



# Human Trafficking

The Never Ending Circle

# What Is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is the business of stealing freedom for profit. In some cases, traffickers trick, defraud or physically force victims into providing commercial sex. In others, victims are lied to, assaulted, threatened or manipulated into working under inhumane, illegal or otherwise unacceptable conditions. It is a multi-billion dollar criminal industry that denies freedom to 24.9 million people around the world.



# Human Trafficking In California



- California against slavery reported that 3 of the ten worst child sex trafficking areas in the United States are in California: San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego. Traffickers are drawn to California because of its large immigrant population and booming global economy—currently ranked as the 9th largest in the world. Sex trafficking is very profitable for traffickers. In Los Angeles, the average sex trafficker can make \$49,000 per victim during the course of his or her imprisonment. California is a hotbed not only for child sex trafficking, but also forced labor, sex trafficking and involuntary servitude. Many traffickers come to California because of easy access to the California-Mexico border, enabling them to bring victims up from Mexico into California to work as slave labor in sweatshops or on farms.
- California – with a significant immigrant population, the world’s 7th largest economy, and a large international border – is one of the nation’s top destination states for trafficked victims. One of the worst hubs of human trafficking in California, and indeed around the world, is Los Angeles.

# Myths and Reality

- **Myth: It's always or usually a violent crime**

Reality: By far the most pervasive myth about human trafficking is that it always - or often - involves kidnapping or otherwise physically forcing someone into a situation. In reality, most human traffickers use psychological means such as, tricking, defrauding, manipulating or threatening victims into providing commercial sex or exploitative labor

- **Myth: All human trafficking involves commercial sex**

Reality: Human trafficking is the use of force, fraud or coercion to get another person to provide labor or commercial sex. Worldwide, experts believe there are more situations of labor trafficking than of sex trafficking. However, there is much wider awareness of sex trafficking in the United States than of labor trafficking.

- **Myth: Only undocumented foreign nationals get trafficked in the United States**

Reality: Polaris has worked on thousands of cases of trafficking involving foreign national survivors who are legally living and/or working in the United States. These include survivors of both sex and labor trafficking. □□ Reality: Polaris has worked on thousands of cases of trafficking involving foreign national survivors who are legally living and/or working in the United States. These include survivors of both sex and labor trafficking. □□

- **Myth: Human trafficking only happens in illegal or underground industries**

Reality: Human trafficking cases have been reported and prosecuted in industries including restaurants, cleaning services, construction, factories and more.

- **Myth: Only women and girls can be victims and survivors of sex trafficking**

Reality: One study estimates that as many as half of sex trafficking victims and survivors are male. Advocates believe that percentage may be even higher but that male victims are far less likely to be identified. LGBTQ boys and young men are seen as particularly vulnerable to trafficking. □□

- **Myth: Human trafficking involves moving, traveling or transporting a person across state or national borders**

Reality: Human trafficking is often confused with human smuggling, which involves illegal border crossings. In fact, the crime of human trafficking does not require any movement whatsoever. Survivors can be recruited and trafficked in their own home towns, even their own homes.

- **Myth: traffickers target victims they don't know**

Reality: Many survivors have been trafficked by romantic partners, including spouses, and by family members, including parents.

# The Data

1 There are an estimated 100,000 - 300,000 prostituted children in the U.S

2 244,000 American children and youth are estimated to be at risk of child sexual exploitation, including commercial sexual exploitation. Runaways and unaccompanied minors make up the majority of at-risk youth for both sexual and labor exploitation.

3 41.4% of suspected or confirmed child victims of domestic sex trafficking were repeat runaways

4 46.7% of suspected or confirmed child victims of domestic sex trafficking ran from a group home, foster care, DCFS care or a shelter.

5 40-70% of all street youth engage, at least occasionally, in prostitution to meet their basic needs.

6 The population of street youth engaging in prostitution is almost equally divided between boys and girls

# More Data

1 According to the Trafficking in Persons Report by the US State Department between 14,500 and 17,500 people are trafficked into the US annually

2 82% adult victims and 56% child victims of trafficking in the US were labor trafficking victims.

3 53% of adult victims and 66% of child victims of trafficking were women.

4 Types of sex trafficking in the US include: Bar/Club operations (cantina bars, Stripping or exotic dancing clubs, salons, massage parlors, hostess clubs and karaoke clubs, domestic strip clubs and gentleman clubs); Residential brothel settings (homes, apartments, hotels, mobile trailers); Escort services (bar/hotel based, internet-based, private, boat cruises, chat lines); Pimp-controlled prostitution (hotel-based, internet-based, private parties, street-based, truck stops).

5 American citizens made up 72% of all human trafficking victims according to data gathered from California Human Trafficking task forces

6 The average age a teen enters the sex trade in the U.S. is 12 to 14 years old. Many victims are runaway girls who were sexually abused as children.<sup>1</sup>

7 More than 80 percent of the 600k-800k people trafficked across international borders are female and half are children.

# How do People Get Trafficked?

## Psychological Manipulation

- Dehumanization
- Worst Case Scenario
- Distrust of Others
- Keeping a Close Eye
- Calling the police
- Hopeful Time frame

## Kidnapping

Although rare there have been cases of kidnappers selling their victims to human trafficking rings for money to keep a stable pay.

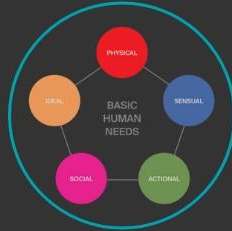
## Sold by others even friends and family.

- Familial Trafficking
- Selling for Money

# The 5 Disguises



The Pretender



Provider



Promiser



Protector



Punisher



# How to Recognize a Victim

- 1 An inability to attend school on a regular basis and/or unexplained absences
- 2 Frequently running away from home
- 3 References made to frequent travel to other cities
- 4 Bruises or other signs of physical trauma, withdrawn behavior, depression, anxiety, or fear
- 5 Lack of control over a personal schedule and/or identification or travel documents
- 6 Hunger, malnourishment, or inappropriate dress (based on weather conditions or surroundings)
- 7 Signs of drug addiction

- 8 Coached or rehearsed responses to questions
- 9 A sudden change in attire, behavior, relationships, or material possessions (e.g., expensive items)
- 10 A “boyfriend” or “girlfriend” who is noticeably older and/or controlling
- 11 An attempt to conceal scars, tattoos, or bruises
- 12 Hyperarousal or symptoms of anger, panic, phobia, irritability, hyperactivity, frequent crying, temper tantrums, regressive behavior, and/or clinging behavior inattention.
- 13 Hyperarousal or symptoms of daydreaming, inability to bond with others, inattention, forgetfulness, and/or shyness

# Risk Factors

- Lack of personal safety
- Isolation
- Emotional distress
- Homelessness
- Poverty
- Family dysfunction
- Substance abuse
- Mental illness
- Learning disabilities
- Childhood sexual abuse
- Promotion of sexual exploitation by family members or peers
- Lack of social support

# Symptoms



**Be fearful of the trafficker, believing their lives or family members' lives are at risk if they escape**

# Symptoms



**Be unaware they have  
been trafficked and  
believe they are simply in  
a bad job**

# Symptoms



Sex trafficking victims often live in fear. Seventy percent are girls or women.

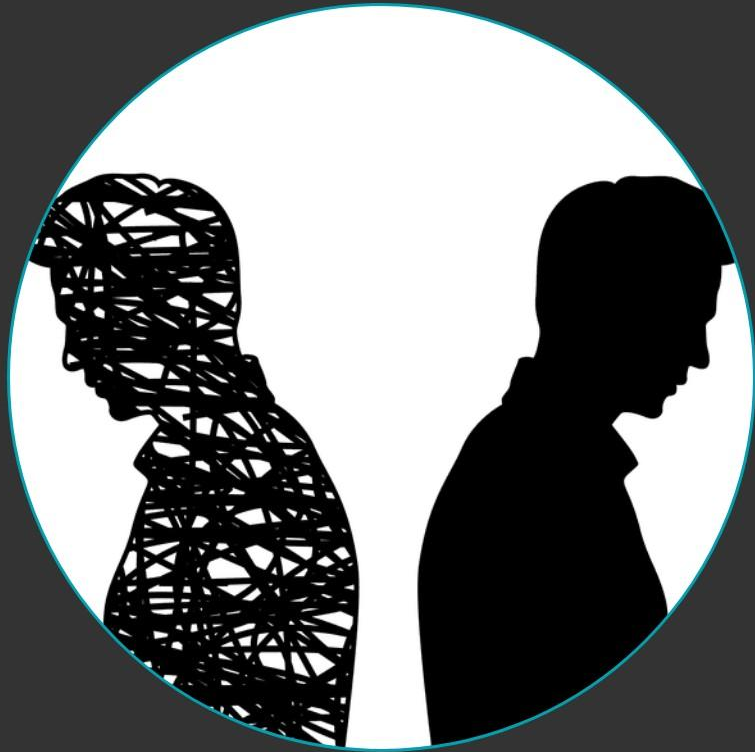
Malnourished

# Symptoms



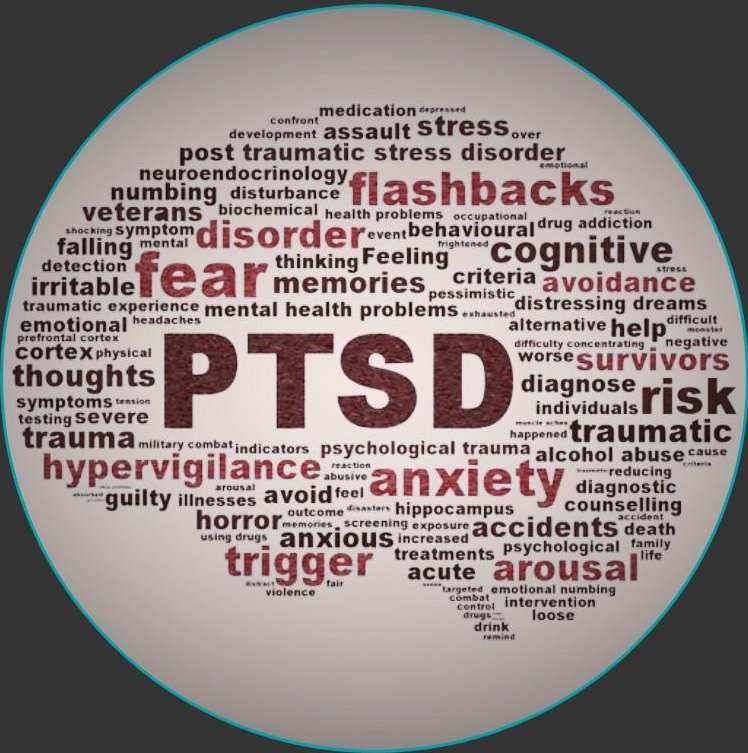
**Avoid Social Interaction**

# Symptoms



**Guilt**

# Symptoms



Posttraumatic Stress Disorder



# Symptoms



**Depression**

# Symptoms



**Anxiety**

# Symptoms



Substance Abuse

# Symptoms



**Eating Disorders**

# Safety and Awareness

1

Stay in groups when your out in public.

2

Avoid truck stops or stops along the interstate when your traveling - unless you can stay in groups here, too.

3

Be aware of your surroundings at all times.

4

Be aware of who the other people in your group are talking to and where they are at all times.

5

If you have been chatting with someone online, do not meet them in public by yourself. Ideally, you should take a parent, after they have okayed you meeting someone. Sex traffickers have been documented using social media to lure potential victims to them.

6

Do not over-indulge (or, do not indulge at all!) when your out for these big events.

7

Know the indicators so you can spot potential victims

# Ways the Community can Join Anti-Human Trafficking Efforts:

- Become aware of the signs of trafficking and spread the word.
- Encourage your local schools to partner and engage with parents and students to educate youth about healthy relationships and increase the capability to equip students with information on how traffickers target school-aged children.
- If you know or suspect that a child or youth is a victim of Commercial Sexual Exploitation, call the L.A. County Child Protection Hotline at 1-800-540-4000
- If you know or suspect that a youth is a victim of labor trafficking, or that an adult is a victim of labor or sex trafficking, call the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking Hotline at 888-KEY-2-FREE (888-539-2373) or text the National Human Trafficking Hotline at “BeFree” (233733).
- Host an event in your community to raise awareness! Spread the word about human trafficking and help other gain a better understanding of it.
- Join an anti-trafficking taskforce in your community

# Global Concept and How it Connects

## Global Concept: Fairness and Development

I have connected my project to **fairness** and **development** because of the **lack** of fairness in the industry of Human Trafficking, because of the human rights being stolen away from others, and Anti-Human Trafficking antics have not been **developed** enough to bring an **end** to human trafficking.

KIDNAPPING  
PRESSURE  
WORLDWIDE  
BEGGING  
HUMANITY  
OUTSIDE  
SURVIVAL  
GLOBAL  
IMPOSSIBLE  
SELFISH  
CRUEL  
BE  
SAVAGE  
EVERYWHERE  
PHYSICAL  
ASHAMED  
TRAFFICKING  
DANGER  
WILL  
TRY  
VIOLENCE  
DESTROY  
FEMALE  
SEXUAL  
ISOLATED  
HUMAN ABUSE  
HURT  
STOP  
GRIEF  
GUILT  
WOMEN  
WORRY  
POVERTY  
EXPLOITATION  
HOSTAGE  
MALE  
SLAVERY  
UNAWARE  
DRUGS  
TRUE  
INNOCENCE  
HARMFUL  
SPEAK  
VICTIM  
GUILT  
GRIEF  
GUILT  
WOMEN  
WORRY  
POVERTY  
ALCOHOL  
DESPAIR  
UNNOTICED  
FEAR  
OUT  
CRIME  
FORCE  
SHADOWS  
EMOTIONAL  
HELP  
RIGHT  
IN  
THE