



Oklahoma State Facts

Criminalization of DMST

1. The crossroads of two major Interstate systems, I-40 and I-35, makes Oklahoma a hub for human trafficking.¹
2. The state human trafficking law requires proof of force used in the commission, even when the victim is a minor. The law imposes heightened penalties when the victim is under 18 years of age—the crime is punishable by 10 years to life imprisonment and/or a fine up to \$20,000, sentences comparable to those under federal law.

Criminal Provisions Addressing Demand

1. Oklahoma Attorney General E. Scott Pruitt was one of 51 Attorneys General who signed a letter to Backpage.com calling on the company to disclose its efforts to identify and delete advertisements that facilitate sex trafficking, specifically of minors.²

Criminal Provisions for Traffickers

1. Traffickers must register as sex offenders if convicted of compelling prostitution of a child or child pornography related offenses but not if convicted of human trafficking. Buyers convicted of sex trafficking or participating in prostitution of a minor are not required to register as sex offenders, putting children at potential risk from these sexual predators.

Protective Provisions for Child Victims

2. If not identified as sex trafficking or force cannot be proven, only minors under 16 will be provided justice through the law making it a crime to procure prostitution with a child under 16.
3. Under Oklahoma law, victims of sex trafficking can be treated as a delinquent for committing a delinquent act or running away from home, making proper identification by first responders critical to the rescue of domestic minor sex trafficking victims.

Criminal Justice Tools for investigation and Prosecution

4. In 2010, Oklahoma City's human trafficking task force reported more than 100 child sex trafficking cases opened in its first year of operation.³
5. A federal Violence Against Women's Act (VAWA) grant provides an 8 hour training on human trafficking for law enforcement, social service providers, educators, medical and mental health providers and community leaders.⁴

¹ <http://www.newson6.com/story/11369002/child-sex-trafficking-victim-tells-her-story>

² <http://www.tn.gov/attorneygeneral/cases/backpage/backpageletter.pdf>

³ <http://baptistmessenger.com/slaves-in-our-state/>

⁴ <http://oathcoalition.org/trafficking.aspx>