	_	_	4

LSS Streetworks Beyond the 101

Avoiding Shock and Awe:

Best Practices in Building Reality-Based Awareness
About Human Trafficking in Your Community

May 8, 2019 Allan Bakke – Southwest MN Safe Harbor Regional Navigator allan@mnswcc.org



Slide 2

Objectives

- Describe how representation of human trafficking can be harmful to survivors and the anti-trafficking movement
- Apply positive representation of human trafficking in ways that are helpful to survivors and the anti-trafficking movement
- Reflect survivor-centered, trauma-informed representation in protocol and community response team work

MCCALLUM 2019



Commitment to a Survivor-Centered, Trauma-Informed Approach

- We care deeply about combatting human trafficking, and we are committed to a victim-centered and trauma-informed approach that considers how representation impacts victims/survivors
- $_{\odot}$ We are stewards of knowledge– expertise and sensitive information– and we want to be sure $our\ message\ is\ clear$
- As practitioners and allies we commit to self-reflection in how we try to grow and engage people with this movement to improve our response
- This is a framework for thinking, it's not rigid— disagreement is okay!

MCCALLUM 2019

Slide 5

What is Representation?

rep·re·sen·ta·tion

/ repre zen tāSH(e)n/ (

- the action of speaking or acting on behalf of someone or the state of being so represented.
 "asylum-seekers should be guaranteed good legal advice and representation"
- the description or portrayal of someone or something in a particular way or as being of a certain nature.
 the representation of women in newspapers' synonyms: portrayal, depiction, delineation, presentation, rendition 'Rossettis representation of women'.

MCCALLUM 2019

Slide 6

"Do I Use Representation?"

- WHERE:

 Digital spaces: Social media sites, online campaigns, website

 Public spaces: Media, training, working with people outside of anti-trafficking movement

 Private spaces: Response protocols, training

HOW:

- OW:

 Outreach and training materials

 Public awareness campaigns

 Development and fundraising content

 Statistics, facts and data

 Testimonials, quotes

 Web content, social media

 Anecdotal information and stories



Representation is a Double-Edged Sword

BENEFITS TO THE MOVEMENT

- Increases awareness and focus on the issue
- Improved policy and procedures
- · Increased funding
- More victims identified, survivors served

DRAWBACKS TO THE MOVEMENT

- Can hurt survivors

- Can hurt movement:
 Incorrect facts lead to misinformed public
 - Misallocation of resources & effort



MCCALLUM 2019

Slide 8

- "Ideal victim" US citizens (often white females) being trafficked by foreign nationals There is a Savior Females desperate to escape Resculing victims is the end of the process for "saving" someone Emphasis on law enforcement approach Victims know they are victims Perpetrators are men (black men) Victims are always kidnapped and physically restrained Only women and girls are trafficking Conflation of sex work and sex trafficking Conflation of sex work and sex trafficking Transportation/smuggling of victims across borders

MCCALLUM 2019

Storytelling: Common **THEMES**

Slide 9

Common missteps: anti-trafficking practitioners

- Word choice
 Telling stories that are not our own
 Sensationalizing
 Using suffering to fuel development
 Focusing on the worst of survivor experiences
 Emphasizing victimization and harm
 Workloss trumps informed
- Not being trauma-informed



MCCALLUM 2019

Lack of diversity of experiences and identities Playing off of misconceptions or stereotypes Depiction of violence or severe trauma - "trauma porn"

Slide 11

Storytelling

- · Humanizes the experience
- Gives folks who haven't experienced the crime insight into the experience
- Focuses the issue in the public eye and with legislators



MCCALLUM 2019

Slide 12

Common missteps: Sensationalism

Sensationalism:

The use of exciting or shocking stories or language at the expense of accuracy, in order to provoke public interest or excitement

Making Tree of some Abbetic for the Truthcising | MelPhot

Making Tree of an investment of the State of State o

MCCALLIM 2019

IN KING		
SECONOS		
SECONDS		
4	 	
1		
1	 	
٧	 	

TV and film: common narratives

- CSI Miami Season 7 Episode 2 "Won't get fueled
- again."

 Girk being smuggled into US by gang, white male rescuing the girk, desperate to escape and physically restrained. Taken movie 2008.

 Girk Iskhapped and desperate to escape, international criminal syndiction, white male protagonist rescuing girk, physically restrained. Priceless movie 2016.

 Girk desperate to escape, white male protagonist rescuing girks from criminal enterprise, driving across states. Traffic.—movie 2018.

 Traffic.—movie 2018.





Slide 14

Common missteps: survivor stories

"What we don't need any more of is good intentions that aren't backed up by thoughtfulness, integrity, common sense values and an educated, informed approach. Survivors aren't actually asking for special treatment, we're simply asking to be treated as people, as colleagues, as leaders in this work who bring far more to the table than the ability to make people cry. We're asking simply that in your fight to help victims of trafficking, that you don't harm survivors in the process."

- Treat survivors differently than other professionals
- · Forcing and controlling survivors
- Lack of compensation
- · Not allowing survivors to tell their story how, when or where they want

MCCALLUM 2019

Slide 15

Common Missteps

- Sexualize: to make sexual in content or nature (implied sexuality)
- Infantilize: to treat someone or something in a way that de maturity in age or experience ("savior complex")
- Dehumanize: deprive of positive human qualities











MCCALLUM 2019

Slide 16		
	Data, Statistics, and Facts	
	Data, Statistics, and Facts	
	Bill Gates O Follow >	
	We can't address what we can't measure. To	
	end modern slavery, we need the best available data: b-gat.es/2fDhLHb	
	available data. B gates, Elbrich	
	MCCALLUM 2019	
Slide 17		
Silue 17	Common missteps: prevalence data	
	Different sources have wildly different estimates due to	
	methodology, definitions of trafficking, and scope	
	Creating data is challenging when we still don't know: how many victims	
	average duration of trafficking experience average amount of wages lost	
	 how often the same person experiences trafficking situations, which countries have higher incidences of trafficking among their populations, etc. 	
	Extrapolating samples across different contexts is tricky	
	MCCALLUM 2019	
Slide 18		
	Commonly Shared Faulty Statistics	
	Average trafficking age of entry into sex trade is 12-14 years old [12] 80% of all trafficking victims are children [15]	
	Runaways will be trafficked within 72 hours of running [16]	
	There are 100,000-300,000 child prostitutes/ sex trafficked youth in the US [17]	
	Super Bowl is the biggest trafficking event in the world [13, 14] (insert city/county/state name) is one of the top places for trafficking in the US [19]	
	There are 2 children sold every minute in the US/ every 26 seconds a child's sold into slavery [15]	
	Trafficking is \$9.8 billion industry in the United States [18]	
	MCCALLUM 2019	

Common missteps: Misunderstanding Methodology

- Sample size
 The 'n' or number of data points measured in a study
 Sample variety
 Who participated? How were participants chosen?
 Age, location, nationality, gender
- Age, location, nationality, gender

 Blas:
 What is the point of view of the people conducting the study?
 EXAMPLE: TIP Report holds countries to the US definitions of trafficking, rather than the global definitions, and rankings can be influenced by relationships with the US
- · Age of study

MCCALLUM 2019



Slide 20

Common missteps: professional opinions

Presenting professional estimates, opinions, and/or guesswork as hard facts

- HT researchers often do not use the same rigorous data standards as researchers from other human rights fields
 Professionals may try to fill information void with their opinions



"Well, apparently you haven't heard... personal opinions ARE the new facts!"

MCCALLUM 2019

Slide 21

Why does this matter?

- Framing the issue for community and systems to understand the crime





MCCALLUM 2019



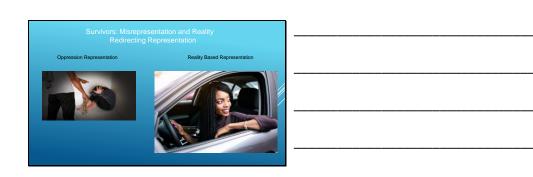
Slide 23

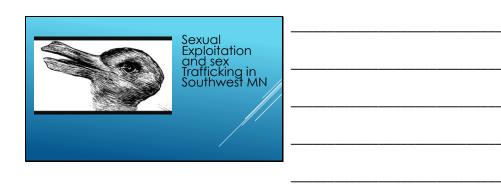




Slide 25







	e	8



Redirecting Representation Approaches

COMMON REPRESENTATION ELEMENTS	Redirect to	POSITIVE ALTERNATIVES
Sexualizing, infantilizing, and dehumanizing elements, making subjects seem helpless or desperate for rescue/saving		Trauma- informed and empowering, leading, thriving and surviving, building community elements, showing autonomy/strength, emancipation
Stereotyping of individuals, IE: women of color prostituting on the street, young white girls held in chains, Hispanic men in forced agricultural labor		Diverse representation of individual identities in photos that indicate the variety of people susceptible to the crime
Symbols of oppression, IE: chains, locks, traps, guns, clenched fist, ropes, physical harm, artifacts from exploitation experience		Symbols of liberation, IE: keys, doves/birds flying, olive branch, holding hands, extended helping hand, empowered survivors
Exploiting survivor story, "savior complex" or stories without consent of survivor, seeing a survivor for their trauma instead of expertise		Survivor-centered: Getting full permission from survivors willing to share, ensuring their story is represented accurately in their own words
Sensationalism: Shock and awe tactics to create fear, including elements of 'trauma porn', or statistics without solid basis		Authenticity: Omitting unnecessarily shock/awe/grotesque aspects and recognizing all forms of exploitation are bad, using verified data
	MCCALLUI	W 2019

Slide 30

Best Practices: Listen to Survivors

Survivor input is critically important in the accurate framing of human trafficking

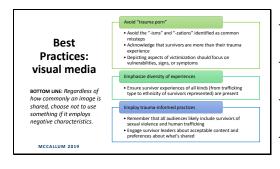
PUBLIC AWARENESS

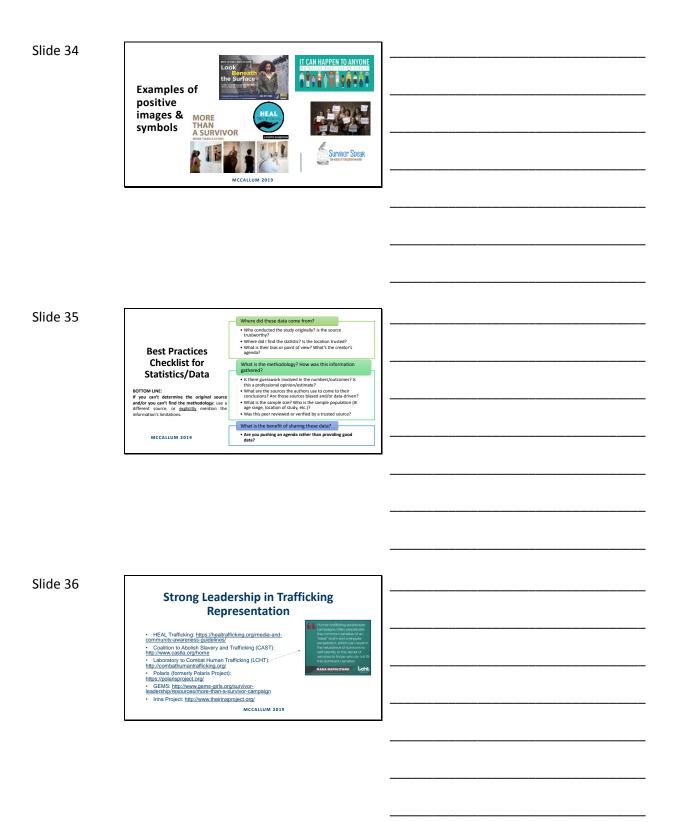
MCCALLUM 2019

Best Practices: Storytelling Uttu and ampfity survivors for increased viewerby Consult survivors for experiences of trafficing increases and sensationalism Necogius the variety of experiences of trafficing increases and incre

Slide 32









Slide 38

What can we do with this information? - Apply this framework to content you share choose to avoid common whether other organizations use them include survivor-leaders in publishing content - Focus on medical sapects or public health aspects of Create a representation protocol