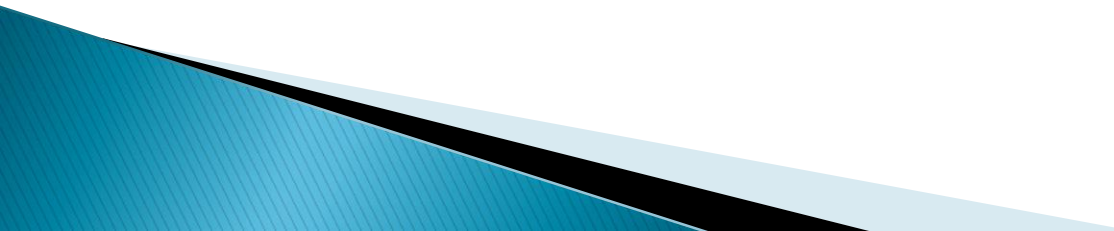


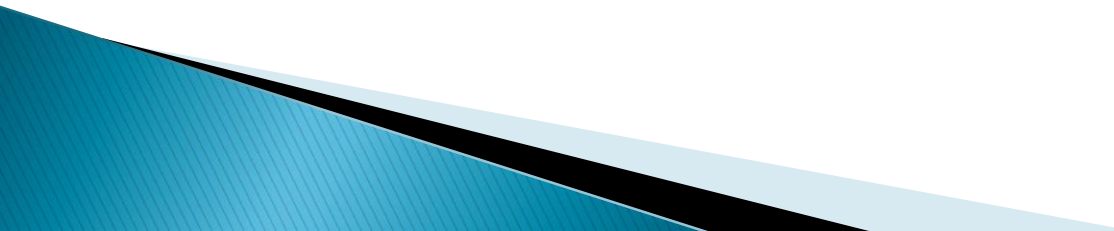
Human Trafficking in Indian Country

Kathy Howkumi, Supervisory Victim Specialist, Bureau of
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July 28, 2016

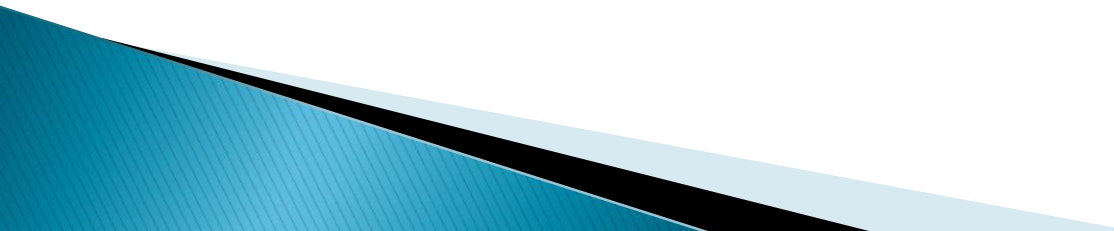
Objectives

- ▶ Attendees will be provided with information to understand the model of trafficking of Native women, children, men.
 - ▶ Understand the correlation of historical trauma, drug/alcohol use/abuse, and homelessness.
 - ▶ Identify steps to collaborate to raise awareness within tribal communities.
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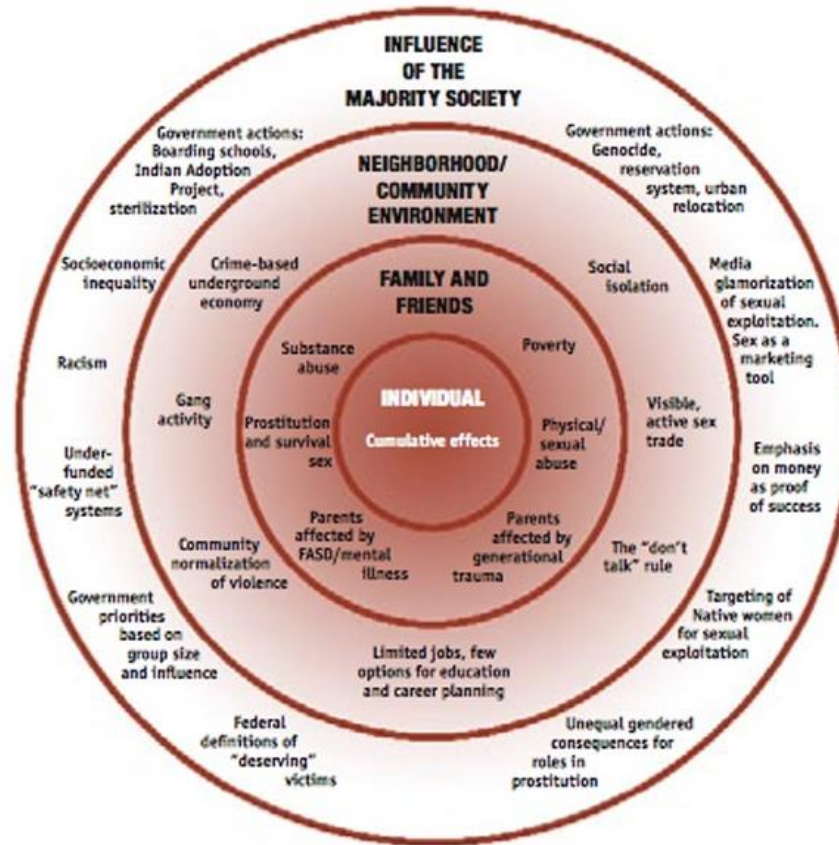
Historical Trauma

- ▶ What does it look like in your community?
 - ▶ Current trauma
 - ▶ Self-medicate
 - Increased removal of children
 - Homelessness
 - Use/abuse of drugs/alcohol
 - ▶ Fear of acceptance/victim blaming
 - ▶ Cultural taboo
- 

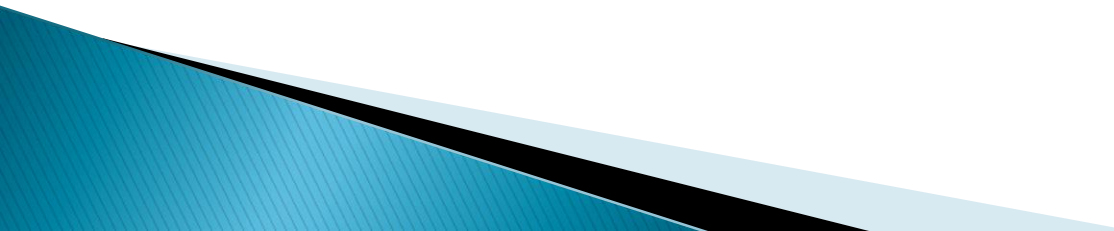
Mapping the Market

- ▶ What is the “marketplace” where Native Americans are sold for sex?
 - ▶ Where does trafficking occur?
 - ▶ What is the process for trafficking?
- 

The social ecology of Native girls' vulnerability



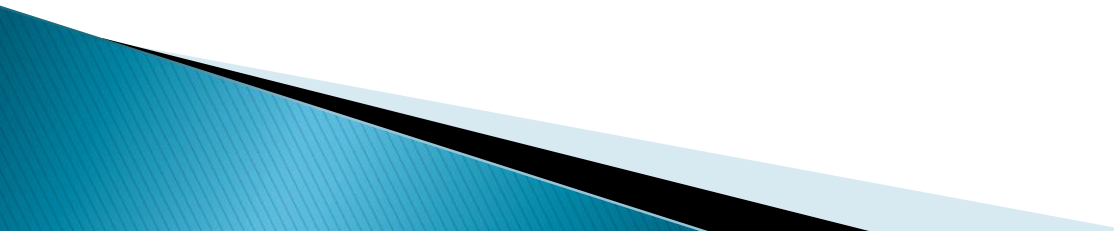
Assumptions

- ▶ Commercial sex trade is an industry.
 - ▶ Subject to market forces.
 - ▶ Operations respond to market forces to generate a profit.
 - ▶ Operations increase their profits by responding to priorities, purchasing power of specific market segments (categories of customers).
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Victims prior criminal history

- ▶ Victims are typically tied to:
 - Criminal sexual conduct
 - Violent crime
 - Domestic violence
 - Sex crimes
 - Child abuse, neglect, assault

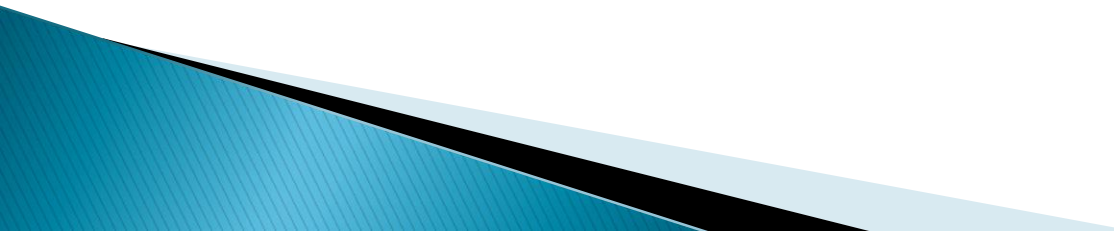
Victims prior reports as victim

- ▶ Runaway, missing curfew
 - ▶ Other sexual abuse
 - ▶ Child physical abuse
 - ▶ Child neglect
 - ▶ Child sexual abuse
- 

Communities & operations

	Single Pimp	Pimp Network	Corporate
African-American	X	X	X
American Indian	X	X	
White		X	X
Latina/o	X	X	
Somali	X	X	X
Liberian		X	
LGBTQ	X		

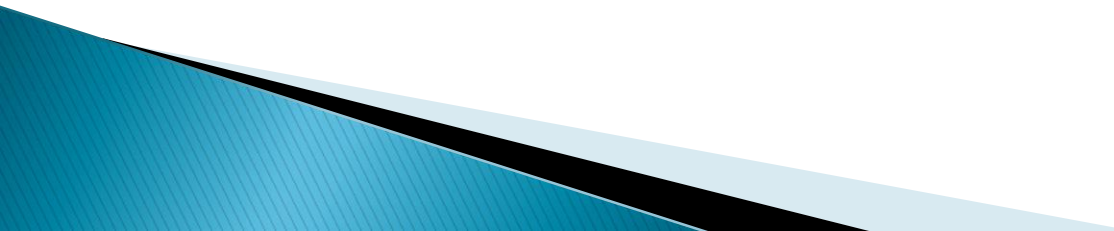
Business Models

- ▶ Escort (in-call, out-call, mostly internet based)
 - ▶ Street based
 - ▶ Brothel/brothel-like (fixed location, choice of women/girls)
 - ▶ Closed sex buyers' network (private parties, events, gatherings)
- 

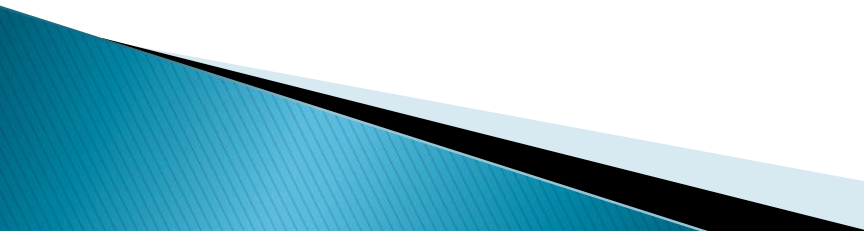
Business models using Native girls

- ▶ Quotes from Native advocates:
 - They're private parties that the pimp organizes...The pimps have already been paid. At the location, there's no money transaction. It has already been handled. It's pretty usual.
 - A Native American girl was set up...by her boyfriend who was involved in Native gangs. She was taken to an abandoned warehouse for a party, was drugged through the punch she drank, and was raped by many men.


What Native advocates tell us...

- ▶ “The traffickers make the girls believe that they are special, these exotic Native beauties. Spend money on them for clothes and gifts. The girls don’t have to form an honest emotional bond with their traffickers, don’t have to talk about their hurts, their family. It gives them a false sense of empowerment.”
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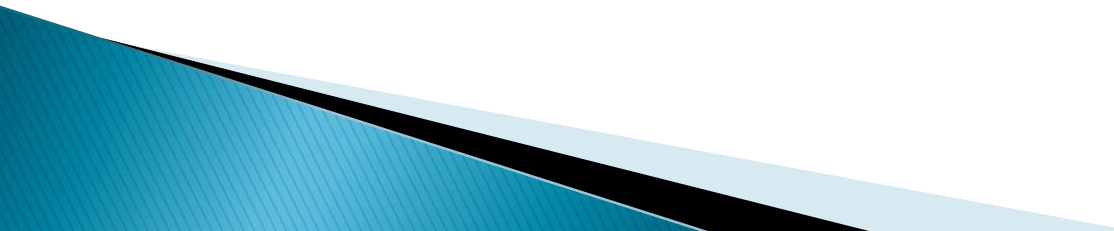
Accessing “supply” of Native girls

- ▶ “loverboy” pimping (offering love, gifts, glamour, self-sufficiency)
 - ▶ Trap houses, “train” parties – pre-arranged rape and sexual abuse (bothel-like)
 - ▶ Bait and switch (adolescent girls offered \$ to “model” or just dance)
 - ▶ Peer recruitment
 - ▶ Using children/loved ones as leverage
- 

Turning “raw material” into “product”

- ▶ Isolation, fostering emotional dependence
 - ▶ Strategic, calculated and brutal violence alternated with kindness/special treatment
 - ▶ Psychological manipulation to increase victims’ self-doubt, inability to trust her own perceptions of reality
 - ▶ Using children as leverage
 - ▶ Death threats
 - ▶ Keeping victim in a constant state of fear and uncertainty
- 

Where do we go from here?

- ▶ Who is the core team in your community that can help you identify and provide services to victims?
 - ▶ What are some strategies you have or could use to coordinate?
 - ▶ Where do you find services in your community?
 - ▶ Educate tribal leaders, law enforcement, service providers, businesses and schools in your community.
 - ▶ Map out the current resources available and any gaps in services in your community.
- 

Questions



Resources

- ▶ National Indigenous Women's Resource Center, Alexandra "Sandi" Pierce, PhD, Othayonih Research, St. Paul, MN
 - ▶ Tribal Law and Policy Institute – <http://www.home.tlpi.org/>
 - ▶ Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition – <http://www.miwsac.org/>
 - ▶ Red Wind, Consulting, Inc. – <http://red-wind.org/>
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