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11-1-2013

## Newsroom: Shapiro '12 on Human Trafficking in RI

Roger Williams University School of Law

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### Recommended Citation

Roger Williams University School of Law, "Newsroom: Shapiro '12 on Human Trafficking in RI" (2013). *Life of the Law School (1993- )*. 154.

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# Newsroom

## Shapiro '12 on Human Trafficking in RI

In the wake of a recent Board of Licenses penalty case, Melanie Shapiro '12 discusses steps that should be taken to combat human trafficking in Rhode Island.

**From the Providence Journal:** "Impunity for sex trafficking in R.I." by Melanie Shapiro [RWU Law '12]

and Donna M. Hughes



**November 01, 2013:** [...] The police departments in

Rhode Island need to initiate more investigations and make combating human trafficking a priority. [...]

The officials of Rhode Island need to end the culture of impunity for the big pimps, the pimps that operate inside the state, the pimps who call themselves businessmen and have well-connected lawyers and associates. [...] The City of Providence should revise its ordinance to prohibit private booths in strip clubs.

These can be the first steps to ending the culture of impunity for sex trafficking in Rhode Island. [...]

*Donna M. Hughes is a professor of Gender and Women's Studies at the University of Rhode Island.*

*Melanie Shapiro is a lawyer. They are the co-founders of Citizens Against Traffickers.*

*For full story, click [here](http://www.providencejournal.com/opinion/commentary/20131101-donna-m.-hughes-and-melanie-shapiro-impunity-for-sex-trafficking-in-r.i..ece). [http://www.providencejournal.com/opinion/commentary/20131101-donna-m.-hughes-and-melanie-shapiro-impunity-for-sex-trafficking-in-r.i..ece]*