



Excerpt from Newscast – 7 p.m. Thursday, March 14

New York was the first state to vacate prostitution-related convictions, for victims of human trafficking. But in the nine years since that law went into effect, a new report says the state could do more to help those coerced into prostitution and other jobs.

Kate Mogulescu is an assistant professor at Brooklyn Law School who worked on the study. She says victims have a hard time moving on with their lives if they still have records for related crimes like theft or weapons possession.

“When the conduct is compelled by the trafficking it can be a whole host of offenses but New York's law doesn't recognize that.”

Her report grades states on these laws and gave New York a D, while Nebraska was ranked highest. Albany is considering legislation that would clear more types of convictions for victims of human trafficking.