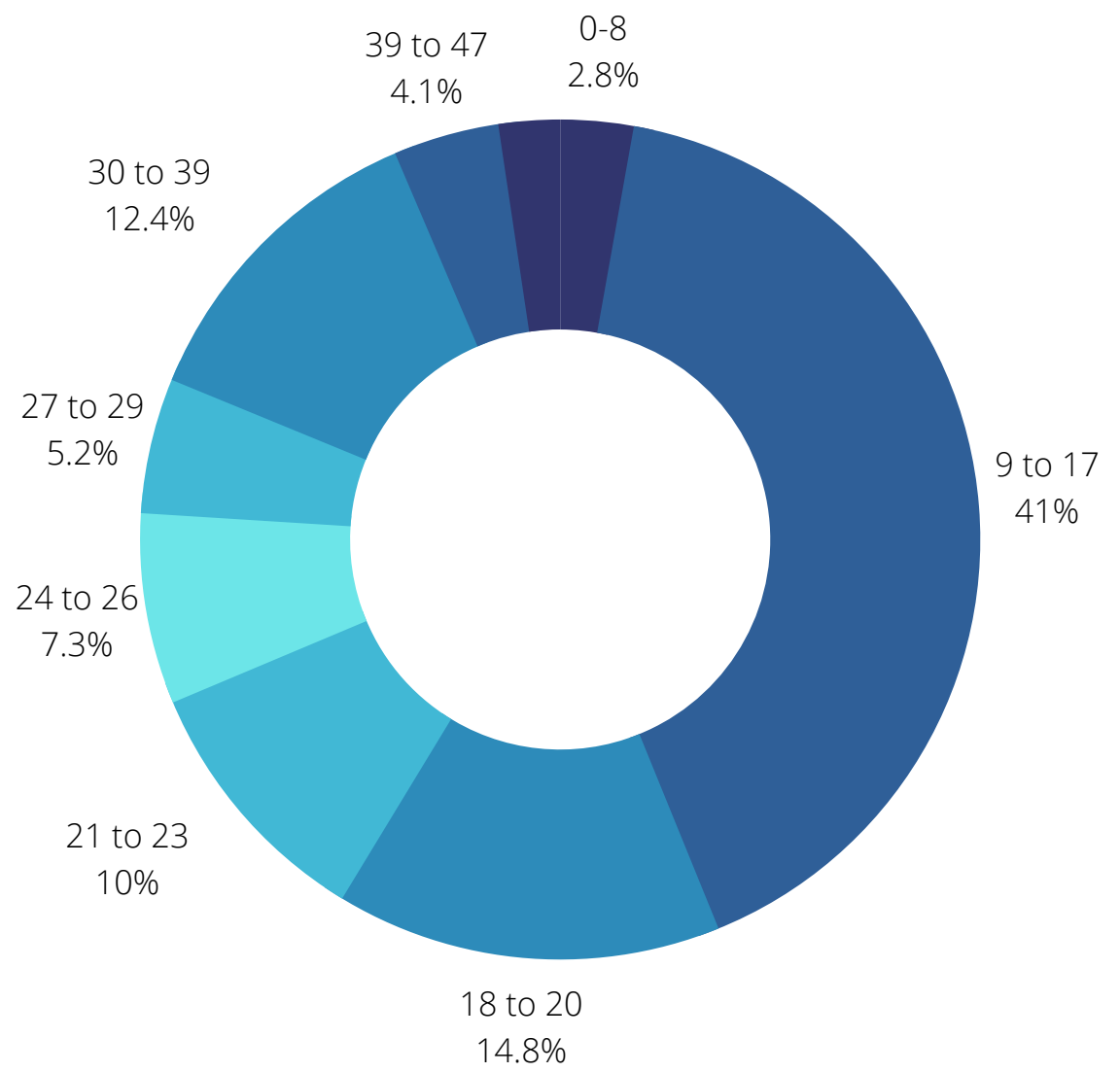
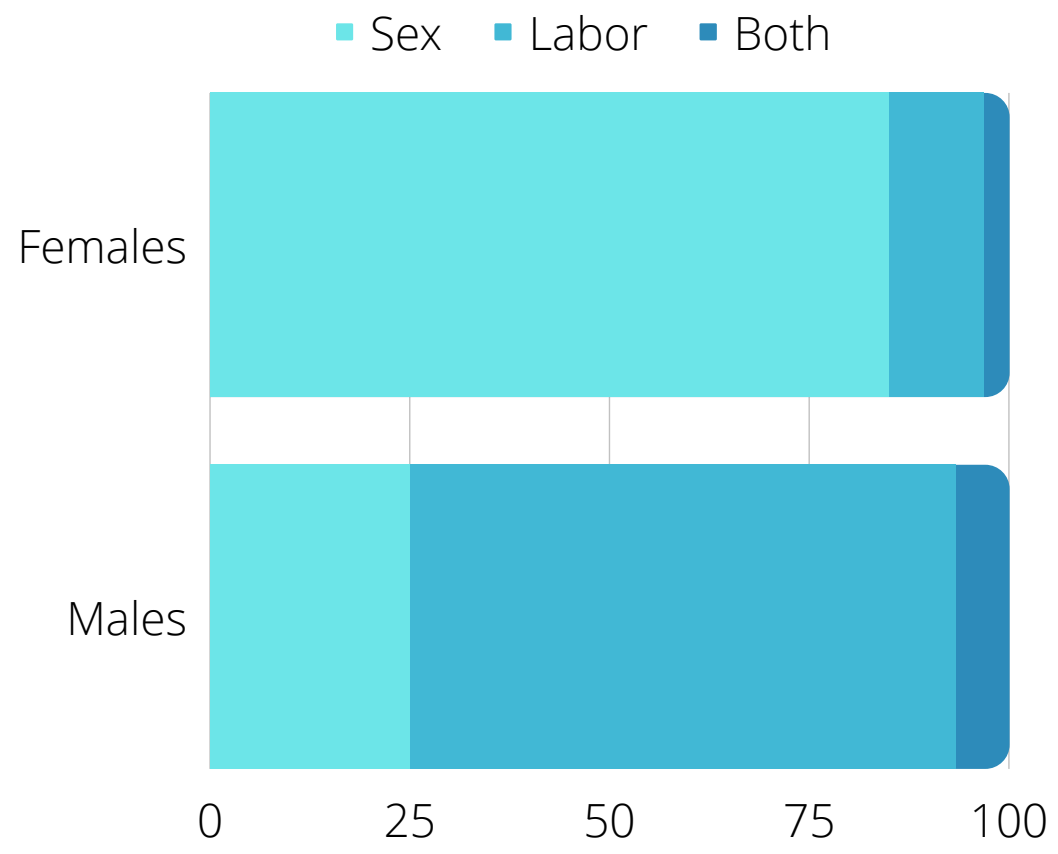




COUNTER TRAFFICKING DATA COLLABORATIVE



Transgender: .2%  
60% of sex trafficked males were minors.



Dates: 2015-2019  
Country of Exploitation: United States  
Total Number: 56,172



## Abuse



Physical



Emotional



Sexual

## Neglect



Physical



Emotional

## Household Dysfunction



Mental Illness



Incarcerated Relative



Mother Treated Violently



Substance Abuse



Divorce



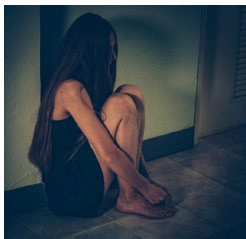
# SEX TRAFFICKING



BOYFRIENDING



FAMILIAL TRAFFICKING



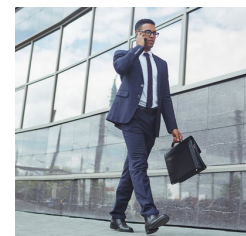
“GUERILLA TRAFFICKING



SURVIVAL SEX



SEXTORTION

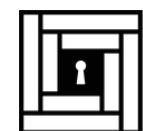


CEO PIMP

## HOW ARE PEOPLE SEX TRAFFICKED IN AMERICA?

## A \$99 BILLION DOLLAR INDUSTRY FUELED BY:

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



SAFE HOUSE  
PROJECT

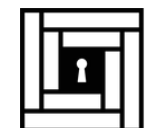
# Differentiating Between Them

INTIMATE PARTNER  
VIOLENCE

SEXUAL ASSAULT

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

CHILDHOOD SEXUAL  
ABUSE



SAFE HOUSE  
PROJECT



## INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

PHYSICAL, SEXUAL, OR PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ABUSE OF A PERSON BY THEIR PARTNER  
OR SPOUSE.

- Agitated or visibly upset
- Always checking in with their partner
- Excessively worried about pleasing their partner
- Nervous or scared around their partner
- Injuries like black eyes, bruises, cuts, wounds, broken teeth, or fractured bones
- Excuses for their injuries such as “I fell,” or “I bumped into the door”

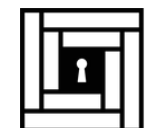


INTIMATE PARTNER  
VIOLENCE

SEX  
TRAFFICKING

PARTNER A IS PROFITING OFF OF THE  
COMMERCIAL SEX WORK OF PARTNER B  
AND THERE IS AN ELEMENT OF FORCE  
FRAUD OR COERCION OR PARTNER B IS  
UNDER 18 YEARS OLD

- Evidence of Financial Exploitation
- Evidence of Deceptive Recruitment or Manipulation
- Evidence of Commercial Exploitation
- Inconsistent or Implausible Stories

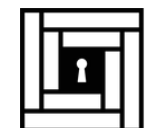




VIOLENT OR AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR WITHIN THE HOME.  
PERPETRATOR COULD BE PARTNER/SPOUSE BUT COULD  
ALSO BE PARENT, SIBLING, OTHER DOMESTIC  
REALTIONSHIP

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Visible Physical Injuries
- Injuries Inconsistent with Explanation
- Fear or Avoidance of a Specific Family Member
- Emotional or Psychological Distress
- Reluctance to Share Information



FAMILY MEMBER A IS PROFITING OFF OF THE COMMERCIAL SEX WORK OF  
FAMILY MEMBER B AND THERE IS AN ELEMENT OF FORCE FRAUD OR  
COERCION OR FAMILY MEMBER B IS UNDER 18 YEARS OLD



- Power Imbalance and Control Dynamics
- Lack of Personal Agency and Decision -Making Power
- Isolation from Support Systems
- Control Over Victim's Movements and Communication

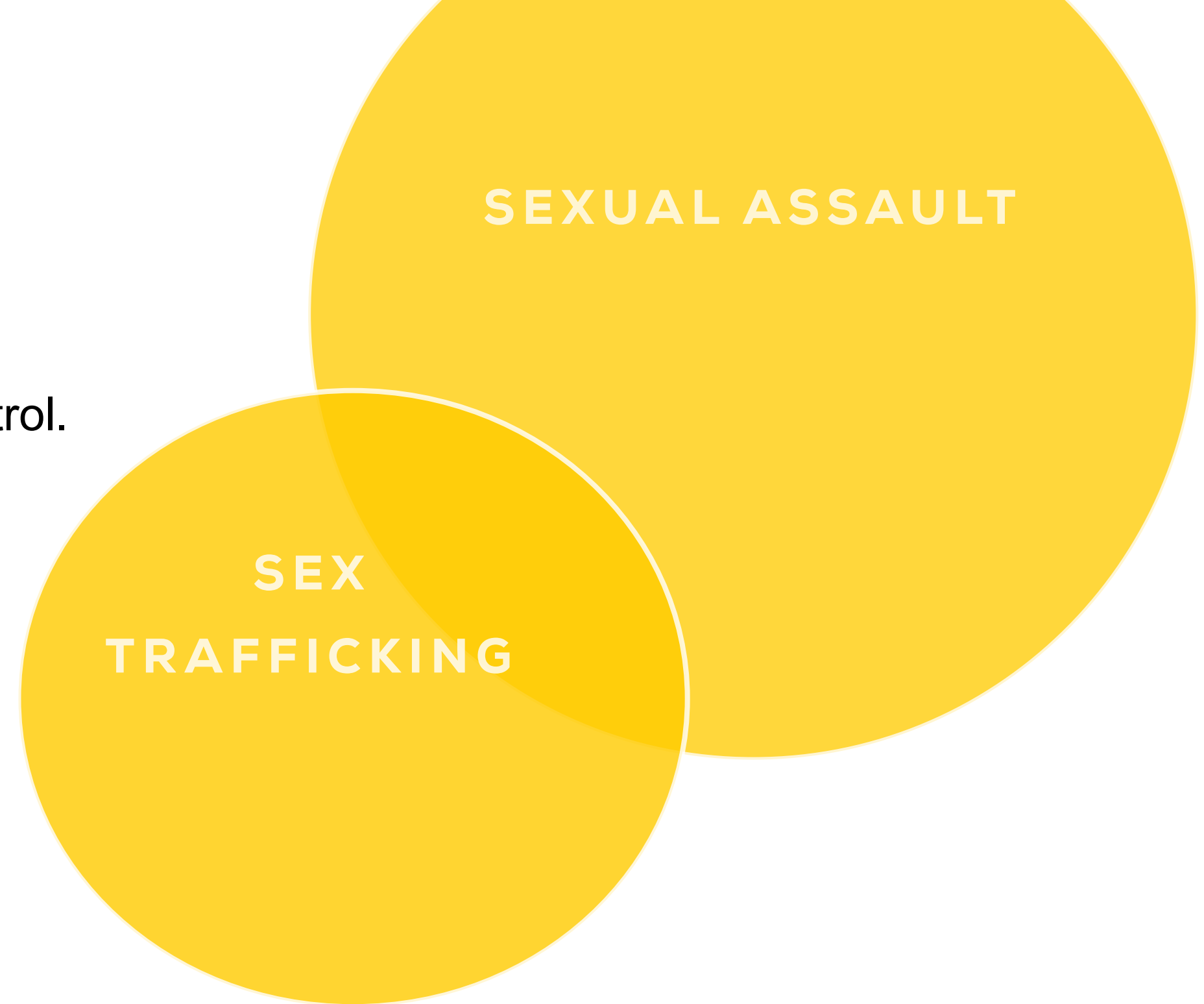


- Unexplained physical injuries or trauma.
- Torn or disheveled clothing
- Emotional Distress

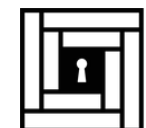
## SEXUAL ASSAULT

SEXUAL ASSAULT IS AN ACT IN WHICH ONE INTENTIONALLY SEXUALLY TOUCHES ANOTHER PERSON WITHOUT THAT PERSON'S CONSENT, OR COERCES OR PHYSICALLY FORCES A PERSON TO ENGAGE IN A SEXUAL ACT AGAINST THEIR WILL.

- Multiple Victims Present
- Evidence of Exploitative Practices
- Signs of Travel or Movement
- Presence of a Controller or Pimp
- Limited Autonomy and Financial Control.
- Lack of Personal Belongings or Identification
- Inability to Communicate Freely
- Limited or No Disclosure of Assault
- Minors: Evidence of Exchange or Transaction



VICTIMS ARE OFTEN SUBJECTED TO REPEATED SEXUAL ASSAULTS BY TRAFFICKERS, BUYERS, OR OTHER PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE TRAFFICKING OPERATION.





CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE REFERS TO ANY SEXUAL ACTIVITY OR BEHAVIOR  
IMPOSED ON A CHILD BY AN OLDER OR MORE POWERFUL INDIVIDUAL

- Behavioral Changes and Regression
- Sexually Explicit Knowledge or Behaviors
- Avoidance of Specific Individuals or Settings
- Physical Signs or Symptoms
- Signs of Emotional Distress or Trauma

CHILDHOOD SEXUAL  
ABUSE



SAFE HOUSE  
PROJECT

# SEXUAL ABUSE STATS

- 4 times more likely to develop symptoms of drug abuse
- 4 times more likely to experience PTSD as adults
- 3 times more likely to experience a major depressive episode as adults



SOME ABUSERS WILL GIVE THEIR VICTIMS ITEMS OF VALUE IN EXCHANGE FOR CONTINUING TO HIDE THE ABUSE AND COOPERATE WITH THEIR DEMANDS. OTHERS ARE ABUSING THE CHILDREN WHILE PROFITING OFF OF ALLOWING OTHERS TO ABUSE THE CHILD AS WELL.

- Multiple Perpetrators or Locations
- Presence of a Controlling Adult or Exploiter
- Frequent Relocations or Travel
- Fear, Dependency, or Reluctance to Seek Help
- Repeated or Prolonged Absences

SEX  
TRAFFICKING

CHILDHOOD SEXUAL  
ABUSE





# CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND FAMILIAL TRAFFICKING

[Let's hear Hope's story.](#)



SAFE HOUSE  
PROJECT



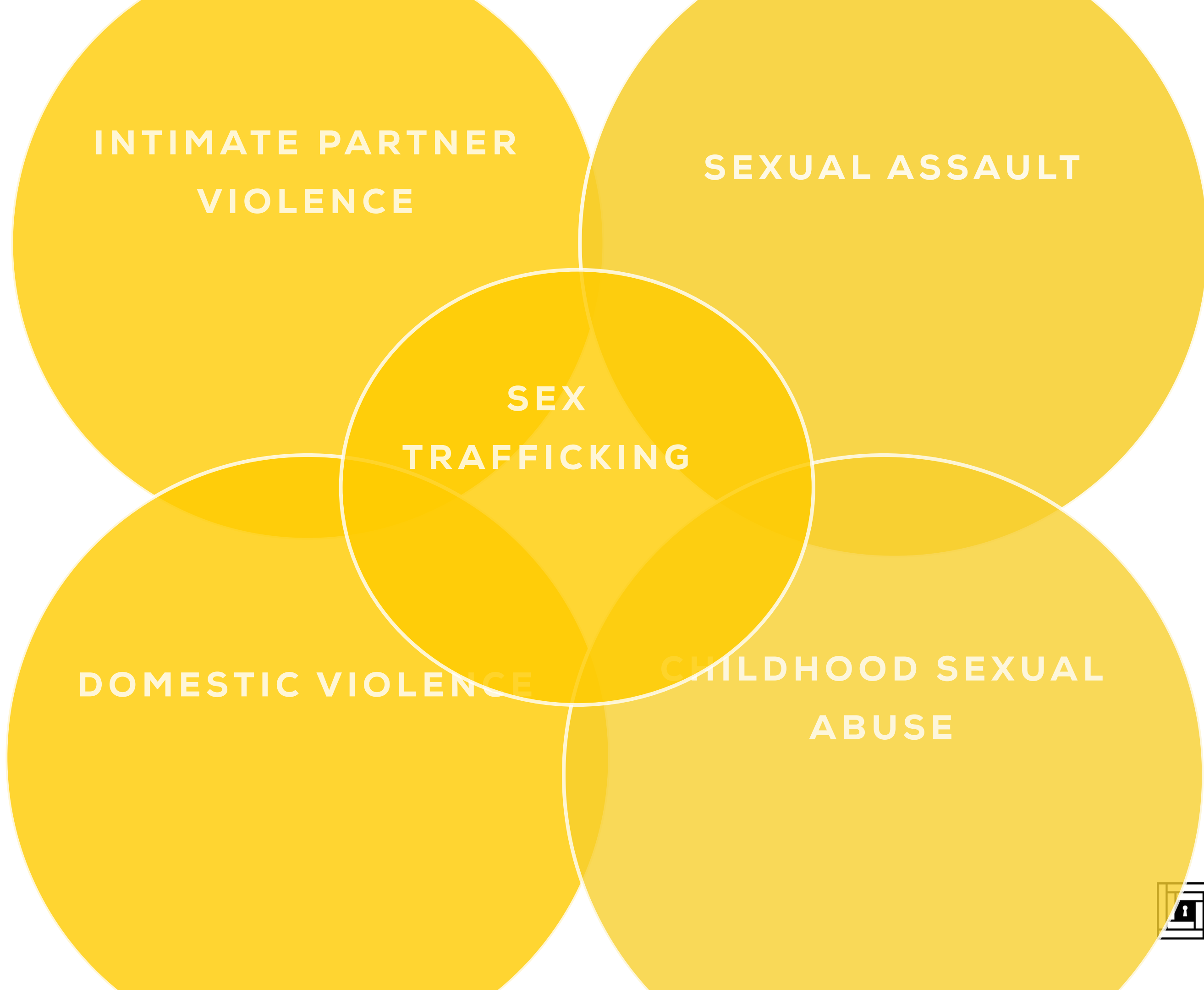
## INDICATORS IN HOPE'S STORY:

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





# Differentiating Between Them



**SAFE HOUSE**  
PROJECT

## VULNERABILITY OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

[DeeDee's story.](#)





# Signs & Indicators

- THE SIGNS
  - Individual with disabilities or mental illness
  - Unable to speak for themselves
  - Not in control of their own care
  - Pulled out of school regularly
  - Frequent visits in hospitals
  - Physical and emotional trauma
- Why Traffickers Target People with Disabilities
  - Rely heavily on others for help
  - Sheltered or isolated
  - Social discrimination
  - Access to SSI or SSDI benefits
  - Desensitized to touch
  - Communication or speech issues





## Behavior



Lack of Physical Activity



Smoking



Alcoholism



Drug Use



Missed Work

## Physical & Mental Health



Severe Obesity



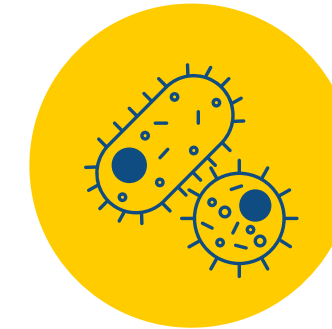
Diabetes



Depression



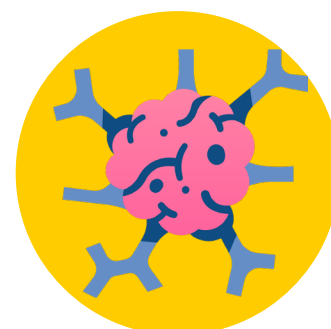
Suicide Attempts



STDs



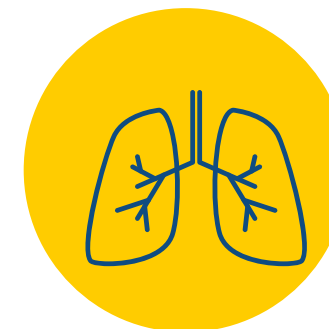
Heart Disease



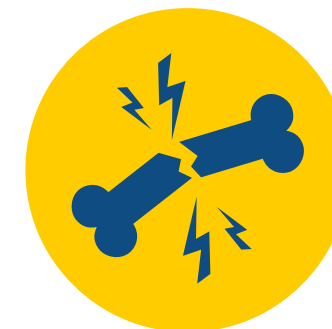
Cancer



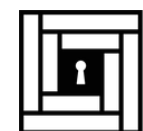
Stroke



COPD



Broken Bones



## IDENTIFYING TRAFFICKING VICTIMS IN YOUR PARTICULAR AREAS OF SERVICES



Law Enforcement



Social Workers



Teachers



Therapists & Counselors



Healthcare Professionals



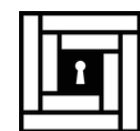
Hospital Staff



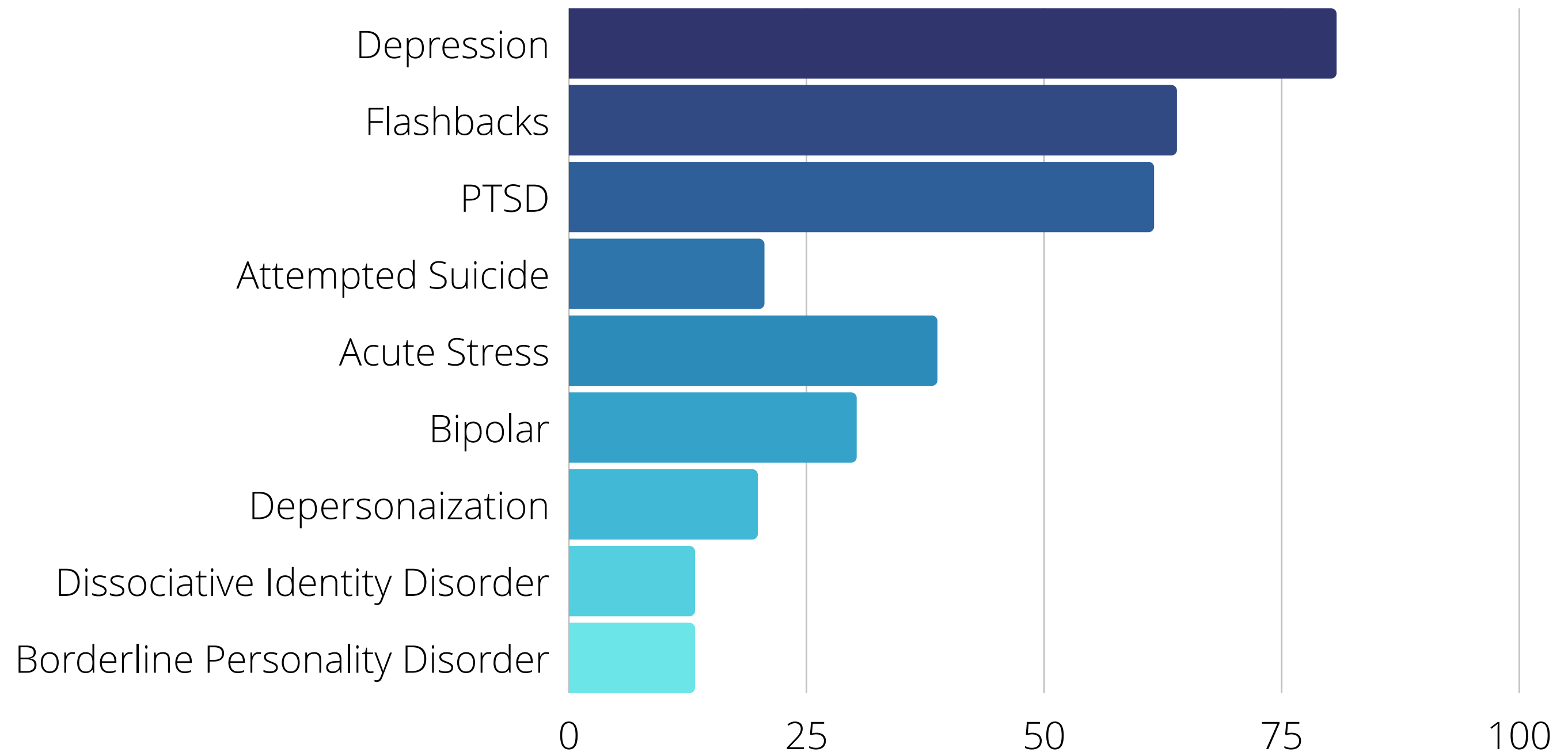
Hotel & Hospitality  
Workers



Transportation & Travel  
Professionals



## A survivor has on average 10.5 Psychological Challenges or Disorders



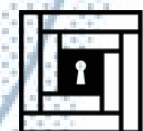
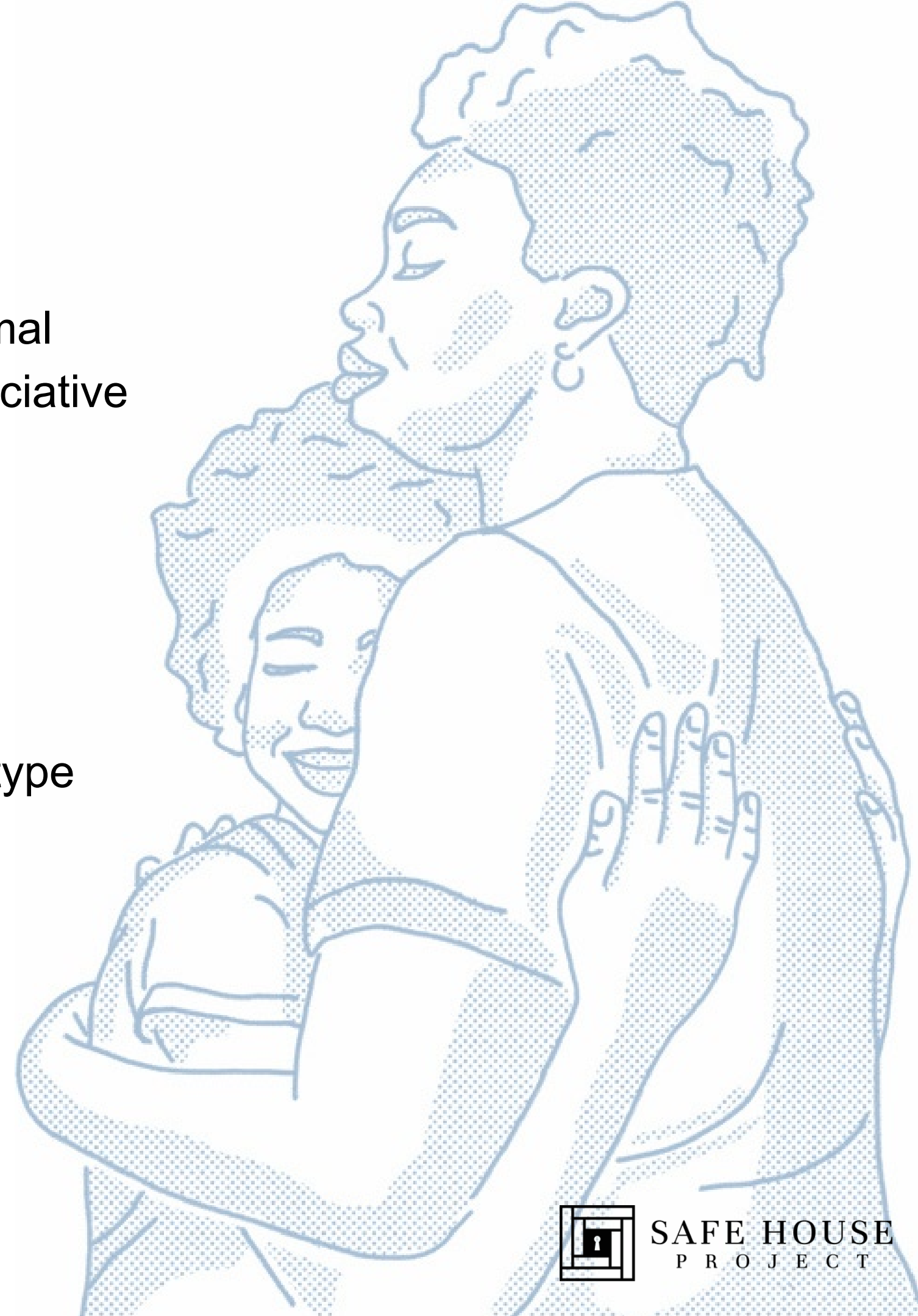


# DISSOCIATION

There are multiple types of dissociation, including normal dissociation that is non-disordered. The types of dissociative disorders include:

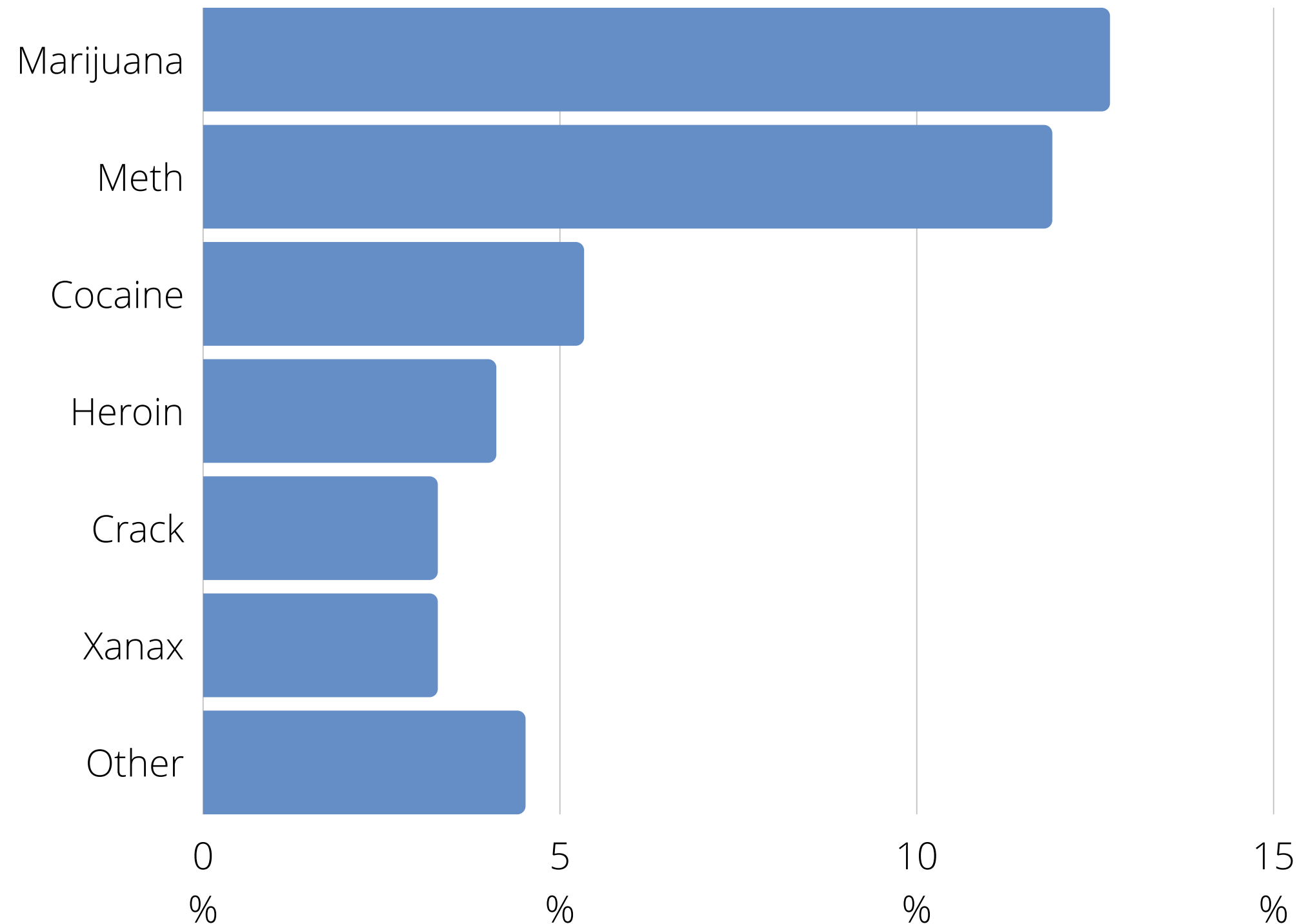
- Dissociative amnesia
- Derealization/Depersonalization
- Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID)
- Otherwise Specified Dissociative Disorder (OSDD)
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder - Dissociative Subtype (PTSD-DS)

Dissociative disorders are characterized as a disruption in the usually integrated functions of consciousness, memory, identity, or perception.



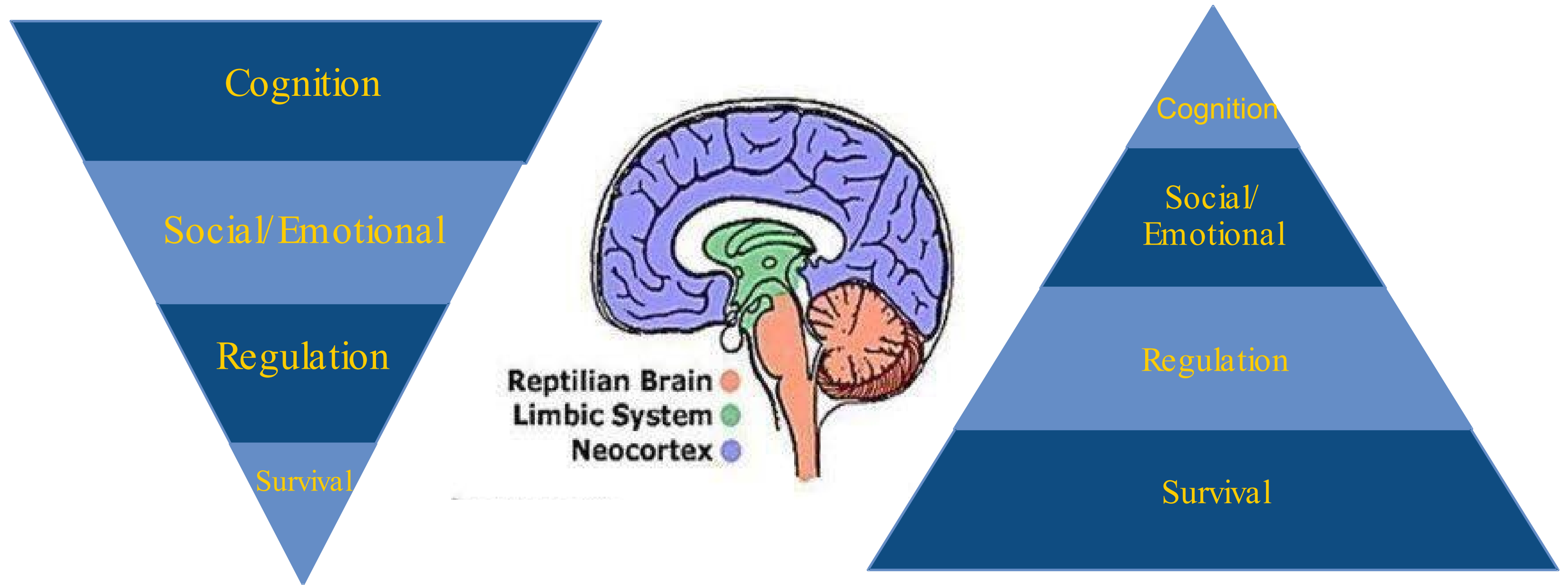
## SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

---



- Many survivors develop substance use disorders either from being coerced into drug use by their traffickers or by turning to substance abuse to help cope with or mentally escape their desperate situations.
- [84%](#) of sex trafficking survivors reporting substance abuse during their victimizations
- One-third of trafficking survivors reported their drug use being used to exploit them
- 45.08% of Survivors who call the hotline Acknowledge Active Drug Use

# EFFECTS OF TRAUMA ON THE BRAIN



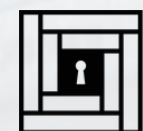


# COPING STRATEGIES- EXTERNALIZING

- Cutting
- Violence
- Sex
- Over/under eating
- Not sleeping
- Avoiding friends or family
- Manipulating others
- Driving recklessly
- Denial
- Self-sabotage
- Blaming others



# TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH



SAFE HOUSE  
PROJECT

## TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH

- Safety
- Trustworthiness/Transparency
- Peer Support and Mutual Self      -Help
- Collaboration and Mutuality
- Empowerment
- Voice
- Choice and Considerations for Cultural, Historical and Gender Issues



## CONSIDERATIONS

- Watch your tone.
- Use everyday language.
- Let them speak.
- Pay attention to body language.
- Translator
- Record observations.



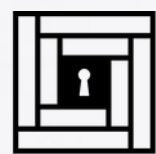


I saw many of the workers sense something was wrong,  
I saw them wrestle with what to do...Healthcare  
workers who are equipped to identify trafficking and  
familiar with how to respond have the opportunity to  
save lives." - Sarah, Survivor

# H.O.P.E. TRAINING

HEALTHCARE WORKERS ARE VITAL PARTNERS IN COMBATING TRAFFICKING

The H.O.P.E. (Healthcare Observations for the Prevention & Eradication of Human Trafficking) Training is a survivor-informed, trauma-informed, and patient-centered video-based training that equips all healthcare workers to identify potential human trafficking victims, give support, and offer resources.



**SAFE HOUSE**  
PROJECT

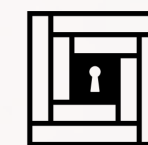
Learn more at [www.safehouseproject.org/healthcare](http://www.safehouseproject.org/healthcare)



# POST TRAINING SURVEY

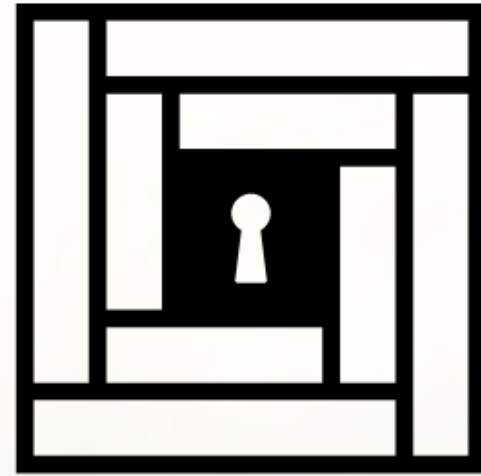


[www.SafeHouseProject.org](http://www.SafeHouseProject.org)



SAFE HOUSE  
PROJECT





# SAFE HOUSE

## P R O J E C T

[www.SafeHouseProject.org](http://www.SafeHouseProject.org)

# References

- Jessica Vera PhD, 2016
- Samantha Parma-Vera, 2016
- Luxenberg, Spinazzola, & Van der Kolk, 2001
- Emily Waters LMSW PhD, 2016
- Finkelhor, 2008
- Dan Siegel
- Van der Kolk
- Nelson Mandela
- Judith Herman
- McAuley
- Rebecca Bender
- Spinazzola et al., 2014
- Siegel, 2012
- ICD-10 criteria for PTSD (F43.1)
- DSM V
- Tedeschi & Calhoun, 2004
- Caplan, 1964
- Frankl, 1963
- Maslow, 1970
- Yalom and Lieberman, 1991
- Quarantelli, 1985
- Tedeschi, 1999
- Egeland, Carlson, & Sroufe, 1993
- Luthar et al., 2000
- Masten, 2001
- Masten & Coatsworth, 1995
- Cicchetti & Garmezy, 1993
- Pavenstedt, 1965
- WHO, 1992
- APA, 2000;2013
- Dan Sartor PhD, 2015
- <https://www.verywellmind.com/intimate-partner-violence-types-signs-causes-and-impact-5324420>