

Profiling traffickers

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The *dramatis personae* in the world of trafficking

1. At the source area

- Spotter
- Recruiter
- Buyer
- Seller

2. At the transit place

- Transporter
- Harbourn
- Border officials, if involved
 - Immigration
 - Customs
 - Police
 - Border guards ...

3. At the demand area

- Manager, (e.g. “madam”)
- Pimps
- Contractors
- Persons who demand, perpetuate the demand,
- All others who connive, abet, conspire

Who among them are the “traffickers”

Identifying traffickers.

Levels of traffickers— hierarchy ?

- Master trafficker: controls, regulates demand-supply
- Primary trafficker: procure, transport, take, abduct, carry
- Secondary trafficker: buyer, seller
- Spotter: identify, locate, report

A few highlights of methods, traits and characteristics of traffickers

from the Action Research in India 2002-4

Published by Orient Longman, 2005

(Total traffickers interviewed: 160)

- Only 5.6% were “new entrants” (others had earlier association)
- Traffickers focus on vulnerability of victim
- Directly linked to ‘demand factor’
- Demand hierarchy:
 - Physical appearance
 - Age
 - Region
 - submissiveness

Organized crime

- 71% had networks with other traffickers
- Linkage of persons at the demand – transit – source areas
- Multiple persons with multiple tasks
- Male and female

(Other details in the background note)

and the response...

- Uneven levels of law enforcement
- Few cases where master traffickers are brought to book-
 - prosecuted,
 - assets confiscated
 - and even traffickers identified

Challenges in profiling traffickers

- Jurisdictional limitations of LE agencies
- Lack of database
- Poor sharing of intelligence among LE agencies
- Weak law enforcement-
 - nexus and corruption,
 - priority aspect,
 - attitudinal issues
 - unprofessional approach

Points for consideration- tools for profiling traffickers

- Trans-border protocols
- Multi sectoral response
- linkages of LE agencies at the source, transit and demand areas
- Organized crime approach in investigation: to bring 'master minds' to justice delivery
- Research on traffickers: known and unknown: going beyond LE records

Points for consideration- checklist for profiling traffickers

- intelligence

- from victims
- from interrogation of traffickers
- from interrogation of “customers”
- from NGOs
- from other responders (health care etc)
- from media reports
- from advertisements
- from tracking sites

checklist for profiling traffickers-

contd

- Database

- developing
- sharing
- feedback
- updating

- Action on intelligence

- Verification
- Prompt response
- Sharing outcome
- Transfer of persons/ evidence

A typical profile

- Middle aged male
- Seen moving in suspicious manner
- Two persons escorting a few others (victims)
- Communication between the two is hush-hush
- Wary of immigration officials/ police
- Communication with victims is intimidatory
- Well aware of the locality, whereas the victims are looking lost
- Attends to the immigration work of all including victims
- Hurried look and acts

Thank you for kind attention

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