



SEX TRAFFICKING FACT SHEET



What is sex trafficking?

Sex trafficking is when an individual, under force, fraud, or coercion, is made to perform commercial sex acts, or when the individual induced to perform sex acts is under the age of 18.

What does force, fraud, or coercion mean?

Force is physical violence such as kidnapping, rape, and restraint. **Fraud** includes false offers of employment, promises of marriage, a better life, or a career. **Coercion** can be threats to the victim and/or the victim's family, use of alcohol/drugs, and/or psychological abuse.

TYPES OF SEX TRAFFICKING

The National Human Trafficking Hotline has identified sex trafficking in the following venues:

- Personal sexual servitude
- Residential brothels
- Remote interactive sexual acts
- Escort services
- Outdoor solicitation
- Illicit massage, health, and beauty
- Pornography
- Bars, strip clubs, and cantinas

COMMON SIGNS OF SEX TRAFFICKING


It is important to note that victims of sex trafficking often display many of these signs. With the exception of the first sign, there is not one sign in particular that flags someone as a trafficking victim.

An individual who:

- Is under 18 and engaging in commercial sex work
- Displays fearful, anxious, or submissive behavior
- Shows signs of poor hygiene, malnourishment, or fatigue
- Lacks freedom of movement or is heavily monitored
- Shows signs of physical or sexual abuse
- Has been recruited through false promises concerning the nature & conditions of his/her work
- Is unpaid or paid very little for his/her work
- Has a large amount of debt that he/she is unable to pay off
- Is dressed inappropriately for the climate or his/her age
- Lacks control over money, identification, or phone

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

 Do **not** intervene

 To report a tip or seek help, **call** the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or **text** "BEFREE" to 233733

 In case of emergency, **call 911**