Understanding the Impacts of Child Sex Trafficking

Psychological Impact of Child Sex Trafficking (CST)
- Disruption of healthy psychological development
  - Self-concept, intimacy, beliefs, and goals
- Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
  - Impulse to revisit traumatic events, intrusive emotions and memories, flashbacks, hyper-arousal, exaggerated startle reaction, and panic symptoms
- Self-injurious and suicidal behavior
- Dissociative disorders
- Anxiety
- Paranoia
- Clinical depression
- Explosive outbursts
- Sleep disturbances and nightmares
- Bond with perpetrators

Emotional Impact of CST
- Anger and rage
- Deep emotional pain or grieving
- Feelings of humiliation or shame
- Stigma of exploitation
- Self-blame or self-loathing
- Loss of sexual desire, feelings, or response

Physical Impact of CST
- Continuous physical abuse
- Rape and gang-rape
- Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and infections (STIs)
- HIV and AIDS
- Loss of bowel control
- Pregnancy (wanted/unwanted)
- Sterility
- Facial and/or dental reconstruction
- Tattoos and/or physical branding
- Brain damage
- Substance abuse and/or addiction
- Cutting or self-mutilation
- Suicide or death

Social Impact of CST
- Isolation from peer group
- Disconnection from community
- Isolation (real and perceived) from mainstream society
- Homelessness
- Incarceration or criminal record
- Disempowerment
- Lack of life skills
- Trust issues or difficulty maintaining relationships
- Obstacles to vocation
- Lack of access to legal services, lack of job experience and work skills
- Educational deprivation
- Missed school, disconnection with school system

Spiritual Impact of CST
- Despair
- Hopelessness
- Lack of belief in humanity
- Lack of faith in a spiritual power