

# Hollywood versus Reality

## Lyrics from Academy Award Winning original song “It’s Hard Out Here for a Pimp”

**You know it’s hard out here for a pimp  
When he tryin to get his money for the rent  
For the Cadillacs and gas money spent  
Because a whole lot of bitches talking s--t**  
— chorus

**Man these girls think we prove thangs,  
leave a big head  
They come hopin every night, they don’t  
end up bein dead**

— verse 2

**In my eyes I done seen some crazy thangs in  
the streets  
Gotta couple hoes workin on the changes  
for me**

— verse 1

## Comments of Survivors and Experts

**On an average night, they have sex with 10-15 people and have to meet a quota which is usually \$500-1,000 a night. The young girls and women never keep their money. The pimp was making...between her and other women ... about \$642,000 a year tax free.**

— Tina Frundt, testimony before Congress, April 29, 2005

**And then of course, after we crossed the line, our worlds changed forever. ALL of us had friends who didn’t make it out alive.**

— Survivor Services, Education and Empowerment Network (SSEEN) letter to Congress, August 1, 2005

**In the Hispanic brothels, girls—and by that I mean *children*—are expected to “service” a different man every fifteen minutes, from 30 to as many as 55 “customers” per day. After a few weeks of this unimaginable regime, the human brain begins to permanently dissociate from reality as a sheer survival mechanism. The scarring is such that only a small proportion of these victims are ever able to return to a semblance of a normal life.**

— Bradley Myles, National Program Coordinator, Polaris Project, a D.C.-based anti-trafficking NGO

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Wait I got a snow bunny, and a black girl  
too  
You pay the right price and they'll both do  
you

— verse 2

It's blood sweat and tears when it come  
down to this s--t  
I'm trying to get rich 'fore I leave up out  
this bitch

— verse 1

[P]imps and madams [sold] us to johns who  
intended violent acts as long as the  
purchasers paid extra. After all, we were  
only viewed as commodities and worst of  
all, we believed it.”

— SSEEN letter to Congress, August  
1, 2005

**Eighty percent of the women were sexually  
assaulted by pimps via sadistic sex; 71% of  
pimps use drugs to control the women; and  
34% of the women received death threats  
from pimps personally or to their family.**

— Raymond, Hughes, Gomez, “Sex  
Trafficking In the United States, Coalition  
Against Trafficking of Women Study,”  
March 2001

**Sixty-eight percent of girls entered  
prostitution before age sixteen.**

—Silbert and Pines “Entrance into  
Prostitution,” *Youth and Society* 1982 (San  
Francisco)

**Forty-six percent of women in prostitution  
attempted suicide.**

— Parriot, “Health of Twin Cities  
Women in Prostitution,” May 1994

**The mortality rate of women in  
prostitution, adjusted for age and race, is  
more than 200 times greater than the  
population at large.**

— Potterat , Brewer “Mortality in a  
Long-term Open Cohort of Prostituted  
Women,” *Am J Epidemiology*, 2004.  
(Colorado)

## **Hollywood versus Reality**

— **You know what? I think it just got a little easier out here for a pimp.**

— Jon Stewart, Host of Academy Awards, March 5, 2006

**The war against pimps and trafficking mafias brings us face to face with the slavery issue of our time. Both internationally and within the United States great progress has been made during the past few years thanks to the leadership of feminist and church leaders, the President, Congress, and inner city leaders who have witnessed the tragic influence of pimp culture on the values of all of their young people. In a few short years, we will no more glorify pimps than we do Simon Legree.**

— Ambassador John Miller, Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, United States Department of State

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**“That’s the way the game goes, gotta keep  
it strictly pimpin  
Gotta have my hustle tight, makin change  
off these women, yeah”**

— verse 2

**“In the Hispanic brothels, girls—and by  
that I mean “children”—are expected to  
“service” a different man every fifteen  
minutes, from 30 to as many as 55  
“customers” per day. After no more than a  
few weeks of this unimaginable regime, the  
human brain begins to permanently  
dissociate from reality as a survival  
mechanism. The scarring is such that only  
a small proportion of these victims are ever  
able to return to normal life.”**

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