Trafficking Lingo

**B*tch:** A term used endearingly toward one another to refer to a “working girl.”

**Bottom, or Bottom B*tch:** A person appointed by the pimp/trafficker to recruit potential victims, report violation of rules, and often to help punish.

**Branded:** A tattoo on a victim indicating ownership by a trafficker/pimp.

**Caught a Case:** Went to jail for prostitution.

**Chose Up:** The act of joining a trafficker’s stable.

**Choosing Fee:** A term used on girls to pay to enter the stable.

**Circuit:** A series of cities among which victims are moved around between.

**Daddy:** A term a male trafficker/pimp requires his victims to call him.

**Date:** The appointment set up to exchange sex for money.

**Exit Fee:** The money a pimp will demand from a victim who is thinking about trying to leave. It will be an exorbitant sum, to discourage her/him from leaving. Most pimps never let their victims leave freely.

**Family or Folks:** A group of victims under the control of a trafficker/pimp. The term is an attempt to recreate the family environment.

**Gorilla Pimp:** A violent trafficker/pimp

**Grooming:** When a trafficker is dating a girl to win her trust, before he tells her he is trafficker or pimp.

**John / Trick / Buyer:** An individual who pays for or trades something of value for sexual acts.

**Kiddie Track / Kiddie Stroll:** An area known for young victims to be available for sexual acts.

**Knock:** Convincing a girl to go home with a trafficker – before the “turning out” phase.

**Lot Lizard:** Derogatory term for trafficked women and children at truck stops.

**P.I.:** Another term for pimp.

**Pimp Circle:** Describes a situation where pimps circle around a victim to intimidate and discipline them, using verbal and physical threats/action.

**Quota:** The amount of money a victim must give to their trafficker/pimp each night. If a quota is not met, the victim may be made to work until it is or otherwise disciplined.

**Reckless Eyeballing:** Looking at other pimps, which is considered out of pocket.
Renegade: A person involved in prostitution without a pimp.

Romeo/Finesse Pimp: A trafficker who uses fraud and deception to lure their victims in by pretending to be their boyfriend.

Seasoning: A combination of psychological manipulation, intimidation, gang rape, sodomy, beatings, deprivation of food or sleep, isolation from friends or family and other sources of support and threatening or holding hostage of a victim’s children. Seasoning is designed to break down a victim’s resistance and ensure compliance.

Sister: Another term for the other females in the stable.

Square: A person who is living a “normal” lifestyle.

Squaring Up: Attempting to escape a pimp or exit the life.

Stable: A group of victims under the control of a pimp.

Stack: Putting money to the side, whether a girl stacks money without permission, or the trafficker is stacking money, so they can make a move.

Staying in/out of pocket: Abiding, or not abiding, to the rules that the trafficker has set.

The Game / The Life: What the entire life of human trafficking is referred to.

The Track / The Blade: The area in which a girl walks to try to catch a date.

Trade Up / Trade Down: The act of buying or selling a person for a pimp’s stable.

Turn Out: To be forced into prostitution; often referring to a person newly involved in the life.

Wifey or Wife-in-law: A term those being trafficked are required to call the other females in the “stable.”

Working: Performing sexual acts for money.

Not a Complete List
Resource: Rebecca Bender Initiative