

Learn the Language

Understanding the Sexual Exploitation of Youth: An Introduction

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It is important to understand some of the language and culture of the sex trade. We are not suggesting that you use this language with the youth you support, but it is helpful to know the terms so you don't interrupt a young person to ask what a word means if they're sharing an experience.

If a young person is using this language, it might indicate they are familiar with The Game and are being sexually exploited. However, they might simply be using the language they hear on the street or in pop culture. Consider the person's language as an indicator, not as proof that the person is being sexually exploited.

Term	Meaning
Bottom Bitch	A pimp's main girl who has been with him for a long time and earned his trust. She has more responsibilities than the other girls, such as recruiting new girls and keeping the other girls under control. Example: "We don't mess with her. She's the bottom bitch."
Choosey	Used to describe someone who changes pimps regularly—often said in a derogatory way. Example: "Steer clear of that one - everyone knows she's choosey."
Flipped	Term used to describe robbing a trick (someone who pays for sexual services). Example: "I got this when I flipped that trick."
Hot	Term used to describe when police are in the area. This can also refer to an item that would draw police attention, such as stolen goods. Example: "Main Street is hot right now." Or "She tried to sell me a car that was hot."
Out of pocket	When a person involved in the sex trade has done something that their pimp doesn't condone. Example: "She got hit because spending that money was out of pocket."
Stable	A pimping term used to describe the number of people a pimp has working for them. Example: "He had five girls in his stable."
Trap House	A house where illegal activities occur (sexual exploitation, drug use, etc.) Example: "They went to a trap house to get drugs."
Turn Out	A term used to describe when a person introduces/gets someone involved in the Game. Example: "She was turned out at 13."
Undercutting	Term used when someone is not charging the going rate for services in a particular area. It is dangerous to do this in the sex trade; people often get beaten up for it. Example: "It won't be good for him if he gets caught undercutting around here."
Wifey	A term to describe another girl who is being sexually exploited by the same pimp. In pop culture this can also mean someone's best friend. Example: "We both have the same man. She's my wifey."