



June 2018

www.ChildproofAmerica.org

Volume 2, Issue 5

Back to School
Parent Empowerment Seminar

ChildProof America
 Safeguarding Children Against Sex Trafficking

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 8TH
2018

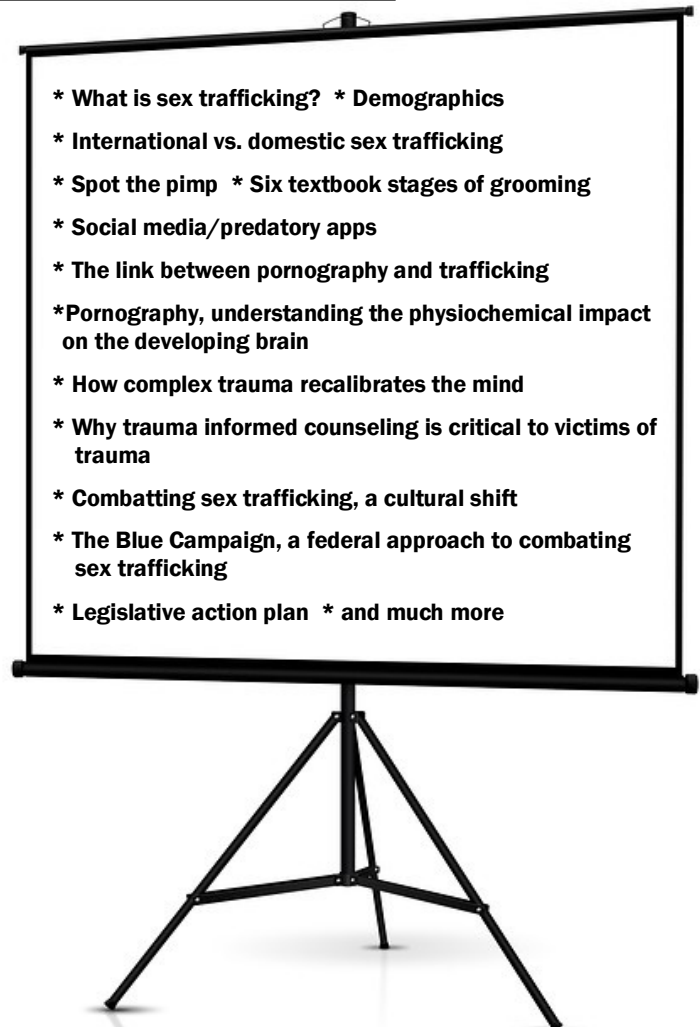
Wyndham Energy Corridor, 14703 Park Row Dr.
 Houston, TX 77079
 8:30am Open Registration, Instruction 9:30am – 2:30pm,
 Audience Q&A 2:30pm-3pm
 ~ Lunch Provided ~



This seminar will provide a comprehensive overview of an epidemic our Texas governor has recently declared a public health crisis.

Topics Include...

- * What is sex trafficking? * Demographics
- * International vs. domestic sex trafficking
- * Spot the pimp * Six textbook stages of grooming
- * Social media/predatory apps
- * The link between pornography and trafficking
- * Pornography, understanding the physiochemical impact on the developing brain
- * How complex trauma recalibrates the mind
- * Why trauma informed counseling is critical to victims of trauma
- * Combatting sex trafficking, a cultural shift
- * The Blue Campaign, a federal approach to combating sex trafficking
- * Legislative action plan * and much more



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HOUSTON CHRONICLE



to view full article online.

By: Congressman Michael McCaul and Kelly Litvak

[Houston Chronicle, Opinion](#)

May 29, 2018

It is time for our families to tackle an escalating problem targeting our children in our own backyards — human trafficking. To some, trafficking seems like an industry relegated to foreign lands on different continents. Sadly, this is not the case. It has infested Texas and is growing.

This crime has affected more than 300,000 victims in Texas alone, most of whom are women and children. Human trafficking has turned into the most prolific criminal enterprise in the world, now on par with and projected to pass gunrunning and the drug trade. We are working together, a Texas congressman and a mother of a trafficking victim, to end this inhumane enterprise starting right here at home.

Kelly Litvak's daughter was targeted at her suburban, top-ranking Texas high school. She is proof that this epidemic has infiltrated all of our communities and is no longer a far-off problem.

We need to take a proactive approach to end this modern-day slavery.

We need to take a proactive approach to end this exploitation of our children.

We cannot afford to be reactive anymore.

According to the FBI, the most effective way to halt human trafficking is through a multi-agency approach at federal, state, and local levels. But the fight is larger than the government. We must collaborate as a community. We must partner with the private sector and nonprofit organizations. It is a problem we must solve together.

U.S. Rep. Michael McCaul of Houston partnered with Litvak, who founded Childproof America, other advocates, victims, nonprofit organizations and law enforcement to identify the gaps and needs in our ongoing fight against human trafficking. We each have a different, and very important, role to play. McCaul brought together 80 of these individuals in a roundtable discussion to formulate solutions to end trafficking. In particular, to discuss how McCaul's bill — now a law — can successfully be implemented.

This law enables the Department of Homeland Security to form partnership, educate the public, and coordinate efforts to combat trafficking. It also improves intelligence sharing on multiple levels as part of DHS's Blue Campaign. This is a step in the right direction toward coordinating a response and shifting to a proactive model in combating human trafficking. It helps focus resources on supporting victims and preventing traffickers from preying on our children. However, we have much more work to do to ensure we have adequate training across our towns, cities and states. During the roundtable, we discussed how to coordinate training between law enforcement and our community to effectively identify victims and stop trafficking.

Litvak shared her awareness as the founder of Childproof America, which is based in Katy, and told how her child was targeted while living her normal life as a teenager. It has become Litvak's mission to empower parents by educating them about the six-step recruiting process groomers and traffickers use to lure unsuspecting victims. The steps are befriend, intoxicate, alienate, isolate, desensitize, and capitalize. Litvak is working to ensure every household in Texas knows the signs of human trafficking, and we are proud to be partners in this fight.

Education is absolutely critical. Parents must understand that victims come from good homes and parenting skills have very little to do with what makes a young person a target. "Spotters" are looking for young people who show signs of vulnerability due to a variety of reasons. It could be something as small as teenage acne, to a traumatic event such as sexual assault or divorce of parents. Once a target is identified, the very methodical grooming process begins, which can take months or years. Parents who are ill-equipped to identify the early onset of behaviors could be placing their children at risk for exploitation.

By engaging with parents and other community members, we can stop trafficking before it starts.

This is a problem that is larger than one agency or organization. Together we will continue to improve our response and prevention approach on every level. We can end human trafficking if we all work together.

Combating human trafficking transcends politics. It is a heinous problem, and we will continue to fight until our children are no longer victims of these predators.

McCaul represents Texas' 10th Congressional District. Litvak is the founder of Childproof America, a Katy-based nonprofit organization safeguarding families against sex trafficking.

The op-ed originally appeared in the *Houston Chronicle*, [here](#).

ChildproofAmerica.org

**Safeguarding Families Against
Sex Trafficking**

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Current Needs: How you can help right now!

- ◆ Get your tickets now for the Back To School Parent Empowerment Seminar! See website for more details.
- ◆ Sign up to be a part of our 500 for \$25 campaign, visit site for more details
- ◆ Follow us on social media to see our App of the Week articles, great information and current events! If you have a favorite post, please share it so other can have this useful information as well.
- ◆ Sign up to volunteer for the Family Guides Program. Visit our website for more information.

Follow us on social media



Childproof America empowers families in the battle against sex trafficking. Our mission is to educate, equip and support America's parents in the protection and defense of their children, and improve the quality of aid to impacted families. As advocates, we provide legislative pathways for concerned Americans to enforce harsh penalties to those violating the innocence of our children.



**Congrats to our Executive Director,
Kelly Litvak, who was named Katy
Magazine's Top 100 Women of the
Year for 2018!**