

# Human Trafficking: Recognizing & Reporting the Signs



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What is human trafficking?

# HOW TRAFFICKING BREAKS DOWN.



## ACTION

- RECRUITS
- TRANSPORTS
- PROVIDES
- OBTAINS/ATTEMPTS



## MEANS

- FORCE
- FRAUD
- COERCION



## PURPOSE

- COMMERICAL  
SEX ACTS
- LABOR SERVICES

# Defining Human Trafficking

Recruiting, Enticing, Harboring, Transporting,  
Providing, Obtaining (an individual)

*or attempting to do so...*

Through:

**FORCE**

**FRAUD**

**COERCION**

For:

**LABOR**

**SERVICES**

**COMMERCIAL  
SEX ACTS**

**FORCE**

**FRAUD**

**COERCION**

## Examples:

- Threatening or causing bodily harm
- Threatening or causing financial harm
- Destroying or taking official identification documents
- Violating a law
- Intimidation
- Controlling access to an addictive controlled substance
- Using or threatening violence against any individual

# Defining Human Trafficking of a Child

Recruiting, Enticing, Harboring, Transporting,  
Providing, Obtaining, Patronizing, or Soliciting  
(a child)

*or attempting to do so...*

Through:

**FORCE**

**FRAUD**

**COERCION**

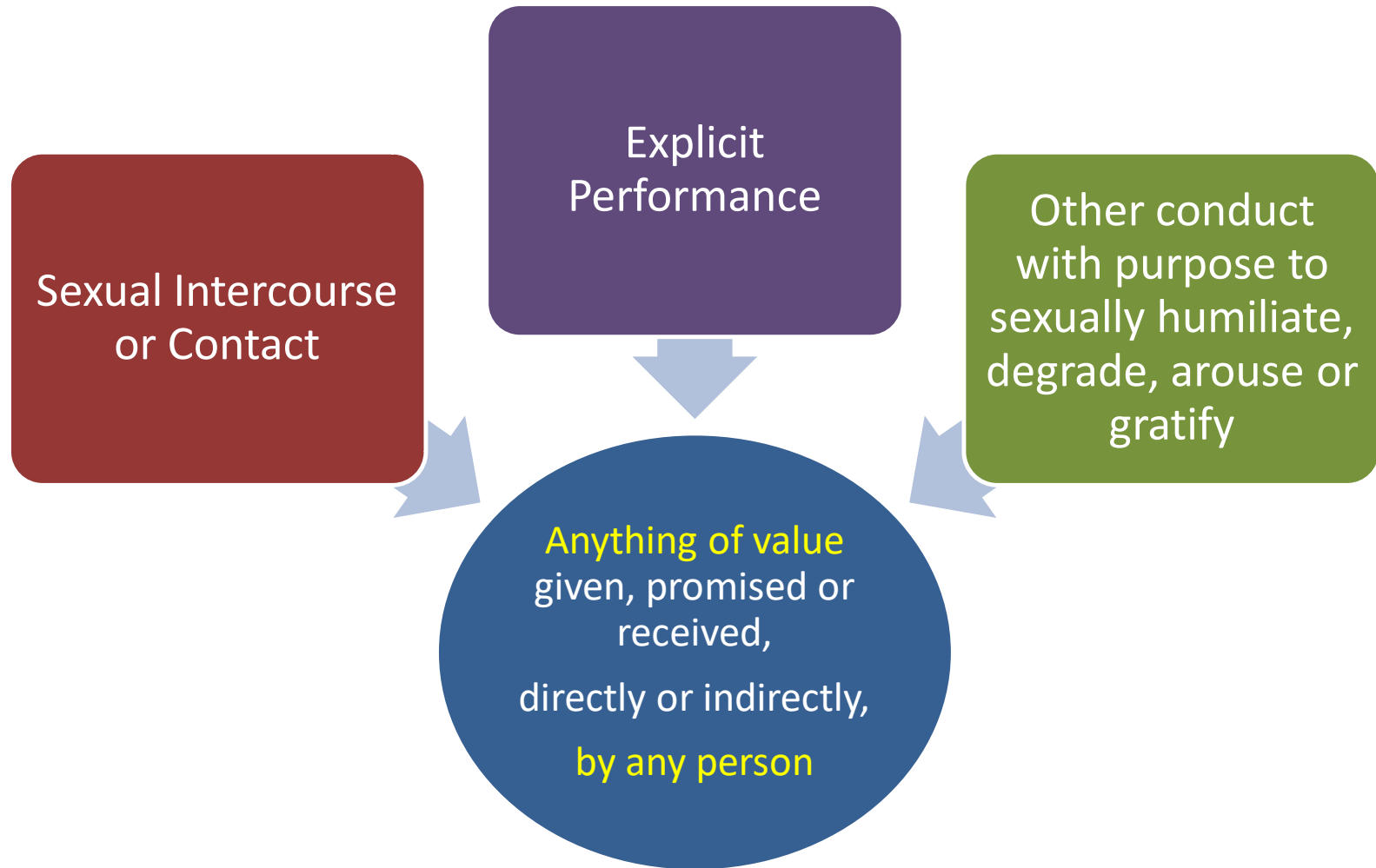
For:

**LABOR**

**SERVICES**

**COMMERCIAL  
SEX ACTS**

# COMMERCIAL SEX ACT



# How Old Is Human Trafficking?

- Human trafficking and exploitation has been in existence across the globe for thousands of years. From the ancient Greek and Romans to the medieval times, and up until today, humans have been subject to various forms of physical and sexual slavery.
- Any physical act that humans provide that benefits themselves or others, can be exploited. Those who are exploited, become a product instead of human.



# National Statistics

- Polaris project- The National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and operated by Polaris.
- In 2020, 10,583 cases reported to Polaris project involving 16,658 victims alone, there's no "mandatory" reporting.
- [www.polarisproject.org](http://www.polarisproject.org)
- Types of Trafficking 2020-
  - Sex Trafficking: 7,648
  - Labor Trafficking: 1,052
  - Non-Specified: 1,549
  - Sex and Labor: 334

# Why Now?

- If human trafficking has been around for thousands of years, why only recently have we gone after traffickers?
  - Opinions:
    - Victims have been more broadly defined. Regardless of the type of human trafficking, victimization is the same. With sex trafficking, the blame is being taken away from the “prostitute”, showing there is more to the story.
    - With victims being defined, statistics show that human trafficking is connected to a number of crimes than just forced labor or prostitution.

Who are the traffickers?

# Traffickers Are:



friends  
all races  
all genders  
men  
women  
employers  
co-workers  
all cultures  
boyfriends  
husbands  
wives  
girlfriends  
neighbors  
family



# Types of PIMPS

- Finesse Pimp/Romeo Pimp — One who prides himself on controlling others primarily through psychological manipulation. Although he may shower his victims with affection and gifts (especially during the recruitment phase), the threat of violence is always present.

# Types of PIMPS

- Gorilla Pimp: Someone that pimps girls through brute force. Uses excessive head twisting and arm breaking. As opposed to pimping through finesse, not force.
- “That dude a gorilla pimp, that's why his girls look rough and beat up”

Who are the victims?

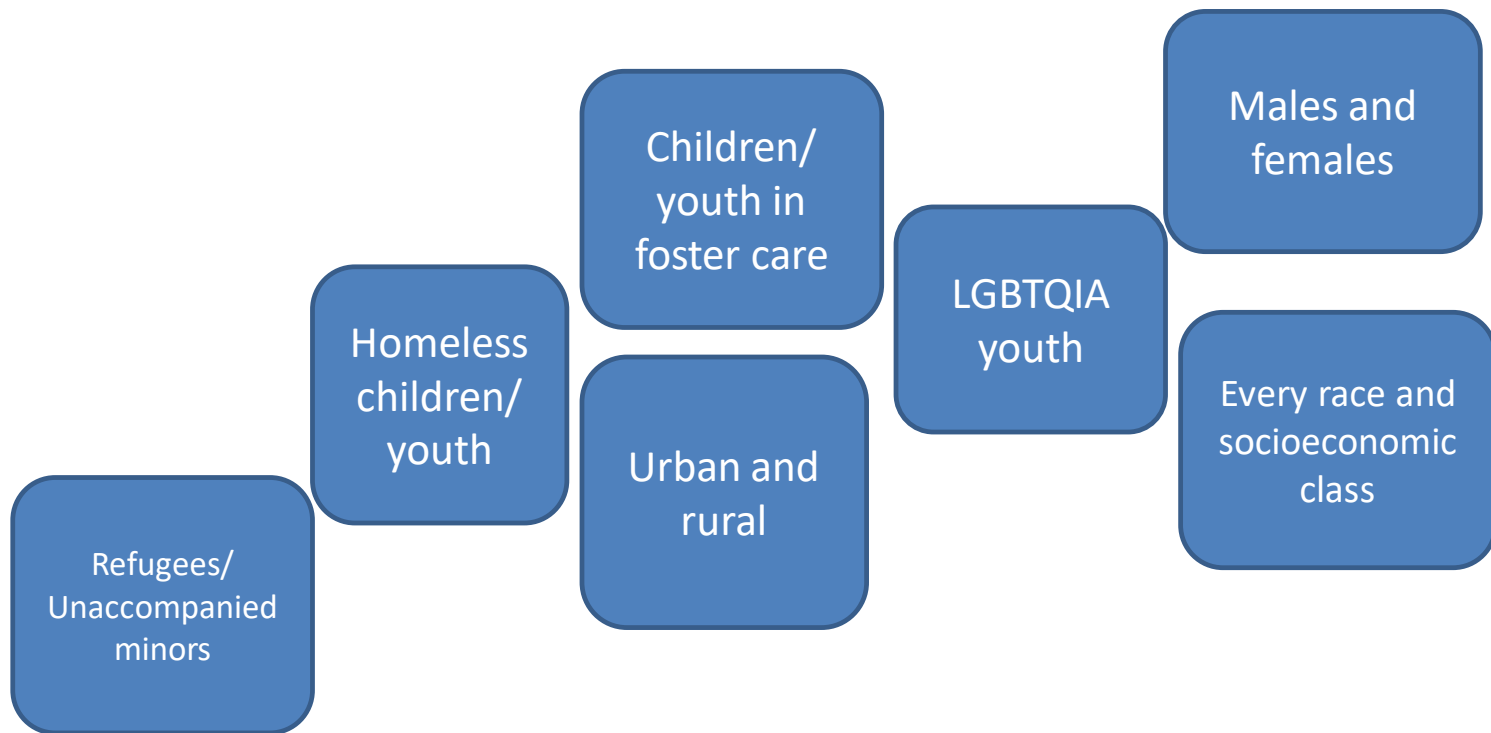
# Victims Are:

all ages boys  
urban girls  
rural  
all genders  
all ethnicities  
all cultures  
LGBT youth  
women men





# Who is Vulnerable to Sex Trafficking?





# Individual Risk Factors

Impulsivity

Risk Taking

Desire for Love & Acceptance

Inexperience

Low Self-Esteem

Low Self-Worth

# Family Risk Factors

- Abuse or unwanted at home
- Lonely
- Family member has mental health or substance abuse issues
- Family conflict
- Family member involved in trafficking



How do traffickers recruit?

# The Life



00:00



# Example of Trafficker Process



## Recruitment

Lured by love, affection, money, safety, family

- In Person or online
- Directly with pimp, “bottom”, or other youth



## Grooming

Invests time gifts, builds trust & belonging

- Increased isolation, control, & breaking down/rebuilding identity
- Increased manipulation and testing of sexual boundaries



## Trafficking

Point where relationship fully shifts

- If gradual, trafficker promises exploitation will only happen for short time; use of online ads; required street-walking and quotas.

**Important Note:** Process from one phase to next not necessarily linear. Youth may move back and forth between phases OR phases may collapse into each other.

# Psychological Control

- The trafficker takes advantage of the victim's trauma
- These psychological tactics are as powerful as physical violence
- Past trauma experience may have conditioned a victim to believe and accept abuse as “normal”
- Traffickers make victims think they have “chosen” this life



# BRANDING

- As part of psychological abuse, traffickers like to “brand” their victims with tattoos. They are usually on the head or neck area. Many times they will have the street name of the pimp they belong to.
- Pimps will mark themselves with tattoos also on the neck or head area, identifying themselves as a pimp.







“Hotels and motels are major locations where traffickers force sex trafficking victims to provide commercial sex to paying customers.”

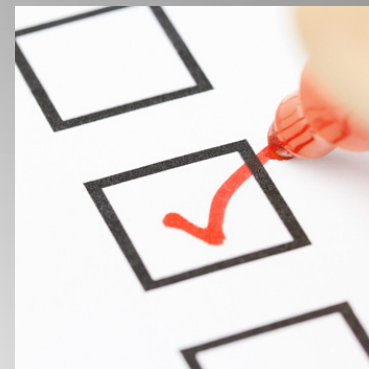
-- US Dept of Homeland Security

What are some signs that human trafficking might be taking place?

# Investigations – What to Look For

- Numerous cell phones – burner/prepaid phones
- Excessive amounts of cash
- Womens clothing/make up/perfumes
- Illegal Drugs – Meth/Heroin

# Possible Indicators of Sex Trafficking



- Constant flow of men into a room at all hours
- Individuals being constantly monitored
- Any minor offering to engage in sex for money

# Possible Indicators of Sex Trafficking



- Couples and groups that do not seem age appropriate
- Extended stay with few or no personal possessions
- Patron asking about access to adult service or sex industry

# Possible Indicators of Sex Trafficking



- Signs of physical abuse, fear, or malnourishment
- Leaving rooms at odd hours or not at all
- Propping exterior doors open to allow access to room/hotel or using side/rear doors instead of the lobby

# Possible Indicators of Sex Trafficking



- Minors under the influence of drugs/alcohol in the company of adults
- “Do Not Disturb” sign used constantly
- Rooms paid for by cash or prepaid credit cards



# Possible Indicators of Sex Trafficking



- Doesn't know their whereabouts or has a lost sense of time
- Doesn't have access to their own identification, phone or money
- Individuals hanging out in hallways or appearing to monitor the area

# Possible Indicators of Sex Trafficking



- Appears to be deliberately isolated or shielded from view
- Accessing business center and frequenting social media networking and explicit websites

# THANKS!

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