



Utah State Facts

Criminalization of DMST

1. Utah's human trafficking law increases the penalties when a minor is used in a commercial sex act but requires the proof of force, fraud, or coercion. State CSEC laws do not refer to the trafficking law for prosecution or victim protection.

Buyers

2. Utah Attorney General Mark Shurtleff 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.¹
3. CSEC crimes do not include buying sex with a minor, and solicitation laws do not distinguish between purchasing commercial sex acts with an adult versus a minor. The penalty for patronizing a prostitute is six months imprisonment, with no enhanced penalty if it involves a minor.

Traffickers

4. In October 2011, a Salt Lake City mother pleaded guilty to two charges of sexual exploitation after being arrested for attempting to sell her daughter's virginity for \$10,000.²
5. Three adults were charged with the aggravated exploitation of a minor after officers responded to an advertisement for sex with a 14-year-old girl they had transported from Colorado to engage in prostitution.³
6. In 2010, Kenneth Bond was charged with multiple counts related to running a prostitution ring in Springfield that exploited two teenage girls. In August 2011, prosecutors charged Bond with 12 new counts of rape and aggravated sexual assault stemming from 2008.⁴

Protective Provisions for Child Victims

7. No protective provisions are statutorily mandated specifically for victims of sex trafficking or CSEC offenses, leaving minors vulnerable to prosecution as juvenile delinquents. Any victim who has been sentenced for crimes forced to commit during their period of exploitation is ineligible for compensation as a crime victim.

¹ <http://www.tn.gov/attorneygeneral/cases/backpage/backpageletter.pdf>

² <http://news.yahoo.com/utah-mom-pleads-guilty-virginity-sale-case-183836340.html>

³ http://www.abc4.com/content/news/top_stories/story/Three-people-arrested-for-bringing-teen-to-Utah/5fXnLykYFUKRWEDjYmoViQ.csp

⁴ http://www.heraldextra.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_5d723869-3923-5207-a3e5-b8f6b0bd8a8b.html