



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

300 W. Adams Street • Suite 200 • Chicago, Illinois 60606 • (312) 793-8550

MEETING NOTICE

Institutional Review Board

July 7, 2017 – 3:30 PM

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
300 W. Adams Street, Suite 200
Chicago, IL 60606

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of June 2, 2017 Meeting Minutes
- IV. Applications for Review

Study of newspaper reporters' coverage and understanding of human trafficking (J. Reichert and J. Houston-Kolnik)
- V. Old Business: None
- VI. New Business
 1. Exempt IRB applications: None
 2. Expedited IRB applications: None
 3. IRB application amendments: None
 4. Upcoming IRB meetings:
 - a. August 17th, 2017
 - b. November 16th, 2017
- VII. Adjourn

This public meeting will be accessible to persons with disabilities in compliance with Executive Order #5 and pertinent State and Federal laws upon anticipated attendance. Persons with disabilities planning to attend and needing special accommodations should contact by telephone or letter John Klaer, Associate Director, Office of Administrative Services, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, 300 W. Adams St. Suite 200, Chicago, Illinois, 60606-5150 or at (312) 793-8550. TDD services are available at (312) 793-4170.

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

IRB

APPROVAL APPLICATION for Research Involving Human Subjects

PROPOSAL INFORMATION

Principal investigator(s): Jessica Reichert and Jaclyn Houston-Kolnik

Principal investigator(s) email: Jessica.Reichert@Illinois.gov; Jaclyn.kolnik@illinois.gov

Office Address: 300 W. Adams St, Suite 200

City, State, Zip code: Chicago, IL 60606

Office phone: 312-793-8655

Project staff and affiliation: Amanda Vasquez, ICJIA

Start date of project: 7/7/17

End date of project: 7/7/18

Title of proposal: Study of newspaper reporters' coverage and understanding of human trafficking

Initial approval type: Full IRB: Expedited: Exempt:

Is this IRB linked to other IRB approval? Yes No

If YES, please explain:

Will the data be primary data or secondary data? Primary Secondary

If SECONDARY, please briefly indicate the source of the data:

How is the end date of the study defined?

Publication of an article in Journal of Human Trafficking and on ICJIA website.

I. VULNERABLE SUBJECTS

Will any of the following groups potentially be included in your sample?

	Yes	No
Minors under age 18	_____	X
Adult prisoners or individuals in secure confinement	_____	X
Juveniles in correctional or detention facilities	_____	X
Probationers, parolees, or individuals under court or correctional supervision	_____	X
Developmentally disabled, intellectually disabled, or cognitively impaired	_____	X
Individuals held in residential treatment, locked facilities, or hospitalized	_____	X
Pregnant women, if focus of research	_____	X
Non-English speakers	_____	X
Wards of the state	_____	X
Other—please specify	_____	X

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. PROJECT SUMMARY

1. Please provide a brief summary (3 – 5 sentences), in lay terms, of the purpose of the study and the procedures subjects will undergo.

Researchers will conduct qualitative phone interviews with reporters who have covered the topic of human trafficking in Illinois newspapers. These interviews will offer an understanding of how reporters understand human trafficking, the process and sources used to inform their coverage of the topic, and their perspectives on the role of reporters in covering human trafficking.

B. PROCEDURES

2. Describe the procedures involving human subjects and list the steps you will take. Include the following information:

Reporters who have written about human trafficking for an Illinois newspaper will be recruited to participate in phone interviews with ICJIA research staff.

- a.) *Time involvement of subjects:* 30-60 minutes
- b.) *Location(s) the study will be conducted with subjects, including a description, if applicable:* By phone
- c.) *Amount of payment to subject, if any (consent form must note plan for payment if they withdraw voluntarily):* None
- d.) *What subjects will experience or do:* Answer questions regarding their knowledge, process, and role in reporting on human trafficking in Illinois newspapers

C. EQUITABLE SELECTION OF SUBJECTS

3. Please answer the following information about your proposed sample.

a.) *Anticipated total number of subjects in study:* 50

b.) *Number in age ranges:* Under 18 _____ 18 and older 50

c.) *Potential inclusion: race/ethnicity (check **ALL** that apply). If known, provide number:*

African American	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	American Indian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Asian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hispanic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bi-racial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments _____

d.) *Prisoners or individuals in secure confinement(n):* 0

e.) *Probationers, parolees, or other individuals under court or correctional supervision:* 0

4. Describe the procedures for subject recruitment

Administrative data _____ Recruitment X

5. Identify the criteria for inclusion/exclusion of subjects and provide a clear rationale for them.

Researchers will recruit reporters who have written about human trafficking in 2016 to 2017 for an Illinois newspaper.

Researchers will use four different methods to contact reporters to participate in the interviews.

1. Conduct an online search of articles featuring human trafficking published in Illinois newspapers. The online search will use the ProQuest and NewsBank newspaper databases and google search engine.
2. Ask for names and contact information from researchers and other colleagues.
3. Post and recruit on listservs, such as the Investigative Reporters and Editors (IRE) and Crime Reporters Association listservs.
4. Ask participants at the end of each interview if they know of other reporters who have written about human trafficking recently that we might be able to interview (snowball sample).

If we are unable to reach saturation (i.e., when new interviews do not lead to new themes or information) from interviewing reporters within the timeframe above, we will expand the timeframe by one year until we have reached saturation. For example, first we will expand the timeframe to include 2015. If we are unable to reach saturation after expanding our sample to include reporters who published articles in Illinois newspapers in 2015, 2016, and the first half of 2017 we will expand our timeframe to 2014 and so on.

D. RISK/BENEFIT ASSESSMENT

6. Briefly describe the potential benefits of the project to subjects and/or to society. Note: Social science research typically does not provide a direct benefit to the subjects.

There are no direct benefits for those who choose to participate in this study. This study, however, may result in greater understanding of reporters' knowledge and reporting process in relation to human trafficking. Content analyses of newspaper articles on human trafficking have found varying levels of understanding about human trafficking, its causes, and potential solutions. However, what remains unknown is what informs reporters' work and the processes they use to report on human trafficking. This research may lead to a dialogue that can inform how crime reporters, advocates, and criminal justice personnel collaborate and view this issue, potentially identifying areas for further training and development to improve the accuracy and quality of human trafficking coverage.

7. Does this study involve any of the following?

Yes	No	
_____	X	Use of deception by researchers
_____	X	Use of punishment by researchers
_____	X	Use of drugs by subjects for study purposes

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Covert and/or participant observation
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Induction of mental and/or physical stress to subjects by researchers
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Procedures which risk physical harm to the subject
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Materials and behaviors commonly regarded as socially unacceptable
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Procedures by researchers that might be regarded as an invasion of privacy to subjects or cause a degree of discomfort
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Possible/probable disclosure of information by subjects to researchers that may be harmful to the subject (e.g., child abuse, criminal behavior, immigration status)

a.) If you checked YES to any of the above procedures, explain the procedure in detail, as well as provide the methods being used to control or minimize the danger to the subjects.

b.) Please indicate the theoretical and/or methodological necessity for employing each procedure(s) checked YES.

8. If the study involves deception, when and how will the subjects be debriefed? (Generally, the nature of the deception and its necessity should be explained to the subjects).

Not applicable.

9. Are provisions for subject's medical care available in the event of a personal (physical or mental) injury resulting solely from subject's participation in the research? Please explain.

Yes No Not applicable

10. Will other care or counseling be available or referrals made to agencies for the subject should he or she become stressed, uncomfortable, angry, or experience other psychological difficulties as a result of participating in the research? Please explain.

Yes No Not applicable

Minimal risk: A risk is minimal where the probability and magnitude of harm or discomfort anticipated in the proposed research are not greater, in and of themselves, than those ordinarily encountered in daily life or during the performance of routine physical or psychological examinations or tests.

Greater than minimal risk: A risk is greater than minimal where the probability and magnitude of harm or discomfort anticipated in the proposed research are greater than those ordinarily encountered in daily life or during the performance of routine physical or psychological examinations or tests.

High risk: A risk is high when a moderate-to-high probability of serious adverse effects might occur as a result of participation in a research study.

Risks and benefits that would result even if the research weren't undertaken should not be considered.

11. Indicate the overall degree of the research's *physical* risk to the subject, according to the definitions provided below.

- Minimal
 Greater than minimal
 High

12. Indicate the overall degree of the research's *psychological* risk to the subject, according to the definitions provided below.

- Minimal
 Greater than minimal
 High

13. Indicate the overall degree of any *other* risk to the subject the research may have (e.g., social, economic), according to the definitions provided below.

- Minimal
 Greater than minimal
 High

E. COMPENSATION

14. Will the participants be compensated monetarily for entering the study?

Yes No

a.) If **YES**, what is the amount and source of the funds?

Amount \$ _____ Source of funds _____

b.) If **YES**, how will that money be distributed to subjects (e.g., gift cards, cash)? Explain.

15. Are there other inducements planned to recruit subjects? If YES, describe other inducements.

Yes _____ No X

F. CONFIDENTIALITY

16. Will any data be gathered through photographic, video or sound recording devices?

Yes X No _____

a.) If **YES**, how will the confidentiality of the materials produced by such devices be protected?

Note: A separate line of the consent form for the subjects to agree to be video/audio taped or photographed must be included.

Should participants consent to audio recording, the interview will be recorded using a handheld recording device. Audio-recordings of interviews will be saved on secure computers and/or servers in the Authority offices. Audio-recordings on the recording devices will be erased within 48 hours of recording.

At the start of the interview, participants will be asked for their verbal consent to participate in the interview in addition to their verbal consent to be audio-recorded. We will also take notes during these interviews. No identifying information will be recorded during the notetaking process. All notes will be stored in a filing cabinet in a locked office at the Authority. Only ICJIA research staff will have access to these materials.

If a participant does not agree to participate, the interview will be terminated. If an individual does not wish to be audio-recorded, the participant can still participate, and researchers will instead only take handwritten notes.

The audio-recordings will be transcribed by research assistants associated with this project. Any identifying information will be redacted during the transcription process. The transcriptions will be maintained in a secure location separate from the project consent forms and audio-recordings. Only the transcriptions and written notes will be analyzed.

b.) *What will be done with the still photos, video, or audio recordings after the study has been completed? Will this information be destroyed, kept xx number of years, used in publications, etc.? How does the investigator(s) define "completion" of the study?*

Audio recordings will be transferred to secured computers and deleted from the recording device within 48 hours of the interview. Interview transcriptions will be maintained in computerized word processing files will be stored securely on the Authority computers and servers. The files will be maintained security for three years after the completion of the study, which is defined as having completed the final research report.

17. Will names or individual identifiers of subjects be recorded? If YES, answer a through d below.

Yes X No

a.) *Where will the names or other individual identifiers be recorded (e.g., on test protocols, on a separate list with code numbers, etc)?*

Individual identifiers will be recorded on a master list in order to keep track of human subjects that have been contacted and interviewed. This list will be maintained separately from all other materials in a secure location only accessible to research staff. That list will indicate names of potential participants and track recruitment efforts (e.g., follow up contact dates).

b.) *Describe project procedures for maintaining the security of these records at every point in the data collection process.*

Information about who has participated in our study will only be accessible to the research staff at ICJIA. Records with identifiable information (i.e., master list of study participants and potential participants) will be password protected files that will be stored on password protected computers in a secure office. Transcripts will be deidentified. Handwritten notes will be deidentified and stored in a file cabinet in a locked office at the Authority.

c.) *Would it be possible to conduct the proposed project without recording names or other individual identifiers? Please explain why or why not.*

Yes X No

Researchers will use the names to keep track of interviewees in a master list which will be stored in a password protected excel file only available to the research team. Given that we plan to ask for verbal consent to be interviewed, there will be no names recorded beyond the excel sheet. The excel sheet will simply indicate whether researchers still need to contact the potential participant.

d.) Will access to names be under your exclusive control?

Yes X No

*If **NO**, what will be done to protect the confidentiality of the subjects? Who would have access to names or other individual identifiers? Describe the procedures for maintaining security of paper files, automated files, and other records.*

e.) Will names of subjects be included in any publication based on this study? If YES, for what reason(s)?

Yes ____ No X

18. Sometimes research findings are presented in a manner that permits knowledgeable readers to infer the identity of a person used as a subject, even if names are omitted. Do you expect to present findings that may possibly provide such clues? If YES, explain.

Yes ____ No X

19. Will information be obtained pertaining to persons other than immediate subjects (e.g., their friends)? If YES, how will the confidentiality of such persons be protected?

Yes ____ No X

G. INFORMED CONSENT

20. Do you intend to obtain informed consent?

X Verbal _____ Written _____ No consent needed _____ Waiver of consent documentation _____

If **NO CONSENT NEEDED** or **VERBAL**, please answer a through c below.

a.) *Why do you not intend to use written forms?*

The present study involves minimal risk and the only documentation that would link a participant to the study would be the consent form.

b.) *In what manner and to what extent would potential subjects be given advance information about the procedure in which they are asked to participate? If using a contact letter, please include it.*

Consent forms will be sent in advance of the scheduled interview. Participants will be asked if they have any questions about the consent form prior to beginning the interview. Participants will also be asked if they consent to participate in the study before the start of the interview.

c.) *In what manner would potential subjects be advised that their participation and continuation in the project would be entirely voluntary? Please provide a copy of the text to be used.*

At the beginning of our research protocol, the interviewer will state: "Participation in this study is voluntary; You may request that the recording stop, choose to not answer a question or end the interview at any time."

21. If receiving verbal or written consent, please attach a copy of the script or the consent form that you will use.

Attached Unable to provide Not applicable

a.) *If you are unable to provide the script or consent form, please explain why*

22. Please give a detailed description of the process that will be used to obtain consent and answer all applicable questions:

a.) *Who will obtain consent?* Research staff

b.) *How will consent be obtained?* Verbally before the start of the interview.

c.) *How often will consent be obtained (e.g., longitudinal or long-term field studies)?*
Before the start of the interview, researchers will ask participants if they have any questions about the consent form. After any questions are answered, the interviewer will ask if the participant consents to the interview and to be audio recorded.

d.) *How will you verify the subject fully understands the consent?* The consent forms are written in a 9th grade or lower reading level. Researchers will ask participants if they have any questions about the consent form. The consent forms will also provide contact information for the principal investigator, the Authority's attorney/IRB secretary to request further information about the studies, their rights as a research participant, and the initiative.

e.) *How will your investigators be trained to use the informed consent process?*
All Authority research staff are certified in the National Institutes of Health Office of Extramural Research's web-based training course "Protecting Human Research Participants."

23. Will/is the consent form be translated for non-English speaking participants?

Yes No

a.) *If **NO**, please explain why.*

The newspapers are printed in English, so all should be English-speaking.

b.) If **YES**, please provide an explanation of who will/did translate the forms and their qualifications.

24. Does the consent form you have attached fully comply with ICJIA instructions for consent forms that are in compliance with general requirements as outlined in the *Code of Federal Regulations 46.116* and the Authority's IRB procedures? Please refer to the checklist. N/A

Yes **X** No

a.) If **NO**, please explain why.

25. Will all project staff be IRB certified and trained to follow the basic guidelines for the ethical care of subjects?

Yes **X** No (explain below)

SIGNATURE PAGE

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

IRB

APPROVAL APPLICATION: for Research Involving Human Subjects

PROJECT NAME: Study of reporters understanding of and work covering human trafficking

This page is to be signed by the principal investigator.

Signature of Principal Investigator

Date

IRB ACTION:

Request Approved _____

Request Denied _____

IRB Requests Modifications (see explanation below) _____

Signature of IRB Chair

Date

Modifications Requested by IRB:

IRB Expiration:

The IRB approval granted for this project expires on _____

Date

**Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
Research Information and Consent for Participation in Research
Study of News Reporters Understanding of and Work Covering Human Trafficking**

You are being asked to participate in a research study. Researchers are required to provide a consent form such as this one to tell you about the research, to explain that taking part in the study is your decision, to describe the risks and benefits of participation, and to help you to make an informed decision. You should feel free to ask the researchers any questions you may have.

Principal Investigator Name and Title: Jessica Reichert, Research Manager
Department and Institution: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
Address and Contact Information: 300 W. Adams St., Suite 200
Sponsor: Justice Assistance Grant

Why am I being asked?

You are being asked to be a subject in a research study about news journalists/reporters perspectives and experiences reporting on human trafficking. You have been asked to participate in the research because you have been identified as a reporter who has written on human trafficking in an Illinois newspaper in 2016 or 2017.

Your participation in this research is voluntary. Your decision to participate will not affect your current or future dealings with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA). **If you decide to participate, you are free to withdraw at any time without affecting that relationship.**

Approximately 50 subjects may be involved in this research.

What is the purpose of this research?

The purpose of this study is to gain an understanding of how reporters view human trafficking, the process and sources used to inform their coverage of the topic, and their perspectives on the role of reporters in covering human trafficking.

What procedures are involved?

If you agree to participate, a researcher will contact you to set up a telephone interview that the researcher will ask to audio tape. You can choose not to be audio taped. If you choose not to be audio taped we will simply document your responses using paper and pencil. You will be asked questions on your experience writing news stories on human trafficking. You will also be asked to provide a copy of any news stories you have published in an Illinois newspaper in 2016 or 2017 on the topic of human trafficking. You can choose not to answer any question(s) or to not provide a copy of published news stories you have written on human trafficking. You will also be asked if you would be willing to provide contact information for other persons you know who have written a published news story in an Illinois newspaper in 2016 or 2017 on the topic of human trafficking. You can choose not to provide this information.

What are the potential risks and discomforts?

This study involves minimal risk. The interviews conducted will be analyzed and a final report published in a scholarly journal and the ICJIA website. No specific data will be attributed to you, nor will anyone outside the researchers on this project know you participated. Any personally identifying information discussed during the interview will not be recorded in hand notes or transcribed, should you choose to be audiotaped.

It is possible that someone who knows that you published a news article on human trafficking will attribute findings or statements to you. Please know that the researchers will never share information related to your participation to anyone outside the research project. Care will also be taken to report findings in a manner that does not identify individual participants.

Please remember that you may choose to no longer participate at any time or you may choose not to answer any question without penalty.

Will I be told about new information that may affect my decision to participate?

During the course of the study, you will be informed of any significant new research information (either good or bad), such as changes in the risks or benefits resulting from participation in the research or new alternatives to participation, that might cause you to change your mind about continuing in the research. If new information is provided to you, your consent to continue participating in this research may be re-obtained.

Are there benefits to taking part in the research?

You will not directly benefit from participation in the research. Although taking part in this research study may not directly benefit you, the study may help researchers learn more about how news stories on human trafficking are developed that could further inform the field.

What other options are there?

You have the option to not participate in this study. **Even if you initially choose to participate you may change your decision at any time without penalty.** You may also not answer a question at any time.

You will be asked to be audiotaped. You may choose to participate in an interview but not be audiotaped. If you choose not to be audiotaped, the information will be collected using pencil and paper.

What about privacy and confidentiality?

Only the researchers involved in this project will know that you participated in the study should you choose to do so. When the results of the research are published or discussed in conferences, no information will be included that would reveal your identity.

Should you agree, interviews will be audio recorded and saved on secure computers and/or servers in the Authority offices. Audio-recordings on the recording devices will be erased within 48 hours of recording. Interview transcriptions in computerized word processing files will be stored securely on the Authority's computers and servers.

You may choose to participate in the study even if you do not want to be audiotaped. In this case, we will simply take notes using pencil and paper. These notes will be later typed and stored securely on the Authority's computers and servers.

What are the costs for participating in this research?

There are no costs to you for participating in this research.

Will I be reimbursed for any of my expenses or paid for my participation in this research?

You will not be offered payment for being in this study.

Can I withdraw or be removed from the study?

If you decide to participate, you are free to withdraw your consent and discontinue participation at any time without penalty.

Who should I contact if I have questions?

Contact the researcher manager for this project, Jessica Reichert, at 312-793-8655 or email address: Jessica.Reichert@Illinois.gov.

- if you have any questions about this study or your part in it, or
- if you have questions, concerns or complaints about the research.

What are my rights as a research subject?

If you feel you have not been treated according to the descriptions in this form, or if you have any questions about your rights as a research subject, including questions, concerns, complaints, or to offer input, you may call the IRB secretary, Simeon Kim, at 312-793-8550.

Remember:

Your participation in this research is voluntary. Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relations with ICJIA. If you decide to participate, you are free to withdraw at any time without affecting that relationship.

Verbal consent (before the interview):

Before the start of the interview, you will be given an opportunity to ask any questions related to the study and this consent form.

- Example: Before we begin, do you have any questions about the consent form that was sent to you prior to this call?

In order to continue with the interview, the interviewer will need to get verbal consent that you would like to participate in the study. Participating in the study and audio-recording are both voluntary.

You will be asked:

Do you consent to participate in the research study?

If no, you will be thanked for your time and the conversation will be ended.

If yes, you will be asked about being audio-recorded.

Do you consent to the interview being audio-recorded?

If yes, the interviewer will turn on the recorder and may also take handwritten notes to assist the transcription process.

If no, the interviewer will take handwritten notes during the interview instead.

Pre-interview: Inclusion/Exclusion Questions

1. Do you consent to participate in the research study?

[IF NO, READ: Thank you for your time, but we cannot conduct the interview without your consent.]

2. Do you consent to the interview being audio-recorded?

[IF NO, take handwritten notes only.]

[START RECORDER]

To confirm, you have consented to be interviewed and audio recorded. [Get affirmative response recorded]

1. Have you ever contributed to at least one news story on human trafficking in an Illinois newspaper?

[IF NO, READ: Thank you for your time, but our study is only focusing on reporters who have written on human trafficking. Turn off recorder.]

2. Have you published an article on human trafficking in an Illinois newspaper in 2016 or 2017?

[IF NO, READ: Thank you for your time, but for our first round of interviews, we will focus on those years. What was the last year you published a human trafficking article in an Illinois newspaper?]

- a. If yes, for what newspaper(s)/agency(ies) did you write?
-

Human Trafficking Media Article: Interviews with News Reporters/Journalist/Writers

[Note: The interview is organized into general themes with open-ended questions. This is an unstructured interview; therefore, the topic flow and time spent on each theme will be unique for each participant. Interview prompts may be used to elicit further elaboration.]

Introduction

Again, I want to thank you so much for taking time to discuss your experiences working on human trafficking news stories. First, I will ask you some demographic questions, including your experiences working in the news media field generally. Then I would be interested to hear about your understanding of human trafficking and how you have incorporated this information into your news media work. Lastly, I will ask your thoughts on the role of new media in making information available to the public. Participation in this study is voluntary. You may request that the recording stop, choose to not answer a question or end the interview at any time.

Experience and Demographics

I am going to start with a couple of questions to learn a little more about you and your history as a [crime reporter, news journalist, writer, etc.]

1. How long have you been working in the news media field?
2. Please describe your history in writing print and/or online media.
3. What types of reporting/writing assignments (e.g., crime, public policy, investigative) have you completed?

I also have a few quick general demographic questions:

4. What is your age _____

5. What is your gender _____
6. How would you describe yourself in terms of race/ethnicity _____

General Knowledge

Before we talk more specifically about the work you have done about human trafficking, I would like to ask some questions about your definition of human trafficking and your perspective on the impact of human trafficking.

Definition of Trafficking

There are many definitions of trafficking and I'm curious how you define trafficking.

7. How do you define trafficking?
 - a. How extensive is the issue? (numbers)
 - b. Who is a typical victim? (e.g., labor vs. sex, international vs. domestic, gender, age, sexual orientation/identity)
 - c. Is there a difference in your definition for domestic and international trafficking? (Do you have a different definition for domestic and international trafficking?)
 - d. How did you come about this definition? (Learned through reporting work or other sources?)

Causes of Trafficking

I am also curious about what you see as the causes of human trafficking.

8. What do they see as the causes of human trafficking?
 - a. What might put someone at risk of being trafficked?

Impact of Trafficking

Human trafficking can have a broad impact on individuals and communities.

9. What do you see as the impact of HT on victims, and on the larger community?
10. What steps should be taken to address the issue of human trafficking?
 - a. Reduce prevalence
 - b. Address negative impact on victims

Work Process/Reporting

Now, in thinking about your role as a reporter, I'd like to hear more about your experience reporting on human trafficking.

11. Can you describe your most recent experience working on an assignment focusing on human trafficking?
 - a. Can you provide a brief description/summary of the story?
 - 1) Did you include background information on human trafficking, such as a definition, legislation, or prevalence in the news story?
 - 2) Can you provide me a copy of the news story, or other news stories you have done on human trafficking?
 - b. How was it assigned to you?

- c. What sources did you use?
 - 1) Did you contact human trafficking victims? Why/why not? Can you describe your contact with victims?
 - 2) Was it easier/harder to obtain information from certain sources? Why?
 - 3) Were there any sources you contacted, but didn't include in your final piece? Why?
 - d. How was reporting on this story similar to/different from other assignments?
 - e. How did others respond to the article?
 - 1) By colleagues, managers, etc. within news agency
 - 2) Externally (e.g., other news outlets, the public)?
 - f. What terms or words choices do you use when writing on human trafficking?
 - 1) Any terms or word choices you avoid using (e.g., prostitution, pimp)?
 - 2) Do you prefer to use the term survivor or victim to refer to individuals who have been trafficked?
 - g. Have you noticed any changes over time in how human trafficking is reported, generally or in the newspapers you have worked for? How does this compare to how news reporting has changed in general?
12. Approximately how many articles have you written about human trafficking?
- a. Can you describe the newspapers where your work on human trafficking has been published?
 - 1) Online/paper/both
 - 2) Small/large media outlets
 - 3) Rural/urban
 - 4) High/low readership
 - b. Over the time you have been writing about human trafficking, how has your perspective been shaped or changed?
 - c. What information/sources have informed your work on human trafficking?
 - 1) What source has been the most salient to you?

Role of Reporters

13. What is the role of news reporting? What is the purpose of news media reporting on human trafficking?
- a. Inform public
 - b. Prevent future HT
 - c. Intervention
 - 1) Services for human trafficking victims
 - 2) Criminal justice system response
 - d. Enact legislative change
14. Do you have any additional comments on the topic of crime reporting and human trafficking?

Thank you for your time. We appreciate your participation.

Finally, do you know of other reporters in Illinois that we might speak to who have reported on human trafficking in the past year and a half?