SAME BUT DIFFERENT? CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND SOCIAL WORK PERSPECTIVES
ON HUMAN SEX TRAFFICKING

A Project

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MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

by
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Sally Garrison

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Division of Social Work
Abstract

of

SAME BUT DIFFERENT? CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND SOCIAL WORK PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN SEX TRAFFICKING

by

Bree D. Madron

Sally Garrison

Human sex trafficking refers to the exploitation of human beings through coercion, force or fraud. It is a growing epidemic that is currently being identified as modern day slavery. There are 27 million slaves estimated in the world today. Criminal justice and social work disciplines are crucial to preventing and intervening in human sex trafficking. This descriptive quantitative study strives to identify criminal justice and social work’s knowledge and perspectives towards human sex trafficking. Furthermore, the researchers are seeking to develop an understanding of the collaborative relationship between the two disciplines. The researchers surveyed 191 undergraduate criminal justice and social work students at California State University, Sacramento in their respective practicum classes using paper questionnaire. The data analysis used descriptive and inferential statistics including chi-square and t-test to facilitate interpretation of the data collected. Our findings indicated that social work students are more likely to believe that the two disciplines agree on services and interventions appropriate for persons involved in human sex trafficking. Where as criminal justice students were more reserved with their level of
agreement. Despite any perceived value difference, students in these two disciplines are willing to embrace a collaborative spirit. This finding demonstrates the importance for further facilitating the perspectives and skills in interprofessional collaboration during the professions’ undergraduate studies.

_______________________, Committee Chair
Francis Yuen, DSW, ACSW

_______________________
Date

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Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

Human sex trafficking refers to the exploitation of human beings through coercion, force or fraud. It is a growing epidemic that is currently being identified as modern day slavery. There are 27 million slaves estimated in the world today (Bales, 2007). The enslavement and exploitation of women, men and children is the third largest black market; making the trade of human beings nearly as profitable as inanimate products such as weaponry and narcotics (Kirshnan, 2012). Within the umbrella of human trafficking lies human sex trafficking. Human sex trafficking is a demoralizing act of severe domestic abuse, kidnapping and rape. Sex trafficking takes away an individual’s entire identity and free will, forcing them into bondage to have sex with 20 to 50 customers per day (N. O’Malley, personal communication, March 13, 2015). Women and children are disproportionately represented in sex trafficking (Clawson, Dutch, Solomon & Grace, 2009; Yu, 2012; Jordan, Patel & Rapp, 2013). While human trafficking is gaining awareness, the prevalence remains unknown and illusive. This heinous crime demands a response from social work and the criminal justice system.

The roles that social work and criminal justice hold in the elimination of human sex trafficking are vital. Persons within the criminal justice system are traditionally the point of first contact for a survivor. Survivors often fear providers within criminal justice due to past experiences and manipulation from the trafficker, leading to a disconnection in providing adequate services (Jordan, et al., 2013). Social work provides resources and an array of services such as; housing, mental health, and government assistance to
support the recovery process for the survivor. Both service providers are the bridge for the survivor between captivity and freedom. Improving collaboration and increasing knowledge of sex trafficking will provide a strong foundation for the providers to effectively support survivors.

**Background of the Problem**

Human trafficking carries its most commonly identified beginnings back to the 1600’s with transatlantic slave trade. Researchers suggest that there are more slaves held captive today than ever in the past (Kapstein, 2006). The International Labour Organization (2012) has estimated that over 4.2 million men, women and children are trafficked globally. Within the United States estimations have shifted from 600,000 and 800,00 in 2005 to 14,500 and 17,200 persons trafficked annually (Clawson, Dutch, Solomon & Grace, 2009). Experts remain uncertain of the magnitude of the problem due to the underground nature of the crime. Researchers estimate that within the next ten years human sex trafficking will surpass the trade of illegal narcotics and weaponry due to the ability to sell a single product multiple times and gain profits up to $44.3 billion annually (Jordan, etc., 2013; TVPA, 2000). There are multiple factors that contribute to the increased prevalence of human sex trafficking throughout the United States.

Kristof and WuDunn (2009) identified factors in the increase of modern day slavery over the past few decades. The first is rise of capitalism in European countries, with highest profits being found in prostitution. Criminal gangs began to take advantage of the capitalist system by finding a demand for prostitution, therein gaining financial incentive and increased power in society. Second, globalization has made the
transportation, identification and concealment of selling humans simple; without identification no one may know that person exists. A third reason is sexually transmitted infection. Consumers are demanding fresh victims who have not been exposed to sexually transmitted infections. This increases the number of victims since safe practices are not a requirement in sex slavery. Furthermore, fear of STI’s has increased the demand for young girls who are still virgins and considered pure. Due to these factors, human sex trafficking has been on the rise, with no sign of stopping or slowing down in the near future.

Sacramento is claimed to be one of the top five cities for trafficking in the United States (Yu, 2012). Due to the underground nature of sex trafficking, there is still very little information about the numerical prevalence of victims and traffickers within the area (Trafficking in Persons Report, 2012). This leaves limited resources and support for victims as well as service providers. In a video interview, Mandy Taylor of My Sister’s House, a Sacramento nonprofit supporting victims of sex trafficking, stated that Sacramento is a desirable location due to access to interstates, vulnerable populations and a high immigrant population.

Statement of the Research Problem

According to California Attorney General, Kamela Harris, Sacramento is a top destination for human trafficking (Harris, 2012). This is due to interstates that connect the city to Las Vegas, making it easy for traffickers to move their victims and evade law enforcement. Given the exponential rate of human sex trafficking experienced in the Sacramento community, it is imperative for professionals in both criminal justice and
social work to have proficient knowledge of the causes and signs of sex trafficking, and of pertinent interventions and resources. Law enforcement is the first to come into contact with a survivor of sex trafficking (Wilson, Walsh, & Kleuber, 2006). Social workers typically serve in organizations that then assist the survivors upon their rescue (Salett, 2006). If either group is deficient in these areas, then they are failing to meet the needs of this population, rendering survivors vulnerable to further exploitation. Therefore, education on sex trafficking must be included in an academic setting. This study strives to evaluate the knowledge and perspectives of criminal justice and social work students who are likely to be involved with this population in their professional arenas. Interdisciplinary collaboration is another component that is significant to the success of interventions utilized to support survivors. Collaboration provides increased supports and knowledge for both criminal justice and social work to be more effective in supporting the victims and survivors of human sex trafficking. There appears to be a lack of interdisciplinary collaboration between social work and criminal justice in addressing this serious issue. By targeting current students, the researchers can identify the knowledge and perspectives on collaboration future service provides may bring into the field.

**Purpose of the Study**

This study is a comparative analysis concerning California State University, Sacramento undergraduate criminal justice majors and social work majors. The researchers are looking at the similarities and differences in their perspectives, knowledge, and approaches in addressing the issue of sex trafficking. The purpose of this is twofold. First, the researchers would like to assess whether or not students are being
educated on the issue of human sex trafficking in an academic setting. Research has revealed that police officers in the field receive limited training on the issue, while social workers are unlikely to receive training unless working in an agency that deals specifically with sex trafficking. Therefore, it is crucial to include this topic in an academic setting so that newly emerging professionals in both fields are prepared to provide adequate services. The second purpose of this study is to examine perspectives on interdisciplinary collaboration between the two fields, in an effort to better meet the needs of sex trafficking survivors.

**Theoretical Framework**

This area of research is informed by the spirit of socialist feminism. Socialist feminism argues that women’s equality is prevented by both cultural and economic oppression. Socialist feminist Barbara Ehrenreich (1976) explains that the best way to develop an understanding of this concept is to view socialism and feminism separately at first. Socialism has strong ties to Marxism. A Marxist is critical of the inequalities that a capitalist society produces. In order for the capitalist class to retain their wealth, they must exploit the working class through undervalued pay scales. Furthermore, the working class struggles to overthrow the capitalist class because of the control that the capitalist class has on government and politics, which ultimately create and enforce rules and laws. Feminism, on the other hand, draws attention to gender inequality. Ehrenreich (1976) argues that a commonality across continents, both historically and contemporarily, is the existence of patriarchy. In relation to human sex trafficking, feminism would identify with the perspective that men view and treat women like their property or sexual objects
existing for sexual gratification. Furthermore, basic feminism argues that males are able to uphold this gender inequality through the use of force or the belief that they could exert force if necessary.

According to Holmstrom (2003), socialist feminist theory emerged based on the belief that the oppression of women is both a class and a sex issue. These theorist believe that class oppression alone, does not sufficiently explain women’s oppression. Furthermore, they believe that class and patriarchy cannot exist without one another (Keren-Paz, 2013). Additionally, socialist feminist theory also understands the important role that race and sexual orientation play in the subordination of women (Holmstrom, 2003). In essence, they have a deep understanding of the intersectionality of class, gender, ethnicity, and sexual orientation.

Socialist feminist theory helps to explain the phenomenon of human sex trafficking. First, victims/survivors of sex trafficking are typically both gender and economically disadvantaged; this is to say that most are female and lower class. This is an example of the interdependence of patriarchy and class. Next, it must be understood that monetary gain creates motive on behalf of the traffickers, and that traffickers are predominantly male. Here, the intersection between class (money motive) and gender (male traffickers) is at play. The victim/survivors are often forced into the lifestyle through violence or coerced into the lifestyle through promises of a better economic life. Both Marxism and feminism argue that the use of force is characteristic of capitalism and patriarchy, respectively. The victim/survivor’s are further economically exploited by their captors, who tend to take the majority of the profit for the services rendered. Finally, the
fact that women are viewed as sex objects supplies the demand on behalf of the
purchasers, which is a condition of the patriarchal society that has always existed and
continues to exist.

It is clear that socialist feminist theory lends itself nicely to the phenomenon of
human sex trafficking. This theory would argue that in order for women to be free of this
condition, the interdependence of classism and sexism must be addressed.

**Definition of Terms**

Human Sex Trafficking - Human sex trafficking is a form of trafficking that refers to the
bondage and sexually exploitation of an individual for monetary gain. The United
Nations (2004) defined human trafficking as; the recruitment, transportation, transfer,
harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of
coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of
vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent
of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

Domestic Sex Trafficking- Domestic sex trafficking is the transportation and harboring of
persons within national boundaries (Jordan, et al., 2013, TVPA, 2000).

The Life- The life refers to the period of time that the individual is held captive and
forced to perform sexual acts to financially support the trafficker.

Survivor- A survivor is an individual who was previously a captive in sex trafficking, but
has since escaped.

Victim- A victim of sex trafficking is an individual who is currently held captive in sex
trafficking.
Social Work/Social Service Providers- Social work and social service providers will be used interchangeably throughout this study. These terms refer to the providers that offer support services to survivors and/or victims of human sex trafficking.

Law Enforcement- For the purpose of this study, law enforcement refers to the police force who are first responders as well as those who patrol community areas, whom would most commonly have interactions with persons involved in sex trafficking.

Social Work Students- Students at Sacramento State University within the Undergraduate Program of Social Work participate in this project during the study period. The students are within their Junior or Senior year of the Social Work Program.

Criminal Justice Students- Students at Sacramento State University within the Undergraduate Program of Criminal Justice participate in this project during the study period. The students are within their Junior or Senior year of the Criminal Justice Program.

Perspective- Perspective refers to the individual’s view and attitude towards the act of human sex trafficking and the persons involved in human sex trafficking.

Collaboration- Collaboration is the practice of joining together to effectively provide a service with a common goal through communication, sharing of information, problem solving, respect, and transparency.

**Justification**

Examination of social work and criminal justice student’s perspectives on human sex trafficking is a worthy area of research. After completing an extensive literature review, it has become evident that there appears to be a gap in research on student’s
perspectives related to human sex trafficking and collaborative approaches. To date, the majority of published information focuses on perspectives of professionals working within social work and criminal justice systems. Furthermore, this research may indicate how perspectives evolve as students enter into working professionals within their respective fields. Moreover, this study strives to understand social work and criminal justice student’s values and beliefs, and how they view their roles in the human sex trafficking epidemic. Finally, these authors contend that in order to effectively combat human sex trafficking, there must be an intersection between social work and criminal justice education as it provides a comprehensive picture.

**Statement of Collaboration**

Bree Madron and Sally Garrison hereby verify that they equally contributed to the research of and contents within “Same but Different? Social Work and Criminal Justice Student’s Perspectives on Human Sex Trafficking.”
Chapter 2

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

This literature review discusses risk factors associated with human sex trafficking, professional preparedness to respond to human sex trafficking, barriers to services and interdisciplinary collaboration. The risk factors for sex trafficking provide an overview of the clinical and societal implications of involvement in sex trafficking. The themes professional preparedness and barriers to services focus on social work and criminal justice separately to identify how each profession relates to human sex trafficking interventions as well as service provision. Collaboration will dissect current literature of the significance and prevalence of collaboration among social work and criminal justice. The themes examine how criminal justice and social work impact human sex trafficking survivors and how the disciplines can improve collaboratively to be more effective in service provision.

Risk Factors for Sex Trafficking

Multiple factors contribute to the presence of sex trafficking. The following section focuses on risk factors related primarily to adolescents due to the fact that this age period is at highest risk. Research has found that risk increases as the age of the individual decreases (California Child Welfare Council (CCWC), 2013). Furthermore, research consistently shows that the average age of entry into sex trafficking is 13 years old (CCWC, 2013; Smith, Vardaman, & Snow, 2009; Hornor, 2015). Exploiters desire younger victims due to their vulnerability and ability to work longer. Average time spent in the life is typically seven years (Break Free, personal communication, March 13,
Furthermore, a history of sexual, emotional and/or physical abuse increases an individual’s risk (CCWC, 2013). Abuse allows for the trafficker to effectively groom the individual. Special Investigator Mahurin has identified that traffickers prey on the victim’s weakness and use the victim’s history of abuse maliciously to maintain control (C. Mahurin, personal communication, March 13, 2015). A history of sexual abuse places individuals at greater risk for victimization with the law as well. Children who were sexually abused are twenty-eight times more likely to be arrested for prostitution (CCWC, 2013). The increased arrest rate places individuals at greater risk of being perpetrators rather than victims of sex trafficking, which removes access to necessary services for treatment. Parental relationships and behaviors affect the vulnerability of the child as well. Specifically, the use of drugs and alcohol in the home places the child at risk for falling prey to a trafficker. Research has found that parents have sold their children to an exploiter in order to provide financial support for their substance addictions. Limited family support, history of abuse and substance use in the home place the individual in a position to be more susceptible to the crime of human sex trafficking.

The foster care system is becoming a hunting ground for today’s trafficker. The foster care system is defined as “a system of care for children who are (a) removed from their parents/guardians or (b) surrendered to the state by their parents” (California Against Slavery Research and Education (CASRE), 2015). California recently reported that between 50-80% of children that are sold into sex trafficking were formerly in the foster care system (CASRE, 2013; Lillie, 2013). The reported percentage for California coincides with national averages. The OLP Foundation, a nonprofit organization fighting
to end slavery, has identified three common paths from the foster care system into trafficking. The first path is the child runs away from their foster home (Lillie, 2013). Typically, this scenario results in the child being homeless and more susceptible to the promises of stability the trafficker offers. The second path is the trafficker lures the child away from the foster home or group home. More commonly, traffickers recruit from within the group home through other group home members. The third path is that the child ages out of the system and becomes homeless. Traffickers prey on the vulnerability of the children that are in the foster care system. The most commonly shared childhood experiences of children who were trafficked are sexual abuse, parental neglect or abandonment, runaway or throwaway and homelessness (Honor, 2015; Lillie, 2013).

Location of the victim is a key risk factor as well. Research has shown that the interstate infrastructure of large cities creates an easy transport modality for traffickers, which makes Sacramento a major attraction for trafficking (Harris, 2012). Victims are transported throughout California by travelling between Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Nevada, and then to Sacramento. Therefore, Sacramento is a major destination for human sex trafficking. Mandy Taylor of WEAVE, a Sacramento nonprofit dedicated to supporting victims of sex trafficking, reports that Sacramento is a prime destination because of the high population of vulnerable people, low socioeconomic status, high population of immigrants and the interstate (Yu, 2015). Furthermore, both Mandy Taylor of WEAVE and an anonymous Sacramento police officer have identified persons of color being the largest target population to become victims of trafficking in the Sacramento area. Within Sacramento the police department has noted that sex trafficking has
increased over the past ten years. Sacramento Police have reported that victims of sex trafficking are often from lower socioeconomic groups, unstable families or absent parents and most victims are under the age of 18 with an average age being 12 (Yu, 2015). Sacramento is of great concern for understanding and responding to sex trafficking within the United States.

Persons forced into sex trafficking are exposed to a multitude of health issues that place their livelihood at risk. Physical injuries are one of the main health consequences of sex trafficking. The National Criminal Justice Reference System carried out a study based on 112 interviews with 128 survivors of sex trafficking and found that most women suffered from bruising and vaginal bleeding (Raymond & Hughes, 2001). Further incurred injuries and their break down are as follows; 35% had broken bones, 80% had bruises, 47% suffered from head injuries, 53% and mouth and/or teeth injuries and 65% suffered from vaginal bleeding (Raymond & Hughes, 2001). These statistics represent the heinous nature of the crime of human sex trafficking. The women are treated as rag dolls at the trafficker’s disposal.

Sexually transmitted infection are yet another consequence for the victims of sex trafficking. The study by the National Criminal Justice Reference System found that 71% of the women had symptoms of yeast infections, vaginal discharge, gonorrhea, trichomoniasis, pubis lice and herpes (Raymond & Hughes, 2001). All of these symptoms were individually present in at least one or more times during their bondage (Raymond & Hughes, 2001). The most surprising piece of information is that these symptoms were inclusive in the response for a majority of the group. Health care providers found that
most women within the sex industry are in fact infected with HIV, syphilis, yeast infections and chlamydia (Raymond & Hughes, 2001). This results in a much larger public health concern for every individual that is involved in the sex slave industry as well.

Aside from the physical consequences of sex trafficking, there are also emotional and mental difficulties that result from sexual exploitation. Eighty-six percent of women felt depressed which correlates to the 64% that thought about committing suicide (Raymond & Hughes, 2001). Other mental health disparities were self-blame/ guilt, hopelessness and difficulty sleeping (36%, 41% and 32% respectively) (Raymond & Hughes, 2001). At a micro level the consequences of sex trafficking are significant. Individuals are suffering from inhumane acts of torture for financial and sexual gains of their exploiters and rapists.

**Preparedness to Respond to Human Sex Trafficking**

Criminal justice and social work have separate and important roles in the response to human sex trafficking. Criminal justice has a challenging, yet vital role as a first responder. Their assessment and interventions provide a foundation for managing the case. Social workers role includes support services and advocacy for survivors of human sex trafficking. Each disciplines education and preparation prior to entering the field may determine effectiveness in responding to sex trafficking.

**Criminal Justice**

Law enforcement officers are routinely the first to have contact with survivors of sex trafficking (Wilson & Dalton, 2008). Being prepared is the single most important
predictor in investigative follow through on a case (Farrell, McDevitt, & Fahy, 2008). Preparedness can be derived from education and training, and results are threefold; they create awareness of the problem, assistance in victim identification, and how to respond once a victim is identified. The U.S. Department of Justice (2004) has an expectation that law enforcement be the “eyes and ears for recognizing, uncovering, and responding to circumstances that may appear to be a routine street crime, but may ultimately turn out to be a human trafficking case” (p. 5). Therefore, criminal justice is key to addressing and targeting cases of human sex trafficking.

Federal and local legislation are key informants for directing the interaction law enforcement have with victims of sex trafficking. To date, all fifty states, as well as the federal government, retain anti-trafficking legislation (Farrell, 2014). While this is good in theory, there is a difference between creating laws and enforcing laws. It is up to each local law enforcement agency to determine the most effective way to enforce the law, which often times requires institutional changes that the agency may resist (Farrell, 2014). However, it is the responsibility of each individual agency to develop strategies that overcome any institutional opposition, and may be achieved through special informative trainings, as well as putting into place measures that hold law enforcement officials accountable. Trainings are imperative because they can increase awareness and victim identification.

When addressing awareness, it is important to question whether or not law enforcement considers sex trafficking to be a problem. While human trafficking dates back centuries, sex trafficking has only become commonly known in the last decade
(McDonald, 2014). Therefore, societies lack of awareness until recent may reflect a lack of awareness among law enforcement officers as well. Research indicates that law enforcement agencies in smaller communities believe that human trafficking is infrequent or non-existent, while law enforcement agencies in larger communities believe that human trafficking is a widespread issue (Farrell, et al., 2008). One study revealed that out of 1,661 small community agencies, between 73 and 77 percent do not regard human trafficking as a problem. The same study indicates that there is no significant difference in beliefs of sex trafficking within these small community agencies (Farrell, et al., 2008). In the 392 agencies serving larger communities, it was found that 20% of law enforcement recognizes sex trafficking outside of the U.S. as widespread, and 17% recognize sex trafficking inside of the U.S. as widespread. This is likely due to the fact that agencies in larger communities have a higher probability of encountering human trafficking within their community. A similar study had comparable findings. Out of 83 police departments surveyed, 61% disagreed with the statement “human trafficking is currently an issue for local police agencies” (Wilson, et al., 2006, p. 154). The same study revealed that the majority of police agencies believe that human trafficking is a federal issue. This is problematic because local police officers are typically the first responders. Only 12% felt that human trafficking is a significant matter for their department. Furthermore, a study of US police agencies revealed that 44% of those leading the agencies were unaware of their own state’s trafficking laws (Newton, Mulcahy, & Martin, 2008). In summary, it is difficult to be prepared to respond to a
problem when such a high level of unawareness of the problem itself or the legislation regarding it exists.

After an appreciation and awareness for the problem develops, and before proper response measures are implemented, front line law enforcement officers must receive training. The researchers interviewed two police officers; one from the Santa Clara Police Department, and the other from the Sacramento Police department, both of which wish to remain anonymous, and will therefore be referred to officers A and B. The interviews revealed the likelihood that police officers receive little training on sex trafficking. According to officer A, during his time in the police academy, the issue of sex trafficking was briefly (approximately one to two hours was spent on the topic) included in their sexual assault training course. Officer B revealed that after completing the academy, he has received very little mandatory training, and any extra trainings on sex trafficking were voluntary, and typically held on weekends. He said that holding the voluntary trainings did not provide a high incentive for officers to attend because it took away from time spent with their families. The researchers were able to confirm that in 2012, voters passed the CASE Act, which required every law enforcement officer in the field to undergo two hours of training in human trafficking (California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, 2014). Whether or not this amount of training is sufficient in addressing the issue of sex trafficking may be a worthy area of future research.

An important aspect of trainings is survivor/victim identification. The covert nature of this crime makes it difficult for law enforcement to recognize victims (Farrell,
In order to better identify potential survivor/victims, law enforcement officers must be knowledgeable as to the characteristics that typically present in the sex trafficked population. For instance, victims are predominantly young (Farrell, et al., 2008) and female (Feminist Majority Foundation, 2014). Additionally, they may show signs of abuse such as: bodily injury, avoidance of eye contact, tattoos that indicate ownership by the trafficker, sexually transmitted diseases, and malnourishment (Laxalt, 2015). Law enforcement agencies also often report that survivors/victims are unwilling to cooperate; this is important because it may be indicative of trafficking (Farrell, et al., 2008). Rather than be dissuaded by this, it should encourage officers to gather more information in order to make a proper assessment. A multi-disciplinary approach may be helpful in gathering more information from survivors/victims who are unwilling to cooperate.

Research indicates that the best way to respond to the human sex trafficking epidemic is through multi-agency task forces. As of 2008 and there were 42 multi-agency task forces that exist in the United States (Farrell, et al., 2008). These task forces are funded by the federal Bureau of Justice and are comprised of federal, state, and county law enforcement stakeholders. The multi-agency task forces team with state and county law enforcement agencies and assist them in facilitating a partnership with their local U.S. Attorneys Office and victim advocate agencies. Law enforcement agencies who are working within a multi-agency task force tend to have a greater level of awareness and appreciation for the human sex trafficking problem; accordingly, these law enforcement agencies are more likely to have more “trainings, protocol, units of specialized personnel” (Farrell, et al., 2008, p.90). As a result, these law enforcement agencies
investigate more cases of human sex trafficking, and have a higher likelihood of culmination in formal charges against the perpetrators.

**Social Work**

Sex trafficking violates the foundational and international right of freedom. The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights states, “No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms” (The United Nations, 1948, art. 4). Social workers foundation is built on the demand to challenge social injustice. The National Association of Social Work (NASW) Code of Ethics states “Social workers pursue social change, particularly with and on behalf of vulnerable and oppressed individuals and groups of people” (NASW, 2015, para 14). Furthermore, section 6.04(d) of the Social Work Code of Ethics (2015) requires that social workers “...act to prevent and eliminate domination of, exploitation of, and discrimination against any person...”. Social work is in a prime role to respond to the service demands of human sex trafficking survivors. Social workers are trained to be able to respond to social justice issues at a micro and macro level of intervention. Social work training is in advocating for human rights and informing policy change to meet basic human needs (Palmer, 2010). Social work values and ethics provide the guidance necessary to respond to human sex trafficking at multiple levels to meet the needs for the individual as well as influence policy to prevent sex trafficking.

The risk factors of sex trafficking demonstrated how victims are affected biologically, psychologically, socially and physically. Responding effectively to such a complex issue requires a background of understanding the ecological perspective of
humans. Noel Busch-Armendariz (2014) and his colleagues conducted a qualitative analysis of respondents including service providers and survivors of sex trafficking to determine which interventions were most effective. The research found that unanimously, all participants noted the social worker as a positive and significant impact on all aspects of the recovery process (Busch-Armendariz, Nsonwu & Heffron, 2014). An important role that the social worker plays is as case-manager; specifically in coordinating services for the survivor. This speaks to social work’s use of the ecological perspective. Social workers educational foundation is in viewing the person from an ecological perspective that looks at the individual from a biological, psychological and sociological stance to provide holistic services. The strengths-based theory was viewed as significant in service provision as evidenced by participants highlighting social workers ability to build trust with clients (Busch-Armendariz, et al., 2014). Social workers draw on the survivor’s strengths and abilities to promote self-efficacy and independence. Finally, Busch-Armendariz and his colleague (2014) found that cultural competency through a survivor-centered approach. Foundational theories in social work provide social workers with the knowledge and skills to provide effective services to survivors of sex trafficking.

However, barriers have prevented the social work discipline to provide effective services to survivors of human sex trafficking.

Multiple barriers exist that inhibit victims of sex trafficking to access services. Social workers may also be limited in their organization to support victims of sex trafficking. Researcher Joan Reid (2010) surveyed 34 service provides from 18 organizations in a southern US metropolitan area to gain a better understanding of what
barriers victims of domestic sex trafficking face in accessing services. The respondents were from diverse background of individuals from law enforcement and service providers from nongovernmental agencies (Reid, 2010). Through qualitative interviews with the 34 individuals the researcher came to several consistent barriers in access to services. The identified barriers were lack of training in identifying victims, the hidden nature of sex crimes, inability and unwillingness of the victim to self-identify, and lack of systematic data collection (Reid, 2010). These barriers affect survivor’s ability to access adequate services and attain a successful life outside of bondage.

Providing services that meet the needs of survivors is proving to be a challenge and a barrier. There is very little literature available reporting on the needs of survivors of sex trafficking (Busch-Armendariz, et al., 2014). Furthermore, there is not enough data regarding the effectiveness and efficiency of current social services. This poses as a barrier to social workers’ ability to improve upon or create services that will promote the wellbeing of the survivor. Currently, there is not a proven treatment modality that is effective in responding to human sex trafficking (Jordan, Patel & Rapp, 2013). Creating a system of data collection will increase support and communication within service providing agencies, and allow for more cohesive service provision across varying providers.

**Interventions**

Having adequate preparation to respond to sex trafficking will inform the professionals’ ability to intervene effectively. The criminal justice system traditionally is involved in the legal components of sex trafficking. This may include prosecution, arrest
or investigation. Social work is responsible for providing adequate support services to support rehabilitation and prevent returning to the life. Furthermore, social work has a key role in crisis intervention at the time of the victim/survivor’s first contact with law enforcement. The following section will provide an overview of interventions that are being utilized to support persons involved in human sex trafficking.

**Criminal Justice**

Criminal justice officials are responsible for upholding the law and maintaining safety, which includes targeting persons involved in sex trafficking. California Penal Code 647(b) makes it illegal to engage in, agree to engage in, or solicit the act of prostitution; the law is designed in this way because it allows law enforcement to target the sex worker, the purchaser, and the trafficker/pimp (Shouse California Law Group, 2015). According to the law, those who are convicted of agreeing to engage in, engaging in, or soliciting prostitution face up to six months in county jail, a one thousand dollar fine, seizure of their vehicle, and driver’s license suspension (Shouse California Law Group, 2015).

The way the law is devised leaves room for victim blaming. It is well known that the majority of persons involved in sex trafficking have been forced to do so through and that it is difficult for them to escape the “life” due to fear of retaliation by their trafficker (Menaker & Franklin, 2015). Victim blaming occurs when the girls and women are punished through solicitation laws; in doing so they are looked at as willingly breaking the law and are therefore compliant in their victimization (Menaker & Franklin, 2015). This is why it is imperative for police officers to receive adequate education and training
on the signs of sex trafficking, so that when they encounter a potential survivor/victim, they may provide help rather than punishment. The fact of the matter is that sex trafficking is not the same as traditional prostitution; therefore, it should not be punished as such. For this reason, education on signs of trafficking versus prostitution is significant for successful interventions. However, a common reason that law enforcement may overlook their victim status is the revelation of any past convictions or warrants of criminal misconduct centered around prostitution (Freedom Network, 2015).

Perpetrators of sex trafficking have a steeper punishment than those who purchase or solicit. As of 2011, those convicted of sex trafficking in the state of California faced a three to eight year sentence. This differed from Federal law, which carries a sentence of fifteen years to lifetime imprisonment (California Against Slavery & Safer California Foundation (A), 2012). In 2012, California voters passed the CASE Act which dramatically increased the length of incarceration for traffickers (California Against Slavery & Safer California Foundation (B), 2012). Currently, there is not substantial legal action taken against those who purchase sex from victims of sex trafficking.

Clearly, there has been a notable shift in law enforcement response since the initiation of the CASE Act. The act called for a more victim-centered approach. This differed from the previous punitive response of punishing and incarcerating victims, which leads to revictimization. However, a victim-centered approach is only effective if law enforcement has an appreciation for the problem and is able to identify the victim as such, which must come from adequate training and legislation.
Another intervention utilized by law enforcement personnel includes sting operations that target the purchasers or ‘johns’ in this variation of a law enforcement sting, an officer will pose as a sex worker and solicit the purchaser (McGough, 2015). Other variations of stings include online and brothel versions. Once arrested and convicted, some jurisdictions are implementing creative demand reduction strategies. For instance, a ‘john’ school in San Francisco, California, seems to be effective at reducing recidivism by 40% (McGough, 2015).

The purpose of targeting this population (purchasers) is to eliminate the demand for sex trafficking. After all, without the demand, there would be no reason for traffickers to force girls and women into prostitution. The demand for instant sexual gratification can be understood through a socialist feminist theory lens. Both historic and contemporary cultures are patriarchal in nature; women have been and continue to be viewed as sexual commodities (Soroptimist, 2012). The concept of women as a sexual commodity exists because of gender inequality and sustains the demand for sex that is paid for (Soroptimist, 2012). This demand is what keeps traffickers in business and girls and women objectified, and thus forced into prostitution.

**Social Work**

Social Work has a critical role in preventing and intervening in human sex trafficking. Social work’s core value of serving vulnerable populations positions the profession in a role to advocate and intervene to eliminate modern day slavery (Androff, 2010). Social workers have the ability to respond to sex trafficking at multiple levels. On a primary level, social workers can focus on educating colleagues and the community
leaders (Huckle & Roe-Sepowitz, 2014). Awareness and education is important for prevention. Increased awareness of sex trafficking eliminates the underground nature.

Researchers have found that social workers are critical in identifying victims, assistance in exiting, and restoration to wellness (Hodge, 2014; Hammond & McGlone, 2014). Each component of service provision employs social workers critical skills. Law enforcement is traditionally the first respondent, and therefore first to identify victims of sex trafficking. However, 28% of victims of sex trafficking seek services from a health professional while being trafficked (Hodge, 2014). Therein placing health professionals, including social workers, in a position to assist in identifying victims of sex trafficking in a clinical setting. Furthermore, research found that social workers should start with street outreach. Specifically, they should target their street outreach efforts towards homeless youth and known sites for prostitution (Hom & Woods, 2013). The focus in outreach should be to employ skills that build trust and safety with the individuals and provide small resources, such as hotline numbers (Hom & Woods, 2013). Bringing services to the potential or current victims of trafficking will allow for relationship and trust to form with the social worker.

Secondary levels of intervention provide targeted interventions to support victims of sex trafficking. These interventions include case-management and individual or group counseling support. Survivors Amy Green and Cody Foute shared at a human trafficking conference that empathy, embracing and encouragement are the top three skills social workers can practice when working with other survivors (A. Green & C. Foute, personal communication, March 13, 2015). Throughout the counseling relationship social workers
must build trust with clients in order to deter fears of reprisal, being returned to trafficker or having their families harmed (Hodge, 2014). Building trust can be especially important given that most victims of trafficking have been physically and emotionally abused by traffickers. Trust can be established through communicating acceptance, understanding, and genuine concern for the individual (Hodge, 2014). Group services will provide increased clinical and peer support. A group home named Acknowledge, Commit and Transform (ACT) located in the southwestern United States identified the significant impact that a group had on victims of sexual exploitation. ACT offered an educational group to adolescents to understand sexual exploitation and connect with other girls with similar experiences (Hickle & Roe-Sepowitz, 2014). ACT found that an educational group facilitated by a professional and survivor led to increased receptivity to services and progress in treatment (Hickle & Roe-Sepowitz, 2014). Offering a group format allows for survivors to create relationship based on shared experiences with the clinical support of a social worker.

Direct services through case-management are vital to effective restoration. Given the complex nature of human sex trafficking, case-management is the most significant intervention in the social work role. This allows the survivor to have a single point of contact to build increased trust and relationship while navigating their way out of the life. The social worker must focus on interventions that are comprehensive and multisystemic to provide a holistic and complete approach in service provision (Hammond & McGlone, 2014). The use of essential social work skills provides safe space for victims to reach out to, and a foundation for the service provider to build a working relationship.
An assessment should be conducted to determine the unique needs of the individual, after providing vital resources such as shelter and medical-care (Hodge, 2014; Hammond & McGlone, 2014). An assessment will provide information about the needs of the survivor for appropriate and necessary services. Community collaboration and a specialization focus on human sex trafficking are required to meet the diverse needs of survivors of sex trafficking (Hammond & McGlone, 2014). Often survivors of sex trafficking are engaged in multiple systems, including criminal justice, child welfare, hospital, and addiction treatment (Hammond & McGlone, 2014). Collaboration across and within systems is pertinent to meeting and maintaining the long-term needs of survivors of human sex trafficking.

Collaboration

Collaboration is critical in order to address human sex trafficking effectively. Collaboration between the criminal justice system and social work began when social work was initially being developed. Jane Addams and the settlement house movement assisted in developing the first juvenile court system through the Fair Labor Act (Palmer, 2010). Furthermore, social work and the criminal justice system, along with other disciplines, collaborated during the 1950’s during deinstitutionalization to support individuals moving into the community (Palmer, 2010). Social work and criminal justice has been collaborating to establish therapeutic justice in responding to legal issues in a way that promotes the health of the individual without conflicting with legal justice (Palmer, 2010). Therein making an attempt to pursue social justice while maintaining legal authority.
Current policy regarding human sex trafficking focuses primarily on the role of law enforcement (Zimmerman, Hossain & Watts, 2011). The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 focuses on three P’s of prevention, protection and prosecution to respond to human trafficking in the United States. The focus minimizes the health sector involvement in responding to human trafficking. The primary concern with placing sole responsibility on law enforcement is that human trafficking cuts across multiple layers of disciplines and should be responded to as such. As of now, there is no policy to support the response of a multilateral or cross-sector coordination approach to human sex trafficking (Zimmerman, et.al., 2011). It is essential that law enforcement and social work are given the appropriate supports at a macro and mezzo level to respond to human sex trafficking. While social work and criminal justice have a history of collaboration and policies to support collaboration, the enactment of collaborative roles are not always the reality.

Criminal justice and social work have fundamentally different values (Pettus-Davis, 2012). In fact, research indicates that there is a lack of interdisciplinary collaboration between criminal justice and social work fields. This is due to the fact that during the 1970’s there was a push by conservatives to increase punitive measures; as a result, social work began to withdraw from criminal justice (Epperson, Roberts, Ivanoff, Tripodi & Gilmer, 2013). A 2007 National Association of Social Workers survey revealed that only 1% of the 3,653 social workers surveyed work in a criminal justice setting (Scheyett, Pettus-Davis, McCarter & Brigham, 2012). This indicates that there is
very little social work participation in the field of criminal justice, leading to a

dismembered system.

There is a need for criminal justice and social work to make collaborative efforts
to serve the population involved in human sex trafficking. Nearly every single person
involved in the criminal justice system has a social work related need: domestic violence,
substance abuse, sex work, mental illness, poverty, etc. (Pettus-Davis, 2012). In this
sense, there is an absolute intersectionality between the two fields (Epperson et al., 2013).
Social workers are called upon to advocate and promote social justice for vulnerable
populations. Vulnerable populations have a higher rate of involvement in the criminal
justice system (Pettus-Davis, 2012). Therefore, social workers ought not to shy away
from those in the criminal justice system, despite any perceived value conflicts.

The exclusion of social work content in criminal justice courses and criminal
justice content in social work courses may have a causal effect on the lack of
interdisciplinary collaboration in field. Missing from criminal justice curriculum are
social work related ideas, strategies, and concepts, and vice versa. When Epperson et al.,
(2013) evaluated 192 Master of Social Work (MSW) programs in the United states, they
found that only 22% of programs offered courses that were specifically related to
criminal justice; 5% offered criminal justice as a specialization; 1% offered criminal
justice courses, concentrations, and a joint degree program. Another study suggests that a
low rate of MSW field placements occur in criminal justice settings. In fact, according to
Scheyett et al. (2012), out of 176 programs, only 7.73% occur in a criminal justice
setting. Research indicates that the best way for social work to reconnect with criminal
justice is in an academic setting (Epperson, et al., 2013). It is social work education’s duty to prepare students to interact with vulnerable populations involved in the criminal justice system (Epperson, et al., 2013). Therefore, social work would benefit from a better understanding of criminal justice duties as well as collaboration with criminal justice in providing effective services to persons involved in human sex trafficking.

Criminal justice curriculum has limited information related to the social work field and vice versa. This is unacceptable given the fact that nearly every persons apprehended by law enforcement has a social work related need. In actual practice we work with people with different training; therefore we should consider these other professions to foster a deeper appreciation, because this can lead to them work together more effectively. A significant part of the curriculum should include the study of victimology (Bostaph, Brady, & Glacomazzi, 2014). In their research on the availability of victim oriented collegiate level courses, Bostaph et al., (2014) found that out of 679 programs, 84.5% offered an upper division elective. Only 15% required one victimology class as a core-requisite, while 5% required two victimology classes as a core-requisite. Understanding victimology is crucial because a crime cannot take place without a victim (Bostaph et al., 2014). Furthermore, it assists students in developing an understanding that will improve victim recovery (Dussich, 2014). The research has demonstrated a lack of understanding of interdisciplinary roles, which has prevented effective collaboration.

Gaps in the Literature

Social work and criminal justice are two professions that have primary roles in preventing and intervening in human sex trafficking. However, there is still limited
understanding of their roles as well as the breadth of sex trafficking itself. There was a major gap in finding information related to human sex trafficking within the United States. Instead, much of the research focused on international sex trafficking. Further, there was limited information in regards to sex trafficking within Sacramento. Local sources have identified Sacramento as a major area for sex trafficking, but very little research has supported this. It is important to note that human sex trafficking is an underground criminal enterprise, and therefore concrete facts are challenging to find. This demonstrates a need for improved collaboration across professions in order to expand the data pool and create more concrete facts related to human sex trafficking within the United States. As previously noted, there is limited data to support the prevalence of human sex trafficking. There appeared to be great variation among multiple reliable peer-reviewed resources, which demonstrated the lack of consistency in data collection as well as the clandestine nature of human sex trafficking.

Empirically supported evidence of effective interdisciplinary collaboration between law enforcement and social workers was lacking in the research. There were very few studies that evaluated criminal justice and social work’s perspectives of one another when dealing with human sex trafficking. This gap may contribute to the lack of understanding of each discipline’s role in providing services. Furthermore, there were limited studies that demonstrated effective and working collaborations between criminal justice and social work, though studies identified the importance of a working collaborative relationship.
In seeking information related to social work and human sex trafficking, the researchers found very little literature related to interventions created specifically for human sex trafficking. While most service providers utilize case management and trauma-based interventions to serve this population, there has yet to be evidenced based interventions that are empirically supported. Furthermore, there was limited research in what existing interventions were most effective, and how they were effective.

The largest gap in the literature for social work was how academia prepares the profession to respond to human sex trafficking. Most academic settings focus upon a broader definition of victim identification, trauma-informed practice and case management. Therefore, social workers are not being equipped with foundational information to provide effective services. Lack of empirically supported evidence of sex trafficking education in academia appeared to be lacking in criminal justice as well. Addressing the issue of minimal education in an academic setting may be of interest due to the fact that there is limited training provided to police and social workers once they enter the field, unless they specialize in the area of human sex trafficking. This study intends to target what knowledge current criminal justice and social work students are gaining in an academic setting that will prepare them to respond to human sex trafficking in the field. Furthermore, the study will contribute to increased awareness of perceptions on interdisciplinary collaboration between the professions. This will provide greater understanding of how each profession can benefit from and contribute to one another to build effective relationships.
Conclusion

While criminal justice and social work have a long-standing history of collaborating, there is still very little understanding of one another’s duties. Further, throughout the literature there were undertones of lack of understanding of the issue of human sex trafficking as well as professional roles in responding to sex trafficking. When a person involved in human sex trafficking is identified, law enforcement is traditionally trained on victim identification with the intention of targeting the perpetrator, whereas social work training focuses on crisis intervention and client advocacy. Interventions for survivors of human sex trafficking vary across the disciplines. Law enforcement has the role of intervening through sting operations, while social workers provide direct services with the victim. The research has demonstrated that law enforcement has a stronger focus on the demand of trafficking while social workers focus primarily on providing services to the victims.

Each discipline provides specialized knowledge necessary for prevention and intervention of human sex trafficking. Therefore, having a collaborative relationship would significantly improve the outcomes of both victims and survivors of human sex trafficking. The primary gaps in the literature the researchers noted were; knowledge of sex trafficking, effective collaboration between disciplines, and effective service provision for each discipline as it directly relates to human sex trafficking. Interdisciplinary collaboration and increased knowledge can be improved through researching the perspectives and beliefs of undergraduate criminal justice and social work students. This information will inform how to fill in the gaps across disciplines, therein
supporting the collaborative efforts of the two disciplines. This study aims to target the
gaps of identifying issues in actively participating in interdisciplinary collaboration and
increasing knowledge of sex trafficking in an academic setting to increase effectiveness
of services. Undergraduate students are significant in understanding these two areas
because they are receiving a foundational education that will shape how they participate
in their discipline.
Chapter 3

METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this study is to explore ways to improve interdisciplinary collaborations through better understanding of different perspectives, knowledge and approaches regarding human sex trafficking issues. Through this research we hope to uncover ways in which criminal justice and social work can obtain a more effective working relationship to improve the outcomes for survivors of human sex trafficking. This chapter will review the preparation of data collection, the data collection process, data analysis, and protection of human subjects.

Research Question & Hypotheses

There are two questions guiding our research. The first is are there any differences in knowledge and perspectives of criminal justice and social work students in responding to human sex trafficking. The second question is are social work students and criminal justice students open to the idea of collaboration in the field of human sex trafficking. The researchers hypothesize that there will be a difference in how each discipline will view human sex trafficking. This will be apparent through language as measured by the terms used to refer to those who have been trafficked. Furthermore, the perspective that each discipline holds towards services needed by survivors of human sex trafficking will offer insight into their view on the issue of human sex trafficking. It is commonly believed that criminal justice will take a more legal, disciplinary viewpoint in responding to human sex trafficking. Specifically, criminal justice will value prosecuting sex workers who are viewed as breaking the law, rather than victims of a criminal enterprise. Social
work will take a position of an advocate for the victim and have a greater knowledge base about the needs and services for victims of human sex trafficking.

In summary, our hypotheses are the following:

1. Collaboration between social work and criminal justice is not a priority for either discipline.
2. Criminal justice and social work will have different values.
3. Criminal justice and social work will have a difference in the knowledge and perspectives in human sex trafficking.

Study Design

This was a descriptive study using quantitative methods, with the study design being a questionnaire survey (Appendix B). Quantitative methods were preferred in order to produce statistical data to support and provide inferential data on the research hypotheses. This is based upon the fact that the researchers are setting forth to collect information about the knowledge and perspectives of social work and criminal justice majors on the issue of human sex trafficking. Data collected was analyzed using the statistical software SPSS.

Sampling Procedures

The units of analysis for this study were 190 junior and senior social work and criminal justice students. The sampling frame was provided by California State University criminal justice and social work undergraduate practice classes offered in the Fall of 2015. The researchers identified criminal justice and social work practicum
classes held in Fall of 2015 through the Sacramento State Course Catalog. The researchers then contacted the professors individually through email to introduce project and request for permission to survey their class. Therefore, this was a non-probability convenience sample. Students who were not age eighteen years or older or did not meet the inclusion criteria were not included as participants in this study.

**Data Collection Procedures**

The researchers only surveyed criminal justice practicum classes and social work practicum classes to eliminate the possibility of duplicated respondents. Students participating in the study were given a paper survey during their classes that would take approximately ten to fifteen minutes to complete. The researchers gave a brief introduction and verbally reviewed the cover letter with each class. The cover letter (Appendix A) explained that the intent of the study was to collect information regarding the student’s knowledge and perspectives on human sex trafficking. Moreover, the cover letter also informed students that that the CSUS Human Subjects Review Committee had granted approval to conduct the study (Appendix C), and that participation is anonymous, voluntary, and the data collected is confidential. The researchers also emphasized that there was no foreseen risk by participating in the study. The researchers explained that by filling out and turning in the survey, students were granting their implied consent. Those who wished to decline participation in the study could just return the blank copy of their survey. By reviewing the cover letter, students received both verbal and written information on the study.
The researchers were able to protect participants’ anonymity by asking them not to include any personal identifiers and to turn their surveys into a sealed box in the front of the room. Additionally, the researchers exited the room while participants were filling out the survey to further safeguard their anonymity. The researchers took the completed surveys and transferred them into a locked box kept in one of the researcher’s home. This measure was used in order to maintain confidentiality.

**Instruments**

The data collection instrument was a structured questionnaire (Appendix B) leading the respondent to be able to answer questions without assistance from the researcher and allowing the researchers to compare responses. Nominal questions consisted of brief demographic information related to gender, major and classification in college. The survey also measured the participants’ perspectives in human sex trafficking, confidence in working with persons involved in human sex trafficking, knowledge of factors related to human sex trafficking, and finally their perspectives on interdisciplinary collaboration. The questionnaire survey contained a total of eleven questions.

The survey focused briefly on measuring knowledge related to human sex trafficking by asking what population were most at risk in relation to age, gender and ethnicity. Furthermore, the survey asked participants to identify their level of agreement with statements related to most common misunderstandings of human sex trafficking. Perspectives were measured through ordinal response categories asking participants to
select the most important services, interventions and barriers for survivors of trafficking. Finally, participants were asked to rate their view on varying components of interdisciplinary collaboration. The data collection survey is guided by the purpose of our research informed by the current literature. More specifically, we drew information from the Interprofessional Education Collaborative Expert Panel (2011) and research from an exploratory study of interprofessional collaboration by Chris Kenaszchuk and colleagues (2010) to create the collaborative questions for this study.

**Data Analysis**

The data analysis used descriptive and inferential statistics to facilitate interpretation of the data collected. The researchers utilized SPSS for the data analysis process. Descriptive statistics were used to identify measures of central tendency as well as frequency of participant responses. After using differential statistics, the researchers used the split cell function to separate the criminal justice and social work responses to conduct a comparative analysis with inferential statistics. A chi-square test was used to determine a relationship between the social work and criminal justice in their beliefs surrounding collaboration and their knowledge about sex trafficking. The researchers used an independent t-test to test the difference on interval level variables between criminal justice and social work and their view on collaboration between the disciplines.

**Protection of Human Subjects**

The protection and rights of participants was considered and protectors were put in place to protect the rights of the participants. This research was considered exempt by the Division of Social Work Research Review Committee at CSU Sacramento. The
Human Subjects Protocol number is 15-16-010. Therefore, the research was considered to have no risk to the participants. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2010) qualifies minimal to no risk as any harm or discomfort being less than or similar to what participants would likely encounter in ordinary conversations.

The survey featured a cover letter that explained the purpose of the study and participants rights. The cover letter was verbalized to participants by the researchers prior to beginning the survey. The cover letter explained that their participation was voluntary and no personally identifying information would be disclosed without consent. The cover letter informed participants of measures that will be taken to protect confidentiality. Measures to protect confidentiality included storing the surveys in a locked box, in an undisclosed and private location. The data was destroyed upon completion of the research or no later than June 2016. The researchers stepping out of the room while participants filled out the survey to protect participant confidentiality. Furthermore, the participants were not required to disclose and personal identifying information aside from gender and college classification. The cover letter also informed participants that through their completion and submission of the survey they have given the researchers their implied consent.
Chapter 4

STUDY FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The purpose of this study was to analyze criminal justice and social work student’s knowledge, perspectives, and beliefs on the issue of human sex trafficking. Furthermore, the study seeks to clarify views of collaboration across disciplines to improve outcomes for survivors of human sex trafficking. The study was conducted using a brief questionnaire that was distributed to undergraduate criminal justice and social work practice classes. The results emphasized the focus on collaboration between disciplines. One hundred and one criminal justice and 89 social work students took part in the survey, for a total of 190 student participants. The questionnaire was divided into three main parts: demographics, knowledge and collaboration.

The demographic data will be presented first to provide a general description of the study participants. The following data set will illustrate the beliefs that criminal justice and social work have about collaboration between disciplines. The second data set will highlight the use of language between the two disciplines. The final data set will present frequency of responses for both disciplines as it relates to their knowledge about human sex trafficking. This data set will also highlight the student’s opinions on the importance and feasibility of collaboration between disciplines. The results of this study provided insight into upcoming professionals perspectives surrounding collaboration. This understanding could provide a basis for improved relationship between disciplines in order to provide more effective services to survivors of human sex trafficking.
Respondent Information

The survey (Appendix B) began by requesting demographic data including respondent’s gender, college classification, and college major. The data collected gave a framework for analysis of the research question. The primary demographic that was significant was college major. Figure 1 presents the participants according to their college major. Of the total participants (n=190) criminal justice made up 53% (n=101), while social work made up 47% (n=89) of the total participants. Equal distribution of respondents between disciplines was significant for the purpose of balanced data analysis and findings. The total female respondents (n=124) made up 65.3% of the respondent population. Male respondents (n=66) constituted 34.7% of the respondent population.

Table 1 provides a visual presentation of the following data. Criminal justice had a more balanced distribution of gender with 52 (51.5%) female respondents and 49 (48.5%) male respondents. There is a greater variation among genders in social work with 72 (80.9%) female respondents and 17 (19.1%) male respondents. The researchers focused on junior and senior practicum classes to ensure students had sufficient experience and knowledge of global issues and prevent duplication of survey respondents. Juniors (n=12) comprised 6.3 % of the total respondent population while seniors (n=177) made up 93.7% of the total respondent population. Criminal Justice had 1 (1%) junior who participated and 100 (99%) seniors participate in the research study. Social work had 11 (12.4%) juniors and 77 (87.5%) seniors participate in the research study.
Table 1

Demographics of Student Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th></th>
<th>College Classification</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>Female 52</td>
<td>Male 49</td>
<td>Junior 1</td>
<td>Senior 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Study Findings

The following section reviews the research findings. The themes discussed are collaboration, disagreements between the professions, similar values in solving social problems, treatment of persons who were trafficked, use of language, and knowledge. The discussion represents the data found from chi-square tests and independent t tests.

Findings Related to Collaboration

The final section of the survey (Appendix B) focused on questions related to collaboration between the disciplines of social work and criminal justice. The participants were asked to respond to statements by rating their level of agreement. The options for level of agreement are as follows; “1-Strongly Disagree”, “2- Disagree”, “3- Agree”, “4- Strongly Agree” or “5- Non-Applicable”. The researchers combined “Strongly Agree” and “Agree” and recoded them as “Agree”. The responses “Strongly Disagree” and “Disagree” were combined and recoded to “Disagree”.

Disagreements Between Professions are Common

One of the survey questions asked participants if they believe that disagreements between criminal justice and social work professions is common. A chi-square test of association was used to analyze this data. Table 2 below shows the relationship between professions and the survey questions under the heading “Disagreements is Common”. The results were statistically significant at p<.05, indicating that 80% of social work participants (n = 80) and 91.9% of criminal justice participants (n = 79) do not agree that disagreements between the professions is common ($X^2 = 5.241, df = 1, p = .017$). Only 8.1% of social work participants and 20% of criminal justice participants felt that
disagreements between professions are common. In other words, the vast majority of the students in these two professions do not believe that it is common for them to disagree. However, significantly more social work students held that disagreements were not common as compared to their counterpart in criminal justice.

**Have Similar Values in Solving Social Problems**

Another survey question asked participants if they believe that criminal justice and social work professions have similar values in solving social problems. A chi-square test was used to analyze this data. Table 2 demonstrates the relationship between professions and the survey question. It revealed that while 55.2% of social work participants (n = 48) agree that the professions have similar values, 44.8% disagree (n = 39). However, criminal justice responses demonstrated a reversed display in percentages, with 43.4% of criminal justice participants (n = 43) agreeing that the professions have similar values, and 56.6% disagreeing (n = 56). The data analysis indicates that there is a significant negative correlation between social work and criminal justice students of having similar values in solving social problems ($X^2 = 2.553$, df = 1, p = .073).

**Treatment of the Trafficked**

The researchers compared the relationship between the two disciplines and their level of agreement with the statement “These two professions have a similar idea of how to treat individuals who were trafficked.” Majority of the social work students (71.6%) agreed that the two disciplines have a similar idea of how to treat individuals who were trafficked, while only slightly more than half (54.5%) of the criminal justice students agreed. Conversely 28.4% of social work students and 45.5% of criminal justice students
disagreed. Chi-square analysis reflected a statistically significant difference in their views of whether these two professions have similar ideas in treating the trafficked individuals ($X^2=5.78$, df=1, p=.012).

**Use of Language**

The student participants were asked to identify terms that they are more likely to utilize when referring to a person who has been trafficked. The options were “Sex Worker”, “Victim of Sex Trafficking”, “Survivor of Sex Trafficking”, “Prostitute”, “Escort” and “Other”. Figure 2 below represents the participants who agree with each term. Each percentage presented in the figure has been rounded to the nearest whole number. The most commonly used term for each discipline is “Victim of Sex Trafficking”. Eighty-two percent of social work students (n=89) and 92.1% of criminal justice students (n=101) reported that they use the term “Victim of Sex Trafficking” to describe individuals involved in sex trafficking. The term “Survivor of Sex Trafficking” was the second most commonly used term with 77.2% of criminal justice students (n=101) and 80.9% of social work students (n=89) reporting that they would use the term to describe a person involved in sex trafficking. Other terms listed demonstrated consistency of use of language between the two professions as being similar in their level of agreement with use of the terms. Social work students appear to be more likely to interchange between the terms “survivor of sex trafficking” and “victim of sex trafficking”. Criminal justice students appear to be more likely to use the term “victim of sex trafficking” in describing persons involve in sex trafficking. There was a positive
correlation between students in social work and in criminal justice in their use of terms describing individuals who have been trafficked ($X^2=4.336$, df=1, $p=.031$). (see Table 2).
Figure 2. Terms Used to Describe Individuals Involved in Sex Trafficking.

Knowledge
The first half of the survey (Appendix B) strives to evaluate the level of knowledge of human sex trafficking between the criminal justice and social work professions. Specifically, survey question nine was used to address the participant’s knowledge on this issue. Question nine asked the participants to rank their level of agreement by “1- Strongly Agree”, “2- Agree”, “3- Disagree”, “4- Strongly Disagree”, or “5- No Answer”. The statements the participants responded to were:

“Selling children into sex trafficking only occurs in third world countries”

“Lack of stable family support puts people at risk for human trafficking”

“Ethnic minorities are more vulnerable to human trafficking”

“Prostitution is a life choice”

Table 2

*Social Work and Criminal Justice on Human Sex Trafficking-- Frequency and $X^2$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>$\chi^2$</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>P-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disagreement is Common</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>91.9%</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>5.241</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have Similar Values</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>55.2%</td>
<td>44.8%</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>2.553</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
<td>56.6%</td>
<td>99</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment for the Trafficked</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>71.6%</td>
<td>28.4%</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>5.780</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>54.5%</td>
<td>45.5%</td>
<td>99</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Language</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>92.1%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>89</td>
<td>101</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.336</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>.031**</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Significant at p< 0.10
** Significant at p< 0.05

After the reversed coding for the statements “selling children into sex trafficking only occurs in third world countries” and “prostitution is a life choice” the mean scores for each of the four statements under question nine on “knowledge” were calculated. An Independent t-test was used to determine statistical significance between disciplines and the measured scores of knowledge (See Table 3). While there is no statistical significance to support the consistency of responses, the data presented demonstrated that there might be similarities in level of knowledge of human sex trafficking.

**Collaboration**

An Independent t-test was conducted to determine statistical significance between disciplines and their perspective on interdisciplinary collaboration. Question 11 of the survey (Appendix B) was used to assess the perspective on collaboration. The researchers left out statement “G” because it was a double-barrel question. The respondents rated their level of agreement with the eight statements based on the following scale; by “1- Strongly Agree”, “2- Agree”, “3- Disagree”, “4- Strongly Disagree”, or “5- Non-Applicable”.

Table 3 below presents the data from the Independent t-test comparing disciplines to their perspective on collaboration. Social work students had a mean response of
2.7328. Criminal justice students had a mean response of 2.7100. While this test does not represent statistical significance (p = .764) in presenting data demonstrating a difference in the disciplines idea in collaboration, it may imply a more collaborative approach is desired or feasible for the disciplines. It appears that both social work and criminal justice students are supportive of collaborations. Statistically speaking, the t-test result reflects the fact that students in both professions believe in collaborations.

Table 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>t</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration</td>
<td>.300</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>.764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of Trafficking</td>
<td>.791</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Discussion of Findings**

One of the findings demonstrated that students in criminal justice and social work have different approaches in solving social problems. More specifically, 44.8% of social work students (n = 48) and 56.6% of criminal justice students (n = 56) disagreed that the professions have similar values in solving social problems. This finding indicates that the majority of social work students believe that the two disciplines have similar values; while the majority of criminal justice student’s do not. Criminal justice’s response support the research hypothesis that social work and criminal justice professions have
different core values in solving problems, where as social work’s response do not support this research hypothesis. Criminal justice’s response is corroborated by the literature review, which states that the two professions have contrasting values (Pettus Davis, 2012). Social work tends to value more of a rehabilitative approach while criminal justice tends to value more of a punitive approach. While they both tend to value justice, social work places more of an emphasis on social justice, while law enforcement places more of an emphasis on legal justice. The literature also states that this value contrast historically resulted in social work’s withdrawal from involvement with the criminal justice system justice (Epperson, Roberts, Ivanoff, Tripodi & Gilmer, 2013). This indicates that the value clash resulted in a fundamental disagreement, which fractured the interdisciplinary relationship to a point of an unwillingness to collaborate.

The research illustrated that social work and criminal justice do not believe that disagreements between one another are common. In our study, 91.9% of social work students and 80% of criminal justice students indicated that they do not believe that disagreements between the two professions are common. This finding does not support the research hypothesis, which states that criminal justice and social work do not hold collaboration as a priority. Therefore, they are able to overlook value conflicts to prevent disagreements and engage in a collaborative relationship. Although our research shows that social work and criminal justice professions do not believe they engage in disagreements often, this may be a result of social work’s and criminal justice’s withdrawal from one another; this is to say that there may be so much distance between the two disciplines that there is little opportunity for disagreement. On the other hand, it
may indicate that despite having different values, social work and criminal justice professions are no longer willing to let this difference result in disagreements and avoidance of one another. The latter consideration speaks to the fact that social work and criminal justice may be willing to embrace the spirit of interdisciplinary collaboration. When applied to the issue of human sex trafficking, this willingness to work with one another may result in the collaboration of diverse knowledge, ideas, values, and perspectives used to address this vulnerable population. After all, human sex trafficking survivors could surely benefit from an approach that advocates for social and legal forms of justice.

Social work students and criminal justice students have different beliefs in their level of agreement on the statement “These two professions have a similar idea of how to treat individuals who were trafficked”. Seventy-one percent of the social work students agreed with this statement, while only 54.5% of the criminal justice students agreed with the statement. Prior research has indicated that criminal justice and social work have fundamentally different values (Pettus-Davis, 2012). Our findings indicated that social work students are more likely to believe that the two disciplines agree on services and interventions appropriate for persons involved in human sex trafficking. This may be demonstrative of social work values in a collaborative approach. Criminal justice students were more reserved with their level of agreement. Their response may demonstrate a need to explore ways to promote the understanding that the two disciplines have alternative values and therefore will offer different services and interventions for the victim/survivor of sex trafficking.
The finding of the value “Treat” highlights the value and need for each discipline in responding to sex trafficking. While each discipline has a different understanding of how to treat the victim/survivor of sex trafficking, they each bring services and interventions that are necessary in the prevention and intervention of human sex trafficking. Furthermore, this demonstrates that there is not a clear understanding of professional roles in responding to human sex trafficking. Criminal justice responds to human sex trafficking based upon legal action required, whereas social work responds based upon clinical needs. This implies a different level of treatment since their job responsibilities are in fact different.

The researchers utilized the “Use of language” to gain insight on the professions perspective of human sex trafficking. Using the socialist feminist theory, it can be deduced that sex trafficking is intact due to gender inequalities and exploitation. Therefore, a strengths perspective can be utilized to empower survivors and create a safe space for healing. For this reason, understanding the value of language use within the profession can provide insight into their perspective on person’s involved in human sex trafficking. Approximately 92% of the criminal justice students agreed to using the term “victim of sex trafficking” to identify a person involved in human sex trafficking, and only 7.9% disagreed to using this term. This finding represents the criminal justice training background. Criminal justice curriculums often have a core-requisite of victimology (Bostaph, Brady, & Glacomazzi, 2014). Therefore, identifying a victim and a perpetrator is a part of their training and work in the field. Social work students were more opposed to using the term “victim of sex trafficking” as compared to criminal
justice students. Eighty–two percent of social work students agreed to the use of the term and only 18% disagreed.

The findings of the use of the term victim demonstrate a difference in perspective of human sex trafficking. Social work is more prone to use a strengths-based approach in identifying a person involved in human sex trafficking. Criminal justice uses a deterministic approach by identifying the individual as a victim. This is demonstrative of each profession's indoctrination. Social work's foundational belief is strengths-based and empowerment focused. Criminal justice is trained to identify victims and perpetrators, and have an understanding of how to differentiate the two in the field. This calls into question the need to have more uniform or coordinated training for criminal justice and social work to be able to provide more consistent treatment of survivors of sex trafficking.

While the findings of the mean of knowledge were not significant, this provides some information of the level of knowledge of the students who participated in the research study. The researchers used “1” as greatest level of knowledge and “5” as least level of knowledge. In this study, social work students had a mean response of 1.7949 and criminal justice students had a mean response of 1.8597. Therefore, social work students believed that they have a greater amount of knowledge, in comparison to criminal justice students. However, the level of knowledge for both populations were very close to one another. This implies that each discipline is learning same or similar information related to human sex trafficking in the academic setting.
The findings of the mean of collaboration were not significant either, but offer insight into the role collaboration has between disciplines. The findings of the independent t-test were social work students had a mean response of 2.7328. Criminal justice students had a mean response of 2.7100. One represented “Strongly Disagree” and “4” represented “Strongly Agree”. Therefore, each discipline appears to have similar perspectives on collaboration. The findings support that collaboration is a feasible and desired approach for both disciplines. Furthermore, this supports the historical relationship that criminal justice and social work have in collaborating to establish therapeutic justice in responding to legal issues without conflicting with legal justice (Palmer, 2010).
Chapter 5
CONCLUSION, SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATIONS

This study strives to evaluate the knowledge and perspectives of criminal justice and social work students who are likely to be involved with human sex trafficking victims/survivors. Furthermore, this study targets interdisciplinary collaboration. Collaboration provides increased supports and knowledge for both criminal justice and social work to be more effective in supporting the victims and survivors of human sex trafficking. The researchers are looking at the similarities and differences in social work and criminal justice perspectives, knowledge, and approaches in addressing the issue of sex trafficking, and how the disciplines view collaboration to provide effective services.

The units of analysis for this study were junior and senior social work students and criminal justice students who were enrolled in practicum classes in the Fall semester of 2015 at California State University, Sacramento. The data collection instrument utilized consisted of a quantitative, descriptive survey. The data analysis process used descriptive and inferential statistics. A chi-square test was used to determine a relationship between the social work and criminal justice in their beliefs surrounding collaboration and their knowledge about sex trafficking. Through the use of interval variables, the researchers used an independent t-test to test the difference between criminal justice and social work and their view on collaboration between the disciplines.

There were 101 criminal justice students and 89 social work students who participated in this research study. One of the findings demonstrated that criminal justice and social work students do not believe they have similar values in solving social
problems. Furthermore, this research illustrated that despite the fact the two professions
different values, the disciplines do not believe that disagreements between one another
are common. The findings also suggest that there is a common understanding between the
disciplines for how to treat the victims/survivors of sex trafficking. The findings on the
use of language provided insight to the differing perspectives of each discipline, which
may be related to academic classes. The sum of knowledge and collaboration were not
significant in the findings. However, they demonstrate that there is similar knowledge
between disciplines and that each discipline is open to collaboration in the field.

**Implications for Social Work**

The primary implication for social work is the future of collaboration with
criminal justice. This research supported that the professions are open to the idea of
collaboration. Furthermore, students acknowledged differences in the disciplines
fundamental values, yet do not believe that disagreements are common. This implies that
each discipline is willing to accept the difference in values and work with one another to
provide services. This may be a reflection of the academic setting instilling a spirit of
collaboration to improve the outcomes of collaboration in the field. Therefore, a
collaborative approach must start in the academic setting. The World Health Organization
has suggested that interprofessional education begin in the academic setting so that
optimal health services can be achieved through collaborative health practices
(Interprofessional Education Collaborative Expert Panel, 2011). Furthermore, the
Interprofessional Education Collaborative Expert Panel (2011) has suggested four
competencies for teaching collaboration in the academic setting, which are values and
ethics for interprofessional practice, roles and responsibilities of the disciplines, interprofessional communication, and teams and teamwork. Social work recently became a part of the Interprofessional Education Collaborative, which speaks to social works desire and need to have an active role in improving collaboration with other disciplines. It is important that social work begins to develop an appreciation for collaboration in undergraduate education in order to build a collaborative relationship with criminal justice.

The research findings demonstrated that criminal justice and social work agree that the professions have values that are different from one another. This is vital for social work to understand and appreciate. This finding demonstrated that each profession brings something different that is valuable in providing effective services to victims/survivors of sex trafficking. It is imperative that each profession does not think alike and that there is a spirit of acceptance. The diversity of opinion and values across disciplines provides more opportunity and differing perspectives to understand and respond to the issue of sex trafficking. This would allow for more open communication and acceptance for the differing qualities that the profession has to offer during the provision of services. This begs the question; can we train students to appreciate the different expertise of each discipline in order to provide more comprehensive and effective services for victims/survivors of sex trafficking? If appreciation is not possible, this may imply that the discipline is more concerned with defending their discipline rather than providing services. While social work has acknowledge in this research that they are aware there are different values, does social work appreciate and accept the values.
Recommendations for Future Study

The researchers of this study have four recommendations for future studies regarding criminal justice and social work perspectives, knowledge, and collaboration related to the issue of human sex trafficking. First, review of the literature revealed that the passage of the CASE Act requires law enforcement officers to undergo two hours of human trafficking training. This training covers human trafficking as a whole, and while components may focus exclusively on human sex trafficking, it may be worthy to research whether or not human sex trafficking is sufficiently covered during the two-hour time. A future study of this nature may reveal that frontline law enforcement responders may need a more in depth and lengthy training.

The second recommendation is to further explore the opinions of current criminal justice and social work professionals in the field, rather than students of each discipline. This is due to the fact that students may be more naive to the realities of what it is like to actively be in their professions yet. While they have academic knowledge, they lack real world experience. Therefore, it is recommended that a study similar to this may be replicated but applied to working professionals in each discipline. Furthermore, it would be interesting to then do a comparison study between students and professionals to determine where the gaps in collaboration lie, with the hope that these gaps could be filled in an academic setting so that when students enter the field they are truly open to the idea of collaboration.

The third recommendation is to research what collaboration looks like from a victim/survivor’s perspective. Perhaps a study could be conducted which directly asks for
the consumers input. This would be helpful in determining whether or not their legal and social related needs are being met in a collaborative spirit.

The fourth and final recommendation is to study current collaborative programs to determine their effectiveness. For instance, agencies such as Community for Peace have collaborated with Citrus Heights, California law enforcement officers, and utilize an interdisciplinary approach by responding to domestic violence calls together. Community Against Sexual Harm (CASH) also utilizes a similar approach in their peer-based program; law enforcement officers and peer advocates have developed a partnership to meet the diverse needs of the sex worker community. It may be useful to explore whether or not this collaborative approach has been effective, and if so, perhaps these collaborative approaches could inform future agencies that wish to adopt a similar model.

**Study Limitations**

The limitations of this project are three-fold. First and foremost, the researchers of this study must acknowledge the imperfections and flaws within the data collection tool. One of the limitations within the data collection tool was the use of one double barreled question, which had to be discarded. Another limitation was that the researchers did not include a question that asked students where their knowledge on sex trafficking was acquired. By not doing so, it is difficult to determine whether or not their knowledge had been acquired within an academic setting or not. Lastly, several questions had to be thrown out because the students did not follow the directions, which specifically asked that they check the one box that best represents their beliefs. Instead, many students
check several boxes within each survey question. In hindsight, the researchers would have issued practice surveys to friends and family to determine the clarity of the survey.

A second limitation was the difficulty in obtaining responses from social work students. There were fewer social work students who participated in the survey, compared to criminal justice students. The researchers found it challenging in the sense that the criminal justice practicum classes were substantially larger than the social work practicum classes. This required the researchers to find nearly double the amount of social work professors willing to allow the researchers into their classrooms to distribute to the survey. Even then, the numbers remained slightly skewed, with a greater number of criminal justice respondents.

The third and final limitation faced by the researchers occurred during the literature review. It was difficult to obtain accurate statistics regarding the prevalence of human sex trafficking, due to the fact that it is secretive and clandestine. For as many victims/survivors that are accounted for, there is inevitably just as many who have not been identified. While finding general statistics was difficult in and of itself, it was even harder to try and find statistics for the Sacramento area. While news stations such as CBS listed statistics, there were very few scholarly, or agency produced statistics concerning the prevalence.

**Conclusion**

This research study indicated that collaboration between criminal justice and social work is a feasible notion. Furthermore, the research demonstrated that the two disciplines have different values and perspectives on human sex trafficking. The findings
of this study are demonstrative of each disciplines core values. Social work could be more value based. Therefore, their responses reflected a nonjudgmental and open-minded approach. Criminal justice could be factual based in their value system. Therefore, their responses reflected a more absolute dichotomy of the reality of human sex trafficking as well as the collaborative relationship with social work. Criminal justice values are more factual and positivist based whereas social work values are strengths based and humanistic. The value differences are significant in providing comprehensive services to victims/survivors of sex trafficking. Identifying the similarities and differences in the professions may offer more opportunities for effective collaboration to solve social problems. The findings indicated that the students do not view disagreements as common between disciplines, which implies an acceptance for the differing value systems. Acceptance and open-mindedness are key to interprofessional collaboration. The findings demonstrated the importance of providing interprofessional collaboration education in the undergraduate setting. This will provide a foundation for collaboration in the professional setting therefore improving outcomes for victims/survivors of human sex trafficking.
Appendix A

Consent Form

Same But Different? Criminal Justice and Social Work Student’s Perspectives in Human Sex Trafficking.

You are being invited to participate in a thesis research study, which will involve taking a brief survey about your knowledge and perspectives on human sex trafficking. The researchers, Bree Madron and Sally Garrison, are graduate students in the Division of Social Work at California State University, Sacramento.

The purpose of this study is to explore ways to improve interdisciplinary collaborations through a better understanding of different perspectives and approaches regarding human sex trafficking issues. This is a CSUS Human Subjects Review Committee approved study. If you decide to participate please answer the questions to the best of you ability.

Your participation in this study will take approximately 15 minutes. Your participation is voluntary, and you may withdraw at any point during the survey process. This is an anonymous study and all information collected will be treated confidential. No identifying information will be collected or disclosed without your permission. The data obtained will be secured in a safe and locked location, and will be destroyed after a period of one year.

There are no known risks in participating in this survey. The content is not designed to trigger an emotional response, and does not pose a greater risk than those encountered in a daily conversation on this topic.

Through the completion and submission of this survey, you have given us your implied consent to participate in this study.

For any further questions please contact Bree Madron at BreeMadron@csus.edu or Sally Garrison at Sag274@csus.edu. The supervising advisor, Dr. Fancis Yuen, can be contacted at fyuen@csus.edu.

We appreciate your time and knowledge.
Appendix B

Questionnaire

1. Are you 18 years of age or older?
   Yes    No

2. What is your gender?
   Female
   Male

3. What is your major?
   Criminal Justice
   Social Work

4. What is your current college classification?
   Junior
   Senior

5. Do you feel confident providing services to people who have been sex trafficked?
   Very Confident
   Confident
   Somewhat Confident
   Not Very Confident
   Not At All

6. What term would you use to describe people who have been involved in sex trafficking?
   (Check all that apply)
   Sex Worker
   Victim of Sex Trafficking
   Survivor of Sex Trafficking
   Prostitute
   Escort
   Other (please specify): ______

7. Which group is identified as being more vulnerable in becoming involved in sex trafficking:
   (Select only one per category)
   a. Ethnicity
      ☐ African American
      Caucasian
      Filipino
      Native Hawaiian
      American Indian
Asian and Pacific Islander
Hispanic/Latino

b. Gender
Male
Female
LGBTQ

c. Age Group
Children
Adolescents
Young Adults
Adult

8. Sacramento is considered one of the top destinations for human sex trafficking.  
   True    False

9. Please mark the extent to which you agree with the following statements:  
   (SA= Strongly Agree, A= Agree, D= Disagree, SD= Strongly Disagree, N/A= No Answer)

   Selling children into sex trafficking only occurs in third world countries.  
   SA   A   D   SD   NA

   Lack of stable family support puts people at higher risk for human trafficking.  
   SA   A   D   SD   NA

   Ethnic minorities are more vulnerable to human trafficking.  
   SA   A   D   SD   NA

   Prostitution is a life choice.  
   SA   A   D   SD   NA

10. Rate the importance of the following in addressing human sex trafficking:  
    (1= not at all important, 2= somewhat important, 3= undecided, 4= important, 5= very important)

    Direct Services
    a. Housing
    b. Therapy
    c. Life skills training
    d. Legal prosecution
    e. Job training
    f. Community outreach/education
Intervention Programs

a. Legal Rehabilitation
b. Stopping trafficker
c. Eliminating demand (purchasers)

Barriers to Services

a. Access to social services
b. Limited Funding
c. Inadequate Data Collection
d. Interdisciplinary Collaboration
e. Limited Training for providers
f. Cultural Competence of providers
g. Lack of services
h. Mistrust of Criminal Justice personnel

11. On a scale of 1 to 4 (1=Strongly Disagrees, 2=Disagree, 3=Agree, 4=Strongly Agree, N/A=Non-applicable), please rate the following areas in regards to social workers and criminal justice/law enforcement personnel (Interprofessional Education Collaborative Expert Panel 2011; Kenaszchuk, Reeves, Nicholas & Zwarenstein 2010).

A. I believe social workers and law enforcement personnel have good understand of each other’s responsibilities.
B. The sharing of information between these two professionals are usually well organized and effective.
C. Disagreements between these two professions are common.
D. These two professions have similar values in solving social problems
E. These two professions have similar idea of how to treat individuals who were trafficked.
F. Social workers and law enforcement personnel are open to the idea of collaboration.

G. Collaboration between professionals is a good but not feasible idea.

H. Each profession believes their own work is more important than that of the other profession.

I. Time is better spent in providing our profession’s valuable services to the clients than on interdisciplinary team or care plan meetings.

Thank you for your time and knowledge!
References


