C6 Wraparound and Resiliency Interventions for Sexual Exploitation (RISE): A Look at the Successful Collaboration of Care for Sexually Exploited Youth in Santa Barbara County

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# Salon 7

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### Ground Control to Major Tom

- Who are we?
- What will be covered?
- CULTURE SHIFT...
- Disclaimers:
- Cream of the Crap
- Good Stewards



# In Her Own Words

One Girl	Body taken	
One hundred owners	Feelings hidden	
One lost soul	A piece of property,	
One hundred users	That's all she sees	
One heart	Love is what she was told	
One hundred spared parts	Born into a world that is sold	
Countless band-aids One hundred marks	Precious blind babies, sold in a world Of use and abuse for money	
One love	One hundred girls	
One hundred times replaced	One thousand owners	
One keeper	One thousand lost souls	
One hundred times erased	One too many users	
Touched spirits Wounded souls	by our amazing K.L.	

### COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN (CSEC)

Commercial Sexual Exploitation:

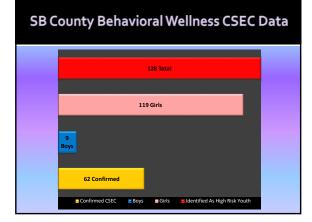
- Sexually abusing a child for economic gains
  - Selling/Trading children for sex
  - Child pornography
  - Child sex tourism
  - Survival Sex
  - Other forms of transactional sex like arranged marriages
- Child Sex Trafficking:
- "The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a child for the purposes of a commercial sex act."
  - FORCE, FRAUD OR COERCION IS NOT REQUIRED

### **Prevalence in California**

#### West Coast CSE-IT Tool

 5,537 youth screened involved in child welfare, juvenile justice, and related systems
 1 in 10 children showed clear signs of exploitation

- Highest rates of trafficking indicators:
  - 1 in 3 African-American girls
- 1 in 4 transgender youth
- 1 in 5 girls overall
- 1 in 5 homeless boys



### **RISK FACTORS** What Leads to Victimization

### Child maltreatment

- Sexual abuse
- Substance Abuse
- System involved-Juvenile Justice & Child Welfare .
  - "50% to 80% involved with child welfare" (California Child Welfare Council) Foster Care/Group Home
    - Targeted by exploiters
  - Many girls report being approached by exploiter or recruited while at group home
  - LGBTQ

.

- Disrupted Attachment
- RUNAWAY IS SINGLE BIGGEST CONTRIBUTING FACTOR .

### Trauma & Attachment CHILDHOOD ADVERSITY = DISRUPTED ATTACHMENTS Fight-Flight-Freeze Tend & Befriend Hierarchy of Needs Food, clothing, shelter • LOVE, BELONGING, PURPOSE Vital component **Externalizers vs Internalizers** Juvenile Justice ns by Which Adverse Child ealth and Well-being Throu Child Welfare

### HOW A YOUTH BECOMES A VICTIM

- Parents selling childrenViolence and force
- Kidnapping
- Seduction and coercion
- False advertising for "modeling," "acting," or "dancing" opportunities
  Peer recruitment
- Social Media, Online Classifieds, Chat
- Sites
- Out of home placement

### CSEC IS NOW A MANDATED CWS REPORT

- Suspicion is all you need
- Use First Responder ID Tool
- If a child is in <u>IMMANENT DANGER</u> immediately call 911 and request a WELFARE CHECK
- Call CWS hotline and make a CSEC report
- Do not investigate or conduct in depth interview
   Allow trained CSEC/Sexual Assault staff conduct investigation and interview
- Link child to CSEC specific counselors
   Rape Crisis, BWell/RISE, Victim Witness

## Identification (vs) Screening

- **IDENTIFICATION** requires little to no training or contact with suspected victim.
- <u>SCREENING</u> requires CSEC Specific training, contact with suspected victim & trauma informed investigation; possibly with multiple parties.
- This should NOT be done by untrained individuals
- Often triggering and may cause harm
- BE AWARE: traffickers or potential traffickers often accompany victims to appointments or are present with LE contact



Not the "perfect victim"

### What Santa Barbara County is Doing

- Multi-Agency Collaborations Law Enforcement Training/Collaborations .
- First Responder ID Tool & West Coast ID Tool .
- Human Trafficking Advocate Program (HTAP) .
- 24/7 Rapid Responders-Trauma Informed Human Trafficking Task Force .

Trauma-Informed & CSEC Trainings Shelter-Placement Efforts

HART Court--CSEC MDT's

SB 163 WRAP RISE Project/BWell-MHSA

Hotel Outreach Linkage to CSEC Specific Interventions .

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Survivor Supports/Survivor Informed

### SEXUAL EXPLOITATION ADVOCATES























HOW ARE WE DOING?	% who feel
RISE Team	Supported
	10070
WRAP Team	89%
Juvenile Hall Mental Health Team	52%
Clinic Mental Health Team	73%
HART Court	75%
CALM	40%
Probation	31%
Social Worker	46%
Rape Crisis	100%
Coast Valley	50%
CADA	13%
Other Mental Health Provider	100%
Other Substance Abuse Treatment Provider	100%









# **Sexual Exploitation of Children Fact Sheet**

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) and Youth affects communities at worldwide, national and local levels. CSEC is defined as sexual abuse of a minor for economic or power gain. It can involve physical abuse, coercion, pornography, emotional abuse and the smuggling/transporting of children for unlawful purposes. **CSEC is a form of human trafficking.** Human trafficking is a worldwide, billion-dollar-a-year industry and human trafficking is the world's second most profitable criminal enterprise but fastest growing.

**CSEC** is a rampant and fast-growing problem: The central coast is considered a hub & corridor to sex trafficking/exploitation according to the FBI

### VICTIMS

• ALL CHILDREN (girls, boys, and transgender youth) from any background can be targeted and exploited. Average age victims enter trafficking is 12-14 years old.

### VICTIMIZATION-HOW IT HAPPENS

- Victims are often hidden from view, often going unnoticed
- Pimps and other exploiters scout bus stations, arcades, malls and social networking websites, honing in on girls/boys who appear to be runaways without money or skills, or who may be experiencing trouble at home
- They befriend the youth by showing them affection; buying them clothes, meals, jewelry, beauty/grooming (i.e., manicures) and/or offering shelter in exchange for sex
- False promises of a "better life" are an important recruitment tool. Reality: All money is turned over to the pimp/trafficker and children are exploited for monetary gain and sexual gratification of the exploiters and their clients
- The pimp/trafficker creates a seemingly loving and caring relationship with the child in order to establish trust and loyalty.
- Pimps and exploiters eventually (as little as 2 weeks) use the child's emotional and financial dependency to coerce them into selling sex for money
- The manipulation tactics used by the exploiter ensures that the child will remain loyal to him/her despite acts of violence and severe victimization against the child
- Children are threatened or may be assaulted to guarantee obedience and prevent their escape

### **PERPETRATORS (EXPLOITERS, TRAFFICKERS OR PIMPS)**

- Predators who seek out vulnerable victims
- Can be anyone, including family members, boyfriends or other trusted adults
- Although exploiters often target children outside of their family, a family member may also exploit a child

### **CSEC INDICATORS-WHO IS AT RISK?**

- Homelessness/runaway youth
- Children with sexual abuse histories, foster care, group homes etc.
- Kids with history of violations (i.e., truancy, curfew violations or involvement with juvenile justice system)
- There is a presence of an older "boyfriend" or adult who is controlling in the youth's life
- Youth has tattoos, brandings or markings
- Signs of violence (i.e., cuts, bruises or burns on child's body)

### **PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT**

Abused and exploited by the pimp, the child is then left traumatized, alone and without support. In addition, the victim may experience a range of emotional or psychological distress, including:

- Trauma (complex trauma/traumabonding)
- Depression
- Isolation
- Thoughts of suicide or self-destructive behavior
- GuiltAnxiety
- Anger control issues
- Difficulty forming positive relations with others
- Attention deficit/impulse control issues
- "Brainwashed"
- Aggression
- Addiction
- Poor attachment
- Difficulty managing moods

### **RETHINKING THE PERCEPTION OF VICTIMS**

An important part of taking action against CSEC is reframing perceptions about its victims and fighting the stigma that surrounds this issue.

### Here are some facts:

- Many victims of sex trafficking have been molested, raped and/or sexually assaulted by a family member or close family friend. 95% of CSEC were victims of earlier childhood sexual abuse
- Given the few choices some youth have, when he/she sells sex at the hands of an exploitative adult, it is largely a means of survival

### Shifts in Legislation:

SB 855 (2014):

- Makes the commercial sexual exploitation of a minor a mandatory child abuse report
- Clarified that a child who is sexually trafficked and whose parent or guardian has failed or is unable to protect him or her, can be served through child welfare as a victim of abuse and neglect

SB 1322 (2017):

- 'Decrim' law: Decriminalized the crimes of prostitution and loitering with intent to commit prostitution (crimes listed in 647 and 653.22 of the Penal Code) for minors
- Peace officer who encounters a child involved in a commercial sex act pursuant shall report suspected abuse or neglect of the minor to the county child welfare agency

### **RESOURCES**

Child Welfare Hotline: 1-800-367-0166

Santa Barbara County Behavioral Wellness: 24/7 Mental Health Hotline (888) 868-1649 SBCo Beh Wellness RISE Project (CSEC Specific Treatment Program): (805) 346-1488 or

email to BWELL.RISE.SM@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

National Human Trafficking Hotline: 888-373-7888

California Human Trafficking Legislation: https://oag.ca.gov/human-trafficking/legislation

Shared Hope International: http://sharedhope.org/

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children® at 1-800-843-5678 or visit www.cybertipline.com

Innocence Lost National Initiative at http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/vc\_majorthefts/cac/innocencelost

## **SPECIAL REPORTS:**

U.S. Department of Justice (OJJDP): https://www.ojjdp.gov/programs/csec\_program.html

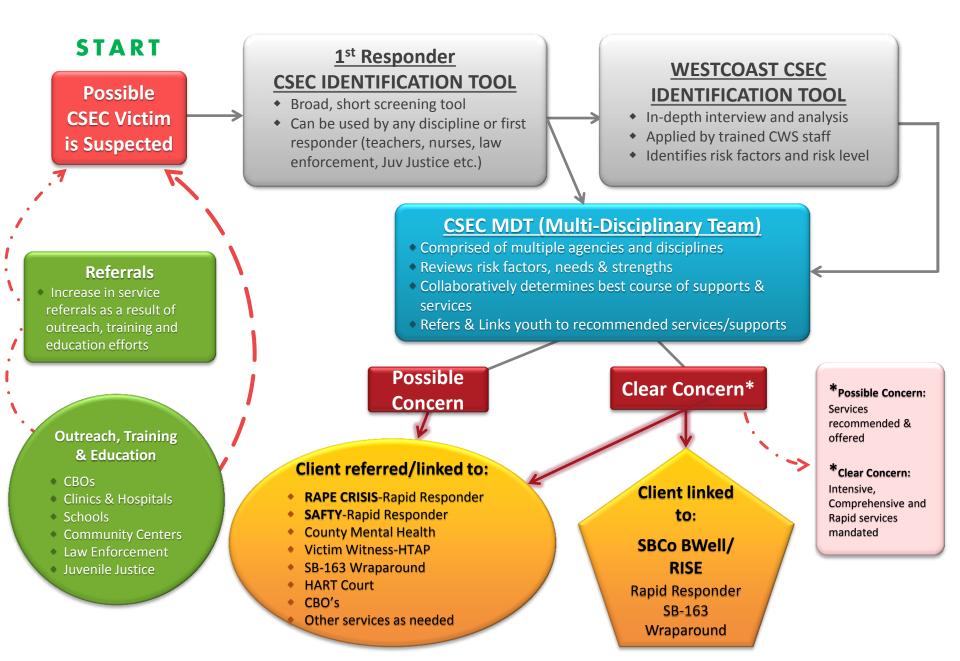
National Institute of Justice Special Report: "Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: What do we know and what do we do about it? https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/215733.pdf Child Walfare Information Catoway (2015) https://www.abildwalfare.gov/pubBDEa/trafficking

Child Welfare Information Gateway (2015) https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/trafficking.pdf





# **Identification & Referral Flowchart for Potential CSEC Victims**



# **1**) Understand/Perceive

How to perceive youth through sexual exploitation "lens"

# **Behaviors You Might See**

- Oppositional/Aggressive
- Lies, dishonest, hesitant when questioned
- Resistant or refuses help
- Quiet, fearful, poor eye contact
- Under the Influence
- "NOT THE PERFECT VICTIM" (does not present as needing help)

# Environment You Might Find the Youth

- Motels or known area of prostitution
- With much older adults or people associated w/ prostitution
- Home, party, hotel, car w/ much older people and access to drugs and alcohol

# **CSEC "Red Flags"**

- Runaway/foster care/group home
- Reported as a Missing Person, traveled out of county, on the run for long periods of time
- Sexual exploitation disclosed or reported by others
- Tattoos/scars/brandings assoc w/exploitation
- Using lingo associated w/sexual exploitation
- Unexplained bruises and marks
- Past CWS reports
- More than 1 cell phone/Large sums of cash/drugs

2 Focus/Sharpen "lens" Clarify information and determine suspicions Utilize <u>1<sup>st</sup> Responder ID Tool</u> to determine if there is a suspicion of sex exploitation



Assess for Immediate Risk-Secure Safety-Contact CWS

Under 18: Call CWS Abuse Hotline immediately

Complete and submit SCAR to CWS within 24 hours

Over 18: Call Rape Crisis Center immediately

Report's Name:

### FIRST RESPONDER ID TOOL for COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN (CSEC)

This tool is **NOT** to be given to the youth or the family to complete.

To be completed by law enforcement, probation, group home, social worker, teacher, medical personnel, mental health etc. It is best **NOT** to conduct lengthy interviews to gather additional information; all you need is suspicion of sexual exploitation.

### 1. <u>Automatic Referral Identifiers (Only 1 is needed for referral)</u>:

□ Self or other report of commercial sexual exploitation

□ Picked up in motel or known area of prostitution

□ Using lingo associated with sexual exploitation (see below)

□ Older person engaging in "grooming" or "recruiting" tactics (*purchasing items, making promises of job/money, offering place to stay/rides/drugs/alcohol, inappropriate social media contact/pictures etc.*)

Listed on Backpage, Craigslist, Tinder, "dating" sites or other social media for purpose of sex acts

□ Has been officially reported as a "Missing Person" and or has a Special Pop CSEC Flag within the last 12 months

□ Has been missing and traveled out of county without guardian consent or knowledge (even if youth states they went willingly)

 $\Box$  §653.22 PC – type behavior (*Law Enforcement only*)

### 2. <u>Referral Identifiers (3 are needed for referral)</u>:

□ Associating with others involved in sexual exploitation (*exploitation victims or traffickers/perpetrators/pimps*)

□ Brands or tattoos representing CSEC/Exploitation

□ Runaway History (*runs to a non-familial home or unknown/unsafe place*)

□ Homeless w/o parent/guardian (couch surfing)

□ Under the influence of or known to use controlled substances (*meth, cocaine, heroin, prescription pain medication, etc.*)

□ Allegations of sexual abuse, physical abuse or neglect (regular reporting mandates apply here. Please also report any suspicions of non-CSEC related abuse to CWS immediately)

□ In a controlling relationship with an older partner/domestic violence

Bruises/unexplained marks

Truancy

□ In relative placement, foster or group home care

 $\hfill\square$  Possession of more than 1 cell phone

□ Charges for survival crimes:

Shoplifting/theft of necessities

Trespassing

Panhandling

You must complete a SCAR (Suspected Child Abuse Report) by contacting CWS at (800) 367-0166 if:

- You identified at least one of the criteria noted in section 1 and/or;
- You identified three or more criteria noted in section 2
- Please identify that you suspect CSEC when making a SCAR and list any statements made by youth, known history or identifiers above that lead to suspected CSEC

### If you feel child is in immediate danger, please call 911 and request a Welfare Check then complete steps above

### Terminology or warning signs of sexual exploitation:

<ul> <li>Out of pocket</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Daddy</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Brandings/Burns</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reckless eyeballing</li> </ul>	Choosing fee	
<ul> <li>Bottom B*tch/Girl</li> </ul>	●Ho	Wifey/Wife-in-Law/Sister Wife	• Knock	• Choose up	
• Quota	<ul> <li>Square</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>"The Life" or "The Game"</li> </ul>	•Turn out	• Swan	
Stable	<ul> <li>Track/Blade</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Trade Up/Trade Down</li> </ul>	• Duck	<ul> <li>Diamond/dollar sign, crown, "property of"</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Automatic</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Seasoning</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lay down to rise up</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Grooming</li> </ul>	tattoo	
<ul> <li>In pocket</li> </ul>			• P.I.=Pimp	<ul> <li>Kiddie or Runaway Track</li> </ul>	

### REMEMBER, ALL YOU NEED IS SUSPICION!





### LCONN@SBCBWELL.ORG

# Trafficking ex

#### **COERCION** and THREATS

police/immigration

Threatens to do physical harm • Threatens to harm family . Threatens to shame victim to community Threatens to report to

# bool : ECONOMIC ABUSE

**Workers**,

servants, farm

Creates debt bondage that can never be repaid . Takes some or all money earned Forbids victim to have access to their finances or bank account Forbids victim to go to school

### USING PRIVILEGE

Treats victim like a servant • Defines gender roles to make subservient 

 Uses nationality to suggest superiority . Uses certain victims to control other victims . Hides or destroys important the second papers

### SEXUAL ABUSE

Forces victim to have sex with multiple people in a day Uses rape as a weapon and means of control •Treats victim as an object used for monetary gain 

 Normalizes sexual violence and selling sex

### INTIMIDATION

Harms or kills others to show force • Displays or uses weapons 

 Destroys property Harms children

 Lies about police involvement in

the trafficking

situation

POWER

&

CONTROL

### **EMOTIONAL** ABUSE

Hution, Humiliates in front of others Calls names
 Plays mind games Makes victim feel guilt, blame for the situation • Creates dependence by convincing victim they're the only one that cares about them

### ISOLATION

Keeps confined • Accompanies to public places • Creates distrust of police/others • Moves victims to multiple locations 

Rotates victims Doesn't allow victim to learn English 

Denies MINIMIZING.

access to children, family and friends

BLAMING Makes light of abuse or situation • Denies that anything illegal is occurring 

Places blame on victim for the

**DENYING &** 

trafficking situation abor Trafficking

brothels,

massa





### Mission Statement:

R.I.S.E (Resiliency Interventions for Sexual Exploitation) is committed to the restoration and empowerment of females, LGBT & GNC youth exposed to, or at risk of, sexual exploitation and trafficking. Through trauma & gender-specific services, collaborative partnerships and community outreach, RISE works to restore and reintegrate survivors, eradicate sexual exploitation and reduce the stigma surrounding sexual trauma in Santa Barbara County. RISE is committed to promoting hope and resiliency in youth, guiding them to be leaders in their pursuit of meaningful and enriching lives.

#### Who RISE Serves:

The RISE Project will serve females and LGBT/GNC youth aged 10-24 and their families; specifically targeting our underserved African-American, Asian/Pacific Islander, Latino, Native American/Tribal, and the LGBTQ youth who are "at risk" and vulnerable to exploitation. RISE also provides sexual exploitation specific consultation, psycho-education and linkage to rehab/therapy supports for **all individuals** exposed to or at risk of sexual exploitation and trafficking.

#### **Risk factors:**

Runaway, incarceration, school expulsion, truancy, multiple caregivers, addiction, involvement in Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare systems, associations with others involved in exploitation, family history of sexual exploitation, domestic violence, gang involvement, past sex trauma/child abuse/neglect/abandonment and out of home placement.

### The RISE Project will be composed of integrated elements:

- Initial Intake and Exit Screenings, Survey's & Assessments to collect/evaluate data to ensure program efficacy as well as provide compatible treatment interventions
- Comprehensive & Inclusive Treatment Planning and Development including treatment team, youth, family/caretakers and other support persons.
- ✓ Trauma Informed Crisis Interventions 24/7 crisis interventions & referrals will be available through RISE & Community Partners
- ✓ Medication Support through a trauma-informed Psychiatrist and Nurse/Health & Wellness Advocate
- ✓ Linkage to strength and trauma based support and peer-driven resources
- ✓ Advocates assisting youth in navigating legal, CWS, School, Immigration and Mental Health systems etc.
- Client and Family Treatment Team meetings with youth and family to review progress and problem-solve
- Incentive-Outreach-Engagement Program (Outreach, Welcome & Success Packs) to celebrate effort/goal attainment, increase engagement and assist them in reaching their goals
- Weekly Multi-Disciplinary Treatment Team where youth are presented to a trained multi-agency team to determine appropriate Tx and supports, and assess progress/efficacy of treatment
- Biopsychosocial-Hierarchy of Needs supports focusing on wellness, resilience and recovery through evidenced based and best practice supports that attend holistically to the individual through a biological, social, psychological, spiritual, cultural, basic needs and environmental supports approach:
  - > Yoga
  - Dance/Music Classes/Workshops
  - Writing Workshops
  - Artistic/Self Expressive/Hygiene/Gender Positive Activities
  - Meditation/Mindfulness/Intentional Thinking
  - > Pro-social opportunities through positive peer and resiliency building activities and vocational training
  - Trauma-Informed/Gender-Specific Counseling Groups
  - Trauma-Focused Individual Therapy/Counseling/Supports
  - Survivor Mentor Program
  - Physical Wellness/Reproductive Supports through trained medical staff
  - Spiritual awareness/focus
  - > Culture and Gender Specific awareness and psycho-education
  - Gender Specific Addiction-treatment linkage and psycho-education