

Bay Area woman recalls life as a teenage sex slave

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OAKLAND: Woman shares horrific experience as sex-slave



RAW INTERVIEW: Former teenage sex slave recalls life on street

By Claudine Wong

KTVU

OAKLAND, Calif. —

Monica Anderson doesn't remember much of her childhood.

The 22-year-old says her earliest memories are of her father beating her mother and when her mother remarried she said things got even worse.

Anderson said her stepfather started sexually abusing her at the age of 7 and the abuse continued until she was 8. She spoke up and her stepfather was arrested and she was put in foster care.

“There's like this big gap from when I saw my mom being abused by my father and when my stepfather started sexually abusing me,” she told KTVU. “It's really hard to remember what happened in between I don't remember anything.” She eventually went back to live with her mother and started high school but life was still hard and she still suffered beatings at the hands of her older brother.

Anderson said she would often cut school and ride the bus until she ran out of money.

One day when she was 15, Anderson said, she was headed to a friend's house in Oakland when a car full of men drove up alongside her.

"I remember someone just saying – 'Go get her' and I remember getting my hair pulled and getting dragged back into the car with a shirt pulled over my head," she said of her abduction off an East Bay street.

Anderson said her abductors drove for more than an hour to a house in Sacramento. There she said she was put into a room with other girls just like her and then the seven men who took her showed her what her future would be.

"You are going to make money for all of us," she said the men told her. "We got to test out our merchandise and so they all raped me "

That night in Sacramento was the start of a two-year ordeal which would take her from the streets of Oakland to San Francisco and even to Las Vegas. She was arrested multiple times and yet again and again went back to her pimp.

She said she was scared. When you live on the streets, Anderson said, you never feel like you can truly escape.

"This man is psycho, he's stabbed me," she said of her pimp. "He's shot at me, He's done some of the most horrific things that ever experienced seeing anything ...When I was with him, he would show me to everyone and say this is my property. This mine right here."

She finally did escape.

Anderson said she realized things would not get better after her pimp got her pregnant. She miscarried after one of his beatings and his abuse started again within days of getting out of the hospital.

Finally with the help of a caseworker, she got out.

Today, she is fighting back.

Anderson is fighting for a better life for her two young daughters and the son she is expecting.

She is working at youth radio and hopes to study to become a paralegal and wants to work on grants.

Anderson said she also fights the fear. She said her pimp is still on the streets and she knows she could run into him again someday.

"If we have an encounter, I'm not going to be this scared little girl anymore," she said. "I will fight back."

On Saturday, Anderson will be one of 12 inductees into the Alameda County Woman's Hall of Fame. Organizers say she reminds