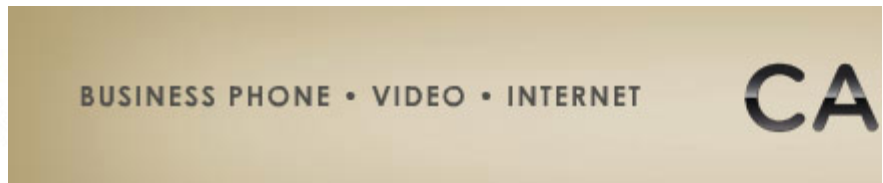
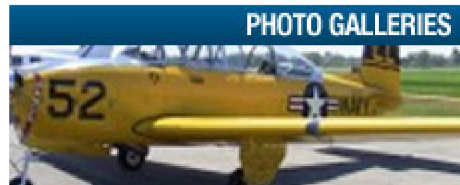


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Study shows how ex-pimps recruited their girls

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CHICAGO (STMW) – From recruiting runaways and other vulnerable young women on the streets and bars to tricking them into the business via the Internet, 25 ex-pimps revealed how they got girls and other aspects of their business to researchers studying the sex trade in Chicago.

Jody Raphael of the Schiller DuCanto & Fleck Family Law Center at the DePaul University College of Law and co-author Brenda Myers-Powell released their findings on Wednesday in “From Victims to Victimizers: Interviews with 25 Ex-Pimps in Chicago.”

Of the 25 pimps and madams interviewed, 68 percent had themselves been prostituted, according to a release from DePaul. Their average age of entry into prostitution was 15, and 60 percent also had family members involved in prostitution.

Interviews took place between September of 2009 and May 2010. The pimps were 64 percent black, 20 percent white, 4 percent Hispanic and 8 percent biracial. Seventy-two percent were men. Annual earnings ranged from \$150,000 to \$500,000.

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“The overwhelming majority of ex-pimps suffered physical abuse and sexual assault while growing up and watched their mother being physically assaulted by their fathers, stepfathers or boyfriends,” according to the study. “One pimp’s mother was killed by his alcoholic father while the child was hiding behind the couch.”

One of the female pimps said she was sexually abused as early as 6 years old by “whoever my mom, a prostituted heroin addict, wanted to sell me to.”

One of the pimps, a 40-year-old woman, said her mother “put her out in prostitution at age 12. ‘My mother was my first pimp. She used to sell me to the landlord and other men who wanted a young girl. She was a junkie.’”

According to the study, since 68 percent sold their bodies for sex, that earlier involvement might have led to a natural “graduation” into pimping. There were, however, specific routes into pimping. Several males with computer skills started posting ads for girls in their neighborhood, which eventually led to managing the girls.

According to the study, in addition to picking up vulnerable girls in person, pimps said MySpace or Craigslist could also be used to recruit girls, who sometimes “didn’t even know they were being pimped.”

The study looks at a facet of the sex trade that is largely ignored — the recruitment of prostitutes, Lynne Johnson, advocacy director at the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation, said in the release.

“If we want to end sex trafficking in our community, we must hold accountable the pimps and the people who buy sex.” CAASE is the lead agency for the End Demand Illinois campaign, which seeks to reform state law to enforce increased penalties against pimps and johns. DePaul’s Family Law Center is a collaborating partner.

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Mr Voter

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....i think if we horse whipped all these "pimps" when caught ...do them all on a certain day for entertiament like after a football game, had alot of young girls1000 lashes, if they ,pass out when they come, to finish the rest....nothing but scum, lowlife scum and the people that follow and provide cash to them (johns) ...they need to be chased and whipped maybe lite there heads on fire the second time.....yes ...pass these laws....

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