

AWARENESS

SAFETY & ACCOUNTABILITY

STOP THE DEMAND

BUYING SEX STOPS HERE

GOAL:

AWARENESS

Buying people for sex is a significant problem in Minnesota

FACTS:

- 12 is the average age of entry into prostitution/sex trafficking for girls.²
- It has been estimated that 8,000 to 12,000 people are involved in prostitution/sex trafficking in Minnesota every day.¹
- In a North Minneapolis research project on prostitution/sex trafficking, 56% of people involved had their first experience in prostitution/sex trafficking as a juvenile (under age 18). Studies in other US cities found similar figures (Chicago, 62%; San Francisco, 78%).³
- Prostitution/sex trafficking are one and the same. Human Trafficking means the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, enticement, provision obtaining or receipt of **any** person by **any** means for the purpose or facilitation of sexual exploitation, which is exactly what occurs with prostitution.⁹

GOAL:

SAFETY & ACCOUNTABILITY

SAFETY

Prostitution/sex trafficking exacts a heavy toll on victims and is far from a victimless crime. Support safety & services for victims.

FACTS:

- One large case study found a mortality rate 200 times higher for women who have been involved in prostitution/sex trafficking than women of similar age and race who have not.⁵

- Rates of sexual, physical, and emotional abuse are very high among people involved in prostitution/sex trafficking. In a North Minneapolis research project, 84% have experienced physical, sexual, or emotional abuse sometime in their life; 56% experienced all three forms of violence.²
- Prostitution/sex trafficking causes many health problems, including higher rates than the general population of cancer (particularly cervical); chronic disease; pelvic inflammatory disease; traumatic brain injury; and more.⁶

ACCOUNTABILITY

Purchasing people for sex is a crime; johns must be held accountable.

FACTS:

- Prostitution/sex trafficking affects not only how men think about women; it also influences their actual behavior toward women, including sexual aggression towards women who are not prostituted/trafficked. In a recent study on men's use of prostituted or trafficked women in Scotland, 54% of men who frequently purchased women for sex had committed sexually aggressive acts against non-prostituted/trafficked women.¹⁰
- Of 140 men arrested for soliciting a prostituted/trafficked person in Minnesota; 33% showed significant psychopathology when psychologically tested.⁷
- Several studies indicate that, like pimps, purchasers regularly assault women and girls in prostitution/sex trafficking.⁸



Action Network to End
Sexual Exploitation in
Minnesota (ANESEM)

GOAL: **STOP THE DEMAND**

You can help stop the demand. You can help stop the purchase of people for sex.

COMMIT TO:

- Developing organizational policies and practices that support ending sexual exploitation.
- Supporting community based services that support women and girls in escaping prostitution/sex trafficking rather than criminalizing them.
- Challenging social structures that normalize prostitution/sex trafficking.
- Require 'johns' (purchasers) to attend the Breaking Free john School or similar programs.
- Join the Action Network collaboration by emailing cferrucci@mcbw.org.

COLLABORATION PARTNERS – MINNESOTA

- Adults Saving Kids
- Breaking Free
- Center for Women, Economic Justice and Public Policy, College of St. Catherine
- Justice Commission of the Sisters of St. Joseph and Consociates
- Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women
- Minnesota Department of Health
- Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center
- Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition
- Minnesota Men's Action Network
- Not For Sale Campaign
- Pride Program of Family and Children's Service
- Sensibilities Inc.
- Sexual Offense Services of Ramsey County
- Women of Nations
- Women of Senate District 67

COLLABORATION PARTNERS – COLORADO

- Colorado Network to End Human Trafficking
- Not for Sale Campaign
- Polaris Project

References

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2. R.J. Estes, Ph.D., and N. A. Weiner, Ph.D. "Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in the U.S., Canada and Mexico"
3. L. Martin (Ph.D.), "North Minneapolis Prostitution Research Project", conducted at Folwell Center, Minneapolis, MN (research conducted fall 2006, write-up in progress) - Sample size: 135.
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5. J. Potterat, D. Brewer, S. Muth, R. Rothenberg, D. Woodhouse, J. Muth, H. Stite, and S. Brody, "Mortality in a Long-term Open Cohort of Prostitute Women," *American Journal of Epidemiology* 159:778-785, (2004). Longitudinal study of prostitution in Colorado Springs – sample size: 1,969 people in prostitution from 1967-1999.
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