

FAST FACTS ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING



The Rowan Center
A Sexual Assault Resource Agency



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.

-National Human Trafficking Hotline

DID YOU KNOW?

- Causing someone under the age of 18 to engage in a commercial sex act, regardless of using force, fraud, or coercion, is human trafficking under U.S. law. (DHS)
- Human trafficking does not require transportation to be considered a crime. It is a crime that can be committed against an individual who has never left their hometown. (DHS)
- Human trafficking is not always a violent crime. Traffickers often use psychological threats and manipulation to control victims.
- Many survivors have been trafficked by people they know, including intimate partners and family members. (The Connecticut Women's Consortium)
- Trafficking does not discriminate based on age, gender, or sexual orientation. It can happen to anyone.

HOW TO IDENTIFY TRAFFICKING

Learn what to look for to spot human trafficking situations around you (DHS). Does the person at risk:

- Act fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous, particularly around someone they know?
- Defer to another person to speak for them and avoid eye contact?
- Show signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture?
- Show signs of being harmed or deprived of food, water, sleep, medical care, other life necessities, or personal possessions?
- Have restricted contact with their friends or family?
- Have limited or restricted access to their social media accounts or digital profiles?



HOW TO RESPOND

- Report suspected human trafficking to the Homeland Security Investigations Tip Line at **1-866-347-2423** or www.ice.gov/tips.
- Contact The Rowan Center by **calling 203-329-2929**, **texting 888-999-5545**, or connecting with an advocate via chat at therowancenter.org.
- Get help from the National Human Trafficking Hotline by calling **888-373-7888** or **texting HELP or INFO to 233722 (BEFREE)**.



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Empower. Educate. Eliminate.