



Victim Support Finland

Victim Support Europe Conference in May 2013 Workshop / trafficking Petra Kjällman

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Content of the presentation

- Needs of victims of human trafficking
- Challenges to the victims and helpers
- Challenges to VSE concerning victims of human trafficking
- What about directives?

Needs of a victim of human trafficking

General needs of crime victim concern also victims of trafficking:

- Recognition
- Victim oriented approach in all levels
- Information
- Practical and mental support, advice and legal assistance
- Legal status and rights
- Security and protection
- Good cooperation, confidentiality and trust between authorities and NGO:s etc...



Recognition...



All possible areas / organizations where the victim could be contacted should have special training and or staff for

- recognition
- how to make / take contact
- create trust
- carry on outreach work

Challenges to the victim and helpers

Individual needs depend on:

- Culture, background, age, trauma, personal capacity, gender, future possibilities etc.
- What kind of trafficking
 - Work related / prostitution related
- Language skills of the victim and helpers
- Country, where the crime happens / where the victim is from
 - how trafficking has been noticed in the society
 - what is the culture, religious and human rights values, gender and sexual orientation etc...

Challenges to the victim and helpers...

- Where and what kind of situation has the victim been trafficked from, education, family / kids left behind, debts...
- what help is needed, depends also on a personal capacity of the victim , victims age / life experience makes difference
 - How traumatized the victim is, how long time and ruff situations she / he has been suffered depends on how much and what kind of rehab is needed until the person is capable to make decisions
 - Helping trafficked victims needs time
 - Hope – what is expected from the future, can it be influenced. Help in work for future planning.

What about the directives

- Directive should always be put in action also in national law...before that Directive has only theoretical meaning.
- Concerning human trafficking we must not only talk about so called Victims Directive. It has only some words about trafficking. We must also be aware of the specific Directive on human trafficking.



Challenges to VSE

- Help to member organizations in lobbying the authorities to put in action the directives / changing the national laws
- Active work and lobbying towards EU to improve the status of witnesses
- Help to member organizations in applying funds from EU
- Maintain its status known as an respected expert organization on victims issues



Thank You !

