

A QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL EVALUATION OF THE *NOT A NUMBER* ANTI-TRAFFICKING PREVENTION PROGRAM WITH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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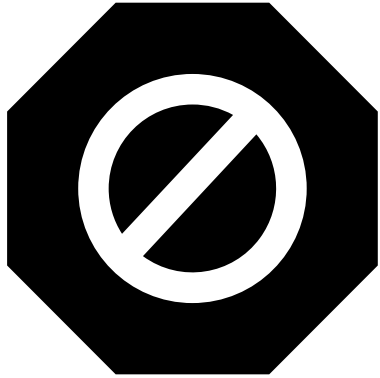
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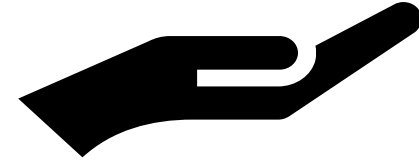


Prevention



CSEC/
TRAFFICKING
VICTIMIZATION

Improved
Victim Services

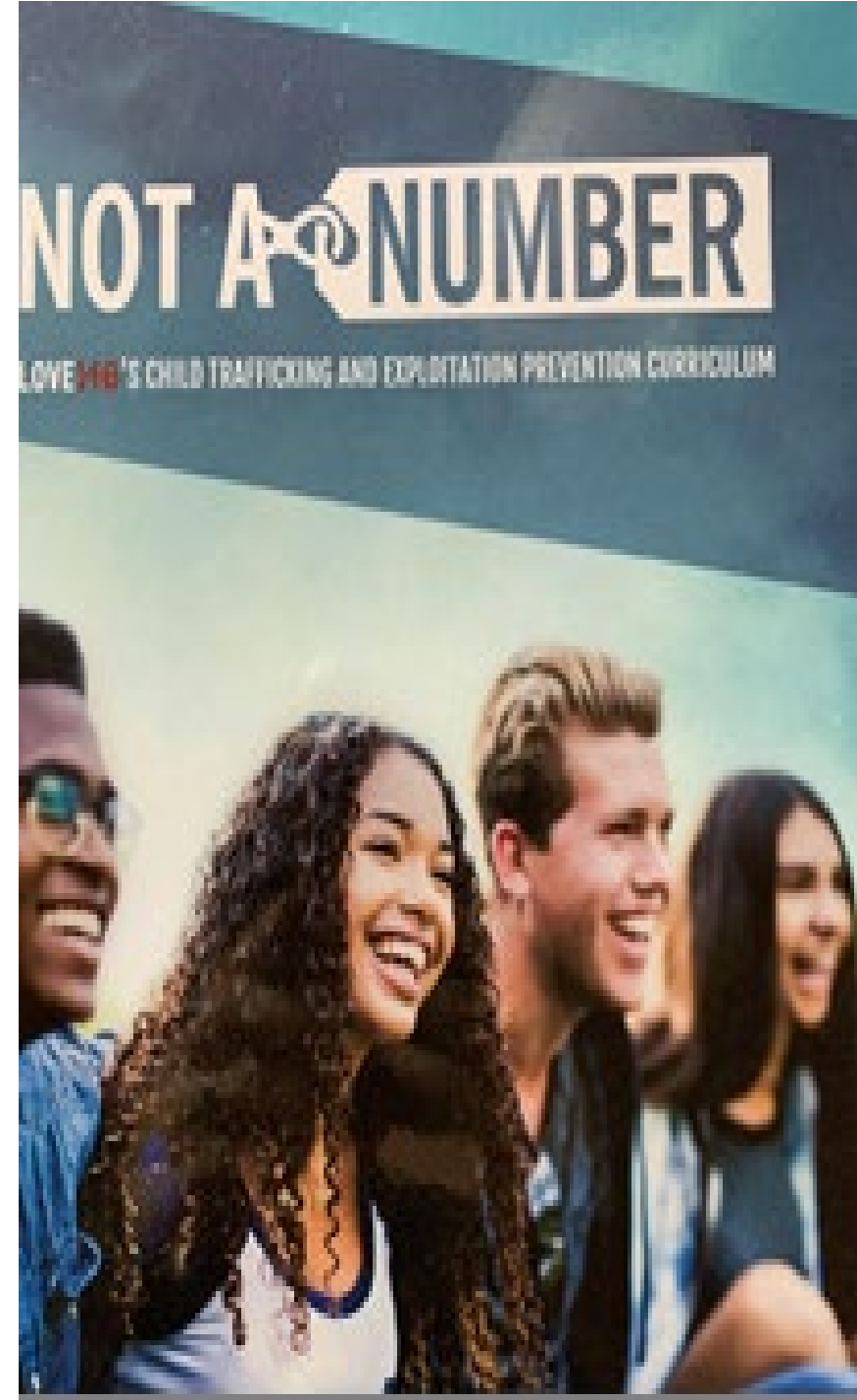


Justice System
Improvements



THE NOT A NUMBER (NAN) PREVENTION PROGRAM

- Trafficking prevention program developed by the non-profit organization *Love146* in 2014
- Interactive 5-module curriculum developed for in-person group delivery to youth ages 12-18
- Educates on trafficking and exploitation, recruitment, vulnerabilities, communication and help-seeking
- **Recently completed a quasi-experimental study on NAN in Houston Independent School District (HISD)**
- Currently building on this research with a CDC-funded randomized controlled trial evaluation of NAN in Minnesota



METHODOLOGY

- **Pre-test survey administration:**
 - Spring 2022: Houston HS1 (n=175)
 - Fall 2022: Houston HS1 (n=216) & Houston HS2 (n=205)
 - Total of 596 students completed pre-test surveys
- **Research groups:**
 - 375 youth received the NAN program in health class (implementation group)
 - 221 taking physical education did not receive NAN (control group)

METHODOLOGY, CONT.

- Post-test surveys were administered 2-3 months after program delivery.
- Out of the 596 students that took the pre-test survey, we were able to match pre- and post-tests for a total of 449 students (75%).
- The evaluation compared pre-post findings for 300 implementation group students and 149 control group students.

SAMPLE

- 14% 9th grade; 18% 10th grade; 23% 11th grade; 45% 12th grade
- 35% Black; 64% Latino; 4% White
- 52% Male; 47% Female; 1% Other
- 79% Heterosexual; 21% Other sexual orientation

MEASURES

Demographics:

- Age
- Gender
- Sexual orientation
- Race/ ethnicity
- Living situation



OUTCOMES:

1. Knowledge/myth rejection
 - Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
 - Relationship safety
2. Help-seeking
3. Safety planning
4. Online risk and safety behaviors
5. *Victimization*



Risk/resilience:

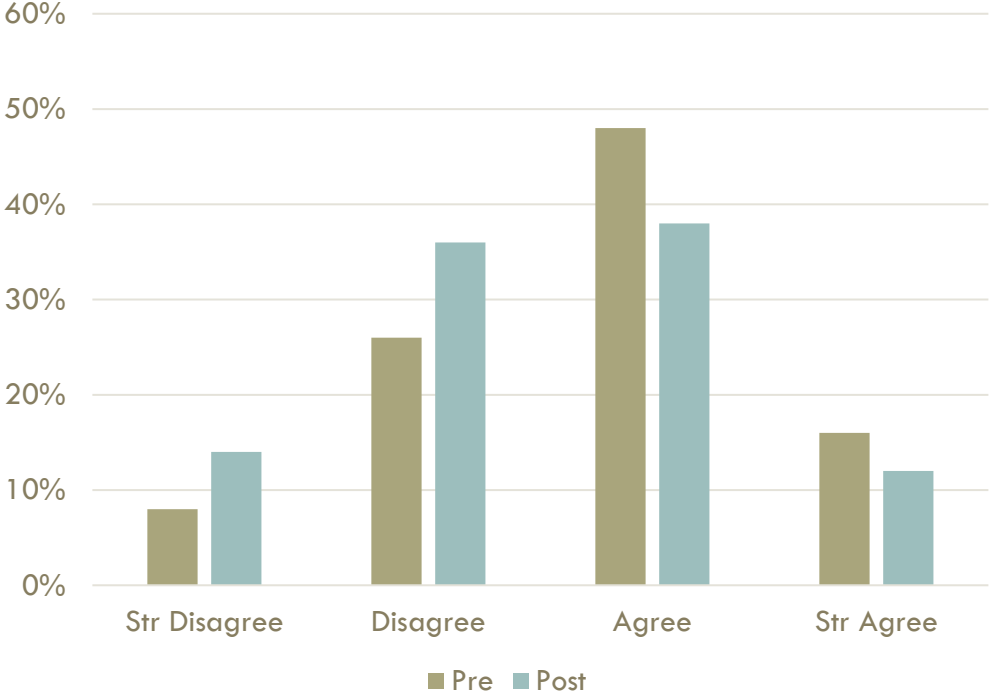
- Peer/family support
- School connectedness
- Neighborhood safety
- Alcohol/drug
- Food insecurity
- Depression

OUTCOMES-TRAFFICKING KNOWLEDGE

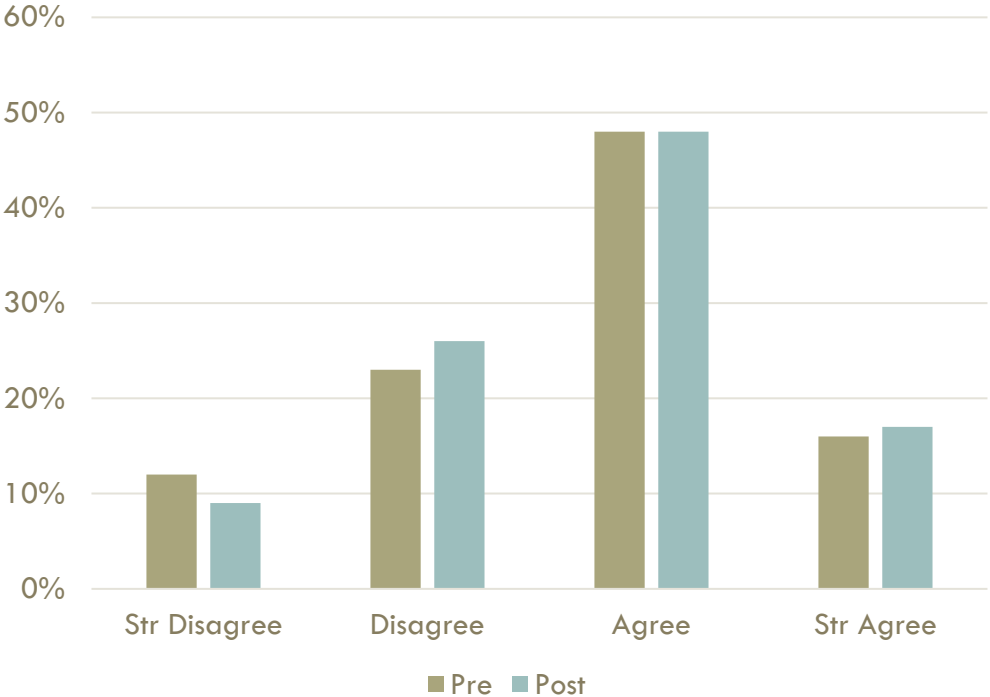
It can be hard for people who trade sex for money or other items of value to stop even if they want to.	Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly agree
Physical force is usually the way that someone gets a youth to trade sex for money or other items of value.	Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly agree
Youth who choose to trade sex for money or other items of value are victims.	Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly agree
If someone decides to trade sex for money or other items of value, it is their fault if bad things happen.	Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly agree
Trading sex for things of value is a harmless way to make some money.	Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly agree

IF SOMEONE DECIDES TO TRADE SEX FOR MONEY OR OTHER ITEMS OF VALUE, IT IS THEIR FAULT IF BAD THINGS HAPPEN.

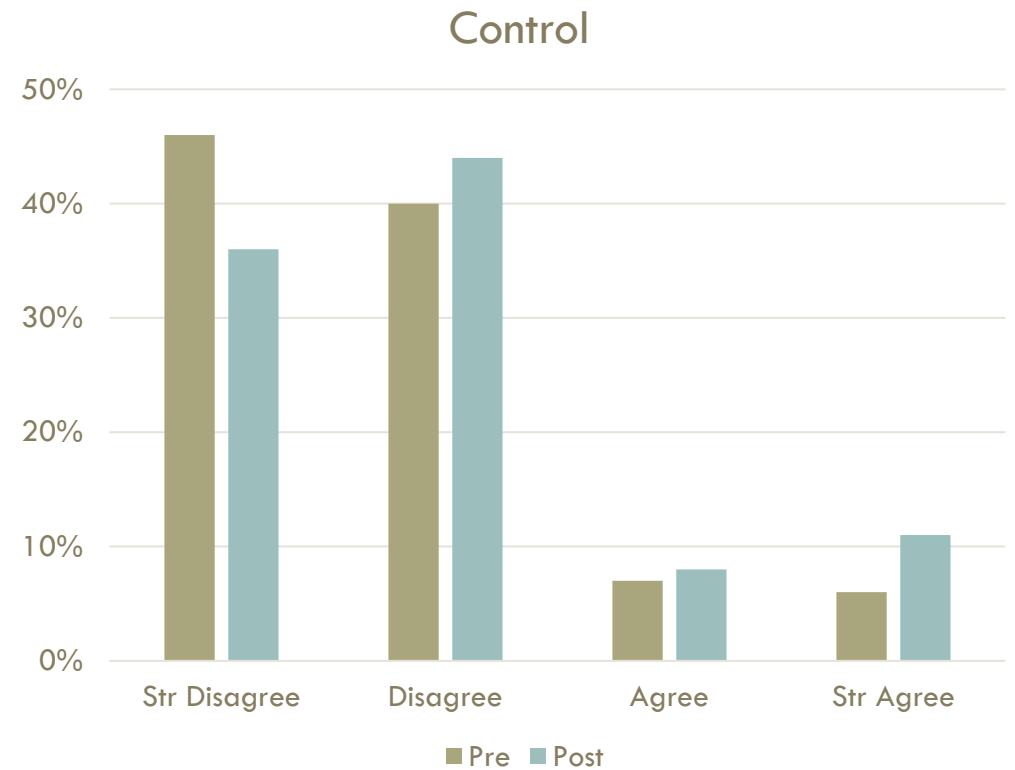
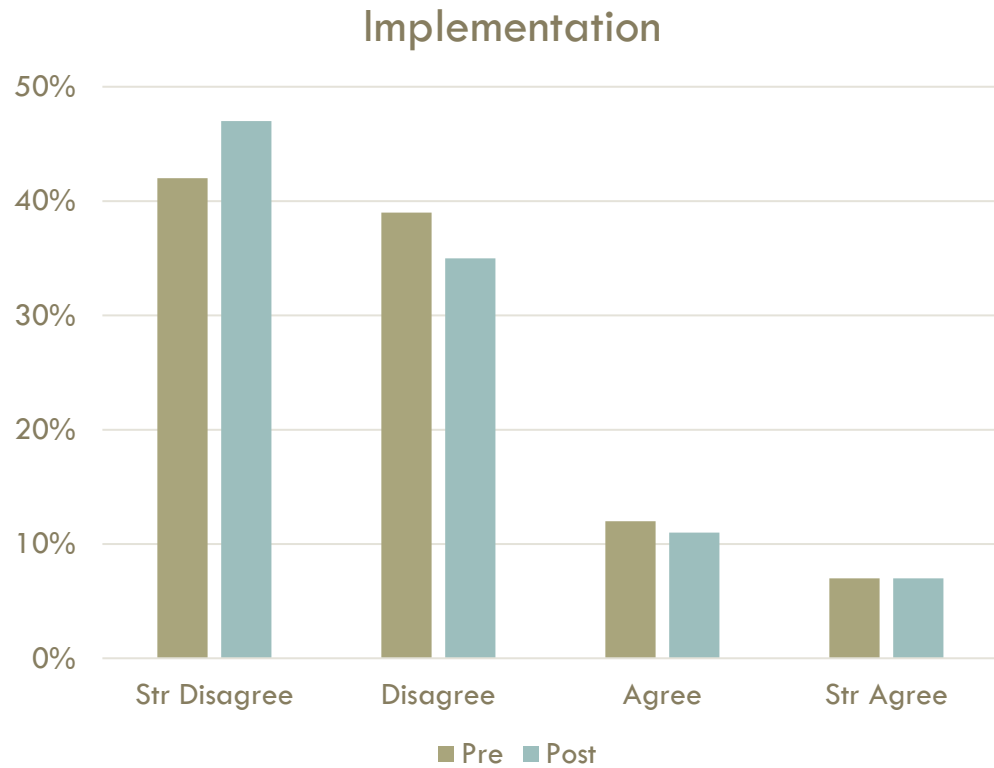
Implementation



Control



TRADING SEX FOR THINGS OF VALUE IS A HARMLESS WAY TO MAKE SOME MONEY.



OUTCOMES-RELATIONSHIP ABUSE KNOWLEDGE

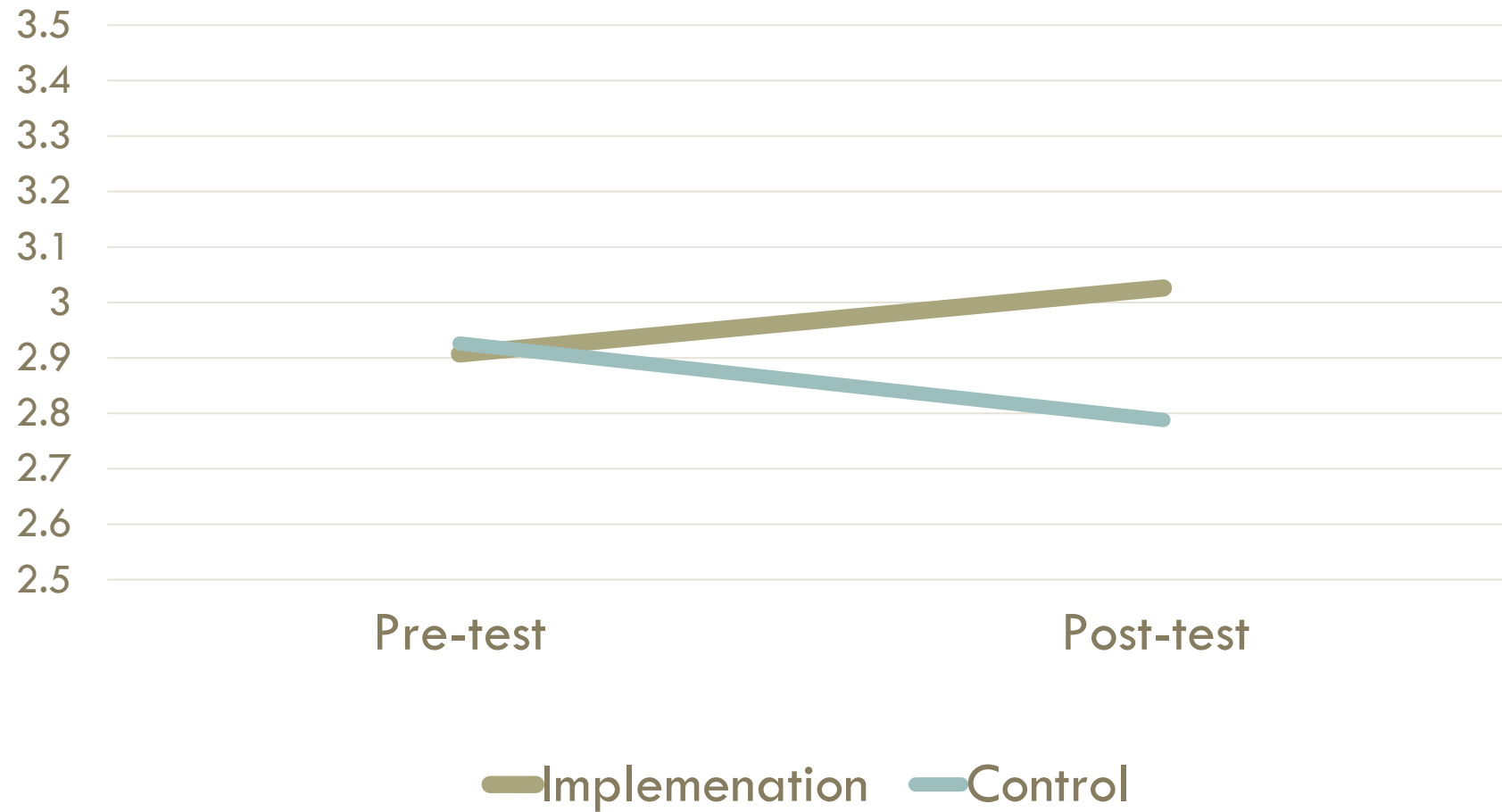
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Telling a boyfriend/girlfriend what friends they are allowed to see is a form of abuse.	6%	32%	44%	18%
Reporting abuse in a relationship can make things better for the person being hurt.	5%	11%	49%	35%
It is a problem if someone who is ten years older says they are romantically interested in you.	6%	14%	39%	42%
If your boyfriend/girlfriend is very controlling, it is a sign that they care a lot about you.	34%	46%	17%	3%

OUTCOMES-HELP-SEEKING

How likely is it that you would do the following things if you were feeling pressured by somebody to exchange sex for money or other items of value?

	Very unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Somewhat likely	Very likely
Get help from a parent or caregiver	9%	10%	20%	60%
Get help from another adult like a teacher or counselor	15%	18%	28%	39%
Get help from a friend	11%	8%	28%	54%
Look up advice on the internet	23%	23%	27%	27%
Get help from a crisis hotline or a community agency	22%	20%	24%	34%
Call 911 or talk to the police	19%	13%	26%	43%

CHANGE IN MEAN HELP-SEEKING SCORES



OUTCOMES-ONLINE RISK & SAFETY

- Have you ever met up with someone in person who you met online? (9%→11%)
- Have you talked about sex with someone you only knew online? (5%→7%)
- Have you sent nude or nearly nude photos to someone you only knew online? (2→4%)
- Have you checked your social media privacy settings to make sure they were private? (30%→53%)
- Have you blocked or stopped talking with someone because they were making you feel uncomfortable? (25→38%)

Youth Victimization

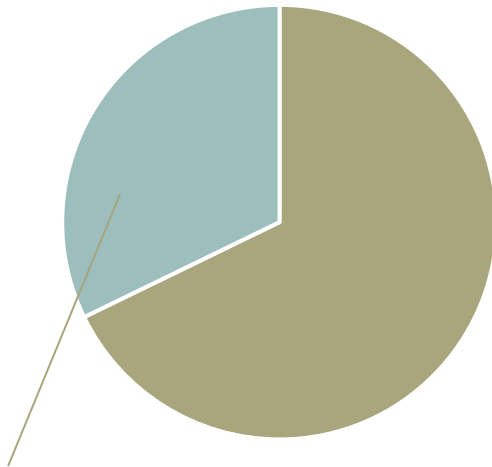
19% of youth survey participants said that they had experienced unwanted sexual contact.

6% of youth reported being physically hurt on purpose by a dating partner

1.2% of youth reported trading sex or sexual activity for money or something of value.

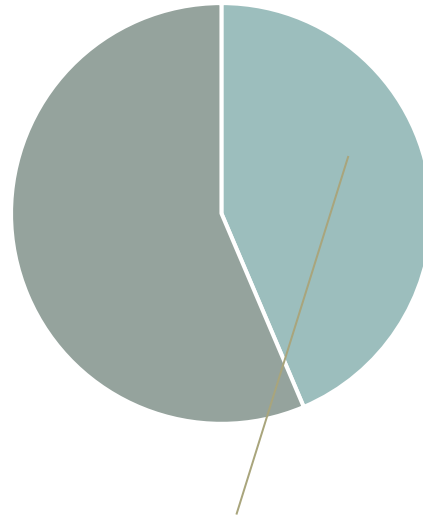
Youth Risk Factors

Worry about safety getting to school.



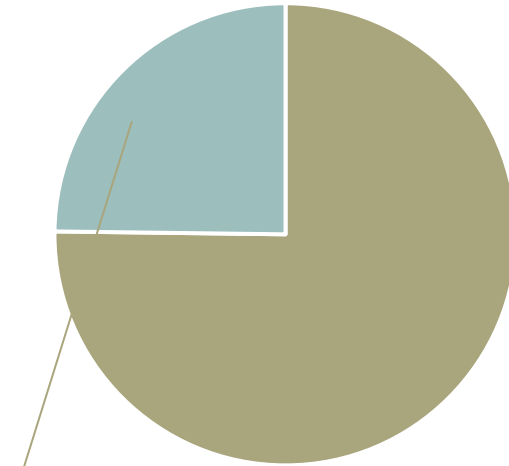
Sometimes, Often, Always: 32%

Feel hopeless every day 2 weeks or more last 3 months



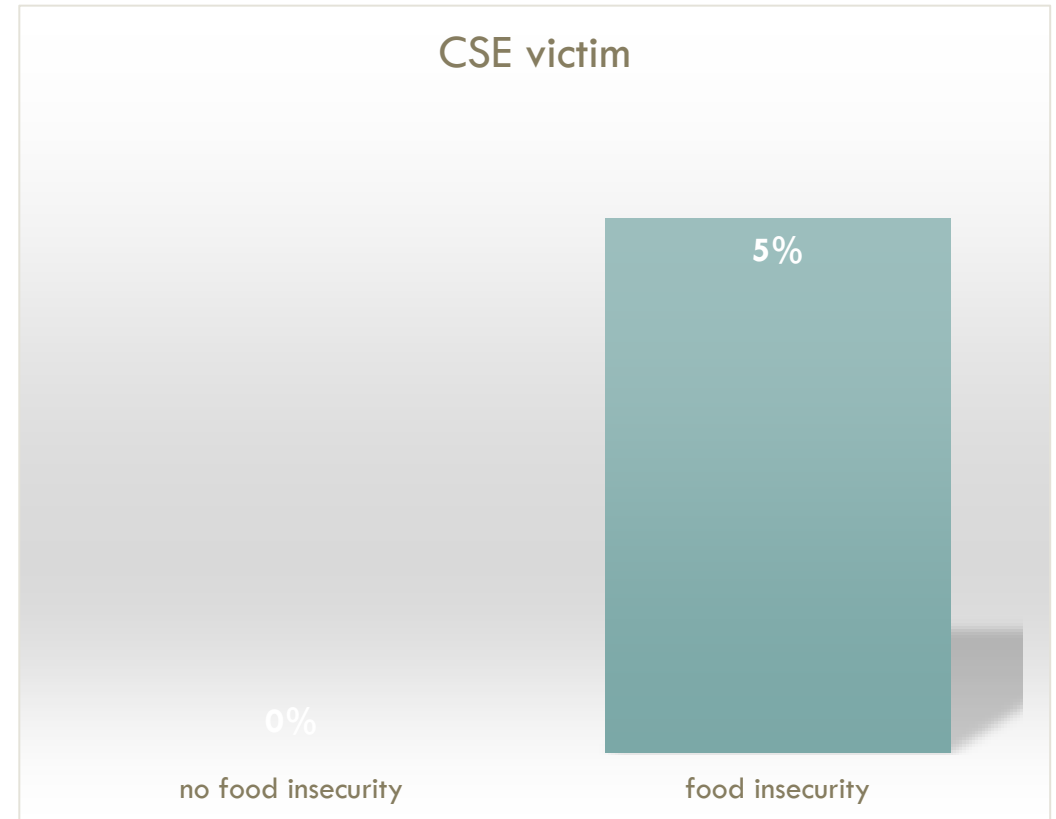
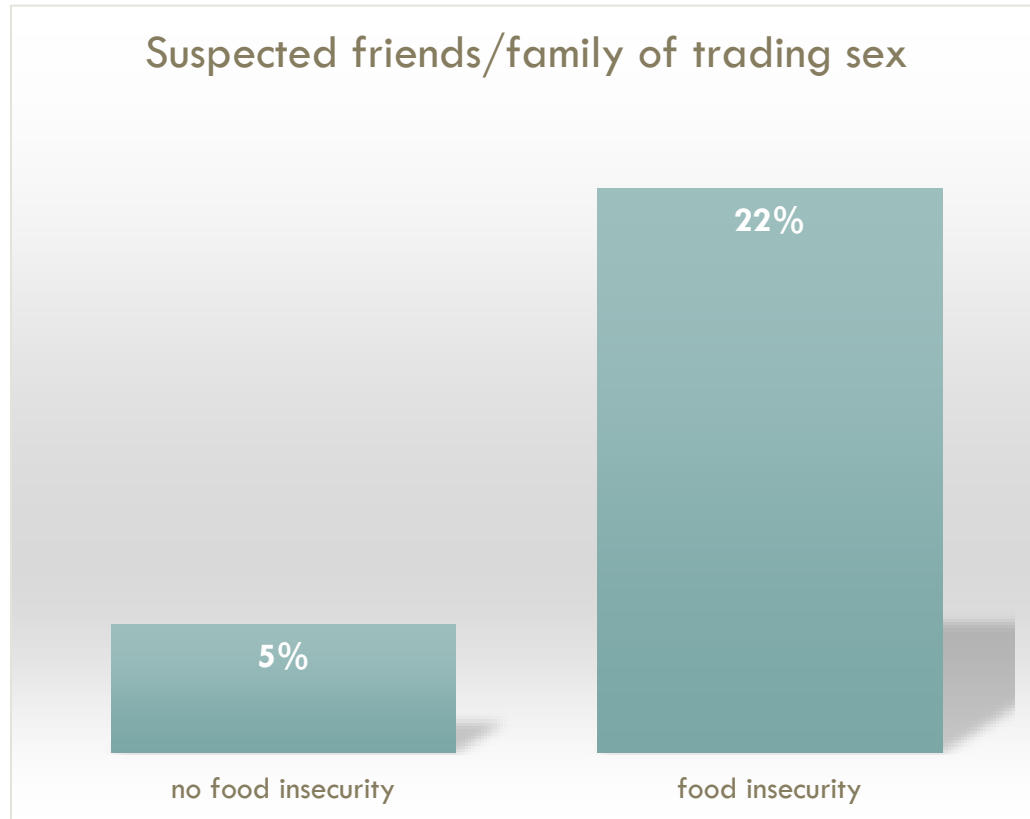
Yes: 44%

Food insecurity past 30 days



A lot, Sometimes: 25%

TRADING SEX EXPOSURE BY FOOD INSECURITY



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- Outcome evaluation of trafficking prevention is starting to build.
- This quasi-experimental study found support for some outcomes for the NAN program: trafficking knowledge, help-seeking intention & awareness of resources.
- No findings for internet safety, relationship health knowledge, boundary setting.
- Promising finding for a quasi-experimental study and opportunities to improve rigor and measurement quality

What are the goals of primary prevention?

Income inequality

SELF-EFFICACY

Family violence

BOUNDARY SETTING SKILLS

CSEC PREVENTION

KNOWLEDGE

Structural racism

HELP-SEEKING SKILLS

Sexism & Sexual violence

IMPLICATIONS

- We need to think through the logic model for prevention. What are risk factors? What can prevention education accomplish? What is in place now? What is missing? What else is needed?
- Evaluation needs to accompany program development and growth
- Innovative approaches to other risk factors needed

Thanks!

Thank you to **Love 146** team members **Erin Williamson, Aria Flood, Sarah Mouser, Tenisha Brown, & Daniella Pèrez** who assisted us in coordinating the research; and to the **HISD high school staff** and the **study participants** for their time and their willingness to share their experiences with us.

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