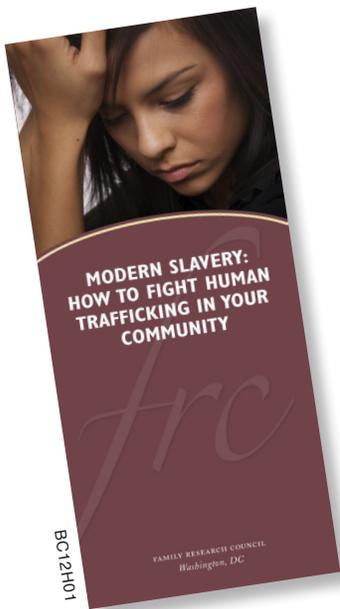


Modern Slavery: How to Fight Human Trafficking in Your Community

BY J. ROBERT FLORES, ESQ.



Victims of human trafficking and their advocates have been crying out for years. Finally, their voices are being heard, as many people have begun to understand and address the problem of human trafficking – in real-

ity, a form of modern day slavery. Certain aspects of the problem have received a great deal of attention, but it is critical that Americans understand that modern day slavery is deeply entrenched in every major city, metropolitan area, and state in America. It is not merely a problem in foreign countries or for the impoverished. Human trafficking impacts all of us.

Because of the many ways human trafficking occurs, it is impossible for this pamphlet to cover the problem in its entirety. This piece focuses on sex trafficking or prostitution—the most likely form of human trafficking one will encounter in the United States.¹ We hope that this pamphlet will help you better appreciate how these crimes put you, your family, and your community at risk. We also invite you to be part of the solution and offer ways to address the problem.

Human Trafficking—What Exactly Is It?

Human trafficking is a broad term used to refer to situations in which one holds or obtains another person in compelled service. In the United States, it includes all criminal conduct used as a means to hold someone in compelled service and can involve sex trafficking, forced labor, bonded labor, debt bondage among migrant laborers, involuntary domestic servitude, forced child labor, and child soldiering. In 2000, Congress passed the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) in an effort to combat human trafficking at home and abroad. The TVPA defines sex trafficking broadly as “a commercial sex act [...] induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age.”²

Most people, however, have a narrow picture of human trafficking, especially sex trafficking: a young woman is lured away from her home, abducted to a distant location and forced to sell herself sexually. While this picture accurately describes one way trafficking occurs, it is also misleading because the situation it describes seems so foreign. If we think of trafficking in such limited terms, we begin to believe that such evil cannot touch our own families or communities. Unfortunately, human trafficking occurs in cities and suburbs throughout the United States. It involves both American and foreign-born victims.

To better understand why human trafficking is a threat to all of us, we first must look at people the way a trafficker looks at his victim. The trafficker sees his victim as an object, a commodity, something that can be sold for the use of others. The victim has no innate value as an individual. Once a human is viewed as a commodity, we can begin to clearly imagine the horrors that trafficking victims endure. Those who traffic in people—buying, selling, kidnapping, and entrapping them—also understand one other thing about their victims: They are resilient. As a result, traffickers beat, mistreat, overwork, abuse, torture, and expose their victims to harm they would likely never inflict on animals in their care.³ In sum, the human trafficking victims’ resilience and ability to be exploited is so great as to make them the most valuable of commodities and explains why human trafficking takes place in our modern world.

If the human individual is merely an impressively valuable object, the trafficker, pimp, or person procuring victims for others is understandably as happy to use an American as he is to use someone from another country.⁴ Indeed, by ensnaring an American, he need not be concerned about producing papers, managing language difficulties, or crossing the border. In fact, thousands of American girls and women are held in sexual bondage every day and, as we discuss later, our cultural and social breakdown makes it easier than ever for traffickers to find and trap new victims.

On the local level, human trafficking can look quite

normal and it is likely that people routinely drive past or work near businesses that exploit trafficking victims. In one case in Northern Virginia, a spa that catered to men was found to have been using Asian women who had been trafficked into the United States as prostitutes. This spa was not located in an industrial zone, but in an office townhouse park—one that also housed two law firms and an anti-pornography organization. Police and professionals in neighboring suites were all aware that the spa was operating at the site. Until an attorney experienced in how such businesses operated brought it to the attention of police several times, nothing was done to stop the exploitation.

Police routinely find women and underage girls who are being trafficked or pimped, employed as domestics, working in strip clubs, as dancers and hostesses in sex clubs, in gangs, or within other criminal enterprises. Some version of these businesses and criminal groups exist in most communities, large or small. The result is that human trafficking is something we see but may never have properly identified. This failure to recognize exploitation can have dire consequences because of the severity of violence and its tendency to normalize the abuse, creating one more barrier that a victim must overcome to escape.

Human trafficking, especially sex trafficking, inflicts horrendous pain on its victims. The psychological, emotional, physical, and spiritual drain on the individual victim can hardly be quantified.⁵ The impact of such exploitation, however, is not limited to the women and girls who are trafficked, but can easily spill over to people who are both innocent and ignorant of the problem.

Trafficking victims, themselves, are often magnets for crime. As people who often are seen as criminals themselves, they have no one to protect them. Women who are forced to sell their bodies in secret frequently face further degradation. They can become the victims of assault, contract communicable diseases, and be used by their pimp or trafficker to commit other crimes. In sum, human trafficking is a human rights offense against the victim and a threat to the moral, medical, and physical safety of a community.

Culture and Modern Day Slavery

When federal prosecution of prostitution was common, cases were typically brought under the *White*

Slave Traffic Act.⁶ As the 1909 Act's name implied, investigations and prosecutions under the Act were designed to protect women and girls who were white from involvement in prostitution or immorality. Today, the victims of modern day slavery come from every race and religion and country. They do frequently share many common traits including youth, poverty, ignorance, naïveté, and a cultural, religious, or social background where women are accorded little value. Since these traits are not alien to young people in the United States, it should come as no surprise that many trafficking victims are our own fellow citizens.

Our communities and our culture at large accept that teens will be sexually promiscuous. A significant number of young people embrace the “pimp” pop-culture that celebrates misogyny in its visual and musical media and portrays women as constantly available for sex. Such sexual experimentation and subjectivity has fostered a sense of moral confusion among our youth that makes them vulnerable to the seduction and tricks of traffickers. But our adults are not too far behind. In some cities, one finds businessmen and civic leaders who believe that the presence of commercial sexual exploitation packaged as “adult entertainment” is necessary to attract tourism and conventional business.⁷ As a result, what should be beyond dispute—that sex trafficking is always wrong—is now subject to debate. It is not uncommon for academics, civic leaders, and advocates to condone many forms of commercial sexual activity, even as they seek to oppose others.⁸ Against this backdrop, local police are sometimes understandably hesitant to take strong action and commit substantial resources to fighting trafficking.

Traffickers and pimps exploit this moral confusion. And modern technology makes it easier to do so. Today, many prostitutes use cell phones that allow their pimps and traffickers to keep track of them. The phones also allow control to be maintained at distances that make it difficult to collect evidence against the pimp. Rather than simply walk up and down the street in full view of the police and public, a trafficked woman can arrange to meet her customers at specific locations and be visible for only a few moments.⁹ The cultural acceptance of sexually active teens creates an additional degree of uncertainty about whether teens involved in prostitution are really victims. Moreover, as our society encourages greater independence of children from their parents, there is a fading assumption that sexually active, promiscuous teens are vul-

nerable and should always be treated as such.

In a similar way, teens possess a great amount of information about sexual activity. A combination of peer pressure and media exposure helps create in teens a level of comfort with sexual promiscuity and deviancy that lowers their inhibitions and stifles their sense of danger. As a result, the innate sense of danger involved with unlimited sexual license—a danger that previous generations felt strongly—has been increasingly marginalized. It is now much easier to seduce or defraud women and children into prostitution and commercial sexual exploitation.

Another change in the modern landscape of trafficking is the saturation of today's culture in pornography. Internet users are now able to engage in interactive web-based sexual activity with anyone owning a computer and webcam. Live sex shows can be transmitted from around the globe while customers request that specific sexual activity be engaged in while they watch. Indeed, companies now pay couples, including married partners, to allow paying customers to watch as they engage in sexual activity. With a large percentage of people consuming pornography, much of it live and custom-made, police are hesitant to pursue any but the most egregious of sex trafficking cases. Such a strategy makes it likely that children and teens will take from such limited enforcement the notion that commercial sexual activity is not really wrong because it is not aggressively contended against.

Today, we read about teenage girls who talk openly about trading sex for makeup, clothes, or other consumer goods.¹⁰ These young women are not always poor or ignorant but have become morally confused or indifferent to their own value as human beings, including their sexuality. This pamphlet can not fully explore the causes of such confusion and indifference, but the breakdown of the intact, two-parent family that worships together regularly and the onslaught of celebrity-fed materialism can not be ignored. As popular culture normalizes the immoral and teens naively believe in their own invincibility, many begin to flirt with dangerous or risky situations, believing that they can handle things on their own.

Media and law enforcement reports detail an increasing number of teens who are exploiting other teens, operating prostitution rings in schools and neighborhoods. Street gangs have historically used the women in their groups as sexual slaves, offering them as prizes to their members and gang-raping girls entering or

leaving the gang.¹¹ These activities have serious repercussions that range from abortion, to sexually transmitted diseases, sterility, and even death. The psychological trauma and anger these young women feel from being so degraded often creates an emotional time bomb within them. Experts in psychology, social work, and mental health have drawn numerous links between a history of abuse and later patterns of self-harm. Customers of trafficking victims may not be aware of this danger until it is too late; it is not uncommon for the sex act to end with the trafficking victim assaulting her exploiter.

The cultural and societal breakdown affects young people regardless of socio-economic status. Many families with means find themselves asking how their daughters could have become victims of trafficking. Studies continue to reveal that many teens today, even from intact families, feel detached from people and have few deep relationships even as they are constantly among other kids and engaged in endless activities.¹² This hunger for love and deep relationships can be exploited by pimps and traffickers.

In the early 1990's, the first federal prostitution case was prosecuted after nearly 15 years without a single case. The case involved a young woman from Canada who was seduced into sexual activity by a young man posing as a boyfriend but employed by a criminal organization with roots in Jamaica. The girl was taken across Canada by the "Romeo," entered the United States from Vancouver and after a brief stay in California where she was trained as a prostitute, she was taken to Hawaii and forced to work for a pimp. The young woman was not found by police or the FBI. Instead, she was located by her parents who went to Hawaii and walked the streets of Honolulu for weeks, showing her picture to anyone who would look until she was finally located. This young woman was not poor, her family was intact, her parents did not abuse her, and she was a good student. She left with her seducer because she was looking for excitement and she had fallen in love. While the case ended in a conviction, it is most frightening that even teens from strong families are vulnerable simply because they want to partake of a world that appears exciting and promises quick, and harm-free, enjoyment.

International Movement

In addition to our own citizens, many foreign victims of human trafficking are brought to the United

States. The United States Department of State issues an annual *Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report* identifying the efforts of many countries to address human trafficking.¹³ The TIP report is available online and, while it can be properly criticized because it is too lenient on some countries, it has brought international attention to the worst offending nations and motivated some of them to start addressing the problem.

A review of the TIP report supports the notion that the population of trafficked victims and states of origin share several characteristics. Among them are: large populations of children without any connection to family because of social disintegration and the mass death of parents from civil conflict or disease; extreme poverty and the resulting chaos that permeates those communities and facilitates kidnapping or coercion; racial or religious persecution; mass migration to flee conflict; or, failed states due to narco-terrorism or rampant corruption.

Regardless of the reason, the existence of human trafficking in the United States represents a clear and present danger to our country. Once a criminal organization has the ability to move trafficking victims into the United States and across international boundaries, it can also move guns, narcotics, terrorists, and weapons of mass destruction. Law enforcement has identified human trafficking routes from South America through Central America and Mexico into the United States; from Asian and East Asian countries through the Pacific rim and into Hawaii, California, and other western states; and, from Africa and the Middle East through Western Europe into the United States. Given the global nature of human trafficking and its presence throughout the entire nation, any successful strategy must be multifaceted, long-lived, and focused on prevention.

Recent Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking in the United States

While we may wish that the evil of trafficking in teens and young children were nonexistent in the United States, such is simply not the case. In the late 1990's and early 2000's, police started to see an increase in children being openly sold on the streets of some of our largest cities. In 1999, in Atlanta, Georgia, one such case with a nine-year old girl finally caused such an outcry that the city was forced to rally itself and address the problem.¹⁴

The first set of significant changes to address sex trafficking and prostitution involved legal changes at both the state and federal level. States began to significantly raise the penalties for child prostitution and pimping. The federal government banned overseas travel for the purpose of engaging in sex, if the sexual act would have constituted a federal or state crime if committed in the United States. Along with that change, came a more aggressive prosecution of child pornography crimes.

Unfortunately, federal and state governments abandoned the prosecution of the largest segment of illegal pornography, material depicting adults.¹⁵ With that decision, hardcore sexually-oriented material became ubiquitous online and fueled the growth of deviant sexual content, including greater amounts of child pornography. The perception that the Internet is a law-free zone has been substantially enhanced by a failure to pursue online crime. With this failure, consumers and creators of pornography are increasingly willing to use technology to distribute and obtain material that federal law can legally prohibit. Now, regardless of how hard law enforcement works, only a relatively small percentage of illegal content, child and adult, can be investigated and pursued because the amount of illegal content online is so large.

Because so little progress has been made through arrest and prosecution, much of the local activity has necessarily focused on helping the victims of trafficking. Anti-trafficking and anti-prostitution organizations provide direct-care services to victims, helping to convince them to come in from the streets for rehabilitation. Such homes also offer care for those referred to them by the police.¹⁶ Resources to support such "rescue and restore" efforts come from churches, individuals, local foundations, and in some cases federal and state grants. This is difficult, time-consuming and costly work, but the emotional, relational, and material resources invested can make the difference in keeping a woman or girl from going back to her abuser.

Many law enforcement officials who are committed to prosecuting sexual exploitation explain that their efforts would be more successful if victims had a safe place to stay while their cases were being prosecuted. In many cases, trafficked victims are not permitted to stay at a domestic violence shelter because a pimp would likely pursue them to the location or send women under his control into the shelter to recruit other women. The effect is that, in most metropoli-

tan areas, only a handful of beds are available to victims of trafficking.

Federal efforts have helped to spur progress and bring attention to this issue. The first federal Act addressing modern day slavery, the 2000 Trafficking Victims Prevention Act (TVPA), provided funding and special visas to provide medical care and social services to victims and allow them to remain in the United States if they cooperate with law enforcement. Designed with the goal of prevention, protection, and prosecution, the Act recognized that the problem requires work on both the state and federal level and could not be solved through arrests alone. In 2003, the Act was reauthorized and funding was provided to help up to 20,000 victims. To date, far fewer victims have been identified and provided benefits through the Act. In addition to allocating resources to help victims, the 2005 and 2008 reauthorizations of the Act provided funds to support the creation and operation of federal and state task forces and spur the cooperation of the federal departments of Justice, Health and Human Services, and State. This combination of joint programming, balanced attention to victims and prosecution, and financial resources has created a groundswell of interest by local groups to work on the issue and partner with federal agencies. According to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, “Instead of a muddle of agencies claiming or rejecting different responsibilities... we have... efficient, coordinated anti-trafficking teams. And they’re making investigations more effective and helping victims.”¹⁷

What You Can Do

The more people learn about this growing problem, and confront its real human cost in the form of young women and men who tell their stories, the more motivated they are to act. As you consider taking action, make sure to assess your community’s current efforts before launching your own. Identify the groups already working on the problem, the extent to which your community is aware of human trafficking in its own backyard, and whether there is an effective balance between prevention and prosecution. Keep in mind that not all groups fight trafficking in the same way or for the same reason and some do so to advance morally questionable goals. For example, some groups feel that sex trafficking is wrong only because the woman does not keep the money she earns. Others see it as a legitimate form of labor for women, especially in the third world, and use its reality to ar-

gue for greater access to abortion and contraceptives to keep it *safe*. There are even some who believe that prostitution should be legalized because it is in keeping with the belief that a woman should be able to use her body in any way she sees fit.

Another issue that bears consideration is the relationship between victims, police, and caregivers. Some organizations refuse to work with police. This policy makes it difficult for police to talk with victims, gather evidence, or have them participate as witnesses at trial. This victim-focused approach, while advancing some important interests for the individual victim, can thwart the community’s ability to stop prostitution, sex trafficking, and future crimes and exploitation. Shelters and outreach workers can enjoy effective and harmonious relationships with law enforcement and the key is regular and frequent conversation.

Preventing New Victimization and Eradicating the Crime

In most communities or cities, it is relatively easy to find out where prostitutes are trafficked. The fact that such locations generally are well-known is a necessary condition for a thriving market in commercial sexual abuse and exploitation. Because most women involved in prostitution start as child victims, any prostitution market is sure to include underage victims although they may be 17, and not 11-year-olds, and law enforcement may find only one or two victims in a particular place and not 10.¹⁸ If law enforcement allows the market to continue, simply by virtue of time, new underage victims of sex trafficking will exist. Because of a lax attitude toward prosecuting the men who exploit these women and girls, the market in women grows and the number of young girls forced into prostitution grows with it. Unfortunately, without a focus on demand, no community can eradicate trafficking.¹⁹

The current strategy used by most local and federal law enforcement agencies focuses on a narrow aspect of the overall sex trafficking problem. Specifically, police will focus on finding the youngest victims and the worst violators, even as they ignore much of the most visible sex trafficking in their jurisdiction. Unfortunately, this is like searching for a needle in a haystack—difficult and generally unsuccessful. It also allows criminal activity to grow to the point that it hides a great deal of the most egregious aspects of human trafficking. As indicated above, this strate-

gic failure occurs because of how human trafficking is investigated, not because investigators are working slowly.

Rather than pursue a needle in the haystack approach, the more effective strategy is to pursue a broad and sweeping approach focused on those creating a demand for victims—both adults and children. In most communities, this would include targeting the exploitation of girls and women who may be 18-24 years old, rather than searching for the 12 or 13-year-old victim. It may mean arresting as many customers as possible, imposing significant fines and education for first time offenders, publicizing their arrests, and requiring jail time for repeat offenders. Such a strategy undercuts the trafficker's ability to create or build a market, significantly increases the cost of the crime to the customer, and by focusing on both adult and teen victims significantly increases the probability that underage victims will be found.²⁰

A quick look at the economics of prostitution demonstrates why the new enforcement strategy works. For the woman to be valuable to the pimp, she must be exploited repeatedly because each time the woman is sold, only a relatively small amount of money changes hands. Therefore, for street prostitution to prosper, certain things must exist. There must be an established market, in a fixed or relatively easy to find location. The location must be near a significant number of men and the area must receive little attention from law enforcement. Without these factors in place, the woman will not have enough customers and will need to spend time and money, and risk detection as she is seeking customers. To ensure that law enforcement's attention does not become an issue, those involved in the trafficking must keep a relatively low profile, the transaction must look like it involves only consenting adults, and there must be a low level of violent crime during the transactions.

If these conditions exist, many individual acts of prostitution can be consummated in a short period of time, maximizing the amount of money to the trafficker. However, if customers become scarce because law enforcement is visible, prosecutors become more willing to pursue cases with adult victims. As the commercial transactions become less common, fewer potential customers know where such activity can be found. The pimp makes less money and the demand for new victims declines.

The legal system itself helps to hide trafficked minors,

making it very important to spend the limited dollars available on correctly identifying all first arrests for prostitution. Unfortunately, communities often spend an inordinate amount of money on undercover investigations looking for underage victims. When an individual is arrested for the first time, the law enforcement system assigns an identification number to the identity that the arrestee provides. In many cases, low level crimes merit little in the way of inquiry from law enforcement. Loitering for, or attempting to engage in, prostitution constitutes a low level offense. Because traffickers and pimps train their victims on how to act with police, and provide them with false identification, police may easily misidentify a minor as an adult. If this misidentification takes place on first arrest, the victim will be forever known by that name and that age in future arrests. Now, regardless of how many times the minor is arrested, the police will continue to treat her as an adult and she will likely not be rescued from prostitution or offered the care that a minor is such a situation needs. Because of these systemic law enforcement techniques, looking for the 16 or 17-year-old in the system will be very difficult and will yield only the occasional minor victim. If, on the other hand, the police repeatedly focused on *all* young-looking victims, regardless of what their identification claims, they would create great financial pressure on the criminals who traffic adults *and* young girls. Such financial pressure would discourage the use of young-looking victims. Once the market is disrupted and youth, not age, is seen as the focus new minor victims will be seen as a problem.

Criminal and National Security Threats

Unlike drugs or other consumable contraband, people can be repeatedly victimized and remain a valuable commodity to traffickers over a relatively long period of time. Sex trafficking allows traffickers to make tens, if not hundreds of thousands of dollars each year with each woman or girl they control. In addition, if injury or other conditions exist where they cannot be forced to sell themselves, trafficked women can be redirected to steal, carry or sell drugs, or recruit other women and girls. The ability to generate large sums of cash with little investment makes sex trafficking not only lucrative, but a way to support large scale organized criminal activity. When organized across countries it becomes a source of millions of dollars. The low penalties in many countries and the obstacles

to successful prosecution for prostitution make trafficking a safer alternative for criminals and their organizations. Compared to selling drugs, sex trafficking is a relatively safe criminal enterprise.

Another reason law enforcement should be extremely concerned about allowing widespread growth of this heinous activity relates to the ease of access to a global market. Using the Internet, sex traffickers can make one woman or girl available to hundreds of men each day who can communicate with her via the Internet and obtain a sexual performance. Rather than exploitation by a few, the trafficker can now sell his victim hundreds of times each day, week or month, thereby diminishing the need to transport her across borders, or depend on corrupt or overwhelmed police in each jurisdiction where he operates. The trafficker can simply set up the operation in countries that may have lax enforcement or no laws at all against such conduct.

It is noteworthy that the presence of global criminal organizations that can generate millions of dollars represents a real threat to national security. When used to fund terrorism, weapons sales, or mercenaries, a lucrative human trafficking industry can prop up failed states in much the same way as the sale of narcotics.

Finally, traffickers all rely on established distribution and transportation systems. Once established they can be used for nearly any purpose, especially since moving people is among the most difficult of enterprises. In addition, because other contraband moving organizations maintain transportation systems, a trafficker need not set up his own system to start, but merely pay to use already existing transportation routes. The low costs of entry, high profit, easy movement, and the global nature of the market make sex trafficking an attractive enterprise for organized criminal activity. Stopping this growth before it becomes entrenched in the United States or abroad should be a national priority.

Education and Awareness

This brochure covers a great deal of information relevant to different groups—police, parents, government leaders, and caring citizens. This is only a start, and those interested in becoming modern day abolitionists must expand their knowledge of what is probably the greatest human rights challenge of our time. It is critical that citizens challenge their government lead-

ers to know about trafficking in their communities, understand its causes and dimensions, and strengthen effective community and legislative responses. Likewise, those who are committed to fight human trafficking must be careful to invest their time, talent and treasure with organizations that consistently protect the dignity of all life—organizations that protect the young and the old and recognize that every aspect of human trafficking is evil. Every effort should be made to keep prostitution illegal, to reject the notion that selling oneself can be a legitimate form of employment, and to oppose the notion that self-determination includes the right to make oneself a commodity.

“This is a world of compensations; and he who would be no slave, must consent to have no slave. Those who deny freedom to others, deserve it not for themselves; and, under a just God, can not long retain it.”

- Abraham Lincoln

Letter to Henry Pierce and others, April 6, 1859

Endnotes

- 1 About 8 in 10 suspected incidents of human trafficking cases opened by the Federally funded human trafficking task forces between January 2008 and June 2010 were classified as sex trafficking. "Special Report: Characteristics of Suspected Human Trafficking Incidents, 2008-2010," United States Department of Justice, April 28, 2011, Bureau of Justice Statistics, accessed on July 25, 2012, <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=2372>.
- 2 Pub. L. 106, Sec. 103 (9), *Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000*.
- 3 The absence of physical violence should never be taken, alone, as proof of consent in cases involving trafficking. Traffickers are often expert manipulators who resort to threats against the victim's family, other siblings, or exposure to gain control over their victims. The use of violence, however, is widespread and death, dismemberment, and disfigurement are all tools in the trafficker's arsenal. Celia Williamson and Gail Folaron, "Violence, Risk, and Survival Strategies of Street Prostitution," *Western Journal of Nursing Research*, August 2001.
- 4 83 percent of victims in confirmed sex trafficking incidents investigated by federal task forces were identified as U.S. citizens. See, *Special Report*, at 1.
- 5 See Julia Ahmed, "Health Impacts of Prostitution: Experience of Bangladesh Women's Health Coalition." *Research for Sex Work 4* (2001): 8-9. accessed on July 25, 2012, <http://www.nswp.org/resource/research-sex-work-4>;
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Also see, Laura J. Lederer, "Sold for Sex: The Link Between Street Gangs and Human Trafficking," The Witherspoon Institute, Public Discourse Ethics, Law and the Common Good, October 21, 2011, accessed on July 25, 2012, <http://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2011/10/4034>.
- 6 Title 18 U.S. C. § 2421 et. seq.
- 7 Repeated studies of the impact of sexually oriented businesses on communities, even where upscale, show a negative impact on property values, increased crime and higher policing related costs within a 500 foot radius of such businesses. Media reports also routinely report the presence of minors in such locations, prostitution occurring onsite, and police corruption connected to illicit activity by police or a failure to enforce the law.
- 8 As early as 1998, the International Labour Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations, advanced the idea that the sex industry should be legitimized. The report, *The Sex Sector: The Economic and Social Bases of Prostitution in Southeast Asia*, Lin Lean Lim, 1998, was applauded by feminists and received the 1998 International Nike Award. The Report concluded that since the exploitation of women and children was so extensive in Southeast Asia, it had, "assumed dimensions of a full-blown commercial sector and ... contributes substantially to national incomes throughout the region." Press release, October 10, 1998, International Labor Organization.
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- 12 Anita Gurian Ph.D. and Alice Pope Ph. D., "Do Kids Need Friends," NYU Study Center, accessed on July 25, 2012, http://www.education.com/reference/article/Ref_Do_Kids_Need_Friends/.
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See also, Kristin Finklea, Adrienne Fernandes-Alcantra & Alison Siskin; "Sex Trafficking of Children in the United States: Overview and Issues for Congress." *Congressional Research Service*, June 21, 2011, <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41878.pdf>.

- 19 Laura J. Lederer J.D., "Addressing Demand: Examining New Practices." *Global Centurian*, accessed on July 25, 2012, <http://www.globalcenturion.org/programs/demand-reduction-program/articles/>.

- 20 In some communities, so-called "John Schools" require first offenders to undergo anti-trafficking and sex crime education along with paying a steep fine also work to undermine demand for prostitutes. See also, Laura J. Lederer J.D., "Is there Justice In Johns Schools?," *Justice Response/VAST*, accessed on July 25, 2012, <http://justiceresponse.blogspot.com/2011/09/is-there-justice-in-johns-schools-by-dr.html>.

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BY J. ROBERT FLORES, ESQ.

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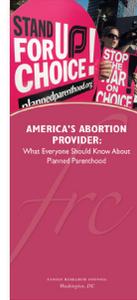
in their families, in their communities and in their culture.

History has clearly shown the influence that the “Values Voter” can have in the political process. Family Research Council (FRC) is committed to enabling and motivating individuals to bring about even more positive change in our nation and around the world. I invite you to use this pamphlet as a resource for educating yourself and others about some of the most pressing issues of our day.

FRC has a wide range of papers and publications. To learn more about other FRC publications and to find out more about our work, visit our website at www.frc.org or call 1-800-225-4008. To learn more about FRC’s ongoing efforts to promote true social justice, please visit our website at www.realcompassion.org. I look forward to working with you as we bring about a society that respects life and protects marriage.

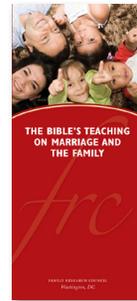
President
Family Research Council

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FROM *frc* FAMILY RESEARCH COUNCIL



America's Abortion Provider: What Everyone Should Know About Planned Parenthood
by Jeanne Monahan **BCI2H02**

Planned Parenthood claims that it does “more than any other organization in America to prevent unplanned pregnancies and protect women’s health and safety.” While the organization attempts to avoid being the “face” of abortion in America, two realities remain: Planned Parenthood is the nation’s largest abortion provider and abortion is a mainstay of Planned Parenthood’s business.



The Bible's Teaching on Marriage and the Family
by Andreas J. Köstenberger **BCI1H03**

Incredible as it may seem, we can no longer assume that people in our culture understand what the proper definition of “marriage” and “the family” is. Not only is this a sad commentary on the impact of same-sex “marriage” activists on our society, it also shows how the culture’s memory of the biblical tradition, on which it is largely based, is fading fast. What is marriage, biblically defined?



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Alerts notify you about opportunities to actively participate in Family Research Council efforts to uphold pro-life, pro-family, and pro-freedom values in Washington. **Complimentary**



Washington Update **wusub**

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