This work was funded by a grant from the Arsht Ethics Initiatives at the University of Miami Ethics Programs and made possible by a generous gift from philanthropist Adrienne Arsht.
Basic Human Rights

- Life
- Liberty
- Security
- Freedom from
  - Slavery/servitude
  - Torture
  - Inhumane treatment
- Standard of living adequate for health and well-being
- Medical care
- Freedom of movement
- Freedom of expression
UN Convention on Rights of a Child - 1969

- Ratified by all except US and West Sudan
- Children have “the inherent right to life”
- Requires ensuring “the survival and development of the child”
- “the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health”
- “facilities for treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health”
What is human trafficking?

- “the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of FORCE, FRAUD or COERCION for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery”
Types of Trafficking

- Sex trafficking - commercial sex act
- Labor trafficking - labor or services, servitude, begging
Human Trafficking

- Whoever benefits in any manner from trafficking is guilty of a felony if the person knows that the benefits come from an act of trafficking.
- Includes not just the actual act, but also the attempt.
Factors Leading to Trafficking

- Unemployment
- Poverty
- Lack of education
- Gender discrimination
- Family violence
- Homeless
- Run-aways
- War-torn areas

Recruitment:
- Offers employment
- Improvement in social status
- Access to Western goods
Extant of Problem
Globally

- 20-30 million slaves worldwide
- 2nd only to illegal drug and arms trade
  - $32 billion industry
  - $15.5 billion from industrialized countries
- Sexual Exploitation
  - 80% female
  - 50% children
- Average price of a slave = $90
  - 1809: $40,000
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

- 50% of victims are minors
- 1 million children, majority girls, exploited in the global commercial sex trade every year
- Violated by sexual acts 100-1500 times per year
Extent of Problem Locally

- 17,000-20,000 humans trafficked annually into the US
- 100,000-300,000 minors are victims of domestic trafficking each year
- 293,000 Americans at risk
  - Commercial sexual exploitation
  - Run away/throw away youth
  - Abusive homes
  - Average age of prostitution: 12-14
National Human Trafficking Hotline - Polaris

- 2013 Statistics
  - 31,945 phone calls
  - 1,669 online tips
  - 1,488 emails
  - 787 SMS threads

Regarding trafficking victims in the United States
Location of potential human trafficking cases reported to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (2007 - 2012)
Laws in Place

- **Trafficking Victims Protection Act**
  - **Prevention**
    - Raise awareness of the abhorrent practices involved in the trafficking trade to reduce the demand for services obtained through human trafficking
    - Public awareness programs overseas
    - State Department led monitoring and sanctions program
  - **Protection**
    - Identify victims, provide them with services and witness protection if necessary, and when appropriate, provide them with immigration relief
    - New temporary visa for foreign national victims
  - **Prosecution**
    - Pass and enforce laws that criminalize trafficking and raise the risk of benefiting in any manner from human trafficking
    - New federal crimes and penalties
Immigration Issues

- Trafficked persons are exempt from immigration violations by virtue of their status under TVPA
- Federal law- foreign victims may be eligible for federal benefits for basic survival needs
- T Visas, U visas, Continued Presence
Florida on Human Trafficking

- Labor Trafficking is the most prevalent type in FL
- Agriculture
- Tourism/Hospitality
  - Unregulated temporary employment agencies
- Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking other most prevalent type in FL
  - Under-reported and under-prosecuted
  - International and domestic victims
  - At any moment, 30-40,000 preteen and teen runaways and throw aways in FL
- Mobile, technology, circuit, multinational, globalization
Issues Specific to Florida

- Florida Safe Harbor Act
  - Protects young victims of sex-trafficking from prosecution
  - Give officers discretion to take the children to a safehouse instead of jail
  - Safe shelter- intensive therapy, counseling and support
Trafficking Cases in FL

- Boca Raton Manuel and Baldonado 2010- Labor
- Orlando Nelson-Domestic Sex Trafficking 2010
- Tampa Bay Treasure Island-Sex Trafficking 2010
- Gainsville Haitian-Labor 2010
- Tallahassee and Clearwater Melchar and Monslave-Sex Trafficking 2008
- Miami Paulin- Labor 2008
- Immokalee Navarette-Labor 2008
- Destin King-Labor 2008
- Miami Osley and Greer-Sex Trafficking 2007
- Orlando Telichenko- Sex Trafficking 2006
- Palatka Evans-Labor 2006
- Cape Coral Pascual-Labor and Sex Trafficking 2006
Myths

✧ Victims of trafficking will immediately ask for help or assistance and will self-identify as a victim of a crime.
✧ Victims do not immediately seek help or see themselves as victims due to lack of trust, self-blame, or training by traffickers.
✧ It will take time to develop trust.
Myths

- There must be evidence of physical restraint, physical force, or physical bondage when identifying a trafficking situation.
- Legal definition does not require physical restraint, bodily harm or physical force. Psychological means of control, threats or abuse of legal process, is sufficient.
How Traffickers Control Victims

- Use psychological and/or physical abuse to instill fear and maintain control
- Threaten with arrest, deportation, harming family/friends regardless of location, creating insurmountable debt obligation, frequently moving locations unable to establish local resources, extreme abusive psychological tactics, convincing victim they are always being watched/followed, dependent for basic survival needs, confiscating legal documents
- Spreading fear and misinformation about laws to increase victim’s distrust of law enforcement and fear of punishment by the legal system
- Traumatic Bonding- Coercive control where perpetrator instills in the victim fear as well as gratitude for being allowed to live-survival instinct and coping mechanism
Victim Behavior in Criminal Justice Setting

- Traffickers instill fear of cooperating with criminal justice officers as a means to evade detection – victim mannerisms, reactions and characteristics may not conform to what is expected.
- Victims especially those experiencing trauma may not be able to talk about their experience or relay facts in an organized, linear fashion. It will take time to piece together the information.
- They may withhold information.
- Challenging to establish trust.
- Protecting the trafficker may be the way to keep their family safe.
Victim Behavior

- Signs of trauma- antisocial, hostile, self-destructive behavior
- May not see themselves as victims- unaware of laws or rights that protect them
- Ashamed of the work they were made to do
- Believe they are legally obligated to repay their trafficker; believe if debt is repaid, then they are free from harm
- How to meet survival needs if they cooperate
Medical Needs of a Trafficked Victim

- Multiple pregnancies
- Forced, unsafe abortions
- STIs
- TB
- Physical injuries
- Starvation/Nutritional deficits
- Drug addictions
- Psychological Trauma
- Psychiatric disorders
Medical Needs of Victims

- Immigrants coming into the US legally will have proper immunization
  - Polio, measles, tetanus, childhood diseases
STIs

- Rates in trafficking victims
  - Syphilis 20%
  - Hep B 3.8%
  - HIV
    - 15 brothels 60-80%
    - Younger - higher rates of transmission
- Spread and mutation of HIV virus
Most common health symptoms

- Study on trafficked women in UK from Eastern Europe
  - Headaches 81%
  - Dizzy spells 71%
  - Sexual health problems 60-70%
  - Memory problems 63%
  - Back pain 69%
  - Fatigue 82%
Costs of Human Trafficking

- Quality of human life
- Degradation of human rights
- Poor public health
- Disrupted families and communities
- Decreased governance
- Diminished social and economic development
Issues with Current Legal System

- Criminal justice system established to control crime
- Need to support victims
- PROTECTION and RECOVERY for victims
- “A victim-centered criminal justice intervention that marries the desired goals of policing and punishment of traffickers with the needs and rights of trafficking victims”
CHALLENGE

- IDENTIFYING VICTIMS
- As medical professionals, we will see victims of trafficking
- Law enforcement officials are commonly the first point of contact and identifier of victims of trafficking
Trafficking and the Medical Profession

- Study done by the Family Violence Prevention Fund
- 28% of trafficking survivors had been seen by a health care provider at least once during their captivity
Victims of Trafficking

- Victims can be from any background or ethnicity
- May be citizens, legal residents or people without legal immigration status
Identifying Factors

- Lack of any official identification papers or cards
- Vague answers about their situation
- Many inconsistencies in their stories
- No eye contact
- No control of their money
- Malnourishment
- Signs of physical abuse
- Signs of depression/PTSD
- Drug or alcohol addiction

- Younger than 18
- Multiple sexual partners
- Multiple STIs
- Inappropriate attire for health care visit
- Tattoos or branding
- Sexual abuse/trauma
US Department of Health and Human Services Questionnaire

- Can you leave your work or job situation if you want?
- When you are not working, can you come and go as you please?
- Have you been threatened with harm if you try to quit?
- Has anyone threatened your family?
- How many consensual and nonconsensual partners have you had?

- What are your working or living conditions like?
- Where do you sleep and eat?
- Do you have to ask permission to eat, sleep, or go to the bathroom?
- Is there a lock on your door or windows so you cannot get out?
I’m very sorry that this has happened to you.
We are here to help you.
Our first priority is your safety
We can find you a safe place to stay
We can help to protect your family
You have rights and we can help you to rebuild your life safely.
We want to make sure that what happened to you doesn’t happen to anyone else
If you identify a victim...

- Separate victim from everyone accompanying them including family members such as a “spouse” or “brother”
- Be sensitive
- Safety of staff
- Contact police if danger suspected
Contact Information

- National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline
  - 1-888-373-7888
  - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year
  - Crisis intervention, urgent and non-urgent referrals, tip reporting and technical assistance
- LOCAL: South Florida Human Trafficking Task Force
  - 1-800-973-2867
  - Ask for duty agent of Human Trafficking Task Force
Medical Exam

- Victim-centered care
- Confidentiality, privacy, security
- Healing can begin during the exam—compassion, respect
- Autonomy is crucial—patient needs to have control and make decisions as part of healing
Tips for a Successful Interview

- Understand the effects of trauma on the victim
- Compassion, non-judgmental
- Do NOT begin with immigration status/documentation
- Do not ask “Are you a trafficking victim?”
- Ask victim to describe what happened to OTHERS first, before asking for their story
- Acknowledge strength, survival, that it was tough and it’s a big decision to seek help
- I SEE YOU AS HUMAN
Our Role

- It is a SAFE place to talk
- Talk to the victims, learn their stories
- LISTEN
- Follow up appointments - chance to talk again and continuity of care
- COMPASSION, NON-JUDGEMENTAL, ACKNOWLEDGE FEELINGS
- Stages of trauma, grief, recovery
- Non-verbal signs
Our role as Medical and Legal Professionals

- Raise visibility of the problem
- Advocate for enactment and effective implementation of law and treaties
- Demand necessary funding
- Provide direct services to youth, victims and survivors
- Prevention and address Vulnerabilities
- Empower the victims
- Rehabilitation and reintegration into society
Addressing YOUR BIAS

- What is your first thought when you see the following pictures?
- Be truthful- we are not here to judge, rather to understand our personal and social bias that can impede our ability to help victims who have been trafficked.
Myth

- If a trafficked victim consented to be in their initial situation or was informed about what type of labor they would be doing or that commercial sex would be involved, then it cannot be trafficking or against their will because they "knew better"
Myth

- A victim CANNOT CONSENT TO BE IN A SITUATION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING
- Initial consent to commercial sex or a labor setting prior to acts of force, fraud, or coercion or if the victim is a minor in sex trafficking, is not relevant to the crime nor is payment
Every year over 50,000 women and children are brought to the United States to work as Slaves.

http://www.sawso.org
“Please close your eyes and take every child as your own daughter. Soon you will feel their sorrow and then you will feel the strength that comes out of you to protect them”

-Anuradha Koirala
Resources

- Florida Strategic Plan on Human Trafficking FSU Center for the Advancement of Human Rights Oct 2010
- Telephone Interview: Rachel Lloyd-human trafficking victim and survivor
- Human Trafficking: A guide for criminal justice professionals- Wisconsin Dept of Justice 2012
- http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/php/ghd/docs/stolensmiles.pdf
- Images- Google Search: Trafficking Victims