Violence Prevention & Trafficking Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People Facilitator's Notes

A Note to Facilitators

These notes and the accompanying PowerPoint slide deck are not intended to be a prescribed process. You are welcome to change and revise any of the materials to best serve your own purpose.

Introduction

Slide Image	Facilitator's Notes			
Native Women's Association of Canada L'Association des femmes autochtones du Canada Violence Prevention & Trafficking hidgenous Women, Girts and 2SLGBTQQIA- People	Take this time to introduce yourself and have participants introduce themselves. If they feel comfortable, participants may be invited to share something about themselves and/or why they are attending this training.			
	Go over housekeeping items (i.e., washroom location, general schedule for the day).			
	Also note that the topics you will be discussing may trigger a negative memory/event. Review the safety measures you have in place (i.e., time and space for smudging and frequent breaks).			
Key Terms Assimilation: Where individuals or a group of people is encouraged or forced to adopt the culture of a dominant group while losing their own culture. Colonialism: the practice of falsing over parts or all gli entert fand or country in order to english the lund, resources, and people. In some cases, this land is also populated with settlers. Discrimination: When groups of people are treated unfairly because of their race, in the content of the content groups of people when the content group of people when gentladed. Genomically, The proses, this can be the content group of people when gentladed. Genomically, The proses, the carries are set of people when gentladed, exposit that person. Haman Terfacting, The process of recruiting and controlling the movements of a person with the goal to exploit them (often accusally).	Review the key terms on the following three slides. Unless you have information to add to the definitions, simply reading the definitions for participants is sufficient.			
Key Terms Imperialism: When a country takes over another country, including its people and resources, so the controlling country can make money. Intergenerational Treature: When one generation experiences tragging, and passes it on to the next generations. This training can be passed on through the parenting style and/or pleshiogs of the first generation. Partiarchy: A social system of unequal relations that gives men more power and privilege than women. Rachier: Taking discriminatory beliefs and turning them into practice that can be seen in less that protects one group of people over another. Settler: A person who comes to live on a land that they do not instorically come from, and which belongs to another people.	Read the definitions on the slide.			
Key Terms Settler Colonialism: A form of colonialism where a colonial gower claims a territory and begins to register the indigenous population with settlers who then create a new realisal identity. Sexual Explication: When a person gains something from the sexual acts of a ISEQUE they have a position of power over. Systems: Cancier Taking discriminatory beliefs and turning them into practice that can be seen in policies and laws that protect and serve one group of people over another. Trauma: An emotional response to an experience that disturbs and/or scarce a person so much that they struggle to cope with their feetings.	Read the definitions on the slide.			

Trafficking Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People: A Brief Overview

Slide Title Facilitator's Notes This section is intended for non-Indigenous audiences and should Trafficking Indigenous Women, Girls & be reviewed before the industry-specific sections. 2SLGBTQQIA+ Peoples: A Brief Överview Review the table of contents. What Is Human Trafficking? Table of Why Indigenous Women and Girls? Contents **Trafficking Indigenous** Women and Girls Human trafficking "involves the recruitment, transportation, harbouring and/or exercising control, direction or influence over What is Human Trafficking? the movements of a person in order to exploit that person, Human Trafficking typically through sexual exploitation or forced labour." (Department of Justice, 2020) Human trafficking isn't always obvious. There may not be clear signs that a person is a victim of trafficking and some individuals may not even realize they are being trafficked. Trafficking happens in the open but is often invisible because it is based on manipulation and coercion. This is a good resource on the common myths about human trafficking. Indigenous women and girls experience disproportionate rates of violence, including trafficking in Canada. Why Indigenous Women and Girls?

- enous women and girls are 6 times more likely than victims of homicide (Global Indigenous Council, 20

Indigenous women and girls who live in Canada are six times more likely than non-Indigenous women to be victims of homicide (Global Indigenous Council, 2020). They are three times more likely to experience violence than non-Indigenous women (Newfoundland & Labrador, 2020) and three times more likely to experience sexual assault (Department of Justice, 2017). The RCMP estimates that between 1980 and 2012, 1,200 Indigenous women and girls have gone missing or been murdered in Canada (RCMP, 2015). However, some organizations estimate that this number may be as high as 4,000. It has also been estimated that 51% of trafficked women in Canada are Indigenous, despite making up less than 5% of Canada's overall population (Canadian Women's Foundation, 2014).

Why Indigenous Women and Girls?

Indigenous women and girls are targeted by traffickers and go missing or are murdered because "they are (1) Indigenous and (2) female. Simply being born puts them into this high-risk category because of the deep racism and sexism that exists in Canada and its laws, policies, and institutions" (Palmater, 2016, 270). These disproportionate rates of violence are rooted in colonialism, which is rooted in the belief that Indigenous women's lives are less meaningful.

It is important for all Canadians to understand what colonialism truly means. Being aware of how colonialism shapes our perception and the experiences of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people helps us understand why and how they are targeted by violent perpetrators.

Trafficking Indigenous Women and Girls

In this session, we will be looking at the historical influences and contemporary experiences of Indigenous women and girls who are trafficked.



Colonialism is the practice of taking over parts or all of another land or country in order to exploit the land, resources, and people. In some cases, this land is also populated by settlers. While many people believe colonialism is something that only occurred in the past, it is a complex system that remains in effect today.

Settler colonialism continues to dominate the lives of Indigenous women and girls. It shapes media representations of Indigenous women and girls and informs peoples' beliefs about their value. It also contributes to the indifference and racism they face across systems that are supposed to help support and protect them, including child welfare services, the justice system, and policing. Because these systems are informed by colonial beliefs about race, Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people are treated differently. This increases their vulnerability and contributes to disproportionate rates of violence, sexual exploitation, and trafficking.



The roots of indifference and racism are in colonial narratives, which includes the idea that settlers are superior to, and have the right to take from and rule over, Indigenous Peoples. Europeans portrayed Indigenous Peoples as "subhuman: inferior, backwards, uncivilized, deviant, dirty and inherently worthless to dominant society" (Bourgeois, 2015, 1445). These beliefs helped justify past violence against Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people in particular.

These negative portrayals are further compounded by sexism, homophobia, and transphobia. Indigenous women and girls were historically framed as sexually available objects and placed in the lowest class of society (Sikka, 2010). This colonial hierarchy persists today. It influences how Canada's governments operate and is reflected in our laws, policies, and practices. The outcomes of these influences may be more covert than they once were, but they continue to impact all of us.

Trafficking Indigenous Women and Girls

Indigenous Slavery and Prostitution (Historical Context)

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Colonial violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people has always been sexual in nature. It is used to construct an image of Indigenous women as being acceptable, disposable targets for oppression (Razack, 2016). Slavery was one expression of how Europeans determined the use and value of Indigenous Peoples (Razack, 2016; Sikka, 2010). Slavery was also a form of sexualized violence; the "average age of Indigenous slaves in Canada was 14 years old and 57 percent were girls or young women" (Lawrence, 2016). For two centuries, Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people were seen as property and bought and sold as slaves until slavery was abolished in 1834 (Sikka, 2010).

Trafficking Indigenous Women and Girls Indigenous Slavery and Prostitution (Historical Context)

- As slavery practices began to decline, a "near universal conflation" of Indigenous women and prostitution emerged (Sikka 2010: 207). Because Indigenous women were seen as 'unhuman,' sexual violence against them became normal and was never punished.
- ◆ The continuation of this vidence today is particularly true for Inuit peoples: of the government began relocating putts in the 1950 and 1950s, changing people's names and identifying them with tags, forcing them to new areas, and killing all of their sized days so they could not leave or hunt.
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 Because these histories of vidence are kept hidden, these experiences of

As slavery practices began to decline, a "near universal conflation" of Indigenous women and prostitution emerged (Sikka, 2010, 207). However, it's important to note that slavery was not the only factor driving this conflation. Because Indigenous women were seen as 'unhuman,' sexual violence against them became normal and was never punished. These are the early roots of trafficking, and this violence continues today, particularly for Inuit. The government began relocating Inuit in the 1950s and 1960s, changing their names and identifying them with tags, forcing them to new areas, and killing all of their sled dogs so they could not leave or hunt. Forced into poverty, Inuit were exploited by government and the RCMP. All of these experiences occurred in a single lifetime. Because these histories of violence are kept hidden, these experiences of trafficking and exploitation are seen as normal.

Trafficking Indigenous Women and Girls

Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking as Colonial

Violence (Present Doy Context)

Sexual exploitation and trafficking have always
been a part of colonial violence in Canada.

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UNIVAC 2014: 47). Be ackage"

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Sexual exploitation and trafficking have always been a part of colonial violence in Canada. It is not a coincidence that Indigenous women and girls are 10 times more likely to be trafficked than non-Indigenous women and girls. This is part of the "enduring colonial racist and sexist" construction of Indigenous females as "sexually available and therefore sexually violable" (Bourgeois, 2015, 1442). Across the country there are predators seeking to exercise and reproduce this colonial power, and who may be more interested in enacting violence than sex (Kingsley & Mark, 2000).

The violence that Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people face is so pervasive that violence has become "part of the 'package' that some Johns pay for and feel entitled to" (NWAC, 2014, 47). Testimonies provided by individuals who have been exploited indicate that the violence they experience is so extreme, it may be best characterized as torture (NWAC, 2014).

Trafficking Indigenous Women and Girls

Why Indigenous Women, Girls & 25LGBTQQIA People are Targeted

Poverty, histories of abuse,
for example, a study of sex trafficking in Canada
twolvement in child
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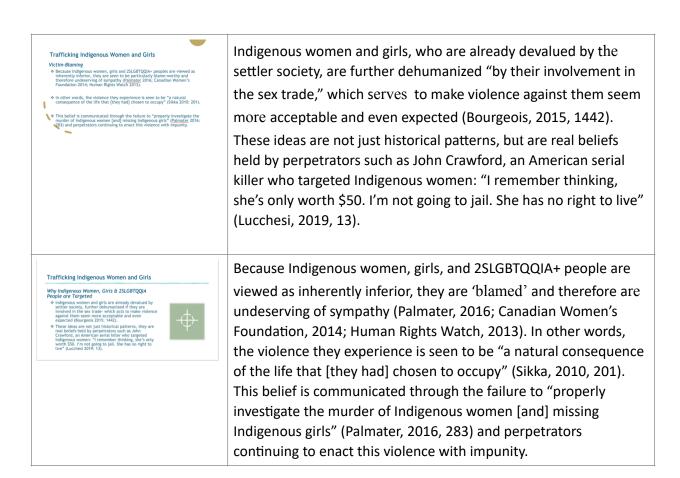
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It is well-known and documented that poverty, abuse, involvement in child welfare, and criminalization all increase the vulnerability of Indigenous women and girls to exploitation and trafficking (NWAC, 2014). However, these factors and their root causes are often ignored. There are relatively few safe supports for Indigenous Peoples.

Traffickers know this and target individuals with these experiences. For example, a study of sex trafficking in Canada by the Canadian Women's Foundation found that 50% of victims were "recruited between the ages of 9 and 14," 87.5% had been sexually abused before being trafficked, and "71% reported being forced to have sex with doctors, 60% with judges, 80% with police, and 40% with social workers" (Canadian Women's Foundation, 2014, 31). This study also found that 51% of trafficking victims had been in the child welfare system. These numbers demonstrate how systems that are supposed to protect Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people are not only indifferent in their exploitation, but may be actively involved.



Trafficking Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People: Transportation Industry

Slide Title	Facilitator's Notes		
Trafficking Indigenous Women, Girls & 2SLGBTQQIA+ Peoples: Transportation Industry	State that this session will unpack how trafficking and the transportation industry intersect.		
Trafficking & What is the connection, and what can be done?	What is the connection between transportation and trafficking and what can be done?		



Transportation hubs, such as truck stops, restaurants, and hotels/ motels near major highways, are strategic locations for traffickers to operate in and through. Also, traffickers often target professions that tend to be male-dominated and/or transient in nature to supply demand. The transportation industry checks both of these boxes.

Trafficking & Transportation

Anti-trafficking resources, such as materials from Truckers Against Trafficking, offer suggestions on what to look for when trafficking is suspected. Suggestions include active solicitation at stops and along routes, individuals who show signs of emotional or physical distress or poor health, individuals who may be brought to locations by another person, and individuals who do not have personal belongings (including ID) and may have little knowledge about their whereabouts.

Trafficking & Transportation

. ow the Trucking Industry & Trafficking are Connected

- always obvious if a person is being trafficked or not. Traffickers rain their victims to hide any signs and act as if everything were and people who are trafficked are too afraid of their traffickers people they are in danger.

 of this, be aware of the possibility that anyone might be a of trafficking, including victims who might not understand that the state of the property of the property
- who is a minor and who is unaccompanied should be in need of help and/or trafficked. The exploitation of any server is trafficking

These suggestions offer a basic starting point for identifying trafficking. However, it is important to keep in mind that it isn't always obvious if a person is being trafficked. Traffickers often train their victims to act as if all is normal. Also, people who are trafficked are too afraid of their traffickers to tell people they are in danger.

Thus, anyone may be a victim of trafficking, including those who may not perceive that they are victims. Be aware also that any person who is a minor and is unaccompanied should be considered in need of help and/or trafficked. The exploitation of any underaged person is trafficking.



Trafficking & Transportation low You Can Help

- Visit the Truckers Against Trafficking website and learn more about human trafficking.
- Be aware if your routes intersect with known trafficking corridors.
- Post a symbol or sign at eye level that lets people near your truck know that you support anti-trafficking initiatives, like this sticker from Truckers Against Trafficking.
- Have a clear plan in mind if and when you identify a possible trafficking situation.



- Learn about colonialism and colonial violence to understand how Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people are impacted.
- Tell others about how Indigenous women and girls are marginalized, exploited, and made vulnerable by colonialism.
- Value the lives of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people, believe they are deserving of protection and safety, and act on this.
- Treat Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people with respect, approach them as equals, and view them as sacred.
- Ask women who may be in need if they want help. If they do, ask how they may be helped.
- Stand up against those who blame Indigenous people 'as the problem.' Flip the narrative to focus on perpetrators as the problem.



- Do not directly engage with the suspected trafficker or victim, as this may put the victim in danger.
- Call the Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline (1-833-900-1010).
- Contact a local organization that supports victims and survivors of trafficking. This is preferred over law enforcement because there is a risk that officers may hold racist views or stigma against Indigenous women, girls, or 2SLGBTQQIA+ people involved in trafficking.



**The trucking and trafficking information has been adapted from Truckers Against Trafficking training materials. To learn more, visit their site.



"The hotel and trucking industry has the power and means to advertize and make a huge impact on this most horrendous act that has been overlooked for too long. Please, I implore every one of you reading my words to stop and imagine that at any time these poor children, women, and men could be your very own loved ones. Lastly, no one is safe from becoming a victim, not your children, wives, mothers, brothers, or even yourself, and that is the sobering reality of human trafficking. As humans, it is our responsibility to take action." - Survivors Circle participant