



WEAR BLUE

#WeWearBlueBecause
#WearBlueDay
JANUARY 11

 BLUE CAMPAIGN

Mental Health
and Wellness
Volume 5

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.

Know the Signs

Common Work and Living Conditions:

- Is not free to leave or come and go at will
- Is under 18 and is providing commercial sex acts
- Is in the commercial sex industry and has a pimp / manager
- Is unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips
- Works excessively long and/or unusual hours
- Is not allowed breaks or suffers under unusual restrictions at work
- Owes a large debt and is unable to pay it off
- Was recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of his/her work
- High security measures exist in the work and/or living locations (e.g. opaque windows, boarded up windows, bars on windows, barbed wire, security cameras, etc.)
- Is living and working on site
- Experiences verbal or physical abuse by their supervisor
- Is not given proper safety equipment
- Is not paid directly
- Is forced to meet daily quotas

Lack of Control

- Has few or no personal possessions
- Is frequently monitored
- Is not in control of their own money, financial records, or bank account
- Is not in control of their own identification documents (ID or passport)
- Is not allowed or able to speak for themselves (a third party may insist on being present and/or translating)

Poor Mental Health or Abnormal Behavior

- Is fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid
- Exhibits unusually fearful or anxious behavior after bringing up law enforcement or immigration officials
- Shows signs of substance use or addiction

Poor Physical Health

- Shows signs of poor hygiene, malnourishment, and/or fatigue
- Shows signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture

Other

- Claims of just visiting and inability to clarify where they are staying/address
- Lack of knowledge of whereabouts and/or do not know what city he/she is in
- Appear to have lost sense of time
- Shares scripted, confusing, or inconsistent stories
- Protects the person who may be hurting them or minimizes abuse

Hotline: 1(888) 373-7888
Text "BeFree" 233733

STATISTICS

The International Labor Organization estimates that there are 40.3 million victims of human trafficking globally.

81% of them are trapped in forced labor 25% of them are children. 75% are women and girls.

The International Labor Organization estimates that forced labor and human trafficking is a \$150 billion industry worldwide

The U.S. Department of Labor has identified 148 goods from 75 countries made by forced and child labor.

In 2017, an estimated 1 out of 7 endangered runaways reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children were likely child sex trafficking victims.

Of those, 88% were in the care of social services or foster care when they ran

Myths VS Facts

It's always or usually a violent crime

In reality, most human traffickers use psychological means such as, tricking, defrauding, manipulating or threatening victims into providing commercial sex or exploitative labor.

All human trafficking involves commercial sex

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. **Only undocumented foreign nationals get trafficked in the United States**

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.

All commercial sex is human trafficking

All commercial sex involving a minor is legally considered human trafficking.

People being trafficked are physically unable to leave their situations/locked in/held against their will

That is sometimes the case. More often, however, people in trafficking situations stay for reasons that are more complicated. Some lack the basic necessities to physically get out - such as transportation or a safe place to live. Some are afraid for their safety. Some have been so effectively manipulated that they do not identify at that point as being under the control of another person.

Human trafficking only happens in illegal or underground industries

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

Only women and girls can be victims and survivors of sex trafficking

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.

Human trafficking involves moving, traveling or transporting a person across state or national borders

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.

If the trafficked person consented to be in their initial situation, then it cannot be human trafficking or against their will because they "knew better."

Initial consent to commercial sex or a labor setting prior to acts of force, fraud, or coercion (or if the victim is a minor in a sex trafficking situation) is not relevant to the crime, nor is payment.

traffickers target victims they don't know

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

How You Can Help?

Raise awareness about human trafficking and encourage your networks to get involved on social media. Use hashtag #endslavery and #LIVEUNITED.

Learn the Signs that are red flags or indicators of potential human trafficking and contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center 1(888) 373-7888

Volunteer or get involved with a local anti-trafficking organization in your area

Sign Up to join the United Way movement to end human trafficking. Text ENDSLAVERY to 51555 to learn how you can be a champion for the cause.

Know your slavery footprint Whether it is the clothes we wear, the coffee we drink, or the phones we use to communicate, products that we use or consume every day may have been produced with trafficked or slave labor. Learn how slavery may be touching your everyday life.

School is a great place to reach out for help

You may want to reach out to someone to talk to if you're being bullied or to get advice on how to help your friend. Consider talking to a:

School Psychologist, School Nurse, Student Advisor, Teacher, or Coach