

## Health Consequences of Human Trafficking

A synopsis of The Health Consequences of Sex Trafficking and Their Implications for Identifying Victims in Healthcare Facilities

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As published in the Annals of Health Law, Beazley Institute for Health Law and Policy, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Winter 2014

- 106 domestic sex trafficking victims and survivors interviewed
- Evidence shows that women and children who are trafficked into prostitution:
  - Are physically, mentally, and emotionally devastated by the crime,
  - Devastation involves injuries, illnesses, and impairments which often lasts decades
- Our health care providers are seeing trafficking victims but failing to identify them. 88% respondents reported contact with a health care provider.
- 99.1% reported at least one physical health problem during trafficking
  - 91% reported having at least one neurological symptom
  - 82% reported having memory problems
  - 71% reported at least one dietary health was often poor
    - loss of appetite or severe weight loss
    - malnutrition or eating disorder
  - 68% reported some type of cardiovascular/respiratory difficulty
  - 61% reported suffering from gastrointestinal symptoms
  - 54% reported dental problems
- 98% reported at least one psychological issue during their captivity
  - 89% reported having depression
  - 82% reported having shame or guilt
  - 81% reported having low self-esteem
  - 76% reported having anxiety
  - 74% reported having nightmares
  - 68% reported having flashbacks
  - 55% reported having PTSD
  - 42% reported had attempted suicide
  - 39% reported having acute stress
  - 30% reported being bipolar
- 92% reported being the victim of one form (of 12) physical violence
  - 70% reported physical injuries
- 84% reported having a substance abuse problem
- 71% reported at least one pregnancy
  - 55% had at least one miscarriage (30% had more than one)
  - 55% had at least one abortion (67 respondents = 114 abortions)
  - 21% reported five or more pregnancies
- 67% contracted some form of STD.