

The World of Sex Trafficking...

Glossary of Terms



AUTOMATIC: The 'routine' expected of a victim when a trafficker/pimp is absent with the expectation that they will comply with rules or be punished. All money earned on 'automatic' is turned over to the trafficker. (If a trafficker is in jail, the money generated will often go towards their bond.)

BOTTOM: A female appointed by the trafficker/pimp to 'supervise' the others. They may train the new victims, post ads on the internet, report rule violations, inflict punishments, book hotel rooms, and collect money. Often, as the 'right hand' for the trafficker, a Bottom Girl has a lower quota to fulfill than the other victims.

BOY-FRIENDING: A method of recruitment into the life of prostitution by posing as a 'boyfriend' instead of a pimp.

BRANDING: A tattoo, mark, or carving on the victim identifying them as property of their trafficker/pimp.

BREAKING: To give all one's earnings to a trafficker/pimp. It is common to "break a bitch" after each 'date'.

BROTHEL/CATHOUSE/WHOREHOUSE: An establishment where commercial sex acts are performed. It could be an apartment, house, trailer, or other building. Often security is present to warn of the presence of law enforcement as well as keep victims inside.

CAUGHT A CASE: When a trafficker/pimp or victim gets arrested and charged with a crime.

CHOOSING UP: How a different trafficker/pimp takes 'ownership' of a victim. Traditional pimping rules say that victims are to keep their eyes on the ground at all times, but if they make eye contact with another trafficker/pimp then they now belong to them. The original trafficker/pimp would have to pay to get them back. If this occurs, the victim will be required to make up the loss.

CIRCUIT: The routine series of cities or states victims are transported between; either to meet a demand or avoid law enforcement.

CLIENT/DATE/JOHN/TRICK: The person purchasing the sex act.

CSEC: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

COERCION: "Threats or perceived threats of serious harm to or physical constraints against a person; a scheme intended to cause a person to believe that failure to perform will result in serious harm to or physical restraint against any person." - Federal Law 22 U.S.C 7102 (3)

DADDY: The name that victims are often required to call their trafficker/pimp.

DATE: When a commercial sex act takes place or the act itself. (A victim is said to be "with a date" or "dating".)

DOMESTIC MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING (DMST): The trafficking of U.S. citizens under the age of 18.

DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING: The trafficking of U.S. citizens within the United States.



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ESCORT SERVICES: A business that arranges sexual transactions for a buyer, often done via phone or internet. The buyer may come to a pre-arranged location or the victim may be sent to the buyer. Some escort services work together.

EXIT FEE: The price a victim must pay if they would like to leave 'the life'. The trafficker/pimp will set this price so high that it is nearly impossible for the victim to leave.

FAMILY/FOLKS: The name used to describe all the members under a trafficker/pimps control. He is the 'Daddy' and they are the 'Family'.

FINESSE PIMP/ROMEO PIMP: A pimp/trafficker who uses psychological manipulation to control a victim. The pimp/trafficker will use false affection and gifts initially and then use threats to make sure their victims meet their demands.

FORCE: Using physical power or strength to abduct or retain a victim.

FRAUD: Using false promises of wealth and grandeur to entice a victim into the control of a pimp/trafficker. Common fraud examples include promises of a modeling career, better job opportunities, or photo shoots.

FRONTS/WALK-AROUND-MONEY: Money given to a victim by a pimp/trafficker to use for cab fare, food, drinks, and condoms.

GORILLA PIMP: A trafficker/pimp who uses primarily violence to maintain control of his victims.

GROOMING PERIOD: The time in which a trafficker/pimp invests in a potential victim to gain their trust and loyalty. They will build a false relationship using, gifts, affection, and feeding on their dreams/vulnerabilities until they have formed an attachment with the victim that they can then manipulate for their purposes.

HO: Short for 'whore', a street term for a prostitute.

HO LINE: Networks of communication between traffickers/pimps from different cities and states, used to buy or sell victims.

HUMAN SMUGGLING: "The facilitation, transportation, attempted transportation, or illegal entry of a person or persons across an international border." - US Department of State

HUSTLER: Someone who will do anything for money; including sell drugs, defraud or become a pimp/trafficker.

INCALL: When a buyer goes to the victim's designated location for the sex act.

KIDDIE STROLL: An area recognized for the prostitution of younger victims.

LOT LIZARD: A derogatory term for a victim being prostituted at a truck stop.

MADAM: An older female who manages a prostitution/trafficking establishment. She may be a pimp/trafficker herself, but usually came from a life of prostitution/trafficking.

MINOR: Anyone 18 years of age or younger.



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NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

1.888.3737.888

Text 'INFO' or 'HELP' to BeFree (233733)

OUTCALL: When a victim goes to the location of the buyer for the sex act.

OUT OF POCKET: When a victim disobeys the pimps/traffickers rules, leaving her subject to punishment or abuse. It may also refer to a prostitute not under that control of a pimp who is working on a pimp-controlled track and is subject to their abuse/harassment.

PARTNERSHIP: A trafficker/pimp who poses as a 'business partner,' manager, or agent rather than a pimp in order to recruit victims.

PEEL A TRICK: When a victim steals money from a buyer.

PIMP/TRAFFICKER: 'An individual or group who controls and financially benefits from the commercial sexual exploitation of a victim. Traffickers/Pimps can be individuals, couples, groups, teenagers, family members, or gangs. They are found in every demographic imaginable.' -Rescuinghope.com

PIMP CIRCLE: The act of several traffickers/pimps encircling a victim to use verbal and physical means for intimidation or punishment.

PIMP HAND: The use of a back-handed slap as a violent method of control.

PIMP HARD: When a trafficker/pimp raises the quota for a victim, reduces their amount of rest, or places them in a more dangerous situation for business.

PIMP RING: Traffickers/Pimps that work together to meet a geographic demand.

PIMP STICK: While most often a coat hanger wire, this could also be an appliance cord, towel rod, curtain rod, cigarette, or curling iron, used to burn as well as cut tissue to punish a victim.

QUOTA: The amount of money a victim is expected to earn for her trafficker/pimp each night before she can stop.

RECKLESS EYEBALLING: When a victim is looking around instead of keeping her eyes on the ground. While against the rules, a victim could intentionally/unintentionally 'choose' a new trafficker/pimp and face consequences.

RENEGADE/OUTLAW: A person involved in prostitution outside of the control of a trafficker/pimp.

ROLL A TRICK: When a victim, trafficker/pimp, or their associates rob a buyer by force.

RUNNER/CATCHER: The person who keeps an eye on the victims while they street and reports to the trafficker/pimp.



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SEASONING: 'A combination of psychological manipulation, intimidation, gang rape, sodomy, beatings, deprivation of food or sleep, isolation from friends or family and other sources of support, and threatening or holding hostage of a victim's children. Seasoning is designed to break down a victim's resistance and ensure compliance.' - Shared Hope International

SEX INDUSTRY/SEX TRADE: All the businesses that provide sex related services or products

SEX TOURISM: Traveling for the purpose of purchasing sex.

SEX TRAFFICKING: 'the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 19 years of age.'- Trafficking in Person's Act

SEXTORTION: When a trafficker/pimp befriends someone in order to gain their trust and get them to sexual photos/videos of themselves, which they eventually use to manipulate their victims into the sex trade.

SQUARING UP: Attempting to get out of the life of prostitution.

STABLE: The name for the group of victims within a particular trafficker/pimp's control.

SWEAT: When a trafficker/pimp interrogates a victim.

THE LIFE/THE TRADE/THE GAME: The culture of prostitution or trafficking, with everything from the rules and language, to the hierarchy of leadership.

TRACK/STROLL/BLADE: An area of town known for its prostitution activities.

TRADE UP/TRADE DOWN: When victims are moved between traffickers/pimps.

TRAP: Money earned by victims, or more commonly, money stashed in a hidden location to be used when a victim for some reason or another cannot meet quota.

TURNING A TRICK: Performing a sex act in exchange for money or goods. A 'trick' may also be used in reference to the person purchasing the sex act.

TURN OUT: The first time a victim is forced into prostitution.

WIFEYS/WIFE-IN-LAW/SISTER WIFE: How girls or women under the control of a same pimp refer to each other.



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