



LAST GIRL PROJECT

JANUARY 2021 | VOL. 2

Rose, 25, Young Adult, she/hers

"So I was 17 when I first started [trading sex for money], because I was looking for a job. Yeah. And most jobs didn't want you if you don't have experience. So I was getting really frustrated. Because, you know, I was living with my family. Right. And my mom was always doing drugs. She was always broke. And she would always use up all our money that we had, right on drugs. So my dad was broke, and he was mad that he was broke. So, you know, there was barely anything in the house. Any toilet paper, food even. So we were always struggling because of my mom. And I just wanted money."

Welcome to the Last Girl Project's monthly newsletter, a communication providing latest updates on our research, upcoming events on trafficking, and other related news.

Through interviews with stakeholders and young adults, this project aims to understand the prevalence, drivers, and dynamics of domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST)/commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) in contemporary USA.

You're receiving this newsletter because you signed up for our mailing list or have communicated with one of our researchers. We look forward to providing you with timely and useful information that directly supports your work.

DATA HIGHLIGHT

83% of our interviews conducted with young adults who have experienced DMST/CSEC between June 2020 and January of 2021 spoke of self-trafficking experiences, where minors engaged in trading sex for a valued entity without a 3rd party trafficker. Some spoke of survival

SO WHAT?

Having a unified yet nuanced understanding for why DMST/CSEC happens is critical to ending the problem. While traffickers exist, and are a big part of the problem, the villain in many of our interviewee's lives was poverty, and the systems and communities that let them

sex experiences, while others spoke of experiences wherein they saw themselves as profiting off of their desirability to society. While these numbers can be partially explained by our sample, our initial finding suggests a different picture of DMST/CSEC than what we think it is.

down. Our initial research is suggesting that DMST/CSEC is a more systemic problem, indicating a much higher prevalence than what has been reported.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CSEC Trainings by the Children's Fund, Children's Network, & California Family Services

For Guardians

January 29, 2021 12-3:30PM EST
Virtual (Free)

For Advocates

February 2, 2021 12-3:30PM EST
Virtual (Free)

For their Full List of Community Education Workshops, [click here](#)

Sex Trafficking and Opioids Symposium

Fri, Feb 5, 2021 8:30AM-6:45PM EST
Virtual (Free)

Learn about how opioid addiction intersects with sex trafficking in contemporary America. The symposium has three aims, awareness, advocacy, and activism regarding the convergence of sex trafficking and opioid addiction.

[Register Here](#)



Human Trafficking: A 360 - View

January 29, 2021 9AM-1:15 PM EST
Virtual (Free)

This is an inter-professional live webinar for healthcare professionals to understand human trafficking, presented by Wake Forest's School of Medicine. [Register here](#)

RTI Policing Symposium: Data Driven Reform in Policing

February 11, 2021 12PM-4:30 PM EST
Virtual (Free)



RTI International's Center for Policing Research and Investigative Sciences is hosting their 6th policing symposium, focusing on Data Driven Reform in Policing, co-sponsored by the North Carolina Justice Academy. [Register here](#)

If you would like to publicize an upcoming event, please send an email to tra.tran@duke.edu with a description and a link and we will do our best to get it in the next newsletter

CONTACT US

If you work on minor sex trafficking or the commercial sexual exploitation of children and would like to be interviewed, please contact lastchildproject@gmail.com

If you have experienced minor sex trafficking, please take [this screener](#) to qualify and schedule an interview

Youth will be paid \$20 to participate in this 2-hour study with Duke University researchers, and can make an additional \$50 by successfully referring 5 friends

If you are in law enforcement, and would like to take our law enforcement survey, or would like to share the survey to your colleagues, please use this link:
https://duke.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eRj4ZxAvzqH2QD3

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