DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Stepanka Korytova, March 27th, 2013
Continuum of violence

- Both may occur at the same time
- Interwoven
- What needs to be done: - Victim centered approach
  - To empower
  - Offer comprehensive social and legal services

Stop domestic violence.
Dynamics involved

- Gender violence
- Discrimination against women
- Dysfunctional family situations
  = Motivation factors
Affect of motivation factors

- Migration abroad -> vulnerability to HT increased
traffickers

- Exploit lowered self-esteem of trafficking victims with a history of abusive family lives
- Trafficked victims – in increase likelihood (vulnerability) of being battered
DV & HT: similar case: examples

- Servile marriage
- Forced sex work
- Other forced labor
Servile marriage

- Women forced by partners to perform services and labor:
  - Domestic work
  - Working at family business
  - Sex work

  Common: women - physically, sexually abused by their partners threatened with immigration, legal consequences
Forced sex work

• Recruitment of women into SW – feigning love, interest in them
  • Fraudulent courtship
  • Sexual assault (Ms. Flores)
• Followed by a pattern of DV to control, to convince the women to engage in SW
Other forms of forced labor

• Trafficking by other family members (besides intimate partners) into forced labor:
  • Restaurant work
  • Sales work
  • Janitorial work
  • Domestic labor
Similarities between DV & HT

- Intentional manifestations of power and control
- Violence from those they know and are close to them
- Abused in domestic situation – constant control by their trafficker
- Physical and sexual violence
- Isolation and restricted movement
- Threat of harm
- Degradation and name calling
- Shame
- Control of immigration documents and finances
- Threats to abuse the legal process (deportation, lawsuit)
Similarities continued: problems

- Victims do not self identify as victims
- Unaware of their legal protection
- High barriers from leaving their violent situation:
  - Language ability
  - Fear of law enforcement
  - Lack of awareness of rights and laws
  - Lack of awareness of available services
  - Fear of deportation
  - Specific cultural considerations
Differences between DV and HT

- HT: multiple victims
- Traffickers with extended networks – pose danger to family members in home countries
- Protection tied to their cooperation with the criminal investigation and prosecution
- Men exploited more than in DV
  - Resources to meet the needs of trafficked men
Source:

- www. Freedom network USA