

Category E – TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

**VIOLENCE & VICTIMIZATION RESEARCH DIVISION'S
COMPENDIUM OF RESEARCH ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

1993-2011

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Category E: TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

1998-WT-VX-0032:	Sex Trafficking of Women in Three Regional U.S. Cities: Links Between International and Domestic Sex Industries
Amount:	\$188,677
PI:	Janice Raymond
Monitor:	Leora Rosen
Status:	Completed

The goal of the proposed project is to describe the social consequences of sex trafficking, examining patterns of violence, crime, health and other human costs; and to show that sex trafficking is a complex system dependent on international and domestic linkages. Objectives are to: 1) perform a literature review to profile sex trafficking in the U.S.; 2) establish a profile of sex trafficking in three cities; 3) make connections between the international supply and domestic demand for sex trafficking; and 4) characterize local sex industries and their involvement in sex trafficking and prostitutions. Multiple sources and types of data will be collected and analyzed from victims of trafficking, victim services, refugee/migrant organizations, health services, police, immigration officers, media articles and reports from professional organizations. The project will also collect data through interviews and content analysis of police records, immigration reports and governmental and nongovernmental agency documents. Interviews will be conducted with trafficked women, immigration officials, local police, prosecutors, local service providers, and health agencies.

Product: NCJ# 187774

Sex Trafficking of Women in the United States: International and Domestic Trends (2001) – J. Raymond, D. Hughes

Results revealed that sex businesses in each region studied were prolific and diverse. Organized businesses and crime networks were instrumental in recruiting international and United States women. Conditions facilitating recruitment of women included economic desperation and disadvantage, the lack of a sustainable income, and poverty. Trafficking patterns were diverse. Twenty percent of the international and 28% of the United States women had intimate relationships with their pimps. Methods used to control women in the sex industry included: denying freedom of movement, isolation, controlling money, threats and intimidation, drug and alcohol addictions, threatened exposure of pornographic films, and physical and sexual violence. The women suffered severe health consequences from injuries caused by violence and from diseases contracted while in the sex industry. Women found many ways to cope, resist, and survive the exploitation and violence. Findings indicate the need for prevention, victim protection, and prosecution of traffickers.

Additional NCJ Citations: 186186

2005-IJ-CX-0053:	Assessing the Extent of Human Trafficking: A Community Outreach Approach
Amount:	\$336,177
PI:	Nina Siulc
Monitor:	Karen J. Bachar
Status:	Completed

The research team plans to conduct research on new methods for measuring and assessing the extent and nature of human trafficking in the United States. With its partner, the International Organization for Adolescents (IOFA), and the collaboration of nongovernmental organizations, including several member agencies of the New York City Community Response to Trafficking (NYC-CRT) project, the research team will design and conduct a multi-site field test of a new data collection instrument that will identify and gather data on individual victims of trafficking and provide critical information to law enforcement, service providers, and government officials. The research team will work with community and national advisory committees composed of practitioners, law enforcement, medical professionals, and researchers with experience working with trafficking victims and skilled in methodologies useful for working with vulnerable populations. By soliciting the input of experts in the field, the team will create a data collection instrument that serves the dual purpose of assisting service providers in identifying victims and providing researchers with data on victim demographics, migratory and employment histories, criminal networks, and the process of victim discovery. Following completion of data collection activities, iterative analysis of the resulting

data and comparison with what is currently known will enable the team to assess the prevalence of trafficking to New York City, trace the relationships between different characteristics of trafficking victims, and offer insight into trends in the nature and methods of trafficking. In addition to producing this sort of generalizable data about a large sample of victims, the results will also enable Vera Institute staff to draw conclusions about how to implement the data-collection instrument on a national scale, will point to best-practices and standardized protocols for victim-identification, including establishing consensus on definitions of trafficking and victims, and will provide a framework against which to assess investigation, prosecution, and prevention efforts mandated by new federal human trafficking legislation

Project: NCJ# 224391

Measuring Human Trafficking Lessons From New York City – N.A. Weiner, N. Hala

The NYCTAP focused on applied measurement. Recognizing that the field of research and practice lacked the tools to reliably identify victims of human trafficking, the NYCTAP concentrated on developing those tools, collaborating with stakeholders. The NYCTAP designed a trafficking victim screening tool to collect standardized data on victims. Lessons learned in the pilot form the basis for three sets of recommendations to (1) improve victim identification and data collection on human trafficking, (2) design a standardized trafficking victim screening tool and supporting toolkit for its administration, and (3) validate a standardized trafficking victim screening tool. The NYCTAP was undertaken to respond to the pressing need for more accurate measurements of human trafficking.

2006-IJ-CX-0008:	A Case Study of Human Trafficking: The Transnational Movement of Chinese Women for Sex Work
Amount:	\$284,287
PIs:	James Finckenauer, Ko-lin Chin
Monitor:	Karen J. Bachar
Status:	Ongoing

The research team is examining a number of key questions related to the illicit movement of Chinese women to other Asian countries and the United States for work in the sex industry. Specifically, the team will (1) Examine the underlying reasons for the illicit movement of Chinese women for the purpose of prostitution; (2) Explore the structure or social organization of the movement of Chinese women; (3) Understand the methods of recruiting, transporting and managing Chinese women by various participants in the smuggling/trafficking and sex businesses; (4) Investigate the economic aspects of smuggling/trafficking and prostitution; (5) Examine the social adjustment and settlement patterns among Chinese sex workers and the victimization of these sex workers by smugglers/traffickers and sex industry operators; (6) Analyze the individual and group characteristics of smugglers/traffickers and their relationships with gangs and organized crime; and (7) Evaluate the problems and prospects of combating the movement of women from China to the rest of the world. The study involves several research sites: Hong Kong/Macau, Tokyo (Japan), Taipei (Taiwan), Bangkok (Thailand), Singapore, New York City, and Los Angeles. Approximately 315 face-to-face interviews with four categories of subjects at the research sites will be conducted. The subjects will include Chinese women working in the sex industry (n=140); sex industry operators (i.e., smugglers/traffickers, sex establishment owners, pimps, drivers) (n=70); legal authorities including law enforcement officers, judges, prosecutors and government officials (n=70); and representatives of victim services providers, NGOs, and advocacy groups (n=35). This research will greatly enhance understanding of human smuggling and trafficking by simultaneously tapping into all the players in the marketplace—victims, smugglers/traffickers, employers, and legal authorities. Specific answers to such questions as: who are the victims, who are the smugglers/traffickers, how does the business operate, how is it organized, what is the role of organized crime, what are the push/pull and supply/demand pressures, and what is the role of corruption, etc., will clearly advance understanding of this phenomenon

2006-IJ-CX-0010:	Prosecuting Human Trafficking Cases: Lessons Learned and Best Practices
Amount:	\$189,420
PI:	Heather Clawson
Monitor:	Karen J. Bachar
Status:	Completed

To better understand prosecutors’ ability to use these to prosecute and convict traffickers while also balancing the needs of trafficked persons, the research team will examine the effects of existing antitrafficking legislation from the

perspective of the prosecution and identify critical challenges and barriers to successfully prosecuting cases. As part of this project, Caliber plans to conduct (1) a targeted survey of federal and state prosecutors in key trafficking states (n=150), (2) in-depth interviews with key subjects from the US Attorneys leading antitrafficking task forces, attorneys in states with anti-trafficking legislation, and international prosecutors and other CJ representatives (n=25), (3) legislation and legal case analysis, including a review of relevant state and federal statutes, anti-trafficking legislation from countries identified by the State Department as partners (Tier 1 countries) in the fight to eradicate trafficking, and a sample of human trafficking cases (B=75), and (4) identification of best practices resulting from the three previous activities (n=4 to 6). This study will provide key lessons learned and tested practices for prosecuting human trafficking for policymakers, prosecutors, and practitioners. This study also will provide recommendations for what is still needed by federal and State prosecutors in order for them to be effective in the fight against traffickers.

Product: NCJ# 223972

Prosecuting Human Trafficking Cases: Lessons Learned and Promising Practices – H.J. Clawson, N. Dutch, S. Lopez, S. Tiapula

The findings suggest that once human trafficking prosecutions have begun, guilty verdicts are likely. Just over 85 percent of the 298 cases prosecuted under the Federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) during the past 7 years have resulted in convictions. Prosecutors experienced in managing human-trafficking cases have collaborated with local, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies and nongovernmental organizations; assisted victims in accessing services; identified key evidence; and used proven prosecutorial techniques. Ongoing documentation, monitoring, and analysis of the prosecutions of human trafficking cases within Federal and State courts are needed so as to monitor progress. Convictions are just one measure of success. More information is needed on reduction in the prevalence of this crime and how effective work with trafficking victims is in helping them to reclaim their lives. Ten prosecutors who represented 13 offices involved in 86 percent of the 268 cases identified for the study advised other prosecutors to be patient and set low expectations, to be ready to make a significant investment of time, to be sensitive to the victims, to establish a good rapport with law enforcement, to use investigative techniques that normally would not be used, and to think proactively about what charges can be brought against the defendants. The 77 State and local prosecutors from 27 States who completed a survey noted the importance of having a collaborative and unified investigation, addressing the victims’ needs, having sufficient resources, and the importance of training law enforcement officers and prosecutors to raise awareness of the problem.

2007-VT-BX-0001:	Finding Victims of Human Trafficking
Amount:	\$293,198
PI:	Phyllis Newton
Monitor:	Karen J. Bachar
Status:	Completed

This is an exploratory study of the prevalence, context, and characteristics of human trafficking cases and victims across the country. The research team will interview State and local key stakeholders (N=240) about their experiences with human trafficking to collect information about victims, cases, and perpetrators they have encountered in their efforts to combat these activities. A primary focus of the interviews will be on identification of victims and potential victims that have not come to the attention of law enforcement. Using this information, good practices for finding trafficking victims and bringing traffickers to justice will be developed. The PIs will conduct extensive case file reviews, based on the results of the interviews, at four sites to locate cases that could have been charged as trafficking but were not. The overarching goal is to further available knowledge of human trafficking in the United States and expand understanding of how and why it occurs to enable state and local law enforcement find victims. Consistent with the solicitation, the research team proposed the following research objectives: (1) Provide a description of and document the numbers of unidentified victims of severe forms of human trafficking in the United States; (2) Interpret the issues, opportunities, and barriers for law enforcement with victims and building cases, apprehending, and successfully prosecuting traffickers, (3) Identify the characteristics of victims and perpetrators of human trafficking, (4) Determine the relationship between unlawful commercial sex acts and victims of human trafficking, (5) Uncover likely places where human trafficking victims will be found, (6) Examine the barriers encountered by law enforcement and service delivery organizations in certifying victims and developing cases of severe forms of trafficking, including the push and pull factors that initiate and maintain victim’s involvement in human trafficking, and (7) Code case files to determine the number of cases that represented trafficking behavior but were charged under another offense.

Product: NCJ# 224393

Finding Victims of Human Trafficking – P.J. Newton, T.M. Mulcahy, S.E. Martin

The findings suggest that law enforcement respondents in sites with State trafficking statutes were more aware of the issue and were more likely to have received training and to have implemented proactive strategies to respond to the problem. Sites with State trafficking statutes also were more likely to have collaborated and/or to be actively collaborating with Federal authorities in responding to the problem. Several recommendations for policy and practice and future research are presented and discussed. Highlights of select recommendations include: (1) expand and provide training to law enforcement and prosecutors that clearly distinguishes the various trafficking offenses, such as smuggling, domestic human trafficking, and sex trafficking; and how to identify, investigate, make cases against perpetrators and find assistance for victims; (2) develop and provide technical assistance on maintaining adequate recordkeeping systems at the local level to track and monitor sex-related cases and investigations; and (3) make resources available for law enforcement and service providers to focus on human trafficking offenses.

2007-VT-BX-K002:	Human Trafficking Literature Review
Amount:	\$86,802
PI:	Elzbieta Gozdziaek
Monitor:	Karen J. Bachar
Status:	Completed

Investigators will conduct a comprehensive literature search on human trafficking and subsequent analysis of the rigor of the literature they uncover. To complete the literature review, the applicant will: (1) Develop criteria (appropriate for both quantitative and qualitative research) to objectively categorize and rank research-based literature on human trafficking according to its methodological merit, (2) Compile a comprehensive annotated bibliography of existing US and non-US publications (excluding media reports) on trafficking in human beings in a user-friendly and easily accessible electronic form, (3) Classify and rank bibliographic literature on trafficking in persons based on the ranking system developed in consultation with NIJ, (4) Complete a literature review based on the gathered information and reflecting the state of knowledge on human trafficking, and (5) Design a dissemination plan to provide different audiences with an easy access to the compiled annotated bibliography. The products of this project will provide decision-makers with vital information to identify and protect victims and prosecute traffickers, craft effective policies, and develop efficient and culturally and linguistically appropriate programs. Those responsible for addressing human trafficking will be able to differentiate between sensational publications intended to raise awareness about trafficking, and serious literature, based on robust empirical research, intended to analyze the root causes of human trafficking; provide estimates of the number of victims; map and analyze trafficking trends and routes; examine the different types of exploitation; understand the resiliency and the suffering of trafficked victims; and assess the appropriateness of treatment modalities and psychosocial programs aimed at rehabilitating victims.

Product: NCJ# 224392

Data and Research on Human Trafficking: Bibliography of Research-Based Literature – E.M. Gozdziaek, M.N. Bump

This study reviewed more than 5,000 documents and from that created a database with 1,324 pieces of research on trafficking published in English in order to answer some basic questions about the state of research into human trafficking. Almost two-thirds of the works were journal articles and official reports. One of the questions we wanted to answer was: Who is conducting research in this area? The answer, not surprisingly, was a wide range of experts. Academics in the social sciences conducted the majority of trafficking research, with 62 percent of reports and 45 percent of journal articles. But legal scholars and criminal justice experts represented the second largest group of researchers, with 33 percent of reports and 29 percent of journal articles. This tells us that academics are not the only ones researching trafficking. Lawyers and criminal justice professionals are also contributing to our knowledge of trafficking. Another important question to ask is: What forms of trafficking are researchers focusing on? Sex trafficking was the most highly researched area of trafficking, followed by labor trafficking. Close to a third of journal articles and 10 percent of reports, however, did not identify the form of trafficking, preferring instead to focus on trafficking in a generic way. This suggests that the research on trafficking is diverse. We can arrive at a similar conclusion when we look at the populations of trafficking victims found in the research. Journal articles tended to be more generic in terms of the population that was targeted in the research. Almost half of the journal articles used a generic term of “trafficked victims” without specifying age or gender. Reports tended to be more specific. Women and girls were discussed in two-thirds of the reports on trafficking, with boys discussed in another

fifth of the reports. Again, the conclusion we can draw is that trafficking research is not focused on one specific population. The research is diverse in its approach to victims.

2009-IJ-CX-0011:	Trafficking of Migrant Laborers in San Diego County: Looking for a Hidden Population
Amount:	\$521,962
PI:	Sheldon X. Zhang
Monitor:	Karen Bachar
Status:	Ongoing

The goals of the proposed study are: to assess the prevalence and nature of labor trafficking among undocumented migrant populations in San Diego County; determine the demographic and social characteristics of the hidden population; determine to how key elements of deception, fraud, force, or coercion are identified in trafficking cases; examine how undocumented migrants perceive and respond to trafficking activities; and outline the policy implications for law enforcement and social service agencies to improve their efforts to combat trafficking activities and protect victims. There are eight objectives: provide statistically sound estimates of the prevalence of trafficking victimization among undocumented migrant laborers in the targeted area; investigate the types of victimization; learn about the circumstances of their migration; explore the recruitment and transportation process in which undocumented migrants are brought to the area; explore the migration patterns of migrant laborers; explore the social service and public health needs among this population; explore the extent to which traffickers are connected to other forms of organized crime; and assess the challenges of combating labor trafficking and explore possible strategies to address it. The investigators will also compile patterned responses and develop dominant and secondary themes. The data will be able to help policymakers develop effective counter measures and enhance law enforcement efforts.

2009-IJ-CX-0015:	Identifying Challenges to Improve the Investigation and Prosecution of State and Local Human Trafficking Cases
Amount:	\$501,352
PIs:	Jack McDevitt, Amy Farrell
Monitor:	Karen Bachar
Status:	Ongoing

The proposed project utilizes a multi-method approach to understand the challenges local, county and state officials face investigating and prosecuting human trafficking cases. The investigators will conduct a series of case reviews and in-depth qualitative interviews of the experiences of police, prosecutors, judges, other court officials and victim service providers in investigating and prosecuting cases of human trafficking in a targeted sample of twelve counties across the United States. The counties selected will include those with and without state-level human trafficking legislation as well as those with and without federal or state human trafficking task forces. Using county, state and Federal prosecution records and local police investigative files in each county, the investigators will identify all cases of human trafficking investigated by local law enforcement agencies between 2000 and 2008 according to five types of cases: investigated and prosecuted locally as human trafficking, investigated as human trafficking but prosecuted locally as a different crime, investigated locally as trafficking but prosecuted federally, investigated locally as trafficking but never prosecuted, and investigated initially as a different crime but eventually prosecuted locally as trafficking. In addition to examining human trafficking cases, the investigators will review a sample of case records for other types of crimes that might include indicators of human trafficking but were not investigated or charged as such. The investigators will then sample two cases from each of the five types for further in-depth interviews with primary stakeholders to identify their roles and responsibilities and understand the factors that helped promote or hinder the investigation and prosecution of these cases.

2009-IJ-CX-0045:	Identifying Community Indicators of Human Trafficking
Amount:	\$419,643
PI:	Pamela K. Lattimore
Monitor:	Karen Bachar
Status:	Ongoing

The purpose of the research is to investigate correlates of labor trafficking in an effort to identify indicators of labor trafficking that could be used by state and local law enforcement as signals that labor trafficking is taking place in their communities. The first goal is to document the characteristics and indicators of labor trafficking, including component crimes, collateral crimes, and other community impacts. The investigators plan to survey migrant workers, and conduct both focus groups and in-depth interviews with members of community agencies. Using a Rapid Appraisal Model, the objectives are: to determine the understanding of local constituencies of what labor trafficking is and identify potential indicators of trafficking; identify current circumstances or individual-level indicators and migration/transportation networks; and identify potential community indicators of trafficking, collateral crimes, and community impact using data from law enforcement and other local agencies, businesses and organizations. The second goal is to provide state and local law enforcement with actionable knowledge to help identify labor trafficking through improving their decision-making and their response to potential labor trafficking in human beings. The objective of this goal is to produce a list of potential indicators of labor trafficking by triangulating findings from the proposed multiple data collection efforts. The project will fill in the knowledge gaps about labor trafficking that may contribute to a paradigm shift in identifying victims and providing services instead of criminalizing victim activities.

For an index of all grants, go to <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/223572-grants-index.pdf>.