



LAST GIRL PROJECT

JUNE 2021 | VOL. 7

Michelle, 30, Survivor Advocate, she/hers

"No, this is my first time [working at an anti-trafficking organization]. [L]ike I said I started therapy and only just had barely recognized that my own trauma was a trafficking trauma and wasn't ... like sexual assault ... um recognizing what trafficking was and that what I had experienced was trafficking was kind of that starting point for me, I guess um and it's just built from there."

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

Interviews with young adults and survivor advocates have continued to emphasize the difficulty in self-identification. Self-identification means being able to see your own experiences of exploitation as trafficking. For 32% of interviews with young adults and survivor advocates, therapy was where they were able to label their past

SO WHAT?

Self-identification is a crucial piece of determining prevalence, of providing high quality survivor aftercare, and of developing appropriate interventions. For youth who have been trafficked, being able to see their experiences as such is one of the first steps towards accessing trafficking-specific services. Therapy seems to be a significant

experiences of exploitation as trafficking.

place for people to understand their experiences as trafficking. While it is unclear which type or aspect of therapy leads young people to re-defining their experiences it is clear therapy plays a role in self-identification.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



**FREEDOM
UNITED**
LET'S END MODERN
SLAVERY TOGETHER

[Sign the Survivor Alliance Pledge to Ethically Interact with Survivors](#)

Ongoing (Free)

This survivor developed pledge asks everyone who interacts with survivors to behave ethically, and to proactively creating safe interactions through accountability and transparency. This pledge raises the reality of many survivors who are asked to speak at events, where they are only asked to speak on their worst experiences, reinforcing an exploitative power dynamic. This pledge is one part in working to end this exploitation, and may be used by survivors in contracts for future events.

[Sign the Pledge Here](#)



[Stay Informed: Exploring Human Trafficking in Youth \(Introductory LIVE Webinar for the Human Trafficking Series presented by Wake AHEC\)](#)

July 20, 2021 10AM - 11:30AM EST
Virtual (Free)

This live webinar will provide an introduction into what CSEC and labor trafficking of youth looks like. The webinar will also explore how to provide trauma-informed care and different signs for identifying potential victims of trafficking. The webinar provides continuing education credit for various healthcare professionals. [Register Here](#)

[Workshop on Serving LGBTQIA+ Youth in Services by King County CSEC Task Force](#)

July 22, 2021 12:00 - 3:00 PM EST
Virtual (Free)

This workshop engages participants who work with youth to better understand and serve LGBTQIA+ youth who have experienced DMST/CSEC. Through a series of activities and brief presentations, the workshop will go over concepts



At the Margins:

The Sex Trafficking of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) Youth

Nicholas Oakley, JD

(he/him/his)

Senior Project Manager

LGBTQ+ CSEC

Center for Children & Youth Justice

Dee Shapiro, MPA

(she/her/hers)

Statewide Program Manager, Child Welfare Programs

LGBTQ+ Inclusion/Equity/IDC

Department of Children, Youth, & Families

about sexual orientation and gender identity and expression. Participants in the workshop will be able to start developing strategic plans to better support LGBTQIA+ youth. This workshop is open for all professionals who work with youth.

[Register here](#)



[Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation's Online Global Summit](#)

July 20-24, 2021

Virtual (Free)

This five day virtual summit brings together a variety of stakeholders focused on ending sexual exploitation globally. Hosted by the National Center on Sexual Exploitation, it brings over 100 speakers and provides a virtual space for everyone to learn from each other.



[Shared Hope's JuST \(Juvenile Sex Trafficking\) Conference](#)

November 17-19, 2021

Washington D.C. In Person (Sliding Cost)

This three day conference brings together a variety of stakeholders focused on understanding and ending DMST/CSEC. The conference covers topics from survivor care, prevention, and intervention. The conference includes continuing education credit for law enforcement, social workers, and healthcare professionals. [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, or have an event you'd like on the next newsletter, 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

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

