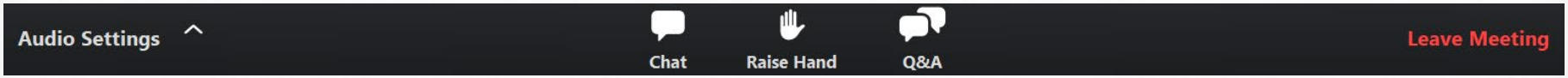
The Identification and Support of Students Affected by Human Trafficking

JANUARY 30, 2020

WEBINAR LOGISTICS

Zoom Control Panel

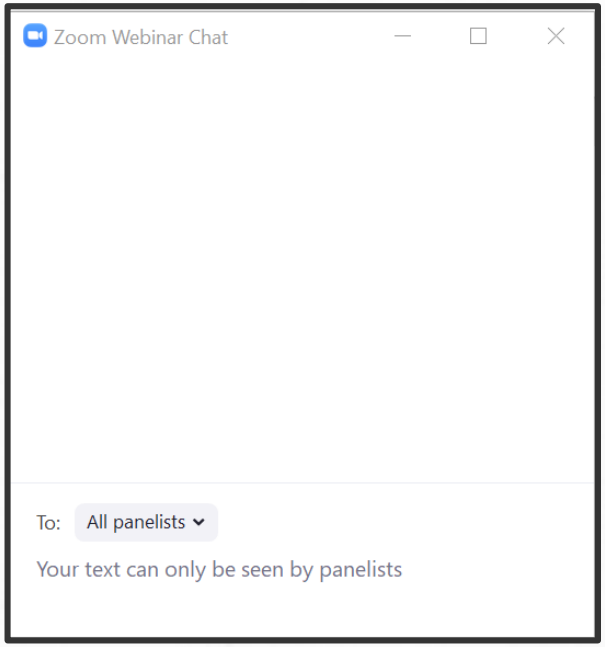


Technical Issues

For assistance during the webinar, please contact the National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments at ncssle@air.org or by calling 800-258-8413.

WEBINAR LOGISTICS

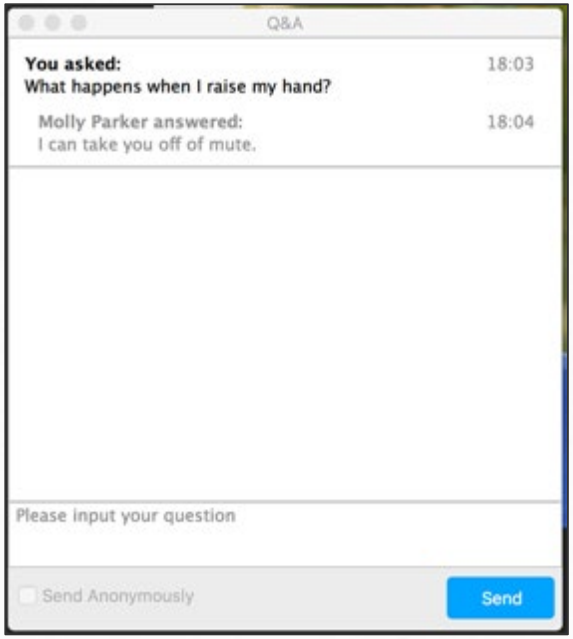
Chat



To make a comment or interact with other attendees during this webinar, please use the chat.

Note the "To:" area. If you send to only **All Panelists,** your message will not be viewed by everyone in attendance. You can change this to **All Panelists and Attendees** if you would like everyone to see your message.

Q&A Pane



If you have a question for the presenters, please type it in the Q&A, or e-mail ncssle@air.org during the webinar.

WEBINAR AGENDA

- **Welcome and Logistics**

  Shauna Knox, Ed.D., U.S. Department of Education
- **Human Trafficking in the National Context**

  Ambassador John Richmond, U.S. Department of State
- **U.S. Department of Education Against Human Trafficking**

  Deputy Assistant Secretary Ruth Ryder, U.S. Department of Education
- **Arizona: Research and Resources for Schoolwide Prevention & Intervention**

  Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, MSW, Ph.D., Arizona State University
- **Prince William County Schools Trafficking Program**

  Mary Ellen Smith, MSW, Prince William County Schools (VA)
- **Survivor-Informed Leadership to Combat Human Trafficking in Schools**

  Harold D'Souza, United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking
- **Question & Answer Session**

  Tim Duffey, National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments & Presenters
- **Closing Remarks: The U.S. Department of Education Against Human Trafficking in 2020**

  Shauna Knox, Ed.D., U.S. Department of Education

PLEASE NOTE

The content of this presentation does not necessarily represent the policy or views of the U.S. Department of Education, nor do they imply endorsement by the U.S. Department of Education.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE NATIONAL CONTEXT

MEET THE PRESENTER

Ambassador John Cotton Richmond

Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons

U.S. Department of State

Washington, DC

Trafficking in Persons Office
Ambassador John Richmond

@State_JTIP

/usdos.jtip

TIPOutreach@state.gov

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

MEET THE PRESENTER

Deputy Assistant Secretary Ruth Ryder

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

U.S. Department of Education

Washington, DC

Polling Question #1

Which of the following best describes your role? (Choose all that apply.)
State education agency (SEA) staff
Local education agency (LEA) staff
Federal grant recipient (e.g., Project Prevent, School Transformation Grants, School Mental Health Demonstration Grants)
School administrator
Classroom teacher
Specialized instructional support personnel (e.g., school counselor, school nurse, school psychologist, social worker, substance-abuse prevention specialist)
Community stakeholder
Parent
Student
Other (Please share your role in the Chat Box.)

Polling Question #2

Which of the following best describes your primary reason for participating in this webinar?

I have leadership responsibility to address human trafficking within a State education agency (SEA).

I have leadership responsibility to address human trafficking within a local education agency (LEA).

I am part of a team addressing human trafficking within a State education agency (SEA).

I am part of a team addressing human trafficking within a local education agency (LEA).

I have a personal interest in addressing human trafficking

Other (Please share in the Chat Box.)

ARIZONA: RESEARCH AND RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLWIDE PREVENTION & INTERVENTION

MEET THE PRESENTER

Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, MSW, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Arizona State University

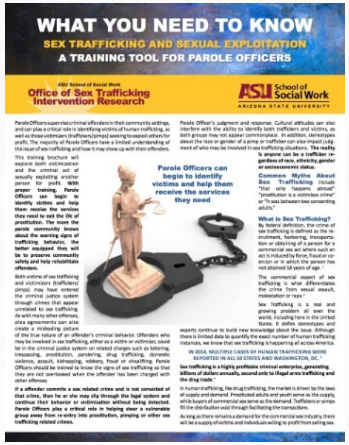
Director: Office of Sex Trafficking Intervention Research

Phoenix, Arizona

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY: SEX TRAFFICKING INTERVENTION RESEARCH (STIR)

- Research
- Practice
- Trainings

TRAINING BROCHURES



WHAT IS SEX TRAFFICKING?

- According to the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, sex trafficking is defined as a situation "in which a commercial sex act is induced by **force, fraud,** or **coercion**, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age."

- Always sex trafficking when under age 18 if there is an exchange.

- Males, females, and transgender persons can be victims of sex trafficking.

WHAT IS SEX TRAFFICKING?

Force

- Kidnapping
- Physical violence
- Sexual assault
- Drugging

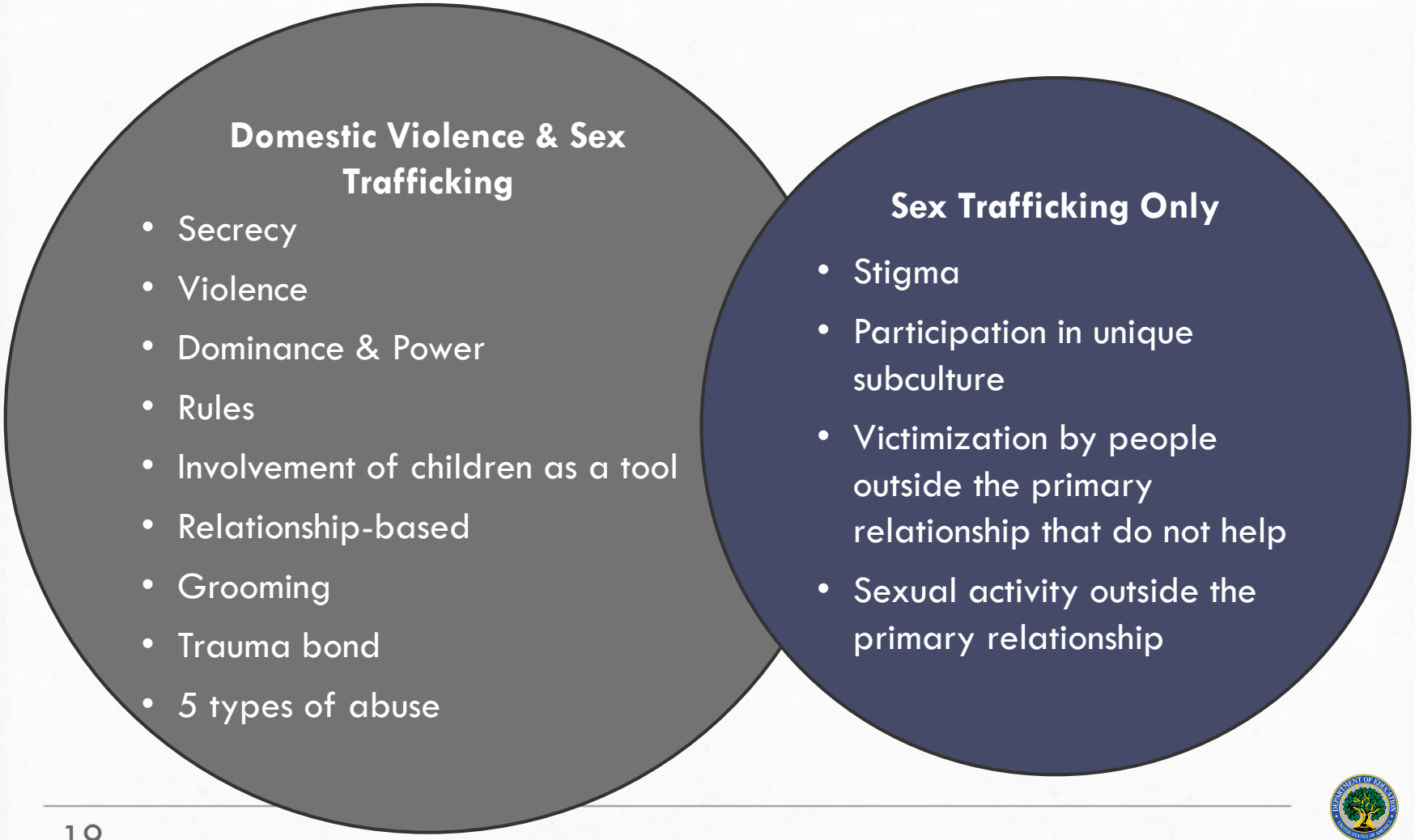
Fraud

- Tricking victim into believing the trafficker loves her/him
- Telling the victim she/he is going to be a model
- Offering to provide basic needs without explaining true intention

Coercion

- Blackmailing
- Debt bondage
- Threats against victim or victim's family

SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEX TRAFFICKING



Push Factors

- family instability
- poverty
- gang-involvement
- history of abuse
- substance use
- trauma
- child welfare involvement
- history of running away
- sexual orientation

Source: NASW West Virginia Chapter

WHERE ARE VICTIMS RECRUITED (DOMESTIC)?

SCHOOLS

BUS STOPS

MALL/SOCIAL HANGOUTS

GROUP HOMES

SOCIAL MEDIA

INTERVENTION: WHO BEST TO OBSERVE RED FLAGS?

- Teachers
- Special Education Teachers
- Paraprofessionals
- Social Workers/Counselors
- Bus Drivers
- School Nurses
- Peers!

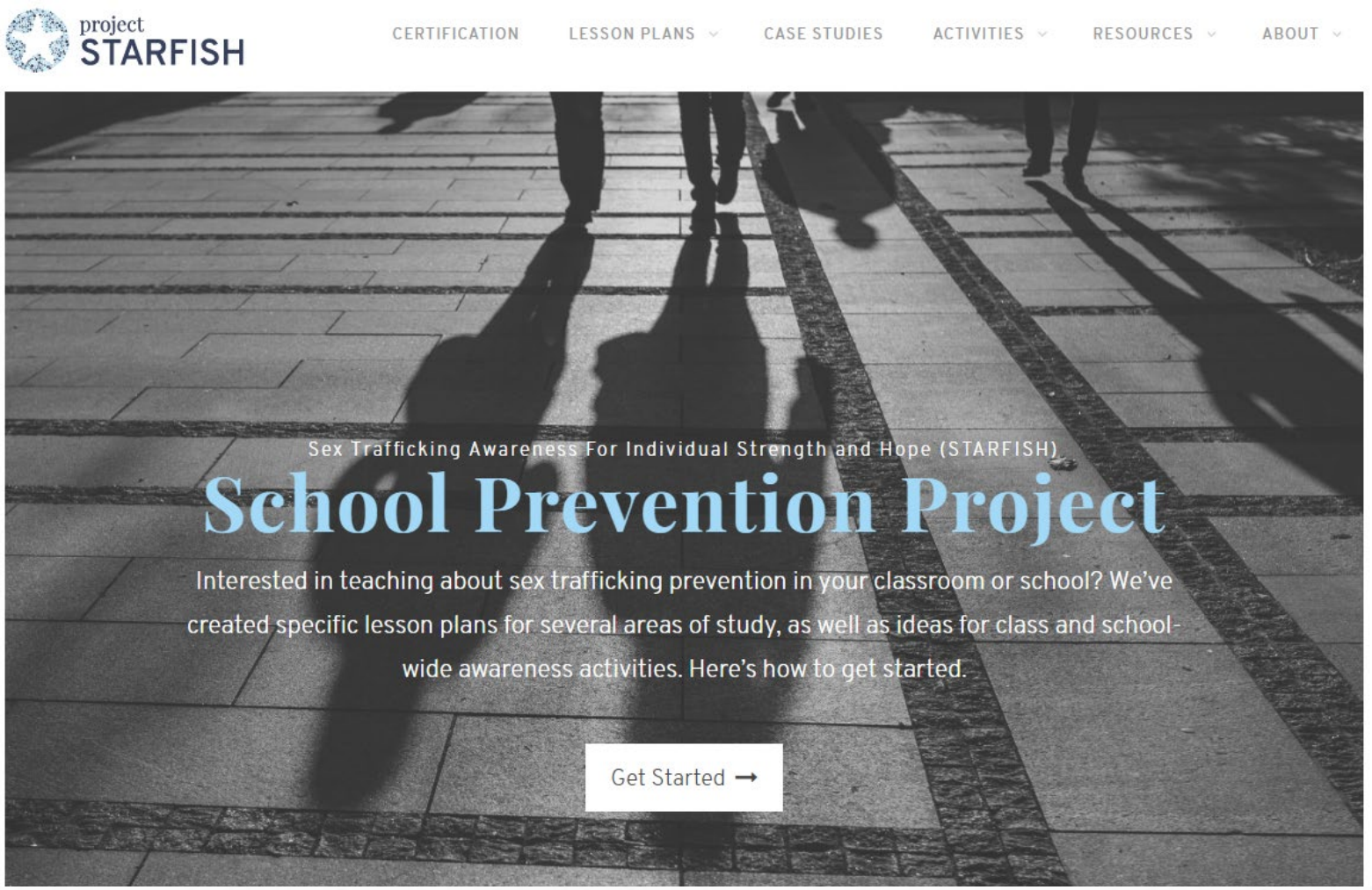
ROLE OF SCHOOLS IN PREVENTION & INTERVENTION

- Schools provide the ideal venue of influential personnel.
- Educators can recognize warning signs.
- Address the topic of teen sex trafficking.
- Strengthen school-based programs on
  - Healthy relationships
  - Bullying
  - Interpersonal violence prevention
- Share with students why its important to turn off location services.
- Explain why they should never share their personal information.

INTERVENTION: WHAT TEACHERS CAN DO IN THE CLASSROOM

- Establish classroom culture of trust, understanding, and safety.
- Teach social skills and social media safety.
- Provide lessons and support self-esteem.
- Promote "If you HEAR something or SEE something, SAY something."
- Lesson plans
  - http://projectstarfish.education/lesson-plans/
- Review Case Studies
  - http://projectstarfish.education/case-studies/

PROJECT STARFISH: SCHOOL PREVENTION PROJECT
WWW.PROJECTSTARFISH.EDUCATION



http://projectstarfish.education/

EDUCATOR RESOURCES

Project STARFISH – **School Prevention Project**

http://projectstarfish.education/

- Case studies
- Specific lesson plans for several areas of study
- Ideas for class and school-wide awareness activities

Arizona State University School of Social Work

Sex Trafficking Intervention and Research (STIR)

https://socialwork.asu.edu/stir/training

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY SCHOOLS TRAFFICKING PROGRAM

MEET THE PRESENTER

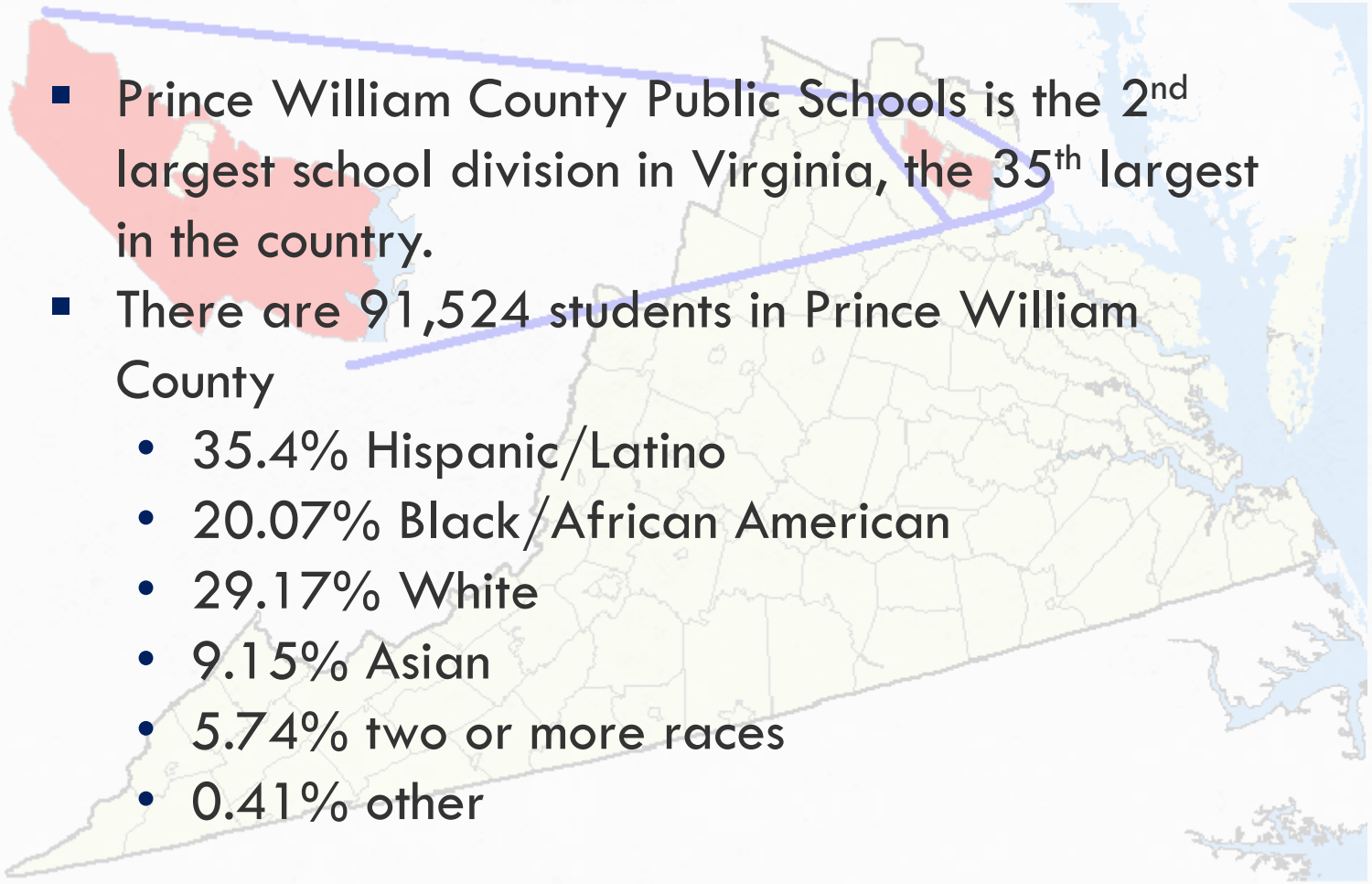
Mary Ellen Smith

Human Trafficking Prevention Specialist

Prince William County Schools

Manassas, Virginia

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA



- Prince William County Public Schools is the 2nd largest school division in Virginia, the 35th largest in the country.
- There are 91,524 students in Prince William County
  - 35.4% Hispanic/Latino
  - 20.07% Black/African American
  - 29.17% White
  - 9.15% Asian
  - 5.74% two or more races
  - 0.41% other

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PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA

UNIQUE FACTORS THAT PUT OUR STUDENTS AT RISK FOR TRAFFICKING

- Prince William County has two major interstates (I-95 and I-66) which allows for easy transport between states.
- Large number of students coming from other countries who are reunifying with family members or coming as unaccompanied minors; approximately 700 students enrolled in PWC schools last year who immigrated from another country.
- Presence of gangs-historically we have seen gang members recruiting young students for the purpose of trafficking and transporting to Maryland and other states.
- Many families struggling with homelessness.
- Large transient and military/government population.

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PROJECT HISTORY

- 2012: Non-Funded mandate from the State of VA requiring School Boards to be educated on human trafficking (HB 1188 & SB 259).
- 2013-14: Lesson presented in six high schools and one middle school for first time.
- 2016-17: Grant funded by DCJS & OJJDP
- Lesson expanded to all 12 high schools and one additional middle school.
- 2016-17: VDOE adds human trafficking to the Family Life Education SOL's (FLE SOL 9.7).
- 2017-18: State approves bill mandating the training of all school counselors, nurses, and other relevant school staff (HB 2282).
- 2018: PWC School Board approves funding for a full-time Human Trafficking Prevention Specialist.

PWCS TRAFFICKING PROGRAM

Awareness

- Collaborating with other agencies to identify the problem and resources to help address the problem
- Providing community presentations

Prevention

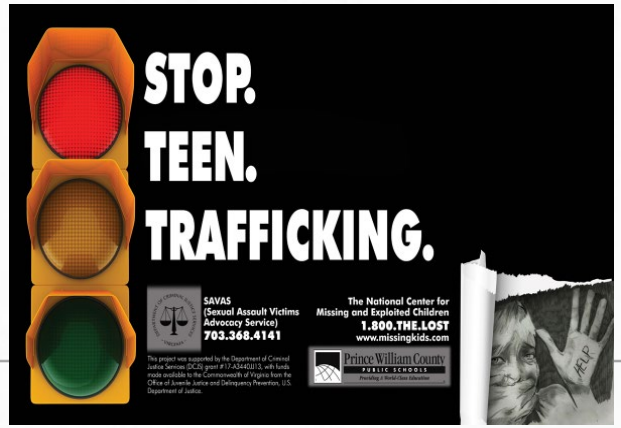
- Lesson provided to all 9th grade students in the Health/P.E. classes
- Pilot lesson provided to two middle schools

Restoration

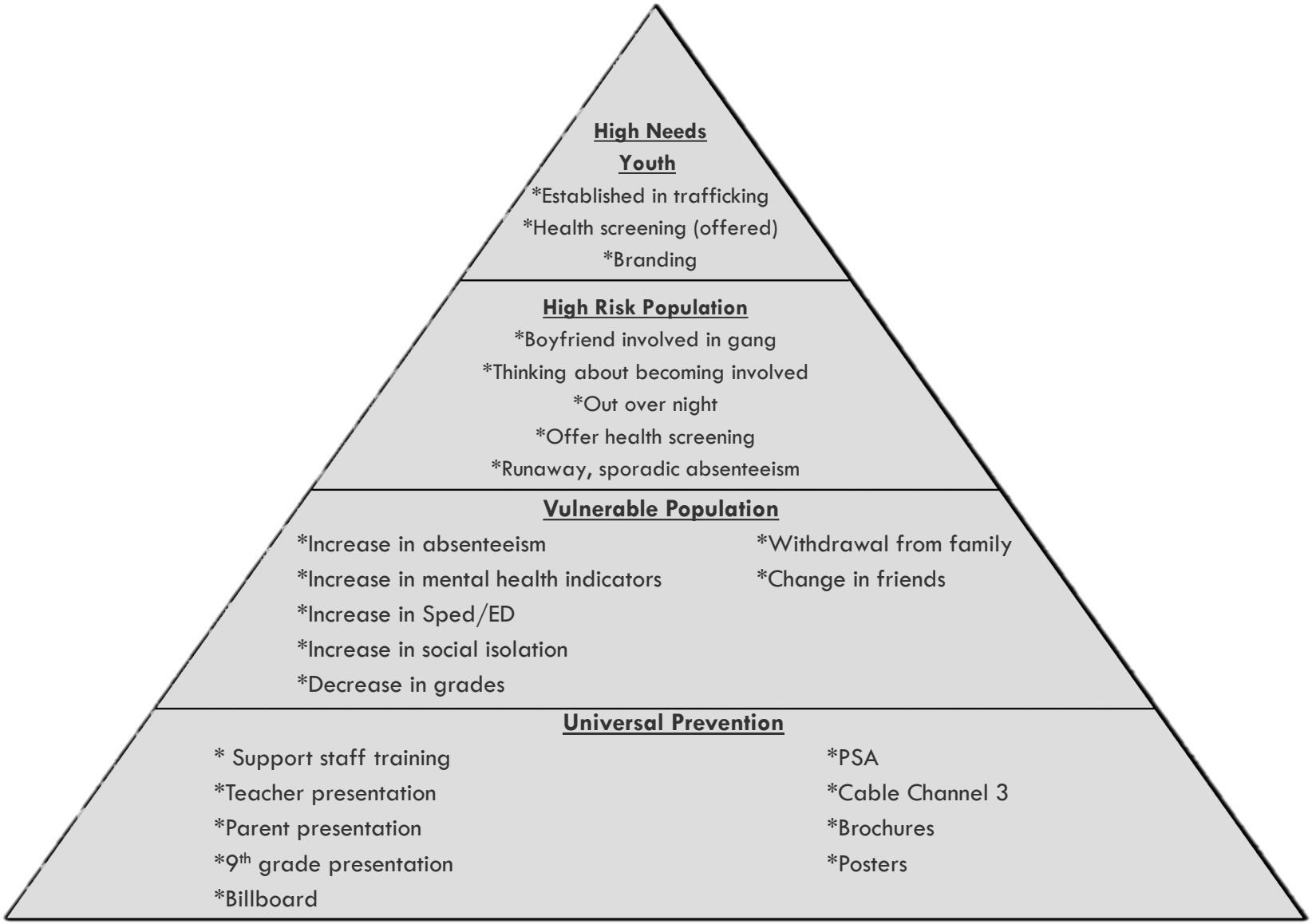
- Victim services for students who have been identified

Public Relations

- PSA in the movie theaters, billboard on both sides of the county
- Participating on the PWC Human Trafficking Task Force



TRAFFICKING TRIANGLE OF STUDENTS



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STUDENTS' PERCEIVED KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING 2018-2019 (UNIVERSAL PREVENTION)

- Approximately 6,350 students completed the pretests and/or posttests.
- In the 2018-19 school year pretest/posttest data showed that students' perceptions of knowledge about human trafficking increased substantially, with gains from pretest to posttest ranging from 57% to 72%.
- In the 2018-19 school year, twelve high schools participated in the Human Trafficking Prevention, Identification, and Referral program.
- The changes in perceived knowledge are similar to the changes in perceived knowledge in 2017-18.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY SCHOOLS STATISTICS
(UNIVERSAL PREVENTION TO VULNERABLE POPULATION)

Lesson Outcomes	2013 - 2014	2014 - 2015	2015 - 2016	2016 - 2017	2017 - 2018	2018 - 2019	Totals
Students coming forward after the lesson.	100	79	123	212	153	117	784
Percent of students coming forward who were sexually assaulted, groomed, or victims of trafficking.	41% (41)	37% (29)	43% (53)	37% (78)	14% (22)	13% (15)	30% (238)

COMMON TRENDS IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
(VULNERABLE POPULATION TO HIGH NEEDS YOUTH)

- Gang Involvement
- Younger students
- Running away from home, poor school attendance
- Reunification with family
- Substance use
- Previous trauma history (particularly sexual abuse)
- Images on social media-highly sexualized image or conversations, showing large amounts of money
- Initial contact has been made through social media
- A request has been made to send photos

CASE STUDY 1-SEX TRAFFICKING

HOW WE WORK WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Red Flags:

- Running away
- Skipping school
- Extreme anger
- Drug use
- Social media profiles are highly sexualized
- Student is branded
- Possible gang involvement

Collaboration:

- Trafficking team was requested to attend school-based meeting with Attendance Officer, SRO, School Counselor, & School Social Worker.
- Through this collaboration, it is discovered that the student is being trafficked in another nearby state by gang members.
- Trafficking team coordinates with Homeland Security, local law enforcement, and other agencies to assist in the investigation. Student recovered and begins treatment services funded by our grant.
- We will continue to monitor her through graduation.

CASE STUDY 2-LABOR TRAFFICKING

HOW WE WORK WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Brought over from a different country by a family that adopted them. Dropped off with a different family when they arrived in the U.S.

Red Flags:

- Approached a teacher and stated that they were expected to do all of the cooking, cleaning, and other chores.
- They were not allowed to leave, were not provided with basic necessities.
- They were not paid.
- Second family assists student in obtaining a job, but earnings were taken by family after each shift.

Collaboration:

- The trafficking team was contacted and collaborated with the School Social Worker, School Counselor, Classroom Teacher, School Administrator.
- The trafficking team worked with Homeland Security and they began investigating.
- Through coordinated efforts this student found safe housing and is currently enrolled in college. The traffickers are facing federal charges.

PWC SCHOOLS FOCUS ON MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

Prince William County Schools has recognized the growing mental health needs of students and is working to address these growing needs. This has been addressed by:

- Hiring 12 new social workers last school year to ensure that there is a full-time social worker in each high school and reducing the student/social worker ratio.
- Hiring 46 new school counselors to reduce the student/counselor ratio.
- Fully funding the position of the Human Trafficking Prevention Specialist.
- Hiring a mental health consultant to work closely with school staff in addressing students' mental health needs.

SURVIVOR-INFORMED LEADERSHIP TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN SCHOOLS

MEET THE PRESENTER

Harold D'Souza

Survivor-Advocate

United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking

Polling Question #3

Prior to today's webinar, have you ever <u>suspected</u> a student to be a victim of trafficking in your school environment?

- Yes
- No

Polling Question #4

Prior to today's webinar, have you ever identified a student to be a victim of trafficking in your school environment?

- Yes
- No

Polling Question #5

Now that you've heard the content of this webinar do additional students come to mind, that may not have earlier, who may have been subjected to trafficking?

- Yes
- No

Questions?

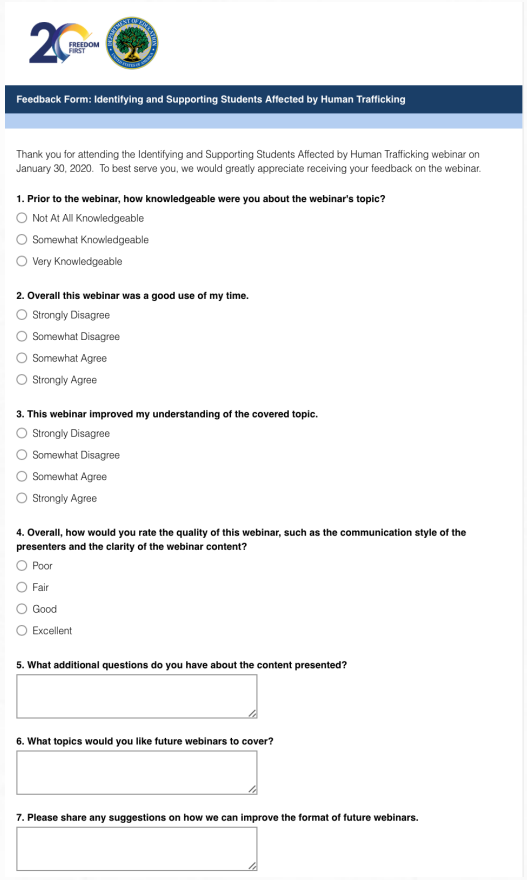
RECOMMENDED PROTOCOLS FOR SCHOOLS: SAN DIEGO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Available for download at:
https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/events/webinar/identifying-and-supporting-students-affected-human-trafficking

UPCOMING SUPPORT FROM US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RELATED TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- Three additional webinars related to human trafficking throughout 2020. Target months and topics being prepared are as follows:
  - **March:** Universal Prevention
  - **June:** Intervention, Recovery, and Reintegration
  - **September:** Vulnerable Populations
- Revised and updated resource document addressing the role of educators in supporting students impacted by human trafficking.

WEBINAR FEEDBACK FORM



Feedback Form: Identifying and Supporting Students Affected by Human Trafficking

Thank you for attending the Identifying and Supporting Students Affected by Human Trafficking webinar on January 30, 2020. To best serve you, we would greatly appreciate receiving your feedback on the webinar.

1. Prior to the webinar, how knowledgeable were you about the webinar's topic?

- ○ Not At All Knowledgeable
- ○ Somewhat Knowledgeable
- ○ Very Knowledgeable

2. Overall this webinar was a good use of my time.

- ○ Strongly Disagree
- ○ Somewhat Disagree
- ○ Somewhat Agree
- ○ Strongly Agree

3. This webinar improved my understanding of the covered topic.

- ○ Strongly Disagree
- ○ Somewhat Disagree
- ○ Somewhat Agree
- ○ Strongly Agree

4. Overall, how would you rate the quality of this webinar, such as the communication style of the presenters and the clarity of the webinar content?

- ○ Poor
- ○ Fair
- ○ Good
- ○ Excellent

5. What additional questions do you have about the content presented?

6. What topics would you like future webinars to cover?

7. Please share any suggestions on how we can improve the format of future webinars.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020HT1

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