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SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND JUVENILE GIRLS

A Project
Presented to the
Faculty of
California State University,
San Bernardino

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Social Work

by
Kimberly Renell Thompson

June 2013

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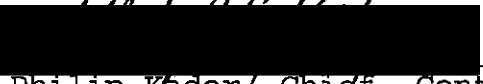
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June 2013

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6/4/13
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Philip Kader/ Chief, Contra Costa County
Probation Department Contra Costa County
Agency


Dr. Rosemary McCaslin,
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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to examine risk factors associated with sexual exploitation through prostitution and juvenile girls. Quantitative secondary data was collected from an in-person question survey with randomly selected Probation Officers within Contra Costa County Probation Department. Data gathered examined possible relationships between risk factors such as history of sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, runaway history, substance abuse, and removal from home with juvenile girls charged with prostitution or having a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime. Results indicated no significant relationship between these risk factors and prostitution. Future research would include comparing juvenile girls involved in prostitution to juvenile girls not involved, and gathering a larger sample to help identify risk factors associated with leading juvenile girls into prostitution. Further, future research may strengthen findings and provide social workers with better services needed to rehabilitate sexually exploited juvenile girls.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to give thanks to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. When He formed me in my mother's womb, He knew the plans for my life. Without Him, none of this would be possible. Second, I would like to thank my friend Genene Wright for her support, inspiration, prayers, and words of encouragement. The messages were always on time. Thanks to Monique Morton and Teiyana Muse-Miranda for your prayers and encouragement. I would also like to thank my friend Tandra Lowe and Monica Arredondo-Moreno during this season. Our daily talks and/or text messaging were helpful and allowed me to know that you were there. I would also like to thank my sister Tomika Thompson for believing and constantly telling me how proud you were of me. Reflecting back and looking at how you are not afraid to leap out on faith, has truly been an inspiration to me. Thanks also for giving birth to my beautiful niece. I would also like to thank my grandfather John Hercules Swaggard who spoke words into my life at an early age to be the best that I could be in life. I would also like to thank Dr. Rosemary McCaslin for your feedback and guidance with this paper. A special thank you to Karina Mendez for choosing me as your

partner to work with sexually exploited juvenile girls, and helping implement the C.H.A.N.G.E. Program at West Valley and Central Juvenile Detention and Assessment Center. This opportunity was an honor and blessing in my life which inspired me to write this project. Finally, I would like to thank Contra Costa County Probation Department for allowing me this opportunity and making this project possible. A special thank you to Chief Philip Kader, Cassandra Latula, Tamara Gusman-Taylor, and all probation staff who participated in this survey.

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my mother, Beverly Thompson and my father, Jimmy Thompson. Thank you for your guidance, support, and constant prayers. Mom, thank you for speaking life, believing, and encouraging me to continue to press on when I wanted to give up. Mom and dad, showing me what love is about, laying the foundation for me to encounter God's love, and teaching me how to give of myself, has helped me to be a blessing in the lives of others. Thank you and I love you.

This thesis is also dedicated to all girls who have been a victim of sexual exploitation through prostitution, who have a desire to get out the lifestyle, and to those who have made it out. Use your life experiences, pain, and healing as a personal testimony to help others.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

The introduction identifies sexual exploitation through prostitution as a significant problem in the United States. Juvenile girls were the focal point in this research.

Problem Statement

Sexual exploitation through prostitution is a widespread problem among juvenile girls throughout the United States. Research findings show that in the United States, at least 100,000 to 300,000 youth are at risk for sexual exploitation (Estes & Weiner, 2001). These girls come to the attention of the juvenile justice system when they are detained for charges of Penal Codes (PC) 647(b) and PC 653.22(a). PC 647(b) is soliciting or engaging in prostitution, and PC 653.22(a) is loitering to commit prostitution (West, 2010). Recent statistics from the U.S. Department of Justice revealed nationally that juvenile girls constituted 1,400 arrest on charges of prostitution during the year of 2009 (U.S. Department of Justice, 2011). Similarly, estimates reveal between 90,000 to 112,500 prostitutes in the United States are

juveniles (General Accounting Office, 1982). Although many stakeholders such as Contra Costa County Probation Department, Department of Behavioral Health, law enforcement agencies, Children and Family Services, District Attorneys, communities, faith-based and non-profit organizations, including myself, are beginning to view these sexually exploited juveniles as victims, additional problems still exist.

Due to lack of shelters and these girls being a flight risk, juvenile hall facilities serve as a temporary and secure placement for these sexually exploited juvenile girls. Based on experience working with these juvenile girls, and reading the reports written by their Probation Officer and/or Social Worker, these juvenile girls' life story reveal several factors. If Social Workers could understand the interconnected problems that are linked to sexual exploitation through prostitution, they could offer and improve services needed and being provided. The question one may ask is what risk factors are associated with juvenile girls being led into sexual exploitation through prostitution?

Sexual exploitation through prostitution is another form of sexual abuse, violence, and physical abuse. As a

result, these juvenile girls have family dysfunction, psychological, substance abuse, social, and health issues that require intervention and treatment services. Research revealed that 85% of sexually exploited children have a history of childhood sexual abuse (The Council For Prostitution Alternative, 1991). Additionally, estimates reveal that more than 60% are victims of physical abuse (Chesney-Lind, 2001). These juvenile girls may runaway to escape family dysfunction and abuse. Furthermore, research show that more than 70% of girls have fled violence by running away from home (Chesney-Lind, 2001). Unfortunately, these juvenile girls turn to the streets, are recruited into prostitution, and victimized again (Estes & Weiner, 2001).

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to examine the variables that are associated with sexually exploited juveniles' girls in Contra Costa County, and offer rehabilitative services to these girls while they are detained in juvenile hall. Efforts will be made in preventing them from being victimized again and/or falling prey to the streets. In addition, a number of

studies have shown a linkage between juvenile prostitution and child maltreatment (U.S. Department of Justice, 2004); (Widom, 1994); (Kaufman, & Widom, 1999).

Literature review has shown multiple challenges sexually exploited juvenile girls face including mental, physical, and health related issues. However, limited research has shown the type of services being rendered to these juvenile girls while they are detained.

Research has reported lack of shelters and/or treatment facilities available to sexually exploited girls. As a result, these girls are being detained in juvenile hall temporarily to get them off the streets and keep them safe. In efforts to help these sexually exploited juvenile girls, a program has been developed in Contra Costa County Probation Department to educate and help prevent these girls from returning to the streets. Additionally, hopefully this research will prompt Contra Costa County Probation Department to open a placement treatment facility to help this population.

The study used quantitative secondary data analysis collected from Contra Costa County Probation Department from December 2012 to April 2013. The data were collected from a random question survey of Probation Officers

within this department. Data were collected on juvenile girls who had been arrested on charges of prostitution, or who had a background history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime.

Significance of the Project for Social Work

The findings of this study will be significant within social work practice by specifying the type of rehabilitative services being provided to help juvenile girls exploited through prostitution with recovery while detained in juvenile hall.

The generalist intervention process can be informed on various phases and implemented during the intervention and helping process of these juvenile girls. Probation Correction Officer Staff, Probation Officers, and Social Workers elicit and analyze information from the juvenile and their parent(s) during the intake and report writing process. Questions asked during this time are relational to identifying these girls and the variables being examined during this research study. Moreover, the need for rehabilitative services is being assessed during this process. Second, formulating and implementing a plan would include working with these juvenile girls,

prioritizing their needs, reviewing and monitoring their progress, revising their plan as needed to tailor their needs while in detention, and after being released back into the community. Third, would be terminating the process when these juvenile girls are released home, sent to a placement facility (group home), or foster home. Helping them develop a plan and putting other resources in place in efforts of preventing these girls from returning to the streets would be included in this process. Due to lack of support from family members, and a trusting relationship established between Probation Officers, Probation Correction Officers, and Social Workers, maintaining continuity of care would be helpful in the lives of these girls upon being released home, or to a foster/group home. The research question will help others understand the risk factors involved with sexual exploitation through prostitution.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

Introduction

Chapter Two defines the California Penal Code for sexual exploitation. Child maltreatment, runaway behavior, pimp tactics, family dysfunction, and substance abuse were risk factors associated with juvenile girl's involvement in prostitution.

Penal Code

Penal Code 11165.1 defines sexual exploitation as "any person...knowingly promotes, aids, or assists, employs, uses, persuades, induces, or coerces a child...to engage in prostitution or...obscene sexual conduct, or to either pose or model...for obscene sexual conduct" (West, 2010, pg 1186). Girls who have experienced physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, and/or neglect issues are linked to child maltreatment and exposure to sexual exploitation. In order to understand the issues that pertain to sexual exploitation, one must understand the background of these juvenile girls.

Background of Girls Involved in Prostitution

Juvenile girls being sexually exploited through prostitution come from different ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. Child maltreatment has been a common denominator amongst these juvenile girls.

Maltreatment occurs when a parent or caretaker of a child allows abuse or neglect to take place (U.S. Department of Justice, 1999). Many of these juvenile girls have suffered from maltreatment and have been victims of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. They have grown up in abusive and/or neglectful homes. Due to physical, sexual, emotional abuse, and/or neglect within their family, these juvenile girls are removed from homes by a social worker and placed into foster care or a group home.

In 2007, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services estimated 16.6% of children in their homes experienced physical abuse, 9.3% experienced sexual abuse, 7.1% experienced emotional abuse, and 62.8% were neglected. Due to an unsafe environment, 517,000 children had to be removed and placed into foster care homes by Child Protective Service in 2004. Furthermore, estimates in 2005 revealed the removal of 317,000 children from

their homes due to child maltreatment investigations (USDHHS, 2007). Once these girls are placed in foster care or a group home, they are likely to runaway and be recruited by a pimp.

Runaway Behavior

Runaway girls are at a higher risk of being sexually exploited through prostitution. These girls find themselves on the streets without any means to survive, minimum education, and no vocational skills. Consequently, they are preyed upon and become an easy target for a pimp due to vulnerability and homelessness. Studies show that a pimp will recruit one in three teens within 48 hours of leaving home and becoming homeless (Estes & Weiner, 2001). According to the U.S. Department of Justice, the pathway entry into prostitution is between the ages of 11 and 13 (U.S. Department of Justice, 2001). Moreover, approximately 75% work under the control of a pimp (U.S. Department of Justice, 2001).

Pimp Tactics

Pimps use different tactics to recruit juvenile girls into prostitution. Violence, force, manipulation, seduction, kidnapping, boyfriend grooming, coercion, and

peer recruitment are common tactics used. "Guerilla" pimps known as violent pimps, will kidnap, use force, and/or coercion to lure a juvenile girl into prostitution. Likewise, pimps will play psychological mind games on juvenile girls by making them believe that he is their boyfriend and it is love. In actuality, love has never been a factor. After pimps finish grooming juvenile girls, and selling them empty promises and dreams, they eventually put them out on the "track" or the "blade" to make the money. A "track" or "blade" is referred to as the streets on which sexually exploited juvenile girls work. Moreover, to show ownership, pimps will carve, brand, or tattoo juvenile girls who work for them and make sure that they are their support system.

Pimps will isolate girls from their family and friends. They often identify girls' vulnerabilities and gather information about them and their family through conversation. Although these juvenile girls may be reluctant to exploiting their body through prostitution, pimps will make threats of harming their family (U.S. Department of Justice, 2012).

In one example, Shuntel Martin, a pimp in Minneapolis, befriended Anniki Davis when she was 14

years old. Davis stated Martin was attentive to her and she believed he wanted a relationship. He convinced her to leave her middle-class home life and live with him because her parents were strict. Davis thought she was absconding from strict guidelines in her home, but soon discovered victimization. Martin moved her to Las Vegas and coerced her into prostitution (Smalley, 2003).

Family Dysfunction

Many juvenile girls who have been sexually exploited through prostitution have experienced a dysfunctional alignment within their family structure. Many have encountered and/or witnessed child maltreatment, parental prostitution, their mother having multiple sex partners, and being raised in a single-family home or by a grandparent. The U.S. Department of Justice, Special Report in September of 1988 concluded that 70% of juveniles come from a home environment where the father is absent.

Substance Abuse

Research studies have identified substance abuse as a precursor to juveniles becoming involved in sexual exploitation through prostitution (Brawn & Roe-Sepowitz,

2008). Many of these girls begin experimenting with drugs such as marijuana, crystal meth, ecstasy, and/or alcohol to escape pain and life circumstances. Often times, these juvenile girls will exchange sex for drugs, and/or exchange sex for money in order to buy drugs (Brawn & Roe-Sepowitz). Furthermore, sexually exploited juvenile girls will use drugs and/or alcohol as a coping tool while they are working the streets and engaging in sexual activities (Flowers, 2010).

Theories Guiding the Study

Ecodevelopmental theory is an integrated system composed of family systems, social ecology, and life span developmental theories (Wilson, & Widom, 2010). This theory emerged from Ecological Systems Theory by Bronfenbrenner (Patin, 2003).

The Ecological Systems Theory looks at how social relationships and environment effect human behavior and development in a child (Lesser, & Pope, 2011). This system is a component within four systems; microsystem, macrosystem, mesosystem, and ecosystem. Similarly, Ecodevelopmental Theory explains how family and social environment impacts the development of maladaptive or

adaptive behavioral patterns and identifies the family as being influential in the lives of children and adolescents. Moreover, this conceptual model also examines how school, peers, and family structure affect child development and the growth of deviant or healthy behavior (Wilson, & Widom, 2010).

Therefore, Ecodevelopmental theory and Ecological Systems Theory would be relevant to this study. The microsystem, macrosystem, and mesosystem will be considered when looking at the variables of sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls. Empirical studies show that risk factors contributing to sexual exploitation through prostitution begin within the microsystem and trickles into the mesosystem, and macrosystem.

At the microsystem level, Ecodevelopmental Theory looks at the family, school, and peers. Family dysfunction and child maltreatment impairs psychological and social development in an adolescent. This impact then has an effect at the mesosystem level. At this level, the adolescent has poor academic performance and lacks support and security from family members and/or teachers. Last, at the macrosystem level, poverty and low

socio-economic status impacts adolescent exploited juveniles, and puts them at risk of being sexually exploited through prostitution.

Summary

Ecodevelopmental Theory examined the family systems, social ecology, and life span developmental theories. This theory was relevant to the risk factors associated with juvenile girls and sexual exploitation through prostitution. Literature has shown how the family unit, structure, and peers have played a significant role in these girls being victimized on the streets.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODS

Introduction

Chapter Three in this research project explains the methods used in answering the research question: what risk factors are associated with juvenile girls being led into sexual exploitation through prostitution. Furthermore, this chapter included the study design, sampling, data collection and instruments, procedures, protection of human subjects, and data analysis while conducting this study.

Study Design

The purpose of this study would be to look at the risk factors for juvenile girls being sexually exploited through prostitution and offer services needed to keep these girls from being victimized again. The study used secondary data collected from Contra Costa County Probation Department. This quantitative secondary analysis design used a survey questionnaire formulated by the researcher. This survey was administered in person to Deputy Probation Officers employed with Contra Costa County Probation Department. Additionally, these Deputy

Probation Officers previously or currently work with juvenile girl offenders.

Deputy Probation Officers are responsible for writing Dispositional and 241.1 Committee Reports for the court/judge. These written reports include information on the family background, history of substance, physical, sexual, and/or emotional abuse. Additionally criminal and delinquent history of the juvenile and parent(s), history of mental illnesses, runaway history, how many times these juvenile girls have been placed in foster care and/or group home, and demographics are included in these reports.

A 241.1 committee report is written by a probation officer working in investigation. This committee decides whether a minor should be Welfare & Institution (W&I) 602, ward of the court, or a W&I 300, dependency/foster care case.

The in-person question survey was administered to Deputy Probation Officers in Contra Costa County Probation Department from December 2012 to April 2013. Following the guidelines with the Institutional Review Board (IRB) School of Social Work Sub-Committee, an informed consent was provided to all willing respondents.

Each respondent were told individually, face-to-face: (1) purpose of the study; (2) participation was voluntarily and no incentives would be provided; (3) no foreseeable risk would be included and no identifying information would be requested; (4) the survey would be shredded at the conclusion of this study; and (5) the survey would take approximately 20 to 40 minutes. Additionally, the in-person question survey was administered to 30 Deputy Probation Officers. These Deputy Probation Officers were randomly selected in person.

The researcher was granted written permission from the chief with Contra Costa County Probation Department to use quantitative secondary data analysis. Questions asked in the survey consisted of open and closed cases of juvenile girls sexually exploited through prostitution, or juvenile girls with history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime. These girls were identified by the Deputy Probation Officer's caseload due to arrest charges and/or background information. Demographics including the juvenile's age and ethnicity were asked on the survey.

The limitation encountered while conducting this study was the length of stay of these female juvenile

girls being detained. The length of stay is between two weeks to six months. This is determined by whether or not the juvenile is going home, going to a foster home, or going to placement. However, if juveniles are from another county, they are transferred back to their residing county within 72 hours to one week of being detained. As a result, information from the detention report, probation officer, 241.1 committee, and/or social worker was not available. In addition, accuracy of information reported to the investigation probation officer, the probation officer assigned to the juvenile, the social worker, and/or 241.1 committee, from the parent(s) and legal guardian of the juvenile, and juvenile could have been omitted or falsified.

Sampling

The juvenile girls chosen for this research study were from Contra Costa County Probation Department. These girls were identified by open and closed cases as being victims of sexual exploitation through prostitution due to arrest charges or background history. Demographics included the juvenile's age and ethnicity.

Data Collection and Instruments

The data for this research study was collected from an in-person question survey instrument administered to Deputy Probation Officers (respondents) in Contra Costa County. These respondents were randomly selected.

The dependent variable was juvenile girls and prostitution. The independent variables were the type of risk factors experienced by juvenile girls. This was measured by the juvenile's charges of Penal Codes (PC) 647(b) and PC 653.22(a), and if the juvenile was not charged, but identified as a victim of sexual exploitation.

The independent variables included demographics of juvenile girls with regard to their age and ethnicity, charges of prostitution, or history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated charge. In addition, substance abuse, history of child maltreatment, runaway history, and removal from home were included in the independent variables. This was measured by "yes" or "no", and numerical answers from the respondent's open and closed caseloads of sexually exploited juvenile girls. The first part of the survey focused on open and closed cases of juvenile girls charged with 647(B), and/or 653.22(a), and

the second part of the survey gathered information from open and closed cases of juvenile girls with history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime. In addition, the levels of measurements for all independent variables were at the nominal level. The survey can be found in Appendix A.

Procedures

Data were collected from secondary data through a random, in-person question survey in Contra Costa County. Approval for this research project was needed. A proposal describing the purpose and intent of the study was presented to Chief Probation Officer Philip Kader with Contra Costa County Probation Department. With full support and consideration, the research study was approved.

The researcher collected data by randomly selecting Deputy Probation Officers employed with Contra Costa County Probation Department from December 2012 to April 2013. A question survey was administered in-person by this researcher to all willing respondents. The researcher gave each respondent approximately 20 to 40 minutes to complete the survey. Respondents that chose to

participate in the survey were provided with a clipboard if needed, and a black or blue pen.

Protection of Human Subjects

The rights and welfare of these voluntary respondents were protected by the researcher. These juvenile girls' names and all identifiable information were not requested or recorded. In addition, no identifiable information was requested from the Deputy Probation Officers participating in the question survey instrument. These Deputy Probation Officers and juvenile's on their caseload names remained anonymous. In following the guidelines from the Institutional Review Board (IRB), signed informed consent forms were required from each willing respondent before they were allowed to participate in this study. Respondents were also informed that they were free to discontinue with the survey at any time. This informed consent is provided in Appendix B. Respondents were also given a debriefing statement by this researcher. The debriefing statement can be found in Appendix C. This debriefing statement included the name of the researcher, the researcher's faculty supervisor, and the faculty supervisor's office number at California

State University, San Bernardino. At the conclusion of this research, all data collected was shredded.

Data Analysis

Quantitative data analyses were used to answer the research question regarding risk factors associated with juvenile girls being led into sexual exploitation through prostitution. Univariate and bivariate analyses were utilized to examine any associations between the dependent and independent variables.

The univariate analysis examined runaway history, history of sexual abuse, history of physical abuse, history of neglect, history of emotional abuse, removal from home, and history of substance abuse. The bivariate analysis examined runaway history and involvement in sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls, substance abuse and involvement in sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls, sexual abuse and involvement in sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls, physical abuse and involvement in sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls, emotional abuse and involvement in sexual exploitation through prostitution

with juvenile girls, and neglect and involvement in sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls. Chi-square tests were used to analyze and statistically calculate data enter into the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

Summary

Data on juvenile girls exploited through prostitution was collected by randomly selecting 30 Deputy Probation Officers from Contra Costa County Probation Department, and administering an in-person question survey to these respondents. Questions asked on the survey pertained to open and closed cases of juvenile girls who had been sexually exploited through prostitution, or had a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime. Univariate and bivariate analyses, and Chi-square test were also used to examine the relationship between the dependent and independent variables.

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS

Introduction

The purpose of this study was to examine if history of child maltreatment, substance abuse, and/or runaway history are risk factors associated with juvenile girls being led into sexual exploitation through prostitution. In efforts of analyzing whether or not these risk factors have any significance, quantitative, secondary data was collected by utilizing a survey questionnaire. Results were determined from evaluating univariate and bivariate data analyses.

Presentation of the Findings

Thirty respondents (Deputy Probation Officers) completed a survey questionnaire. A total of 212 (n = 212) juvenile girls were identified as being charged with prostitution, or having a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime (See Table 1).

Table 1. Juveniles Charged or History of Prostitution

	Frequency	Valid Percent
Charged With Prostitution	105	49.5
History of Prostitution	107	50.5
Total	212	100.0

Ages of juvenile girls in this study represented ages at the time of their arrest. The mean age of the juveniles was 15.4 (range 12-18) (See Table 2).

Table 2. Age of Juveniles

Ages	Frequency	Valid Percent
12.00	1	.5
13.00	4	1.9
14.00	44	20.8
15.00	52	24.5
16.00	76	35.8
17.00	27	12.7
18.00	8	3.8
Total	212	100.0

N = 212, Mean = 15.4, sd = 1.14

In this study, African-American represented a large percentage of the population. Sixty percent (60.4%) were African-American, 17% were Caucasian, 12.3% were

Hispanic, 7.5% were other, and 2.8% were Asian-American
(See Table 3).

Table 3. Ethnicity of Juvenile Girls

Ethnicity	Frequency	Valid Percent
African-American	128	60.4
Caucasian	36	17.0
Hispanic	26	12.3
Other	16	7.5
Asian-American	6	2.8
Total	212	100.0

N = 212, Mean = 2.03, sd = 1.39

Risk Factors such as sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, runaway history, history of substance abuse, and removal from home were examined. 90.6% of juvenile girls had runaway history, 81.1% history of substance abuse, 70.3% history of emotional abuse, 69.8% history of sexual abuse, 66% history of neglect, 59.9% were removed from home, and 56.1% had a history of physical abuse (See Table 4).

Table 4. Risk Factors

Type	Frequency	Valid Percent
Runaway	192	90.6
Substance Abuse	172	81.0
Emotional Abuse	149	70.0
Sexual Abuse	148	69.8
Neglect	140	66.0
Removal From Home	127	59.9
Physical Abuse	119	56.1

Chi-square tests were used to see if there was any significant association between variables. This test analyzed runaway history and sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls. No significant relationship was found $\chi^2 (1, n = 212) = .264, p > .05$. Juvenile girls who had been charged with prostitution or had a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime did not differ significantly. Table 5 summarizes these results.

Table 5. Runaway History and Prostitution

		Yes	No
Charged With	Count	94	11
Prostitution	Expected Count	95.1	9.9
History of	Count	98	9
Prostitution	Expected Count	96.9	10.1
Total	Count	192	20
	Expected Count	192. 0	20.0

A chi-square test was statistically computed analyzing history of substance abuse and sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls. No significant relationship was found $\chi^2 (1, n = 212) = .004, p > .05$. Juvenile girls who had been charged with prostitution, or had a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime did not differ significantly. Table 6 present these findings.

Table 6. Substance Abuse and Prostitution

		Yes	No
Charged With	Count	85	20
Prostitution	Expected Count	85.2	19.8
History of	Count	87	20
Prostitution	Expected Count	86.8	20.2
Total	Count	172	40
	Expected Count	172.0	40.0

Table 7 illustrates the results between history of emotional abuse and sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls. No significant relationship was found $\chi^2 (1, n = 212) = .131, p > .05$. Juvenile girls who had been charged with prostitution or had a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime did not differ significantly.

Table 7. History of Emotional Abuse and Prostitution

		Yes	No
Charged With	Count	75	30
Prostitution	Expected Count	73.8	31.2
History of	Count	74	33
Prostitution	Expected Count	75.2	31.8
Total	Count	149	63
	Expected Count	149.0	63.0

A chi-square test was calculated analyzing history of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls. No significant relationship was found χ^2 (2, n = 212) = 2.002, p > .05. Juvenile girls who had been charged with prostitution or had a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime did not differ significantly (See Table 8).

Table 8. History of Sexual Abuse and Prostitution

		Yes	No
Charged With	Count	77	28
Prostitution	Expected Count	73.3	31.2
History of	Count	71	35
Prostitution	Expected Count	75.2	31.8
Total	Count	148	63
	Expected Count	148.0	63.0

Table 9 summarizes the results found between history of neglect and sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls. No significant relationship was found $\chi^2 (1, n = 212) = .232, p > .05$. Juvenile girls who had been charged with prostitution or had a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime did not differ significantly.

Table 9. History of Neglect and Prostitution

		Yes	No
Charged With	Count	71	34
Prostitution	Expected Count	69.3	35.7
History of	Count	69	38
Prostitution	Expected Count	75.2	31.8
Total	Count	140	72
	Expected Count	140.0	72.0

Table 10 summarizes the results found between removal from home and sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls. No significant relationship was found. $X^2 (1, n = 212) = 1.320, p > .05$. Juvenile girls who had been charged with prostitution or had a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime did not differ significantly.

Table 10. Removal From Home and Prostitution

		Yes	No
Charged With	Count	67	38
Prostitution	Expected Count	62.9	42.1
History of	Count	60	47
Prostitution	Expected Count	64.1	42.9
Total	Count	127	85
	Expected Count	127.0	85.0

A chi-square test was calculated analyzing history of physical abuse and sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls. No significant relationship $\chi^2 (1, n = 212) = 1.264, p > .05$. Juvenile girls who had been charged with prostitution or had a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime did not differ significantly. Table 11 present these findings.

Table 11. History of Physical Abuse and Prostitution

		Yes	No
Charged With	Count	63	42
Prostitution	Expected Count	58.9	46.1
History of	Count	56	51
Prostitution	Expected Count	60.1	46.9
Total	Count	119	93
	Expected Count	119.0	93.0

Summary

Chi-square tests were used to test relationship between variables. Univariate and bivariate data analyses determined if these variables were significant. The results revealed that there were no significant relationship between independent and dependent variables.

CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSION

Introduction

In this chapter, the researcher will discuss findings, limitations of this research, and recommendations for social work practice, policy, and research.

Discussion

The purpose of this research project was to examine risk factors associated with juvenile girls being led into sexual exploitation through prostitution. Deputy Probation Officers (DPO) within Contra Costa County Probation Department identified 212 (n = 212) juvenile girls who had charges of 647(B) or 653.22(a), prostitution, or a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime.

The researcher examined risk factors such as runaway history, history of substance abuse, history of emotional abuse, history of sexual abuse, history of neglect, removal from home, and/or history of physical abuse to see if these factors predispose juvenile girls to being sexually exploited through prostitution. This researcher

found out that the data was not valid enough. The variables tested were not significant due to p values being greater than .05. Furthermore, these findings were inconsistent with previous research studies.

When examining runaway history and sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls, research shows that runaway behavior has been a risk factor for entry into prostitution (Brawn & Roe-Sepowitz, 2008). Researchers believe that these girls eventually enter the lifestyle of prostitution to get their basic needs met (Flowers, 2010). However, findings in this study did not support this. The researcher found that runaway history p value was ($p = .607$). Therefore, this assumption was not significant.

When examining substance abuse and sexual exploitation through prostitution with juvenile girls, research shows that girls have become involved in prostitution to support their drug addiction habit here (Graham & Wish, 1994). However, findings in this study did not support this. The researcher found that history of substance abuse with juvenile girls p value was ($p = .947$). Therefore, findings indicated not significant.

This researcher finding for history of emotional abuse among sexually exploited juvenile girls was not significant. Results from test showed p value ($p = .718$) greater than .05. This research was not supported by Roe-Sepowitz's findings.

Roe-Sepowitz conducted a study analyzing childhood emotional abuse and juvenile entry into prostitution. The researcher found that childhood emotional abuse was significantly associated with sexual exploitation of girls (Roe-Sepowitz, 2012).

Research has shown that childhood sexual abuse is linked to delinquency with juvenile girls and increases the risk of them becoming involved in prostitution and being arrested on these charges (Widom, 1995). This researcher found that childhood sexual abuse was not significant. The p value ($p = .367$) was greater than .05. Furthermore, research has shown an association between childhood physical abuse and juvenile prostitution (Flowers, 2010).

Although research shows a correlation between physical abuse and sexual exploitation through prostitution (Flowers, 2010), this study failed to show this. Findings showed that the p value ($p = .261$) was

greater than .05. Therefore, these results were not significant.

When examining history of neglect, findings were not associated with juvenile girls being led into prostitution. This researcher finding revealed that these variables were not significant. The p value ($p = .630$) was greater than .05.

When examining removal from home with juvenile girls sexually exploited through prostitution, this was not a significant risk factor leading these girls into this lifestyle. The p value ($p = .251$) was greater than .05.

Limitations

One of the limitations to this study was the sample size. The sample size consisted of 212 ($n = 212$) juvenile girls being identified as having charges of prostitution, or having a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime. This study was limited to only 30 Deputy Probation Officers (DPO) from Contra Costa County Probation Department being able to complete a question survey pertaining to this specific population.

Another limitation to this study was that there was not a lot of contrast between juvenile girls charged with

647(B), and/or 653.22(a), prostitution and juvenile girls having a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime. A comparison group would be needed to explore risk factors associated with leading juvenile girls into prostitution. This group should consist of juvenile girls involved in prostitution, and juvenile girls not involved. Further, a larger sample size would be needed to explore risk factors associated with leading juvenile girls into a lifestyle of prostitution.

Another limitation to this study was the use of secondary data collected through Contra Costa County Probation Department. The current study relied on the respondents, (Deputy Probation Officers) within this department to be able to recall numbers and charges of juvenile girls on their caseload (Grinnell & Unrau, 2011). Furthermore, the researcher was restricted to the type of questions that could be asked due to protecting the identity of these juvenile girls.

Last, limitation to this study is that the researcher had to rely on self-reported information given to respondents (Deputy Probation Officers) from these juvenile girls (Grinnell & Unrau, 2011).

As mentioned earlier in Chapter 3 of this research, the length of stay of juvenile girls detained in a juvenile hall facility varies. When a juvenile girl is arrested and charged with prostitution, or an unrelated crime, a Deputy Probation Officers (DPO) completes a dispositional report with the juvenile and her parent/guardian. These juveniles, and/or parent/guardian could omit and/or falsify information. If a girl has a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated crime, she may not disclose this information to the Deputy Probation Officer. Therefore, information may underestimate the actual number of juvenile girls being sexually exploited through prostitution.

Recommendations for Social Work Practice, Policy and Research

The recommendations from the results of this study would suggest comparing sexually exploited juvenile girls to juvenile girls that have not been sexually exploited through prostitution. Risk factors associated with these girls and other delinquent girls not involved in prostitution should be analyzed and researched furthered.

Although this current study did not support previous research studies pertaining to juvenile girls and sexual

exploitation through prostitution, and was not significant, these tests were valid.

Deputy Probation Officers (DPO) responses to the questions on the survey revealed that some of the juvenile girls charged with prostitution, or had a history of prostitution, but charged with an unrelated crime had a history of child maltreatment, runaway history, removal from home, and/or a history of substance abuse. Therefore, intervention with these juvenile girls is still needed.

Research has shown that many girls coming to the attention of the juvenile justice system suffer from child maltreatment and mental health issues (Roe-Sepowitz et. al, 2009). Few probation departments within the state of California have a program tailored for sexually exploited juvenile girls. Although Contra Costa County Probation Department operates a program for these girls inside their juvenile hall facility, a treatment facility outside of juvenile hall should be designed strictly for these girls.

The recommendation for social work practice would be advocating for the need of a treatment facility and other

community-based organizations to provide direct services to this vulnerable, oppressed population.

Social workers providing services to sexually exploited juvenile girls should be competent in this area and scope of practice. They should be educated on identifying, assessing, engaging, using motivational interviewing techniques, and other skills needed to work with these juvenile girls. Furthermore, continuity of care should be allowed by the Probation Department and other agencies providing services to sexually exploited juvenile girls.

Deputy Probation Officers, and social workers working with these juvenile girls should be allowed to follow-up and continue with treatment goals, and/or supportive counseling once these juvenile girls are released from custody or placement. If a treatment facility was developed to address abuse and trauma history of juvenile girls sexually exploited through prostitution, policies would have to be put into place.

Policies would be needed to guide social work practices with this task. Procedures, guidelines, and services this treatment facility will be providing to this population would have to be written, developed, and

implemented. Further research would be needed to get a better understanding of what type of treatment modalities would be effective with this population. The needs of sexually exploited juvenile girls through prostitution would have to be assessed to see what they feel their needs are.

Additionally, research with a larger sample is needed to see what risk factors have contributed to these juvenile girls entering into the lifestyle of prostitution and what methods are needed in efforts of preventing these girls from returning to the streets.

Additionally, further research might include qualitative and quantitative research, and a comparison group that differ from juvenile girls being sexually exploited but have identifiable risk factors.

Conclusions

This current study shows that further research with a larger sample is needed to get valid results. Although there was not a significant difference between juvenile girls charged with 647(B), and/or 653.22(a), prostitution, or juvenile girls having a history of prostitution but charged with an unrelated, this project

did show that some of these girls have experienced child maltreatment, have a runaway history, and history of substance. Being able to identify what risk factors are leading these girls into sexual exploitation through prostitution, and developing a treatment facility to address these issues are needed to service this population.

APPENDIX A
QUESTIONNAIRE

Question Survey Instrument Part I

(1) Number of juvenile girls on your caseload charged with 647(B) and/or 653.22(a) prostitution (open cases) _____

(2) Number of juvenile on your caseload charged with 647(B), and/or 653.22(a) prostitution (closed cases) _____

If you have open and/or closed cases of juvenile girls charged with prostitution, please answer the following questions for each juvenile.

Number of Juvenile(s)	Age of Juvenile(s)	Ethnicity of Juvenile(s)	History of Sexual Abuse (Yes/No)	History of Physical Abuse (Yes/No)	History of Emotional Abuse (Yes/No)	History of Neglect (Yes/No)	Runaway History (Yes/No)	History of Substance Abuse (Yes/No)	Removal From Home, Placed in Group Home, and/or Foster Care (Yes/No)	Open and/or Closed Cases (Open/ Closed)
Juvenile #1										
Juvenile #2										
Juvenile #3										
Juvenile #4										
Juvenile #5										
Juvenile #6										
Juvenile #7										
Juvenile #8										
Juvenile #9										
Juvenile #10										
Juvenile #11										
Juvenile #12										
Juvenile #13										
Juvenile #14										
Juvenile #15										
Juvenile #16										
Juvenile #17										
Juvenile #18										

Part II

(3) Number of juvenile girls on your caseload with history of prostitution but charged with unrelated crime (open cases) _____

(4) Number of juvenile girls on your caseload with history of prostitution but charged with unrelated crime (closed cases) _____

If you have open and/or closed cases of juvenile girls with a history of prostitution, but charged with unrelated crime, please answer the following questions for each juvenile.

Number of Juvenile(s)	Age of Juvenile(s)	Ethnicity of Juvenile(s)	History of Sexual Abuse (Yes/No)	History of Physical Abuse (Yes/No)	History of Emotional Abuse (Yes/No)	History of Neglect (Yes/No)	Runaway History (Yes/No)	History of Substance (Yes/No)	Removal From Home, Placed in Group Home, and/or Foster Care (Yes/No)	Open or Closed Cases (Open/Closed Cases)
Juvenile #1										
Juvenile #2										
Juvenile #3										
Juvenile #4										
Juvenile #5										
Juvenile #6										
Juvenile #7										
Juvenile #8										
Juvenile #9										
Juvenile #10										
Juvenile #11										
Juvenile #12										
Juvenile #13										
Juvenile #14										
Juvenile #15										
Juvenile #16										
Juvenile #17										
Juvenile #18										

Developed by Kimberly Renell Thompson

APPENDIX B
INFORMED CONSENT

Informed Consent

The study in which you are being asked to participate is designed to examine "Sexual Exploitation Through Prostitution and Juvenile Girls." This study is being conducted by Kimberly Renell Thompson under the supervision of Dr. Stan Taylor, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work, California State University, San Bernardino. This study has been approved by the Institutional Review Board School of Social Work Sub-Committee, California State University, San Bernardino.

The purpose of this study is to examine risk factors that are associated with sexually exploited juvenile girls. Deputy Probation Officers employed with Contra Costa County Probation Department are being randomly selected and asked to complete an in-person survey on open and closed cases of juvenile girls on their caseload. The questions consist of asking age, ethnicity of juvenile girls, charges of prostitution and/or other related charges, history of substance abuse, child maltreatment, and family dysfunction. No identifiable information about these juvenile girls will be asked. Completion of the survey should take approximately 20 to 40 minutes.

Your participation in this research study is voluntary and no incentives will be provided. You are free to withdraw from the survey at any time. Refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits. There are no foreseeable risks and no identifying information will be requested. You will remain anonymous. Your responses will be used solely for purposes of this research study. At the conclusion of this study, the survey questionnaires will be shredded.

If you have any questions regarding this research, you may contact Dr. Stan Taylor at (909)537-5584. A copy of this research project will be available in the library at California State University, San Bernardino at the end of Summer Quarter of 2013.

I understand and agree to participate. Please place a mark on signature line.

Mark: _____ Date: _____

APPENDIX C
DEBRIEFING STATEMENT

Debriefing Statement

The study in which you have just participated was designed to examine Sexual Exploitation Through Prostitution and Juvenile Girls. In this research study, questions were asked to see if child maltreatment, family dysfunction, substance abuse, and runaway history are risk factors associated with sexually exploited juvenile girls. This research study was particularly interested in juvenile girls in Contra Costa County who have been arrested on prostitution charges and/or other related charges, and/or have a history of prostitution. No identifying information was requested from Deputy Probation Officers (respondents), and no identifiable information about these juvenile girls was asked.

Thank you for your participation. If you have any questions about the study, please feel free to contact Dr. Stan Taylor at (909)537-5584. If you would like to obtain a copy of this study, it will be available in the library at California State University, San Bernardino at the end of Summer Quarter of 2013.

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