



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

SHIDLER COLLEGE
OF BUSINESS

SCHOOL OF TRAVEL
INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT

Trafficked: An Exploratory Study on Sex Trafficking and the Hospitality & Tourism Industry

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TODAY'S CONTENT

1. A little introduction
2. Some background information
3. What do we know so far?
4. What are the survivors saying?
5. What can our industry do?
6. Q & A



ABOUT ME

Education

- **Ph.D.**
Hospitality Administration
University of Houston
- **MBA in Finance; MS**
Hospitality Administration
University of Houston
- **BS**
Hospitality Administration
University of Houston

Industry

- **Director, then Partner 7 Years**
Jade Hill Investments, a real estate investment bank.
- **Senior Associate 4 Years**
Newmark, a real estate investment firm.
- **International Sales Executive 3 Years**
Delta Technology, an agriculture commodity firm.
- **Corporate Advisory Consultant 1 Year**
Jones Lang LaSalle, a real estate firm
- **Business Analyst 2 Years**
Nevada Gold & Casinos, a casino development firm
- **Various Operational Roles**

Academia

- **Teaching**
Strategic Management (Senior Level Capstone)
Finance (Master's Level)
- **Research**
ESG & Strategic Management

Some Background Information



\$150 BN

Some Background Information



(United States, 2021)

What is Sex Trafficking?



Recruitment

Transportation

Harboring/Receipt

Force

Fraud

Deception

Exploitation of
Profit

What do we Know so Far About ~~Sex~~ Trafficking?



Social Work



Hospitality & Tourism

Vulnerabilities

Recidivism

Trafficking of
Minors

Risk

Management
H&T Perspective

(e.g., Hickle & Roe-Sepowitz, 2014, 2016)

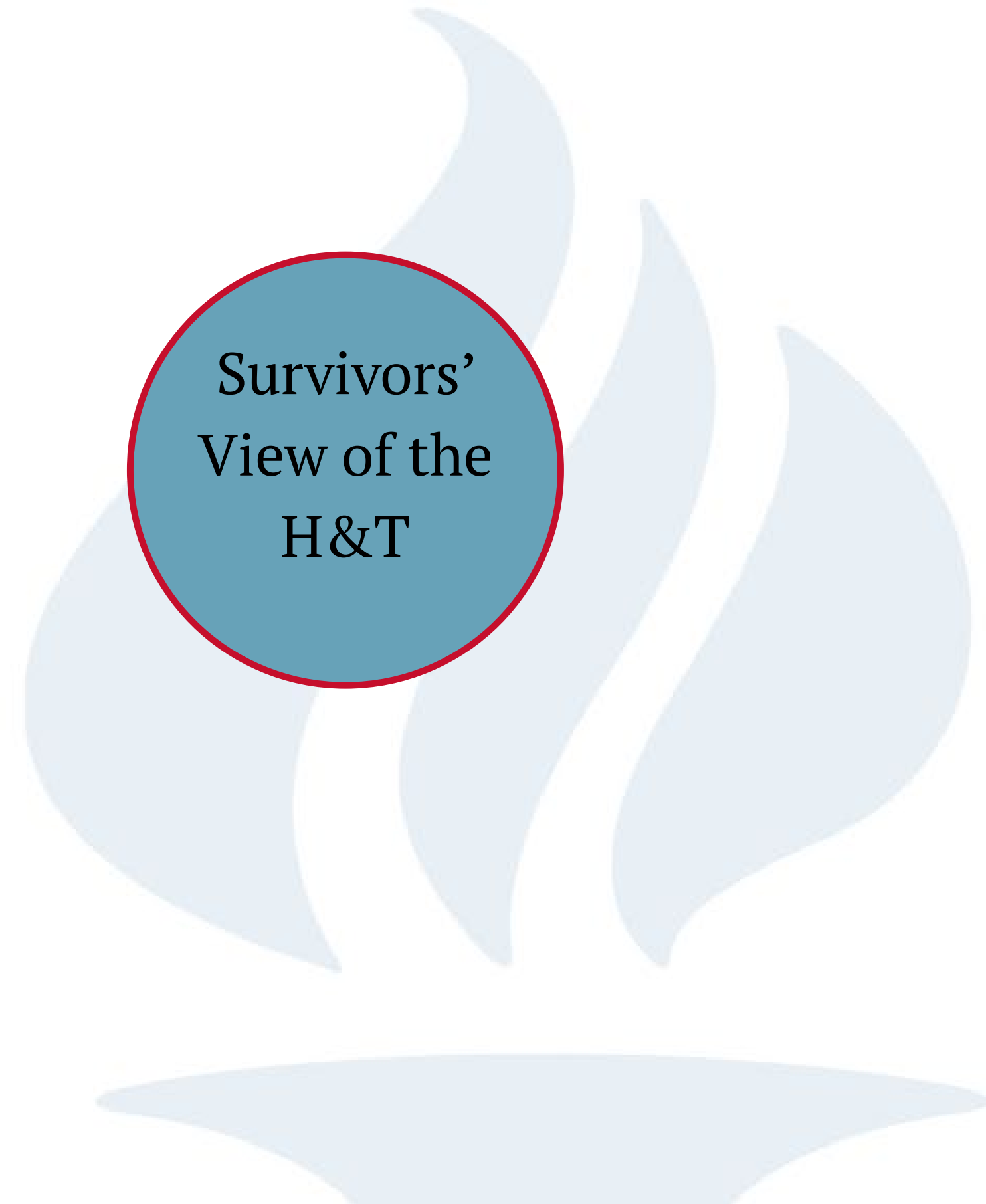
(e.g., Brackenridge et al., 2015)

What's Missing?

Survivors'
Voices

Survivors'
Perspectives

Survivors'
View of the
H&T



The Present Study

34 Survivors'
Interview Data;
60
Min/Interview

Analysis

Common
Themes



What Are The Survivors Saying?

“I was first raped by my stepfather when I was six....I didn't know who I was and didn't have any sense of self-worth.... I was abused at home....And I fell for this guy, and he told me that I was beautiful and gave me everything I needed....Then one day, he told me that we needed money and I needed to repay those things that he gave to me....When I first got out, I didn't have any money or any education to get a job; I was on welfare. So I went back to the life again.”

Anyone,
any time,
anywhere

Socioecon
-omics

Childhood

Agency

Loss

Theme I: Childhood Vulnerabilities

What Are The Survivors Saying?

“I was trafficked by my husband out of our apartment....He took away my keys, my phones....I was raped by strangers that he brought to our apartment and he collected their money.”

Known
people

Coercion
Force
Fraud

Confusion

Later
Realization

Theme II: Hollywood Sensationalization

What Are The Survivors Saying?

“I wore designer clothes that my pimp loaned me but I was obviously under-aged, but nobody seemed to care....I was forced to have sex in the hotel and used the money that I made to tip the hotel staff and they just took the money and didn't do anything.”

Culture

Awareness

Resentment

Careless

Theme III: Survivors' Perception
of the H&T Industry

What Can Our Industry Do?





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