



**A National
Assessment of Sex
Trafficking Demand
Reduction Efforts**

Database Codebook

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National Assessment Database Codebook

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1. Project Summary

1.1 Overview

To combat prostitution and human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, criminal justice interventions and collaborative programs have emerged that focus on reducing demand for commercial sex. In a prior study, Abt Associates found that the use anti-demand approaches was more widespread throughout the United States than previously thought, but also found that little research or descriptive information was available about the vast majority of interventions. It was also evident that communities attempting to address demand had often done so with little guidance from the collective experience of others; consequently, some initiatives had struggled or failed when faced with problems that had been solved elsewhere.

In October 2008 the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) awarded a grant to Abt Associates Inc. to conduct a study, entitled *A National Assessment of Sex Trafficking Demand Reduction Efforts*, intended to fill these gaps. The project was designed to develop a descriptive overview of anti-demand tactics employed throughout the United States and to provide practitioners with actionable information to assist them in starting, improving, or sustaining initiatives. To accomplish these objectives, a three year study was conducted that involved a ass screening

1.2 Citations

- The research producing the database was supported by Grant Number 2008-IJ-CX-0010, National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, United States Department of Justice.
- Recommended citation to be used when attributing the data source:
 - Shively, M., Kliorys, K, & Wheeler, K. (2012). Data from *A National Assessment of Sex Trafficking Demand Reduction Efforts*, supported by Grant Number 2008-IJ-CX-0010, National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice.

1.3 Key Descriptive Details

- The database is an Excel file.
- Each row or record represents one site. Each site is either a city or a county (parishes in Louisiana are counted as counties).
- Blanks represent missing values.
- Most of the data were assembled between October 2008 and January 2013. Some of the sites were identified and data were assembled prior to this grant's beginning in 2008, as part of a prior study for the National Institute of Justice. The task of assembling a list of sites known to have engaged in some form of anti-demand effort began in 2007, as part of the research on the evaluation of the First Offender Prostitution Program (NIJ Grant # 2005-DD-BX-0037).
- Data were current at the time of the survey completion, interview, or when they were reported in source materials (such as research or news reports). Over time, practices come and go and activity levels vary, so current practices may be different than those reflected in the database.

1.4 Data Collection Summary

To assemble the information necessary to pursue the project objectives, we pursued a number of data collection activities, beginning with compiling a preliminary typology of interventions and a list of cities and counties identified as having some form of activity focused on demand reduction as a means of reducing sex trafficking or prostitution. We then conducted a survey and phone interviews with program and agency staff and stakeholders, and site visits that included program observations and in-person interviews. All of those interviewed or who completed a questionnaire were asked to identify other cities or counties that had engaged in any of the tactics discussed. The sampling method could be described as convenience sampling, with elements of Respondent Driven Sampling (RDS). The purpose of the sample was not to generalize or to produce estimations. Instead, it was to treat each site and each respondent as a source of information that could be of use to practitioners in other communities, and to contribute to a descriptive profile of tactics used in the United States.

The database includes data from all sources, including the National Assessment survey and interviews, as well as secondary sources such as news reports, technical reports, books, and journal articles. The steps involved, and the data collected, are summarized below. A fuller discussion of data collection methods is provided in the project final report, available at the DemandForum.net website and through the National Criminal Justice Reference Service.

- ***Reviews were conducted of research and evaluation literature (including books, journal articles, and technical reports); news reports; program descriptions and other materials. Resulted in the collection of over 4,000 source documents.***
 - Web searches for reports about interventions used to combat demand were conducted daily for over three years.
 - Program documents were collected about all known types of demand reduction interventions. Documents include: Tactical plans for reverse stings; city ordinances; memoranda of understanding; program agendas; john school curricula; speaking points for public education presentations; the text of decoy advertisements used in web-based reverse stings; program summaries and reports; agency press releases; and prostitution exclusion zone maps.
- ***Questionnaires were sent to 500 sites.***
 - Of these sites, 121 were targeted for more intensive follow-up. The targeted sites were of particular interest for any one of several reasons, such as being a pioneer in the use of a tactic, or having innovative, large, or high-profile programs that have served as models for other sites. We also targeted sites to ensure our sample contained communities of various sizes, and to ensure we interviewed people at sites with each of the types of tactics identified.
- ***Completed questionnaires were received from 241 respondents at 199 sites.***
- ***227 interviews were conducted with respondents at 75 sites.***
- ***Through questionnaires and/or interviews, information was gathered from 274 respondents having the following breakdown of affiliations:***

194	police and sheriff's departments
20	city and county prosecutor's offices
17	NGOs focused on prostitution and human trafficking
13	NGOs providing broad-spectrum social services and support
6	private counseling practices
6	public health departments
5	city/county government (e.g. mayor's offices, city services departments)
5	neighborhood organizations
11	"other" (community courts, probation departments, universities, Weed & Seed programs)

- ***Eleven site visits were conducted:***

- Atlanta, GA; Cook County, IL; Indianapolis, IN; Kansas City, MO; National City, CA; Norfolk, VA; Phoenix, AZ; Portland, OR; San Diego, CA; Tucson, AZ; Worcester, MA

- ***John schools were observed at five sites:***

- Indianapolis, IN; Norfolk, VA; Phoenix, AZ; San Diego, CA; and Worcester, MA.
Observations of a sixth john school were conducted for a prior Abt Associates study, and the program is also described in the report (we had observed eight sessions of the john school component of the First Offender Prostitution Program (FOPP) in San Francisco, CA).

- ***A total of 902 U.S. cities and counties have been found to have employed at least one kind of proactive anti-demand tactic at some point in time.***

2. Codebook

Variable	Variable Description and Value Labels	Variable Type
ID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A community-level identification number. The sequence number is used as a unique identifier for each city or county known to have engaged in any anti-demand intervention. 	Numeric
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The name of the city, town, township, parish, or county. 	String
State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State in which the community identified to have used demand-focused tactics resides. 	String
Latitude	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Latitude of community; geocode used for mapping. 	Numeric
Longitude	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Longitude of community; geocode used for mapping. 	Numeric
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population of city or county, from the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Current at the time site was identified, between 2007-2012. Census population figures may have changed since the site was identified. 	Numeric
County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether site is a county (also includes Parishes). Variable used to facilitate separations or comparisons between sites and counties. 1=county; 0=city or town 	Numeric
Targeted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether site was targeted as being of particular interest and the subject of more intensive follow-up to obtain completed questionnaires and/or interviews. 1=targeted; 0=not targeted 	Numeric
Did 1 st Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed the brief screening questionnaire 1=completed questionnaire; 0=did not 	Numeric
Agreed to Interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 1st survey asked respondents whether they would agree to be interviewed. 1=agreed; 0=did not agree to be interviewed. 	Numeric
Did interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of interviews completed at the site. 	Numeric
Reverse Sting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether community has ever conducted a reverse sting (either street-level, web-based, or both). 1=yes; 0=no 	Numeric
Reverse Sting Began	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The year the city or county first conducted reverse stings. Figures are entered into this field only when a respondent or interview subject provided the figure, or when source materials made it clear that a reverse sting was the first occurrence. 	Numeric
Reverse Sting Annual Freq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reverse sting annual frequency. Stated number of times police do reverse stings in that city or county each year. Limitation: frequency of reverse stings vary over time, in response to police resources, competing demands, and community complaints. These estimates or averages apply for the time period in which the question was answered or 	Numeric

	the source materials provided the figure, but may not reflect current practice.	
No. Support Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of officers in support of each decoy in reverse stings. 	Numeric
No. Stings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of separate reverse sting operations known to have occurred at that site. 	Numeric
Total Arrests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of arrests made in reverse sting operations at that site that occurred in a known number of reverse stings. Figure is entered into this field only for those arrests that can be tied to separate reverse sting operations. Nothing is entered when there is a known number of arrests, but the number of reverse stings conducted in order to make those arrests is unknown. 	Numeric
No. Decoys Sting 1 ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of women serving as decoys in this one specific reverse sting operation. 	Numeric
Arrests Sting 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of arrest of johns made in this one specific reverse sting operation. 	Numeric
Hours Sting 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of hours that this one specific reverse sting operated. 	Numeric
Decoy Hours 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of hours for this specific reverse sting multiplied by the number of decoys deployed in that operation. 	Numeric
No. Decoys Sting 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of women serving as decoys in this one specific reverse sting operation. 	Numeric
Arrests Sting 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of arrest of johns made in this one specific reverse sting operation. 	Numeric
Hours Sting 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of hours that this one specific reverse sting operated. 	Numeric
Decoy Hours 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of hours for this specific reverse sting multiplied by the number of decoys deployed in that operation. 	Numeric
No. Decoys Sting 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of women serving as decoys in this one specific reverse sting operation. 	Numeric
Arrests Sting 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of arrest of johns made in this one specific reverse sting operation. 	Numeric
Hours Sting 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of hours that this one specific reverse sting operated. 	Numeric
Decoy Hours 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of hours for this specific reverse sting multiplied by the number of decoys deployed in that operation. 	Numeric
Community Complaints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether police have conducted operations to address prostitution in response to complaints by residents of the city or county 1=yes; 0=no 	Numeric
Business Complaints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether police have conducted operations to address prostitution in response to complaints by businesses within the city or county 	Numeric

¹ For each site, additional information about separate reverse sting operations are recorded for up to three reverse stings (Sting 1, Sting 2, Sting 3). The information about each of the reverse stings includes the number of decoys used, the number of hours the reverse sting was conducted, decoy-hours (the number of hours multiplied by the number of decoys deployed)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1=yes; 0=no 	
Either Complaints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether police have conducted operations to address prostitution in response to complaints by either residents or businesses within the city or county. • 1=yes; 0=no 	Numeric
Child Involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether child 5 years old or younger was in car or hotel room where john arranged to buy sex. • 1=yes; 0=no 	Numeric
Web Sting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether site has ever conducted reverse sting using web advertisement to initiate solicitation. • 1=yes; 0 = no 	Numeric
Web Sting Began	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The year the city or county first conducted web-based reverse stings. • Figures are entered into this field only when a respondent or interview subject provided the figure, or when source materials made it clear that a web reverse sting was the first occurrence at that site. 	Numeric
Web Sting Annual Freq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web-based reverse sting annual frequency. • Stated number of times police do reverse stings in that city or county each year. • Limitation: The frequency of web reverse stings vary over time, in response to police resources, competing demands, and community complaints. These estimates or averages apply for the time period in which the question was answered or the source materials provided the figure, but may not reflect current practice. 	Numeric
Shaming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether site has ever engaged in shaming tactics, such as releasing identities of arrestees to news outlets or posting them on a police department website. • Does not include letters sent home as a form of shaming, which is addressed with a separate variable (Letters). • 1=yes; 0 = no 	Numeric
Shaming Began	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The year the city or county first employed a shaming tactic. • Figures are entered into this field only when a respondent or interview subject provided the figure, or when source materials made it clear that a web reverse sting was the first occurrence at that site. 	Numeric
Cars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether site has ever seized autos of men arrested in reverse stings. • 1=yes; 0 = no 	Numeric
Cars Began	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The year the city or county first seized autos of men arrested in reverse stings. 	Numeric
Drivers License	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether site has ever suspended driver's licenses of men arrested in reverse stings. • 1=yes; 0 = no 	Numeric
Drivers License Began	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The year the city or county first suspended driver's licenses of men arrested in reverse stings.. 	Numeric
SOAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether site has ever used geographic exclusion zones (often called SOAP orders, for Stay Away from Areas with Prostitution) for men arrested in reverse stings. • 1=yes; 0 = no 	Numeric

SOAP Began	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The year the city or county first began using SOAP orders for men arrested in reverse stings.. 	Numeric
Public Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether site has ever conducted public education efforts targeting the buyers of sex or the issue of demand for commercial sex. 1=yes; 0 = no 	Numeric
Public Education Began	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The year the city or county first conducted public education efforts targeting the buyers of sex or the issue of demand for commercial sex. Figures are entered into this field only when a respondent or interview subject provided the figure, or when source materials made it clear that a public education effort was the first occurrence at that site. 	Numeric
Public Education Annual Freq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public education program's annual frequency. Limitation: frequency of public education efforts vary over time, in response to resources, competing demands, and perceived need. These estimates or averages apply for the time period in which the question was answered or the source materials provided the figure, but may not reflect current practice. 	Numeric
Neighborhood Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether site has ever had neighborhood or resident-driven activities targeting buyers of sex. 1=yes; 0 = no 	Numeric
Neighborhood Action Began	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The year of the site's first known occurrence of neighborhood or resident-driven activities targeting buyers of sex. 	Numeric
Cameras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether site has ever used cameras to target buyers of sex. 1=yes; 0 = no 	Numeric
Cameras Began	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The year of the site's first known occurrence of using cameras to target buyers of sex. 	Numeric
Community Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether site has ever applied community service requirements to arrested or convicted buyers of sex. 1=yes; 0 = no 	Numeric
Community Service Began	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The year of the site's first known occurrence of applying community service requirements to arrested or convicted buyers of sex. 	Numeric
John School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether site has ever implemented a john school program. Sites are counted here if the sex buyers arrested within the city or county have been sent to a john school program. The john school classes do not have to occur in the city or county. Some john schools accept men from multiple jurisdictions; this variable lists the jurisdictions that use a john school for the sex buyers they arrest. 1=yes; 0 = no 	Numeric
John School Began	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The year the site began using a john school program for arrested sex buyers. 	
John School Annual Frequency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of john school classes held per year. 	
John School Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether a john school program has ever resided in the city or county. The classes must occur within the site to be listed in this field. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1=yes; 0 = no 	
Discontinued John School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether site has ever had a john school program that was cancelled or discontinued. For example, Portland had a john school program called SEEP that began in 1995 that was discontinued in 1997. • Some john schools have had low activity levels, such as not having held a class for one or two years, but they have not been disbanded and the capacity exists to resume activity. Programs are not listed as discontinued here unless a decision has been made to disband the program. • 1=yes; 0 = no 	
Health Education Only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether the site has an education program for arrested sex buyers that covers only health topics, and not additional subjects necessary for them to be considered “john schools.” • 1=yes; 0 = no 	
Considered John School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether there is documented evidence of an organization considering or have actively planned to establish a john school at the site. • Sites are not listed in this field if they have implemented a john school, so this variable lists only those sites in which john schools have been considered or have been planned, but have not yet been implemented. • 1=yes; 0=no 	
Letters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether site has ever sent letters to the homes of arrested sex buyers, or to the residences of registered owners of vehicles suspected of being used to facilitate purchasing sex. • 1=yes; 0 = no 	Numeric
Letters Began	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The year of the site’s first known occurrence of sending letters to the homes of arrested sex buyers, or to the residences of registered owners of vehicles suspected of being used to facilitate purchasing sex.. 	Numeric