SOCIAL WORKERS’ PREVENTATIVE ROLES IN SEX TRAFFICKING

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SOCIAL WORKERS' PREVENTATIVE ROLES IN SEX TRAFFICKING

A Project

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Division of Social Work
Abstract

of

SOCIAL WORKERS’ PREVENTATIVE ROLES IN SEX TRAFFICKING

By

Hannah Therese Langshaw

Sex trafficking is a social problem that affects every country in the world. The demand for sex workers is growing and it is becoming increasingly easier to traffic women and children within and across borders throughout the world. This study examines the socialization of men towards sex within societies that influences this increase in demand for sex-slave trafficking and has brought forth possibilities in which social workers might work to prevent the occurrence of sex trafficking. It highlights these possibilities in the three levels of practice within social work: micro, mezzo, and macro. Emphasis is placed on what has been done to address the demand as well as what needs to be further focused on.

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Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

Problem

Sex-slave trafficking is a developing social problem that has been growing as the demand continues to increase (Hodge, 2008). Sex-slave trafficking is fueled by the increasing male demand for sex workers throughout the world. The male demand for sex-slave trafficking is defined as men who seek to solicit prostitution and the sex industry beyond the norm of prostitution within the jurisdiction of the man’s own country leads to the trafficking of women and children to areas that are filled with these men (Yen, 2008). Sex-slave trafficking impacts every country in the world in some form as countless women and children are kidnapped, coerced, or tricked into this dehumanizing industry. The only way to solve a social problem as this is to target the source of the problem; and that is the male demand. Important preventative procedures must be considered when looking at ways to combat the demand, such as educational and legislative measures (Yen, 2008).

The problem of sex-slave trafficking must be addressed by international governmental collaboration aimed at combating sex-slave trafficking as well as the demand. US policy constructed in 2002 is aimed at addressing the demand through special attention to prostitution and the attempt at the abolition of prostitution. The issuance of the US Trafficking in Persons Report (TIP) is a collaborative measure involving guidelines in which governments in countries from all over the world are encouraged to take action in combating human trafficking (TIP, 2008). The ultimate goal
of this report is to free those who are trapped in slave-like conditions. Other countries have done well in its efforts in combating sex-slave trafficking such as Sweden, who has abolished prostitution and the commercial sex trade, where others have not done so well such as Amsterdam, who has legalized prostitution in hopes that trafficking would lessen. There are still other countries that will not cooperate in the fight against sex-slave trafficking such as Moldova, where the demand is high and poverty is rampant (TIP, 2008).

The researcher became interested in the topic of sex-slave trafficking prevention as she became more aware of this global social problem through an international missions conference in Cincinnati, Ohio on New Years of 2008/2009 where an organization presented on the issue. As she began to explore this topic she began to see the immense need to fight sex-slave trafficking around the world. Ever since, she has immersed herself in gaining more knowledge on ways to prevent the increasing spread of it. Through gaining knowledge on this topic she has noticed that not much emphasis has been placed on the demand side of the spectrum; though this is the preliminary cause of the problem. She believes that through more research on this topic, social workers will be able to more effectively advocate for their clients as well as introduce new policy to the legislature that will impose stricter sanctions on those who purchase from the sex industry.

Background

Sex-slave trafficking is not a new social problem but rather has become an increasing business prospectus for organized crime (Hodge, 2008). The demand is increasing and the demand for younger victims is growing. Hodge estimated that of all
human trafficking victims in the world 50 percent are children and 70 percent to 80 percent are female. Hodge stated further that among females, roughly 70 percent are trafficked for prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation. In addition, Yen (2008) states that the demand for “something new” and “exotic” is the cause of trafficking women from various countries all over the world, and especially from Eastern and Central Europe. This demand for particular populations causes an immense increase in sex-slave trafficking.

The popularity of buying sex varies in different countries, for example in Great Britain it is a low of 7% while in Thailand it is a high of 73%. This variance in popularity among different countries can be attributed to the socialization of men within these countries (Yen 2008). Yen states that in certain countries it is considered acceptable and at times even appropriate for a male to purchase sex as a normal part of being a man. The ideology that “men will be men” assumes that it is necessary for a male to satisfy his biological needs when necessary. The problem with this ideology is that, with social acceptance, men are allowed to fulfill their needs in unhealthy means through exploitation of women and children.

An example of this ideology of the socialization of men in this way is through a historical practice by men over 100 years ago as well as presently in India that was considered a form of worship. It was expected that a man would go to the temple daily to have sex with the devadasi, which translates to “god’s servants.” Families in these villages would often give a daughter, normally at the age of 12, as an offering to the gods. By doing this they believed that they would be blessed. This was a common practice
where families would sell their daughters to the temples who would become “married” to
Hindu gods. Centuries prior, the role of a devadasi was that of a celibate nature where she
would perform ceremonies and chores in the temple, but the role then changed to that of a
sex-slave (Grant, 2007).

Rationale

The problem of male demand is an area that needs to be addressed in order for
sex-slave trafficking to stop. It needs to be addressed through each culture and society in
a way that shows it is not acceptable to exploit women and children in this way. The
greatest ways to do this are through educating people on this topic and letting them know
it is not an acceptable practice as well as introducing policy to the legislature to fight sex-
slave trafficking. The most appropriate ways to deal with males who participate or are
likely participators in this behavior is to provide educational materials or classes as well
as rehabilitation programs that will reform their thinking and action in relation to this
topic. In order to prevent the occurrence of sex-slave trafficking it is most important to
invoke stricter penalties on those who purchase sex through the introduction of new
policy to the legislature.

In writing this Master’s Project, the author hopes to educate social workers on the
need to address the male demand side of sex-slave trafficking to bring awareness and
necessary change in society and the thought process of this area in society. The author
also hopes to provide policy recommendations for change on a national level as well as
global that will provide a basis and means to address the prevention of sex-slave
trafficking. In evaluating this area she would like to look at the preventative measures
that can be taken in the examination of rehabilitation and other possible alternative options in treating those who purchase sex. Through all of these applications, the author hopes to bring about new awareness to the field of social work education and social work practices and how social workers can participate in the prevention and eradication of male demand for sex-slave trafficking.

**Theoretical Framework**

Social Construction Theory, as cited by Payne (2008), describes how knowledge and understanding of aspects of society are formed and constructed within a society. The theory shows how these views can impact the culture, belief system, and history of a society. Payne explained the impact of how a society can impress a certain ideology within a society. Essentially, this theory stresses how people receive their knowledge from people around them as well as relationships that influence them. It looks at how a society’s views can completely construct the way persons from this society will function.

Social Construction Theory best fits with the research focus being conducted by this author because it examines how society views and constructs a belief system about a certain social problem. In societies that believe it is a normal and acceptable practice to purchase sex, there will be higher incidences of sex-slave trafficking to meet the demand. In societies that strongly look down on the purchase of sex there will be less incidences of sex-slave trafficking to meet the demand. In the cases of the societies that range in between these two extremes, there is a variety of repercussions. From traveling to different countries to purchase sex in order to escape consequences in the society to those
who view the purchase of sex as “not a big deal”, it is obvious that there are problems with the ways in which these societies have been constructed.

If we were to look at each society on this scale and rate it according to its level of tolerance on this issue, we would see a wide range of belief systems. Because of this fact it is important to delve into how each society is socially constructed by their culture and history. Once we are able to do that we can address how each society views the problem of sex-slave trafficking as well as the purchase of sex. Through this aspect we can begin to change how a society sees this social problem to make it aware that it is a larger problem than what is known. Through Social Construction Theory we can begin to shape how societies view the issue of sex-slave trafficking and in turn reduce the male demand through this knowledge.
Chapter 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

Introduction

In order to fully understand the concept and manifestation of sex-slave trafficking one must delve into the historical context of human sexuality as well as the exploitation of women in early history and present history. If we begin to look at these aspects of societies over a long period, we will find many similarities as well as differences in how societies perceive sex and the levels of normalcy different eras felt with it. The literature analyzes various historians and psychologists points of view on the study of the history of sexuality and its prevalence throughout time. It also looks at perceptions of different cultures as well as religions to particular sex practices. The literature also seeks to discover the discrepancies in how women have been exploited throughout history. It illustrates how through this exploitation of women, a society’s view on certain issues can cause extreme harm to women and their roles in society.

As studied by psychoanalysts such as Freud (1905), sexuality is hard to fully define and conceptualize, and can only be attempted to articulate. Freud explained that sexuality must incorporate the methods of the theory of the unconscious. He believed that the state of the unconscious always wants something that is fundamentally sexual. This theory has been highly scrutinized and somewhat contradicted by other studiers of sexuality, such as Foucault (1987). Foucault accepted the theory of the unconscious by disregarded the idea that sexuality had anything to do with it. Foucault studied the social
construction of sexuality and how through social organizations was changed over time. Foucault states that sexuality is a form of “problematicization” where “an experience concerning truth and falsehood is formed, where the relation to self and to others is linked” (Hammill, 2005, p. 2). This assertion states that sexuality is truly defined by the individual and what they perceive it to be.

In defining and studying human sexuality, it is important to note the increasing diversity in sexuality that has developed all over the world. This is highly prevalent when examining globalization and how it has contributed to the diversity in sexuality and how societies perceive it. Some examples of this include the spread of HIV/AIDS, sexual tourism, the control of population, and the rights and roles of women in non-industrialized societies. In order to understand sexuality one must consider the perceptions of intimacy and eroticism, and how certain social interactions shape different cultures of societies, and what they believe about these two desertions. Sexual identifications continue to remain hierarchical in relation to power structures throughout societies. These power structures are based on the fundamental classifiers gender, class, age, race, and ethnicity. Though this is seen more blatantly throughout history it is still obvious in most all of today’s societies (Weeks, 2005).

Throughout history the concept of sexuality has been constantly scrutinized as well as highly regulated by those who were in power. Every aspect of the way a person acted in a society was in turn related as their identity; and a person’s personality defined their identity. The pre-modern notion of identity is based on religious terms or social terms such as certain behaviors or sins, including sexual sins. The post-modern ideology
of identity is based on perceptions of your internal self and how it relates to your sexuality. Through these identities people form their sexual desires which can encompass a variety of emotions from lust to domination. It is said that sexual desire is socially constructed through a society’s basic beliefs, customs, and culture. In spite of a society’s “rules” and morale regarding sexual desire, many times what is seen as forbidden stimulates desire through modes such as fantasies and pornography. This sexual desire is then seen as an uncontrollable force that must be satisfied. These uncontrollable desires are often projected in such a way that undermines the society’s rules about morale or at times is accepted by the society as normal. In any case these desires are then carried out by the dominant population often causing harm to other populations. An example of this is an elite white man who raped his slaves as an exertion of his power (Clark, 2005).

Through the exploration of the exploitation of women, one must delve into the direct causes and beginnings of the ideation of patriarchy. Much literature expresses the direct cause of exploitation and degradation of women is highly due to the system of patriarchy and its development throughout history. Judith Bennett exudes that patriarchy is the “central problem of women’s history” as well as “one of the greatest general problems of all history” (Gardiner, 2007, p. 1). This exertion implies that the concept of exploitation of women and the prevalence of the system of patriarchy has existed as a predominant ideology through an immeasurable period of time in history. The core definition of patriarchy, as is expressed by Sylvia Walby, is one that states it is a “system by which men dominate, oppress and exploit women” (Gardiner, 2007, p. 1). This definition gives a distinct understanding of the nature of patriarchy throughout history. It
has been noted by feminists that the system of patriarchy has constructed what is seen as the nature of a woman. Patriarchy defines a woman’s nature as one who should be submissive, meet all of the needs of her husband, and conceive and nurture children. These preconceptions of women have in turn limited their function and role within societies and have caused harmful effects to women throughout history. Some of these harmful effects include a woman’s vulnerability to rape as well as violent attack. It is suggested that this is an effect of patriarchy because of the perceived notion that a woman is weaker than a man and is unable to defend herself, which in turn has a psychological effect on the woman to not defend herself (Gardiner, 2007).

The system of patriarchy has quite often ignored and discredited many of the important roles women played in society throughout history. Starting with earlier history, patriarchal ideology has conformed women’s roles to that of strictly the homemaker and child bearer. These roles were not looked on as gravely important in that of recognition of accomplishment and success. Rather these roles defined the woman in that if she did not play these roles well she would be shunned. Never at one point would she be treated with respect in that of an equal because of her accomplishments. In examining the more recent history of the 19th century, the roles of women varied across class lines, but it was evident that there were discrepancies within each class. Women from the working-class during this era were often ignored in the roles they played as caterers, cleaners, and even in sexual services they provided to upper classes. This class was seen obviously as less than worthy of recognition and deserved their circumstances. Even the lower-middle-class women, who began to serve as shop and secretarial workers, as well as consumers, were
shunned for not sticking to their original roles as homemakers. The upper-middle-class women had more of a power to do as she wished as long as she continued to stay within the role she had with her husband. Often this class of women would contribute to events held by men through fund-raising as well as other business transactions that were extremely vital to the existence of organizations and functions held by the men. These women’s efforts were never recognized as accomplishments of their own but rather were seen as made possible by her husband or head of the organization (Davidoff, 2003).

In examining today’s ideology in relation to patriarchy it is best described through the politics of gender construct. The basic theory behind this is who gets what and when and who has the power. In these terms, there is a power struggle that exists today between gender, class, and ethnicity. In terms of gender, it is obvious that the dominant party is men; and it is men who have the authority to distinguish what is important, and whether or not a matter dealing with exploitation of women is of importance. Much of how to deal with a matter such as this is constructed by male dominant theory and suggestion. Much of how women are exploited today is overlooked due to many societies’ perception of sexual relationships. Many of the inequalities and exploitations of women are not due in large to lack of job attainment or credibility as much as it was throughout history, but is now shifting to the sexual relationship itself (Jonasdottir, 2001). Jonasdottir added that women are exploited in a number of ways that society views as generally tolerable and does not seek to deal with the source of the issues due to the male dominance. Examples of this exploitation are pornography and prostitution, especially in terms of human
trafficking, and how there is a lack of regulation of these matters due to the dominant male’s view of the lack of importance of this matter.

Through this researcher’s examination of the literature available on prevention of sex-slave trafficking, she has found that there is not enough emphasis placed on addressing and preventing the male demand. Most of the prevention literature addresses the women and children that are most likely victims. The small amount of literature that she found that addressed male demand primarily focused on the social aspects and repercussions of male demand. In attempting to cover the vast array of measures in relation to this topic she came up with three themes she found in the literature that address male demand and discuss avenues of prevention. These three themes are education and rehabilitation of offenders, policy and legislation enacted to prevent or prosecute, and the role that social workers play in prevention.

The purpose of this literature review is to examine possible avenues of reducing the male demand for sex-slave trafficking. In exploring this topic this review will focus in depth on each of these themes in its relation to reducing the male demand. The primary application of this literature will be to gain a greater knowledge on each of these themes and in turn, through the compilation of these facts, produce a source of information that will contribute to the eradication of male demand for the sex industry. It is hopeful that this knowledge will bring to light new ideas for policy as well as social work trends that can be contributed to the field of social work. It is also hopeful that through this study of literature, society will see the need for a newly constructed society that highly values women and children and does not seek to exploit them.
Yen (2007) discussed that when evaluating those who solicit the sale of sex we must conjure what should be done with this population. What is the best procedure to deal with those that fuel the demand for sex-slave trafficking? At the present moment perpetrators of the market of prostitution are often either given a small fine or serve a small amount of time in jail for the crime. Solicitors of child prostitution on the other hand are often charged with high sentences in prison for their crimes. As it is dually noted these penalties often do not contribute to the need to stop the perpetrator from offending again. What is necessary to prevent the offense from re-occurring is education and rehabilitation of the offenders. The literature found on this area discusses the education and rehabilitation of offenders of sexual crimes. The lack of literature in treating solicitors of prostitution and in turn sex-slave trafficking is stagnant. Through the discussion of the literature on the treatment of sexual offenders, it is hopeful that some methods will be developed in how better to educate and rehabilitate solicitors of sex. In order to best evaluate this discussion it is best to first address the question, is human trafficking demand driven? Once this question is addressed through literature we will see the necessary need to continue with the discussion.

The concept of whether sex-slave trafficking is demand driven is not easily measurable on a certain level. It is hard to conceptualize on any level, or to truly evaluate its origins on any sector. It might help to examine what is meant by the term demand driven. The demand for sex-slave trafficking does not always necessarily lie within the terms of trafficking. O’Connell Davidson (2006) illustrates this concept by showing
through her writings that in some cases men who choose to purchase sex would just as soon purchase what is called “free” sex where the woman chooses to be a prostitute. Though this is true, when we discuss what is meant by the demand side of sex-slave trafficking we are examining the cases that involve the demand for younger girls from specific parts of the world, as well as the number of women that is necessary to keep up with the amount of customers that have begun to grow. Often times in cases such as tourism, we see that the supply influences the demand. The more available a commodity is and the more normalized it becomes the more likely someone is to purchase it. When people travel to other countries they often come into a world that states, “you need to buy sex, it is what a real man needs.” Through this ideal, the sex industry flourishes and convinces people it is an acceptable practice to buy sex.

The primary inducer of the demand side of sex-slave trafficking is social construction (Cheung, 1997). How a particular culture or society perceives the solicitation of prostitution by men is most likely to shape the perception of customers to this industry. If a man sees it as normal or what “real men” do it is likely that they will engage further in this practice. However if it is highly looked down upon in a society, the prevalence of the act is not as likely as in societies that perceive it as normal. An example of this truism is in examining the two different cultures of Danish and Indian men. In the Danish culture it is perceived as acceptable to solicit sex at a massage parlor whereas in the Indian culture it is acceptable to solicit sex from a brothel. In looking at trafficking as the demand it is important to consider that racism, xenophobia, and prejudice play a large role in making it more acceptable for the clients to engage in this behavior. Many of the
sex tourists believe that those who are in the sex business are lesser beings than themselves or those who come from their country of origin (Anderson & Davidson, 2003).

Before delving into educational and rehabilitation programs necessary for offenders it is helpful to discuss the motivations Johns have in purchasing sex. There are four types of Johns as expressed by Yen (2008). First, Yen discusses the “Negative Compulsive” men do not enjoy sex with prostitutes but still solicit commercial sex. Second, “Positive Compulsive” men enjoy the sex but have attempted to stop. Third, “Positive Accepting” men enjoy sex with prostitutes, do not try to stop, and generally support legalization of prostitution. Fourth, “Socially Inadequate” men are the stereotypical johns who are shy and socially awkward (p. 672). In looking at these different types of motivation and different types of men, we see that there should be a variety of education and rehabilitation services available. These programs need to address the fundamental factors involved when a John purchases sex. Factors such as the continuous exposure and availability of exploitative material such as pornography and strip clubs, the ideology that it is a natural male behavior to purchase sex, and the health risks that are associated with the purchase of sex (Yen, 2008).

Yen (2008) has evaluated two different education and rehabilitation programs that have shown immense effectiveness in reducing the male demand. One of the programs was a three year study aimed at Philippine men ages 17-18 who were truck drivers that had solicited at least one sexual act from a prostitute. The program enlisted workshops which exhibited, “the harm of prostitution and trafficking, men’s roles in perpetuating
sexual exploitation and trafficking, and men’s roles as catalysts for change” (675). Upon completion of the program the facilitators of the program as well as the men recognized that they had learned a great deal about the sex industry and would most likely not solicit sex again. To be sure of the findings the conductors of the study, CATW, intend to follow up with the participants of the study over a period of five years.

The other education and rehabilitation program was centered in San Francisco where the criminal justice system focused on the demand side of prostitution through the First Offender Prostitution Program (FOPP). This program proposed that a first time offender would receive a citation and were offered the opportunity to pay a $500 fee and attend FOPP. This program was an all day educational and rehabilitation program where the fees would go to pay for social and health services for former and current prostitutes. In one survey conducted among 747 participants, 100% said that they learned something new while 97% said that it is unlikely they would solicit a prostitute again. Of the 2200 men who attended the FOPP program between 1997 and 2001, only 18 were rearrested for soliciting prostitutes. For those re-offenders other methods of treatment are necessary such as stiffer legal penalties, sex-addiction rehabilitation, and counseling services (Yen, 2008). These two treatment approaches show that it is possible to address the male demand as well as continue to prevent it through programs such as these. For those who cannot be rehabilitated through these means other forms of treatment should be addressed.

There is a variety of treatment approaches for sexual offenders that the literature exhibits. Most of these treatment approaches tend to use one basic theory for practice,
and that is the Cognitive Behavioral Theory. When using this theory to rehabilitate sexual offenders, therapists tend to focus on the following factors presented by Vivian-Byrne (2004): “the problems are cognitive distortions, maladaptive arousal, poor social skills, lack of empathy, and low self-esteem linked to the offending behavior; change in all these areas, particularly the belief system, is required” (p. 184). Once it is seen that the offender has changed both cognitively as well as behaviorally it is known that the treatment has worked. This type of therapy is a long process that can depend upon the offender’s situation as to how in depth his treatment should be. The process of restructuring the offender’s way of thinking and his distorted beliefs toward intimacy is easier to achieve rather than the behavioral restructuring. This process can take years to form and requires active participation by the offender in order that the therapeutic techniques accomplish the goal of behavior modification (Vivian-Byrne, 2004).

A specific treatment program called the Sexual Behavior Intervention Program uses the same cognitive behavioral approach but adds to it a psycho-educational as well as an empathetic approach to its treatment base. This treatment approach incorporates three treatment assumptions presented by Roeseman, et. Al. (2008): that the offender will “take responsibility for his actions, demonstrate empathy, and decrease thinking distortions and positively alter his behavior” (p. 301). In addition to these treatment assumptions, the offender also has the opportunity to see an empathetic perspective on how victims feel and how to avoid recurrent behaviors. Through this treatment program, therapists are able to continuously assess the offender to be sure that this type of treatment is adequate to the offender’s case. If longer term, more intensive therapy is
needed, the offender will be referred there. This program states three of its main goals, “to reduce recidivism among first-time offenders who successfully complete the program; create an effective alternative to incarceration; and educate community members, victims, and offenders about sexual offenses, sexuality, addictions, and opportunities for reform and rehabilitation” (p. 305). These goals are helpful in assessing the need to involve all members of society in the process of how offenders are dealt with.

Another treatment approach addressed in literature by Moulden & Marshall (2005) is Hope Theory. Hope Theory involves goal attainment mixed with planning to meet the goals, with an emphasis on “agent” changing. This theory recognizes the offender as the agent of change and equips with the ability to make changes. Once the offender is given hope that change can occur, he begins to believe that he can change. Hope theory takes into consideration the barriers to hope and how this can influence an offender’s mood. It also takes into consideration developmental issues in hope and how this might contribute to their level of goal attainment. If someone has experienced a childhood in which hopelessness is dominant in their environment, they are going to have a more difficult time as an adult to achieve goals. Hope theory also integrates hope with coping skills through teaching an offender to cope with life without resorting to criminal offenses. This theory also incorporates parts of the Cognitive Behavioral Approach highlighting the need to restructure a way of thinking. Through the combination of hope and goal attainment, it is expected by therapists that change will occur in offenders based on their level of hope and availability of treatment. Through this discussion of literature it is obvious that sex-slave trafficking is demand driven; even if it is not blatantly seen as the
primary concern. In discussing what types of education and rehabilitation models have been attempted to educate Johns we see that it is possible for change to occur within societies that do not see this as a problem as well as those that do. We see through the different theoretical therapeutic approaches used to treat sexual offenders, possibilities in treating those who solicit sex. These possibilities could lead to a safer and more productive society, which places a higher value on women and children regardless of their country of origin. We also see that through these approaches to treating offenders it is very necessary to evaluate policy and legislation that will put into place programs such as these, as well as enforce the eradication of the human trade.

Policy and Legislation Enacted to Prevent or Prosecute

The issue of sex-slave trafficking heavily impacts the formulation and enactment of policy and legislation all over the world. Because sex-slave trafficking is a global problem, many countries have made an immense effort at establishing policies that deal with it on many levels. When addressing sex-slave trafficking, most legislation focuses on prosecuting traffickers, providing aid to victims, and preventing the trafficking of victims. Though many countries have addressed this problem, there are still many who have not, and who refuse to do so. The literature discusses the various forms of legislation and policy enacted by the United States as well as some of those enacted by other countries. It will discuss the pros and cons of each country’s legislation as well as use a collaborative effort on deciding which policies combined may help in the eradication of human trafficking. The legislation discussed will focus on the policy’s
intention of prevention of sex-slave trafficking or prosecution of traffickers as well as solicitors.

The United States has created the Department of State’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons whose goal is to monitor the modern day slave trade. This department compiles a Trafficking in Persons Report every year that examines the efforts of various countries at addressing human trafficking. The report also highlights different forms of trafficking as well as the different aspects of specific cases of human trafficking. It examines policies within the US as well as some of those within other countries. The primary function of this report is to monitor the cooperation of countries around the world in how they deal with human trafficking. When a country does not comply with the minimum standards, the US may withhold non-humanitarian, non-trade-related foreign assistance. Countries that do not receive this assistance already would withhold funding for educational and cultural exchange programs. These sanctions can be waived if the country agrees to comply at a later point. The Department of State will use this as a tool to find ways in which it can help these countries through assistance programs that will improve their addressing of human trafficking. In the case that the country does not want to comply regardless the US will impose the above sanctions (TIP, 2008).

The first US federal law used to fight human trafficking was the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, which states its purpose is to combat human trafficking through punishing traffickers, protecting victims, and preventing trafficking from occurring (TIP, 2008). This law helped to enforce that of the Thirteenth Amendment, which abolishes slavery, as it relates to human trafficking. This act helped to bring
victims needed resources to rebuild their lives. The amended 2003 Act increased penalties for convicted traffickers and strengthened the rights of the trafficked victim. These rights included the ability of the victim to file federal civil suits against the traffickers. The next Act of 2005 amended the previous two by allowing there to be services for the victim that included hotlines in which a victim can call, shelters that would be equipped to provide services in the language of the victim, as well as databases that would monitor human trafficking more closely. States are also beginning to establish anti-trafficking legislation, but at a slow rate. Washington is among the first to establish anti-trafficking legislation, and is setting the tide for the other states. In States such as New York, where human trafficking is a huge problem, legislative measures are developed that address many of the same issues presented in the federal Acts, but provide a much needed state mandate that will pertain to more local efforts (Hogan, 2008).

The United States’ effort at combating human trafficking has become a progressive one, but still has a ways to go in adequately addressing and preventing the problem. The effort of the TIP Report has progressed over the years to encompass many more countries that are now fighting against human trafficking, but there are still ways that it could improve. One of the weaknesses of enforcing the TIP guidelines on other countries is through its inability to address the extravagant amount of poverty that exists in that country. Without addressing the at times source of the problem of human trafficking, it is hard to truly prevent it from occurring. If the US determined that it was important to address the prevalence of extreme poverty in some of these countries, its sanctions and policies would be more effective in addressing human trafficking. Another
noted weakness in this Report is its lack of cultural awareness regarding each country. These sanctions imposed do not always take into account the views and cultural aspects of each country that would better help in addressing the problem (Desyllas, 2007).

Through the establishment of the federal acts used to combat human trafficking, it is noted that there is a gradual progression in the establishment of the laws. In examining the lack of legislation of every state it is obvious that there should be a mandate that requires every state to have its own human trafficking legislation. This legislation should encompass the following: the establishment of a task force that would assist the victim with many necessary resources, including the empowerment to take control of their lives again; a new rule of evidence that protects trafficking victims in the criminal trial process as they are encouraged to participate; a safe haven for witnesses who are willing to testify; mental rehabilitation restitution paid by the traffickers themselves providing lifelong treatment for victims; law enforcement training for state and local agencies in order that they know how to identify human trafficking; and making traffickers responsible for their actions (Hogan, 2008). In addition to this proposal to enact legislation that will combat human trafficking on the federal as well as state level it is important to specifically address the demand side of sex-slave trafficking in legislation. The most effective action would be to enact legislation similar to that of Sweden’s Prohibition Act, which has shown extreme success is fighting sex-slave trafficking (Yen, 2008).

When examining the various approaches countries have attempted in combating sex-slave trafficking, Sweden has taken the lead in its effectiveness. The Swedish law
exclaims that prostitution is a form of male sexual violence against women and children, and seeks to criminalize men who solicit these acts. This law also encompasses that of the extraterritorial meaning when a Swedish man travels to a different country to purchase a sex act he is penalized and is held to the same standard as he would in his own country (Hodge, 2008). Through the implementation of Sweden’s Prohibition Act, after approximately two years, Sweden experienced a significant 75% decrease in the john population and a 50% decline in the number of female prostitutes. Along with the establishment of the Act, Sweden launched a public education campaign that resulted in an increase in the approval of the Act. The promotion of this Act caused a significant impact within Sweden, resulting in the boost of morale of the society as a whole. It informed members of their society of the harms of sex-slave trafficking to the victims as well as the solicitors (Yen, 2008). One of the downfalls of this legislation is the potential increase in human trafficking in neighboring countries because of this Act’s implementation. Through this statement, it is imperative that neighboring countries adopt a similar type of legislation.

Historically prostitution was legal in Sweden where brothels and massage parlors were rampant throughout its cities. The numbers of women and children trafficked into the country as well as the levels of prostitution of local girls were high. These high rates drastically changed when the Prohibition Act was enacted in 1999. A policy such as this was only made possible through the restructuring of how Swedish society saw prostitution and the solicitors of the act. By looking at the solicitor of prostitution as the perpetrator and the prostitute as a victim in need of help, it is easier to curb the levels of
prostitution by helping the prostitute rather than criminalize her. Through reframing the way societies within different countries view prostitution with the application of educational measures, a policy such as this has a greater chance at succeeding within the country it is implemented. This type of restructuring of a society’s view from being primarily patriarchal to one that encompasses a woman’s view was made possible due to the fact that 50 percent of the parliament is now occupied by women (De Santis, 2000).

The problem of sex-slave trafficking in Sweden is now primarily in its imports of women, which is drastically lower now than before the law was implemented, rather than its exports of women. Sweden is a destination country where women and children are trafficked from countries such as Estonia, Russia, Poland, Albania, Slovakia, Nigeria, Hungary, Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Venezuela, and Thailand for sexual exploitation. Sweden is currently on the TIP’s Tier 1 list as being fully compliant with the regulations. The primary problem that Sweden has faced when dealing with trafficking is that victims are brought into the country. Sweden has adopted a law that will allow the victim to have a period of 30 days to decide whether they will comply with law enforcement or return to their home country. The Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), as part of their prevention efforts, began awareness-building projects in Yugoslavia, Romania, Albania, and Bulgaria. The organization also contributed money to a project to counter trafficking in Brazil. The Swedish National Defense Ministry adopted new regulations, helping to construct and educational campaign giving anti-trafficking information to Swedish troops deployed as international peacekeepers (TIP, 2008).
Russia is one of the major suppliers of sex-slave trafficking victims around the world. The demand for victims from this area is high, and with the downturn of the economy since the collapse of the Soviet Union, women and children from this region have become an easy target. Since the fall of the Soviet Union, citizens of the country have been quite enumerated with their newfound freedoms; one of these freedoms including sex. Many citizens of Russia did not receive sex education in school and do not understand the implications and consequences of having multiple sex partners. Citizens have also glorified the occupation of a prostitute as being that of one for an independent and self-sufficient woman. The perception by the average citizen of those who are trafficked from Russia is that it was the victim’s fault for being naïve. Still posters fill the cities of Russia with advertisements for young women 16-29 years old, 25-35 percent of whom are college students, recruiting young girls for jobs overseas as models, dancers, and hostesses, tricking thousands of women into the sex trade (Schuckman, 2006).

Law enforcement officials in Russia are known to be very corrupt and often accept bribes. A legislator, Svetlana Zhukova, in the Khabarovsk regional parliament, stated that “the average company that engages in trafficking nets $100,000 a month, of which 50 to 70 percent goes to Russian government entities for licenses and bribes” (Schuckman, 2006). Local officials also do not want to address the issue of sex-slave trafficking as is evident in their prosecution rates of traffickers. Of the 40 cases that were brought against traffickers in Russia, only two were filed. Even when not bribed, local law enforcement claims ignorance of the problem of sex-slave trafficking. Due to the corruption of government officials, NGOs, such as the Angel Coalition based in Moscow,
are heavily relied upon for any program relating to helping eradicate human trafficking. This NGO is highly involved in the activism to fight sex-slave trafficking as well as working for women’s rights in Russia (Schuckman, 2006).

Currently Russia remains on TIP’s Tier 2 watch list due to the fact that it is making some effort in confronting human trafficking but is not compliant with minimum standards. Russia has some forms of anti-trafficking laws but are not as adequately enforced, and hands over responsibility to its NGOs, who it provides little funding to (TIP, 2008). The laws in Russia that have been up for debate in the past within the legislature were that of the legalization of prostitution which did not pass due to the Russian Orthodox Church and the Communist party who were strongly against legalization and the banning of escort services from advertising newspapers. Though the banning of escort services passed, it continued to prevail within the country due to the corruption of government officials and law enforcement (Hughes, et. Al., 1999). In cases like this that involve a country so extravagantly impacted by human trafficking, but is facing economic hardship as well as a need for the reeducation of society and better monitoration of government officials, we see an immense need for adequate legislation enactment as well as enforcement.

_The Role Social Workers Play in Prevention_

Sex-slave trafficking is a major human rights violation as is exhibited through the UN Declaration of Human Rights. Article 4 states, “No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms” (General Assembly resolution 217 A (III), 1948). This is a universal declaration of human rights,
which indicates that every human being on this earth is entitled to these rights. It is due to these rights that it has become a requirement that the field of social work address the issue of sex-slave trafficking. It is in the NASW Code of Ethics (2008) that it is an ethical principle that social workers challenge social injustice, “Social workers pursue social change, particularly with and on behalf of vulnerable and oppressed individuals and groups of people.” This statement made by the NASW defines this need that social workers must fight the social injustice of sex-slave trafficking. The role that Social Workers play in the prevention of sex-slave trafficking is so great that it encompasses every level of social work practice, the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. Each of these levels in which social workers represent will be discussed in the literature. The purpose of looking at each level within the literature is to see how social work has played a role in the past as well as what social workers can bring to the field in the future, no matter which level they choose to work in.

The micro level of social work deals primarily with direct client contact and case management. Micro level practice works with clients on holistic levels involving meeting basic as well as psychological needs and providing the necessary resources to meet those needs. Social workers working on this level can contribute largely to the prevention of sex-slave trafficking through their work with clients. The clients worked with when addressing the issue to sex-slave trafficking are the victims as well as the perpetrators. The social worker on this level is the link between the recovery of society, one person at a time. Through the accumulation of adequate resources to better serve these populations, social workers will be better equipped with the knowledge on how to treat as well as refer
clients to the appropriate services. Victims of trafficking need two primary types of assistance: recovery and empowerment. Victims need time to be allowed to recover from their traumatic experience and once they have become stable, need to be empowered to live a self-sustaining life.

In helping a victim recover from sex-slave trafficking, it is necessary that the social worker keep in mind that the victim will need loving support throughout the entire process. This type of recovery is exhibited well through the establishment of a Home where the victim is told it is now her home and is treated like a family member in the home by the staff. She is embraced by all members of the home and is given the tools to recover from her tragedy. A social worker attempting to establish a home such as this will take those victims who have nowhere else to go, no family to return to upon their rescue, and give them a sense of family. The staff should include that of a social worker, psychologist, house mom, cooks, teachers, and personnel who stay at the home and provide moral support and friendships. Another important aspect that is beneficial in the recovery of a victim is in teaching her about her spirituality and how she can rely on God to help her through this process. This type of home can be a long process to build but returns so much reward through showing the victim that she has worth and is loveable again. This type of establishment should not be overlooked or questioned as worth the expense, but should be looked at as a necessary aspect in the recovery of our society. Social workers have a large role in establishing homes such as these, and are needed in stepping up to the responsibility that this holds (Project Rescue experience, 2009).
The other aspect social workers on this level work effectively in preventing sex-slave trafficking is through empowerment. Empowerment through education, vocational training, and self-esteem building skills will provide the victim with the means to become self-sustaining. If given this opportunity, women who have been trafficked or are likely to become trafficked have a greater chance at resisting the lure or manipulation traffickers offer. This is accomplished through job-training skills that the woman is able to do in her country of origin or her newly relocated home. Another effective area is educating the women by the provision of scholarships or grants that allow them to enter schools or universities that will provide them with otherwise unattainable influence in their communities. Education also in terms of showing them the warning signs of trafficking schemes will prevent the occurrence of future incidents within certain areas. Building a woman’s self-esteem after experiencing a traumatic life of sex-slave trafficking is vital in her ability to function in society. Programs that teach self defense through activities such as karate can become quite beneficial in teaching a woman her significance and self-worth. They can teach her that she is able to face adversity and she does not need to live constantly in fear (Samarasinghe & Burton, 2007).

The mezzo level of social work deals primarily with the community and networking with agencies and individuals to build a particular area of social work. Social workers working in this level attempt to build community ties with all members to build the overall well-being of the community. Social workers collaborate with multiple agencies as well within the community to build a network that will strengthen the community. Social workers on this level can work to truly make an impact in the
prevention of sex-slave trafficking, in their community as well as the community of victims of trafficking. What is difficult, is the fact that not many agencies on the local level work to address the issue of sex-slave trafficking. What is needed of social workers on this level is the start of new agencies that deal with this issue in the community in which they live as well as pre-existing agencies that are willing to add this issue to the mission of their organization. Social workers within these agencies must develop new resources to better assist victims as well as bring awareness to communities in order that more people are aware of these issues. Prevention of sex-slave trafficking can take place through educating communities of its existence as well as its risk factors and prevalence within each community.

Social workers on the mezzo level can be most effective in working to prevent sex-slave trafficking by forming social networks that are diverse; diversity in terms of geography, capabilities, influences, and contacts. It is important to include agencies in both formal and informal relations with the public and private sectors, profit and non-profit organizations, governmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations. With a vast array of organizations willing to partner on some level of prevention, it becomes easier to combat such a hard to grasp area such as sex-slave trafficking. Through the collaboration of multiple agencies, systems and databases can be created that will track the prevalence and trends of sex-slave trafficking. Social workers within these organizations can track any suspicious activity seen in their community and report to these databases which will in turn continue the efforts at prevention. Another way to build social networks is to organize conferences where information is shared on new
advances that each organization is making and what these organizations can do to help each other in the effort (Dyrud, et. Al., 2007). This collaboration of information provides a balanced avenue for social workers to work in this broad field. It provides a means of checks and balances as to how each organization is handling this crisis and provides the grounds for new ideas to form to help combat sex-slave trafficking.

Another way that social workers on this level can work in preventing sex-slave trafficking is through the community. Community level work involves recruiting members of the community through avenues of networking to build programs that bring forth awareness within communities as well as educating specific members of communities. Awareness raising campaigns of the issue of sex-slave trafficking can be formed and presented to the community through avenues such as marches and through the media. Educating the community can come in forms of informed persons going to middle and high schools to teach on the prevalence and reality of trafficking, as well as educational brochures that can be distributed at local businesses or agencies. This form of education can be used to lessen the demand for sex-slave trafficking through educating younger individuals of the realities of prostitution and the vast dangers of it. Community work can also involve members of the public in the communities that want to join in a greater cause to address the issue of sex-slave trafficking. With the help of the layperson in the public arena, information and resources are more likely to leak into otherwise unattainable areas of the community. Through the education of these members of the community on how to identify suspicious activities reflecting sex-slave trafficking, these
citizens are better equipped in helping to monitor these activities in their own area (Samarasinghe and Burton, 2007).

The macro level of social work involves that of working on larger levels, dealing with advocacy for particular issues and working on a national and global level in attempting to address particular social problems. Macro level social work is focused on the aspect of change within a society particularly in the area of social justice. This level of social work is highly concerned with human rights and obtaining justice through modes such as political and organizational action. Social workers operating on this level can focus their attention on advocacy through the passing of laws that will aid victims, punish the traffickers, and deter the demand. Social workers can also work in a more broad sense through collaboration with global agencies that deal with sex-slave trafficking such as the UN and IOM, and become more aware of how the global issues of sex-slave trafficking affect their community. Social workers can also work to develop new cultural norms within the society they are working that bring to light what sex-slave trafficking truly is and how certain cultural norms that are currently present contribute to the prevalence of such practices. Through the help of social workers on this level, true change can occur on such a broad level. Implementation of new policies, global workings, and construction of new cultural norms will greatly impact the prevention of sex-slave trafficking.

Advocacy when it comes to this population can be hard to distinguish due to the invisibility of the victims. It is not an easy target population for direct and immediate change, but it is possible to affect the prevalence of sex-slave trafficking if efforts are
made. Social workers can advocate that the legislature push forth stricter penalties on traffickers as well as buyers of prostitution. Stricter enforcement of prostitution can be made and zero tolerance policies can be placed to ensure the lessening of its occurrence. Social workers working in the area of sex-slave trafficking must advocate for those unseen victims; becoming the persons who aid and care for the forgotten (Hodge, 2008). Advocacy through global efforts can be made by collaborating with international organizations that work closely with the highly vulnerable victims of the world of sex-slave trafficking. It is important for social workers working on the macro level of social work to incorporate global views instead of limiting themselves to only national and local viewpoints. When working with sex-slave trafficking victims it is especially important to become connected with multiple organizations such as the UN and IOM in order that the work become effective and meaningful. It is also important in advocating for resources found internationally to become implemented in the US. Many resources are provided internationally to victims, but are not available to the victims still residing in the US. It is dire that victims of sex-slave trafficking receive appropriate services (Jones, et. Al., 2007).

Another major role social workers play in attempting to prevent the occurrence of sex-slave trafficking, especially in the area of the demand side, is in developing new cultural norms. Society today shows us through media that it is ok to sexually exploit women and at times children. Women and children are used in ways that show they have less worth in society, that it can even be humorous to use them in this way. Sexual violence and objectification of women and children is taken lightly in some forms of
media, such as some popular music and movies. Social workers must find a means of getting the message across that it is not ok to exploit women and children in this way, and that our society should not tolerate it on any level. This can be done through advocating for standards in popular media that state this it is unacceptable to show images that display violence against women and children, primarily those that link violence to eroticization. Sources of this type of media should also be made aware of the impact these images and words have on society and what the consequences can be. If we can restructure the way a society views women and children, and demonstrate their value, we will see drastic changes in the prevalence of sex-slave trafficking (Hodge, 2008).
Chapter 3

METHODS

Research Design

The research design chosen for this study is the exploratory design which explores a topic when little is known about an issue such as sex trafficking persons in the greater Sacramento County region and internationally (Rubin & Babbie, 2008). To reiterate, the major aim for this research project focused on the male demand for sex-slave trafficking, has not been adequately researched, and is of particular interest to the researcher. Therefore, this research project utilized a combination of qualitative and quantitative approaches to seek knowledge in relation to the demand for sex-slave trafficking.

Sampling Procedures and Data Collection

The sampling procedure used in this study is that of Non-probability Sampling, specifically reliance on available subjects. This type of sampling works best when the availability of individuals needed for true probability sampling cannot be found (Rubin & Babbie, 2008). Participants were recruited through the researcher calling the agencies the researcher was interested in finding information from, and requesting that a member of the agency participate. Emails were sent to participants that the researcher knew previously to request that they participate.

The procedure in which the data set was collected for this study was through interviews with personnel from a Law Enforcement agency, a social service agency in the greater Sacramento region, a social work professor in the east, and a Western Diplomat serving in Eastern Europe through email, telephone, or in-person. The researcher
conducted face-to-face interviews with the subjects that were available locally; and over the phone or email interviews where a face to face interview was not possible or inconvenient for the subjects. The researcher expected to conduct the face to face interviews with participants from the law enforcement agency, as well as the social service agency, but was open to conducting them through email or by telephone. It turned out that interviews over the phone or through email were more convenient for most participants. The researcher conducted an interview in person with only one participant from the law enforcement agency. This interview took place in her office and as the researcher asked the participant the interview questions, the researcher typed the answers. A phone interview was conducted with another member of the law enforcement agency and an email interview was conducted with the last participant from the law enforcement agency. The researcher was unable to recruit a fourth member from the law enforcement agency as she had hoped. An email interview was conducted with the participant from the social service agency. The researcher emailed the consent form and interview questions to the participant which he or she then emailed back the answered questions and faxed the consent form when most convenient for the participant. As expected by the researcher, the interviews with the social work professor and the Western diplomat serving in Eastern Europe were conducted through email due to the distance in location. The interviewee was asked a series of questions to which he or she answered to the best of his or her knowledge.

Each subject first received an implied consent form notifying him or her of his or her confidentiality as well as the right to stop the interview process at any time. Each
subject then answered the questions while the researcher recorded the information presented either by a tape recorder or through note taking. The researcher requested that volunteers from these agencies provide information on their knowledge of sex-slave trafficking and their encounters with it. When the volunteers agreed to participate in this study and signed a consent form, the researcher conducted the interviews.

*Measure Instruments*

The data collected for this study is non-standardized due to the fact that a standardized instrument to measure sex-slave trafficking could not be found. The researcher decided to construct the research instruments based on her personal knowledge of the subject matter. The interview questions were comprised of factors relating to demographics, social and psychological issues. The researcher developed the interview questions based upon issues that she wanted to explore within the professional arena. The researcher developed nine questions and submitted them to her thesis advisor for approval. The researcher’s thesis advisor made some changes to the questions, which the researcher then changed. Once all changes were made, the researcher submitted the questions to her thesis advisor for final approval. Once the researcher’s thesis advisor approved the questions, the researcher attached the questions to the human subjects’ application for approval (See heading titled human subjects protection below). There are nine interview questions consisting of sections involving demographic information, the participant’s definition of sex-slave trafficking, the participant’s experience working with victims of or solicitors of sex-slave trafficking, and the participant’s opinion on the causes and the preventative factors of the occurrence of sex-slave trafficking.
The content of the interview questions involves very broad and general questions consisting of personal experience in this particular area of study as well as opinions. Most or all of the questions presented by the researcher are open ended questions. For example, “How do you conceptualize human trafficking?” or “What do you think is the best way to deal with solicitors of prostitution?” The reliability as well as validity of these interview questions is based on the question’s ability to meet the criteria for causality as well as dismantle any bias in the selection process. The validity was determined through the assistance of the researcher’s thesis advisor; however due to the time constraint, the instrument was not pretested for the reliability and validity coefficient.

*Human Subjects Protection*

In the fall semester an application was completed for the protection of human subjects and was submitted to the researcher’s thesis advisor for review and approval. The researcher’s thesis advisor collaborated with the researcher to make corrections to and assist in the completion of the application. The thesis advisor gave suggestions to the researcher as to how to further enhance the quality of writing as well as maintaining a clear and concise application. Special attention was paid to ensuring that the subjects of the study would be protected.

Once this application was reviewed and approved by the researcher’s thesis advisor, it was submitted to the department of the committee for the protection of human subjects on 10/8/09 for the final approval. On 10/26/09 the researcher received a rejection letter from the department of the committee for the protection of human subjects giving guidelines to meet approval. The researcher then continued to make changes to the
application to meet guidelines through the guidance and counsel of her thesis advisor. Once the application was approved by her thesis advisor, it was again submitted to the department of the committee for the protection of human subjects. On December 11, 2009 the researcher received a letter from the department of the committee for the protection of human subjects approving the application for the protection of human subjects with an approval number of 09-10-067.

The participants in this study were informed of their confidentiality rights and the right to anonymity through the consent form. The participants were informed that they have the opportunity to terminate their participation at any time during the study without penalty. Resources to seek professional help if needed in the case that they become emotionally distressed was provided or choose to for any reason. A consent form stating the above was provided to each participant which each participant was asked to sign upon their consent to participate.

Data Analysis Plan

Once the data was collected from the interviews, the researcher analyzed the answers given to each question. A comparison of the answers was conducted to reflect the differences in opinions and experiences of professionals from different fields. The answers given by these professionals were then compiled into a summary of how persons in these fields conceptualize sex slave trafficking. Because the data was qualitative, aggregate findings were written using the case narrative approach. During the face-to-face interview as well as the over the phone interviews, the researcher conducted note taking while the participant answered the interview questions. The researcher’s audio
recorder was not working during the interviews, so the researcher typed up the answers to the questions from the participants.

Limitations

The limitations found in this study are that there is a small sample size, which gives a lack of in depth data, a lack of scientific evidence regarding sex trafficking persons, the geographical location of this research project, a short time frame to complete the research project, and the fact that this researcher has newly been exposed to sex slave trafficking. Currently, there is no standardized instrument to measure sex-slave trafficking.
Chapter 4

FINDINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS

Included in the case narratives in this chapter are the participants’ professional opinions and experience in relation to sex-slave trafficking. The narratives are direct and specific answers, gathered from each of the six participants. The information provided by each participant was given to the best of his/her knowledge and expertise.

Detective #1

Background and History of Occupation. Detective number one is a female Caucasian who has been a police officer for 20 years. Most of her career she has spent in Del Paso Heights working on the street level, occasionally working with street prostitutes. In 2006, she began working as a detective working with juvenile prostitutes and those who have been trafficked into prostitution. She worked as a detective for 2 ½ years. When she first started working in this special unit as a detective the department was in its beginning stage of putting together a unit to work with youth victims of human trafficking. She spoke of the experience of her team and her experience with the issue of sex slave trafficking.

We started out on our own but then combined our resources with the FBI using their equipment while they used our manpower. We enhanced our knowledge through trainings provided in various states across the country. We attended a class on prostitution and child trafficking. When people think about human trafficking, they think of international trafficking; but we primarily saw adults that came to pay off their debt in coming here to the US. Most of what we deal with in
this unit is our own kids who are trafficked within the US to be used in the sex trade. We have developed ways to work with these girls and the community. We have been educating doctors, judges, and the DA. This was a very important piece in our work.

Personal Definition and Understanding of Sex-Slave Trafficking. Detective number one defines sex-slave trafficking a little differently than others might.

My definition is unlike what everyone else thinks, that they are brought to this country and are forced into a dark room; it’s more realistic than that, no matter how slightly organized, its generally how a pimp recruits young girls into the sex trade, through forcing them to use their body for sex. The FBI defines sex-slave trafficking as crossing state lines. We have used means to prove that a case has gone across state lines through an example such as a condom that was made in China and then transported to a particular state, was then transported with the girls to another state. We track the serial numbers of the condoms and see where they are shipped.

Prostitution as Sex-Slave Trafficking or a Choice. Detective number one stated that in the case with juvenile prostitutes, she considers them to all have been trafficked. She states that these girls are looking for love and affection and when a pimp shows them, this affection it is easy for the pimp to gradually coerce the girl into prostitution.

The majority of these girls came from bad homes and weren’t taken care of. Many of these girls did badly in school and were runaways; and once the girl becomes a runaway she is more likely to be pimped. A very small percentage just decides to
do this. Many adult prostitutes that I have interviewed stated that they were introduced to the field of prostituting when they were 12 or 13 years old. Some women have stated that they prostituted themselves because of a drug addiction, not all are coerced, but the majority of those who prostitute themselves come from bad homes.

*Experience Helping Victims of Sex-Slave Trafficking and/or Prostitutes.* In her experience of helping victims of sex slave trafficking, detective number one stated that when she first began working in the unit, she believed that the primary concern was to stop the pimping from occurring. She stated she found that this was not enough, that by removing the girl from the pimp would not make the situation ok.

Our view was to get the pimp, prosecute him, and put the girl back where she needed to be. But it takes more than that. If the girl has decided that this way of life is better than returning home, and if her parents are unfit, this won’t work. We realized that we had to approach this in a different way, we found that we became more like social workers and stopped being cops. If we started a case with one of the prostituted girls, we would attach to them, the officer would in a sense adopt the girl to ensure that trust and a relationship is built. We did things like pick them up from school and call them to check in on them. Some kids are hard and if you don’t answer the phone for a week they run away. They really come to depend on you for many things. What they are looking for is love and attention; if they have to choose between bad attention and no attention they will pick bad attention. This is the reason many of them fall into prostitution. It is psychologically draining to
work with them, they are manipulative and they know how to play you. The amount of time it takes to invest in these kids is time consuming; there has to be an organization that can help. There is one organization in town that has been helpful to us in the past. Though I am no longer in the unit, I stay in touch with a couple of the girls, and I still visit them in juvenile hall.

**Opinion on the Common Causes of Sex-Slave Trafficking.** Detective number one believes that the causes of sex-slave trafficking lie within two factors that attract one another.

On the girl’s side, it’s the poor parenting mixed with a bad situation that she is in. Once the girl runs away, there is an 80% chance of being exploited. It is easy to see what is wrong on the girl’s side. The other factor that is something we have not delved into is the fact that we let our boys down through media. Through the glorification of sex, exploitation occurs. We are not teaching our young men respect. When these two factors clash, it becomes easier for this to happen. Men are expected to be sexual; it is how to demonstrate their manhood. These men go to a prostitute for sex, not thinking of the bigger picture; they really do not care at this point. This is really a societal problem.

**Opinion on Whether Solicitors of Sex Play a Significant Role in Causing Sex-Slave Trafficking.** Detective number one states she believes that solicitors of sex do play a significant role in causing sex-slave trafficking.

If no one was to buy it, no one would sell it. If there was no demand, there would be no supply. It is easier for the solicitor to detach from the situation, not thinking
about the fact that this could be a trafficking case. All that the solicitor is thinking about is instant gratification. The perpetrator (solicitor of sex) is as much of a problem as the pimp.

**Opinion on How Best to Deal with Solicitors of Sex through Legal Process or Other Means.** In terms of the legal process, detective number one believes that the best way to deal with solicitors of sex is to impose stricter sanctions.

If the penalties and fines were more significant than they currently are, it would make a difference. When we catch the solicitor of sex in the act it is a misdemeanor. They pay a fine and get on probation. Why don’t we prosecute them like pimps? It would be helpful to treat them as much like we do pimps as being a part of the problem. We should make it a felony. It would be interesting to post a photo of the john (solicitor of sex) in the paper or online, a little public humiliation could go a long way for white collar people. Having a john school would also be an interesting prospect. It is almost socially acceptable for a man to pick up a prostitute. Society does not give the same weight of blame as they do to the pimps.

In terms of social policy, detective number one stated, “education” on the matter of sex-slave trafficking is important because many people don’t know it’s an issue. Many don’t know their own kids are sexually exploited through prostitution till it happens to them. The media’s portrayal of what boys and girls should be like; that girls are supposed to be beautiful and have big boobs, we are sending them the wrong messages. When
our children see this in the media and that as a society there is a thought that it is ok to treat girls in a sexually exploitative way, this is how they will think. We need a society with good parenting and parents who teach their children self-esteem. If young girls have this, most will not give into this type of coercion to become prostitutes.

Opinion on What would Help to Fight the Occurrence of Sex-Slave Trafficking. In the opinion of detective number one the best ways to fight the occurrence of sex-slave trafficking is,

- education of our society and, stiffer penalties for both pimps and johns. There has to be a societal shift; we can punish people all we want, but we are teaching our kids to glorify sex and money, if this remains the same, this is what we are stuck with. We watch news programs and Hollywood stars and so much garbage out there. We need to kill the television. We need stricter parental control.

Detective #2

Background and History of Occupation. Detective number two is a male Caucasian who has been a police officer for 12 years, and a detective for his current unit for 2 ½ years. He stated he has completed approximately 10 trainings pertaining to human trafficking and that his task force has recovered over 100 girls. He stated, “The youngest girl we have worked with in this unit was 11 years old. The average age of these girls is 14 to 16 years old. We have not worked with any boys, not that there aren’t these cases, we just have not encountered them.”
Personal Definition and Understanding of Sex-Slave Trafficking. Detective number two defines sex-slave trafficking in terms of location as follow:

There are two types of trafficking: domestic and international sex trafficking. In my unit we focus primarily on domestic juvenile cases. I have noticed that the trafficking within the US is primarily domestic, meaning that girls from the US are trafficked around the US and over state lines. International trafficking is different; it’s where people bring girls to the states with the promise that the girls will have a job. But when the girls come here they are stuck, are trapped here with no passport. Sex trafficking is modern day slavery.

Prostitution as Sex-Slave Trafficking or a Choice. Detective number two states what he believes the difference in sex-slave trafficking and prostitution is in terms of age and life circumstances.

When kids are bought and sold into prostitution by a pimp it is always sex trafficking. People impose their own values on these girls and don’t understand how they could do this. But once you let these personal biases go, you realize how easy it is for this to happen. We generally work only with juveniles rather than adults. Usually adults who are involved in prostitution do it because it’s the only way to deal with their failure in life and often do drugs. Adults have the ability to get jobs. Adults who prostitute are seen as suspects, but if you look deeper, they are a victim of circumstance, manipulated when they were younger, and may think that all they can do with their lives.
Experience Helping Victims of Sex-Slave Trafficking and/or Prostitutes. Detective number two has stated he has extensive experience working with victims of sex-slave trafficking.

When we work with the victims, we are sure to bring the perpetrators (pimps) to justice. We work primarily with juvenile victims; though we have encountered an adult case where she was trafficked from Taiwan, but she would not divulge any information. She was uncooperative with us and had many reasons not to comply. She was afraid of what her pimps would do to her. I do not know what happened to her. The young girls we work with have horrible self-esteem; we help them build their self-esteem. We work with them to get access to Victim/Witness compensation; we do family reunification, and help them get into rehabilitation homes such as the Children of the Night in Los Angeles, where they provide counseling services. If the girls are successful in the rehabilitative program then the organization will pay for their college. We, at the unit form relationships with these girls and help them see they have worth. By forming the relationship with them we are better able to get their cooperation in the cases we are working. These victims are so brainwashed and we need their cooperation. The girls are then better able to trust us when we invest in them; we form a bond. Some of the girls are great kids, once you get them outside of prostitution they are normal kids. I still keep in contact with them and visit them when they are in custody.
**Opinion on the Common Causes of Sex-Slave Trafficking.** When it comes to the common causes of sex-slave trafficking detective number two believes it has much to do with the demand side as it does with the traffickers.

Domestic sex-trafficking is the result of impressionable kids, that at times have troubled backgrounds, are meeting predators and are being manipulated by these predators. The pimp makes lots of money off these kids, and the younger the kid the more money he will make. It is also the fact that there are people out there that are willing to pay to have sex with children, and even with adults. If there was no demand for these girls there would be no need for a supply. If there were no johns (solicitors of sex), there would be no prostitution.

**Opinion on Whether Solicitors of Sex Play a Significant Role in Causing Sex-Slave Trafficking.** As detective number two had stated, “If there was not a demand there would be no supply. The pimps see these girls as nothing, just as supply. The pimps are just concerned with making money. It is the same with drug dealers; crack dealers would not receive any money if there was no one to buy the crack.”

**Opinion on How Best to Deal with Solicitors of Sex through Legal Process or Other Means.** Detective number two stated that his opinion on how best to deal with solicitors of prostitution would be to impose stricter sanctions through the legal process.

Prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law, especially if it is a minor. Whether the crime is warranted as a misdemeanor or felony, one reason that trafficking occurs is that there is anonymity with the girls. The girls do not come forth and talk to law enforcement about what is happening to them because of the fear the
pimp puts into them. We should start putting the johns in the newspaper or on the internet and on the news to show what they are doing. Sex with a prostitute is a misdemeanor; with a child it is a felony. The prosecution of the johns needs to be changed to more aggressive measures. It is labor intensive to go after the johns, and with the manpower that it takes; the hours and money spent, and the number of arrests made, it proves to not be productive. Once we went with nine officers to do a game plan to arrest the johns and only four were arrested. With the budget crisis and cuts in teams, we should be focusing on the violent crimes. Most of these sex crimes are misdemeanors. The state and the government should focus on rehabilitating these girls and should prevent trafficking from happening. Job training is huge for these girls, and would highly benefit them. The victims have many issues and the case suffers because of these issues. These cases are very hard to prosecute.

*Opinion on What would Help to Fight the Occurrence of Sex-Slave Trafficking.*

Detective number two suggests that in order to fight the occurrence of sex-slave trafficking we must educate society.

More education on what is occurring in every city in the US. We need to enforce rigorous prosecution, preventative training, and provide counseling, and the more people that know about this the better. Once there was an 11 year old girl on Watt Ave, prostituting herself, and no one even called the police. She was there for a few days. Socially there is a problem here. If more people got involved in the community to stop this from occurring, we would probably see a decrease in the
occurrence of sex trafficking of these children. It is rape to solicit sex from a juvenile; even if it is not a violent act, they are forced to have sex. Because of their age, these girls cannot give consent. As long as there is demand for these young girls, trafficking will happen. We need rigorous prosecution and community members and organizations that will help our country.

Detective #3

*Background and History of Occupation.* Detective number three is a white male who has been a law enforcement officer for 27 years and has worked as a detective with sex crimes and registered sex offenders for five years.

*Personal Definition and Understanding of Sex-Slave Trafficking.* Detective number three defines sex-slave trafficking within the realm of his job, “It pertains to prostitution and the trafficking of minors/women for the purpose of making money.”

*Prostitution as Sex-Slave Trafficking or a Choice.* Detective number three defines prostitution as sex-slave trafficking when “the female is prostituting against her will and is transported from one area to another,” and prostitution as a choice when “someone who does it for money and is usually ‘self-employed’ or is doing not against her will.”

*Experience Helping Victims of Sex-Slave Trafficking and/or Prostitutes.* Detective number three has not had any experience working with victims of sex-slave trafficking or prostitutes.

*Opinion on the Common Causes of Sex-Slave Trafficking.* Detective number three believes that, “On the part of the victim, there are a number of reasons for the causes of
sex-slave trafficking, drugs and money.” Also, “what starts out as a sating relationship goes to threats, gets physical and forced into prostitution.”

**Opinion on Whether Solicitors of Sex Play a Significant Role in Causing Sex-Slave Trafficking.** Detective number three states that, “Like drugs, if there is no consumer, there is no prostitution.” This shows that he believes that there is some correlation that solicitors of sex play a significant role.

**Opinion on How Best to Deal with Solicitors of Sex through Legal Process or Other Means.** Detective number three simply states that solicitors of sex, “should be prosecuted, fined heavily, vehicles seized, and names shared publicly.”

**Opinion on What would Help to Fight the Occurrence of Sex-Slave Trafficking.** Detective number three states that in order to fight the occurrence of sex-slave trafficking, “Stiffer penalties for pimps and solicitors and strong enforcement” would be most effective.

**Social Work Professor**

**Background and History of Occupation.** Social Work Professor is a white female who has been a professor for nine years and a social worker for about 30 years. She has been studying human trafficking for six years.

**Personal Definition and Understanding of Sex-Slave Trafficking.** Social Work Professor’s definition of sex-slave trafficking is that of the international definition. Women and children who are kidnapped, coerced, or tricked and taken across international borders, against their will, to serve as a slave of sex servitude.
Prostitution as Sex-Slave Trafficking or a Choice. Social work professor stated, “I would consider prostitution sex slave trafficking if the woman was coerced or forced into prostitution as a result of fraud and misrepresentation. I consider prostitution as voluntary when the woman has significant financial benefits and the freedom to come and go as she desires and the freedom to exit prostitution at any time.”

Experience Helping Victims of Sex-Slave Trafficking and/or Prostitutes. Social work professor stated, “The bulk of my experiences have been in educating and providing support for caregivers.” She also put together a curriculum called Hands that Heal that she introduced to missionaries in another country that work with victims of human trafficking. This curriculum works on helping the victims learn how they can heal after an experience as this.

Opinion on the Common Causes of Sex-Slave Trafficking. Social work professor believes the common causes of sex-slave trafficking lie within certain aspects of culture. I think the causes of sex-slave trafficking has many causes and it depends on the circumstances. In some cultures, it is common practice for girl children and women to enter into prostitution as a result of being sold by family, or to help support family through the sale of a female. In other cultures it is the result of extreme poverty and desperation. And, sometimes individuals are coerced into becoming sex slaves, enticed by fraud and misrepresentation, and sometimes victims are kidnapped. I believe the common denominator is evil.

Opinion on Whether Solicitors of Sex Play a Significant Role in Causing Sex-Slave Trafficking. Social work professor states, “Social work professor states, “I believe
that solicitors play a significant role in fueling sex trafficking. If it were not for them there would be no market.”

**Opinion on How Best to Deal with Solicitors of Sex through Legal Process or Other Means.** Social work professor states, “I think they should be prosecuted and sentenced to lengthy prison sentences. I think the legal system should prosecute the ‘Johns’ (persons who purchase sex). I think social policy should be enacted to prosecute traffickers and Johns severely.”

**Opinion on what would Help to Fight the Occurrence of Sex-Slave Trafficking.** Social work professor states, “I think laws need to be enacted. Police and Homeland Security should be empowered with funds and manpower to investigate, rescue victims, and prosecute perpetrators.”

**Western Diplomat**

**Background and History of Occupation.** Western Diplomat is an Ulster-Devonian Male, and has been working in his professional position since 1999. He states, “Since 2002, I have been in my professional capacity as a Western Diplomat. Informally, since the 1990s, when the demand side of trafficking, on the part of UN troops in former Yugoslavia, was revealed in very few of the media.”

**Personal Definition and Understanding of Sex-Slave Trafficking.** Western Diplomat understanding of sex-slave trafficking primarily pertains to that of international trafficking, as is his area of expertise.

Primarily, this sort of trafficking involves men exploiting women. The occurrence of sex-slave trafficking, at least in Eastern Europe and nearby Muslim countries
appears to have abated: there are no vans cruising the streets of Kyiv, few pimps chaining victims to the wall. The situation now appears to be more one of debt-bondage, in which young women can "work" themselves free in exchange for sexual services and, often, recruiting a friend or relative to take her place. Pimps, we have heard through La Strada and IOM, now allow women mobile phones to call home, and a small share of the profits. This has been driven by severe penalties for trafficking, and several high-profile convictions. To reduce the danger, pimps are modifying their behavior to make it less likely that the victim will claim that she has been trafficked, and less likely that claims of coercion will stand up in court. Thus, if anything at all happens to the pimp, it is, at worst, a nugatory fine for pimping.

*Prostitution as Sex-Slave Trafficking or a Choice.* Western Diplomat gives his opinion of prostitution as sex-slave trafficking or a choice based on literature read and information he has heard from agencies that deal with sex-slave trafficking.

I have never investigated individual cases, so I cannot answer empirically. From what I hear second-hand, most women in eastern Europe have learned so much about the dangers of trafficking that they undertake the "hostess" job or whatever with a full awareness of what will be involved. In one ironic story, an NGO trainer told me that the NGO had been so successful in instilling confidence in young village women that the number who accepted dubious offers raised dramatically, the women declaring that they were strong enough and confident enough to handle any dangers.


*Experience Helping Victims of Sex-Slave Trafficking and/or Prostitutes.* Western Diplomat states that he does not have any direct, person-to-person experience.

*Opinion on the Common Causes of Sex-Slave Trafficking.* Western Diplomat states that his opinion of the causes of sex-slave trafficking has to do with the tolerance of the sex industry.

Unchecked male libido, societal and legal tolerance of pornography, sexualized society, portrayal in advertisements of women as objects of desire or sale. These examples of tolerance no longer apply to paedophilia, as they did as late as a decade ago, so there has been some progress. In addition, fear on the part of many people of using such "judgmental" terms may be a contributory cause, by cutting off useful criteria for discussion. The reflexively positive view of the UN amongst many hindered discussion of the causes of the phenomenon in the 1990s.

*Opinion on Whether Solicitors of Sex Play a Significant Role in Causing Sex-Slave Trafficking.* Western Diplomat states that his opinion that solicitors of sex do play a significant role in causing sex-slave trafficking. He states, “Of course they do. In strictly economic terms (and economics plays as large a role as lust), demand drives supply (and vice versa, in a vicious circle).”

*Opinion on How Best to Deal with Solicitors of Sex through Legal Process or Other Means.* Western Diplomat states that in terms of the “Legal process we need Equality Now! Whatever penalties pimps and prostitutes receive, the johns should receive the same. In terms of Social policy, we need a method of Name and shame” involving showing who these johns are through media measures and shaming them through it.
Opinion on What would Help to Fight the Occurrence of Sex-Slave Trafficking.

Western Diplomat states that we should do “Whatever we can do to fight slavery in general should be applied to sex-slavery. I am very pessimistic about this.” He states that people need to see things in a different light; that “People who are nervous about using words such as “sin” and “evil” are blocking their own understanding of the issue, and blocking that of others.

Social Worker From Social Service Agency

Background and History of Occupation. The social worker from a social service agency is a Caucasian female who has been a social worker for three years and has worked in the field of human trafficking for one year.

Personal Definition and Understanding of Sex-Slave Trafficking. The social worker from a social service agency states that much of what she knows about sex-slave trafficking stems from what she has read on the subject as well as what she personally heard from the FBI and awareness events she has attended. The social worker from a social service agency defines sex-slave trafficking as, “a person who has been coerced into receiving goods or services in exchange for sexual gratification. My concept of this issue is that it is wide spread and as long as there is a demand there will be people who will supply the need.”

Prostitution as Sex-Slave Trafficking or a Choice. The social worker from a social service agency states, “I don’t think prostitution is ever a real on-going decision and voluntary.”
Experience Helping Victims of Sex-Slave Trafficking and/or Prostitutes. The social worker from a social service agency states she has had experience helping victims of sex-slave trafficking and highlights an example of a time she worked with one of the victims stating, “I had a girl contact me and still does contact me for emotional support to continue to stay away from her pimp and that lifestyle.” She also stated she had worked with prostitutes in the past stating, “I was an investigator for child protective services and encouraged moms who were prostituting to get help. I referred them for counseling services, etc. in order to get their children back from state custody.” She also gives some background on working with victims of sex-slave trafficking in the past.

In the early 90’s we didn’t have a term for sex trafficking, as social workers we knew this was going on and the veteran social workers would call them hopeless and throw aways, and they believed they were beyond help and it was just what happened when children were severely sexually abused. Of course, the mind set on this has changed over the last 20 years.

Opinion on the Common Causes of Sex-Slave Trafficking. The social worker from a social service agency states her opinion on the common causes of sex-slave trafficking are, “The demand! I am very passionate that we must help the “john” with his sexual addiction as well as the pimp and his greed.”

Opinion on Whether Solicitors of Sex Play a Significant Role in Causing Sex-Slave Trafficking. The social worker from the social service agency states that in her opinion solicitors of sex, “absolutely” play a significant role in causing sex-slave trafficking and that “if there was not demand there would be no need for the supply.”
Opinion on How Best to Deal with Solicitors of Sex through Legal Process or Other Means. The social worker from the social service agency gives examples of possible ways of dealing with solicitors of sex that other agencies have enacted.

Florida had some success with shaming the johns by printing their names in the paper, but this also leads to slander. There is also ‘The John School,’ a program located in San Francisco that has an 85% success rate working with the ‘johns.’ Once a john is caught and convicted they are sentenced to ‘John School,’ like traffic school. Currently, when a john is caught in Sacramento he is let go, according to an FBI agent I talked too. There is no money to prosecute them.

In terms of social policy the social worker from the social service agency gives a historical perspective of past dealings with sexuality and how this has been ineffective.

You cannot legislate morality, but like in the day of Julius Caesar he eventually called a halt to homosexuality (although he was homosexual) and forbade extramarital sex and legislated marriage because the homosexuality in the day was causing lack of reproduction. Also the affairs and lascivious sex was causing abortions, leading to death, lack of children, and disease. Today we don’t have disease and death but our birth rate in this country is slipping, while the radical extremists birth rate is increasing – and most interesting the radical extremists value family and are very much against our debauchery as a country.

For, me I think it all goes back to the family – without the family children are lost and alone and are vulnerable to be preyed upon.
By giving this statement it seems she believes that a possibility in working with solicitors of sex, the underlying problem lies within the family and that with strong families, sex-slave trafficking is not as likely to happen.

**Opinion on What would Help to Fight the Occurrence of Sex-Slave Trafficking.**

The social worker from the social service agency gives her opinion of the most appropriate ways of fighting the occurrence of sex-slave trafficking through emphasizing the need to address values.

Children need to be cherished instead of processed and objectified. The family unit should be valued instead of mocked. Sexuality in marriage should be esteemed, not ridiculed and distained. If fundamental judeo/Christian ethics were adhered to, there would be less trafficking – there would be more “other centeredness” instead of “self-centeredness” which is the basic teaching of the ancient text. Before the Sexual Revolution of the 1960’s there was still abuse and neglect, however it increased as the acceptance of out-of-wedlock sex became standard and exploring fetishes, whims and fantasy was encouraged as a society. Yet, since the advent of the internet, in the last 10 years, the vile debauchery of human kind has reached an all time low. Children as young as infants are penetrated in every orifice for an orgasm – the power of sex, or should I say, the addiction to the physical adrenaline rush, has become unmatched evil in these present times. We need to tell the story of the pain of the children until no one can look in the mirror and do nothing.
Chapter 5

CONCLUSION

Introduction

Through the completion of this Master’s Project, the author hopes that social workers are better educated on the need as well as how to address the male demand for sex-slave trafficking. She hopes that through the information provided in this project will lead to continued awareness and bring about necessary change in society in relation to the demand for sex-slave trafficking. The author hopes that through this research social workers better understand how to address the demand side of sex-slave trafficking through policy and practice. Through the specific evaluation of preventative measures social workers can take, the researcher hopes that new methods will be developed and collaboration on different levels will bring about necessary change in addressing the issue of demand for sex-slave trafficking. The author hopes that through the research conducted there will be a new awareness within the field of social work education and social work practices, and how social workers can participate in the prevention and eradication of male demand for sex-slave trafficking.

Overall Findings

The researcher has found the primary theme discovered throughout literature as well as in the interviews conducted, is that the demand side of sex-slave trafficking, is one of the primary concerns in the prevention of sex-slave trafficking. There is an urgent need to address the problem of the demand for sex-slave trafficking through many different levels of society. Much of what participants in this study stated and what the
literature portrays are congruent. It seems that experts in the field of sex-slave trafficking and other similar professions agree that to address the demand side through means such as education and policy changes is of necessary importance. Participants in this study give insight into the understanding that the formulation of perceptions within societies on the issues of sex and that of sex-slave trafficking play a significant role in the reasons that sex-slave trafficking exists. The literature portrays this in the same light, emphasizing specific measures needed in order to address the issues of sex and sex-slave trafficking.

The literature gives background on the history of human sexuality as well as the exploitation of women in early history and present history, which helps us understand the manifestations of sex-slave trafficking. This literature gives an underlying perception of how different societies perceive sex and the levels of normalcy different eras felt with it. The literature further illustrates how through the exploitation of women, a society’s view on certain issues can cause extreme harm to women and their roles in society. Many of the participants in this study stated their opinion on the affects of some of society’s views of sex and women. The participants expressed how these views of societies further contribute to the exploitation of women, and how this in turn allows sex-slave trafficking to occur. The participants convey how important it is to address these views when contemplating methods of prevention of sex slave trafficking.

When researching ways to deal with solicitors of sex, the literature and participants of this study agree that the old methods are not working, and that a new process must be discovered and implemented. Though not a great deal of literature could be found to deal with solicitors of sex, that which was found stated stricter penalties must
be instated and the implementation of educational programs must be created. The majority of participants in this study proposed these methods as most effective in dealing with solicitors of sex. Some gave specific examples as how to do this such as through implementing some type of “john” school for the offenders, or through public humiliation in the media. The literature also emphasized this as a possibility in dealing with solicitors of sex. Some of the literature found articulates specific methods used in the education and rehabilitation of offenders of sexual crimes. Much of this literature explains methods of treatment through inpatient and outpatient programs. Aspects of these methods could in turn prove helpful when working with solicitors of sex. With the introduction of this possibility it is hopeful that new programs might be developed for solicitors of sex.

In terms of the formulation and enactment of policy and legislation, the literature focuses on policy in place that addresses sex-slave trafficking in the US as well as two other countries, Sweden and Russia. This section of the literature compares and evaluates the effectiveness of the policies within these three countries. The literature discusses the strengths and weaknesses of the policies and gives alternative possibilities to certain aspects of the policy in each country. The literature shows how these countries are either advancing in their ability to address the issue of sex-slave trafficking through policy or remain stagnant. The participants of this study seemed to understand the need for policy change, but were unaware as how to bring about this change within policy. Some of the participants stated opinions of effective methods in which to deal with solicitors of sex, but did not state how this could be introduced as policy. It is the researchers
understanding that the majority of the participants in this study do not have experience in advocacy in terms of policy.

The social worker’s role in the prevention of sex-slave trafficking was conveyed through the literature as necessary and very possible. The literature gives light into how social workers are able to accomplish this through different levels of practice. The literature shows that social workers can work with victims and offenders of sex-slave trafficking through therapeutic measures, community awareness campaigns, and policy advocacy. The participants of this study spoke about experiences working with victims and offenders of sex-slave trafficking and his/her opinions on the necessary work that must be done to further help this population. The participants illustrated the need for more services for these victims in terms of new social service agencies and caring and competent persons who would better work with this population. The detectives primarily spoke of the need for a greater amount of social workers who could work in collaboration with the detectives to better serve the victims. The detectives exhibited a feeling of being overwhelmed and an inability to fully meet the needs of these victims. Other participants state the need to better address the problems within families in order that boys do not grow up to desire to solicit sex and girls do not grow up in environments that would cause them to become trapped in sex-slave trafficking.

**Implications for Practice**

As suggested through literature and participants of this study, social workers are absolutely necessary in helping to prevent the occurrence of sex-slave trafficking, as well as dealing with the implications sex-slave trafficking has caused. Because social workers
obligatorily address social injustices in society as well as throughout the world, it is
necessary that social workers address the social injustice of sex-slave trafficking. The
field of social work is designed to work with social problems on a variety of levels
including the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. Due to the broad field of social work,
social workers have the freedom to select a social issue and work within the level in
which one is most comfortable.

The social issue of sex-slave trafficking is a difficult problem to work with and to
address. Social workers who are interested in working with global and national issues
relating to sex and issues that come with sexual exploitation might find this area most
appealing. It is important that a social worker who decides to work in the area of sex-
slave trafficking to seek consultation as well as ensure that he/she remains self-aware
throughout his/her work. This type of work may cause significant distress to the social
worker, but it also provides a sense of satisfaction that one is addressing a major social
injustice. It is also important to gain an understanding of which level of social work one
feels most passionately and works best in, though many social workers work well on all
levels and contribute greatly to the profession on each of these levels.

On the micro level, social workers working to address the social problem of sex-
slave trafficking can work with the solicitor of sex or the victim of sex-slave trafficking.
The social worker on this level is the link between the recovery of society, one person at
a time. Through the accumulation of adequate resources to better serve these populations,
social workers will be better equipped with the knowledge on how to treat as well as refer
clients to the appropriate services. Solicitors of sex need the education and rehabilitation
to understand the implications of offending. As stated previously, social workers can do this through therapeutic and educational measures. Victims of trafficking need two primary types of assistance: recovery and empowerment. Victims need time to be allowed to recover from their traumatic experience and once they have become stable, need to be empowered to live a self-sustaining life.

Social workers on the mezzo level can work within communities and collaborate with multiple agencies to bring forth awareness and resources needed to fight sex-slave trafficking. Social workers on this level can address the needs and concerns of specific communities relating to sex-slave trafficking. Social workers can work to develop new resources for these communities through grant and project proposals to community members. Further awareness on the issue and causes of sex-slave trafficking within communities is an important need to address through methods such as media and organized campaigns. Social workers can make a significant impact within their communities when implementing these methods, and could in turn affect communities nationally and possible internationally through the generation of resources.

The macro level of social work is extremely important when working to prevent and eradicate the occurrence of sex-slave trafficking. Social workers on this level must focus on advocating for the passing of laws that will aid victims, punish the traffickers, and deter the demand. Social workers can also work internationally addressing the issue of sex-slave trafficking and its underlying problems in a broader sense. Through collaboration with international agencies designed to work on global problems, social workers have a greater chance at changing societies and social problems within them.
Social workers can also work on this level to bring forth changes in which societies operate that allows the occurrence of sex-slave trafficking to be so prevalent. The need for social workers to be involved on this level is immense in order to make any drastic changes in the occurrence of sex-slave trafficking.

Suggestions for Future Research

Further research into the occurrence and prevalence of sex-slave trafficking within other countries and its implications on its society would be helpful in evaluating the differences as well as similarities of the problem. This type of research would prove helpful in evaluating the necessary policy changes within these countries. Research that would address how the sex industry affects men and the chance of soliciting sex, would prove helpful to find how closely the sex industry fuels sex-slave trafficking. Another possible form of research would be how to effectively deal with solicitors of sex and possibly propose the development of a program that would best meet the rehabilitation needs of the offender.
APPENDIX A

Interview Questions

1. Check/record the participant’s gender and ask for his/her race.

2. Ask the length of time the participant has been at his/her occupation. Ask the participant his/her length of knowledge on the issue of sex-slave trafficking?

3. What is your definition of sex slave-trafficking and how do you conceptualize this issue? Under what circumstances have you considered a prostitution case sex-slave trafficking and under what circumstances have you considered prostitution as a personal decision/voluntary?

4. Have you had experience helping victims of sex-slave trafficking? Prostitutes? If yes, please share what you did to help the victims.

5. Were any of the victims you have worked with children? If yes, please explain how you have handled these kinds of cases.

6. In your opinion what is/are the common causes of sex-slave trafficking?

7. Do you believe that solicitors of sex play a significant role in fueling the cause of sex-slave trafficking? If so why? If not, what do you believe is the major cause of sex-slave trafficking?

8. What do you think is the best way to deal with solicitors of prostitution? Could you share with me what you think is the best way to handle those who solicit prostitution in terms of the legal process? How about social policy?

9. What do you think would help to fight the occurrence of sex-slave trafficking? What should be done?
REFERENCES


