I'VE GOT A NAME

END SEX TRAFFICKING WHERE WE LIVE

VOCABULARY

Understanding the terminology used in the commercial sex trade is an important step in becoming more aware. Some words or phrases may be familiar as they have been common for decades. However, we must be careful how we use them as to not label those who become victims. The following list scratches the surface… please do your own research as well.

Traffickers
People who exploit others for profit. They can include any demographic, individuals, groups, gangs, organized crime, or businesses.

Sex Trafficking
Sex traffickers use force, fraud, or coercion to lure individuals and force them into commercial sexual exploitation. They seek those who are vulnerable for a variety of reasons, including psychological or emotional vulnerability, economic hardship, lack of a social safety net, natural disasters, or political instability.

Commercial Sex Act
Any sex act on account of which anything of value is given to or received by any person.

"Prostitute" – A Victim in the Life of Prostitution
A person who may be owned or "self-employed," selling her/his body for financial gain.

"John" – A Buyer
A person who purchases sex or sexual favors from another person.

"Pimp" – An Owner
A person (male or female) who deceives, controls, manipulates and sells another person for financial gain.

Quota
An established amount of money that a victim must earn each day. The victim is usually punished and may be sent back into the streets if not met. Quotas vary in different geographical locations.

Daddy
The term a male owner will often require a victim to call him.

Madam
An older woman who manages a brothel, escort service or other establishments. She may work privately or in collaboration with other traffickers.

Family/Folks
The term used to describe other individuals under the control of the same owner.

Lover Boy/Finesse Pimp/Romeo Pimp
One who prides himself on controlling others through psychological manipulation. The Lover Boy will shower the victim with gifts and false love and affection during the recruitment phase.

Choosing Up
The process by which a different owner takes ownership of victim in the life of prostitution.

Bottom Bitch
A person appointed by the owner to supervise another or others that are owned.

Exit Fee
The money an owner will demand from a victim who is thinking of leaving. The amount is usually significant to discourage the victims departure. Most owners to not provide this option unless a victim is ill or of no "value."

Trick
Committing an act of prostitution or the person buying it. A victim is said to be "turning a trick" or "with a trick."