



SEX TRAFFICKERS AND SEX BUYERS PUT EMPLOYERS AND THEIR BUSINESS PARTNERS AT RISK

BEST EMPLOYERS ALLIANCE

Seattle Business Case

WHAT IS SEX TRAFFICKING? Prostituting a minor and/or using force, fraud, or coercion to compel a person into sex work.

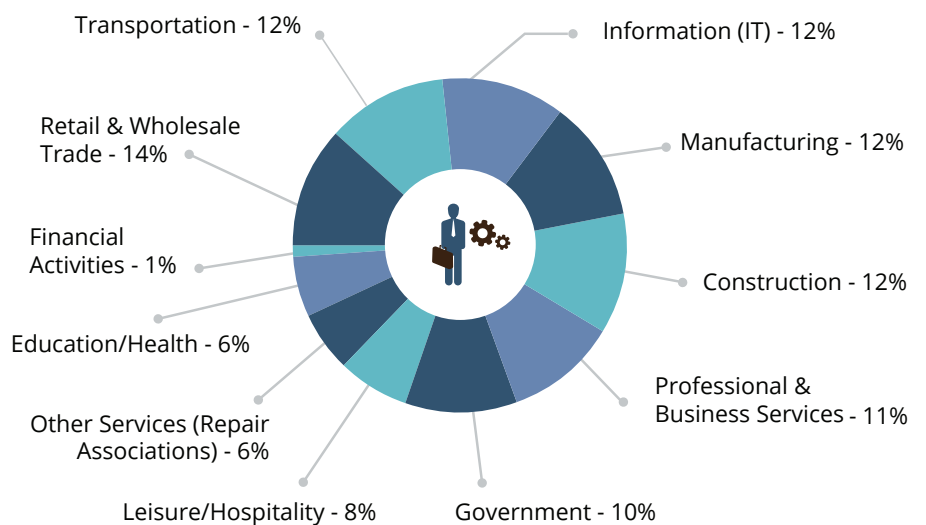
IS IT A PROBLEM? An estimated 300-500 children are prostituted in greater Seattle.¹ The ages of 13-15 are typical for youth to first experience exploitation in prostitution.²

1. EMPLOYEES ARE SOLICITING SEX FROM TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

- An initial study suggests that a peak time that people are procuring sex online is **2:00 P.M.**³
- **63%** of prostituted people said that they met clients on company properties.⁴
- In one 24-hour period in Seattle, an estimated **6,847** people solicited sex on one of the 100+ available websites.⁵
- An estimated **15-20%** of American men report having solicited sex.⁶
- **Police** across the U.S. are increasing arrests of buyers, which will increase the number of employees who are caught.

Industry Sectors of Sex Buyers (With Minor Victims)

Of 104 people charged with soliciting sex from children in King County, WA, the majority work in local businesses, in a variety of industries.⁷



2. SEX TRAFFICKERS & BUYERS USE BUSINESS PREMISES



Hotels



Shopping
Malls



Apartments



Parking
Lots



Restaurants



Massage
Facilities

Are all used in
sex trafficking.



A 2012 study found that **63%** of trafficking incidents involved hotels, ranging from economy to luxury hotels.⁸



Teenage girls visiting shopping malls have been targeted and approached by pimps within **45 minutes** of their arrival.⁹

3. SEX TRAFFICKERS USE BUSINESS PRODUCTS & SERVICES



Websites



Airlines



Travel Companies



Buses



Ports



Banks



Other Businesses

Your business reputation is at risk every time a trafficker or buyer uses your core services!

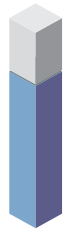


Business Is at risk

- Public reputation
- Hostile work environment
- Decreased work productivity
- Legal risks
- Financial risks



Sex trafficking causes severe harm to children and adults involved



85%

of prostituted people have histories of childhood sexual and physical abuse.



OVER 85%

of prostituted people experience physical and sexual assaults, homelessness, and PTSD.



OVER 89%

report wanting to leave prostitution if they had an alternative.



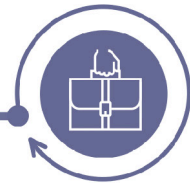
Business leaders have the power to change attitudes and actions that harm businesses and exploit women and children.



Internal Policies & Practices



Philanthropy



Jobs

The BEST Employers Alliance is a partnership of public and private employers representing 200,000 employees. Alliance partners have helped create resources for any employer to access and implement.

Free resources from BEST:

- **Self-Assessment Survey** that evaluates risk and opportunities is available at www.bestalliance.org
- **Best Practices** with sample policies and practices by model employers
- **Employee Training** for individuals or groups at training.bestalliance.org

¹ All references are listed online at www.bestalliance.org/bcreference