Prevention & Public Health of Trafficking in Persons

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Disclosure Statement

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I have no relevant financial relationships to disclose



Learning Objectives Participants will be able to:

- Identify ways in which health professionals have a unique role in addressing human trafficking
- Apply principles of public health to prevent trafficking in persons
- List key aspects of human trafficking prevention programs

When you think of human trafficking, what comes to mind?





Trafficking = Modern Slavery





- 1. movement or confinement,
- 2. removing personal agency,
- 3. for financial profit or other gain



Where does it happen?

Every country

- Any kind of person
- Cities & rural areas





How many people? 21 million?!?



Who is at risk?



- Impoverished
- Migrants
- Minority groups
- People with disabilities
- Refugees, Internally Displaced Peoples, stateless people
 - Victims of humanitarian crises: natural disasters, armed conflicts, etc

Forms of trafficking

- Involuntary domestic service
- Forced labor
- Debt bondage
- Sex trafficking
- Forced child labor
- Forced marriages
- Child soldiers
- Child sex trafficking and pornography





CANNOT BE





Human trafficking does not start when people find themselves enslaved



Human trafficking does not end when people are rescued from their trafficker.

Stages of Human Trafficking

Pre-departure

Transit and Travel

Destination

Detention, deportation, criminal investigation

Integration/re-integration



So, what can I do??



Caring for TIP victims involves **much** more than clinical care:

Service

caring for survivors

Prevention

addressing risk factors

Identification

of victims

Research

best practices

Advocacy

patient rights

Training

other HCP

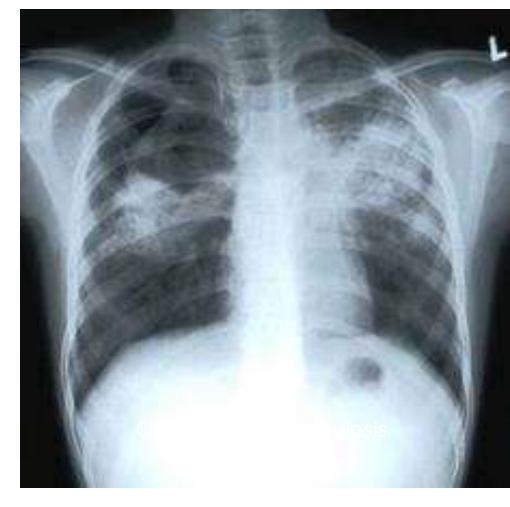
Multidisciplinary

team effort



Health Risk Categories

- 1. Infectious
- 2. Non-infectious
- 3. Reproductive Health
- 4. Mental health
- 5. Substance abuse
- 6. Violence





Child Health Issues

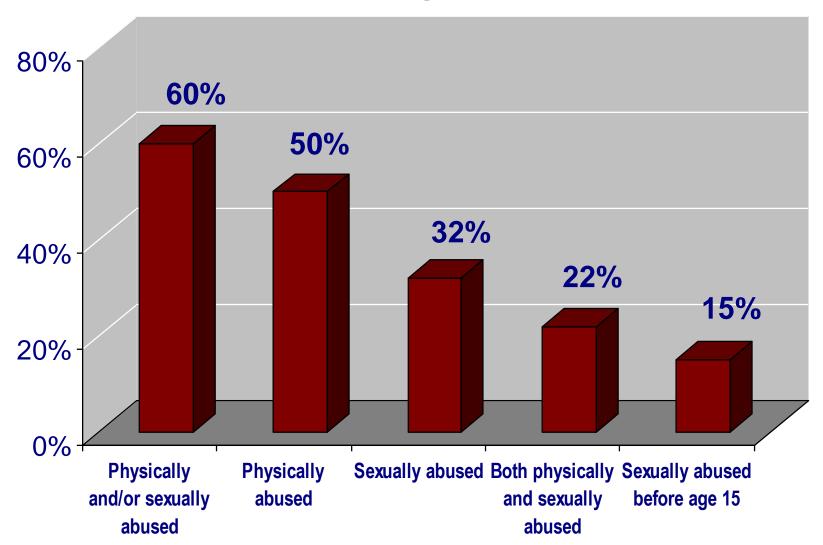
Cumulative impact of health problems

- Toxic environments
- Developmental issues (cognitive, physical, emotional)
- May be under-recognized as victims
- May be separated from parent/caretaker





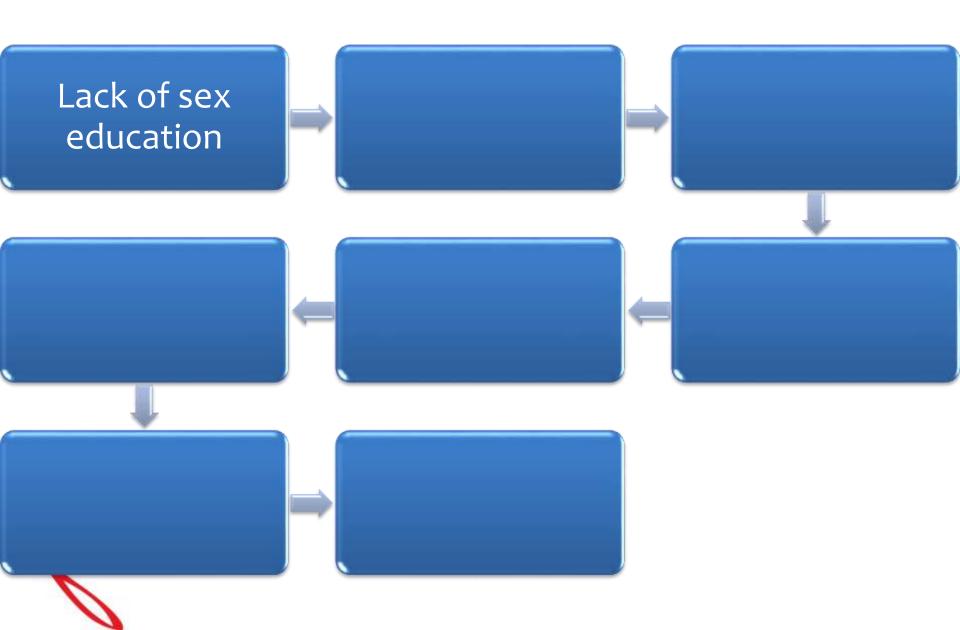
Violence experienced by women prior to being trafficked

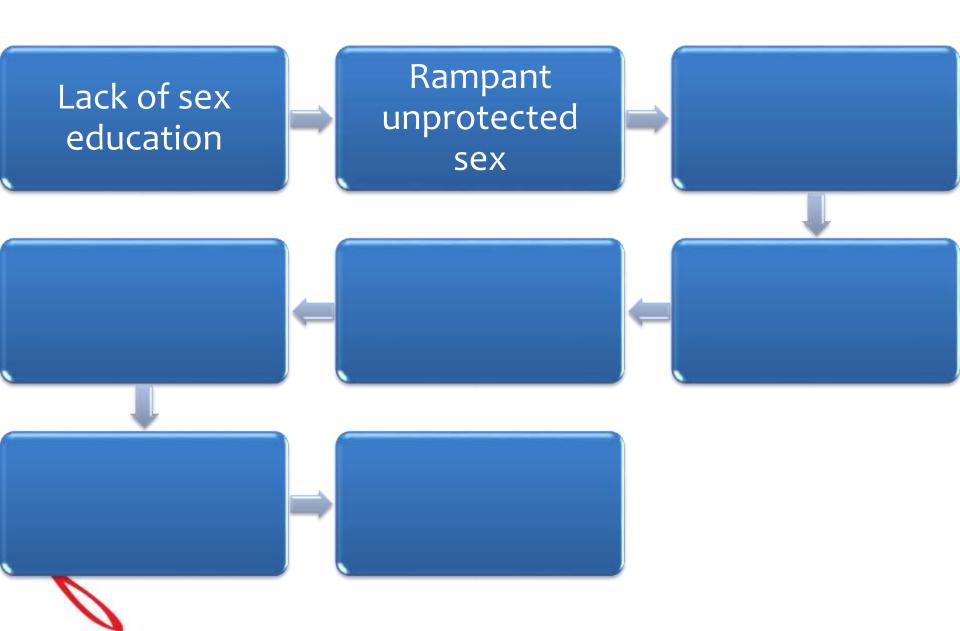


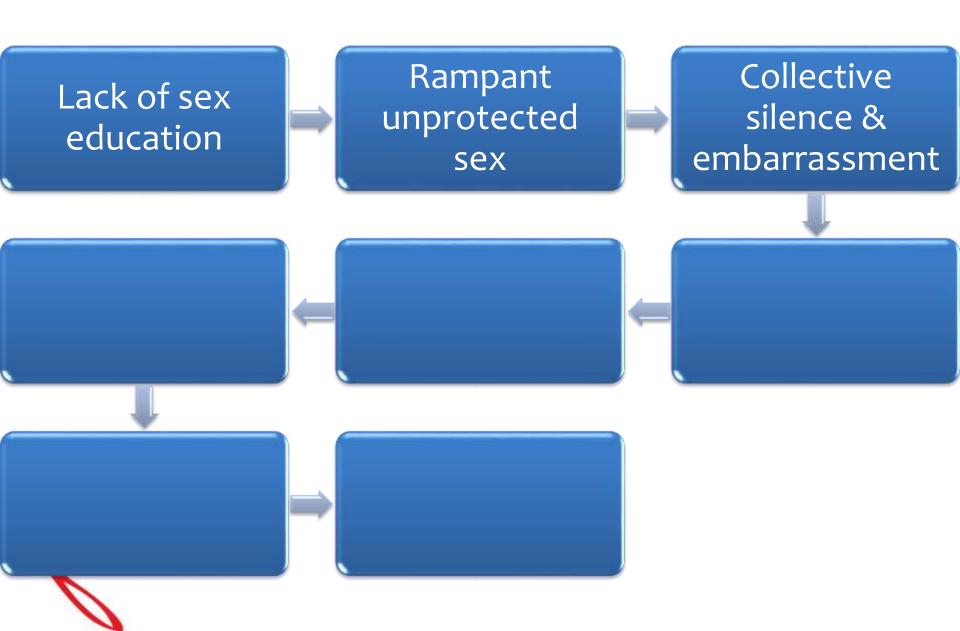
Trafficking IS a public health issue

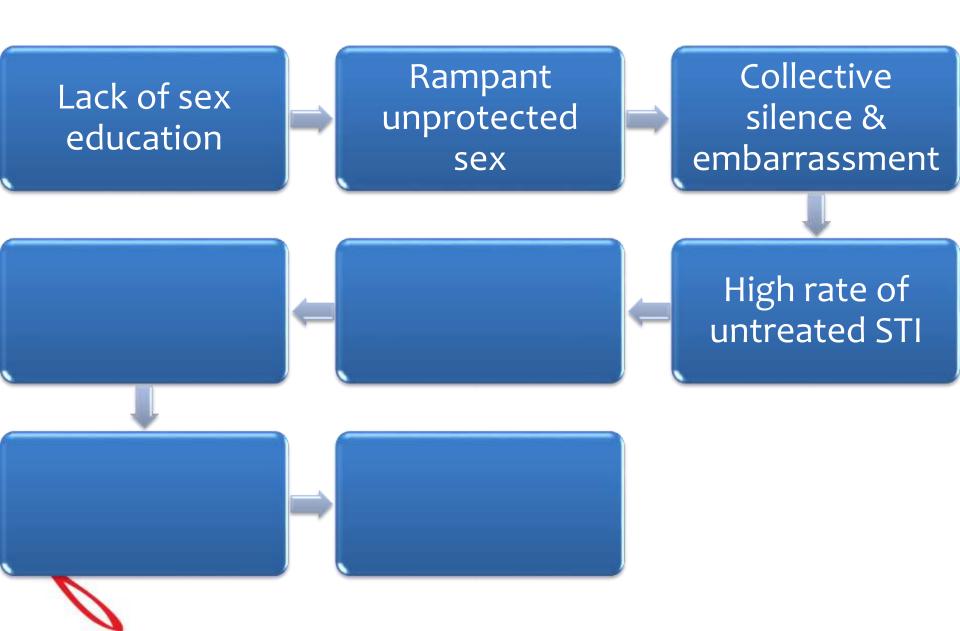
"Monitoring the health status of survivors of trafficking, the care they receive, and their access to medical services will be crucial in the future to hold signatories of the Convention [on the Rights of the Child] accountable and protect this vulnerable group."

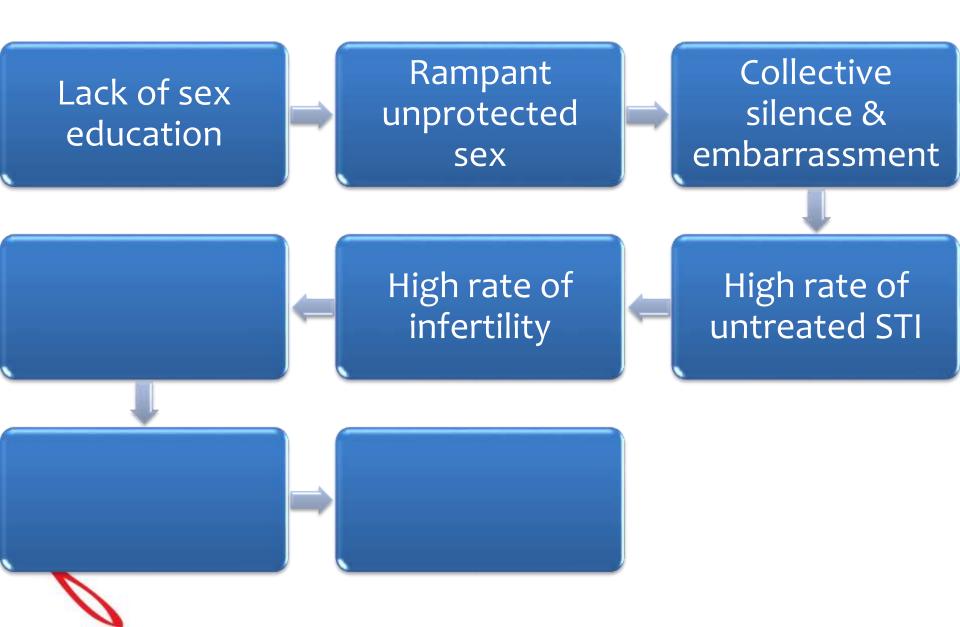
Chris Beyrer, The Lancet

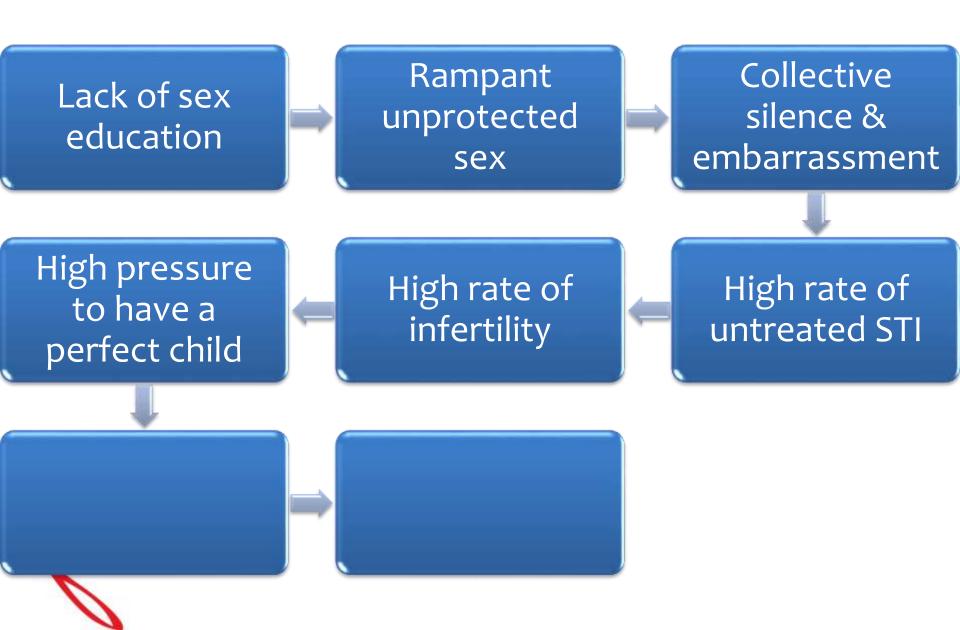


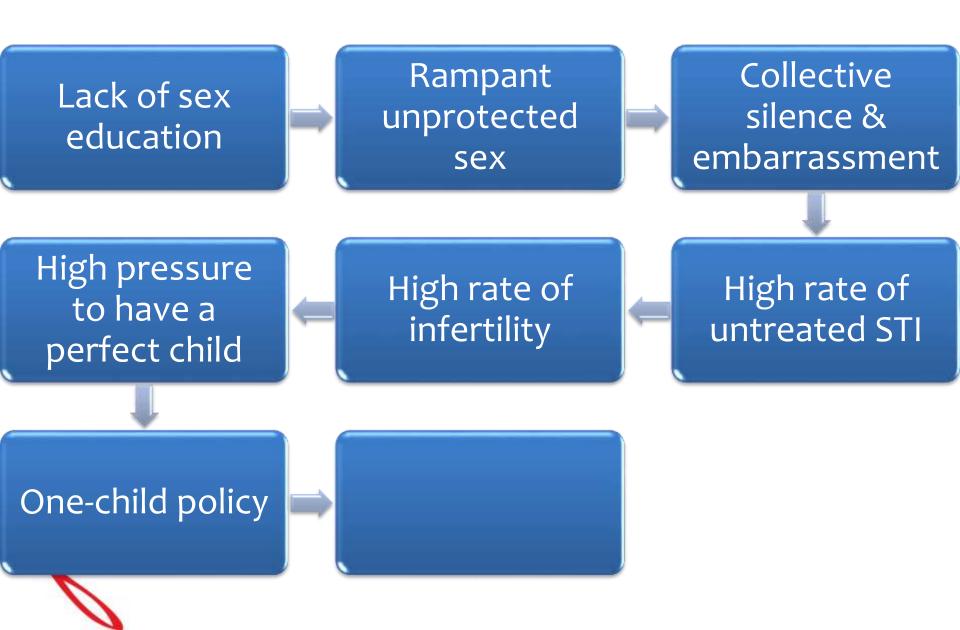




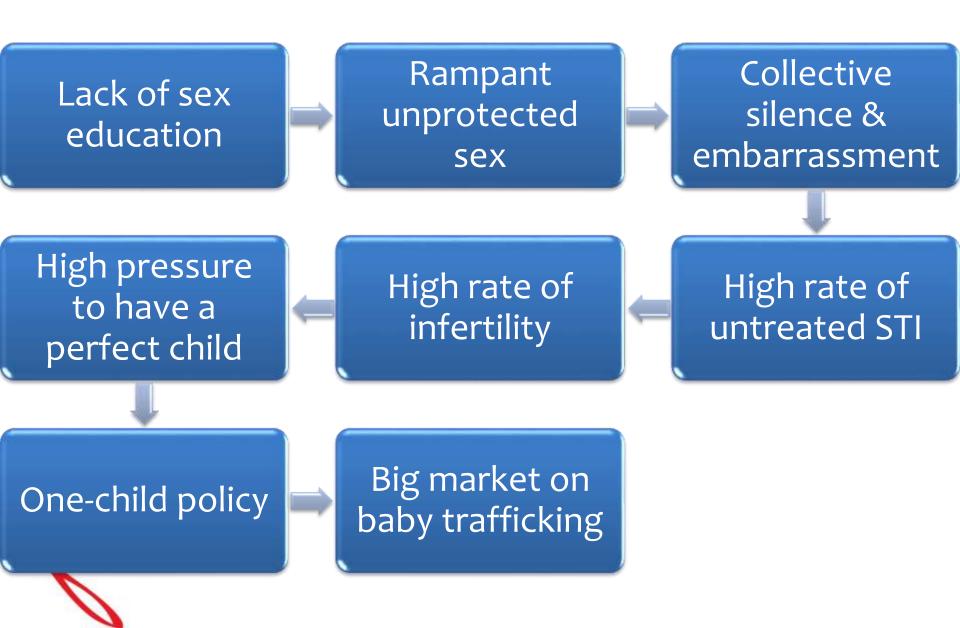












Prevention:



What prevention could be

"tightening the net"
Increasing awareness that leads to action
Decreasing demand
Tracking people/money



What prevention is NOT

Identification of victims (2nd/ 3rd degree)
Prosecution/better laws
Safe-harbor laws (2nd/ 3rd degree)
Building more shelters

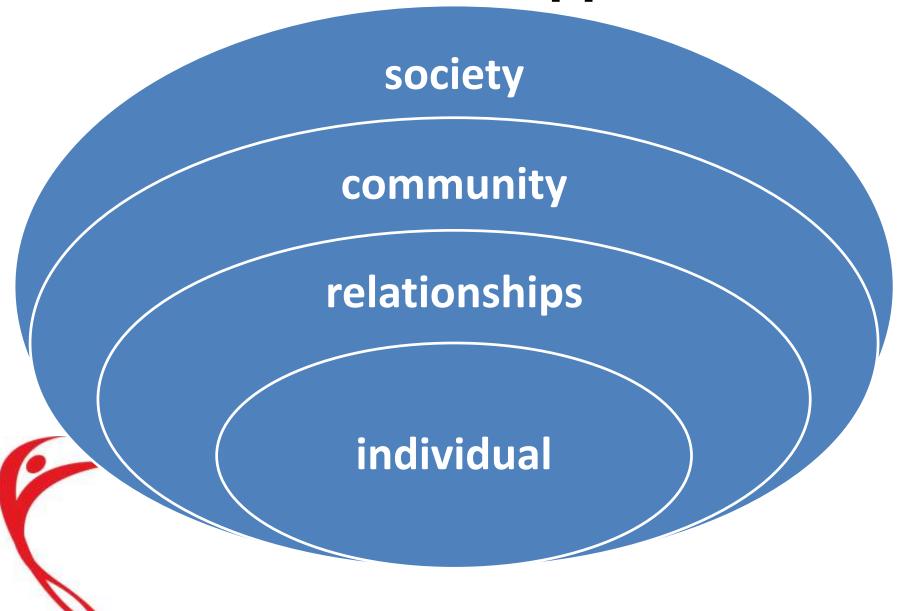


Public Health Approach

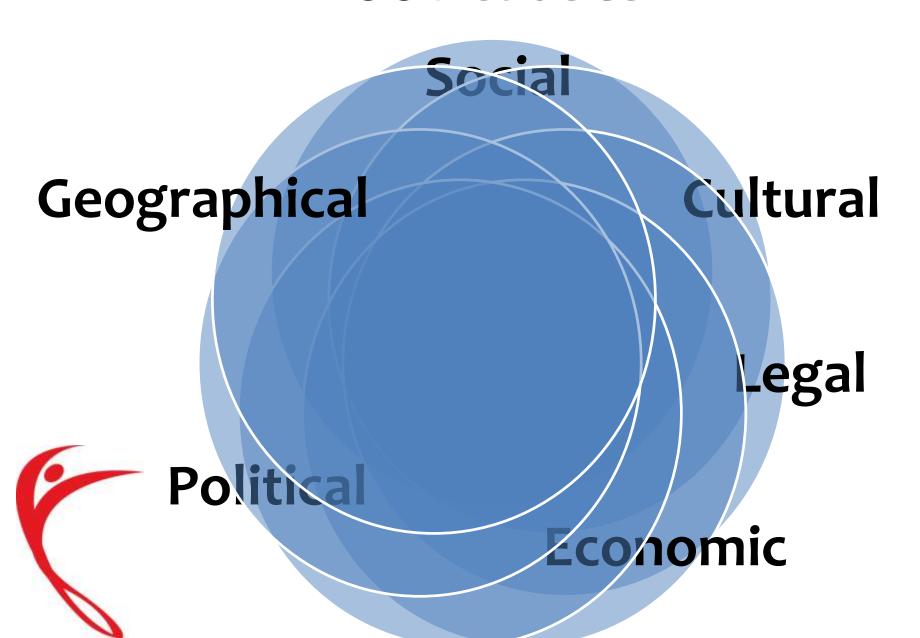
- Evidence-based research
- Prevention
- Addresses root causes
- Addresses societal views & behaviours
- Engages all stakeholders essential partners



Public Health Approach



Root Causes



Greater Mekong Subregion

- Thailand
- Burma
- Lao PDR
- Cambodia
- SW China
 - Vietnam



Changing Dynamics in Moldova

- Source country (exporting slaves) ---→ Sex tourism destination (domestic slavery)
- "social orphans"
- Italy becoming slave destination
- Changing immigration & political realities



Public Health, Research, & TIP

- Few data document the nature of the health risks or the disease burden globally
- Needed to Identify the traffickers, root causes, and triggering events
- Evidence informs interventions and programs (evidence-based medicine)
- Research can drive policies and generate funding
- Knowing the situation of your community will inform you how to make appropriate contextual interventions
 - Information gathered over time gives insight to trends



"NO DATA, NO PROBLEM"



Estimating numbers of people affected is important in public health but problematic in trafficking situation

- Trafficked people and survivors hidden
- Different countries have different definitions
- Need to not make best guesses based on "similar" populations



Health, Prevention, & Research

- Must understand what puts populations at risk
- Prevention messages can be developed and targeted
- Develop safe, acceptable, reliable protocols for interviewing and forensic data collection
- Long-term studies with evaluation and monitoring components

Effective PH Campaigns

- Increase awareness of nature & magnitude
- Convey info about what works & what we can do about it
- Motivates individuals, orgs, communities to take action
- Provides info about effective steps and how to carry out successful programs
 - Designed with evaluation & monitoring



Raising awareness about the commoditization of women

"The health-care community must become more engaged in increasing the recognition of trafficked women and girls in health-care settings, in provision of appropriate services, and in helping shape public policy to address what is one of the most disturbing health issues of our time."

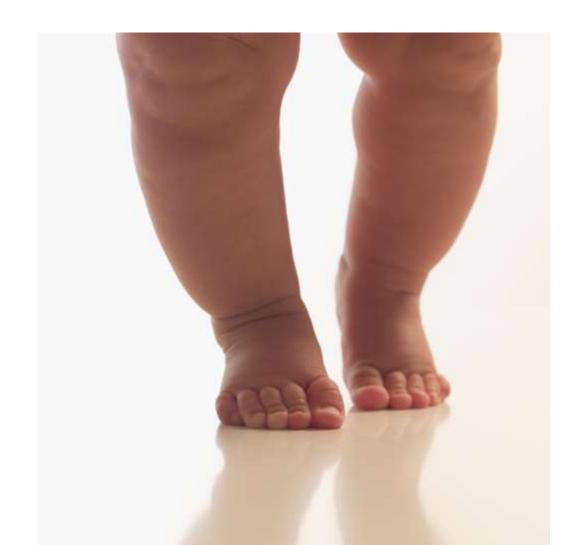


"The business of public health is to take what is accepted and make it unacceptable."

- Bill Foege, former director of CDC



Guiding Principles







Chiang Mai, Thailand

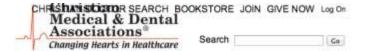




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Trafficking in Persons: A Primer for the Health Care Professional

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