

University of Massachusetts Boston

ScholarWorks at UMass Boston

Office of Community Partnerships Posters

Office of Community Partnerships

4-8-2015

Study of Sexual Exploitation in Boston

Megan Klein-Hattori

University of Massachusetts Boston, Megan.Klein-Hattori@umb.edu

Jackie Lageson

University of Massachusetts Boston, jacqueline.lageson@umb.edu

Julianne Siegfriedt

University of Massachusetts Boston, Julianne.Siegfriedt@umb.edu

Kate Price

University of Massachusetts Boston

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp_posters



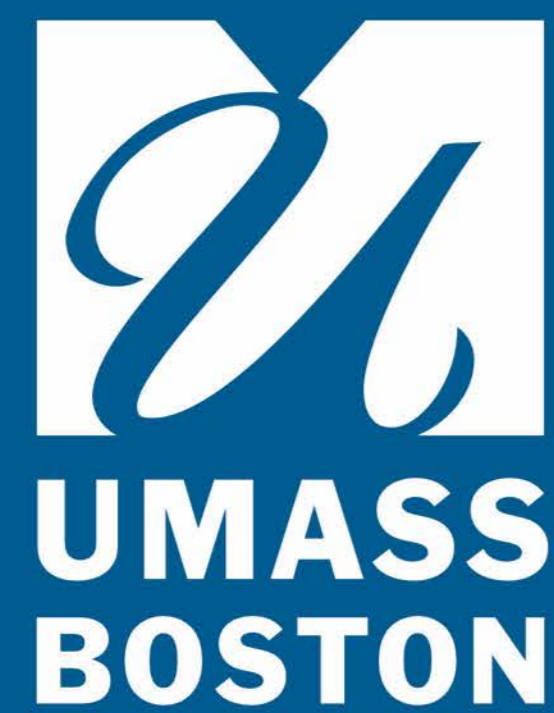
Part of the [Civic and Community Engagement Commons](#), [Gender and Sexuality Commons](#), and the [Sexuality and the Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Klein-Hattori, Megan; Lageson, Jackie; Siegfriedt, Julianne; and Price, Kate, "Study of Sexual Exploitation in Boston" (2015). *Office of Community Partnerships Posters*. 243.

https://scholarworks.umb.edu/ocp_posters/243

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Office of Community Partnerships at ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. It has been accepted for inclusion in Office of Community Partnerships Posters by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at UMass Boston. For more information, please contact scholarworks@umb.edu.



Study of Sexual Exploitation in Boston

Dr. Megan Klein Hattori, Assistant Professor of Sociology

Jackie Lageson, Senior Lecturer in Sociology, Director of Breaking the Cycle of Violence [BCVI]

Dr. Cinzia Solaria, Assistant Professor of Sociology

Lauren Anderson, Office of Community Partnerships

Sociology Graduate Students: Julianne Siegfriedt, Katherine A Phelps, and Kate Price, Lena Campagna

Background

Boston has joined cities across the nation aiming to decrease demand from “John’s” seeking sex from prostituted individuals by 20% over the next two years.



On April 23rd, 2014, Councilman Baker’s office hosted a meeting bringing together stakeholders that expressed interest in developing a program to coordinate services for individuals who are prostituted in Boston in addition to reducing demand for “John’s” seeking from prostituted individuals.

The network requested UMass Boston provide technical assistance in the form of research detailing the landscape of sexual exploitation in Boston.

Project Goals and Objectives

The proposed research will answer four questions:

- What are the characteristics of the Sex Trade in Boston?
- What social services do prostituted individuals need?
- How can services for individuals who are prostituted be better coordinated?
- What would motivate a decrease in demand for sex from buyers/“Johns”?



Findings from this project will provide four outcomes to the City of Boston, the Boston Police Department Human Trafficking Unit, and service providing NGOs:

1. establish a baseline of the sexual exploitation that is occurring in the city and the services available to individuals seeking to exit sexual exploitation,
2. determine the factors to be targeted in order to decrease demand from buyers/“Johns,”
3. contribute to the monitoring and evaluation of the city of Boston’s efforts to reduce demand for commercial sex by 20%, and
4. map arrest locations, where NGOs say sex is sold, and where survivors say they sell sex to identify gaps between where services are provided and where services are needed.

Intended Impacts

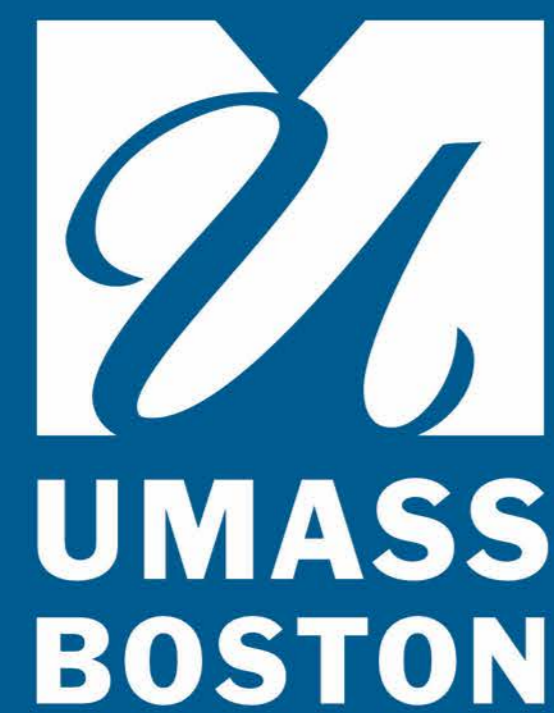
POLICY – This project will help policy makers target resources and implement policies to facilitate prostituted individuals exiting sexual exploitation and deter those who facilitate the sale of sex and those who buy sex from engaging in this exploitive behavior.

NGOs – Organization providing services to prostituted individuals will use this work to address the gaps in services provided for those seeking to exit sexual exploitation.

STUDENTS – Sociology graduate students have the opportunity to use their training in conducting in-depth interviews, focus group discussions, and survey research.

SCHOLARLY – This project will be of interest to scholars interested in sexualities, program development, and reproductive health.

Approach and Methods



Study of Sexual Exploitation in Boston

Dr. Megan Klein Hattori, Assistant Professor of Sociology
Jackie Lageson, Senior Lecturer in Sociology, Director of Breaking the Cycle of Violence [BCVI]
Dr. Cinzia Solaria, Assistant Professor of Sociology
Lauren Anderson, Office of Community Partnerships
Sociology Graduate Students: Julianne Siegfriedt, Katherine A Phelps, and Kate Price, Lena Campagna

CEASE Network Launch



On March 6, 2015, Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced the launch of CEASE Boston (Cities Empowered Against Sexual Exploitation), a chapter of the CEASE Network, a collaboration of 11 pioneering cities committed to combating sex trafficking by reducing demand for buying sex by 20 percent in two years. - <http://www.cityofboston.gov/news/default.aspx?id=20027>

Approach and Methods

In collaboration with the Boston Police Department and Councilor Baker's office, we developed a mixed-methods project that will provide a comprehensive picture of sexual exploitation in the city of Boston.

In-depth interview and focus group discussion guides developed with support from:

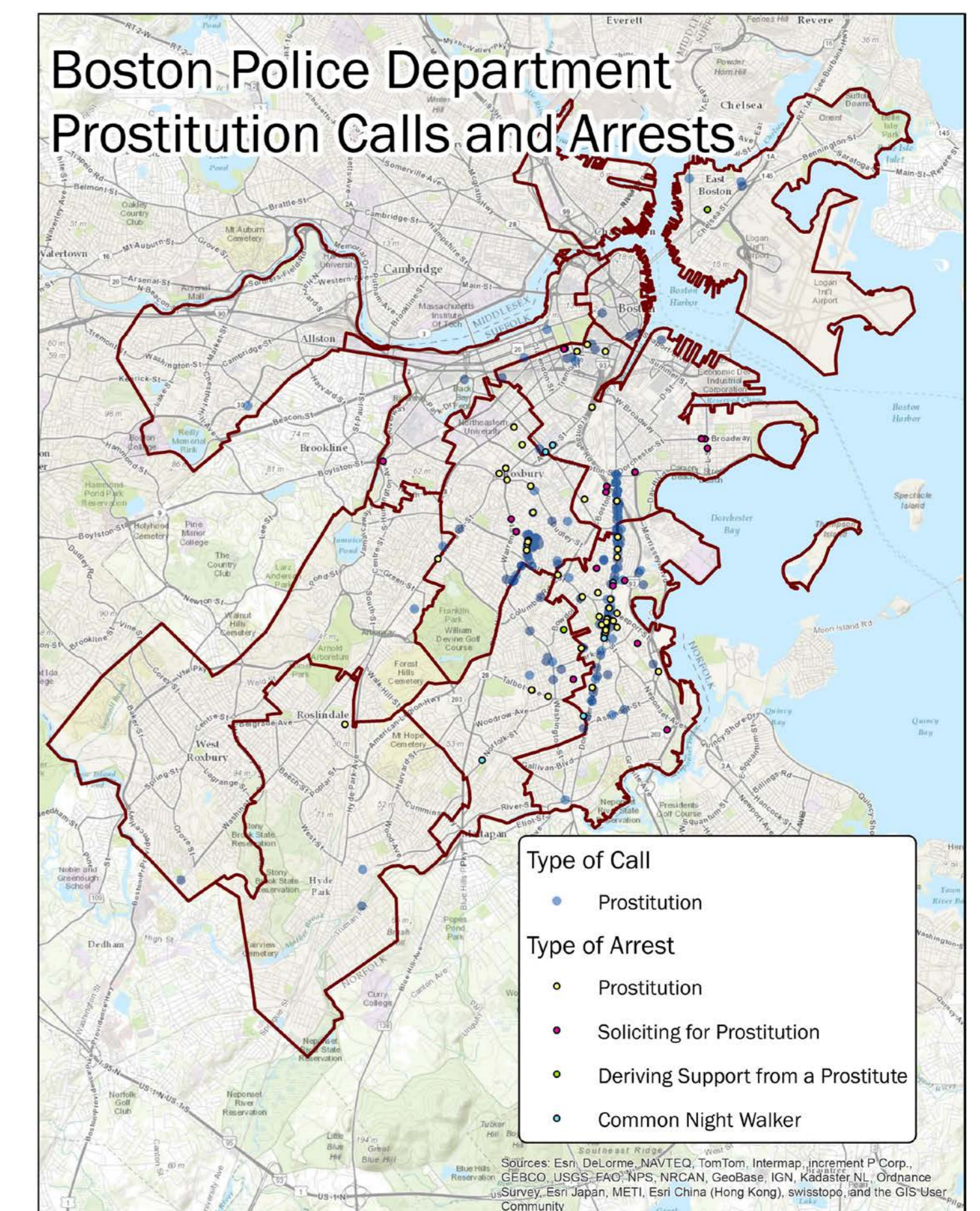
- **BPD - Office of Research and Development**
 - **BPD - Human Trafficking Unit**
- **Mayor's Office Of Women's Advancement**
 - **Mayor's Office of Public Safety**
 - **Councilor Baker's Office**

The project has already begun in-depth interviews with NGOs servicing victims of sexual exploitation and anticipates completion of the interviews with NGOs prior to the beginning of the proposed research.

Interviews with survivors of sex exploitation, sex buyers, and facilitators of the sale of sex will also be conducted. This proposed research includes four populations to better understand the sex trade in Boston:

- 1. members of Boston Police Department,**
- 2. prostituted individuals,**
- 3. those who facilitate the sale of sex, and**
- 4. those who purchase sex.**

Once the City of Boston has used the data from the first study to implement new programs and policies, the UMass Boston research team will develop outcome/evaluation measures of impact of those policies.



The Sex Trade and Law Enforcement: The map above displays the distribution of calls made to and arrests made by the Boston Police Department between October 2013 and October 2014.

[Home](#)