

GLOSSARY

CSEC – Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Any time a child is involved in commercial sex including: prostitution, sexual services, exotic dance or performance, sex tourism, transactional or survival sex (food, clothing, place to stay, or drugs), and child marriage.

Victims Versus Survivors

The terms *victim* and *survivor* both are used to refer to minors who are commercially sexually exploited or trafficked for sexual purposes. The terms could be applied to the same individuals at different points along a continuum. The term *victim* indicates that a crime has occurred and that assistance is needed. The term *survivor* has therapeutic value and the label *victim* may be counterproductive at times.*

Prostituted Child, Not Child Prostitute

When victims of CSEC are referred to as *child prostitutes*, *juvenile prostitutes*, or *adolescent prostitutes*, it suggests that prostituted children are willing participants in an illegal activity. The terms *prostituted child (juvenile, adolescent)* and *prostitution of children (juveniles, adolescents)* indicate they are victims.*

Traffickers or Exploiters, NOT Pimps

A variety of terms—including *traffickers*, *exploiters*, and *pimps*—are used to describe individuals who exploit children for financial or other gain. While the word *pimp* originally was used to describe an individual who sells prostitutes, in slang, it is often used to describe something as positive or glamorous. **It is also important to note that traffickers and exploiters come in many forms; they may be family members, intimate partners, or friends, as well as strangers.***

Solicitors or Purchasers, NOT Johns

Solicitors and *purchasers* are individuals who pay for sex with minors and thus represent the demand for CSEC. These individuals may actively seek to purchase sex with underage individuals or may be unaware of or uninterested in their age. The term *johns* sounds innocuous and its use contributes to the perception that the prostitution of minors is a victimless crime.*

Facilitators

Facilitators are individuals or businesses that are complicit in or benefit from CSEC. Examples are limousine and taxi drivers, hotel and motel operators, landlords, and advertisers. While facilitators enable and support CSEC—actively or passively—they are not the purchasers or sellers of sex with minors. **It should be noted that many of the same individuals and businesses that could act as facilitators are well situated to help prevent, identify, and respond to CSEC.***

DCJS – New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services

OCFS - New York State Office of Children and Family Services

OTDA - New York State's Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

PINS – Person in Need of Supervision

RHYA - NY Runaway and Homeless Youth Act 1974

RHMCPA - RHYA amended by the Runaway, Homeless, and Missing Children Protection Act 2003

TVPA - Trafficking Victim Protection Act 2000 reauthorized by Pres. Obama in 2013

*Adapted from *Confronting Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Sex Trafficking of Minors in the United States*. Copyright © National Academy of Sciences