# A REPORT ON

# TRAFFICKING PREVENTION EFFORTS IN UKRAINE:

# IMPACT OF THE WOMEN FOR WOMEN CENTERS ON AT-RISK TEEN AND ADULT WOMEN

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#### I. PROJECT SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

# A. Trafficking Prevention Project

In July 1998, in an agreement with USAID, Winrock International began the Trafficking Prevention Project (TPP) in Ukraine. With administrative headquarters and some services in Kyiv, the program has three Women for Women Centers in Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk, and Donetsk that provide trafficking prevention services. The purpose of the TPP is: "to improve trafficking prevention efforts by increasing the capacity and mobilizing the efforts of activists, NGOs and the community to provide economic opportunities and prevention of violence services for at-risk women, and to increase the awareness of and response to the problem of trafficking in human beings in communities in Ukraine (Winrock Quarterly Report, 2000).

The TPP has by all accounts been highly successful. The trainings provided by the Women for Women Centers have focused on 1) job skills training and 2) crisis prevention. Each center has a unique 'personality' that has reached out in creative ways to involve the communities in which the centers are located. In May 2000, as part of Phase II Trafficking Prevention Project, four additional centers have been funded. They are in Chernivtsi, Kherson, Rivne and Zhytomyr. A research component to evaluate effectiveness of initial programs was also included in Phase II of the TPP. This document is a report of the research conducted from September, 2000 to December, 2000, in the three original Women for Women Centers in Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk, and Donetsk.

# B. Research Goals and Objectives

The goals of the research are three-fold:

- To include a program evaluation of the original three Trafficking Prevention Centers (TPC), located in Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk and Donetsk.
- To develop a "profile" of women who are at risk of trafficking through a study of the women attending the three TPC's.
- To conduct a study of the at-risk population of young women in the general population of Ukraine. This part of the study is being conducted by the Ukrainian Institute of Social Research (UISR) and will be completed in March, 2001.

The objectives of the current research are:

- Evaluate the programs offered by the three original TPC's to determine knowledge, attitude and belief changes of participants regarding their understanding of the dangers of trafficking.
- Based on participants' life situations, assess the level of their vulnerability toward trafficking.
- From the women attending the TPC's, develop a "profile" of women who are most at-risk of trafficking.
- Evaluate advertising campaigns regarding anti-trafficking information.

# C. Research Sample

Three hundred and twenty-seven participants who were attending a training for the first time at the Women for Women Centers were administered questionnaires both before and after their training during the week of November 13-17, 2000. The study received data from four separate groups of teens and women: teens in Internats (institutions similar to orphanages), teens in secondary schools, teens in technical schools and adult women. These particular groups were chosen because it was important to evaluate the risk factors among disparate groups in order to better tailor prevention efforts. The average age of the teens and women in the groups is seen in Table 1, and ranged from an average of 14 to 23 among the four groups.

# D. Summary of Findings and Recommendations

The most significant findings and recommendations are as follows (see Table 1 for further details).

# 1. General Findings

**Finding:** The knowledge of the dangers of trafficking before the trainings was strong, showing the success of information campaigns. The knowledge of the dangers of trafficking increased considerably following the trainings in all age groups, showing the success of the trainings at the Women for Women Centers in their ability to inform women of the dangers of trafficking.

**Recommendation:** The anti-trafficking information campaigns should be continued, as much as is financially possible. Additionally, the Women for Women Centers should continue to include anti-trafficking messages in the trainings that they conduct.

**Finding:** Following the trainings, the consideration of going abroad to work decreased with adult women by 10% (36% to 26%). In technical schools, the percentage was the same before and after the trainings (34%). Among teen groups, 3% more teens in Internats (36% to 39%) and 11% more teens in secondary schools (34% to 45%) considered going abroad following the trainings. This finding reflects three factors: 1) When participants come to the trainings, they have a strong desire to go abroad; 2) Some participants come to the trainings hoping to find *safe* ways to go abroad, rather than *alternatives* to going abroad which the trainings are trying to show participants; 3) While one training increases *knowledge* of the dangers of trafficking, several trainings may be required in order to effect *attitude* and *belief* changes.

**Recommendation:** The trainings that were measured in this study are the <u>first</u> trainings teens and women attend. Since most teens and women attend three to five trainings, it would be helpful to measure the desire to go abroad following a series of trainings. This would demonstrate *attitude* and *belief* changes, not simply *awareness* of the dangers of trafficking. According to Carstens & Julia (1999), "attitudes and self-perceptions are more effectively addressed and potentially altered when people *experience* a new reality rather than when they are told that they ought to think and act differently" (p. 56). The trainings are conducted based on this and other empowering perspectives that will be discussed in more detail in the full report. The positive side to this finding is that almost every teen or woman who took the training wanted

to return for another training. Additionally, very few women showed consideration of going abroad precipitously after the first training.

# 2. Findings Regarding Teens in Internats

**Finding:** In analyzing the factors that would deter teens in Internats from considering going abroad for work, the presence of any form of financial support did not decrease the desire to go abroad. Teens in Internats often have families that are unable to care for them financially. While some parents may supply periodic financial support, it is meager.

Emotional and caring support from grandmothers appears to be a deterrent for teens in Internats from considering going abroad. Most parents, due to their constrained circumstances, were unable to provide adequate emotional support.

**Recommendation:** A mentoring program may help teens to feel some support, especially as they prepare to leave the Internats. Support could also be developed for the parents so they could maintain involvement with their teens.

# 3. Finding Regarding Teens in Secondary Schools

**Finding:** The older the teen, the less apt she is to consider going abroad for financial reasons. Emotional support does not provide a deterrent for secondary school teens in their consideration to go abroad for work. Since families are so desperate financially, teens have been more and more left on their own, often with parents going abroad to find employment. This leaves teens with very little emotional or financial support from parents.

**Recommendation:** Parents need to be educated about the importance of staying involved with their teenage children. The centers may want to do a special outreach to the families of teens, as they are doing with teens themselves, in order to emphasize their continued importance in their teens' lives.

# 4. Findings Regarding Teens in Technical Schools

**Finding:** Teens from technical schools who live in cities are less apt to consider going abroad. They may have more options in Ukraine than teens living in towns and villages. Women to Women Center staff have seen this pattern and expressed heightened concern for teens in towns and villages. There are reports of villages in which very few young women still reside as most have gone abroad.

Neither financial nor emotional support is seen as a deterrent for teens in technical schools. Often teens from Internats go directly to technical schools and it is understood that many teens in technical schools have little financial or emotional support from family members.

**Recommendation:** Women for Women Centers should expand their already impressive outreach to towns and villages. Development of mentoring programs for teens in technical schools would also be beneficial.

# 5. Findings Regarding Adult Women

**Finding:** No type of occupation or financial support is a deterrent to adult women considering going abroad. Emotional support from mothers or husbands is a deterrent to seeking employment abroad. Women also saw financial security as a form of emotional support that would act as a deterrent to going abroad. This may seem contradictory to the finding that financial support is not a deterrent. This simply means that at present in women's lives, there is very little financial support; however, if there were financial support, it would be a deterrent.

**Recommendation:** The Women for Women Centers are doing a terrific job of teaching jobs skills that fit with the technological era. They are successful in bringing business owners to conduct special trainings, and women attending the centers are being hired by prospective employers. This effort needs to continue so as to better employ women in Ukraine making them less apt to even consider going abroad.

# 6. Violence Against Teens and Women

The rate of violence in teens' and women's lives is alarmingly high: teens in Internats, 26%; teens in secondary schools, 8%; teens in technical schools, 22%; and, with adult women, as many as 50% experience violence. The experiences of violence, especially physical and sexual violence, is a major "push" factor with all groups of teens and adult women in their consideration to go abroad. The staff at all three centers are fully aware that women in violent situations are more apt to consider going abroad. Currently, there are numerous trainings that address this issue and that inform center participants of their human rights, which tends to mobilize them to take action if they are still in a situation of violence.

**Recommendation:** As a result of these findings, the *linkage* between the experience of violence and teen's and women's stronger consideration of going abroad needs to be publicized, both in the trainings and in public service announcements. There needs to be a clear message that violence does indeed lead to many problems for women, including the desire to flee abroad, despite the significant and known risks of going abroad. This kind of message, both in the trainings and publicly, would not only educate women about this negative connection, it would hopefully educate them that they do not need to stay in a situation of violence.

Concurrent with these awareness-raising initiatives, a series of safe houses or shelters needs to be established so teens and women have somewhere to go (other than to leave the country) when in a violent situation. This is a priority with the Director of the TPP and other organizations involved with trafficking prevention. Women in a violent situation also can experience a degree of freedom if they can support themselves. Centers are already addressing the economic issues.

# 7. Adult Women Considering Going Abroad as Sex-Workers

For adult women before the training, 22% (20 women) would consider going abroad as sexworkers. Following the training, 18% (17 women) still would consider going abroad as sexworkers. From anecdotal reports and information gleaned from the questionnaires, it is clear that

teens and women do not desire to go abroad at all as sex workers, and only do so out of desperation. The Centers are doing an excellent job in giving women choices that allow them to lead more productive and fulfilling lives.

**Recommendation:** The number of women even considering going abroad as sex workers would no doubt diminish further with more trainings that help women gain confidence in and access to alternatives. The important element here is to ensure that more women are given the opportunity to utilize the services of the Centers and attend trainings. Right now at all the Centers, there is more demand for the services than can be accommodated by the hard-working staff. The addition of the new Centers is bound to help but the demand remains great and will continue to be there as long as the economy is poor and women are in situations of violence. While there is no dispute that the economic conditions in Ukraine lead women to considering going abroad for work, the presence of violence in their lives is a direct compelling force in their consideration to seek employment abroad.

**Table 1: Summary of Findings** 

	Number In Study	Average Age	Would Consider Going to Another Country	Knowledge of Women Going Abroad As Sex- Workers	Knowledge Of Anti- Trafficking Messages	Know Someone Involved In Sex-Work
Teens in Internats	85	14				
Pre			36% (31 teens)	64%	29-58%	
Post			39% (33 teens)		48-81%	11% (9 teens)
Teens in Secondary School	74	16				
Pre			34% (25 teens)	86%	27-80%	
Post			45% (33 teens)		54-91%	12% (9 teens)
Teens in Technical School	76	17				
Pre			34% (26 teens)	91%	59-89%	
Post			34% (26 teens)		87-100%	24% (18 teens)
Adult Women	92	23				
Pre			36% (33 women)	91%	47-93%	
Post			26% (24 women)		83-98%	15% (14 women)
Total	327					

**Table 1.1: Summary of Findings - Deterrents** 

	Considering going abroad based on financial support	Considering going abroad based on emotional support	Size of town/city	Age	Would consider going abroad as a sex-worker
Teens in Internats	No correlation	Grandmother is deterrent	Teens in Internats apt to consider going abroad	No correlation	Question not asked
Teens in Secondary School	No correlation	No correlation	The larger the region, the more apt to consider going abroad	The older the teen, the less apt to consider going abroad	Question not asked
Teens in Technical School	No correlation	No correlation	The larger the region, the less apt to consider going abroad	No correlation	Question not asked
Adult Women	No correlation	Parents, grandmothers, financial security are deterrents	No correlation	No correlation	Pre: 22% ( 20 women) (Post: 18%) 17 women

Table 1.2: Summary of Findings – Violence Against Women and Teens

	Experienced	Currently	Physical	Sexual	Emotional	Would
	Violence	Experiencing	Violence	Violence	Violence	Consider
		Violence				Going Abroad
						if Experienced
						Violence
Teens in	26%	7%	27%	14%	16%	Yes, from
Internats	(22 teens)	(6 teens)	(23	(12	(14	physical and
			incidences)	incidences)	incidences)	sexual abuse
Teens in	8%	0%	9%	0%	4%	Yes, from
Secondary	(6 teens)		(7		(3	physical abuse
School			incidences)		incidences)	
Teens in	22%	7%	17%	4%	33%	Yes, all
Technical	(17 teens)	(5 women)	(13	(3	(25	categories
School			incidences)	incidences)	incidences)	
Adult	50%	20%	51%	22%	85%	Yes, except
Women	(46 women)	(18 women)	(47	(20	(78	women
			incidences)	incidences)	incidences)	<u>currently</u>
						experiencing
						violence

# II. BACKGROUND

Since the dissolution of the Soviet Union and Ukraine's separate statehood, the economy of Ukraine has suffered a serious blow. In reaction to loss of income, women in Ukraine have attempted to go abroad in search of economic opportunities. All too often, they have ended up in a 'trafficking' situation. While there continues to be a discussion as to the definition of

trafficking, the elements of trafficking about which we are most concerned here in Ukraine and for the purposes of this study are: "To traffic women means to work upon their desire or need to migrate by bringing them into prostitution under conditions that make them totally dependent on their recruiters in ways which also impair their rights" (Altink, 1995, p.1). Along with the imposition of slavery-like conditions, women in trafficking situations almost never achieve the goal of gaining any significant income. Throughout this research project, based on discussions with both staff and participants at the Women for Women Centers, and students at secondary and technical schools, there have been innumerable accounts of women who 'disappear' after going abroad. Since most families lack the resources to search for their wives, daughters or sisters, little is known of their final whereabouts and the women are eventually presumed to have died. So far, there is no way to estimate the number of women who go abroad, the number of women who return, or the number of those who simply disappear.

Typical destination countries for Ukrainian women mentioned by participants in this research study included, Italy, Greece, Turkey, and Germany as most common; US, Poland, former Yugoslavia, Spain and the Czech Republic as somewhat frequent; and Japan and Sweden as the least frequent. While Ukraine has enacted a law against trafficking, (Criminal Code Article 124-1 "Trade in People"), in reality, trafficking of women continues to increase in Ukraine. This is based on numerous accounts from personnel in the area of trafficking prevention.

Women in Ukraine are recruited for trafficking through friends, sometimes relatives, a chance acquaintance, tourism agencies, newspaper advertisements or even the Internet. One Center staff member related that a woman whom she counseled (after a trafficking situation) had been 'sold' to traffickers by a friend (Interview, Dnipropetrovsk, October, 2000). "On the whole Eastern European women seem to be recruited by accident, by people they meet by chance, for example in a café or on the street" (Altink, 1995, p. 132). They are most often recruited for what appears to be a position such as a domestic or an au pair, a waitress or an entertainer. Subsequently they are often mistreated, even sexually in these positions or forced into prostitution. At other times they are directly recruited to work in prostitution, a position that is described as glamorous and lucrative by the recruiters.

There is much speculation as to women's reasons for going abroad. In discussions with participants at all three Centers, women most often spoke of the need to earn money as the primary reason women go abroad. Women to Women Center staff view women's need to earn income as most pivotal in the decision. They add that many of the women who come to the Centers have experienced one or more forms of violence, which most view as still another reason women would consider going abroad. Both participants and staff at the Women for Women Centers consider women who go abroad as desperate to do something about their life situation. This study further defines women's 'life situations' in Ukraine in an effort to better understand where to target prevention efforts.

#### A. The Economy

The United Nations currently sees four obstacles to full human development: HIV/AIDS, armed conflict and violence, increasing poverty and gender discrimination (Annan, 2000). Young women in Ukraine are faced with all four of these obstacles: HIV/AIDS, violence (even though

there is no armed conflict), increasing poverty, and gender discrimination. While the United Nations sees the possibility of intergenerational patterns of poverty, violence, disease and discrimination as having the potential to be reduced within a generation, in Ukraine, the opposite is true. Poverty is increasing due to continued poor economic conditions. "Ukraine continues to have the highest mortality rate and the lowest average life expectancy among the countries of Central and Eastern Europe" (Vlasenko, et al., 2000 p. 12). In fact "the level of debt incurred by the countries of Eastern Europe, in proportion to their GDP, is higher than that of the developing countries" (Carter, 1999). In 1999, in Ukraine, the share of foreign debt as a percentage of GDP was 54.2% (Vlasenko, et al., 2000). Although there was a 4.3% increase in industrial production in 1999, and a 3.4% increase in GDP in 2000, this is but a slow start back to economic stabilization from a GDP that had declined by some estimates more than 14% since 1991 (Vlasenko, et al., 2000).

All these economic factors translate into real hardship for most Ukrainian families. "Subjective evaluations of family living standards in Ukraine show that 76% of families are constantly short of money, 23% live comfortably but cannot afford spending freely and must budget carefully, and only 1% are well off and can afford to live without budgeting" (UNDP, 1999, p. 209). Carter (1999) describes 60% of families in Ukraine as living in poverty. Unfortunately, the "standards of living of the majority of the population of Ukraine now corresponds to a level at the end of the 1950's" (The Family in Ukraine, 1999, p.143). In a survey conducted in the Lviv Women for Women Center (2000) among 41 women, over 50% had a monthly family income of between 50 and 200 gryvnas (\$9-\$36). "Women constitute almost 80% of the unemployed, and 72% of the unemployed who are graduates of professional or technical colleges" (UNDP, 1999, p. 139-140). While this percentage of unemployed women speaks to the poor economy in Ukraine, it also demonstrates women's poor position in the society at large and the lack of the educational system in Ukraine to address the relevant needs of the economy in Ukraine.

The average income in Ukraine is 110 grivnas/month (\$20), with half of those living in cities (52%) and more than half living in villages (56%) receiving less than 102 grivnas/month (\$18) (The Family in Ukraine Report, 1999). Domestic production of food has had to increase from 29% to 56% in order for families to feed themselves. Household generated income has had to grow dramatically in proportion to work income. "In rural families, (a third of all the population) the payment of work has decreased to 23%, and the incomes of personal part-time farming have grown to 53% and become dominant" (The Family in Ukraine, 1999, p.148).

The economic situation is far worse for women in that the average wage for women was 72% of men's average wage, as of 1999 (Vlasenko, et al., 2000). Most women and some men agree that it is more difficult for women to obtain a job and easier for them to lose a job; as of January 1, 2000, the number of unemployed that were women was 62% (Vlasenko, et al., 2000). Furthermore, women constitute seventy-five percent of the population under the age of 28 who are unemployed (Vlasenko, et al., 2000). This rate of unemployment is even greater in the rural regions of Ukraine.

# B. Violence Against Women

In addition to women having little or no income, women in Ukraine also experience violence in all areas of their lives - in the home, at the workplace and on the street. Official statistics do not reflect the level of violence experienced by the various groupings of women, but by all accounts, it clearly affects all age groups. Fifty percent of adult women in this study have experienced violence and 20% remain in a violent situation. Women are often physically unable to work as a result of violence they experienced in the home; medical attention is frequently needed. The Ukraine Ministry of Interior Affairs reported that in 1999, 1,227 women were killed, 1,215 women were the victims of premeditated grievous bodily harm, 1,256 women were sexually assaulted, and 6,522 women were the victims of sexual perversion (Vlasenko et al., 2000, p. 29) (No information is given on the perpetrators of these crimes). Currently, "assault on one's wife does not fit into any category of criminal actions within the Ukrainian Criminal Code" (UNDP, 1999, p. 222).

"Fifty percent of women suffer from some form of sexual harassment at work" (UNDP, 1999, p. 222). As an example of gender stereotyping, "48% of men and 36% of women think that a woman can provoke acts of sexual violence upon herself" (UNDP, 1999, p. 223). Women are often forced to leave their place of employment due to harassment which "leads to double suffering from mental and physical humiliation, and from material problems that are entailed in leaving a job" (Vlasenko, et al., 2000, p. 30).

The Dnipropetrovsk Women for Women Center (2000) conducted a study of 480 women between the ages of 15 to over 40 and found that 25% of the women had experienced violence as children, including physical abuse, 79 women; psychological abuse, 67 women; and sexual abuse, 7 women. In their current lives, women experienced psychological violence from friends, colleagues (34%), boyfriends (18%), and 17% experienced violence constantly. Nineteen percent of the women experienced abuse by their employers, while 26% experienced discrimination by their employer. Fully 50% of women experienced violence from their husband: 15% was physical, 4% was sexual, 24% was psychological and 8% was financial. Women also experienced domestic violence from father-in-laws, brother-in-laws, and other family members. Only 36% of women in this situation feel they can leave their homes; 54% of women want to stay but want the violence to end. Most women did not seek help; of those who did, 89% did not receive adequate support and nothing changed in their situations.

A study done by the Ukraine Women's Reproductive Health Initiative (1999) indicated that 19% of respondents had experienced domestic abuse, with 8% currently experiencing domestic abuse. These incidences were 50% higher in rural than urban areas. While the staff at the Women for Women Centers believe there is a connection between women experiencing violence and their vulnerability to trafficking, this has so far never been confirmed in Ukraine, but is addressed in this study.

# C. Teen Women

In Phase II of the Trafficking Prevention Project, teen women have been recognized as being particularly vulnerable to trafficking. For this reason, teen women as young as twelve are being

addressed in trafficking prevention measures. All three Centers had begun these efforts well before Phase II began. There are extensive efforts in the three communities to work with school personnel, teachers and pupils directly. TPP materials are on display in libraries and in the offices of school psychologists in numerous schools. Students consulted seemed eager to hear about the opportunities at the Women for Women Centers and to absorb the information regarding prevention of trafficking. Efforts are ongoing in further developing the content of the Trafficking Prevention trainings so as to focus on teen women.

In a study done by the International Organization of Migration (IOM) in 1995 on trafficking and women, three quarters of the at-risk women were found to be under 25 years old, and many were teenagers between 15 and 18 years old (IOM, 1998). In a more recent study (1998), women aged 15-19 were 45% of the 'at-risk' group (IOM, 1998). The older the woman, the less intention she had for migrating (IOM, 1998). "The majority of the women potentially at risk (60%), however, are single, who tended to have less unavoidable family obligations" (IOM, 1998, p. 23).

In the Pilot Study for this research project, young women ages 12-18 were seen as especially vulnerable to trafficking in Ukraine today due to poverty, violence and lack of opportunity in the future. Carter states that there are at least 50 million children in poverty in Eastern Europe (1999). Women as young as 13 are showing up as trafficking victims in the Netherlands (Altink, 1995).

Nowadays, teens are less and less able to rely on their parents for support, as they struggle with the current poor economic situation. At all three Women for Women Centers, staff and participants related stories of teen women who were no longer living with their parents, of parents who would take what little money teens were earning for themselves, of teens living with grandparents who could not afford to support them financially, or who ignored them. According to one participant:

My parents are divorced; neither of them want me so I am living with my boyfriend. This isn't working because he beats me up. He has also tried to get me to be a prostitute so he can have money (Interview, October, 2000).

With girls as young as 5 to 7, only 45% approve of their mothers, and a scant 27% of girls feel positively toward their fathers (UNDP, 1999, p. 215). This is an age (before adolescence) when children usually have a strong favorable relationship with their parents.

Sexual violence is common for teen women in Ukraine. "Out of all instances of rape reported to police, 55% of victims were underage (that is, younger than 18 years); among these 40% of victims were minors (that is, less than 14 years old). While more than half of victims did not know their abusers, over 30% (of teen women) knew them well; 13% were victimized by their relatives, older brothers, fathers, step-fathers or guardians" (UNDP, 1999, p. 212).

This persistence of violence and poverty lead to desperate decisions by these teen women, of which going abroad is one. The Women for Women Center in Dnipropetrovsk surveyed 783 teen women between the ages of 16 and 24 (1999) and found that 69% of teen women would accept an offer to work abroad, even though few of them knew about the legalities of working

abroad. Fifty-eight percent of the teen women would rely on acquaintances to help them obtain a position, an approach that has been shown to lead to trafficking situations.

In this same sample of teen women, 23% of the women had experienced physical violence, 62% had experienced psychological violence and 11% had experienced sexual violence. The violence was perpetrated by friends (26%), teachers (15%), and parents (8%). The violence was persistent in nature and 86% of the teen women currently lived in fear of the violence.

The Lviv Center questioned sixteen women, mostly teens (two were over age eighteen), about the presence of violence in their lives (Lviv, 2000). Eleven of the sixteen experienced violence in the form of brutal fights, offences and humiliation. Five experienced sexual violence. Three girls said violence was in their family. None of these three felt they would be able to talk about it. Fifteen girls felt lonely and desperate. None of the girls had sought help before. Thirteen girls would welcome information on how to protect themselves and their relatives.

#### D. Internats

Among workers at all three Centers, it is generally agreed that teen women from Internats are particularly vulnerable to trafficking, as they have less potential for employment and have been more exposed to violence. While some children in Internats do have parents, many are without supportive parents or any familial or financial support. The reasons parents were deprived of parental rights were:

- Chronic alcoholism, 46%
- Amoral life style, 34%
- Criminal offense and incarceration, 17%
- Incurable disease, 3% (TFIU, 1999, p. 189).

Police state there are 20,000 children picked up on the street each year in Ukraine. In 1998, there were 19,500 registered orphans in Ukraine (Kyiv Post, 2000). It is commonly believed that girls who are homeless frequently enter prostitution. The Dutch-Ukrainian Art, Culture and Science Foundation states that "80 percent of orphanage graduates eventually become criminals or prostitutes" (Kyiv Post, 2000, p. 4). "The major threats for "street girls," apart from criminal activity, are drug addiction, overdose, alcoholism and prostitution" (UNDP, 1999, p. 209).

While the Women for Women Centers are working to educate teen women who live in Internats, the challenge is daunting in terms of numbers. As of 1997, there are almost 4,000 female children living in Internats (TFIU, 1999, p. 225). Often teen women flee the Internats, and, with few or no resources, find themselves in a trafficking situation.

# E. Trafficking

Currently, there is negative migration of people from Ukraine. Women may emigrate according "to the one-step pattern, that is directly from the rural areas to their foreign destination," while the "two-step pattern involves women moving to cities and then to a foreign destination" (Altink, 1995, p. 55). Rural women come to the cities for work, to marry or get an education. Certainly, the ability to travel outside of Ukraine has provided some opportunity that women, in their

desperation, want to believe will help them improve their lives. In spite of strict immigration laws into Western Europe and the United States, tourist visas are easily available through traffickers.

While "communists have always denied the existence of commercial sex in a workers "paradise" according to Sylvia Ingra, a Polish lawyer involved in anti-trafficking efforts (in Altink, 1995, p. 40), prostitution was present in the Soviet Union and Eastern European women were known to be involved in prostitution in most Western European countries. "In 1994, 80% of Stichting Tegen Vrouwenhandel's (STV, a Dutch anti-trafficking foundation) clients came from Eastern Europe," whereas before the fall of the Berlin Wall, there were only 1 or 2 percent" (according to STV records, in Altink, 1995, p.45).

"There are special networks, based in Kyiv, ...which procure women for the soldiers of UNPROFOR (UN protection force) headquarters in Croatia" (Altink, 1995, p.123). One young woman stated, "A man approached me on the streets of Kyiv and asked me if I wanted to join a ballet show" (Altink, 1995, p. 126). More recently, Macedonia has become a transit country as well as having a "growing home market for Prostitutes, boosted in part by United Nations personnel and NATO-led peacekeepers on leave from nearby Kosovo: (The New York Times, 2001, p.1). Women from Ukraine have been forced into prostitution in Macedonia (The New York Times, 2001). Even more alarmingly, according to a BBC documentary, "the Russian mafia are setting up in the trade in human organs" (Body Part Business, Everyman, in Altink, 1995, p. 155). University students interviewed in Kyiv had heard of this phenomenon (Interview, Sun. Nov. 12, 2000).

"It is common practice for travel agencies in Eastern European countries to sell visas" (Altink, 1995, p. 124). Few women realize that a holiday visa does not entitle them to work abroad. Once the traffickers take their passports, the women are in precarious positions. One Women for Women Center staff member mentioned a 'cycle of trafficking' in which women may go abroad once or twice but ultimately end up in a trafficking situation (Interview, Lviv, October, 2000). One million Ukrainians go abroad every year looking for temporary employment; 40% of families in the Lviv area have a member abroad working (TFIU, 1999, p. 202). Because of a few 'success' stories of women earning money abroad, women still take the risk thinking 'it can never happen to me.'

"According to UN official Jean Fernand-Laurent, trafficking in women is more profitable than arms or drug smuggling" (Altink, 1995, p. 2), and organized crime groups are well prepared to take advantage of Ukrainian women's vulnerability. "They work with corrupt authorities, launder money, have contacts in both legitimate areas and the underworld and form a hierarchy..." "These are characteristics of organized crime groups and most are involved in trafficking of women" (Altink, 1995, p. 4). "The women are reluctant to talk because Eastern European gangs are extremely violent and use every kind of threat to intimidate them" (Altink, 1995, p. 125).

#### F. Women for Women Centers

While there are serious gaps in the protection of women in Ukraine, both domestically and in trafficking prevention, the Women for Women Centers have adopted a strategy that enables women to improve their economic position in Ukraine and to live increasingly violent free lives. This strategy does not solve the economic crisis in Ukraine, but it does assist most women who come to the Centers. In what can be seen as a simple strategy, the Centers' two-pronged approach to trafficking prevention focused on improving job skills and preventing crises in women's lives appears to be working to greatly improve the quality of life for the women of Ukraine.

Freire's (1972) model of "critical consciousness," typifies the trainings at the Women for Women Centers that enable women to identify and discover the sources of the issues present in their lives and in their communities and devise ways of taking action to remedy their challenging situations. When issues of immediate survival are more pressing for the groups, the consciousness advocated by Freire can be used to address these concerns. Indeed, the very topics of the trainings that focus on employment and human rights issues draw the women to the Centers and the trafficking prevention content is incorporated with these topics.

From the economic perspective, women come to the Centers to gain job skills. Under the Soviet system, many women never had to look for employment. They are not used to describing their professional skills to a perspective employer. The Centers start with such issues as resume writing and interviewing techniques. Women then require training in current technological capabilities, such as computer competency. The Centers provide it. The Centers have become so well known for their excellent training of women that potential employees now call the Centers when they have an open position. They do so because they will be assured of a competent prospective employee.

At the same time, women are meeting other women and Center staff and learning about commonalities in each other's lives and discussing issues in an open way that they may not have previously done. This discussion often takes place in a forum concerning their human rights which leads many women to take clear and decisive positions regarding their domestic or employment abuse situations. Many of the women maintain contact with each other, once they have concluded using the services of the Centers. They even form 'alumni' groups that assist the Centers to help other women. Many become trainers in their own right. It is known that "the facilitation of significant learning rests upon certain attitudinal qualities which exist in the personal relationship between the facilitator and the learner" (Rogers, 1971, p. 219, cited in Rappaport, 1981). The Women for Women Centers embody this concept. Beardsell (1994) believes the women's ability to incorporate the messages of trainings depends on the personal qualities of the trainers. "Empathy, positive regard, genuineness, and concreteness may have more "prevention effects" than the content of the trainings: (p.12). As is the case with the Women for Women Center staff, providing peer-matched trainers who have first-hand experience of the situation of the women attending the centers enables the trainers to be empathic and the women to be highly receptive to their messages.

The staff at the Women for Women Centers are extraordinarily dedicated. The commitment and long hours and creative outreach at all three Centers has meant that each Center provides help to women far outside of the cities in which the Centers are located. Their capacity to train the women who initially come to the Centers as participants (to be trainers) ensures a domino effect in conveying the message that women are indeed better off staying in Ukraine. The general attitude that Ukraine has little to offer changes as women see possibilities before them. For the most part, the teen and adult women that were interviewed for this study wanted to stay in Ukraine, near their families and in their country and saw the Women for Women Centers as a way to successfully do so.

#### III. METHODOLOGY

# A. Research Project

This study was conducted in the following manner:

- Meetings were held with key agencies in Kiev involved in prevention of trafficking to
  determine the magnitude of the problem of trafficking in Ukraine and the current objectives
  of anti-trafficking initiatives. Meetings were conducted with USAID, Project Harmony, The
  International Organization of Migration, La Strada, and The United Nations Development
  Program.
- Participant-observation at the Trafficking Prevention Centers in Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk and Donetsk.
  - Discussions with staff were conducted at all three Trafficking Prevention Centers. The dialogues led to detailed knowledge of the trainings offered, populations served and agencies with whom the Centers interacted. A sense of the mission of the Centers and the complexity of the problems encountered was learned.
  - Interviews and small group discussions conducted with participants led to detailed knowledge of the reasons women are attending the Centers, feedback regarding the impact of the Centers' trainings on the women, and discussions about the factors in the women's lives in the current environment in Ukraine that lead to risk of trafficking.
  - Meetings and round table discussions were held with community groups who are working with the Centers in the area of trafficking prevention. They provided feedback on the impact of the Women for Women Centers in their communities. They also described their roles in anti-trafficking efforts in Ukraine.

The meetings and participant-observation led to the following areas being selected for study:

- Evaluate the programs offered by the three original TPC's to determine ability to effect changes in knowledge, attitudes and beliefs of participants regarding their understanding of the dangers of trafficking.
- Based on participants' knowledge, attitudes and beliefs, assess the level of their vulnerability toward trafficking.
- From women attending the TPC's, develop a "profile" of women who are most at-risk of trafficking in Ukraine.
- Evaluate advertising campaigns regarding anti-trafficking information.

The meetings and participant-observation also led to the following populations groups who attend the TPC's being assessed in the study:

- Teen women from eleven to eighteen in Internats, secondary schools and technical schools.
- Adult women from fifteen to fifty-one.

All of the participants were attending their first training. It was decided that surveying women who come to their first training would give a clear perspective of women's knowledge, attitude and belief changes if they had not been exposed to other trainings at the Women for Women Centers. While most students and teens attend on average four to five trainings, it was felt that the perspective of attendees after their first training would give the clearest perspective of the trainings and how they assist women.

A further objective of the study is the development of a research instrument that can be used to evaluate the training programs at all seven Centers. The research instrument, especially developed for this study, is a questionnaire that was administered both before and after the training. The initial questionnaire developed for adult women, was adapted to teen women and further adapted for teen women residing in Internats.

The Pilot Study was conducted at all three TPC's that served to refine the questionnaire. This Pilot Study was conducted on October 20 and October 23, 2000.

The study at all three TPC's was conducted from November 13 to 17, 2000. Women who were coming to the three Women for Women Centers for the first time, during the time period from November 13-17, were given the questionnaires. Rather than representing a sample of all women in Ukraine from the ages of 12 to 30, the sample is comprised of women who are seeking help or where school personnel invited the trainers into a classroom setting to give trainings. Therefore, the findings are not generalizable to women in the general population in Ukraine.

Findings from the study are in narrative, descriptive and empirical form. Correlations are stated in a "yes" or "no" format in all the tables throughout the study. The profiles of women are a compilation of many women's stories from a particular group. All identifying information is disguised.

# **B.** Ukraine Institute for Social Research

Concurrent with the study at the three Centers, a tender for a Ukrainian research group was developed in order to conduct a survey of the at-risk group from the general population. Three Ukrainian research groups were interviewed and the Ukraine Institute for Social Research was selected to conduct the survey of the at-risk group from the population at large. The study will be conducted among young women, ages twelve to thirty, from a random sample of the population at large in seven regions of Ukraine, and will include:

- Twenty-five percent of the sample will be women from the rural regions, who are thought to be more at risk of trafficking than are urban women.
- Fifty percent of the sample will be teen women; as much as possible, students from Internats and homeless shelters will be compared with students in secondary schools.

In coordination with the author, the instrument for the Ukrainian research group was developed; the Pilot Study was conducted from November 20-24, 2000. The actual study of the at-risk group from the general population will be completed by March, 2001. A future document will contain findings from both research efforts.

#### IV. RESEARCH FINDINGS

# A. Findings Regarding Teens in Internats

#### 1. Profile of Teens in Internats

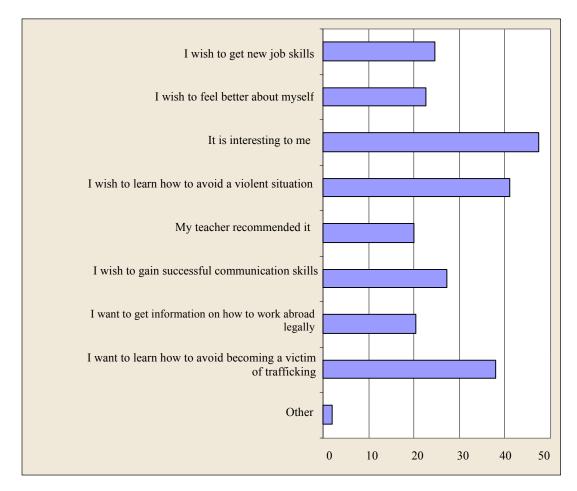
Teens in Internats by definition have little support and therefore may be vulnerable to traffickers. However, there are differences among the teen women that would lead one teen more readily into the hands of traffickers than another. For example, in the same Internat there is one thirteen year old, T., who has a friend who has been involved in trafficking. T. does not want to go abroad. When asked more specifically, she thinks she would go abroad to finish her education. She even thinks there may be honest work for her abroad, that she could find ways to be safe as a sex worker, since she thinks it's possible to get tricked into sex work. She, however, has a supportive family both financially and emotionally, and she has not experienced violence.

The other thirteen year old, N., is clearly thinking of going abroad, a view that did not change after the training. Her reason for considering going abroad is to escape a violent situation. She wishes to go abroad to marry or to work as a housekeeper. She knows a lot of friends who have been in trafficking situations. She firmly believes there is honest work for her abroad, that she wouldn't get tricked into sex work, and that if she did, she would still be safe. She doesn't think her health will be damaged, nor her chances for marrying or that her family will reject her if she becomes involved in sex-work. Currently, she has no financial or emotional support from her family and in fact feels that no one at all supports her financially or emotionally. She has experienced physical abuse with two different men and experiences emotional abuse from her employer. She has no understanding of the causes of the violence. She knew one of the dangers of trafficking before the training and three after the training. She clearly is very vulnerable to being deceived into trafficking. This is a view that is more complex than mere economic hardship.

Eighty-five teens living Internats were part of this study. They attended trainings conducted in Lviv (1), in Dnipropetrovsk (2), and in Donetsk (2). The average age of the Internat teen was fourteen. They ranged in age from eleven to seventeen.

Most of the Internat teens had heard of the Women for Women Centers through their teachers. This is in keeping with the outreach done by the Centers; few, if any of the Internat teens would come to the Center on their own; they almost always attend trainings as arranged by a teacher or other school personnel. In fact, most trainings for teens in Internats are conducted "on site" at the Internats.

Teens main reasons for attending the trainings were 1) that it was interesting, 2) to learn how to avoid a violent situation, and 3) to learn how to avoid becoming a victim of trafficking (see Table 2).



**Table 2. Teens in Internats: Reasons for Attending Trainings** 

Since one of the major perceived reasons for young women going abroad is financial hardship, we asked teens in Internats how they are supported. As seen in Table 3, most (55) were supported by the Internat. Interestingly, a number (38) also worked, and many (34) were supported by parents as well. Some of the students lived in Internats because of special health needs. Eighty-four percent of the students with special health needs are supported by their families, and 65% of those without special health needs are supported by their parents. However, among the teens that receive financial support from their parents, 5% also said they hardly have money to support themselves and 13% said they were also supported by the Internat and 13% by working.

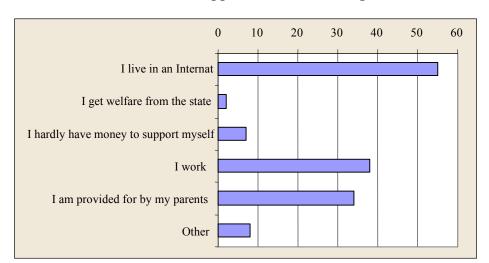


Table 3. Teens in Internats: Means of Support for Teens Living in Internats

Emotional support was also assessed and, as seen in Table 4, the strongest source of emotional support for teens in Internats was their 1) friends (37), followed by 2) the Internat staff (34), and then 3) their mothers (28).

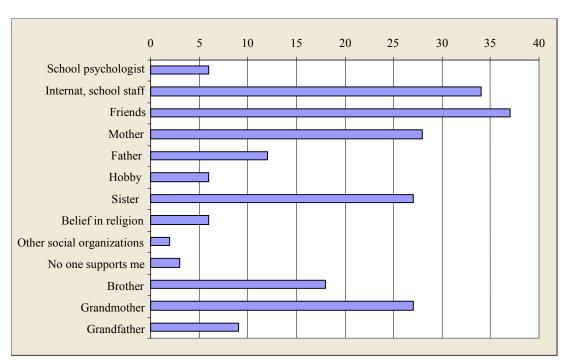
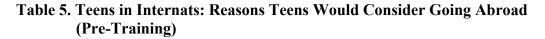
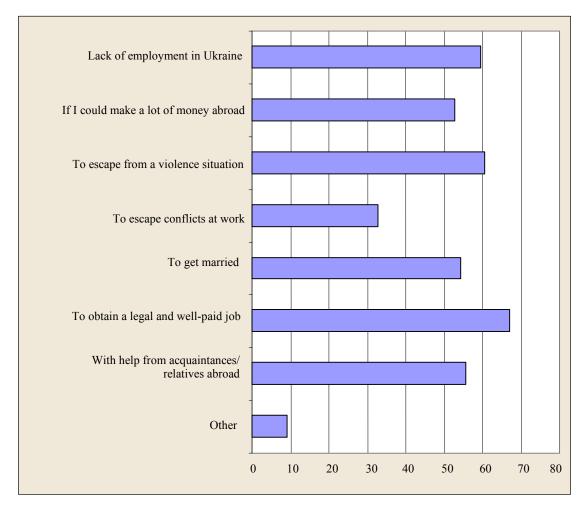


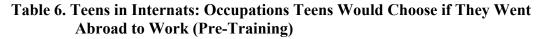
Table 4. Teens in Internats: Sources of Emotional Support

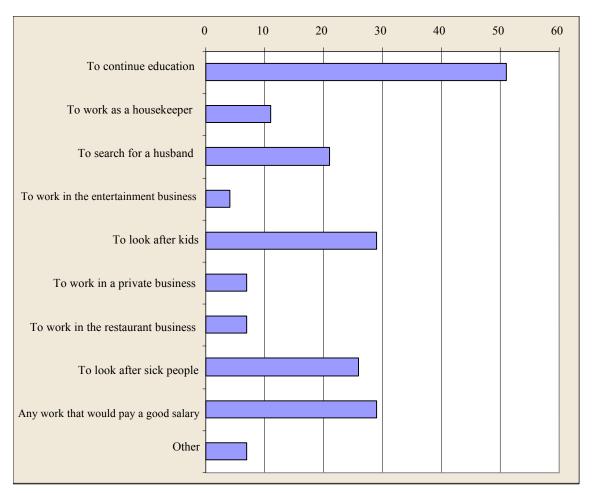
Before the training, 36% of teens in Internats had seriously considered going abroad to work. As seen in Table 5, the main reasons were 1) to obtain a legal and well paying job, 2) to escape a violent situation, and 3) because of lack of employment in Ukraine.





As seen in Table 6, teens would consider going abroad 1) to continue their education (51), 2) to look after kids (29), or 3) any work that would pay a good salary (29).





Sixty-four percent of teens in Internats had heard of girls working as sex-workers in another country. To the credit of anti-trafficking information campaigns, students in Internats primarily heard of sex-workers going abroad 1) from the newspaper (36), 2) the television (25), and 3) teachers (17) (see Table 7). The Women for Women Centers have made a strong effort to bring anti-trafficking messages to teachers working in Internats and the success of that effort is also seen here.

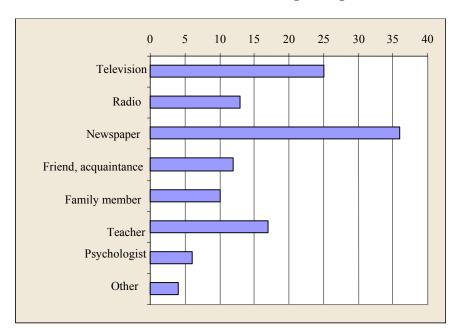


Table 7. Teens in Internats: Sources of Information Regarding Sex-Workers Abroad

As seen in Table 8, teens in Internats also had some knowledge of the dangers of trafficking. Between 29% and 58% of students knew one or more of the anti-trafficking messages before the training.





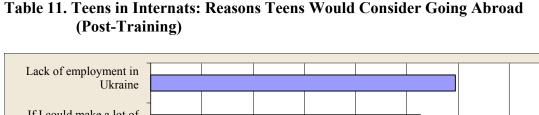
However, teens still felt invulnerable about going abroad. As seen in Table 9, 88% thought there could or was honest work for them abroad, 34% even believed they could <u>not</u> be tricked into being a sex-worker, and 76% thought they could or would find ways to be safe as a sex-worker. Following the training, 75% (13% less than Pre-Training) still felt there was or maybe honest work for them abroad, 20% (14% less) did not believe they would be tricked into the sex-business, and 77% (1% more) thought they would be safe even if they ended up in the sex-business. Although there was some change of attitudes, obviously more information needs to be processed by teens in Internats regarding the dangers of trafficking.

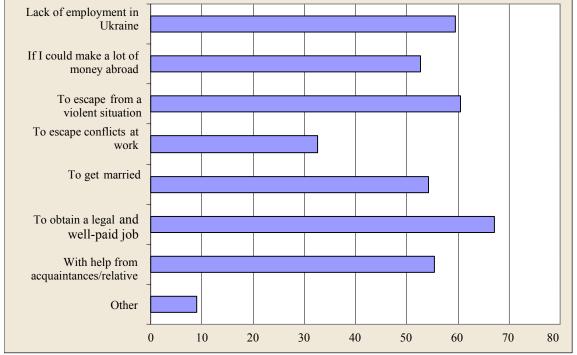
Table 9. Teens in Internats: Opinions Regarding Safety of Going Abroad (Pre and Post Test)								
	]	YES	1	VO	MAYBE			
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post		
I think there is honest work for me abroad	22	26	10	19	50	40		
I might get tricked into being a sex-worker	30	38	27	17	22	28		
I can find ways to be safe as a sex-worker	34	33	19	19	26	32		

More encouraging, teens in Internats were aware of the dangers to their health and relationships if they were to enter the sex-business. As seen in Table 10, fully 94% thought they might damage their health as a sex-worker, 89% thought they might not marry if they worked in the sex-business, and 84% thought their families might reject them if they worked in the sex-business. These attitudes remained similar following the training.

Table 10. Teens in Internats: Opinions Regarding Risks Associated with Sex-Work										
	(Pre and Post Test)									
	YES NO MAYBE									
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post				
Damage health	74	72	5	4	3	7				
May not marry	56	55	9	4	15	25				
Family rejection	55	50	13	13	13	20				

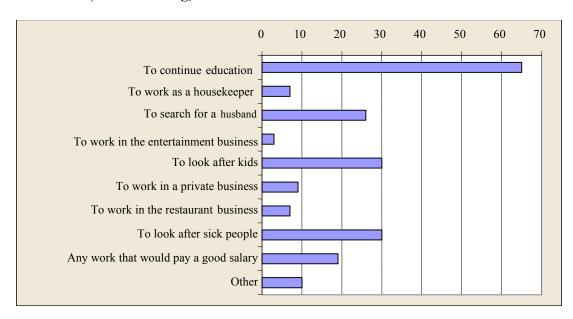
However, 39% of students were <u>still</u> thinking of going to another country to work (36% in Pre-Training), 4% <u>more</u> than before the pre-test, and for essentially the same reasons (compare Table 5 with Table 11) 1) to obtain a legal and well paid job, 2) to escape from a violent situation, and 3) because of lack of employment in Ukraine. Here is where increased trainings and a long term mentoring program would provide role models for the young women who have minimal contact with successful women in Ukraine. These strategies would enable teens in Internats to "explore new, open-ended directions" and alternatives to going abroad (Oakley & Marsden, 1984, p. 13, cited in Carstens & Julia, 1999).





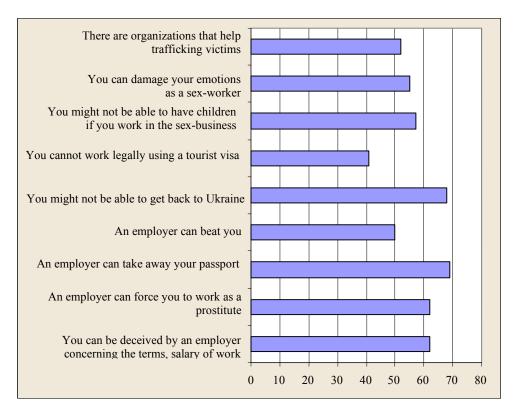
Following the training, teens chose slightly different occupations for work abroad (compare Table 6 with Table 12).

Table 12. Teens in Internats: Occupations Teens Would Choose if They Went Abroad (Post-Training)



Teens did show an increased knowledge of the dangers of going abroad (compare Table 8 with Table 13). Between 48% and 81% of teens in Internats had heard one or more of the anti-trafficking messages as a result of the training.





The question remains as to why the trainings would not be more of a deterrent to Internat teens' desire to go abroad and more of a deterrent to Internat teens regarding their feelings that there is honest work for them abroad and especially that they still had a feeling of safety even if they ended up in sex-work. It may be that when students attach most of their hope to escaping abroad, information alone is not sufficient as a deterrent. It is well known in the field of health education that "information models neglect important parts of the equation, like what the behavior means to the person and how the behavior is socially reinforced" (Woodworth, 1995, p. 8). Greenberg (1976) states that increasing self-esteem, reducing powerlessness and social isolation are as important as the message. These concepts are an important part of the trainings. Staff also incorporate women or even teens into the trainings that have been successful in Ukraine, perhaps even a graduate of an Internat who is attending a women for Women Center.

However, the task of assisting students in Internats is daunting. With over 4,000 teens in Internats, it is demanding for Women for Women Center staff to schedule trainings. Most trainings for students in Internats are held at the state facility. Negotiating the agreements to do the trainings is dependent on the relationship between Women for Women Center staff and administrators of the Internats, often a time consuming endeavor.

Internat students are the least exposed to modern educational training that would help them secure a position in their community. Their ties within the community may be weak and their ability to job search and make contacts may be quite limited. Assigning ongoing mentors could facilitate some of these situations, even if the Internats were slow to change. Certainly, all of the students welcome the information the trainings present and are 99% eager for further trainings, an indication of their interest in learning, despite numerous stereotypic notions of Internat student's inability or lack of interest in learning. It should also be clear that most students attend three to four trainings and so there would no doubt be further attitude and belief changes.

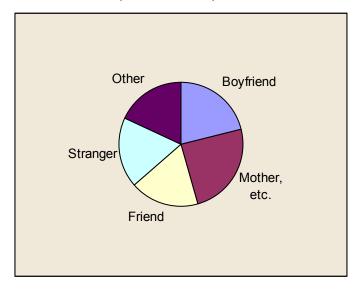
The idea that students in Internats do not know about sex-work abroad is false. Eleven percent of the teens surveyed in Internats personally had a friend or acquaintance that was involved in a trafficking situation. Their lack of information and role models for other options may underlay their continuing faith that going abroad would help them accomplish their goals, despite the known risks.

# 2. Teens in Internats: Violence and the Desire to Go Abroad

The other question this study attempts to address is whether or not violence propels women into going abroad. Twenty-four percent of teens in Internats in this study have experienced violence Seven percent are currently in a situation of violence. Table 14 indicates the nature of the violence.

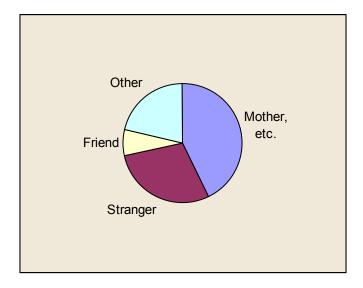
Table 14. Teens in Internats: Levels of Violence

**Table 14.1 Physical Violence 33% (28 incidences)** 



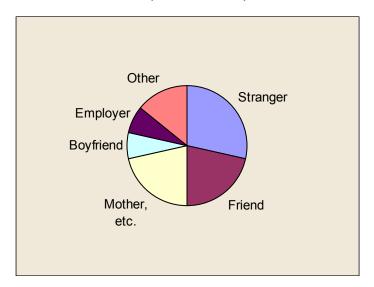
Boyfriend 7%; Mother etc. 8%; Friend 6%; Stranger 6%; Employer 0%; Other 6%

**Table 14.2 Sexual Violence 14% (12 incidences)** 



Boyfriend 0%; Mother etc. 6%; Stranger 4%; Friend 1%; Employer 0%; Other 3%;

**Table 14.3 Emotional Violence 16% (14 incidences)** 



Mother etc. 3%; Boyfriend 1%; Employer 1%; Other 2%; Stranger 4%; Friend 3%;

Before the training, Internat teens who had experienced physical, sexual or emotional violence were strongly considering going abroad to work in the restaurant business or in the entertainment business, notably two of the most vulnerable situations for young women abroad. This was especially true if the violence occurred at the hands of a stranger. This remained true, even after the trainings, for teens who had been physically abused by either their boyfriend, close family member, friend or a stranger, and if they had experienced sexual abuse from a close family member (see Table 15 – A "yes" means there was a statistically significant correlation between consideration of going abroad and a specific type and source of violence).

Tab	Table 15. Teens in Internats: Correlations between Experienced Violence and										
	C	onsideratio	n of Going	Abroad (Post-T	Training)						
Reasons to go abroad	Experienced violence	Boyfriend	Close family Member	Friend, acquaintance	Stranger	Currently in violent situation	Other*				
To continue education	No		No, sexual, emotional	No, sexual			No, physical, sexual, emotional				
To work in the entertainment business	Yes	Yes, physical	Yes, physical, sexual	Yes, physical	Yes, physical	No					
To look after kids	Yes										
To work in the restaurant business			Yes, sexual	Yes, physical, sexual			Yes, physical, sexual				
To work as a housekeeper				Yes, sexual			Yes, physical sexual				
To work in a private business				Yes, physical		No					
To look after sick people			Yes, physical	Yes, sexual		No	Yes, physical, sexual				
Any work that would pay a good salary	No			Yes, physical							
**Other						Yes					

<sup>\*</sup> Other: Friends and Relatives not mentioned in other categories

This relationship with violence and going abroad is clear and dramatic in that the desire to go abroad among teens in Internats who have experienced violence is strong.

Clearly the experience of violence in their lives is a factor in their being at risk of trafficking.

The question of age was asked next with regard to Internat teens' desire to go abroad. The older the teen, the more they would consider going abroad for any work that would pay a good salary. The other factor that was equally considered is current financial support (see Table 16 - a "yes" means there was a positive correlation). Teens who are financially supported by Internats are willing to risk going abroad for a number of reasons. The only teens deterred from considering going abroad are those who hardly have money to support themselves.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Other: Stay with relatives, they will support me; do nothing; to work, live; any work except sex business

Table 16. Teens in Internats: Correlations Between Teens Considering Going Abroad, and Age and Financial Means of Support (Post-Training)

Reason to go abroad	Age (Young to old)	Live in Internat	Welfare from state	Not enough money to support myself	I work	My parents support me	Other*
To continue		Yes	No				No
education							
To work as a		No	Yes		Yes		Yes
housekeeper							
To look after kids		Yes		No	Yes		
To work in a private business			Yes				
Any work that	Yes						
would pay a good							
salary							
Other**		Yes	Yes				

<sup>\*</sup> Other: Supported by other relatives

Table 17 addresses the emotional support received by Internat teens and the connection between emotional support and their desire to go abroad. Before the trainings the desire to go abroad was strongest with teens that relied on the Internat staff and their religious beliefs. Those who least desired to go abroad relied on their mothers for emotional support. After the training, the desire to go abroad remained strong for a number of teens with varied sources of emotional support. Those supported by their religion, or grandmothers were <u>not</u> apt to consider going abroad.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Other: Stay with relative who would support me; to learn more about the character of a person; do nothing; any work but sex business (2); to work, live.

Table 17. Teens in Internats: Correlations Between Teens Considering Going Abroad and Sources of Emotional Support (Post-Training)													
Reason to go abroad	School Psychologist	Internat	Friends	Mother	Father	Hobby	Sister	Religion	No one	Brother	Grand- mother	Other social organizations	Grand- father
To search for a husband	NO				YES		YES	NO					
Work as house- keeper									YES			YES	
To continue education		YES								YES			
Look after kids													
To work in the entertain-ment business						YES							
Work in private business	YES												
To work in the restaurant business			YES										
Any work that would pay a good salary									YES		NO		

<sup>\*</sup>Other includes: my girlfriend invited me; if there were no traffickers there; wouldn't like to go (2); to feel the taste of life;

# 3. Teens in Internats: Summary of Findings for Teens in Internats

With few exceptions, teens living in Internats maintain the desire to go abroad in spite of numerous types of emotional and financial support, although it should be kept in mind that both are minimal. Certainly it is known that teens living in Internats receive somewhat meager support, both financially and emotionally. Either they themselves have special needs or their families have experienced grave difficulties. Not to impugn families or Internats who do their best to care for the teens, but when a country, any country, faces economic hardship, children in special circumstances often suffer. In speaking with one woman who had grown up in an Internat, she remarked, not unkindly, "it was a roof over my head." Teens in Internats know of the difficulty they face when they prepare to leave the facilities. With little or no support, it may seem like the perfect solution to go abroad. Countering this belief is a challenge the staff at the Women for Women Centers are well aware of.

Establishing a mentoring program for teens in Internats would provide additional support, especially as teens prepare to leave the Internats. There is anecdotal evidence that informal mentoring takes place with students in Internats and relatives from their extended families and even neighbors. Most mentoring programs are highly cost effective and produce numerous positive results for the teen (U. S. Department of Education, April, 2000).

Those teens in Internats who have experienced violence (physical or sexual) are more apt to go abroad than teens that lack emotional and financial support. When all three are present, lack of emotional and physical support, and presence of violence, they become the most at-risk group among teens in Internats. More sustained anti-violence training and groups of a more therapeutic nature may help teens that have experienced violence to separate the violent episodes from themselves.

# **B.** Findings Regarding Teens in Secondary Schools

# 1. Profile of Teens in Secondary Schools

L. is a 16 year old secondary school student. She knows a lot about the dangers of trafficking but still wants to attend trainings at the Women for Women Center because "all my surroundings and my life is connected with such problems" as the Center tries to address. L. knows about not having enough money to live and about violence and is hopeful the Center can help her with both. First of all, she and her mother had to move out of their apartment and live with her sister and her husband, as both were being physically abused by her father. It is hard to live at her sister's home because it is crowded and her sister's husband doesn't want her or her mother there. Last summer, her aunt took her to Poland where she worked (illegally) cleaning houses and watching kids. She made some money, most of which she gave to her mother and sister.

Since she has been back, things are worse than before. Her boss at work is mean and she hardly makes any money. On the way home from work last month (11 p.m.), she was attacked by some stranger. She is only now going back to school after healing from her physical injuries. Now her brother tries to meet her after work to walk her to her sister's.

L. can't wait until summer so she can go back to Poland and work with her aunt. In the meantime, maybe the Women for Women Center can help her. She is an optimist and hopes that "soon it will be here [Ukraine] like it is abroad." Then she won't have to leave her country.

There were seventy-four teens from secondary schools questioned in this study. In Lviv, there was one group from a secondary school and in Dnipropetrovsk, there were four groups from secondary schools. The average age for teens in secondary schools was sixteen. They range in age from fifteen to eighteen. Most of the teens (62) lived with both parents. Seven lived with their mother only and two with grandparents.

The teens had heard of the Women for Women Centers mainly through their teachers (see Table 18). Trainings for teens were conducted either in the schools or at the Centers.

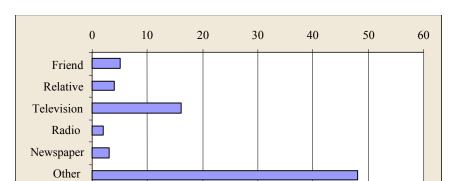
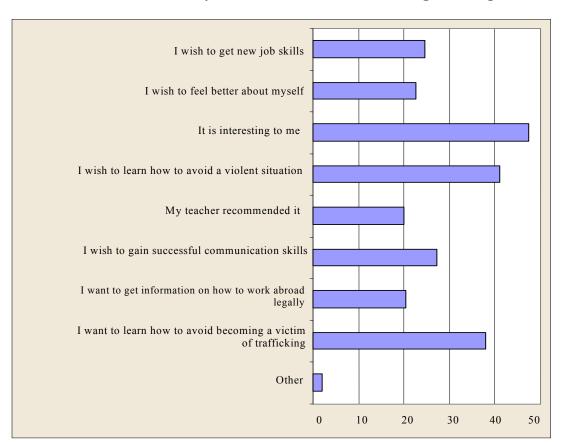


Table 18: Teens in Secondary Schools: Knowledge of Women for Women Centers

Their reasons for attending the trainings were 1) to learn new job skills, 2) because it was interesting, and 3) because they wished to feel better about themselves (see Table 19).



**Table 19. Teens in Secondary Schools: Reasons for Attending Trainings** 

Secondary school students were asked how they were supported financially. As seen in Table 20, most teens were supported by their parents (71). Four hardly had money to support themselves. One student works to support herself.

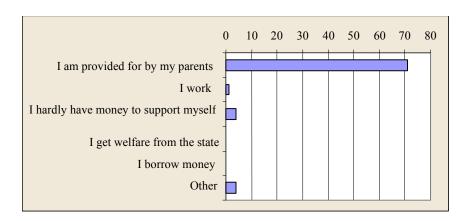


Table 20. Teens in Secondary Schools: Means of Financial Support

Students get emotional support mainly from 1) their mothers, 2) friends, and 3) their fathers (see Table 21). Three students felt no one supported them emotionally.

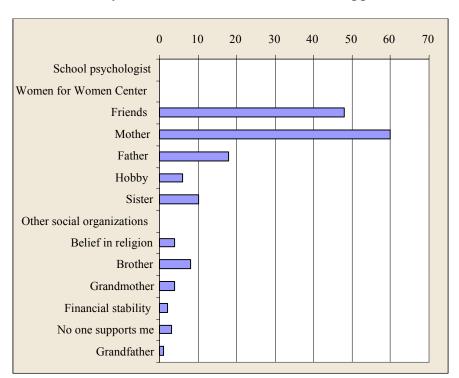
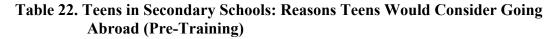
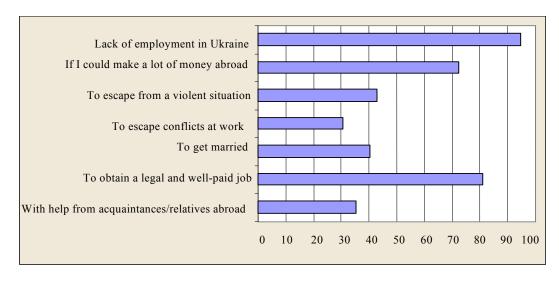


Table 21. Teens in Secondary Schools: Sources of Emotional Support

Before the training, 34% of teens wished to go abroad to another country to work. The main reasons teens desired to go abroad were 1) lack of employment, 2) to obtain a legal, well-paid job, and 3) if they could make a lot of money abroad (see Table 22, more than one response is possible).





As see in Table 23, teens mainly go abroad 1) to continue their education (61), 2) to work in a private business (25), and 3) any work that would pay a good salary (20, more than one response is possible).

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 To continue education To work as a housekeeper To search for a husband To work in the entertainment business To look after kids To work in a private business To work in the restaurant business To look after sick people

Table 23. Teens in Secondary Schools: Occupations Teens Would Consider if They Went Abroad (Pre-Training)

Eighty-six percent of teens in secondary schools had heard of girls working as sex-workers in another country, mainly from 1) TV, 2) newspapers, and 3) family members (see Table 24).

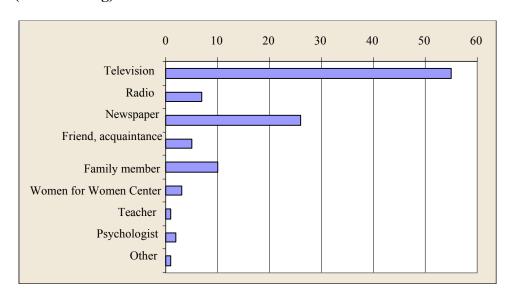
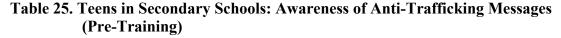
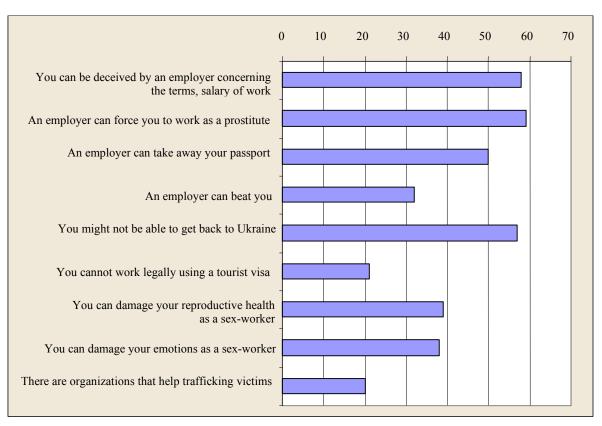


Table 24. Teens in Secondary Schools: Sources of Information About Sex-Workers (Pre-Training)

Any work that would pay a good salary

As seen in Table 25, teens in secondary schools had a strong knowledge base of the dangers of trafficking. Before the training, 27% to 80% knew one or more of the anti-trafficking messages.





As with teens in Internats, there was, despite this knowledge, an equally strong feeling of invincibility about going abroad (see Table 26). Eighty-nine percent thought there could be or was honest work for them abroad. Twenty-six percent thought they could avoid being tricked into sex-work (34% with Internat teens), and 73% thought they could find ways to be safe as a sex-worker (76% with teens in Internats). After the training, there was little change in attitudes.

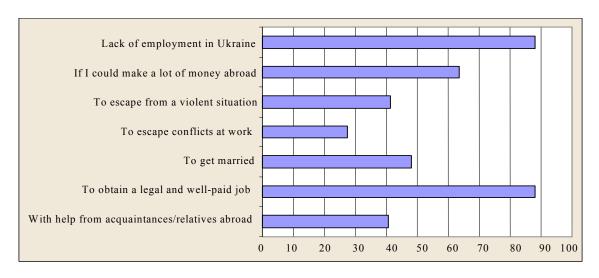
Table 26. Teens in Secondary Schools: Opinions Regarding Safety of Going Abroad (Pre and Post-Test)											
YES NO MAYBE											
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post					
I think there is honest work for me abroad	12	19	8	4	53	49					
I might get tricked into being a sex-worker	27	29	19	15	24	26					
I can find ways to be safe as a sex-worker	27	20	14	16	27	33					

Teens did believe (see Table 27) they would damage their health as sex-workers (97%) (94% with teens in Internats), 89% feared they would not marry if they engaged in sex-work (same % as teens in Internats), and 70% feared their family might reject them if they became a sex-worker (76% with teen in Internats).

Table 27. Teens in Secondary Schools: Opinions Regarding Risks Associated with											
Sex-Work (Pre and Post-Test)											
YES NO MAYBE											
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post					
Damage Health	69	66	1	0	1	6					
May not Marry	49	39	5	4	17	27					
Family Rejection	33	28	17	17	19	24					

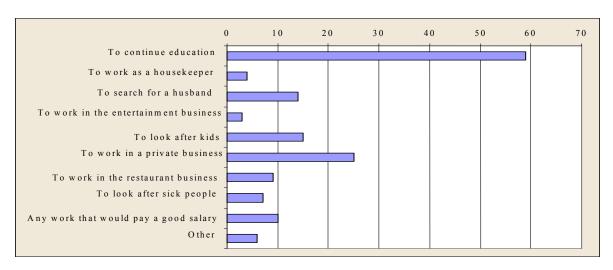
Following the training, 45% of secondary school teens still considered going abroad for the same reasons they chose before the training (compare Table 22 with Table 27)

Table 28. Teens in Secondary Schools: Reasons Teens Would Consider Going Abroad (Post-Training)



Teens would seek similar occupations to their choices before the training (compare Table 23 with Table 29).

Table 29. Teens in Secondary Schools: Occupations Teens Would Consider if They Went Abroad (Post-Test)



### 2. Teens in Secondary Schools: Violence and the Desire to Go Abroad

In addressing the question of whether or not violence propels women into going abroad, we see 8% percent of teens who go to secondary schools have experienced violence. None are currently in a situation of violence.

Before the training, teens in secondary schools considered going abroad if they had experienced violence, usually to work as a housekeeper or in a private business. Teens who had experienced physical violence from a boyfriend considered going abroad to work as a housekeeper or to look after kids. If the physical violence was from a stranger, they considered going abroad to work in the entertainment business or in a private business. If they had experienced emotional harm from a close family member, they considered going abroad to work as a housekeeper or to look after sick people. If the emotional violence was from a friend, acquaintance or stranger, they considered going abroad to work in the entertainment business.

After the training, as seen in Table 30, teens that had experienced violence still considered going abroad. This was especially true among teens that were physically abused by a close family member, a friend, or by a stranger. Teens currently experiencing violence did not consider going abroad for any work, even a job that would pay a good salary.

Table	e 30. Seconda	ary School T	eens: Correl	ations Betw	een Experi	ienced
<b>'</b>	Violence and	Considerati	on of Going	Abroad (Po	st-Training	g)
Reason for going abroad	Experienced Violence	Boyfriend	Close Family Member	Friend	Stranger	Currently in Violent Situation
To continue education		No, physical	No, emotional			
To work as a housekeeper			Yes, physical emotional			
To search for a husband				Yes, emotional	Yes, emotional	
Work in the entertainment business				No, emotional	No, physical, emotional	
To look after kids			Yes, emotional			
Any work that would pay a good salary			Yes, physical	Yes, physical		No
Other*	Yes		Yes, physical		Yes, physical	
To work in the restaurant business				Yes, emotional	Yes, physical, emotional	
To look after sick people			Yes, emotional			

<sup>\*</sup> Includes: to visit; to work in their profession; after they graduate; to acquire friends

Examination or the age of secondary school teens, regional differences and their means of financial support as factors in considering going abroad is seen in Table 31.

The older the teen the less apt she is to consider going abroad. The larger the place of residence, the more apt the teen is to consider going abroad. Teens who work, have little money, and "other" (support from grandparents) are also apt to actually consider going abroad.

Table 31. Secondary School Teens: Correlations Between Going Abroad and Age, Region and Financial Means of Support (Post-Training)										
Reason for going abroad	Size of Town	Age (young to old)	I am Provided for by my Parents	I Work	I Hardly have Money to Support Myself	Other*				
To Search for a Husband		No								
To Work in the					Yes	Yes				
<b>Entertainment Business</b>										
To look after sick people	Yes					Yes				
Any Work that would Pay a				Yes						
Good Salary										
Other**	Yes			Yes						

<sup>\*</sup>Grandparents

Table 32 addresses the kinds of emotional support teens in secondary schools receive and the correlation between this and their desire to go abroad. The presence of emotional support in the life of a secondary school teen is not seen as a deterrent to the desire to go abroad for work.

Tabl	Table 32. Teens in Secondary Schools: Correlations Between Desire to Go Abroad											
	and Sources of Emotions Support (Post-Training)											
	Friends	Mother	Father	Sister	Brother	Belief in Religion	Grand- mother	Grand- father	Financial Stability	No One		
Marriage, search for a husband	Yes											
Education		Yes	Yes			No				Yes		
Housekeeper						Yes	Yes					
Entertainme nt business								Yes				
To look after kids										Yes		
Private business			Yes									
Restaurant business		No										
To look after sick people						Yes						
Any work that would							Yes					
pay a good salary												
Other*									Yes			

<sup>\*</sup> Other: Visit, work in chosen occupation, and to acquire friends.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Visit, work in chosen occupation, and to acquire friends

## 3. Teens in Secondary Schools: Summary of Findings

Neither financial nor emotional support act as a deterrent to teens in their consideration of whether or not to go abroad for work. Situations of violence are a push factor, especially physical or emotional violence by a close family member, a friend or a stranger.

Teens in secondary schools would benefit from further trainings. In fact, according to Women for Women Center staff, teens often sign up for as many trainings as possible, usually averaging 4-5. Data from this study indicates teens in secondary schools <u>all</u> want to attend further trainings. In conversation with teens that had participated in the Pilot Study for this research project, teens indicated that the trainings were extremely educational both in terms of employment strategies and information about what constitutes violence and ways to prevent it in their lives. Further study may well indicate that, shown other options, teens elect to create a future in Ukraine. Anecdotal evidence abounds to this effect. One young teen told me, "The Center staff have saved my life." There are numerous stories of employment successes as well.

### C. Findings Regarding Teens in Technical Schools

#### 1. Profile of Teens in Technical Schools

When O. saw the advertisement in the newspaper about a free training on how to get a job, she decided to go. She is 18 years old and finishing her studies at the technical college and has no idea where she might find work. Right now she lives with her parents but she really wants to move out because her father has been physically abusive to her and her mother for a long time (5 years).

The training was wonderful for O. She learned a lot about what she needs to do to get a job. She also found out that the women at the Center might be able to help her and her mother with her father. She plans to use the Center's confidential hotline. She wishes she could attend another training but she lives in a small village and so far there has only been a single training in the area.

She talked to two women she went through the training with; she had known them before the training but had not talked about the things they discussed in the training. Now they plan to meet at school and try to help each other. None of them want to leave the country to find work. All of them know how dangerous the situation is when you go to another country without the right papers. There have been girls they knew who did so and they haven't been heard from since. They hope they do not get so desperate but if they change their minds and decide to go, they will call the hotline at the Center and tell them where they are going.

There are a total of seventy-six students from technical schools in the study. There was one training in Lviv for technical school students and three groups of technical school students from Dnipropetrovsk attended trainings. The average age of the teens was 17 years old. They range in age from sixteen to twenty-two. As with the secondary school students, most of the teens are supported by their parents (56) (see Table 33). Nine are supported by "other," meaning seven are supported by mothers and one each by grandparents, and boyfriend.

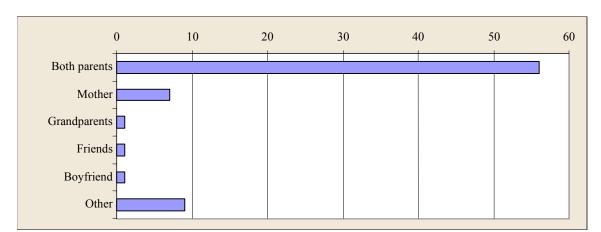


Table 33. Teens in Technical Schools: Place of Residence

Most of the teens had heard of the Women for Women Centers through their teachers ("other") (see Table 34).

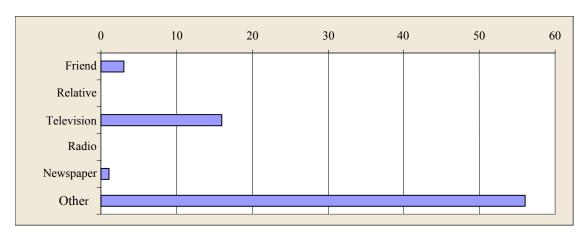
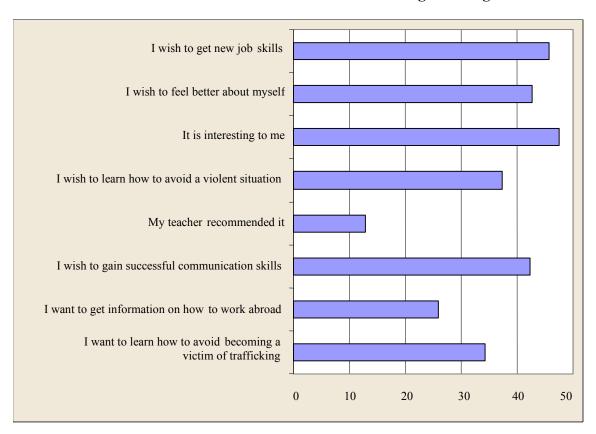


Table 34: Teens in Technical Schools: Knowledge of Women for Women Centers

Their main reasons for attending the trainings were 1) it was interesting, 2) a wish to get new job skills, and 3) a wish to feel better about themselves (see Table 35).



**Table 35. Teens in Technical Schools: Reasons for Attending Trainings** 

The teens attending technical school were mainly financially supported by 1) their parents, 2) other, meaning scholarship, boyfriend, brother, and 3) welfare from the state (see Table 36).

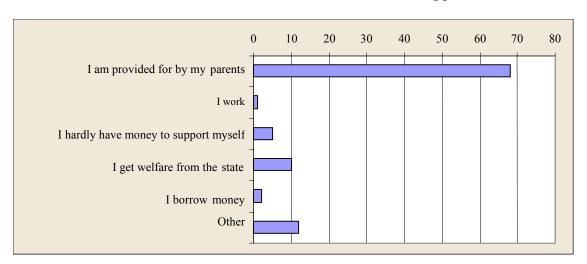


Table 36. Teens in Technical Schools: Sources of Financial Support

Their main sources of emotional support were 1) friends, 2) their mothers, and 3) their sisters (see Table 37).

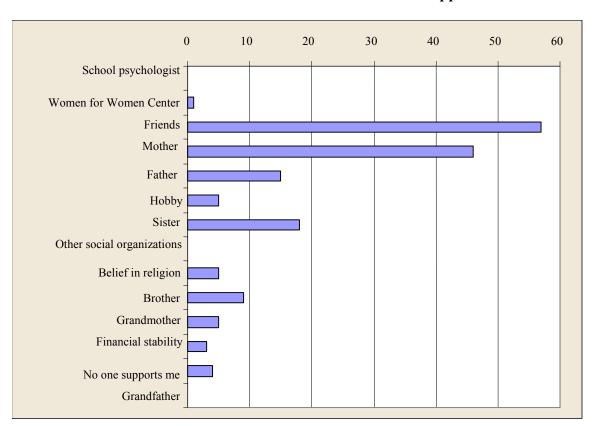
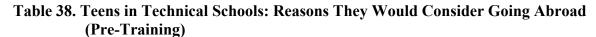
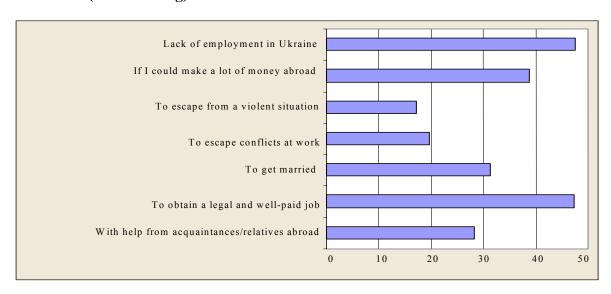


Table 37. Teens in Technical Schools: Sources of Emotional Support

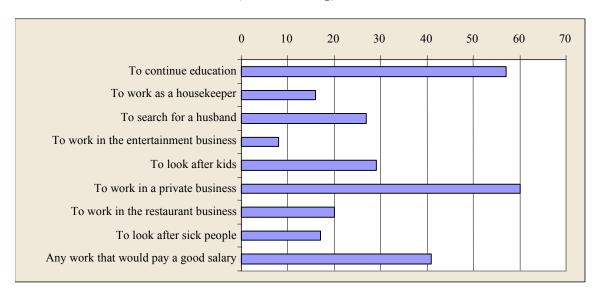
Before the training, 34% of teens in technical schools had considered going abroad to work (compared with 36% of teens in Internats and 34% of teens in secondary schools). As seen in Table 38, the main reasons were 1) lack of employment in Ukraine, 2) to obtain a legal, well-paid job, and 3) to make a lot of money.





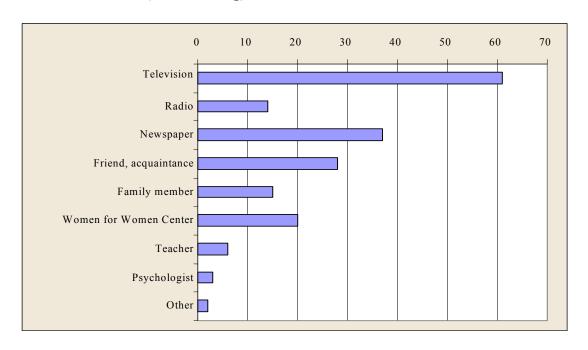
The main occupations they would pursue were 1) to work in a private business, 2) to obtain further education, and 3) any work that would pay a good salary (see Table 39).

Table 39. Teens in Technical Schools: Occupations They Would Consider if They Decided to Go Abroad (Pre-Training)



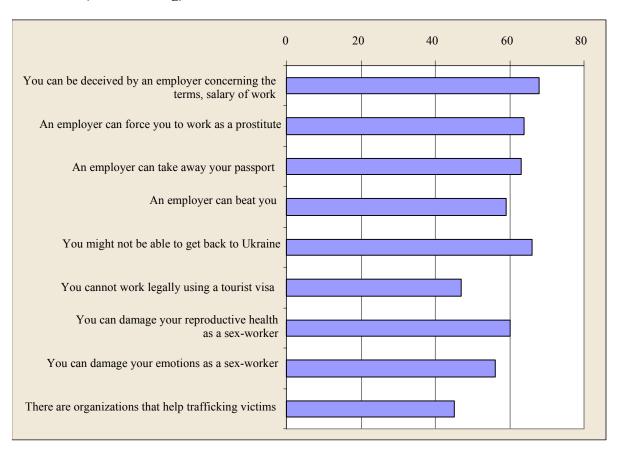
Ninety-one percent of teens in technical schools had heard of girls working as sex-workers in another country (compared with 64% in Internats, and 86% in secondary schools) through 1) television, 2) newspapers and 3) friends (see Table 40).

Table 40. Teens in Technical Schools: Sources of Information About Sex-Workers Abroad (Pre-Training)



As seen in Table 41, knowledge of the dangers of trafficking was excellent.

Table 41. Teens in Technical Schools: Knowledge of Risks Associated with Work Abroad (Pre-Training)



However, as seen in Table 42, 86% thought there could be honest work for them abroad, and 73 % thought they could find ways to be safe even as a sex-worker. Encouragingly, 84% were aware they could be tricked into sex-work.

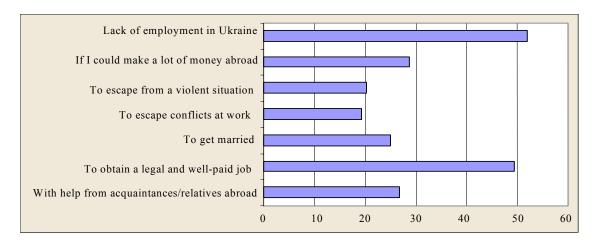
Table 42. Teens in Technical Schools: Opinions Regarding Safety of Going Abroad										
(Pre and Post-Test)										
	YES NO MAYBE									
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post				
I think there is honest work for me abroad	7	18	10	13	59	45				
I might get tricked into being a sex-worker	24	34	12	12	40	30				
I can find ways to be safe as a sex-worker	27	25	20	20	27	29				

Even more encouragingly (see Table 43), teens were aware of the dangers of trafficking to their health (99%), that they may not marry (89%), and that their family might reject them if they engaged in sex-work (87%). After the trainings, teens maintained these concerns regarding effects of sex-work.

Table 43. Teens in Technical Schools: Opinions Regarding Risks Associated with											
Sex-Work (Pre-Test)											
	YES NO MAYBE										
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post					
Damage Health	63	71	1	0	12	5					
May not marry	40	40	8	8	28	28					
Family rejection	44	36	10	15	22	24					

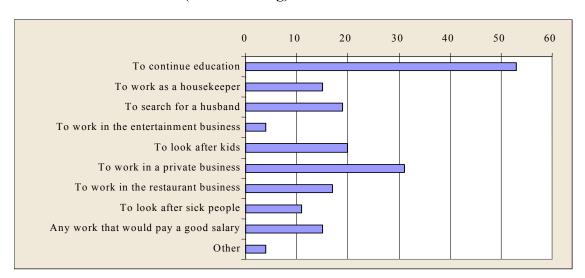
Following the training, 34% still considered going to another country to work (same as pretraining), and for essentially the same reasons: 1) lack of employment in Ukraine, 2) to obtain a legal, well-paid job, and 3) to make a lot of money (compare Table 38 with Table 44).

Table 44. Teens in Technical Schools: Reasons They Would Consider Going Abroad (Post-Training)



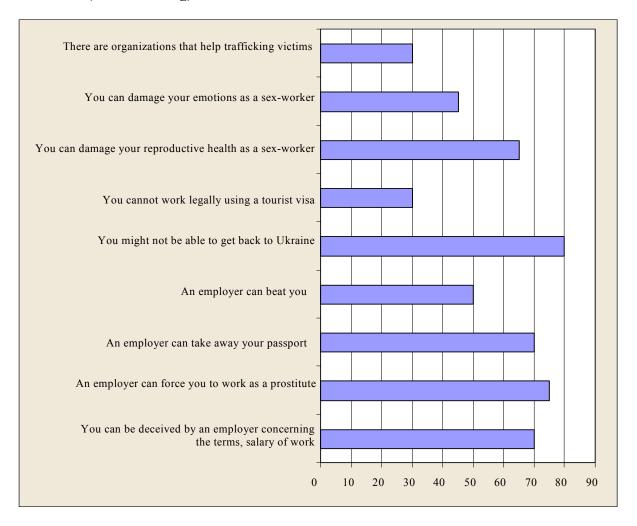
They chose slightly different occupations after the training: 1) to continue education, 2) to work in a private business, and 3) to look after kids (compare Table 39 with Table 45).

Table 45. Teens in Technical Schools: Occupations They Would Consider if They Went Abroad (Post-Training)



Technical school teens did show an increase in knowledge regarding the dangers of going abroad (compare Table 41 with Table 46). After the training, 87% to 100% knew one or more of the anti-trafficking messages.

Table 46. Technical School Teens: Knowledge of Anti-Trafficking Messages (Post-Training)

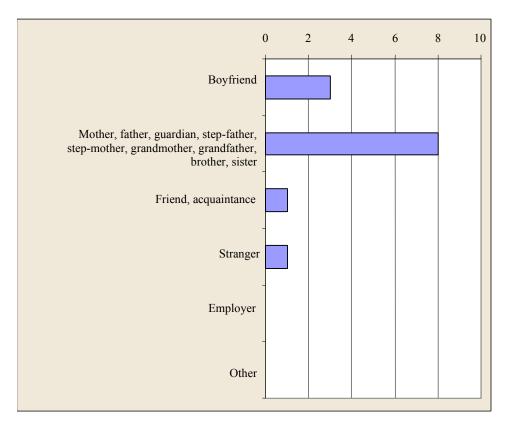


#### 2. Teens in Technical Schools: Violence and the Desire to Go Abroad

Twenty-two percent of technical school students (17 teens) had experienced violence in their lives and seven percent (5 teens) are currently experiencing violence.

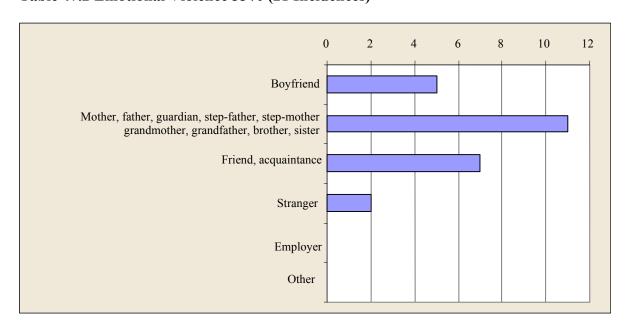
**Table 47. Teens in Technical Schools: Levels of Violence** 

**Table 47.1 Physical Violence 17% (13 Incidences)** 



There were three incidences (4%) of sexual abuse (chart not shown).

**Table 47.2 Emotional Violence 33% (21 Incidences)** 



The violence lasted anywhere from an isolated incident to extended occurrences over 10 years. One young woman experienced emotional abuse from her guardian whenever she was with him. She attributes the abuse to his use of alcohol, cruelty and a wish to control her life. She was forced to leave her home and has suffered emotionally as a result of the violence. Another young woman is experiencing physical, sexual and emotional abuse from her husband which has been going on for the last four years. The violence has caused her physical and emotional injury and interfered with her ability to attend school. Another woman was raped by a stranger and also experienced physical abuse from her father and step-mother. She thinks women go abroad because they are "in situations in which they can't find a way out."

Before the training, teens in technical schools who were experiencing violence from boyfriends, family members, friends or strangers all wanted to go abroad. The strongest desire came from teens who were still in a situation of abuse. Following the training, there were women in all categories of abuse - physical, sexual and emotional - and in all categories of 'experienced' violence who would consider going abroad to work (see Table 48).

Table 48. Tec	hnical Schoo	ol Teens: C	orrelations	s between Ex	perienced \	Violence					
and Consideration of Going Abroad (Post-Training)											
Reason for going abroad	Experienced Violence	Boyfriend	Close family member	Friend, acquaintance	Stranger	Currently experiencing violence					
To search for a husband						Yes					
To continue education			Yes, emotional								
To work as a housekeeper					Yes, physical						
To look after kids	Yes	Yes, emotional	Yes, emotional	Yes, physical		No					
To work in a private business	No										
To work in the restaurant business	No		No, physical								
To look after sick people	Yes		Yes, physical	Yes, physical	Yes, physical						
Any work that would pay a good salary		Yes, physical, sexual	No, emotional								
Other*					Yes, sexual						

<sup>\*</sup>Includes: to study, with my husband, to work in my occupation, never will go, never thought of it

The pattern of violence in young women's lives and their desire to go abroad is clear with all three groups so far discussed. Table 49 shows the percentages among the three groups. The level is considerably higher with students in Internats than students in secondary schools. The level is highest among teens in technical schools. Many teens from Internats go on to study in technical colleges. Although the question was not asked on this study as to how many technical college students had attended Internats, it could be assumed that the percentage was quite high.

Table 49. Levels of Experienced and Current Violence Among Teens in Internats, Secondary Schools and Technical Schools										
	Internats Secondary Schools Technical Schools									
Experienced Violence	16%	8%	22%							
Current Violence	5%	0%	7%							

Examining teens' age, geographic region and financial means of support as factors in their decisions to go abroad yields the following information (as seen in Table 50). The larger the region (city versus village), the less apt to go abroad; the older the teen, the more apt they may be to consider going abroad to work in a private business. In most areas of financial support, teens in technical schools would consider going abroad. It is also seen that financial provision by parents is not a deterrent to considering going abroad.

Table 50. Teer	ns in Technic	al School	s: Correlati	ons Betw	veen Goir	ıg Abroac	d and Age	,
	Size of R	Region, an	d Financial	Means o	of Suppor	t (Post-T	raining)	
Reason to go abroad	Size of town	Age (Young to old)	I am provided for by my parents	I work	I hardly have money to support myself	I get welfare from the state	I borrow money	Other*
Considering			Yes					
going to								
another								
country to								
work								
To search for a husband					Yes			
To continue				No				
education								
To work as a								Yes
housekeeper								
To work in the entertainment business	No							
To look after kids						Yes		
To work in a		Yes	Yes		No			
private								
business								
To work in the				Yes			_	
restaurant								
business								
To look after			No					
sick people								
Any work that	No							
would pay a								
good salary								

<sup>\*</sup>I study, I get a scholarship, I am helped, my boyfriend (2), temporarily unemployed, friend, husband, other relatives, brother (2)

In Table 51, the issue of emotional support and its effect on the decision to go abroad is described. Women would consider going abroad in spite of emotional support from a number of sources. This could mean either that the emotional support is minimal or that in spite of emotional support but because of lack of financial support, teens in Technical Schools would still desire to go abroad. Here is seen either no correlation or no type of emotional support acts as a deterrent to considering going abroad, except if no one supported her.

## 3. Technical School Teens: Summary of Findings

Teens in Technical Schools would consider going abroad to work in spite of described financial and emotional support from numerous sources. There is a deterrent with teens who live in cities as opposed to towns and villages. They may have more options in Ukraine than teens in town and villages. Women for Women Center staff have seen this pattern and expressed heightened concern for teens in towns and villages. There are reports of villages in which few young women still reside as most have gone abroad.

Violence is a "push" factor with teens in technical schools, especially physical violence from boyfriends, close family members, friends, or strangers. Additional trainings at the Women for Women Centers can help to educate technical school teens and provide legal resources to counteract violence. Most teens in technical schools that were in this study still lived with and relied financially on their parents for support. Clearly the Women for Women Centers' employment support will also assist these young women in finding employment and, as a result, the financial resources to find safer living situations.

## D. Findings Regarding Adult Women

### 1. Profile of Adult Women at Risk of Trafficking

M. is 25 years old, works in a state facility where she is regularly paid an amount that is barely enough to support herself in the city where she lives. Her husband also works and she works at a second job to make ends meet on a total family income of 500 grivnas a month (\$90).

She is grateful to the Women for Women Center for helping her with "some domestic troubles" that include many years of physical and sexual abuse, first as a child and now in her marriage. This was the main reason she came to the Center and she wants to use many of their services, even trainings that will help her to find better employment. She doesn't want to leave her marriage or, her few friends, and go to another country to work but she has often felt desperate and depressed, to the point where, when someone who was a casual acquaintance offered her a job in the Czech Republic, she almost said yes, even though she had a feeling it was to work as a prostitute. A woman she went to university with ended up in that situation because she did not have enough money to feed her kids. She has since returned and her life is in ruins. M. is glad she doesn't have kids, especially with her marriage a mess and not enough money to support them. She hopes with the help of the Center to improve her marriage and get a better job, and not have to leave the country.

		Tal	ole 51. Teer				ations betwe		go Abroad		
				<b>And Means</b>	of Emoti	onal Supj	port (Post-Tr	aining)			
Reason to go abroad	Women for Women Center	Friends	Mother	Father	Hobby	Sister	Belief in Religion	Brother	Grand- mother	Financial Security	No one supports me
Considering going to another country to work					Yes			Yes			
To search for a husband	Yes						Yes				No
To work as a housekeeper	Yes						Yes				
To work in the entertainme nt business									Yes		
To work in a private business						Yes	No				
Any work that would pay a good salary								Yes	Yes		
Other*				Yes							

\*Other: To study (2), with my husband, to work in my occupation (2);

Ninety-two adult women participated in this study. They came to trainings conducted in Lviv (1), Dnipropetrovsk (2) and Donetsk (2). The women ranged in age from fifteen to fifty-one; the average age of the women was twenty-three. Fifty-two percent of the women were single, thirty-seven percent were married, and less than one percent were divorced or in a stable non-marital relationship. Sixty-two percent of the women had no children, twenty-eight percent had one child and ten percent had two children. Their level of education (see Table 52) is quite high. Fifty-nine percent are attending or have completed higher education and 41% are or have attended secondary or secondary vocational school. Seventy-nine women live in a city, eleven in a town and one in a village.

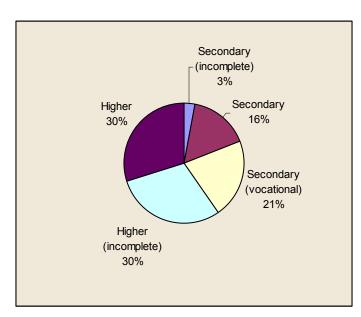


Table 52. Adult Women: Level of Education

Most of the women had heard of the Women for Women Center from friends (54%) and still others had heard from relatives (15%) or from television (15%). 'Other' represents teachers (13%) (see Table 53).

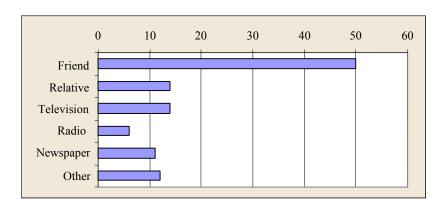


Table 53. Adult Women: Knowledge of Women for Women Center

As seen in Table 54, their reasons for attending the trainings were 1) to improve their job skills, 2) to get new job skills and 3) to feel better about themselves. 'Other' is "I am happy to be engaged."

I wish to feel better about myself

I wish to help my family economically
I wish to learn how to avoid domestic violence

I wish to learn about my human rights and how to protect myself
I want to learn how to start my own business
I want legal help
I want to learn how to avoid becoming a victim of trafficking
I want to get information on how to work abroad legally
I wish to get new job skills

Table 54. Adult Women: Reasons for Attending the Women for Women Center

As seen in Table 55, the main categories of employment were 1) students at the higher institute, 2) temporarily out of work, and 3) registered as unemployed. 'Other' is: part-time waitress and, evening school. This is indicative of the outreach of the Women for Women Centers to students and women who are unemployed.

20

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60

10

Other

I wish to gain successful communication skills

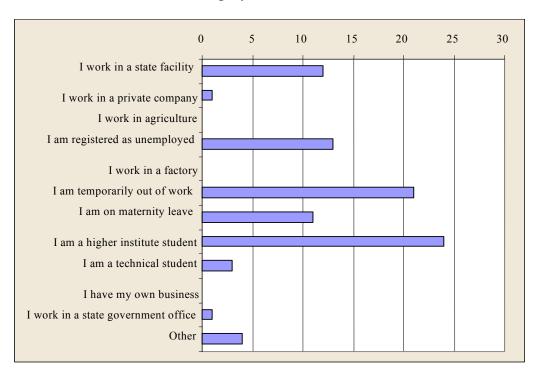


Table 55. Adult Women: Places of Employment

The average total <u>family</u> income for the adult women is 394 grivnas/month (\$70). Eighty-four percent of women feel they do not earn enough to support themselves and/or their families.

In addition to any income women may earn, women are also financially supported by 1) their parents (67%), 2) some by their husbands (38%), and 3) working at more than one job (27%) (see Table 56).

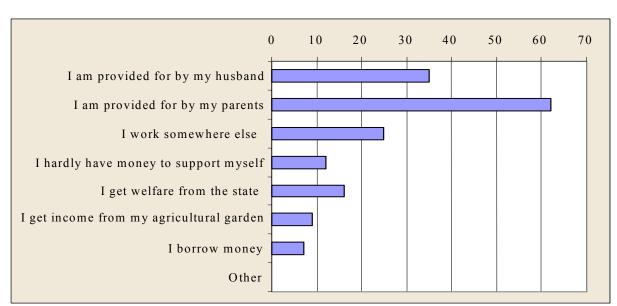


Table 56. Adult Women: Sources of Financial Support

As seen in Table 57, emotional support is from 1) their mothers (66%), 2) their friends (47%), and 3) the Women for Women Centers (37%). Note that five women feel that no one supports them.

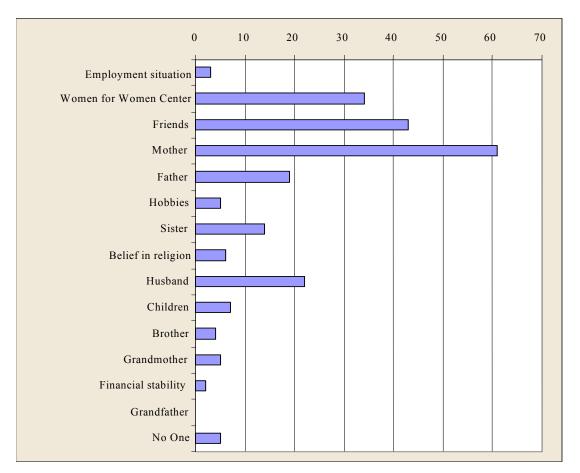
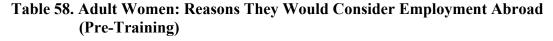
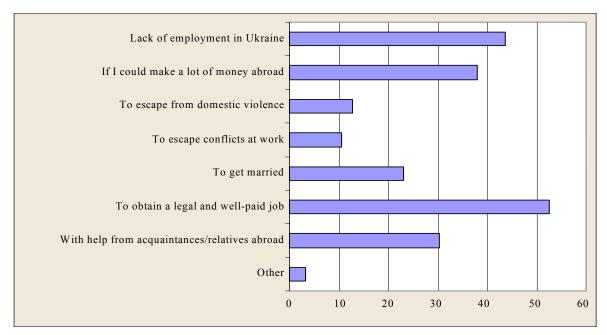


Table 57. Adult Women: Sources of Emotional Support

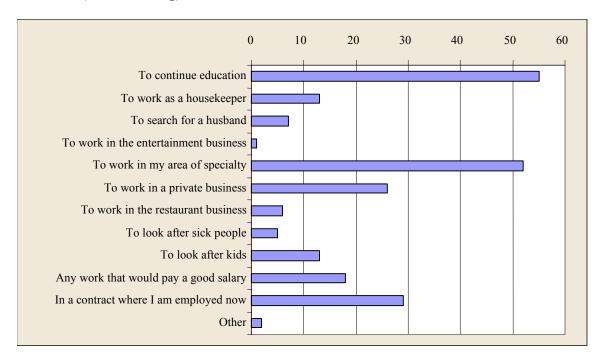
Thirty-six percent had considered going to another country, and the main reasons were 1) to obtain a legal and well paid job, 2) lack of employment in Ukraine and 3) to make a lot of money abroad. 'Other' is: to see our world, to get a well-paid job in my country (see Table 58).





As seen in Table 59, their main occupations would be 1) to continue their education, 2) to work in their area of specialization, and 3) in a contract where they are currently employed. 'Other' is: improve language skills and, would like to work as a lawyer.

Table 59. Adult Women: Occupations They Would Consider if They Went Abroad to Work (Pre-Training)



As seen in Table 60, fully 91% had heard of women involved in the sex business abroad, mainly through television (72%), the Women for Women Centers (43%) and from the newspaper (36%), again showing the success of recent attempts to educate women about the dangers of trafficking through the media. Note also that even though this is the first training at the Women for Women Centers for participants, they had received anti-trafficking materials from the Centers.

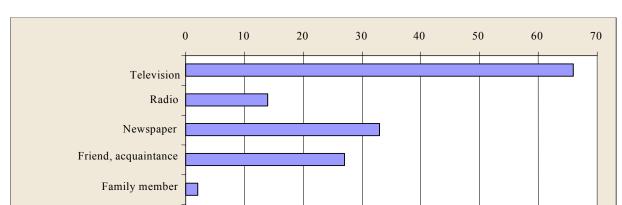


Table 60. Adult Women: Sources of Information Regarding Sex-Workers Abroad (Pre-Training)

Adult women in this study were asked if they would consider going abroad as sex-workers. Before the trainings, 16% (18 women) would consider going, due to lack of employment in Ukraine, 14% (15 women) to make a lot of money and 12% (11 women) to escape domestic violence (total of 22% or 20 women; some women marked more than one answer). Note that "other" (76%) are women who would not consider going.



10 20

Table 61. Adult Women: Reasons They Would Consider Going Abroad as Sex-Workers (Pre-Training)

Women for Women Center

Other

30

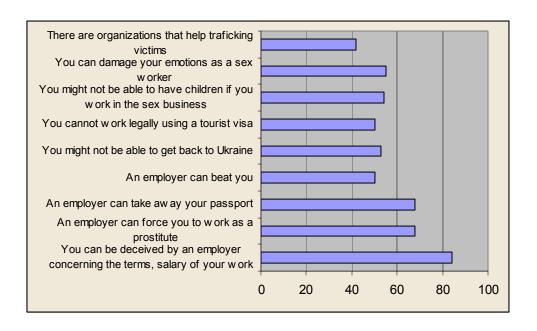
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As seen in Table 62, there was good awareness of the risks of trafficking even before the training. Before the training, between 47% and 93% of adult women knew one or more of the anti-trafficking messages.

Table 62. Adult Women: Awareness of Anti-Trafficking Messages (Pre-Training) (Responses in Percentages)



Yet some women (27%) still believed there was honest work for them abroad, 37% did not think they would be deceived into being a sex-worker, and 15% thought they could find ways to be safe as a sex-worker (see Table 63). Note the large numbers of women who were undecided regarding these critical questions. Most women agreed that money was not worth being a sex-worker (75%). Following the training, these attitudes changed considerably. There was a decrease in the feeling that there was honest work abroad, a stronger belief that they could be deceived into sex-work, a more realistic belief that they could not be safe as a sex-worker and a stronger belief that the money would <u>not</u> be worth working as a sex-worker.

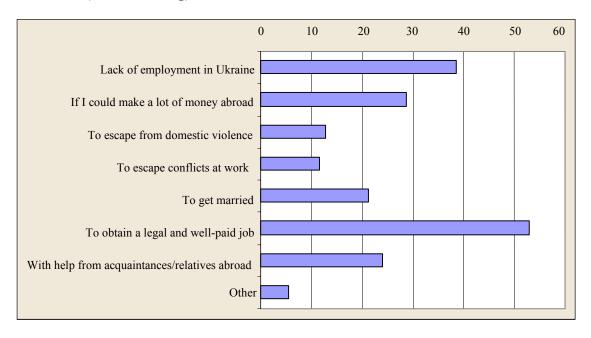
Table 63.	Table 63. Adult Women: Opinions Regarding Safety of Going Abroad												
(Pre and Post- Test)													
	Strongly agree		Mildly	Mildly agree		Undecided		Mildly		ongly			
							disa	igree	disa	igree			
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post			
I think there is honest	15	17	10	7	60	51	1	7	5	10			
work for me abroad													
I might get tricked	22	43	12	11	20	16	9	4	25	17			
into being a sex-													
worker													
I can find ways to be	4	2	10	2	28	18	1	3	39	62			
safe as a sex-worker													
The money is worth	4	3	4	1	8	6	3	2	66	77			
being employed as a													
sex-worker													

Women were however cautious about their health in considering sex-work. As seen in Table 64, women almost unanimously agreed that sex-work would damage their health (91%). A number also felt it would adversely effect their chances for marriage (82%) and the same percentage felt it would negatively impact their family relationships. After the training, participants felt even more strongly that their health could be damaged, their prospects for marriage could be affected, and their relationships with their families could be negatively impacted if they engaged in sex-work

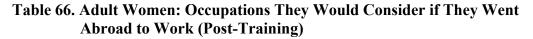
Table 64. Adult Women: Opinions Regarding Risks Associated with Sex-Work (Pre- and Post Test)											
	Strongly agree Mildly agree Undecided Mildly agree Strongly disagree										
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	
Damage health	82	90	2	1	2	0	1	0	2	1	
May not marry	66	82	9	4	12	5	0	0	2	1	
Family rejection	67	83	8	8	8	1	3	0	3	0	

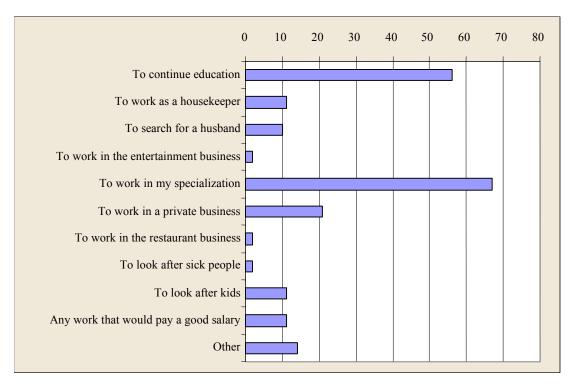
After only one training, there was a 10% reduction in the number of women considering going abroad. Following the training, 26% of adult women considered going abroad to work (Pre-Training was 36%) for the same reasons they had before the training (compare Table 58 to Table 65), 1) to obtain a legal and well paid job, 2) lack of employment in Ukraine, and 3) to make a lot of money abroad.

Table 65. Adult Women: Reasons They Would Consider Employment Abroad (Post-Training)



The occupations they would consider were similar: 1) to work in my specialization, 2) to continue education and 3) to work in a private business (compare Table 59 with Table 66).





As well, on all of the knowledge parameters of the dangers of going abroad, the adult women's knowledge increased considerably (Compare Table 62 with Table 68). Following the training, 83% to 98% of adult women knew one or more of the anti-trafficking messages.

Table 68. Adult Women: Knowledge of Anti-Trafficking Messages (Post-Training) (Responses in Percentages)



Fifteen percent of adult women participants knew of friends or acquaintances that ended up in a trafficking situation.

After the trainings, when asked whether they would consider going abroad as sex-workers, the number of women considering it decreased by 4 %, from 22% to 18% (20 to 17 women). This remains an alarmingly large number of women, who, despite the trainings and despite having heard the anti-trafficking messages, still felt desperate enough to consider this dangerous alternative. Reasons for considering going abroad to work in the sex-business were the same (compare Table 61 with Table 69).

Lack of employment in Ukraine

If I could make a lot of money abroad

To escape domestic violence

To escape conflicts at work

Other

Table 69. Adult Women: Reasons They Would Consider Going Abroad as Sex-Workers (Post-Training)

## 2. Adult Women: Violence and Desire to Go Abroad.

Fifty percent of adult women participants had experienced violence, and 20% were currently in a situation of violence. As Table 70 indicates, 51% of participants experienced physical violence, 22% experienced sexual violence and 85% experienced emotional violence.

Table 70. Adult Women: Level of Violence

Table 70.1 Physical 51% (46 Incidences)

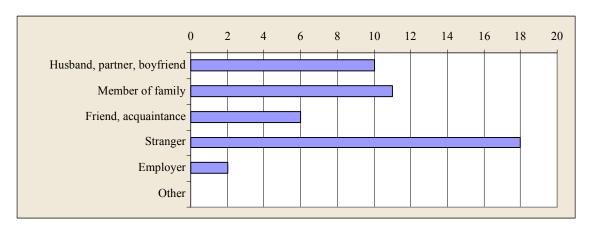


Table 70.2 Sexual 22% (20 Incidences)

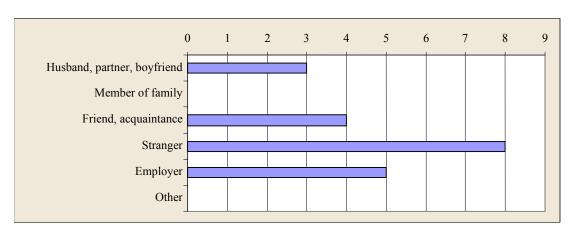
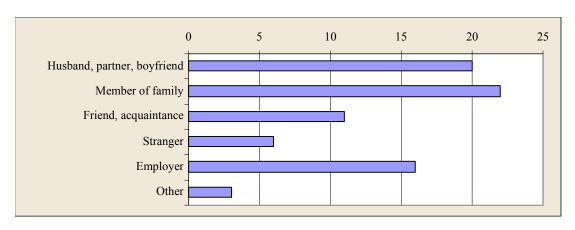


Table 70.3 Emotional 85% (78 Incidences)



Before the training, there was a strong desire among adult women to go abroad to escape violence, especially those who had been physically and sexually abused by their husbands. After

the training (see Table 71), women in all categories of experienced violence maintained the same desire to go abroad. This included those who had been physically or sexually abused by a husband, friend, stranger, or who had previously been in a violent situation. Only women who are <u>currently</u> experiencing violence did not consider going abroad.

T	able 71. Adı			tions Between	_	nced Viole	nce and	
Reason to go abroad	Experienced violence	Desir Husband, partner, boyfriend	e to Go A  Close family member	broad (Post-] Friend, acquaintance	Training) Stranger	Employer	Currently in violent situation	*Other
To work as a housekeeper				Yes, physical				
To search for a husband					Yes, physical, sexual			Yes, emotional
To work in the entertainment business			Yes, physical	Yes, physical, sexual, emotional		Yes, physical, sexual		
To work in a private business	Yes	Yes, emotional		No, emotional	Yes, physical, sexual, emotional	No, emotional		
To look after sick people					Yes, emotional			
To look after kids				Yes, physical	No, physical	Yes, physical		
Any work that would pay a good salary			Yes, emotional	Yes, emotional		Yes, emotional		
**Other		Yes, physical, sexual						

<sup>\*</sup>Other: teachers (3).

Examining age, marital status, number of children, what size town, and level of education of adult women as a factor in the decision to go abroad yields the following information (see Table 72). There was no correlation between size of region (city versus village) and consideration of going abroad.

Divorced women are most vulnerable to trafficking as they desire to work in the entertainment business. Children act as a deterrent to women's decision to go abroad to work. The older a woman, the more she would consider going abroad to work as a housekeeper or "other," meaning any well-paid job, any non-exploitative, good paying job, or to do legal work.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Other: any good paid job (3); any good paid job without harm,; to do legal work.

				-Trainin		T	T	ı
Reason to go abroad	Age (young to old)	Married	Divorced	Single	Stable relationship	Number of children	Education	Size of Town
To look after kids				No				
Considering working abroad					Yes			
To continue education	No	No		Yes		No		
To work as a housekeeper	Yes							
To search for a husband		No		Yes				
To work in the entertainment business			Yes					
To work in a private business		Yes						
To look after sick people	Yes							
*O41	37			NI.	·		37	1

Yes No No \*Other: any well-paid job (3), any non-exploitative, good paying job, to do legal work.

The other critical factor in a woman's decision to go abroad is her occupation (see Table 73). Women who worked in a state facility would consider going abroad to search for a husband. Women who work in private companies would consider going abroad to look after kids or any work that would pay a good salary. Women who are temporarily unemployed would go abroad to work as housekeepers. Women on maternity leave would go abroad to look after kids. Higher institute students and technical school students, would only go abroad to continue their education.

Ta	ble 73. A	dult Wom	en: Correlati	ons Betwee	n Going	Abroad and	l					
	Occupation (Post-Training)											
Reason to go abroad	State facility	Private company	Temporarily unemployed	Maternity leave	Higher institute student	Technical school student	State government					
To continue education			No		Yes	Yes						
To work as a housekeeper			Yes									
To search for a husband	Yes											
To work in entertainment												
To work in my specialization		No	No									
To look after kids		Yes		Yes								
Any work		Yes										

that would				
pay a good				
salary				
**Other			No	

<sup>\*</sup>Other: Don't want to go (4); I'll never leave the country, thanks to the trainers.

Women were also asked how they were supported and this information was correlated to their consideration of going abroad (see Table 74). In spite of numerous means of financial support, women still considered going abroad. Keep in mind that the average family salary in the study is 394 grivnas/month (\$70), and 84% of women felt they did not have enough money to support themselves. The only exception was if women received welfare from the state. It's possible that women in this situation do not see the possibility of going abroad due to the existing reasons they were receiving welfare.

Tabl	e 74. Adult V	Women: Co		s Between road (Post			ial Suppo	ort and D	esire to g	0
Reason to go abroad	Satisfied with employment situation	Regularly receive salary	Total family income (mem- bers of the family)	Provided for by husband	Provided for by parents	Work some- where else	Hardly have money	Welfare from state	Income from garden	Borrow money
Seriously considering working abroad?										No
To search for a husband			Yes	No		Yes	Yes			
To continue education	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes					
To work in my area of specialty	Yes								Yes	Yes
To work in the restaurant business	No									
To look after sick people						Yes				
To look after kids		Yes		Yes	V	N.				Yes
Any work that would pay a good salary					Yes	No				
*Other	No			Yes		No	Yes			

<sup>\*</sup>Other: do legal work; any well-paid job(3); any non-exploitative, good paying job.

Emotional support is also a factor in women's decision to seek employment in another country (see Table 75). Of note is that support from mothers and husbands <u>are</u> deterrents to considering going abroad. Women who feel no support would consider working in the entertainment business, a field most vulnerable to trafficking. Additionally, women who receive emotional support from their children would consider going abroad to work, where previously children were seen as a deterrent (see Table 72). It may be that if children are the <u>only</u> source of emotional support, this is not sufficient to sustain women. It is also surprising that women who feel financial stability and women who see their employment situation as satisfactory would also consider going abroad to work.

Unfortunately, there were a number of conditions under which women would consider going abroad to work in the sex-business. Before reviewing the next three tables, keep in mind that the data reflects eighteen women's opinions. Of the eighteen women, most marked more than one choice. Even with this small sample, trends can be seen here. Women in cities and women who are married would go abroad as a sex-worker to make a lot of money. Even women with children would go to escape conflicts at work. The only deterrent is a strong education level.

When looking at fields of employment and sources of income (see Table 77), women who work in state facilities would consider going abroad to work in the sex-business to escape conflicts at work, and, contrary to evidence in Table 76, higher institute students would consider going abroad to work in the sex-business because of lack of employment in Ukraine and to make a lot of money. Women who gain income from their agricultural gardens would also consider going abroad to work in the sex-business in order to escape domestic violence and conflicts at work.

There was only one correlation between the type of emotional support and women's consideration of going abroad to work in the sex-business. Women who relied on their fathers would consider going abroad to work in the sex-business in order to escape domestic violence.

There were a number of correlations between women considering going abroad to work in the sex-business and different forms of violence that they have or are experiencing (see Table 78). Women who experience physical or emotional violence from husbands, close family members, or friends would go to escape conflict at work. There may be women who are having serious struggles both in their homes and in their places of employment and feel there is nothing to lose by going abroad as a sex-worker.

M., age 29, is an example of a woman in this situation. She came to the Women for Women Center because she wants to feel better about herself. She works in a state facility and, together with her husband, earns 700 grivna/month (\$116), not enough to support herself and her two children. Her parents help her from time to time and she has an agricultural garden. She has a few friends for emotional support.

			Table 75.	Adult Wo			ıs Betweei d (After T			ort and De	cision			
Reasons to go abroad	Women for Women Center	Mother	Employment Situation Is OK	No one supports me	Friends	Father	Hobbies	Sister	Belief in religion	Husband	Children	Brother	Grand- mother	Financial stability
Considering going to another country			Yes									Yes		
To search for a husband					Yes					No				Yes
To continue education					Yes		Yes							
To work as a housekeeper		No		Yes				Yes	Yes					
To work in the entertainme nt business				Yes										
To work in my area of specialty											Yes			
To work in a private business	Yes		Yes						Yes					
To look after sick people											Yes	Yes		

She has experienced physical and emotional violence from her parents, husband and employer "for a long time." She would consider going abroad to work in the entertainment business, even as a sex-worker because she believes life could not get worse than it now is and it might get better if she had more money. She knows the dangers, has had three friends who were trapped into a trafficking situation but hopes it would be different for her if she decides to go.

Right now, another friend told her about the Women for Women Center and she is hoping they can help her with her situation. She has already made appointments with the psychiatrist and the lawyer.

Table 76. Adul	Table 76. Adult Women: Correlations Between Age, Size of Region, Marital Status, Level of										
Education and Consideration of Going Abroad to Engage in Sex-Business (Post-Training)											
Reasons to go abroad	Size town	Married	Children	Education level							
Lack of				No							
employment in											
Ukraine											
To make a lot of	Yes	Yes		No							
money											
To escape			Yes								
conflicts at work											

Table 77.	Table 77. Adult Women: Correlations Between Fields of Employment, Sources of Income and										
(	Consideration of G	oing Abroad t	to Engage in Se	x-Business (Post-	Training)						
Reasons to go	Income from	Work in a	Higher	Work	Hardly have money to						
Abroad	agricultural	state	institute	somewhere	support myself						
	garden	facility	student	else							
Lack of			Yes	No							
employment											
in Ukraine											
Make a lot			Yes		No						
of money											
To escape	Yes										
domestic											
violence											
To escape	Yes	Yes									
conflicts at											
work											

Table 78.	Table 78. Adult Women: Correlations Between Violence and Consideration to Going Abroad to Engage in Sex-Business (Post-Training)											
Reasons to go abroad	Husband	Close family member	Friend	Stranger	Employer	Currently experiencing violence						
To make a lot of money			Yes, emotional									
To escape domestic violence			Yes, emotional	Yes, emotional								
To escape conflicts at work	Yes, physical, emotional	Yes, physical, emotional	Yes, physical, emotional		Yes, emotional	Yes						

# 3. Adult Women: Summary of Findings

Adult women were not deterred from considering going abroad because of age, marital status, occupation, or means of financial support. Emotional support from husbands and mothers were a deterrent. With women who had children, there were mixed messages. Women who experienced abuse would consider going abroad, except if they were currently in a situation of abuse.

Adult women who would consider going abroad to work in the sex-business were not deterred, or there was no correlation with occupations and means of financial support. With higher educational levels, there were mixed results. Women who had experienced violence would consider going abroad to work in the sex-business. This was true for any source of violence.

#### **APPENDICES**

Appendix I Questionnaire for Adult Women Attending Women for Women Center Trainings

Appendix II Questionnaire for Teen Women Attending Women for Women Center Trainings

Appendix III Questionnaire for Teen Women in Internats

Appendix IV Questionnaire for At-Risk Pilot Study

Appendix V Border Guard Questionnaire

Appendix VI Dnipropetrovsk Questionnaire, 1999

Appendix VII Dnipropetrovsk Questionnaire, 2000

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