



Child Sex Trafficking

Lets Tackle the Problem Now!
Part One

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Presentation Objectives

- Understand child trafficking
 - Federal law and definitions
 - Traffickers and their tactics
- Understand the risk factors and vulnerabilities of children related to human trafficking
 - How we can help the victims
- Identify actions you can take to help STOP child sex trafficking

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US Federal Law on the Prostitution of Children

Section 1591 is called “Sex trafficking of children or by force, fraud, or coercion.”

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What is child trafficking?

Child trafficking includes “recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sexual exploitation

Child Trafficking is Modern Day Slavery

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Forms of Child Sex Trafficking

- Children Exploited for Commercial Sex-The commercial sexual exploitation of children is trafficking, regardless of circumstances.
- Child Sex Tourism-Child sex tourism (CST) involves people who travel from their own country to another country where they engage in commercial sex acts with children.

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Statistics In Child Trafficking

- The average age of a trafficked child is between 11 and 14 years old
- Florida accounts for the third-highest call volume to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline
- 27% of all victims detected globally are children
- It is estimated that 76 percent of transactions for sex with underage girls starts on the internet

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The Traffickers

- Human traffickers recruit, transport, harbor, obtain, and exploit victims
- They may kidnap victims or use physical violence or substance abuse to control them
- Often the traffickers and their victims share the same national, ethnic, or cultural background
- Traffickers can be lone individuals or extensive criminal networks

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Lake Worth woman accused of sex-trafficking girls in South Florida



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Over 100 Child Sex Traffickers Arrested In Florida



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The Victims

As defined under U.S. law, victims of human trafficking can be divided into three populations:

- Children under age 18 induced into commercial sex.
- Adults aged 18 or over induced into commercial sex through force, fraud, or coercion.
- Children and adults induced to perform labor or services through force, fraud, or coercion.


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Who is at risk?

- Victims can be US citizens or foreign born, male or female
- Children who belong to vulnerable groups are more likely to become victims
- Runaway and homeless youths—male, female, and transgender
- LGBTQ youths can be up to five times more likely than heterosexual youths to be victims of trafficking

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A YOUNG WOMAN REVEALS HER FIGHT TO ESCAPE A VIOLENT SEX TRAFFICKER



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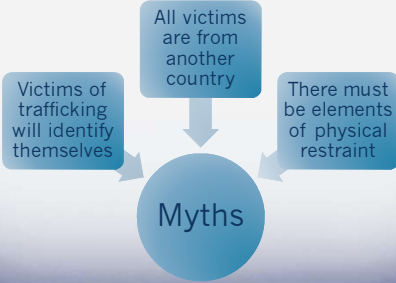
Challenges to Identifying Victims

- Overlooked and underreported
- Lack of policies
- Do not view themselves as victims
- The lack of knowledge and awareness



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Myths about Victims



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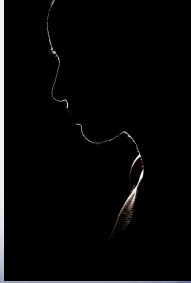
Why victims refuse help

- They have been coached to fear law enforcement
- Attempt at escaping other problems
- Refuse to see themselves as victims
- Traffickers give them money, attention, shelter, drugs and relevance

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Impact on Victims


- Isolation from family and friends
- mental health problems
- suicide attempts
- alcohol and drug addiction
- aggressive behavior
- criminal activity



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Victim Needs

- Long-term support
- Safety (perceived and actual)
- Medical care
- Trauma-based therapy
- Consistency without conditions
- Education
- Healthy social interactions
- Highly individualized care



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Florida's Unique Challenges

- Our tourism
- We are transient
- We are growing rapidly
- Large homeless population



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Law Enforcement Response to Child Trafficking

Primary barriers to identifying and responding to trafficking cases:

- Victim distrust
- Lack of training
- Lack of resources
- Victims are treated like criminals

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Law Enforcement Response

There are three essential needs law enforcement can address:

Sense of safety

Ability to open up

Addressing next steps

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Tackling the Problem

- Education
- Recognize the signs
- Report any suspicions
- Raise awareness
- Take action

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Recognize the Signs

- Signs of physical abuse such as burn marks, bruises or cuts
- Unexplained absences from class
- Overly tired in class
- Talks about wild parties or invites other students to attend parties
- Withdrawn, depressed, distracted or checked out
- New tattoo (tattoos are often used as a way to brand victims)

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Report Trafficking

To report a tip or connect with anti-trafficking services in your area, contact:

- National Center for Missing & Exploited Children 1-800-843-5678
- National Human Trafficking Hotline 1-888-373-7888
- The National Runaway Switchboard 1-800-RUNAWAY
- U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement 1-866-347-2423 (U.S. & Canada) 1-802-872-6199 (International Calls)

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Presentation Objectives:

- Increase general knowledge of the Child Sex Trafficking Industry
- Analyze the various stages of responding to child sex trafficking
- Finding your place in anti-trafficking efforts

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