

Inside the Mind of a Victim

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How can one tell if their daughter, student or friend is dating a pimp? If you can circle three or more things on this list, then that is a Red Flag!

Identifying Pimps:

- Fancy car
- Fancy clothes
- Flashy jewelry
- Frequently spends nights away or out of town.
- Acting out the hip-hop culture.
- Charming, attractive, clean, smooth talking.
- No actual job that one could visit: for example, starting his own record label, owning a magazine, owning bill boards in big cities or even a franchise owner of something, but sits at home.
- Big dreams and encouraging HER to become part of HIS dreams
- Her goals for life WILL be put on hold for his.
- Pulls her into the dream; everything becomes “we” so she starts to own the dream of making it big with him. When a person internalizes a dream, they will work harder to achieve it, good or bad.
- Secludes her from family and friends – wants to move away; and then picks a fight the night before she plans to visit home. This creates a “choose them or me” mentality. The pimp could also physically assault her prior to a visit home so she is too embarrassed to actually follow through with the visit.
- Any attempt to fast track the relationship is actually an attempt to control it.

Identifying Victims:

- Tired during the day from working all night.
- Suddenly she has expensive things: Gucci purse, diamond bracelet, expensive watches and clothes.
- Increasingly interested or talks a lot about dreams “we’re going to...”
- Starts to become secluded: you see her less and less.
- Frequently cancels planned trips home to visit days before arriving.

Healthy relationships should expand the circle of people you are around: not separate.

**BREAKING THE MYTHS:
Changing the mindset of a culture.**

What does trafficking even look like in my community? Are children being kidnapped off the streets and no one is noticing? Why aren't Amber Alerts or News Reports being done?

Close your eyes.

Imagine a trafficked child.

What does she look like? What is she doing?

Now, think of your daughter, your sister, your niece, or a student. She is sitting on any social networking site in her room while her parents get ready for a date night they haven't had in a while. An older guy friend requests her and begins commenting on her photos about how beautiful she is.

For _____ he shows interest in her. He learns her likes and dislikes; her _____ and _____.

One day when she gets upset for being grounded, or gets in a fight with her parents, he steps in. He _____ her into a life she always dreamed of.

A few things happen after this:

1. Violence is used immediately: physical violence, door knobs turned backward to lock her in, guns pulled, threats toward family members or herself.
2. "Girlfriend Card" - where he makes her feel guilty after they've drank up all the alcohol or eaten all the food and now "THEY" need more money.

IS IT HER CHOICE? Do you think that if she KNEW what was waiting for her that she would have left home that night?

What if she "chooses" to stay? After the first night her boyfriend plays the guilt card and she agrees to sleep with his "cute friend" why doesn't she just leave?

Because its _____. This is the power of coercion!

THE GRADUAL BREAK: 40 reasons she won't leave

The tactics listed below are from the mouths of abusers themselves.

I would isolate her, breaking her ties with any support she had:

- I convinced her family and friends that I was the good one.
- I took all of the money so that she depended on me for everything.
- I would start a fight before she visited with friends and family so that eventually, she just stopped. She felt too guilty about leaving me during an argument.
- I moved her way out in the country or to another city. When I left, I took her car battery with me.
- I convinced the people around her that that she was crazy, imagined things, and needed counseling. I could prove it by pointing out her erratic behavior. That way, she had nowhere to go if she tried to leave.
- I convinced everyone around her that she was incapable of caring for the children because of her stupidity, mental illness, and laziness.
- I ripped the phone cord out of the wall during a fight when she tried to call for help or threw her cell phone.
- I had her back me up on illegal things so that I could hold it over her head if she tried to leave.

I'd make her doubt her sanity and capabilities:

- Convince her she was crazy by playing mind games with her. I'd hide her things, and tell her how incompetent she was so that she'd believe me when I told her that she needed me.
- I kept her up in the night fighting so that she was too tired to wake up with the kids the next morning.
- I turned the kids against her by making her the bad parent and tricking the children. I would make her hit the children by saying her or me (and I would hit them harder) and then threaten her to report child abuse if she left me.
- I made her feel guilty about wanting to break up our family, that she was being a bad mother and wife if she wanted to leave every time things got difficult.
- I told her how fat and ugly she was all the time, and how badly she did things around the house. I told her how embarrassed I was of her.
- I told her that no one else would want my sloppy seconds, that she was used goods.
- I'd rape her.

I made her afraid of leaving me:

- I told her that women's shelters were for women who really needed it, not for women who wanted to give up on their family, not for whores and prostitutes.
- I made sure she knew that she wouldn't get a dime from me if she left and that she'd be poor and homeless. I ruined her credit by putting things in her name and not paying them.
- I followed her without her knowing so that I could make her believe I had people watching her.
- I threatened suicide.
- I told her I would kill her and take the children.

- I threatened to hurt people she loved or the pets.
- I would lock up all of her things, including the children's social security cards, birth certificates, and pictures.
- I broke things and told her that it was her fault for upsetting me.
- I reminded her of the last time she left me, that it only made things worse.
- I told her that I'd never let her go, no matter what it took.
- I convinced her that I'd find her wherever she went.
- I laughed and told her about men that had murdered their ho's when they tried to leave.
- I always kept one of the kids with me so I knew that she'd always come back.

I convinced her that I deserved another chance:

- I convinced her that I was sorry for what I'd done.
- I cried to her.
- I promised to change my ways.
- I promised to go to drug and alcohol treatment.
- I promised to go to counseling.
- I blamed the abuse on stress.
- I romanced her with flowers, took her shopping, talking about all the good times, and telling her how much she meant to me.
- I even arranged for us to take a romantic trip together to get back on track.
- I made her think she needed to stick by me because of all I gave up to be with her.
- I made her feel sorry for me, and that her love could change me.
- If she didn't have children, I'd introduce her to mine and tell her I wanted a family with ONLY her because she was special.
- I'd give her a night off and rent movies and spend quality time to convince her that I cared.

Could you walk barefoot in the woods for years without developing callused feet? Nor can these girls live in the game without callused hearts.

Hardened: they are like rock hard clay. It will take a lot of watering to soften! Water her with encouragement, praise, and structure!

"Running Drag" is what girls did in the game to get out of sticky situations or to get more money. That has become their second nature. Even though they may run drag to get what they want in the facility, this is not WHO they are. This is learned behavior that can be reversed.

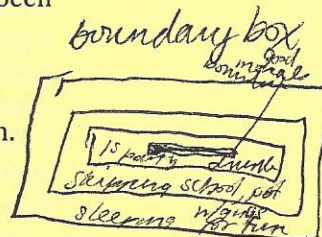
Denial is a form of Coping.

It is embarrassing to admit that you have been deceived, that you believed the lies for so long, that you were conned. More often than not, it takes TIME to convince a girl that she has even been trafficked.

Hope breeds eternal miser.

Living in ideals is one way to cope. Anchoring herself to HIS promises has got her through.

Structure is a good thing. Look at this example of a boundary box:



Call them on "running drag" - are trick will set you free

Running drag: typically used to get out of a call - have "wife in law" call hi