**Statistical information regarding sex trafficking and the demand for it;**

**Victims;**

14 years - Average age of a domestic minor sex trafficking victim with 12 being the age of entry

97% female and 3% male

70% African American/22% Caucasian/8% multi-racial, Hispanic or other

96% reported as running away

90% report a history of child abuse

67% have a history in the child welfare system

77% reported having engaged in substance use/abuse

86% had problems with depressive mood

Referrals for youth have tripled from 2009 to 2014.

2009-2010 there were 101 referrals and in 2013-2014 there were 311.

Since 2009 1,380 referrals of youth in 91 counties in Georgia

Georgia Cares receives over 40 hotline calls a month regarding referrals

75% of victims report being under the control of a pimp

11 months a victim has been in the life by the time referred to Georgia Cares

50% of victims report being traumatized and experience violence & coercion by their pimp

Youth describe their pimps in a number of ways including: boyfriend, business partner, boss, exploiter, kidnapper, stranger, mother figure or friend

Between 244,000 and 325,000 children are at risk of sex trafficking in the U.S.

At any given time, More than 100,000 children are currently trafficked for sex in the U.S.

In Atlanta every night 100 girls are sold up to 10 times per night

7 years average life expectancy of a child sex trafficking victim

20.9 Million Victims of human trafficking globally – 26% are children

Between 2003 and 2007 the underground sex industry in Atlanta has grown by 22%

1 of every 4 girls and 1 of every 6 boys are sexually abused, most by someone they know

**Warning signs;**

Significantly older boyfriend

Chronic runaway

Special tattoos, marks or branding

Homelessness

Substance abuse

Multiple delinquent charges

New clothes, jewelry or phone

Sudden change in behavior

**Most common recruit areas;**

42.5% Social circle

38.4% Home neighborhoods

30.1% Clubs/bars

26% other neighborhoods

21.9% Internet

21.9% on the stroll

11% school

4.1% mall

**14 cities are “known” as centers for sexual exploitation; Atlanta being ranked in the top.**

Atlanta Detroit

Saint Louis Dallas

New York Chicago

Minneapolis Los Angeles

Miami Tampa

Las Vegas Washington D.C.

San Diego San Francisco

In Atlanta, Four major areas of trafficking;

Peachtree and Phar

Peachtree and North Avenue

Metropolitan Parkway

Fulton Industrial and 285

FBI statistics; Atlanta ranks among the top 14 cities for Commercially Sexual Exploitation

**The Trafficker;**

Pimps make $32,833 a week in cash

Traffickers/Pimps bring in $250,000 per victim per year

17-41 age range of pimps

Only 6% of pimps are worried that their employees would be raped, killed, arrested or infected with an STD.

Victims are advertised on Backpage.com which is a $27 Million industry

The International Labor Organization estimates that forced labor and human trafficking

is a $150 Billion industry worldwide.

The Global market for child trafficking is more than $12 billion a year with more than 1.2 million child victims.

**The John/Buyer;**

Average age is 37-55 (44% age 30-39, 34% under age 30 and 22% age 40 and over)

Georgia Geographic locations of men who respond to advertisements for sex with young females;

42% North Outside the Perimeter of I-285 26% Urban Core Inside the Perimeter of I-285

23% South Outside the Perimeter of I-285 9% Airport Area Inside the Perimeter

Estimates range from three to six percent of the population.

7,200 men account for 8,700 paid sex acts with adolescent females each month in Ga. About 300 per day

**Is Sex addiction the problem?**

Sexual addiction is defined as any sexually-related, compulsive behavior that interferes with normal living and causes severe stress on family, friends, loved ones, and one's work environment.

Sexual addiction has also been called hypersexuality, sexual dependency and sexual compulsivity. By any name, it is a compulsive behavior that completely dominates the addict's life. Sexual addicts make sex a priority over family, friends, and work. Sex becomes the governing principle of an addict's life. They are willing to sacrifice what they cherish most in order to preserve and continue their unhealthy behavior.

No single behavior pattern defines sexual addiction. These behaviors can take control of addicts' lives and become unmanageable.  Common behaviors include, but are not limited to compulsive masturbation, compulsive heterosexual and homosexual relationships, pornography, prostitution, exhibitionism, voyeurism, indecent phone calls, and anonymous sexual encounters. Even the healthiest forms of human sexual expression can turn into self-defeating behaviors.

Research has shown that a very high correlation exists between childhood abuse and sexual addiction in adulthood.

A poll of female and male sex addicts revealed that:

97% suffered from emotional abuse

83% suffered from sexual abuse

71% suffered from physical abuse

There is a growing body of evidence that suggests early child abuse, especially sexual, is a primary factor in the onset of sex addiction. Apparent biological shifts occur in the brain, which heighten the brain's arousal mechanisms and limit one's ability to filter behaviors.

The key to understanding the loss of control present in addicts is to understand the concept of the "hijacked brain." Addicts essentially have rewired their brains so that they perform certain behaviors (drinking, drug use, eating, gambling, sex, etc.) even when they are intending to do something quite different. Triggers to these maladaptive responses are usually stress, emotional pain, or specific childhood scenarios of sexual abuse or sexual trauma. Breakthrough scientific discoveries about brain function are helping us to understand the biology of this disease.

Is sex addiction really an addiction?

In April of 2011, The American Society of Addiction Medicine updated their agreed upon definition of addiction, "Addiction is a primary, chronic disease of brain reward, motivation, memory and related circuitry. Dysfunction in these circuits leads to characteristic biological, psychological, social and spiritual manifestations. This is reflected in an individual pathologically pursuing reward and/or relief by substance use and other behaviors."

Sexual addiction is a disorder characterized by sexual compulsivity, obsession, persistence engaging in sexual behaviors despite negative consequences, and symptoms of withdrawal and tolerance related to sexual activity. Dr. Patrick Carnes developed diagnostic criteria related to sex addiction which includes but is not limited to; a pattern of out of control behavior, consequences due to sexual behavior, inability to stop despite adverse consequences, sexual obsession and fantasy as a primary coping strategy, neglect of important social, occupational, or recreational activities, and inordinate amounts of time spent in obtaining sex, being sexual, or recovering from sexual experiences.

Porn Revenue Stats;

$57 Billion Revenue world-wide

$12 Billion is from the US (more than all combined revenues of all professional football, baseball and basketball franchises or the combined revenue of ABC, CBS and NBC. $2.5 Billion of the $12 Billion is internet porn.

Shared Hope 134 case study;

113 guilty 26% served no time

69% sentences suspended

Average time sentenced 3 years

Average time served 1.5 years

Average probation time 2.2 years

Demographics;

54% Caucasian

12% African American

15% Hispanic

19% Other

**Quotes;**

Jada Pinkett Smith-Actor/Producer

“Not just poor girls”

“There were four girls from Berkeley”

Horace Roberts-Criminal Investigation Division Special Operation

“It was one Old National Highway – She was 14 years old. She was lost”

Horace asks “why sell this child?” “Because she can be sold multiple times per night”

From a 15 year old female victim;

“I was taken to the Super Bowl by my pimp. He sold me to tourists who came to watch a football game, have a good time with friends, and pay for sex. They went home to their families and I was arrested for prostitution.” **“I spent my 15th birthday in jail.”**

**Information obtained through**

Georgia Cares

Wellspring Living

Youth Spark Inc/Georgia demand study results

Shared Hope

CNN/The Lead

CNN/Child sex slaves in America

CNN/Jada Pinkett Smith campaign to stop human trafficking

International Institute for Trauma & Addiction Professionals Created by Dr Patrick Carnes

[www.iitap.com](http://www.iitap.com)