

WHY NUMBERS MATTER:

Most journalists and others who share false statistics with the public are not going to take the time to research the actual numbers *because they have no incentive to do so*. The campaign against so called 'sex trafficking' (or what we call the "War on Sex Workers") is the moral/ social *crusade du jour* and to write the truth about it would be detrimental to the career of any politician or mainstream media journalist.

Which is why it isn't all that surprising when we find op-ed pieces such as the one which appeared in the '*Dallas Morning News*' on November 23, 2013, in support of a 'crack down on sex traffickers,' claiming that there were **"300,000 sex trafficking cases being prosecuted every year, in Houston alone "** despite facts *and logic* to the contrary.

Thankfully there are people out there, aside from us sex worker activists, who call out these journalists (and politicians) on these 'facts,' even though we know that those who read the original article are not likely to go back and read the revised version. We note that they did remove the 'factually challenged' number from the page after it was pointed out to them that their claim was absolutely *not true*. Nevertheless, those who did not see the update will forever after cite the wildly inaccurate 'statistics' posted in the op-ed piece the 'Dallas Morning News' first published, and like a rock thrown in a pond, the ripple effect of the original lie will keep going and going and going.

From criminal defense attorney Mark Bennett's website:

"Dallas Morning News' Credulity = Incredibility [updated because math is hard]"

"According to the Harris County District Clerk's website, there hasn't been a prosecution for sex trafficking in Houston since 2010. But when people say 'sex trafficking,' they may mean 'compelling prostitution.' There have been two compelling-prostitution cases filed in Harris County this year.

Not 300,000. Two."

Another excellent commentary on this "Dallas Morning News" blunder:

["Over 200,000 Innocent Defendants In Houston Prisons" Simple Justice- Criminal Defense Blog](#)

"Mistakes happen? Sure. But mistakes of this magnitude should never make it past fact-checking. It's inexcusable." Scott H. Greenfield

This is why WE have done the math- because there is a HUGE difference between 300,000 cases of 'sex trafficking' in a single city alone 'every year,' and TWO cases of 'compelling prostitution' (NO SEX TRAFFICKING CASES SINCE 2010)! While "even one is too many"- just think what we could do to help REAL victims- who have asked for help- with the money now spent looking for imaginary 'victims'?