



ICPSR 20423

Law Enforcement Response to Human Trafficking and the Implications for Victims in the United States, 2005

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User Guide



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Data Resources Program

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Bibliographic Description

ICPSR Study No.: 20423

Title: Law Enforcement Response to Human Trafficking and the Implications for Victims in the United States, 2005

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Scope of Study

Summary: The purpose of the study was to explore how local law enforcement were responding to the crime of human trafficking after the passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) in 2000. The first phase of the study (Part 1, Law Enforcement Interview Quantitative Data) involved conducting telephone surveys with 121 federal, state, and local law enforcement officials in key cities across the country between August and November of 2005. Different versions of the telephone survey were created for the key categories of law enforcement targeted by this study (state/local investigators, police offices, victim witness coordinators, and federal agents). The telephone surveys were supplemented with interviews from law enforcement supervisors/managers, representatives from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Human Trafficking/Smuggling Office, the United States Attorney's Office, the Trafficking in Persons Office, and the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division. Respondents were asked about their history of working human trafficking cases, knowledge of human trafficking, and familiarity with the TVPA. Other variables include the type of trafficking victims encountered, how human trafficking cases were identified, and the law enforcement agency's capability to address the issue of trafficking. The

respondents were also asked about the challenges and barriers to investigating human trafficking cases and to providing services to the victims. In the second phase of the study (Part 2, Case File Review Qualitative Data) researchers collected comprehensive case information from sources such as case reports, sanitized court reports, legal newspapers, magazines, and newsletters, as well as law review articles. This case review examined nine prosecuted cases of human trafficking since the passage of the TVPA. The research team conducted an assessment of each case focusing on four core components: identifying the facts, defining the problem, identifying the rule to the facts (e.g., in light of the rule, how law enforcement approached the situation), and conclusion.

Subject Term(s): exploitation, human rights, human trafficking, indentured servants, law enforcement, sex trafficking, slavery

Smallest Geographic Unit: state

Geographic Coverage: Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Texas, United States, Virginia, Washington

Time Period: August 2005 - November 2005; 2000 - 2005

Date(s) of Collection: August 2005 - November 2005

Unit of Observation: Part 1 (Law Enforcement Interview Quantitative Data): Individual. Part 2 (Case File Review Qualitative Data): Court case.

Universe: The universe for Part 1 (Law Enforcement Interview Quantitative Data) is all law enforcement personnel in the identified key cities between August and November of 2005. The universe for Part 2 (Case File Review Qualitative Data) includes all cases of human trafficking after the passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000.

Data Type: event/transaction data
survey data

Data Collection Notes: This data collection does not include data from the discussion forums with established anti-trafficking task forces.

Methodology

- Purpose of the Study: The purpose of the study was to examine the impact of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 by answering the following questions:
1. How are law enforcement agencies organizing their response to human trafficking cases? What are current practices?
 2. What barriers/challenges do law enforcement agencies face in responding to human trafficking cases?
 3. What are the implications of law enforcement responses for trafficking victims?
 4. What barriers/challenges does local law enforcement face in coordinating/collaborating with Federal law enforcement agencies and victim service providers in responding to a trafficking case and meeting the needs of victims?

Study Design: This study was designed to explore how local law enforcement are responding to the crime of human trafficking. The first phase of the study (Part 1, Law Enforcement Interview Quantitative Data) involved conducting telephone surveys with 121 federal, state, and local law enforcement officials in key cities across the country between August and November of 2005. Different versions of the telephone survey were created for the key categories of law enforcement targeted by this study (state/local investigators, police officers, victim witness coordinators, and federal agents). Each completed telephone survey lasted an average of 60 minutes. A modest compensation was offered to law enforcement officers who were allowed to accept compensation in order to increase participation. The telephone surveys were supplemented with interviews from law enforcement supervisors/managers, representatives from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Human Trafficking/Smuggling Office, the United States Attorney's Office, the Trafficking in Persons Office, and the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division. The interviews were intended to provide information regarding senior management's perspective on the issue of human trafficking, identify barriers and challenges faced by law enforcement, and highlight emerging trends and best practices. On average, key stakeholder interviews lasted approximately 90 minutes. In the second phase of the study (Part 2, Case File Review Qualitative Data) researchers collected comprehensive case information from sources such as case reports, sanitized court reports, legal newspapers, magazines, and newsletters, as well as law review articles. This case review examined nine prosecuted cases of human trafficking since the passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) to gather data on the role of law enforcement officials and other key stakeholders (i.e., attorneys, victim advocates, judges, and other court personnel) in the investigation and prosecution of these

cases. Staff who conducted the legal case reviews were trained on how to use the case review protocol to ensure that information was reliably extracted from each case.

Sample: The sample for Part 1 (Law Enforcement Interview Quantitative Data) was comprised of law enforcement personnel in key cities across the United States. Law enforcement was defined as employees whose primary responsibility is to investigate, apprehend, or detain individuals suspected or convicted of criminal acts, and who work with victims during this process within a public law enforcement agency. Key cities were chosen based on the following criteria:

- Known trafficking activity in the communities
- Existing contacts within law enforcement and other agencies working in the area of trafficking
- Established anti-trafficking task forces and/or comprehensive initiatives aimed at combating trafficking

The cities originally selected were San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Dallas/Fort Worth, Miami, Atlanta, and New York City. To increase sample size, a decision was made to expand the number of target cities for the law enforcement telephone surveys to other key cities within the United States that met the same criteria described above.

Part 2 (Case File Review Qualitative Data) sample included the nine cases of human trafficking prosecuted since the passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) in 2000.

Weight: none

Mode of Data Collection: record abstracts

telephone interview

Description of Variables: Part 1 (Law Enforcement Interview Quantitative Data) includes demographic variables such as geographic region, position within law enforcement, years of experience, and language capabilities of the respondent. Respondents were asked about their history of working human trafficking cases, knowledge of human trafficking, and familiarity with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA). Other variables include the type of trafficking victims encountered, how human trafficking cases were identified, and the law enforcement agency's capability to address the issue of trafficking. The respondents were also asked about the challenges and barriers to investigating human trafficking cases and to

providing services to the victims. As part of the case file review (Part 2, Case File Review Qualitative Data), the research team conducted an assessment of each case focusing on four core components: identifying the facts, defining the problem, identifying the rule to the facts (e.g., in light of the rule, how law enforcement approached the situation), and conclusion.

Response Rates: For Part 1 (Law Enforcement Interview Quantitative Data), 292 individuals were contacted for the telephone survey. Of these contacts, 82 were ineligible to participate because they reported having no familiarity or experience working on trafficking cases. There were a total of 121 completed surveys and 89 non-responses (11 refusals and 78 non-contacts). The response rate for the telephone surveys was 58 percent. For Part 2 (Case File Review Qualitative Data) response rates are not applicable.

Presence of Common Scales: Part 1 (Law Enforcement Interview Quantitative Data): Several Likert-type scales were used. Part 2 (Case File Review Qualitative Data): None.

Extent of Processing: Standardized missing values.

Performed recodes and/or calculated derived variables.

Checked for undocumented or out-of-range codes.

Access and Availability

Note: A list of the data formats available for this study can be found in the [summary of holdings](#). Detailed file-level information (such as record length, case count, and variable count) is listed in the [file manifest](#).

Restrictions: The data are restricted from general dissemination. Users interested in obtaining these data must complete a Restricted Data Use Agreement form and specify the reasons for the request. A copy of the Restricted Data Use Agreement form can be requested by calling 800-999-0960. Researchers can also download this form as a Portable Document Format (PDF) file from the download page associated with this dataset. Completed forms should be returned to: Director, National Archive of Criminal Justice Data, Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, Institute for Social Research, P.O. Box 1248, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248, or by fax: 734-647-8200.

Original ICPSR Release: 2011

Dataset(s):

- DS1: Law Enforcement Interview Quantitative Data
- DS2: Case File Review Qualitative Data

Publications

Final Reports and Other Publication Resources:

A list of publications related to, or based on, this data collection can be accessed from the study's download page on the NACJD Web site or through the ICPSR Bibliography of Data-Related Literature at <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/ICPSR/citations/index.html>. The list of citations includes links to abstracts and publications in Portable Document Format (PDF) files or text files when available.

Final reports and other publications describing research conducted on a variety of criminal justice topics are available from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS). NCJRS was established in 1972 by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), an agency of the U.S. Department of Justice, to provide research findings to criminal justice professionals and researchers. NCJRS operates specialized clearinghouses that are staffed by information specialists who supply a range of reference, referral, and distribution services. Publications can be obtained from NCJRS at NIJ/NCJRS, Box 6000, Rockville, MD, 20849-6000, 800-851-3420 or 301-519-5500. TTY Service for the Hearing Impaired is 877-712-9279 (toll-free) or 301-947-8374 (local). The URL for the NCJRS Web site is:

<http://www.ncjrs.org/>

NIJ Data Resources Program

About the DRP:

The National Institute of Justice Data Resources Program (DRP) makes datasets from NIJ-funded research and evaluation projects available to the research community and sponsors research and training activities devoted to secondary data analysis. Datasets are archived by the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) at the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan.

The NACJD maintains a World Wide Web site with instructions for transferring files and sending messages. Criminal justice data funded by the Department of Justice are available via the Internet at this site at no charge to the user. NACJD may be contacted at NACJD/ICPSR, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, MI, 48106-1248, 800-999-0960. The URL for the NACJD Web site is:

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/>

Data Completeness Report

Notes: (1) Variables are individually listed only if they have greater than 5% missing data. These variables are listed under the appropriate percentage category in the order in which they appear in the data file. (2) The Data Completeness Report only captures information about system missing or other values that are declared missing. Codes that have a label implying that they are missing but that are not declared missing values are not reflected in this report. Data users should consult the codebook for more specific information about missing values. (3) Some variables that have 100% missing data may have been blanked by ICPSR to protect respondent confidentiality. Data users should consult the codebook for more specific information about blanked variables. (4) Data do not contain skip patterns or skip patterns are not reflected in the data as coded.

Table 1: Distribution of Variables by Percentage of Missing Values--Community Survey Quantitative Data

Variable Name and Label (Total Cases = 100)	Percent of Cases with Missing Values
84.7% (94 of 111 variables)	have 0% Missing Values
3.6% (4 of 111 variables)	have 0% - 1% Missing Values
0.0% (0 of 111 variables)	have 1% - 3% Missing Values
0.0% (0 of 111 variables)	have 3% - 5% Missing Values
0.9% (1 of 111 variables)	have 5% - 10% Missing Values
YEARS	YEARS IN COMMUNITY 8.0%
0.0% (0 of 111 variables)	have 10% - 20% Missing Values
0.9% (1 of 111 variables)	have 20% - 40% Missing Values
TPDSATISFIED	SATISFIED WITH TRIBAL POLICE RESPONSE 38.0%
9.9% (11 of 111 variables)	have 40% - 99% Missing Values
DAKOTAPRIDE	DAKOTAPRIDE 77.0%
DREAM	DREAM 88.0%
BOYSGIRLS	BOYSGIRLS 91.0%
YOUTHBUILD	YOUTHBUILD 89.0%
OTHERPROB	OTHER PROBLEMS IN COMMUNITY 80.0%
OTHERPROBNOW	OTHER PROBLEMS IN COMMUNITY NOW 78.0%
TPD1WHEN	TPD 1 YEAR 41.0%
TPD2WHEN	TPD 2 YEAR 96.0%
TPD3WHEN	TPD 3 YEAR 97.0%
ATTENDED	ATTENDED COMMUNITY MEETINGS 67.0%
POLICEATTEND	SAW POLICE AT COMMUNITY MEETINGS 84.0%
0.0% (0 of 111 variables)	have 100% missing values