



HUMAN TRAFFICKING WORKING GROUP
Dr Andreas Schloenhardt (Coordinator)

The University of Queensland
TC Beirne School of Law

The University of British Columbia
Centre of International Relations

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NEWS REPORT

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Researchers are investigating whether there are more incidences of human trafficking in rural areas than previously thought.

Legally, it's a relatively new phenomenon in Australia, with a couple of prosecutions, including one in Far North Queensland.

Andreas Schloenhardt, from the University of Queensland, says the isolation and the high proportion of men in mining towns could attract trafficking in prostitutes and underpaid workers.

He's keen to talk to people in country regions.

"We really want to get some ideas from the community about what support mechanisms exist or ought to exist to help victims," he says.

"You know, what help line should we open up that women who find themselves in that situation can call a number.

"It is much easier to get that help in urban centres than it is out here."

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