

Sexually Exploited Children and Youth

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Sexual Exploitation

“Prostitution has historically been deemed a moral crime. The so-called “world’s oldest profession” has a precarious position in society.

Prostitution has generally been tolerated as something that invariably exists, as something that happens with regularity and some degree of normalcy.

Prostitution, while never fully accepted, is not fully rejected. It is rather condoned as a “necessary evil” by most segments of society.”

Culture Components

1. Language
2. Cognitive Systems (beliefs, values, thoughts).
3. Roles (people involved in sex trade)
4. Norms/rules (normalized behaviors)
5. Economics (what's of value)
6. Politics (what's involved, how they operate)
7. Arts and Technology (forms of expression and tools)
8. Spirituality

Who are the Sexually Exploited??



- 1 – 10 million children world wide
- 400+ per year in Winnipeg
- Between 8 to 16 years (average beginning age is 13 years)
- Range from 2 – 22 years in sex trade; almost $\frac{1}{2}$ remain in sex trade for 2+ years; average is 12 years
- More females than males

Who are the Sexually Exploited??



- 52% were sexually abused as children
- 52% were physically abused as children
- 81% ran away from home
- 72% were in care of CFS
- most have had multiple placements
- 33% were homeless

Who are the Sexually Exploited??



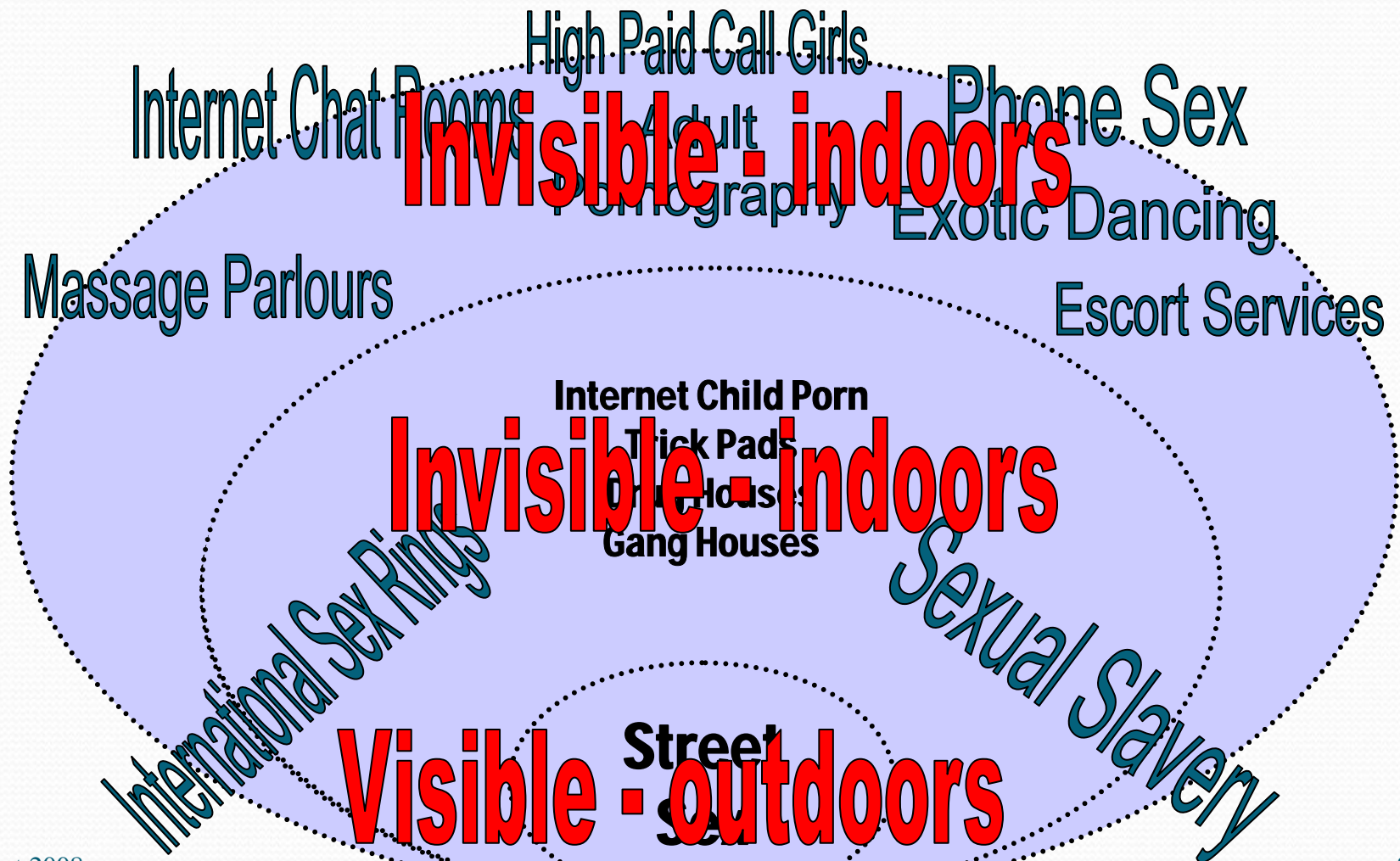
- 93% are drug & alcohol affected
- 53% used alcohol before age 12 yrs
- Tried to escape or leave sex trade average of 7 times
- 79% have criminal charges
- 46% have been incarcerated
- 62% are on probation

Who are the Sexually Exploited??

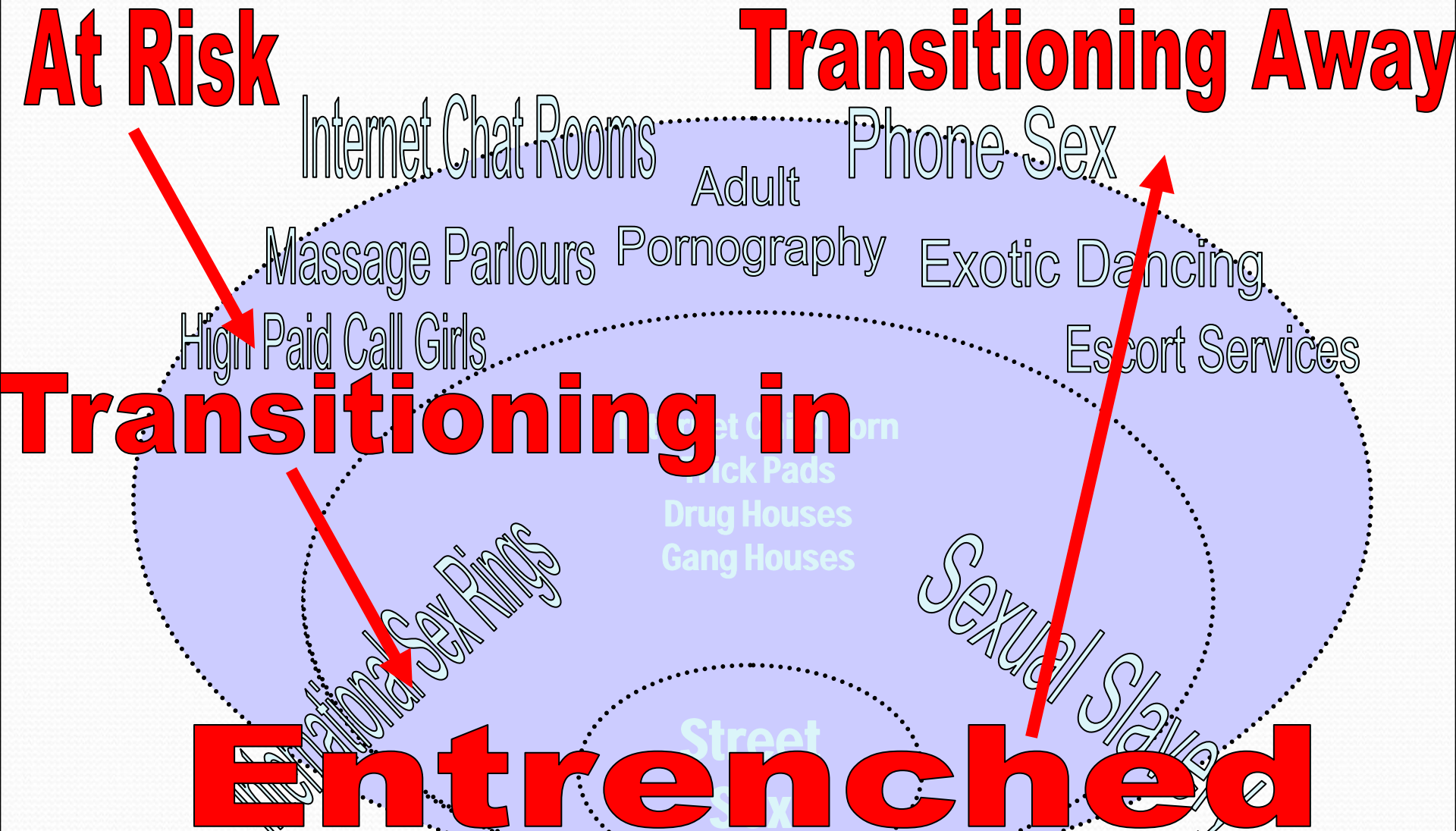


- 44% were treated for an emotional problem by a professional
- 38% attempted suicide
- 63% failed/repeated a grade; 77% were suspended from school
- Average education is Grade 8
- 70 – 80% are of Aboriginal descent
- Immigrant & refugee youth are at risk

Exploitation



Exploitation



STAGES OF EXPLOITATION

● AT RISK INDICATORS

- Homeless
- If family/friends involved in sex trade
- Abused
- Family breakdown/instability
- FAE/FAS (cognitive delays)
- Legacy of colonization for aboriginal youth &
- Barriers they have to overcome
- Poverty (food, place to stay)
- Girls are at higher risk

STAGES OF EXPLOITATION

● **TRANSITIONING IN INDICATORS**

- Have all/most the at risk factors above
- Identify more with culture of sex trade
- (particularly with belief system)
- Truant from school
- Don't see the negatives of sex trade
- Increase drug/alcohol use
- Violence increase
- Using language of sex trade more often
- Decrease connection with family & mainstream friends
- Begin hanging out with entrenched kids

STAGES OF EXPLOITATION

• **ENTRENCHED IN INDICATORS**

- Complete adoption of ALL cultural components of sex trade
- Sees the negative of sex trade
- Drug/alcohol use is more than likely daily
- Almost everyone they socialize with is from the sex trade
- Complete rejection of family
- Level of violence increases (to them or by them) – very explosive tempers or anger quickly
- Immediate gratification of needs
- Connect to resources associated with sex trade
- Always have money or objects they can't explain

STAGES OF EXPLOITATION

- **TRANSITIONING AWAY INDICATORS**
- See negatives of sex trade & can start to internalize/talk about them
- Start to emotionally move away from sex trade
- Reconnection with culture & family of origin
- Drug/alcohol decreases
- Violence that they do or allow to be down to them decreases
- Participate in programming to address their needs
- Acquire money through visible and legitimate jobs (chores/jobs)

Programs needed for sexually exploited children and youth

At Risk and Transitioning in

- Educational, recreational and culturally appropriate
- Mentor programs
- Specialized workers educated in the issues of sexual exploitation

Entrenched and Transitioning away

- Adaptive educational programs
- Specialized workers educated in the issues of sexual exploitation
- Outreach
- Specialized addictions treatment
- Long term placements

Sexually Exploited Children and Youth Training

Overview of Sexual Exploitation

History of Our Understanding of the Sex Trade

Legislation Regarding the Sex Trade & Sexual Exploitation

Understanding the Concept of Sexual Exploitation

Child Sexual Abuse vs. Child Sexual Exploitation

Culture Defined

Culture Applied to Sexually Exploited Children & Youth

Waters of Sexual Exploitation

Who Are the Sexually Exploited Children & Youth

Interconnectedness of Sexual Trade with Other Social Issues

How Children/Youth are Affected by Sexual Exploitation

Why Children/Youth Get Involved in the Sex Trade

Systemic Factors Associated with Involvement

Process of Sexual Exploitation- Pulling It All Together

Sexually Exploited Children and Youth Training

Who are the People Who Sexually Exploit Children and Youth

The Sexual Predator: Who is He/She

Role of Johns in Sexual Exploitation Process

Role of Pimps in Sexual Exploitation Process

Role of Gangs in Sexual Exploitation Process

How to Work with Sexually Exploited Children & Youth

Best Practice Responses - An Overview

Our Success Stories

Knowing Yourself

Knowing Your Resources

Sexually Exploited Children and Youth Training

Putting Theory into Practice: Recommended Best Practice Interventions at Micro Level

Points of Interventions

Interventions for Children/Youth in the At Risk Stage

Interventions for Children/Youth Transitioning Into Sex Trade

Interventions for Children/Youth Entrenched in the Sex Trade

Putting Theory into Practice:

Recommended Best Practice Interventions at Meso & Macro Levels

Introduction to this Section

Dealing with Perpetuators

Putting Theory into Practice:

Recommended Best Practice

Interventions at Meso & Macro Levels

Macro Level Interventions with Systems & Communities

The Manitoba Strategy

The Manitoba Strategy was launched in December 2002.

Partner departments and agencies are taking the lead on specific initiatives of the strategy.

- Justice;
 - Family Services and Housing;
 - Health;
 - Education, Citizenship and Youth;
 - Women's Directorate;
 - Aboriginal and Northern Affairs; and
 - Healthy Child Manitoba,
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- New Direction's TERF Program;
 - Child Find Manitoba
 - Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre; and
 - RESOLVE from the University of Manitoba.

MB Strategy Community Programs and Services

- **Outreach Project** - An Outreach Project aimed at reducing the number of residential care run-a-way youth who become at increased risk of sexual exploitation has been expanded.
- **Safe Transition Home** - A six-bed safe transition home in Winnipeg, Honouring the Spirit of our Little Sisters, is in operation by Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre Inc., for female and transgender youth, ages 13 to 17, who have been subjected to and at risk for continued sexual exploitation.
- **Residential Child Care Facility** - Family Services and Housing has recently finalized an agreement with Marymound Inc. to enhance one of their residential child care facilities, Rose Hall, thus enabling them to deliver specialized services for young women ages 13 to 17 who have been sexually exploited.

MB Strategy Community Programs and Services

- **Training for Foster Parents and Other Workers** - Intensive specialized training for foster parents and other front-line workers who deal with children and youth who have been sexually exploited.
- **Specialized Foster Care Resources** - Specialized foster care resources for children aged 8 to 18 who have been sexually exploited.
- **Student Support Project** - Identify the needs and support of Aboriginal youth coming from the north to reside in Winnipeg for educational or other reasons. Kani Kanichik is operating this program.
- **TERF Program**- offers transition assistance for female and transgender youth who are sexually exploited

Resources and Education

- **Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Resources -** Development of Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness resources for province-wide access has begun.
- **School Learning Resources -** Development of new school learning resources that focuses on the prevention of child sexual exploitation, for access by all schools in Manitoba, has been prepared by two community groups, Child Find Manitoba (personal safety strategies) and Ndaawin (cultural based prevention strategies).

Administration

- **Provincial Coordinator** - A Provincial Coordinator was hired to coordinate the implementation of the Manitoba Strategy in January 2003.
- **Research and Evaluation** - A Manitoba Strategy Research and Evaluation Sub-Committee, lead by the Manitoba Women's Directorate and RESOLVE from the University of Manitoba, has been established.
- **Partnerships and Committees** - Partnership building and committee work with existing community services relevant to the issue of child and youth sexual exploitation, particularly in Winnipeg, has been started. This includes connections with organizations such as Child Find Manitoba, Salvation Army Prostitution Diversion Program, West End Biz, the Winnipeg Police Service, Operation Go Home, Street Connections, Thunderbird House, Ndaawin, Aboriginal Elders and several others.
- **Community Coordination** - A Community Coordination Sub-Committee, begun to develop and oversee a more formalized community coordination plan for community organizations who work with sexually exploited youth in the Winnipeg area.
- **Implementation** - The Multi-Jurisdictional Implementation Team, lead by Family Services and Housing, has continued to meet regularly and move forward in implementing the Manitoba Strategy.

2nd Phase MB Strategy

- **StreetReach** – co-ordinate the outreach efforts of more than a dozen organizations including police, agency outreach workers, child and family service (CFS) runaways or missing children workers and CFS intake.
- **StreetReach North** –community outreach co-ordinator will link stakeholders and RCMP, focusing more on runaways
- **Routes Out** – Eight exit programs will be created or strengthened:
 - a safe rural healing lodge to stabilize and heal the most entrenched youth;
 - a Trafficked Persons Response Team with police, border services, labour and immigration staff, and service providers for a victim-support network;
 - Project: Under the Radar to co-ordinate and enhance resources for sexually exploited males;
 - an exploited youth mentoring program to be kept alive with provincial funding;
 - a prostitution diversion camp enhanced with help for obtaining personal identification, housing and addictions treatment;
 - a child victim centre for one-stop justice, medical, child-welfare and mental-health services for victims of child abuse;
 - experiential training, based on a one-year pilot, to continue this year with provincial funding so that formerly involved women can help youth get out and stay out of exploitation; and

2nd Phase MB Strategy

- police, foster parent, child welfare and addictions worker training so that exploited youth get needed help.

Prevention – Five programs will help stop vulnerable youth from becoming exploited:

- a 12-bed supportive home for youth most at risk of exploitation;
- a buddy program funding based on an initiative already piloted for vulnerable new arrivals from remote communities;
- testing and implementing initially in child-care centres of Commit to Kids to help prevent victimization by volunteers or employees;
- an End the Silence strategy to strengthen community action on incest; and
- a school program called The Lodge Teachings supported with provincial funding.

New Public Awareness – Comprising three campaigns:

- the annual Stop Child Sexual Exploitation Week;
- the stopsexwithkids.ca website; and Child Pornography Is Child Abuse.

2nd Phase MB Strategy

Greater Offender Accountability – Six strategies will better disrupt the market for exploitation:

- A specialized prosecution co-ordinator to strengthen case outcomes;
- Canada's first talent industry law to protect children from sexual exploitation including exploitive modelling;
- Mandatory reporting of child pornography – another Canadian first – to increase police and CFS interventions;
- a new CFS prosecution strategy through an effort between police and child welfare to target predators who harbour runaways or otherwise interfere with children in care;
- North America's strongest prostitution offender program (John School) offering 10 weekly follow up sessions, a new community service component and 33 per cent higher program fees; and
- a multilingual Reality Check campaign translated into nine languages to enhance the straight talk to predators about their impact.

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