

What is human trafficking?

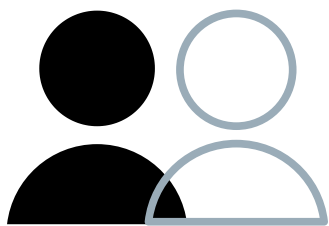
U.S. Department of State defines human trafficking as the use of **force**, **fraud**, or **coercion** to compel a person into performing commercial sex acts, labor or other services against their will.

Inducing a minor into commercial sex is considered human trafficking regardless of the presence of force, fraud or coercion.

WHO IS VULNERABLE?

Human trafficking can happen to *anyone* but certain risk factors can make individuals more vulnerable than others, including:

- recent migration or relocation
- substance use
- mental health concerns
- involvement with the child welfare system
- being a runaway
- homelessness



WHO ARE THE TRAFFICKERS?

Perpetrators of human trafficking span all racial, ethnic, and gender demographics and are as diverse as victims. They include:

- business owners
- gang members
- parents or family members of victims
- intimate partners
- owners of farms or restaurants
- powerful corporate executives
- government representatives

What can make a community vulnerable to a high rate of human trafficking?

- proximity to major freeways/highways
- a high cost of living
- an above average level of tourism

Common industries and businesses where human trafficking takes place include but are not limited to:

- construction
- agriculture
- nannyng
- housekeeping
- manufacturing (especially garment and food processing)
- restaurants
- massage parlors



In order to prevent human trafficking from happening, we have to know what it looks like and really, what we should look for.

THESE ARE SOME OF THE **SIGNS** THAT SOMEONE IS BEING TRAFFICKED:

- The person has (or talks about having) an older boyfriend or girlfriend
- The person displays signs of physical restraint (cuts, bruises, burn marks, etc.)
- The person has few or no personal items with them
 - An example may be someone traveling through the airport with no suitcase or backpack
- The person is wearing inappropriate clothing for the season
 - For example, a young girl wearing a sweater and a scarf in 90-degree weather
- The person has tattoos of another person's name or a barcode - These tattoos could be a sign that a pimp or trafficker has "branded" that person as their own
- The person is fearful or suspicious of security personnel or law enforcement
- The person cannot provide travel details such as flight or bus departure time or arrival location
- The person seems to speak and communicate with others around them in a scripted manner and will not connect with eye contact...
- ... Or, on the contrary, the person tells multiple different stories involving who they are, their background, where they are going, and their purpose of travel
- The person does not move about a designated area freely, but instead acts as if their steps and movements are being monitored by another individual



HOW TO REPORT IT:

- To contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline, you can...
 - Call: 1-888-373-7888
 - *Anti-Trafficking Hotline Advocates are available 24/7 in over 200 languages*
 - Text: "HELP" or "INFO" to 233733
 - *Message and data rates may apply*
 - Chat: www.humantraffickinghotline.org/chat



TIPS TO REPORT:

- Try to gather as much detail as you possibly can about what you are witnessing to pass along to hotline representatives
 - describe the individuals involved
 - share the exact location of the incident
 - note car make, colors, and license plate numbers
- Report as early as it is safe for you to do so