

# THE CANDY SHOP

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## Talking Points:

- Produced for Street Grace by **Whitestone Pictures in 2010**
- **Stars Doug Jones** - Hellboy (comic book movie...don't worry), The Fantastic Four: The Silver Surfer (played the Silver Surfer), Pan's Labyrinth (starred), Adaptation (with Nicholas Cage & Meryl Streep)
  - side note: Doug Jones has been and continues to be extremely supportive of Street Grace. He donates and contacts us occasionally by mail and through social media
- Premiered at **The Fox Theater in 2010**

## Description:

The Candy Shop is an original film written and produced for Street Grace to expose the realities of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking in a way that is both accessible and non-graphic. This 30-minute film uses the metaphor of a candy shop where “girls go in, and candy comes out,” to explore the vulnerabilities affecting America’s children, as well as the societal factors that put them at risk of trafficking and keep the cycle of exploitation turning.

## Introduction:

I typically introduce the film by saying that was produced for us by Whitestone Pictures to allow us to discuss a grisly topic in an accessible way. I point out that every line of the script, every shot of the film, is intentional and represents some aspect of DMST in our communities. Encourage them to pay close attention to the characteristics and circumstances of each character to learn about the people involved in child sex trafficking: the victims, the pimp, the buyers, and the community involvement and responses.

## Notes for Discussion:

If you have an opportunity to discuss the film with the group, these are important points to include:

- Children in poverty are not the only children at risk (though they are certainly very vulnerable)
- Candy man lured in Hope with flattery, Nancy with money, and uses Jimmy’s sick mother to build rapport - knows their vulnerabilities and how best to manipulate
- Men waiting outside the Candy Shop didn’t want to be noticed - hid their faces, looked down - relying on anonymity
- Nervous buyer inside the Candy Shop represents the first time buyers we are attempting to deter through Transaction Intercept
- The Candy Man said he was Jimmy’s age when he first started selling - implies cycles of trauma and exploitation
- Note that boys AND girls come out of The Candy Shop at the end
- “These can’t be fixed” - sometimes the trauma and brainwashing are so severe children/young adults are unable to recover
- The Confectionary will always replace The Candy Shop as long as there is demand to fuel the business.