## DARWIN'S TRANSIENT POPULATIONS AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION: COMPLEXITIES FOR INTERVENTION

**Lynette McKee MAPS**APS NT
Psychology of Trauma Conference
2015

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**



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### TODAY YOU WILL.....

- GAIN understanding about Darwin's transient populations
- EXPLORE implications of sexual exploitation
- RECOGNISE intervention complexities
- IDENTIFY future intervention strategies



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SEXUAL ASSAULT REFERRA	AL CENTRE
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### **SEXUAL ASSAULT REFERRAL CENTRE**

- •provide counselling & medical interventions for ......
  - Acute sexual assault
  - Historical sexual assault
  - Females & males
  - Children
  - Adolescents
  - Adults

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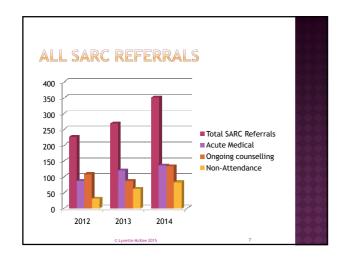


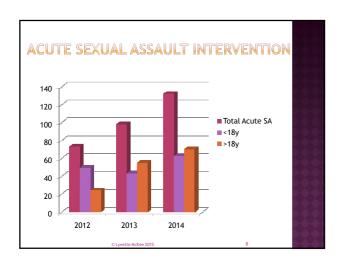
### **ACUTE INTERVENTION**

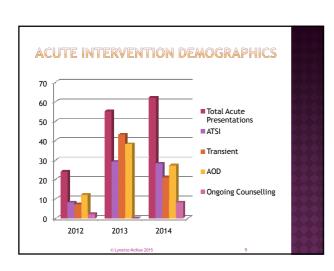
- Medical
  - Assessment & treatment
  - Forensic evidence collection
- Counselling
  - Manage immediate psychological impact
  - Psychological first aid
- ${\color{red} \bullet} \ {\textbf{Provide}}$ 
  - SARC contacts
  - Referral options
  - Psychoeducation



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REMEMBER	
Drinking is not a crime. Rape is.  CLynette MCKee 2015	

# DARWIN A PLACE TO BE

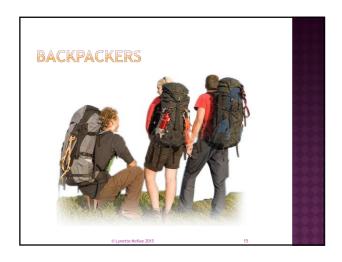
### •Who are the transient populations?

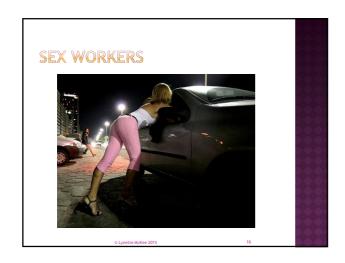
TRANSIENT POPULATIONS

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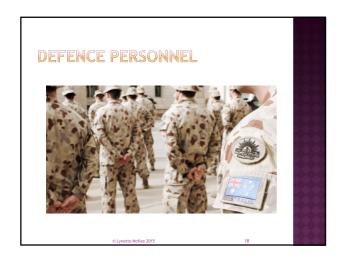


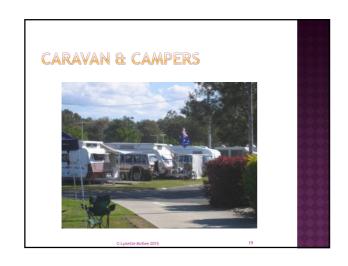




















### WHAT IS SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

- Taking advantage of a person's vulnerability, manipulation of differential power, or betrayal of trust for sexual purposes
- Dominant position of person that allows them to force or coerce another into sexual activity

### **SEXUAL EXPLOITATION INCLUDES**

- Sex for favours
  - Food
  - Money

  - Shelter
  - Alcohol
  - Drugs
  - Transport
- Rape
- Assault
- Violence

- Deception
- Debt bondage
- Coercion
- Intimidation
- Drink spiking
- Victimisation
- Forced labour
- Slavery
- Threats



### **SEXUAL EXPLOITATION VULNERABILITY INCREASES WITH?**

- Homelessness
- Shared accommodation
- AOD use
- $\, \bullet \,$  Poor local support networks
- Financial dependence & constraints
- Lack of local knowledge
- Employment constraints
- Travelling
- Domestic Violence
- Disabilities physical & mental
- Fear of reprisal
- Partying
- Trusting acquaintances or work colleagues

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### Acute

- Informed consent
- AOD impairment
- Choosing to leave
- Employment risk
- Reporting & identifying

### Ongoing Counselling

- Delayed disclosure
- Ongoing intervention
- Reducing vulnerability

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### **NEGATIVE CLIENT OUTCOMES**

- Self blame & guilt
- Re-victimisation
- •Perpetrator's not accountable
- Health & infection risks
- Retribution
- Hopelessness & helplessness
- Powerlessness/Limited positive goal focus
- Development of PTSD

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### IS THERE A SOLUTION?

- •How can potential PTSD development after an acute presentation be minimised?
- •How can the complexities of intervention be addressed?
- •Is accessing counselling after PTSD has developed the only option?

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### **SOME IDEAS**

- Practitioner Strategies
  - Practitioner awareness of vulnerabilities
  - Appropriate interventions for population group
  - Little is better than nothing
  - What is the 'problem' for client

### • Community Development

- Social awareness
- Community awareness
- Protective behaviours for adults
- Resilience
- Party awareness

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### TALK ABOUT SEXUAL EXPLOITATION



### THE QUESTIONS

- •Why don't people engage in counselling following acute sexual assault?
- •Why is there a high representation of sexual assault in ATSI people?
- Does AOD use predispose people to sexual assault/exploitation?

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