



HO'ŌLA NĀ PUA

— Committed to the prevention of sex trafficking and
caring for children who have been exploited. —

The most important thing...

Respect yourself

Respect the people around you

Consider the people in your life

Defining CSEC/Sex Trafficking



Federal Definition of Sex Trafficking

Federal Definition of Sex Trafficking:

The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose 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 act has not attained 18 years of age.

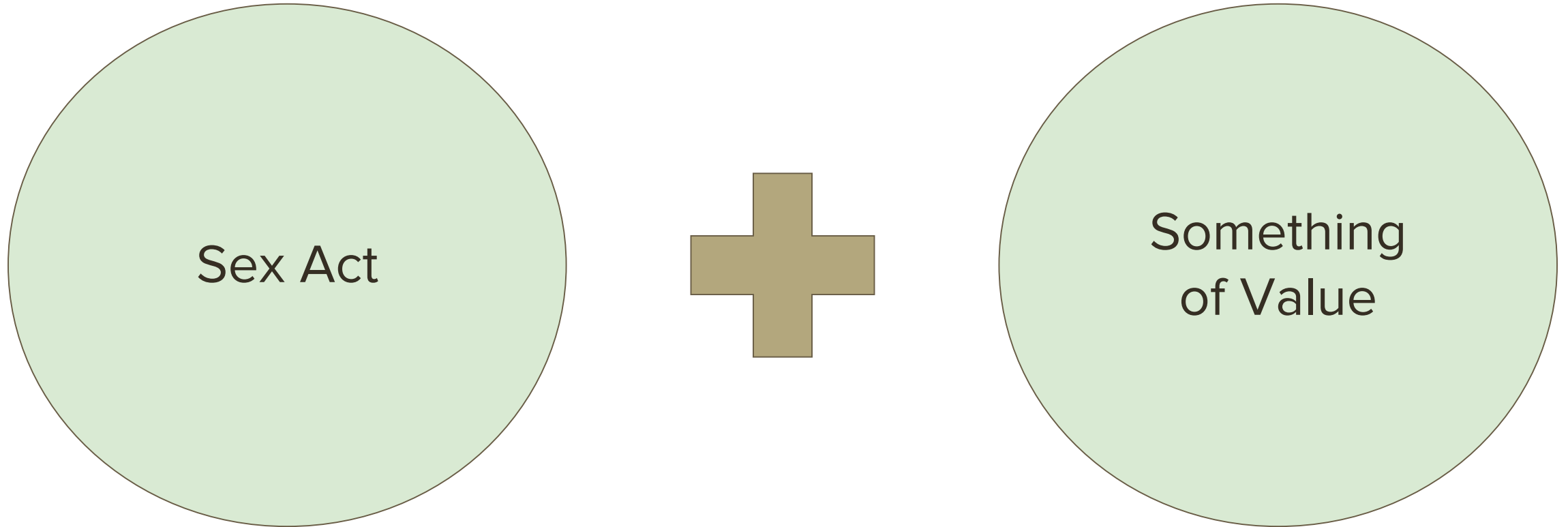
(22 USC § 7102, <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/what-human-trafficking/federal-law>)

The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Definition:

Sexual activity involving a child in exchange for something of value, or promise thereof, to the child or another person or persons.

(https://www.ojjdp.gov/programs/csec_program.html)

Commercial Sex Act...



CSEC in Health Care Settings



Health Consequences of Human Trafficking

In a mixed-method study conducted in the United States across a broad geographical, racial, and ethnic range, 87.8% of sex-trafficked victims sought treatment within the health care system while in captivity but were neither identified nor offered assistance by health care practitioners.

The most common health care setting reported by 63% of trafficked respondents was the ED (Lederer & Wetzel, 2014).



PART II
**SEX TRAFFICKING
IN HAWAI'I**

**The Stories of
Survivors**

January 2019

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF SEX
TRAFFICKING INTERVENTION AND THE HAWAI'I
STATE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Here in Hawai'i

Numerous systems interacted with most of the victims including child protective services, criminal justice systems, school systems, and health care systems. Few recognized the complexity of the victims' experiences. In many cases, schools and child protective services did not identify them as victims or didn't know how to help the victims.

Here in Hawai'i

- Many of the participants were involved in child protective services and some were put into foster care. They all attended school.
- A number of them were seen in emergency rooms as minors for injuries from violence by their sex trafficker.
- They were seen by hotel staff, law enforcement, business owners, sex buyers, and community members during their sex trafficking experiences.
- None of these bystanders offered support to the victims in this study.
- Many of the participants reported a sense of shame and stigma if anyone who knew them found out what they were involved in. Most of the participants ran away from everything.

Risk Factors and Vulnerabilities



Risk Factors and Vulnerabilities

- Under 18 years old
- Feels insecure, low self esteem
- Feels misunderstood
- Fights with their parents
- Feels parents don't care
- Desire for love and acceptance or romantic relationships
- Desire for more independence
- Tests boundaries and take risks
- Own or have access to a computer/Access to technology
- Attracted to consumer goods
- Walk to school or to the store alone
- Past trauma
- Poor attachment
- Lack of support system

Risk Factors and Vulnerabilities

- History of violence or physical, sexual, emotional abuse or neglect
- Mental health or substance abuse issues (child or adult)
- Involvement in the Juvenile Justice System or Child Welfare System
- Large family (lack of attention)
- Absent father (physically or emotionally)
- Family dysfunction, breakdown, poverty
- Runaways/throwaways/homelessness
- Family, community, or societal sexualization of girls
- Family members or friends being involved in the Game
- Prostitution in the neighborhood
- Love for a pimp

Runaway and Homeless Youth

1 in 3 young people are approached or recruited by a pimp or exploiter within the first **48 hours** of being on the streets.

According to one study, **1 in 7** youth on the street eventually become victims of some form of commercial sexual exploitation, and **30 percent** of youth living in shelters also fall victim, some recruited by other residents.

Bought and Sold - U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services
http://ncfy.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/bought_and_sold.pdf

Identification Strategies



Difficulty Identifying

- Victims have a distrust of service providers and law enforcement.
- Victims are psychologically controlled by pimps and will often lie out of loyalty to him/her.
- Victims lie out of fear of retaliation by the pimp.
- Victims may believe it is their fault and that they'll be criminalized if they disclose.
- Victims are ashamed.
- Victims don't think anyone will believe them.

Red Flags & Behavioral Indicators

- No identification
- Lack of knowledge of whereabouts
- Inconsistent stories
- Does not make eye contact with males
- Submissive, fearful, hypervigilant, or uncooperative
- Discrepancies in behavior and reported age
- Overly sexualized activity/hypersexuality
- Exaggerated startle response
- Flat affect
- Accompanied by an adult that doesn't seem to be the parent (controlling person)
- Evidence of controlling or dominant relationship

Red Flags & Physical Indicators

- Malnourishment or generally poor health
- Temporomandibular disorders
- Drug and alcohol addiction / overdose
- Evidence of sexual trauma / physical trauma near genitals
- Signs of abuse, torture: cigarette burns, handcuff/rope burns, patterned bruising
- Multiple / frequent STIs
- Frequent UTIs / Yeast infections
- Multiple pregnancies / miscarriages / abortions
- Untreated injuries/scars
- TBI - Traumatic Brain Injury
- Tattoos/Branding
- “Craniofacial, head, face and neck injuries make up more than half of child abuse cases, according to the updated report. New in this version are warnings that victims of bullying and human trafficking also can have oral health conditions indicative of abuse.”

Conditioning, Bonds, and Trauma



Classical Conditioning

A pimp uses a **mix of love and affection with anger and violence**, and is quick to fluctuate between the two states. He may tell one of his girls he loves her and in the next minute slap her across the face. This **creates a powerful combination of love and fear** that keeps the victim in a state of hyper-vigilance to the pimp's needs.

This bond becomes so strong that the girls do not need to be physically chained or held behind a locked door. The **pimp's psychological hold is so intense that he is able to control the victims when they are on the streets, in hotel rooms, truck stops, or houses - even if he is not right next to them.** Psychological control is just as powerful as physical control, but much harder to see.

-Shared Hope International

Effects of Trauma on Cognition and Mood

- Inability to remember details of the event
- Persistent negative beliefs about self and others
- Blame of self or other for the trauma or its consequences
- Persistent negative emotions such as distrust, horror, terror, guilt, shame, anger
- Inability to experience pleasure or positive emotions
- Relational detachment

Reactions to Trauma & Trauma Bonding

- Self harming behaviors
- Suicidal ideation
- Nightmares, Triggers and Flashbacks
- Addictions: sex, money, drugs, adrenaline, attention, etc.
- Substance abuse issues / chemical dependency (often times forced)
- Risk-taking behaviors
- Feeling dirty
- Feeling unattractive if their hair, nails, clothes, etc. aren't perfect
- Going to extremes in appearance: overdone or sloppy to the point of poor hygiene

Dissociation

- It's technically a defense mechanism—we separate out of our memory things that we don't want to or can't deal with. In trauma (like abuse or rape), that's helpful at the time.
- If dissociation becomes your major defense mechanism, it can become a full blown dissociative disorder which are very intense types of disorders.
- But outside of full blown dissociative disorders, there is still the ability to heavily rely on dissociation even if you don't have the disorder.
- Dissociation can become a primary defense mechanism if you grew up in a dysfunctional, abusive, addictive, or violent home. That's because children can easily get overwhelmed and check out—or dissociate—because they can't handle what's going on.

Psychology Today

What's your part?

National Child Traumatic Stress Network

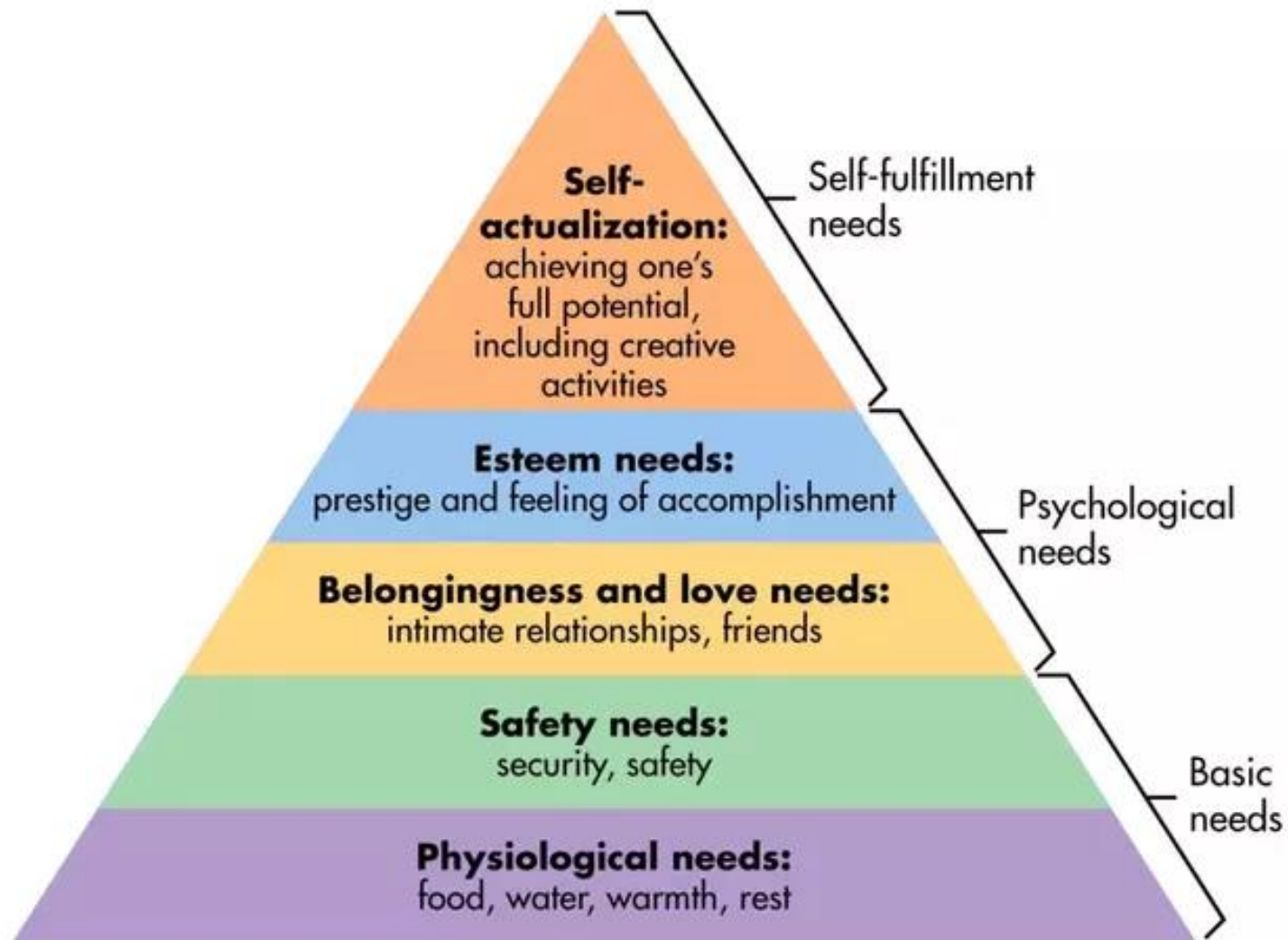
Youth who have experienced chronic trauma do not believe that the adults around them can or will protect them, and sometimes they are right. What is interpreted as delinquent behavior or pointless acting out is often their attempt to assume the burden of taking care of themselves.

NCTSN

The National Child
Traumatic Stress Network

<https://www.nctsn.org/>

Start with Basic Needs



In your interactions - approach is key!

- SLOW DOWN / SIT DOWN
- Watch your body language and facial expression
- Find a way to speak to them alone
- Avoid stigmatizing words and be non-judgmental
- Be genuine - use empathy, not sympathy or pity
- Don't make promises you cannot keep
- Ensure confidentiality - inform staff
- Build rapport - use open ended questions
- Know the laws and process for mandatory reporting
- Don't expect full cooperation and remember that behavior is the language of trauma

Examples of Screening Questions

- Have you ever worked (or done activities) without getting the payment you thought you would get?
- Did anyone where you worked tell you to lie about your name, age, or what you did?
- Did anyone ever pressure you to touch someone or have any physical (or sexual) contact?
- Did anyone ever take a photo of you that you were uncomfortable with?
- Did you ever have sex for things of value (for example, housing, food, gifts, or favors)?

(VERA Institute of Justice: Screening for Human Trafficking)

Other Available Tools

- **CSE-IT**
- **VERA**
- **Kapiolani's Purple Dot Project**
- **Starfish Mentoring (and Hope and Healing)**
- **Sex Abuse Treatment Center**
- **Domestic Violence Action Center (DVAC)**

Action Steps

- 1. You are a mandated reporter.** The sexual exploitation of a child or teen by any person must be reported to Child Welfare Services and Law Enforcement.
2. Know your organization's child abuse reporting protocol and follow it.
If no protocol exists, advocate to create one.
3. Advocate to your administrators, governing and certifying entities, and elected officials to require and allocate resources for CSEC training.
4. Continue the conversation and spread awareness.

Reporting

Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 350:

Child abuse includes “The acts or omissions of any person that have resulted in sex trafficking or severe forms of trafficking in persons....”

Mandated Reporters must “immediately report the matter orally to the [CWS] or to the police department.” “The initial oral report shall be followed as soon as possible by a report in writing to the department.”

Resources

Police-Fire-Ambulance	911
Sex Abuse Treatment Center	1-808-524-7273
Runaway Safeline 24/7	1-800-Runaway; or Text 66008
National Human Trafficking 24 hr. Hotline	1-888-373-7888
Human Trafficking 24 hr. Crisis Line - Hawaii	1-808-721-9614
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) Anonymous 24 hr. CyberTipline	1-800-THE LOST (843-5678)
For Mandated Reporting, Call Child Welfare Services Hotline	Child Abuse & Neglect 808-832-5300 or 1-888-380-3088 Human Trafficking 808-832-1999 or 1-888-398-1188