



Sex Trafficking and the Business Sector

Sex traffickers and sex buyers put employers and their business partners at risk.

It's happening in our own backyard.

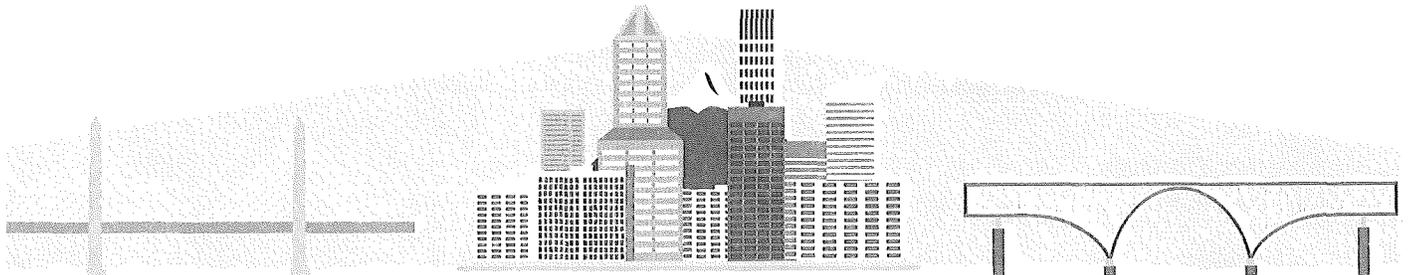
- It is estimated there are more than **11,000** attempts to purchase online sex every week in Multnomah County.
- **42**: the average number of responses to online ads for paid sex in Portland.
- The majority of Multnomah County buyers arrested are employed (**80%**), married (**52%**), have children (**64%**), and have a gross yearly income of \$50,000 or less (**58%**).
- **15%** of men report having purchased sex in their lifetime (*Martin Monto, Univ. of Portland study*).



Sex traffickers and buyers use business premises, products and services to facilitate the sale of adults and children.

Employees are soliciting sex from trafficking victims.

- According to national researchers and local volunteers who actively monitor the online marketplace, more and more men are searching for sex during work hours.
- A growing number of callers responding to decoy ads originate from local businesses.
- According to local victim advocates, the majority of local victims forced into prostitution were initially targeted as minors.



Sex trafficking causes severe harm to its victims: boys, girls and adults

According to national studies of prostituted people:

- Over **85%** are estimated to have histories of childhood sexual and physical abuse.
- Over **80%** are estimated to have experienced physical and sexual assaults, homelessness and PTSD.
- Over **89%** have reported wanting to leave prostitution if they had an alternative.

YOUR BUSINESS IS AT RISK

Prostitution puts your business at risk...

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

YOUR BUSINESS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Business leaders are uniquely positioned in the community to leverage their influence for good. Your business can make a difference by doing things like

- ...ensuring that organizational policies and practices prevent sex trafficking and sex buying.
- ...providing philanthropic and in-kind services and contributions to raise awareness.
- ...providing jobs and job training for survivors and populations at risk of sex trafficking.

JOIN PDX BEST TODAY

PDX BEST helps businesses leverage their unique position as marketplace influencers in raising awareness regarding trafficking and sexual exploitation and provide effective and sustainable solutions to the crisis.

To partner with PDX Best and learn more, contact Tom Perez:



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Founding Partners: *The Epik Project, Multnomah County, and Multnomah County District Attorney's Office*

THE EPIK  PROJECT