

Community Conditions that Increase Individual Vulnerability



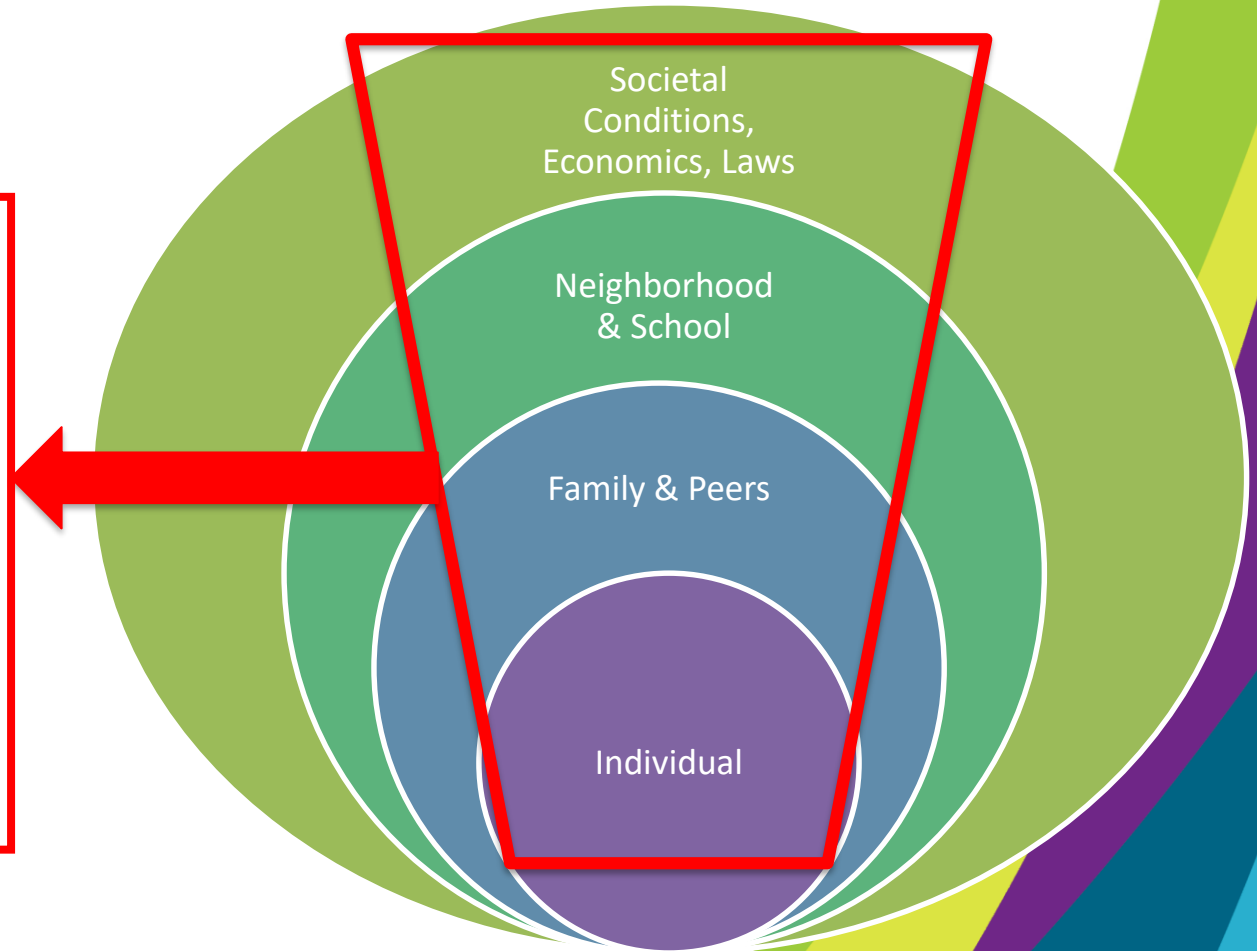
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Preventing Human Trafficking

Vulnerability at each level compounds risk of entrapment by human traffickers.



Individual Vulnerabilities

Inexperience

- Language, Cultural Differences
- Youthfulness

Disability

- Intellectual
- Emotional

Substance Use

- Alcohol
- Drugs

Elevated Exposure

- Running Away
- Social Networks

Family/Peer Vulnerabilities

Family Adversity

- Caregiver Mental Health/Substance Use
- Employment Problems

Exposure to Criminal Environments

- Family/Peers Involved in Crime/Trafficking

Financial Pressure

- Family or Child to Support
- Limited Career Preparation/Opportunity

Family Violence

- Linked to Running Away, Homelessness

Interpersonal Vulnerabilities

Maltreatment

- Sexual Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Neglect, Abandonment

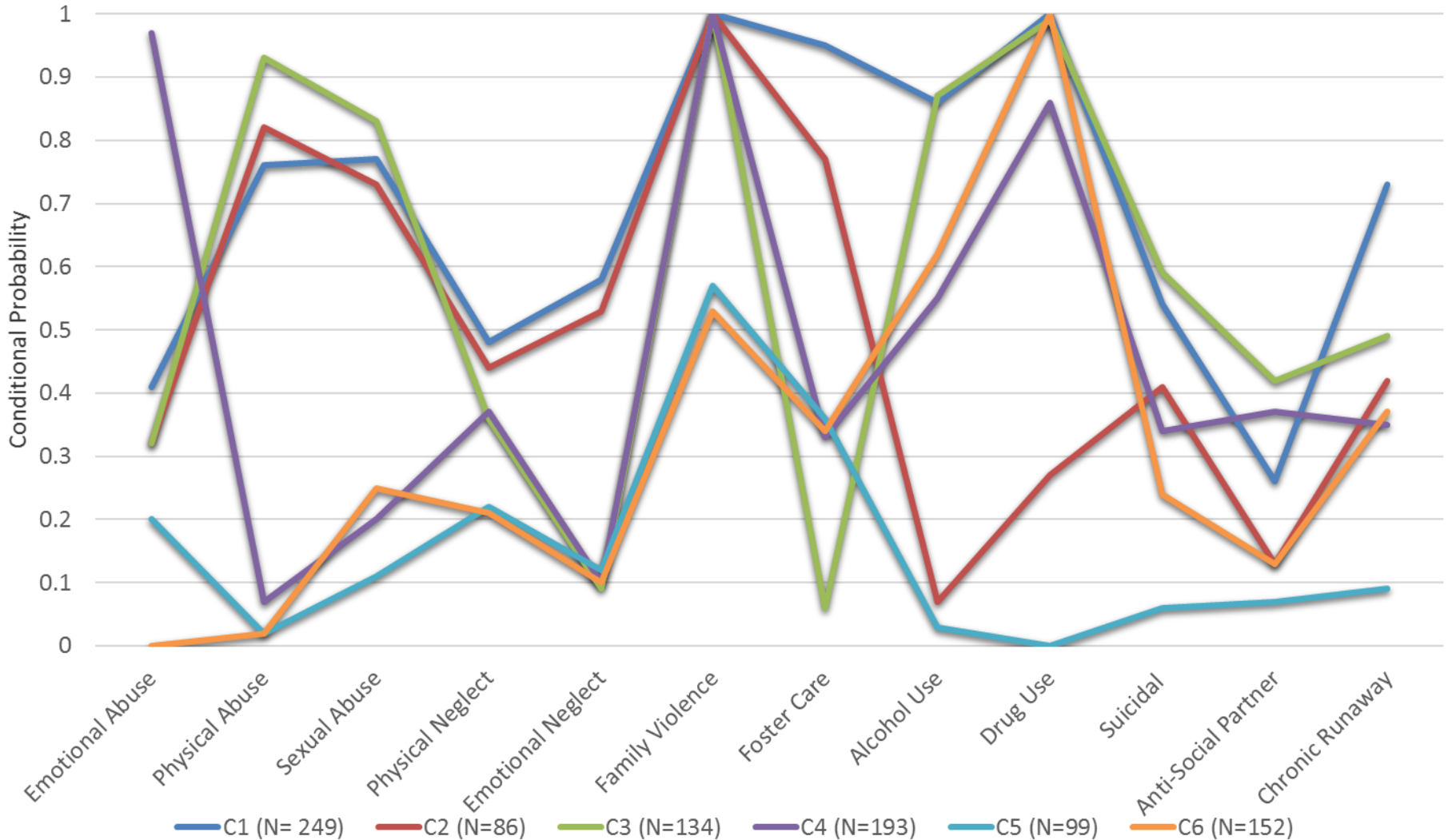
Rejection

- Based on Sexual Preference, Gender Identity

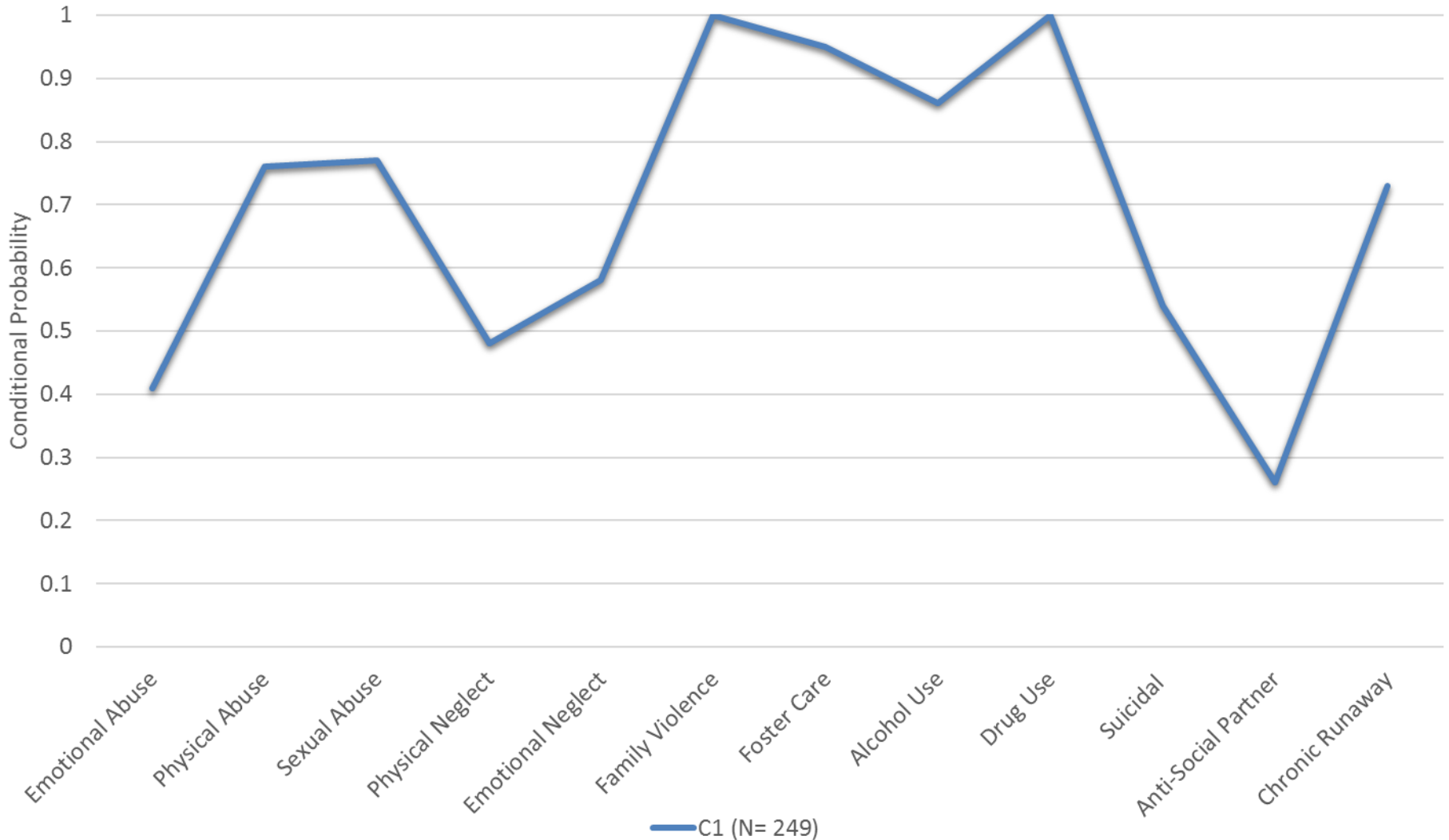
Legal/Dependency Status

- Foster Care
- Expired Visa/Visa Supported by Trafficker

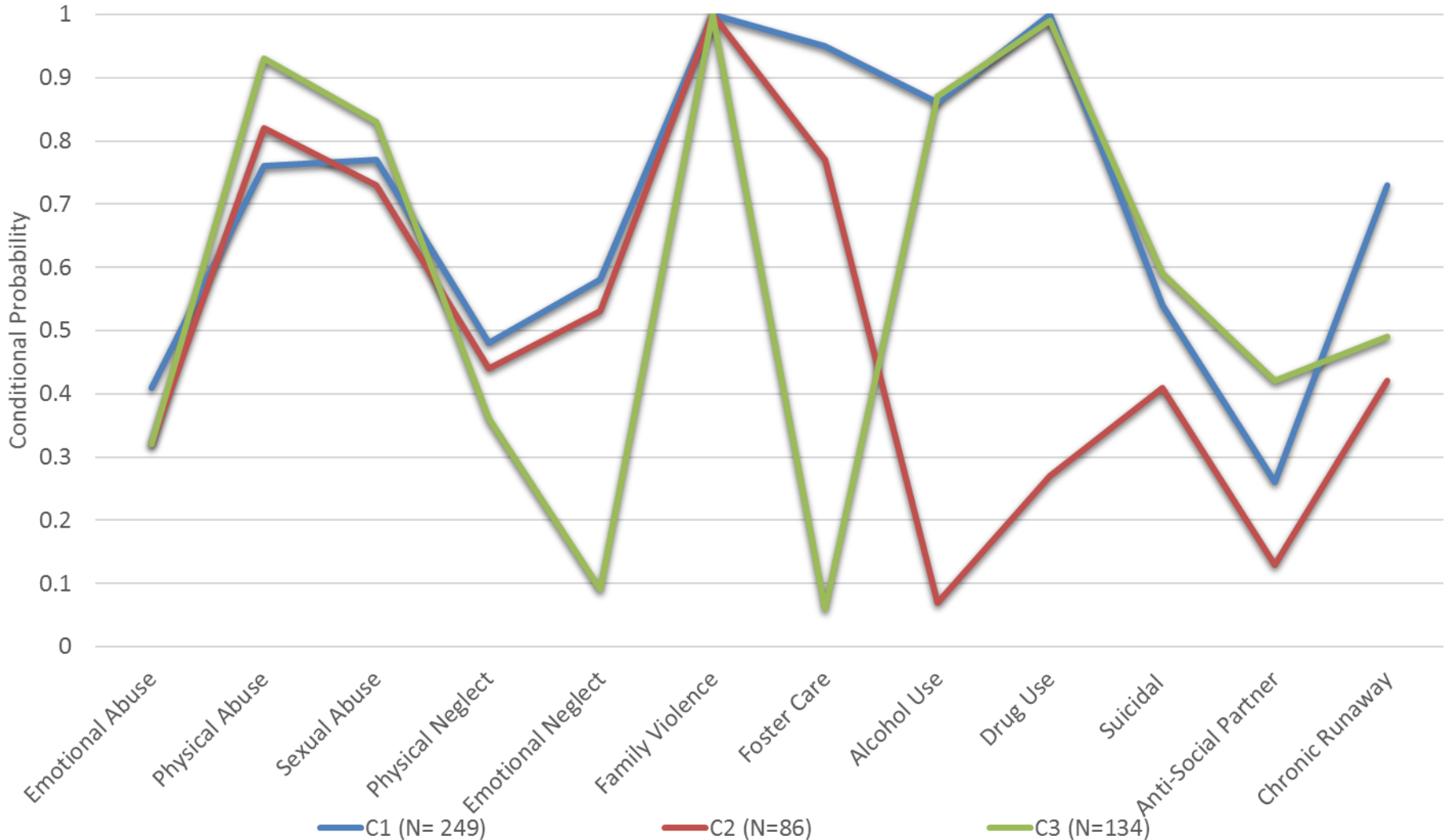
Trafficked Youth: Six Distinct Profiles of Individual and Family/Peer Vulnerability



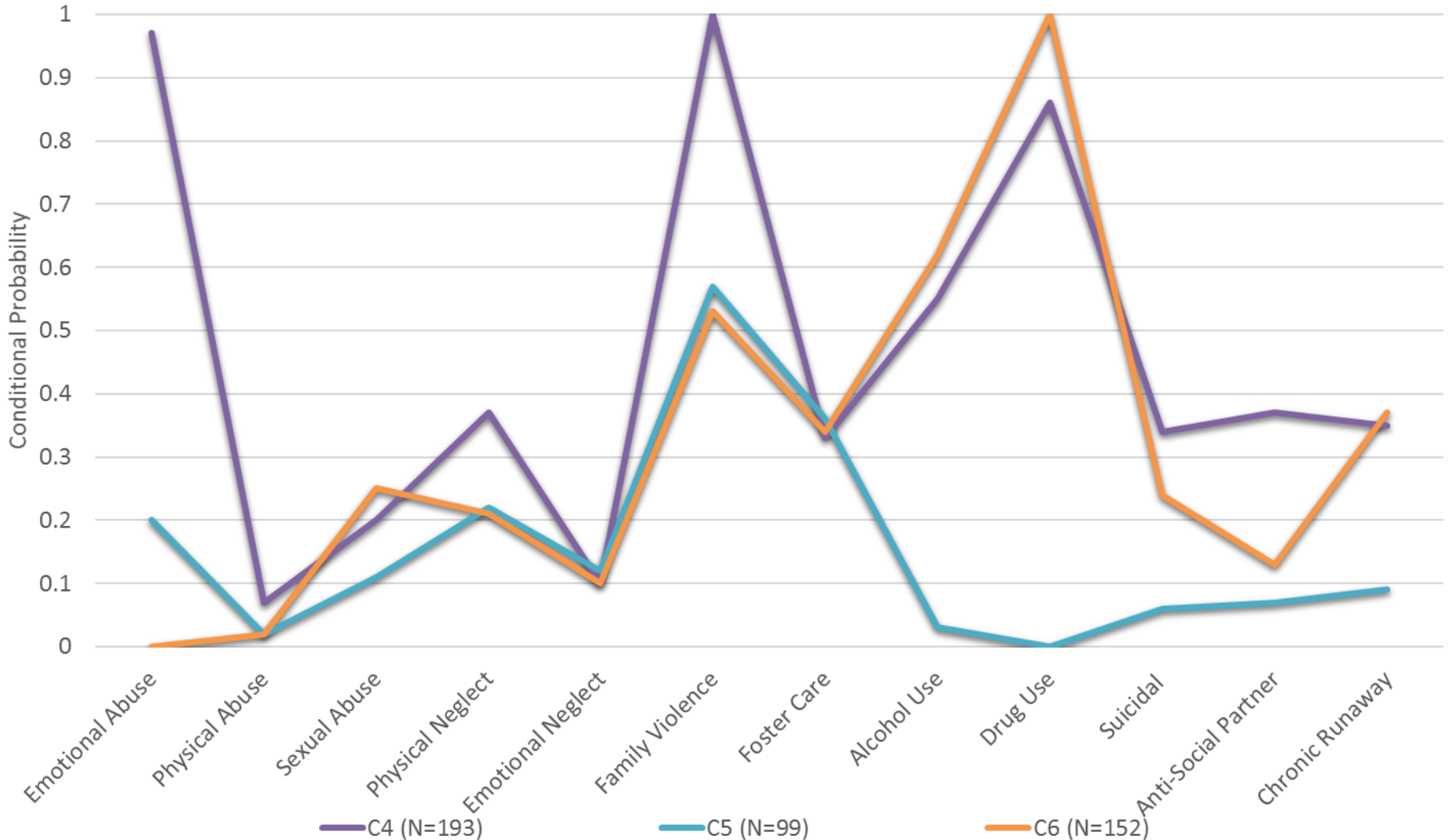
Most Recognized Profile Among U.S. Domestic Minor Trafficking Victims: *“Maltreated Youth in Foster Care”*



Similar Profiles Differentiated by Foster Care or by Alcohol/Drug Vulnerability



Distinct Profiles with No/Low History of Sexual/Physical Abuse



Vulnerability: Community Features

Neighborhood Crime

- Prostitution and Drug Problem
- Organized Crime Groups/Gangs
- Fraudulent/Exploitive Employment

Transient Populations/ Areas

- Tourism/Sex Tourism, Conventioneers
- Truck Stops, Airports
- International Border Areas

Economy

- Reliant on Sex Industry, Seasonal Workers
- Poverty
- Limited Employment Opportunities

Vulnerability: Community Response

Criminal Justice

- Inadequate Police Training
- Limited Prosecutions of Human Trafficking

Service Providers

- Training Needed
- Weak Social Safety Net for Most Vulnerable
- Inadequate Protective Strategies

Safeguard Potential Victims

- Lack of Knowledge regarding Danger
- No Safety Planning with Vulnerable Persons

Vulnerability: Societal Tolerance

Favorable View of Pimps

Victim Blaming unless “Perfect”

Devaluation/Societal Exclusion

Key Sources

- See Google Scholar, Joan A. Reid
<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=Df9C-DwAAAAAJ&hl=en>
- See Urban Institute
 - Research Area, Human Trafficking
<https://www.urban.org/research-area/human-trafficking>
 - Research, Labor Trafficking
<https://www.urban.org/research/publication/understanding-organization-operation-and-victimization-process-labor-trafficking-united-states>