



Wyoming State Facts

Criminalization of DMST

1. Wyoming has not established a law against human trafficking or the sex trafficking of minors, leaving domestic minor victims vulnerable to misidentification and prosecution.

Buyers

2. Wyoming Attorney General Greg Phillips 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. The purchase of sex with a minor is not distinguished as a separate offense from soliciting or purchasing sex with an adult, providing no enhanced penalties for buyers.

Traffickers

4. In October 2010, Sterling Hospedales, a former Army sergeant, was convicted in federal court of attempted sex trafficking of a child after he paid for a minor from Wyoming to fly to Washington for the purpose of forcing her into prostitution. He met the girl on *MySpace.com*.²
5. Traffickers convicted under Wyoming law for promoting prostitution of a minor are subject to just five years imprisonment and/or a fine of up to \$5,000.
6. There is no specific law making it a crime to use the Internet to recruit or sell a minor for commercial sex acts.

Protective Provisions for Child Victims

7. Prostitution offenses are not limited in application to adults and do not identify a minor engaged in prostitution as a victim of sex trafficking and no protective provisions or safe housing are statutorily mandated for victims.

Criminal Justice Tools

8. Although present laws require a database of DNA samples of missing persons and the establishment of a “clearinghouse on missing children,” no law mandates the reporting of missing or recovered children, leaving critical gaps in identification, response and prevention for victims.

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

² <http://lakewood.komonews.com/content/former-army-sergeant-sentenced-child-sex-trafficking-case>