



SEX TRAFFICKING

OFFICE OF THE INDIANA ATTORNEY GENERAL



WHAT IS IT?

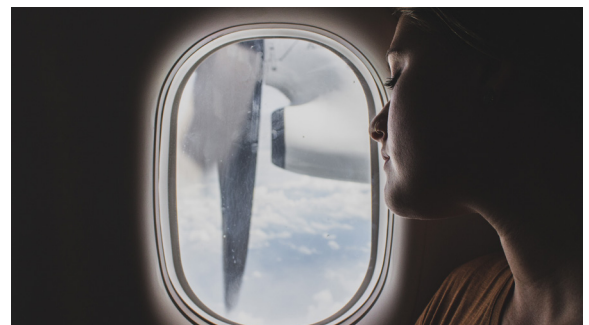
Sex trafficking is a crime that involves recruiting individuals through the use of force, fraud, or coercion to engage in sexual acts for the financial gain of the trafficker.

HOW DOES RECRUITMENT OCCUR?

- Traffickers target disadvantaged youth.
- Traffickers develop a strong, trusting and loving relationship.
- Traffickers “groom” individuals by fulfilling their needs for love and dependency.
- Traffickers provide necessities individuals may not be able to provide for themselves or loved ones.
- Traffickers introduce individuals to drugs to develop a dependency.
- Recruitment can occur through family members.

COMMON INDICATORS

- Individuals show signs of “branding.”
(TATTOOS OR JEWELRY WITH THE TRAFFICKER’S NAME)
- Individuals are unaware of their location, the date, or time.
- Individuals are unable to tell a consistent story.
- Individuals avoid eye contact.
- Individuals wear clothing inappropriate for the weather.
- Individuals exhibit signs of physical abuse.
- Individuals are accompanied by older, controlling individuals.
- Individuals have excessive cash or expensive items.
- Individual is a marginalized youth:
 - Is a runaway
 - Is homeless
 - Is often truant
 - Has a relationship with older individual
 - Has low self-esteem/dependency issues



HUMAN TRAFFICKING STATS

4.8 Million

People are forced into sexual exploitation.

40.3 Million

People are trapped in modern slavery.

150.2 Billion

Dollars is the estimated worth of the human trafficking industry.

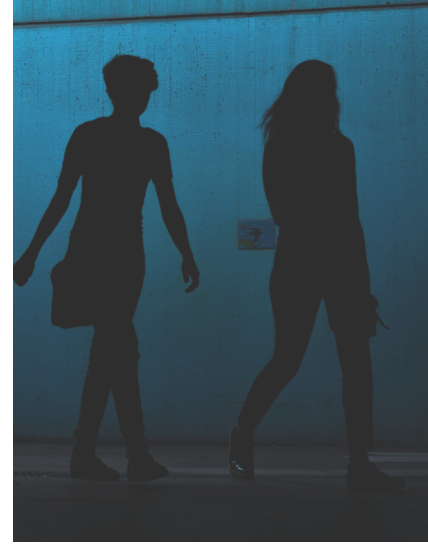
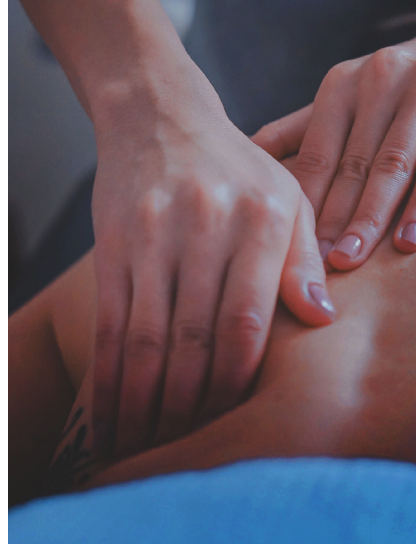


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MYTHS

THE INDIVIDUAL WILLINGLY BECAME INVOLVED IN THE SEX INDUSTRY.

The Truth: While this may be true initially, the individual's initial consent is not relevant to the force, fraud, or coercion that occurs.

SHE COULD JUST SAY NO TO THE BUYER.

The Truth: The individual may be unable to say no for various reasons such as love and loyalty for the trafficker or fear of harm or death to herself or loved ones.

SHE HAS OPPORTUNITY TO LEAVE WHEN SHE IS MOVED AROUND.

The Truth: Oftentimes the trafficker will move the individuals around, but they are often under the influence, are constantly monitored, or transported by the trafficker and may be threatened with harm or death.

INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN SEX TRAFFICKING ARE FEMALE.

The Truth: While the majority of individuals may be female, males are also susceptible.

ADDITIONAL INFO

RISK FACTORS

Youth	A need to be loved
Family violence	Immigration
Homelessness	Poverty
Desperation	Drug Use

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU SUSPECT SEX TRAFFICKING?

- If a minor is involved, call the Department of Child Services.
- Call local law enforcement.
- Call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-800-373-7888
- Text HELP to Be Free (233733)

CONTACT US

For questions please contact:
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