

"The defendants lured young women into the world's oldest profession using the world's oldest ruse — the promise of a committed relationship and a better life."

All four defendants face a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years in prison if convicted of sex trafficking.

The three Perez brothers allegedly began grooming the girls as far back as 2003 by enticing them into intimate relationships by promising them marriage.

The girls then were forced to work as prostitutes in Mexico after being beaten and sexually assaulted — as well as by threats to harm their families if they ran away, prosecutors charge.

In July 2005, the brothers allegedly began smuggling the girls into the US, where they were driven each day to locations in New York and other states for sex.

The brothers had the girls wire their earnings back to Mexico, to relatives of the brothers, according to authorities.

The fourth defendant extradited in recent weeks, Antonio Lira-Robles, 37, is charged for his alleged involvement in a similar ring that also included the participation of his cousins — the brothers Eleuterio and Samuel Granados-Hernandez.

Both of those brothers have already pleaded guilty in the case and are awaiting sentencing.

The Granados-Hernandez ring operated from 1998 until last year, prosecutors said.

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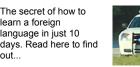
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	GENERATI	Reply · Like · December 20, 2012 at 4:59am Arlin Edmondson · La Mirada, California Legalizing prostitution is the single worst way to deal with the problem. Who will provide the prostitutes? Various Mafias will, and will manipulate the girls into claiming they are there willingly through abuse and threats.	
		Legalized prostitution fuels various forms of trafficking and abuse. It simply makes it easier for the criminals to operate.	
		Amsterdam has had little success in preventing sex-trafficking despite their wildly legal-prostitution-filled red-light district. Recently they had to shut down a section of the district because of the overwhelming infestation of organized criminal activity pervading the industry.	
		Sweden has had great success with prostitution, however. What did they do? They banned it; on the grounds that is was an abuse to the humanity of both the prostitute and the 'John'.	
		What Sweden did to defeat sex-trafficking was by making the purchase of sex a felony. No 'Johns' no 'prostitution'. No 'prostitution', no 'sex-trafficking'. Reply · Like · December 31, 2012 at 1:53am	

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	 Norma Jean Almodovar · Top Commenter · Los Angeles, California Arlin Edmondson What an idiotic statement you make about the so called Swedish model when you clearly do not know what you are talking about. Imagine if we took that same position to stop the equally heinous crime of violent rape and sexual assault we arrested men who had NOT raped or assaulted anyone, by claiming that all adult sex was rape. Or keeping homosexuality illegal because some priests/ preachers/ teachers/ coaches etc. are pedophiles and then of course as we all know, marriage fuels domestic violence and spousal abuse- shall we criminalize marriage so we can help the victims of such violence? The US Government says there are over 12 MILLION incidents of domestic/ intimate partner violence every year In 2011, the FBI Bureau of Criminal Statistics said there were 243,800 reported violent rapes and sexualSee More Reply · Like · 2 seconds ago 		
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