Sex Trafficking & Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

How Education can keep our communities safe
Member of the Dine (Navajo) Nation

17 years of Law Enforcement experience in Indian Country.
- Salt River Indian Community
- Navajo Nation
- Gila River Indian Community

Currently participating in the McCain Institute International Leadership Next Generation Leaders Program. Assigned to Health and Human Services in Washington, D.C.

Leadership Action Plan: Combat Sex Trafficking in Indian Country
Objectives

- Definition of Sex Trafficking
- Sex Trafficking in Indian Country
- Sex Trafficking and MMIW
- Education as a tool to Combat Sex Trafficking
Human Trafficking

- Labor Trafficking
- Sex Trafficking
Sex Trafficking

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. § 7102), defines “severe forms of trafficking in persons” as:

- the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age;
Cycle of Drugs/Firearms

Dealer #1
DRUGS/ FIREARMS

Customers

Cycles continues, with a break in supply to restock

Dealer #2
DRUGS/ FIREARMS

Dealer #1

Cycle of Sex Trafficking

“Product” = human life
Always returns to the Pimp

More women = More $$$

- Native American
- Asian
- Polynesian
Sex Trafficking in Indian Country

Polaris Project 2017
Culture

- History
- Traditional teaching
- Way of Life
History

- Female Role in society
- Generational Trauma
Our own Teachings

- Kinship, Origin Stories
- Coming of Age ceremonies
- Communication within our families, communities
Way of Life

- Family dynamics
- Role of social media
Intersection between Sex Trafficking and MMIW&C
Annita Luccesi’s work has powered awareness.
Our own Stories

All we have to do is ask someone in our community to know
How Culturally Appropriate Education/Training can help

- Awareness
- Acceptance
- Education
Let’s start talking about Sex Trafficking

- Communication in our homes
- Community events
- Schools? Teachers? DOT? Hotels?
Awareness, Acceptance, Action

- Working Together
- Thinking Culturally
- Acting with Courage
Ahe’hee/ Thank you

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