

KATHLEEN PRICE

February 2026

Professional Experience

- Nov 2024 – Present: Associate Research Scientist
Wellesley Centers for Women, Wellesley College
- July 2021 – Nov 2024: Visiting Scholar
Wellesley Centers for Women, Wellesley College
- July 2020 – Nov 2024: Senior Research Associate
Advocates for Human Potential
o Institutional Review Board (IRB) Member
- Sept 2019 – Aug 2021: Visiting Scholar
Women’s Studies Research Center, Brandeis University
- June 2019 – Present: Child Sex Trafficking Expert Contractor
National Centers for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)
o Global Platform on Child Exploitation Policy
o Child Sex Trafficking Expert Working Group
- June 2016 – May 2018: Research Assistant
Department of Emergency Medicine, Division of Global Health and
Human Rights, Massachusetts General Hospital
- Sept 2015 – Dec 2017: Research Assistant
Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts Boston
- May 2010 – Aug 2015: Project Associate
Wellesley Centers for Women, Wellesley College

Education

- Ph.D. University of Massachusetts Boston, Sociology, December 2019
Dissertation: *Defining Worthy Victims: State-level Legislative Decisions to Prevent the Criminalization of Child Sex Trafficking Victims in the United States*. This mixed methods study used an original dataset for quantitative Event History Analysis and semi-structured, in-depth qualitative interviews to examine the social, political, and economic factors that explain legislative decisions to prohibit commercially sexually exploited children from being arrested and/or prosecuted for prostitution between states.
Committee: Keith Bentele (ch), Megan Klein Hattori, Linda Williams, Kevin Wozniak
- M. A. Simmons College, 2005, Gender and Cultural Studies
- B. S. Lesley College/Audubon Expedition Institute, 1994, Environmental Education
Semester Abroad in India, 1989

Additional Professional Training

Utilizing Culturally Responsive and Racially Equitable Evaluation, Claremont Evaluation Center, Claremont Graduate University, March, 2023

Evaluation in Service of Public Good: Developing a Rigorous Equity-focused Practice, Claremont Evaluation Center, Claremont Graduate University, May, 2022

Publications

Articles:

Price, Kate and Keith Gunnar Bentele. 2023. "Defining Worthy Victims: Socioeconomic Factors Associated with State-level Legislative Decisions to Prevent the Criminalization of Sexually Exploited Children in the United States." *Victims & Offenders* 18(3):514-544.

Price, Kate, Brett D. Nelson, and Wendy Macias-Konstantopoulos. 2021. "Understanding Health Care Access Disparities Among Human Trafficking Survivors: Survivor Profiles of Health Care Experiences, Access, and Engagement." *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 36(21-22):NP11780-NP11799. doi: 10.1177/0886260519889934.

Price, Kate and Keith Gunnar Bentele. 2016. "Voting to End Vulnerability: Understanding the Recent Proliferation of State-level Child Sex Trafficking Legislation." *William and Mary Journal of Women and the Law* 23(1):1-26.

Price, Kate. 2016. "Introduction: Combating Human Trafficking through Law and Social Policy." *William and Mary Journal of Women and the Law* 23(1):i-iii.

Book:

Price, Kate. 2025. *This Happened to Me: A Reckoning*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster.

Book Chapter:

Price, Kate. 2011. Collapsing This Hushed House: Deconstructing Cultural Images of Child Prostitution in the United States. In Dalla, R., et al (Eds.) *Global Perspectives on Prostitution and Sex Trafficking: Europe, Latin America, North America, and Global*. Lanham, MD: Lexington, pp. 216-236.

Reports:

Price, Kate and Abigail Judge. 2020. *Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for Juveniles*. Washington, DC: United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance and Sudbury, MA: Advocates for Human Potential.

Price, Kate. 2011. *Longing to Belong: Relational Risks and Resilience of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children in the U.S.* Wellesley Centers for Women, Wellesley College.

Works in Progress:

Judge, Abigail, Sandra Andrade, and **Kate Price**. From the Institute to the Streets: Peer and Clinical-Led Community Outreach for Women at the Intersection of Sex Trafficking and Substance Use. In Anderson, V. R. and Young, C. (Eds.) *Human Trafficking: Anti-Oppressive Research, Policy, and Practice*. Oxfordshire, UK: Routledge. (Anticipated publication in 2027.)

Other Writing:

Price, Kate and Mallika Sunder. *How the Law Can Add to Child Sex Trafficking Victims' Existing Trauma*. The Conversation. February 9, 2026.

<https://theconversation.com/how-the-law-can-add-to-child-sex-trafficking-victims-existing-trauma-271922>

Price, Kate. *Why Didn't You Just Leave? and Other Unanswerable Questions for My Mother*. Women Change Worlds blog, Wellesley Centers for Women, Wellesley College. May 11, 2022.

<https://www.wcwoonline.org/WCW-Blog-Women-Change-Worlds/entry/Why-didn-t-you-just-leave-and-other-unanswerable-questions-for-my-mother>

Price, Kate. *Our Sex Trafficking Laws Hurt Sexually Exploited Girls*. Ms. Magazine blog, Human Trafficking Awareness Day, January 11, 2018.

<https://msmagazine.com/2018/01/11/sex-trafficking-laws-hurt-sexually-exploited-girls/>

Price, Kate. *'No One Intervened': A Sex Trafficking Survivor Says U.S. Must Do Better for Its Children*. NPR WBUR's Cognoscenti blog, August 16, 2016.

<https://www.wbur.org/cognoscenti/2016/08/16/no-one-intervened-a-sex-trafficking-survivor-says-u-s-must-do-better-for-its-children>

Price, Kate. *Trafficking and Patriarchy*. Wellesley Centers for Women's Women = Books blog, March 13, 2014. <https://www.wcwoonline.org/Women=-Books-Blog/trafficking>

Price, Kate. *Dispelling 'Violence Against Women and Children' Myths in Human Trafficking*. Wellesley Centers for Women's Women Change Worlds blog, January 24, 2014.

<https://www.wcwoonline.org/WCW-Blog-Women-Change-Worlds/Dispelling-violence-against-women-and-children-myths-in-human-trafficking>

Price, Kate. *Children's Rights Are Human Rights*. Wellesley Centers for Women's Women Change Worlds blog, June 4, 2013.

<https://www.wcwoonline.org/WCW-Blog-Women-Change-Worlds/Children-s-rights-are-human-rights>

Price, Kate. *Putting Children First: "Innocence" in Childhood & the Risk for Child Commercial Sexual Exploitation in the U.S.* Wellesley Centers for Women Research & Action Report, Fall/Winter 2012.

<https://www.wcwoonline.org/Research-Action-Report-Fall/Winter-2012/commentary-putting-children-first-innocence-in-childhood-a-the-risk-for-child-commercial-sexual-exploitation-in-the-us>

Grant Funded Projects

Current

Familial Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)

(Principal Investigators: L. Williams and K. Price) 11/2024-Present, Wellesley Centers for Women, Bennenson Fund (\$20,000)

While much research on CSEC, particularly domestic child sex trafficking, has been completed in the last twenty years, only a handful of studies have examined familial CSEC. Research is needed to fill this gap. Despite considerable attention to non-familial CSEC, very little research exists on how familial

CSEC is even more concealed due to family members' privacy and ability to control and access children including not only adolescents but very young children. Current understandings of familial CSEC rely on constructs related to a non-family-controlled CSEC framework, including runaways and traffickers posing as "boyfriends"; however, evidence suggests differences, for example, that sharing sexually explicit imagery or videos of a child ("child sexual abuse material" or, CSAM) may be an essential pathway for family members and caregivers to sexually exploit children. To fill this research gap, we are conducting a pilot study to gather data from focus groups with familial CSEC lived experience experts and service providers to examine broader understandings of "family," dynamics in families in which someone traffics a child, entrance and exiting pathways, systems engagement, and intergenerational transmission. Pilot results will help us to refine research questions, objectives, and methodologies for a larger unprecedented five-year mixed methods study to explore familial CSEC family dynamics, root causes, perpetrator networks, and systems responses with a sample of 30 participants each from the following populations: adult familial CSEC survivors; service providers; perpetrators (traffickers and buyers); non-offending family members, and criminal legal system agents. This is the first time data will be systematically collected from familial CSEC perpetrators and non-offending family members.

Completed

Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI), Project RISE (Recovery through Information, Support, and Engagement)

(Principal Investigator: T. Tobin) 07/2020-12/2023, SAMHSA-CSAT

Under this collaboration among the Institute for Health and Recovery (IHR) and four Essex County, Massachusetts homeless shelters, responsibilities ranged from for managing and completing all aspects of the evaluation of Project RISE, which assists families in accessing and retaining housing, improving families' access to substance use disorder (SUD), mental health, primary care, and trauma-informed services, strengthening parent-child relationships and child well-being through evidence-based parent-child services, and improving system-level coordination between behavioral health and area homeless service providers. Quantitative data collection and analyses included centralizing and analyzing direct participant Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) interview data along with clinician-reported service use data, other administrative data, and qualitative data obtained through focus groups, client case study interviews, and key informant interviews. Final data report processes included written content and data visualization materials for all annual and final SAMHSA reports. Role on project: Lead Evaluator and Lead Qualitative and Quantitative Analyst

Massachusetts Access to Recovery (ATR) Performance Assessment

(Principal Investigator: K. Price) 01/2021-10/2022, SAMHSA-CSAT, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (MA DPH/BSAS)

ATR is an integrated and coordinated system of care that brings together traditional treatment services with a host of nontraditional community recovery support services for residents in early recovery from SUDs. The program includes services for basic needs, sober housing, recovery coaching, and job training for the more than 30,000 individuals enrolled since the program's inception in 2010. Managed all aspects of mixed methods performance assessment on program designed for individuals who have a SUD, including monitoring GPRA data collection and reporting. Managed ten-person evaluation team utilizing quantitative and qualitative methodology including key informant interviews, multi-lingual focus groups, service logs, and quantitative analyses to examine efficacy of how ATR enables participants to create a recovery plan unique to their own needs and choose from a wide range of recovery support services. Produced written and data visualization materials for final report and

stakeholder presentation, to inform future ATR service-delivery priorities, including decreasing participant intersectional barriers to accessing services.

Boston Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI)

(Principal Investigator: T. Tobin) 07/2020-09/2021, SAMHSA-CSAT

As a part of this CSAT collaboration with the Boston Public Health Commission and Pine Street Inn, AHP conducted an outcome and process evaluation to assess housing and case management services to chronically homeless individuals with SUDs, serious mental health issues, and co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders, as well as veterans experiencing homelessness. Managed all aspects of the CABHI program evaluation, including monitoring GPRA data collection and reporting, and supporting data-driven quality improvement processes. Managed all aspects of implementing the qualitative data collection plan, including client case studies and key informant interviews with shelter staff and steering committee members. Produced written and data visualization materials for all reports. Role on project: Lead Evaluator and Lead Quantitative Analyst

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for State Prisoners Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Program

(Principal Investigator: A. Klein) 07/2020-1/2021, U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

Researched and authored a manual on trauma-informed alternatives to incarceration for juvenile justice-involved youth receiving SUD treatment as part of this national TTA program for prison, jail, and inmate aftercare substance use treatment programs in states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. The manual also included research on social determinants of health and adolescent brain development to inform best practices for juvenile SUD treatment programs. Developed and presented a webinar on promising practices in trauma-informed SUD for juvenile justice-involved youth.

Role on project: Lead Author and Trainer, Training and Technical Assistance Report and Webinar

Department of Emergency Medicine, Division of Global Health and Human Rights, Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH)

(Principal Investigator: W. Macias-Konstantopoulos) 06/2016-12/2018, Humanity United Foundation

Directed a mixed methods program evaluation survey with human trafficking survivors to measure access to medical and mental health care services. The study identified specific barriers to accessing care, including clinic location, lack of transportation, previous adverse experience with nurses and physicians, and not prioritizing health issues. Collaborated with emergency physicians, SUD clinicians, mental health providers, and social service organizations to gather information about the relationship between human trafficking and co-existing conditions, including SUDs, trauma, poverty, and housing instability.

Role on project: Research Assistant

Other Grants and Awards

Wagner Centers, Familial CSEC Research Incubator, Wellesley College, 2025-26 (\$15,000)

My Life, My Choice Beacon of Light Award, 2023

Dissertation Fellowship, American Association of University Women, 2018-2019 (\$20,000)

Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant, University of Massachusetts Boston, 2018 (\$2,000)

Mariam K. Chamberlain Dissertation Award, International Center for Research on Women, 2017 (\$8,500)

Sun Gate Foundation Fellowship, 2015-2017 & 2019 (\$4,500)

Granting Courage Fellowship, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Foundation, 2015 (\$3,875)
Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize, End Child Pornography and Trafficking (ECPAT), 2013
Radcliffe College Exemplary Service Award, 1999

Professional Presentations

2026 *Intergenerational Familial Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)*, Keynote, Northeast Pennsylvania Human Trafficking Task Force Annual Regional Training, Tannersville, PA, January

2024 *Family-Controlled Child Sex Trafficking*, National Centers for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) Board of Directors Meeting, Alexandria, VA, April

2023 *Trauma-informed Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) Interviewing*, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)-funded Access to Recovery (ATR), Sudbury, MA and Online, January

Human Trafficking Awareness Month Keynote Lecture, Misericordia University, Dallas, PA, January

Engaging Families in Preventing and Addressing Human Trafficking, U.S. Department of Education. Addressing Human Trafficking in America's Schools Webinar Series, Online, January

Supporting Students Who Have Experienced Familial Trafficking, U.S. Department of Education. Addressing Human Trafficking in America's Schools Webinar Series, Online, January

2022 *Human Trafficking in Northeast/Central Pennsylvania*, Pennsylvania State Police, Troop N, Community Services. Northeast Human Trafficking Conference, Wilkes-Barre, PA, May

Human Trafficking 101, Advocates for Human Potential (AHP) and Kentucky Projects for Assistance in Transitions from Homelessness (PATH), Online, April

Family Cycles of Intergenerational Human Trafficking, with Abigail Judge, Ph.D., Mental Health Association in New York Fulton and Montgomery Counties Speaker Series, Online, January

2021 *Understanding Systems-level Inequalities in Human Trafficking*, with Abigail Judge, Ph.D., Mental Health Association in New York Fulton and Montgomery Counties Speaker Series, Online, October

2020 *Residential Substance Use Treatment for Juveniles*, with Abigail Judge, Ph.D., Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance and Advocates for Human Potential Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Training and Technical Assistance Webinar Series, Online, December

Longing to Belong: Relational Risks and Resilience of Commercially Sexually Exploited Minors in the United States, Mental Health Association in Fulton and Montgomery Counties Speaker Series, Online, November

“We Study Our Pain”: Research as Radical Self-Care, Trauma-Adapted Family Connections Speaker Series, University of Maryland School of Social Work, Online, August

Defining Worthy Victims: State Legislative Decisions to Prohibit the Criminalization of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children in the U.S., World Without Exploitation, Online, June

2019 *Listening to Survivors of Sexual Exploitation: An Exploratory Meeting of Mental Health and Survivor Professionals to Conceptualize Best Practices*, International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies 35th Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, November

A Systemic Shift: Narratives and Lessons Learned from State Legislative Efforts to Prevent the Criminalization of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children, Shared Hope International JuST Conference, Cincinnati, OH, October

Defining Worthy Victims: State Legislative Decisions to Decriminalize Commercially Sexually Exploited Children in the U.S., Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, March

“We Study Our Pain”: Research as Radical Self-Care, Graduate Consortium in Women’s Studies Annual Conference, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, March

Human Trafficking Awareness Month panel, Regis College, Weston, MA, January

2018 *Listening to Survivors: Building Mental Health Services for Women Affected by Commercial Sexual Exploitation Through Psychology and Survivor Professional Collaborations*, Radcliffe Exploratory Seminar, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, October

Sex-trafficked Children and the Evolving Legal Landscape, Insights to Action seminar, International Center for Research on Women, Washington, DC, June

Human Trafficking Awareness Day symposium, sponsored by Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators, Massachusetts State House, Boston, MA, January

2017 *Longing to Belong: Relational Risks and Resilience in Commercially Sexually Exploited Children in the U.S.*, Grand Rounds, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA, March

Voting to End Vulnerability: Understanding the Recent Proliferation of State-level Child Sex Trafficking Legislation, with Prof. Keith Gunnar Bentele, William and Mary Journal of Women and the Law’s Symposium: Combating Human Trafficking Through Law and Social Policy, Williamsburg, VA, February

2016 *Using Mixed Methods to Advance Gender Equality and Inclusion in the Workplace Symposium, Student Panel*, sponsored by University of Massachusetts Boston Chapter of the International Sociology Honors Club and the Sociology Department Student Club, Boston, MA, April

Human Trafficking in America's Schools Summit, sponsored by People against Trafficking in America's Schools, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, June

Longing to Belong: Relational Risks and Resilience in Commercially Sexually Exploited Children in the U.S., Graduate Consortium in Women's Studies Annual Conference, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, March

2015 *Shut Out Human Trafficking Awareness Week* panel, sponsored by UNICEF and the University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston, MA, November

Finding Answers: A Journey toward Truth and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, with *Boston Globe* journalist Janelle Nanos, Wellesley Centers for Women Lunchtime Seminar, Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA, April

Longing to Belong: Relational Risks and Resilience in Commercially Sexually Exploited Children in the U.S., Social Theory Forum, University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston, MA, March

2014 *Longing to Belong: Relational Risks and Resilience in Commercially Sexually Exploited Children in the U.S.*, See the Girl Summit, Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center, Jacksonville, FL, October

Combating Human Trafficking Through the Eyes of the Survivor, "Protecting Survivors: Mental Health Considerations" and "Ensuring Social Services Meet the Unique Needs of Human Trafficking Survivors" panels, University of New Hampshire Law School, Concord, NH, March

2013 *Longing to Belong: Relational Risks and Resilience in U.S. Prostituted Children*, Poster presenter and panelist, "Making Lasting Change through Research, Theory, and Action: Showcasing Successes from the Wellesley Centers for Women," National Women's Studies Conference, Cincinnati, OH, November

Buying Power: How Consumerism and the Sexualization of Children Put All Kids at Risk, Presentation with Senior Research Scientist Jean Kilbourne, Ed.D., Wellesley Centers for Women Council of Advisors Meeting, Wellesley, MA, May

2012 *Longing to Belong: Relational Risks and Resilience in Commercially Sexually Exploited Children in the U.S.*, Lunchtime Seminar Series, Wellesley Center for Women, Wellesley College, May

2011 *Longing to Belong: Relational Risks and Resilience of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children in the U.S.*, International Conference on Human Trafficking, Prostitution, and Sex Work, University of Toledo, Toledo, OH, September

Media and Impact

- 2025** *'Jeffrey Epstein is Not Unique': What His Case Reveals About the Realities of Child Sex Trafficking* article written for The Conversation. Resulted in 72,000+ reads around the world, November.
- 2022** *"Kate Price Remembers Something Terrible"* multi-media feature article written by Janelle Nanos and published in *Boston Globe Sunday Magazine* to raise awareness about child sex trafficking in Appalachia and throughout the United States. Price and Nanos collaborated on this story for 10 years to investigate Price's familial CSEC history. Finalist, Pulitzer Prize for Social Commentary; Winner, Columbia School of Journalism Dart Award for Excellence in Coverage of Trauma; Winner, New England Emmy Award, Societal Concerns - Short Form Content.
- 2019** Participated in American Association of University Women (AAUW)-sponsored Sexual Assault Awareness month Twitter Chat as gender-based and sexual violence expert, April.
- Expert testimony before Massachusetts Joint Committee on Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities to support of State Senate Bill 24 "An Act to End Child Marriage in Massachusetts" featured in NPR/WBUR's legislative coverage. State Senate Bill 24 signed into law July 2022.
- 2018** Interviewed for Feministing.com's *Feministing Five* about advocacy work on the commercial sexual exploitation of children in the United States, April.
- 2017** Collaborated with State Rep. Kay Khan, chairperson, Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, to write state legislation (H.3499) decriminalizing victims of the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) in Massachusetts. Provided expert testimony before the Judiciary Committee to support H.3499.
- 2016** *'No One Intervened': A Sex Trafficking Survivor Says U.S. Must Do Better for Its Children* blog post for NPR WBUR's *Cognoscenti* resulted in the 2017 collaboration with Rep. Khan after a constituent forwarded the post to her with concern that Massachusetts currently retains the right to arrest and prosecute children for prostitution.
- Represented ECPAT (End Child Pornography and Trafficking) on BBC World Service as child sex trafficking expert.
- 2014** Represented Truckers against Trafficking on anti-CSEC public education segment, Sirius XM Road Dog Channel.
- 2013** Changed legislation in Florida to ensure child sex trafficking victims are not involuntarily detained while receiving services, in collaboration with Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center, Jacksonville, FL.
- 2012** *Longing to Belong: Relational Risks and Resilience of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children in the U.S.* working paper at Wellesley Centers for Women cited by Delores Barr Weaver Policy Center advocates as the primary academic source for arguments that changed 2013 Florida legislation to ensure sex trafficked children are not involuntarily detained while receiving services.

Teaching Experience

- Jan 2018 – May 2019: Graduate Instructor
Sociology Department, University of Massachusetts Boston
Methods of Sociological Research, Spring and Fall 2018 & Spring 2019
- Sept 2015 – Dec 2017: Teaching Assistant
Sociology Department, University of Massachusetts Boston
Introduction to Criminal Justice, Spring 2018 • *Foundations of Applied Sociology*, Fall 2017 • *Introduction to Sociology*, 2016-2017 • *Women and Society*, Spring 2016 *Introduction to Human Rights*, Fall 2015
- Sept 2003 – Dec 2007: Staff Instructor
Office of the Dean of Students, Simmons University
First-Year Experience (FYE), Fall 2003-2007

Professional Activities and Service

- Boston Human Exploitation Advocacy Team (HEAT), Massachusetts General Hospital
2017-Present, Advisor
- ECPAT-USA (End Child Pornography and Trafficking-USA)
2009-2020 Founding Member, Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Advisory Council
- Northeast Pennsylvania Task Force Against Human Trafficking
2022-Present, Member
- Office of Justice Programs, United States Department of Justice
2018-2022 Peer Reviewer, Research Proposals
- Reviewer, *Dignity: A Journal on Sexual Exploitation and Violence*
- Reviewer, *Journal of Human Trafficking*
- Reviewer, *Oxford University Press*