

# **WHO'S AT-RISK FOR COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE)**

## **Indicators of vulnerable youth:**

- Low self-esteem, self-worth, negative self-image
- No focus in life, easily influenced
- Substance abuse problems
- Financial problems
- Perceived lack of choices/limited options
- Survival (lack of food, clothing, shelter, money)
- Emotionally needy (lacking love, affection, attention, security)
- Being a runaway or throwaway (kicked out of home); history of out-of-home placement (foster care/institutionalization)
- History of sexual abuse, family abuse/incest, dating violence

- Vulnerable situations: family problems, relationship problems
- Living in areas with sex oriented business (i.e., strip clubs, hostess bars, massage parlors, porn shops, john traffic)
- Easily impressed with material things
- Trying to impress, feel like they belong, gain acceptance, fit in
- Feeling disconnected from family, society
- Excessive truancy/learning disabilities/mental health issues
- Recurring criminal activity
- Early sexual activity/promiscuity
- Involvement in or interest in nude modeling, nude dancing
- Gang involvement (getting sex'd in)
- Lack of positive father figure in life
- “Knowing about it, thinking about it”