



There is No Such Thing as a Child Prostitute

There is **No Such Thing** as a “child prostitute.” There are only victims and survivors of child rape.

All across the United States, American children are bought and sold for sex. Each year in this country, more than 1,000 victims of child sex trafficking are arrested and charged with prostitution. Many of these children experience torture and abuse at the hands of traffickers and buyers. Despite the fact that these children are too young to consent to any sexual activity, and the fact that federal law defines them as victims of human trafficking, they are not contemplated as victims. Instead, these children, many of them girls between the ages of 12 and 16, are arrested, prosecuted, and detained for prostitution when they are in fact, victims of crime.

How We Are Named is How We are Treated

The **No Such Thing** Campaign seeks to eradicate the term “child prostitute” in language and in law. The term “child prostitute” trivializes the egregious abuse experienced by the most vulnerable members of our communities— our marginalized girls. We owe it to trafficked and exploited children to make clear that the victimization and abuse they suffered is no different or more tolerable than other forms of child sex abuse. And we owe it to these children to hold accountable those who have purchased and raped them.

We Need Your Voice as We Come Together to Take a Stand

The Campaign has four primary goals:

- To end the use of the term “child prostitute” in the Associated Press and other media outlets’ coverage of child sex trafficking issues and encourage the signing and sharing of our [change.org](https://www.change.org) petition to that end;
- To encourage stakeholders to pass policies ending the arrest, prosecution, and detention of victims of domestic child sex trafficking;
- To urge for the treatment of trafficked and exploited children as victims of child rape entitled to all of the services and protections available to other victims of child abuse, both in and out of the courtroom; and
- To promote the deterrence and apprehension of child sex buyers through prevention strategies, awareness raising, and application of laws that criminalize sex with minors.

Learn more at www.rights4girls.org