

Yellowstone County Area Human Trafficking Task Force

**Human
Trafficking in
Montana**



**Billings Public Schools
April 12, 2021**

**YCA HTTF Co-Chairs
Stephanie Baucus & Penny Ronning**

Victims in Schools

Of 22,326 trafficking victims and survivors identified through contacts with the National Human Trafficking Hotline in 2019, at least 5,359 were under age 18. **Many underage victims of human trafficking are students in the American school system.** No community, school, socioeconomic group, or student demographic is immune. **Cases of child trafficking are found in every area of the country—in rural, suburban, and urban settings alike.**



Human Trafficking Myths

- Human trafficking is motivated by bias & hate
- Foreigners must be involved
- Human trafficking is about movement and borders
- All human trafficking is sex trafficking
- All victims are minors
- Victims self-identify
- There must be chains, beatings, or physical restraint

Defining Human Trafficking

THE A-M-P MODEL

Action	Means*	Purpose
Induce Recruits Harbors Transports Provides or Obtains	Force Fraud or Coercion	Commercial Sex (<i>Sex Trafficking</i>) or Labor/Services (<i>Labor Trafficking</i>)

*Minors induced into commercial sex are human trafficking victims—
regardless if force, fraud, or coercion is present.

Mann Act Amended 1986; The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000

DEFINING A COMMERCIAL SEX ACT

- A **commercial sex** act is the giving or receiving of anything of value (money, drugs, shelter, food, clothes, rent payment, etc.) to a person in exchange for a sex act.
- In Billings, a 14-year-old girl can sell for \$900 an hour. (Source: FBI)

Safe Harbor



#NoSuchThingAsAChildProstitute
~ T. Ortiz, Survivor Advocate

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 was a turning point in the nationwide shift toward rightfully seeing children who experience trafficking as victims. The TVPA defined sex and labor trafficking and said that inducing a child under 18 to engage in commercial sex is illegal regardless of whether force, fraud, or coercion is involved. No matter the scenario, the law and its subsequent reauthorizations made clear that **children under age 18 should never be treated as willing accomplices in prostitution, pornography schemes, or any other act involving the commercial sale of sex.**

Human Trafficking

FACT: Human Trafficking is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world, second only to the Drug Trade.



**Human trafficking
generates more
annual revenue than**

VISA



BANK OF AMERICA

citibank



mastercard.

combined

Humans as Commodity

I AM A HUMAN BEING
NOT A COMMODITY



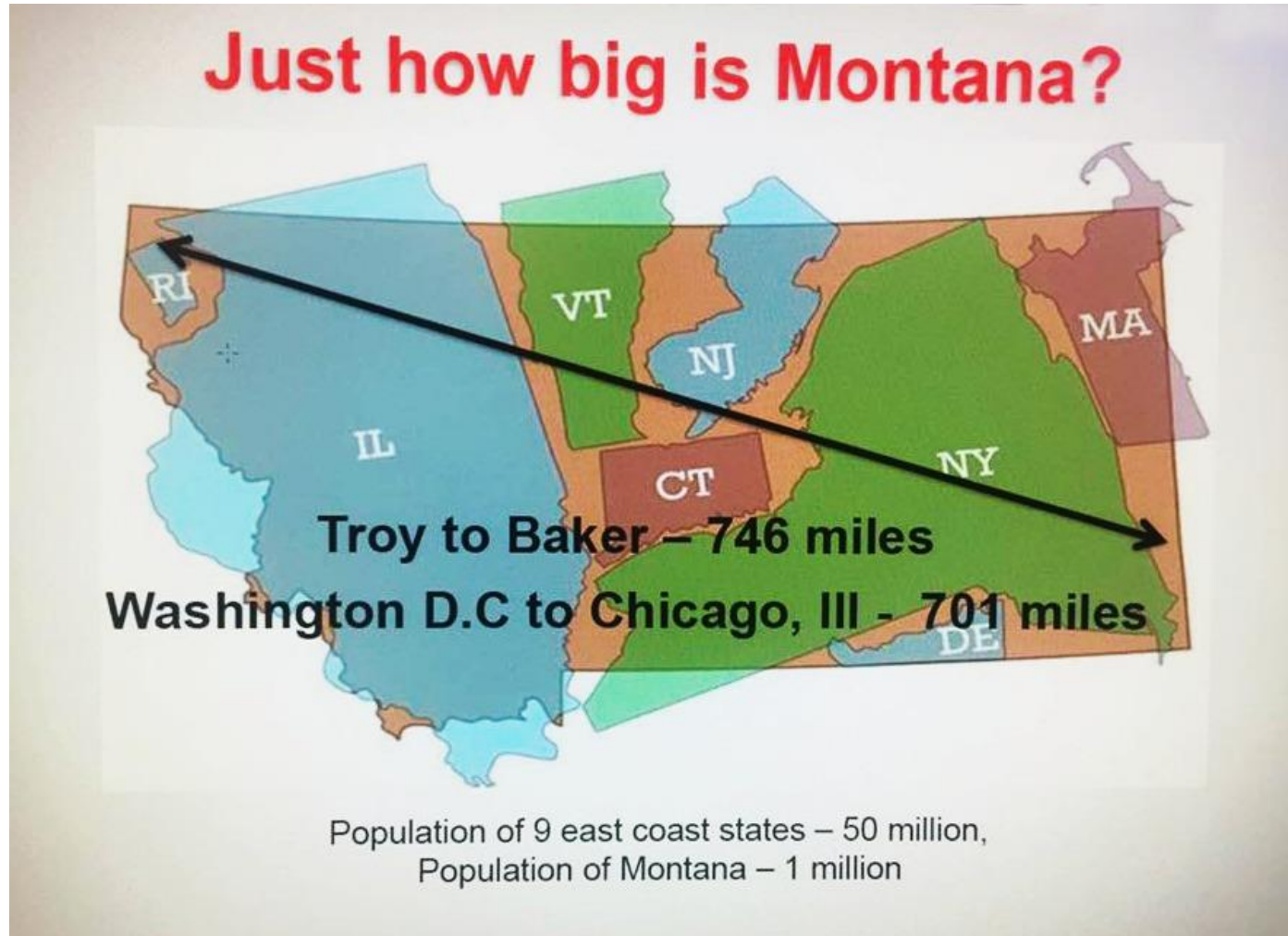
One human being can be sold to another human being for sex thousands and thousands of times or exploited for labor for thousands of hours – annually for year after year.

Traffickers are business owners and *both their products and their customers are people.*

Who Is Vulnerable to Becoming a Victim of Human Trafficking?

- Youth and teenagers – average age for recruitment 12 – 14
- Primarily girls, but also boys
- Relational issues with parents
- Low Self-Esteem
- LGBTQ+
- Foster Youth
- Homeless
- Runaways
- Sexually, emotionally, physically abused
- Trauma history

Why is Montana Vulnerable to Human Trafficking?



Vulnerabilities in Our Community

- 2018 – 2019 school year, Billings School District 2 identified **499 children** enrolled in school as homeless
- 2019 – 2020 school year, BSD2 identified **457 children** enrolled in school as homeless (schools shut down 3/16)
- From Child & Family Services: Currently, **800 children** in the Yellowstone County foster care system
- **300 children** in foster care served by a Court Appointed Special Advocate
- **500 children** in foster care waiting for a Court Appointed Special Advocate
- In 2020, **768 youth & young adults** served by Tumbleweed
- 2020 BPD Annual Report, Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM)
 - 24 cases of possession
 - 24 cases of distribution
 - 7 cases of manufacturing



MMIWG

Missing and murdered indigenous women and girls

CITIES WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CASES

Seattle	45
Albuquerque	37
Anchorage	31
Tucson	31
Billings	29
Gallup	25
Tacoma	25
Omaha	24
Salt Lake City	24
San Francisco	17

STATES WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CASES

New Mexico	78
Washington	71
Arizona	54
Alaska	52
Montana	41
California	40
Nebraska	33
Utah	24
Minnesota	20
Oklahoma	18

Source: Urban Indian Health Institute

C. CUNNINGHAM/JOURNAL

Of the top 10 states in the nation with the highest number of Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls, Montana is number 5. Of the top 10 cities in the nation with the highest number of MMIWG, Billings is number 5.

~ Urban Indian Health Institute

Rural Areas and Small Cities

Far from being immune to trafficking, rural places have characteristics that can make trafficking both harder to recognize and address. In rural areas, long distances between homes doesn't guarantee safety but does mean that services and supports to victims may be less accessible. Rural poverty and fewer jobs can make young people and their families more willing to trade sex for money or drugs, and in small close-knit communities, traffickers may be familiar faces, making disclosure of abuse especially complicated. At the same time, **traffickers can find small cities and towns attractive places to operate, given that residents and even local enforcement may tend to underestimate the threat of trafficking.**

Source: Department of Education


“

For me, if in my early years teachers would have reported the abuse and neglect I was receiving from my parents, I would have possibly been less susceptible to my trafficker later on in my teens. The sexual and physical abuse as a child left me vulnerable. It literally groomed me for the experience. I was so numb from my previous abusive experiences that the trafficking experiences didn't seem so painful.

–Trafficking Survivor

Lack of Belief by Adults

A 2014 study found more similarities than differences in child sex trafficking across the types of settings. Minors in all cases tended to have the same risk factors: poverty, instability, compromised parenting, and substance abuse within the family. Instead, **differences between the settings were found primarily in the views of child welfare and youth-service professionals, who in rural areas are less likely to believe trafficking is a serious problem or be trained in identifying and treating trafficking victims.**



Some school personnel, by virtue of their connection to students, should be trained more intensively. Those staff include front desk staff, bus drivers, assistant principals, school counselors, social workers, attendance officers, dropout prevention officers, special education teachers, and school nurses.

Source: Department of Education

Cole, J., & Sprang, G. (2015). Sex trafficking of minors in metropolitan, micropolitan, and rural communities. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 40, 113–123. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2014.07.015>

Can You Spot Human Trafficking?



Who's Got Eyes on the Child?

Schools can and should be safe places for students, and even more so for students whose lives are otherwise characterized by instability and lack of safety and security. **Everyone who is part of the school community** — administrators, school counselors, nurses, other mental health professionals, teachers, bus drivers, maintenance personnel, food service staff, resource officers, and other school community members — **has the potential to be an advocate for children who have been exploited.**



Source: Department of Education

Signs of Trafficking



RESCUE CHILD

RESCUE CHILD

- R: Runaway
- E: Education--difficulties
- S: Sexual assault
- C: Court appearances--any involvement with the juvenile justice system
- U: Using drugs/alcohol
- E: Emotional abuse
- C: Child abuse/neglect
- H: Homelessness
- I: Influential others (family or friends) involved in prostitution
- L: Loving someone much older
- D: Difficulty making friends

No Perfect Victim



Some students who have been trafficked won't show any signs of trafficking. In fact, some students affected by trafficking see school as a safe haven where they can participate in normal peer activities and excel in their academic work.

**“There is no perfect victim.”
~ Cyntoia Brown Long**

Recruitment into Trafficking

- FBI term: **psychological kidnapping**
- **Romeo** pimp – seduce and control with psychological manipulation
- **Seasoning** to ensure compliance – beating, rape, sleep/food deprivation, isolation from family, psychological manipulation, threaten family/friends, eye balling
- **Gorilla** pimp – control through violence
- **Daddy** – name pimp often requires victim to call them

Traffickers

Children are trafficked by peers, family members, romantic partners, acquaintances, and strangers.

Traffickers target children and adolescents for grooming, often over an extended period of time. Traffickers target vulnerable children, secure their trust, fulfill their needs, isolate them from potential support, and eventually exert total control over them, all the while working to normalize the abuse. Recruitment can and does occur everywhere—in school; at home, malls, sporting events, and parties; and in shelters and detention facilities—and is conducted both in person and online, where traffickers lure young people with the offer of friendship, romance, or jobs. **When the trafficker has established sufficient control, children are sold at private parties, illicit massage businesses, hotel and motel rooms, strip clubs, trade shows, truck stops, and other venues.** Sex trafficking is inherently traumatic; at a minimum, survivors require educational and therapeutic aftercare services that are trauma informed.

“

A 15-year-old girl in Arizona attended a high school football game, where she met a friendly 20-year-old woman who began chatting with her. To the younger girl's surprise, the 20-year-old ran across the street to buy her a phone so they could keep in touch. The catch? The girl would need to repay the newly acquired debt by giving men “massages” in motel rooms.

—*Trafficking Researcher*

See [Tools for Educators](#), developed by the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, for examples of safety and trafficking assessment questions.

July 14, 2020 Prevention & Community Awareness Committee Meeting Notes

MEETING NOTES:

BRANDON/ANDY LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Brandon (FBI) reported on what he worked on last year with human trafficking. His focus of work now is on sex trafficking with children and labor trafficking. He stressed trafficking is happening in Billings. Andy (DOJ) talked about picking up where Brandon left off and finds most his cases lead here to Billings. The DOJ has successfully put a case against Jasmine Spa (Billings) in state court and have open investigations on numerous spas here in Billings and are assisting other jurisdictions with their spa investigations. They currently have 4 federal cases that started out with adult victims and then found juvenile victims. What they are finding that Billings has a high number of native women being trafficked and trying to work with tribal enforcement as their jurisdiction stops at the reservation. Mel asked what we can do as a committee to support DOJ & FBI efforts with prevention and awareness. Andy suggested we keep working on updating information on how things are reported and making sure things are reported to the proper channels to not lose time on getting the information to the proper department. Scott shared that the cards we hand out have updated info and the task force can keep circulating the new cards, so Andy's contact info is available to the public. Brandon shared when he gets a call from the card, he forwards it to Andy. Andy offered to be available for presentations if needed.

Be the Parent Over Your Child's Social Media



Meet Susan...

a 42 year old man posing
as a 15 year old girl online.

**"Susan" and your 13 year
old just made plans to
meet at the park.**

Backpage.com

- According to National Center for Missing and Exploited Children reports of online child sex trafficking had increased by more than 800 percent from 2010 to 2015
- The organization said this was “directly correlated to the increased use of the internet to sell children for sex”
- Backpage, where revenue increased to \$135 million in 2014 from \$5.3 million in 2008, derived more than 90 percent of its earnings from its adult ads, according to the California Department of Justice

Foreign Land

FIFTEEN APPS

PARENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

Courtesy of the
Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
UPDATED JULY 2019



MEETME



MEETME is a dating social media app that allows users to connect with people based on geographic proximity. As the app's name suggests, users are encouraged to meet each other in person.

GRINDR



GRINDR is a dating app geared towards gay, bi and transgender people. The app gives users options to chat, share photos and meet up based on a smart phone's GPS location.

SKOUT



SKOUT is a location-based dating app and website. While users under 17 years old are unable to share private photos, kids can easily create an account using a different age.

WHATSAPP



WHATSAPP is a popular messaging app that allows users to send texts, photos, voicemails, make calls and video chats worldwide. WHATSAPP uses an internet connection on smart phones and computers.

TIKTOK



TIKTOK is a new mobile device app popular with kids used for creating and sharing short videos. With very limited privacy controls, users are vulnerable to cyber bullying and explicit content.

BADDO



BADDO is a dating and social networking app where users can chat, share photos and videos and connect based on location. While the app is intended for adults only, teens are known to create profiles.

BUMBLE



BUMBLE is similar to the popular dating app "Tinder" however, it requires women to make the first contact. Kids have been known to use BUMBLE to create fake accounts and falsify their age.

SNAPCHAT



SNAPCHAT is one of the most popular apps in recent years. While the app promises users can take a photo/video and it will disappear, new features including "stories" allows users to view content for up to 24 hours. Snapchat also allows users to see your location.

KIK



KIK allows anyone to contact and direct message your child. Kids can bypass traditional text messaging features. KIK gives users unlimited access to anyone, anywhere, anytime.

LIVEME



LIVE.ME is a live-streaming video app that uses geolocation to share videos so users can find out a broadcaster's exact location. Users can earn "coins" as a way to "pay" minors for photos.

HOLLA



HOLLA is a self-proclaimed "addicting" video chat app that allows users to meet people all over the world in just seconds. Reviewers say they have been confronted with racial slurs, explicit content, and more.

WHISPER



WHISPER is an anonymous social network that promotes sharing secrets with strangers. It also reveals a user's location so people can meet up.

ASK.FM



ASK.FM is known for cyber bullying. The app encourages users to allow anonymous people to ask them questions.

CALCULATOR%



CALCULATOR% is only one of SEVERAL secret apps used to hide photos, videos, files, and browser history.

HOT OR NOT






HOT OR NOT encourages users to rate your profile, check out people in their area, and chat with strangers. The goal of this app is to hook up.

For more information, contact Sarasota County Sheriff's Office Community Affairs at 941.861.4005

The Sarasota County (Fla.) Sheriff's Department released these 15 mobile apps it claims are dangerous for children, in which they could encounter bullying or sexual predators.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SARASOTA COUNTY FLA. SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Child Sexual Abuse Material

	Trafficked at the Age of 16
	Her Trafficker Records Her on Film
	Now Every Day People Watch Her Abuse For Their Pleasure.

Source: National Center on Sexual Exploitation

- Pornography is used as a “tool” to train young children and women so that they will “know” what to do in performing sex acts.
- Often, the forced sexual acts between the prostituted woman/child and the John will be filmed and photographed and then shared elsewhere.
- Studies show that pornography users often seek to act out what they have viewed in porn. Often their partners will not engage in such acts, so they seek it elsewhere – increasing the demand for trafficked women and children to be prostituted.
- Pimps are operating more and more online as it becomes easier to connect with potential buyers and to remain anonymous. Popular websites like www.Craigslist.com and www.Facebook.com have become “virtual brothels” where one can quickly find prostituted women and children to engage in sex acts.
- As addictions to pornography increase, users seek harder and harder material. **There is a recent boom in the availability of “live” porn as trafficked children and women are forced to perform “on-demand” sex acts in front of web cameras as “Johns” or porn users watch.**
- Porn users do not and cannot distinguish between trafficked women, prostitutes, and porn stars.
- Pornography fuels the global sex trade by driving demand into the mainstream of society.

Illicit Massage Businesses

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE UNITED STATES: THE ILLICIT MASSAGE INDUSTRY

The Illicit Massage Industry (IMI) is one of the largest - and most networked - sex trafficking markets in the United States. The IMI is made up of over 10,000 illicit massage businesses (IMBs) across all 50 states.



Based on open and erotic locations found on Yelpmaps.ch.

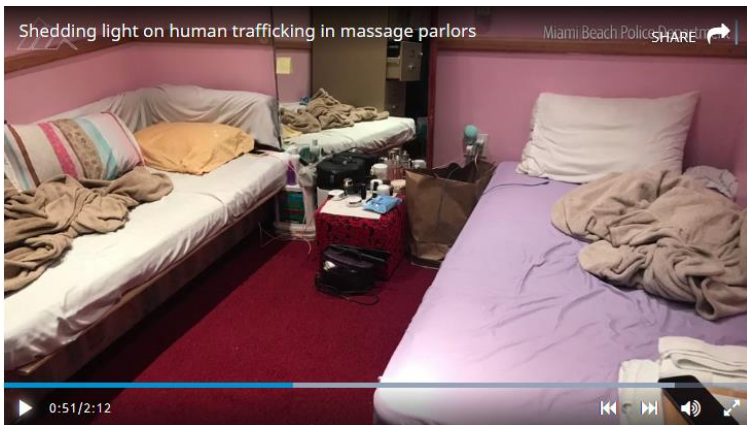
Source: Heyrick Research



Victim Workers and Working Conditions

VICTIM WORKERS

The average Chinese or Korean IMB victim-worker (VW) in the U.S. is **30-50 years old** and comes from impoverished regions of China or South Korea. They are often **fleeing difficult personal situations**, such as spousal abuse or seeking to pay off large debts. VWs almost never speak English and are typically moved from IMB-to-IMB every few weeks.



WORKING CONDITIONS

IMBs are usually staffed by one managerial figure and an **average of two victim workers**. Managers coerce workers into providing sexual services to **8-12 customers per day** and often rely on shame, abuse, and debt leverage as means of control. Sometimes managers retain physical possession of the VWs' passport. VWs tend to live on-site or in a nearby manager-controlled residence, and often cannot leave without permission. In some cases, VWs are **monitored 24/7 by closed circuit cameras**.

Source: Heyrick Research

Atlanta, Georgia Shooting Victim



Develop Policies and Protocols

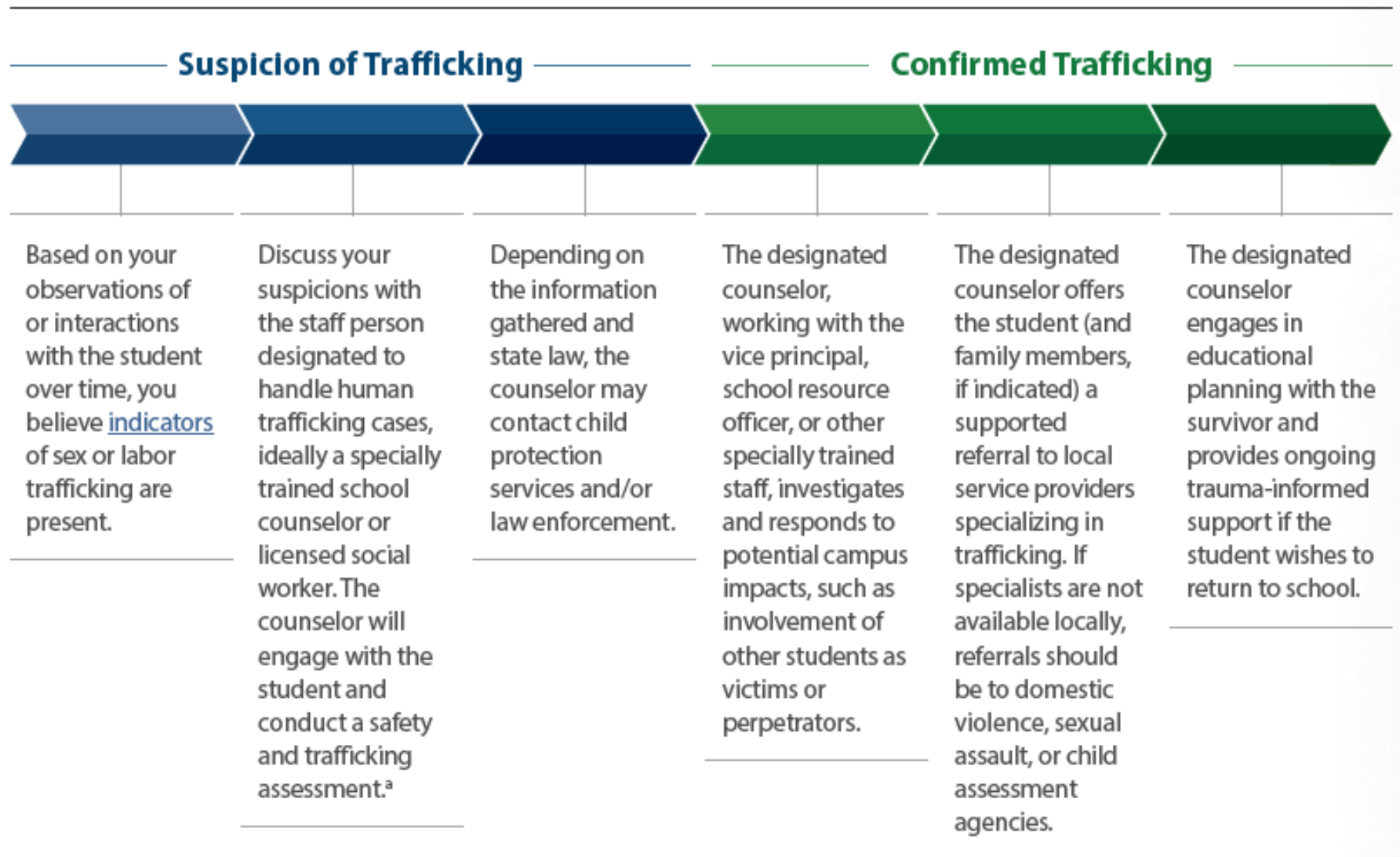
Schools have several responsibilities regarding child trafficking. To be effective, they should:

- (a) increase staff awareness and educate staff on the nature of trafficking and on which youth are most vulnerable to it,
- (b) increase parent and student awareness of the risks and realities of trafficking, and
- **(c) develop district or schoolwide policies and protocols for identifying and supporting trafficking victims.**

For Sale
Over and over again.



Sample Reporting Protocol



This tool is designed to help educators identify the risk factors and indicators of human trafficking in their students and to offer guidelines on how to respond and access resources. **Disclaimer:** This protocol does not substitute for internal or mandated reporting requirements and does not guarantee safety. For emergencies, please contact 9-1-1.

Tools For Educators

Red Flags & Indicators

- Exhibits changes in behaviors or school participation, i.e. spike in truancy; or performs severely under grade level.
- Student's family shows signs of frequent migration, periodic homelessness, disorientation, uncertainty of surroundings.
- History of homelessness or running away from home.
- Reveals signs of abusive or inattentive caregivers, such as untreated illness or injury, bruises, or scars.
- Displays heightened sense of duty or obligation to family, has unreasonable or inappropriate chores or duties.
- Works for little or no pay, or the employer keeps identification documents and/or confiscates wages.
- Accumulates debt to employer while at work or recruited for work with promises of easy money.
- Exhibits sexual behavior that is high risk and/or inappropriate for his/her age.
- Has an explicitly sexual online profile via internet community or social networking sites.
- Involved in relationship with an older man, receives frequent gifts, may be picked up from school by controller.
- Engages in sexual activity in exchange for money or anything of value (can include clothing, food, shelter, other goods and resources). No force, fraud, or coercion necessary if the student is under 18.
- Knowledge of the commercial sex industry. Uses lingo: "The Life," "The Game," "Daddy," for boyfriend, "Track" or "Stroll," refers to dates as "Johns" or "Tricks."

Consult Polaris Project's [Red Flags & Indicators](#) for a complete list.

YES

- I have a safe space to talk with the student privately.
- I am acting within the role designated for me by my school's protocols.

First Response

If any of the above indicators is present, follow all relevant school protocols, specifically those for discussing potential abuse with students and reporting abuse to appropriate authorities.

Is your next step to talk with the student?

Contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center

Call the hotline at 1-888-3737-888, 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

Ask for assistance with assessment questions, safety planning, resources & referrals, specialized reporting options, and next steps, even if you are not sure if this is a case of human trafficking.

NO

- I am looking for resources, referrals, or general support.
- My school's protocols require me to follow a different course of action.

Assess Safety and Needs

Speak to the student alone or privately, and follow her/his cues.

- Is the student a minor (under 18 years of age)?
- Is it safe for the student to talk right now?
- Is anyone watching, listening, calling, or texting her/him?
- Is the controller present or nearby, i.e. at the school, waiting outside, at the home [of the student]?
- Does the controller know where the student attends school or lives?
- What would happen if the student tried to leave the controller? Refuse to continue working or engaging in commercial sex?
- Is the student or a family member in danger?
- Do the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) know about the situation?

See Polaris Project's [Safety Planning & Prevention](#) for more Safety Planning tips.

Basic Trafficking Assessment

- How did you meet your boyfriend/find out about your job?
- Have you ever tried to break up with your boyfriend/leave your job? Is anyone preventing or threatening you?
- Do you want help leaving?
- Are your family members or friends are in danger if you try to leave?
- Have you ever been forced to do work that you didn't want to do?
- Were you ever lied to about the type of work that you would do?
- Has anyone ever given you money or offered it to you for having sex? Does anyone make you have sex?

See Polaris Project's [Comprehensive Trafficking Assessment](#) for more.



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HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

WHAT PERTAINS SPECIFICALLY TO YOU

88 percent of the human trafficking survivors interviewed by researchers had contact with a health care professional while they were being trafficked, mainly in emergency departments. That means emergency department physicians and nurses have a unique opportunity to intercede.

Health care professionals have the advantage of being able to speak with patients alone and not alert the trafficker.

Asking non-leading questions and using trauma-informed techniques can create an environment where victims feel they can disclose the abuse they experienced at the hands of their buyers and traffickers.

Questions about the victim's safety, and that of other persons, should always be asked if health care professionals believe trafficking is happening.

Questions to Ask a Potential Victim If You Can Speak With the Victim Privately and *Without Jeopardizing Their Safety*

- Can you leave your home or job if you want to?
- Can you come and go as you please?
- Have you been hurt or threatened if you tried to leave?
- Where did you get those bruises, burns, or cuts?
- Has your family been threatened?
- Do you live with your employer?
- Where do you sleep and eat?
- Are you in debt to your employer?
- Do you have your passport/identification? Who has it?
- Do you get paid for your employment? How many hours do you work?

4 Recommendations for Engaging Law Enforcement in Missing Persons Cases

- 1) **Report to your local police department first. Then contact the FBI if necessary.**

FYI: the FBI is not legally responsible for missing persons, their jurisdiction only covers federal crimes, and it is not a federal crime to go missing. They can, however, provide helpful resources and assistance to local law enforcement if they are asked to do so.

- 2) **Friends and family should get involved AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, the more people helping the more likely a person will be found.**

Example: Go look where the person might be, or give law enforcement a list of where the person could be. Gather other people and law enforcement and split up the locations to cover more ground more quickly. Your community could even start an emergency search and rescue team to be deployed in these situations.

- 3) **Share as much information with law enforcement (BIA/Tribal Police/FBI) as possible, even if it is personal or embarrassing. This could make the difference in finding your loved one in time.**

Example: if missing person had meth problem, then they can go look at known meth houses for them or if a missing person was known to be close or intimate with an older adult, then they can question that adult.

- 4) **Know people's cell phone numbers and social media usernames - if you can accurately share this information with law enforcement this could help move the process along more efficiently and effectively.**

Example: Law enforcement needs an accurate phone number to be able to ping the phone and try to locate it. It is helpful to know people's actual usernames on social media because law enforcement can search their accounts for helpful information or use those names to ask more people about them, so know what their Facebook name is, their twitter name, snapchat name etc. **Parents: do not be afraid to be the authority over your minor children's use of social media.**

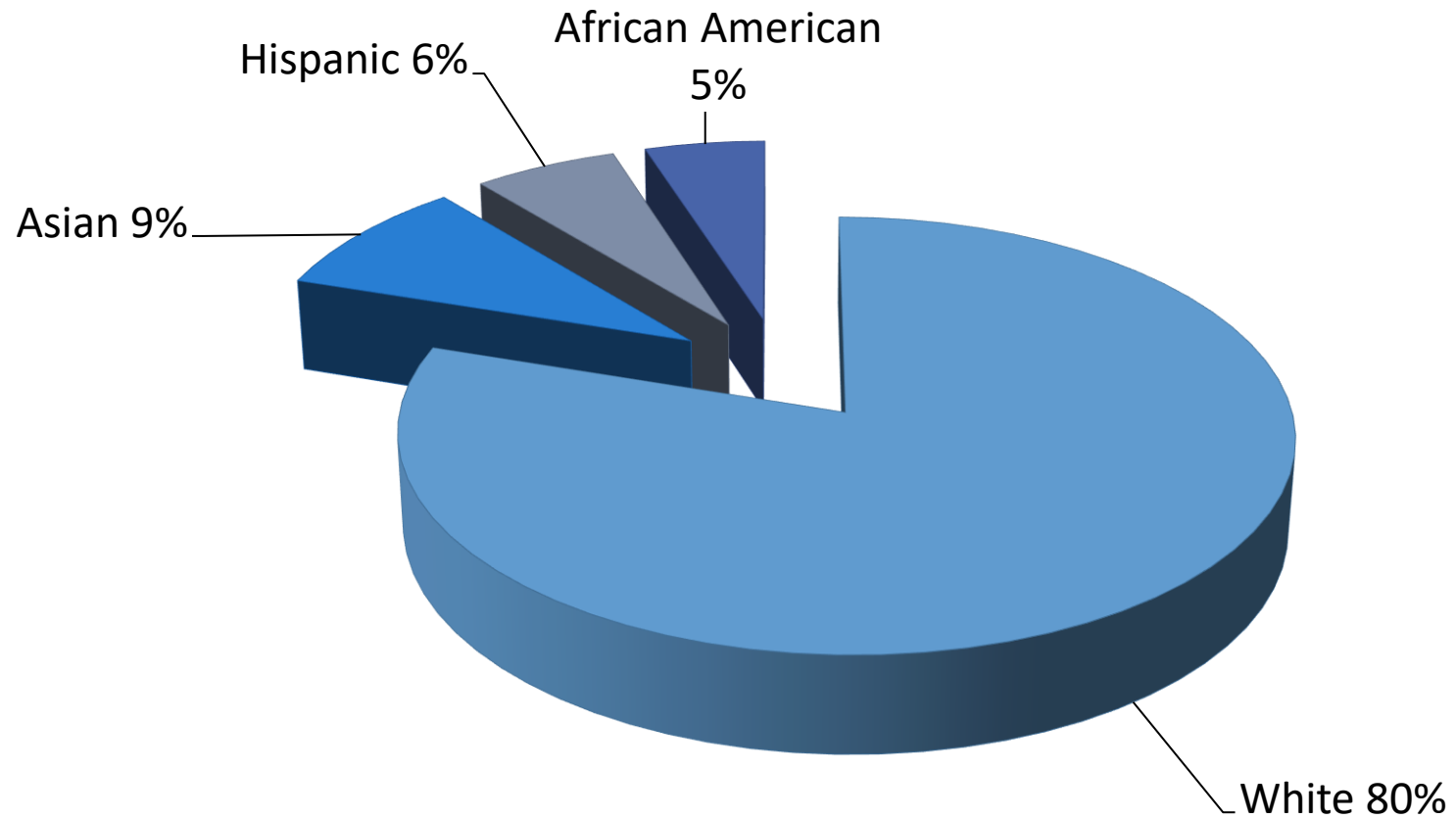
Why Focus on Demand?

- Buyers are directly and indirectly responsible for all of the harm experienced by prostituted people
- Prevalence of violence in sex buying
- Demand drives the exploitation
 - No buyers, no business
 - No business, no exploitation of vulnerable persons
- Because sex buying is a practice of inequality and gender-based violence

Who are the Buyers?

- Come from all professions: executives, pastors, teachers, lawyers, tech, laborers, etc.
- 54% are married
- Higher than average education
- Come from all races/ethnicities, but...

Sex Buyers of Minors by Race (N = 172)



Task Force Leaders

The Task Force's volunteer co-chairs founded the Task Force, along with the FBI and U.S. Attorney's Office.

The *Steering Committee (SC)* consists of the co-chairs, coordinators, committee chairs, and other leaders.

Co-Chairs:

Penny Ronning

Stephanie Baucus

Partnerships Coordinators:

Erin Walker, Montana O.U.R.

Brittany Homer, Montana O.U.R.

Administrative Coordinator:

Pam Rogina

Data Analytics Coordinator:

Nicolette Rose, FBI

Committee Leaders

1. Prevention and Community Awareness
 - **Chair: Melanie Tripp, Zonta**
 - Vice-Chair: Scott Koch, Whitewood Transport
2. Prosecution and Law Enforcement
 - **Co-Chair: Brandon Walter, FBI**
 - **Co-Chair: Zeno Baucus, U.S. Attorney's Office**
3. Protection and Victim Services
 - **Co-Chair: Erin Harris, FBI**
 - **Co-Chair: Rhonda Busenitz, U.S. Attorney's Office**
 - Vice Chair: Michele Stewart, FBI
 - Secretary: Georgia Cady, Tumbleweed



Image from
<http://foothillsalliance.org/child-advocacy-center-partners/>

Task Force Members

Government

- State Legislature
- County Commission
- City Council
- MT DPHHS
- BIA
- Tribal Leaders Council
- City Victims Services
- County Children's Advocacy Center
- County Victim's Services
- TSA
- Homeland Security
- Carbon County Domestic Violence and Sex Assault Services

Law Enforcement/Prosecution

- FBI
- US Attorney's Office
- MT DCI
- County Attorney's Office
- Billings Police Department
- YC Sheriff's Department
- Probation and Parole
- 13th Judicial Dist. Youth Court Services
- Juvenile Probation
- County Jail
- Women's Prison
- Airport Police

Nonprofit

- AMTA Montana
- Billings Area Family Violence TF
- CASA of Yellowstone County
- DeliverFund
- Dress for Success
- Family Promise of Yellowstone Valley
- Family Services, Inc.
- FREE International
- HEART Initiative
- Her Story
- Kiwanis Club
- Montana O.U.R.
- MSU's The Heart Initiative
- MT Native Women's Coalition
- NAMI
- Passages
- Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council
- Salvation Army
- Truckers Against Trafficking
- Tumbleweed
- Young Families Early Head Start
- Youth Dynamics Inc.
- Youth Crisis Center
- Youth Services Center
- YMCA
- YWCA
- Zonta Club

Business

- Downtown Billings Alliance
- Jefferson Bus Lines
- Motor Carriers of America
- Yellowstone County Lodging Association
- Sanctuary Spa and Salon
- GLOW Salon
- H'OM Wellness
- Boothhill Inn
- Whitewood Transportation

Billings Public Schools

Medical

- Billings Clinic
- Billings Urban Indian Health
- Planned Parenthood
- RiverStone Health
- St. Vincent Healthcare

Religious

- City Church
- First Baptist Church
- Grace UMC
- Faith Chapel
- BUUF
- Women of ELCA

Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act (2018) and Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act (2018)



- SESTA: "To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify that section 230 of that Act does not prohibit the enforcement against providers and users of interactive computer services of Federal and State criminal and civil law relating to sex trafficking."
- FOSTA: "A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to clarify that section 230 of such Act does not prohibit the enforcement against providers and users of interactive computer services of Federal and State criminal and civil law relating to sexual exploitation of children or sex trafficking, and for other purposes."

EARN IT Act

S.3398 - EARN IT Act of 2020

116th Congress (2019-2020)

BILL

Hide Overview ✕

Sponsor: [Sen. Graham, Lindsey \[R-SC\]](#) (Introduced 03/05/2020)

Committees: Senate - Judiciary

Committee Meetings: [07/02/20 10:00AM](#) [06/25/20 10:00AM](#)

Latest Action: Senate - 07/20/2020 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 491. ([All Actions](#))

Tracker:

Introduced

Eliminating Abusive and Rampant Neglect of Interactive Technologies Act of 2020 or the EARN IT Act of 2020

This bill revises the framework governing the prevention of online sexual exploitation of children.

Among other things, the bill does the following:

- establishes the National Commission on Online Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention,
- directs the commission to develop best practices for interactive online services providers (e.g., Facebook and Twitter) to prevent the online sexual exploitation of children,
- limits the liability protections of online service providers with respect to claims alleging violations of child sexual exploitation laws, and
- replaces statutory references to *child pornography* with *child sexual abuse material*.

Resources

Human Trafficking in American Schools January 2021

Department of Education

<https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/sites/default/files/NCSSLE-2021HumanTraffickingGuide-508.pdf>

U.S. Department of Education Use Case –Human Trafficking Framework for Instructional Programming in Schools.

[USDOE_UseCase_HT_2017.pdf \(ed.gov\)](#)

A List of Anti-Trafficking Curriculum for Educators

<https://www.dressember.org/blog/educators>

YCA HTTF Projects Completed and Current Initiatives

- Grown membership to over 800 member list serve with over 100 organizations represented
- Presented and conducted trainings at over 200 conferences and events
- Printed and distributed more than 50,000 Signs of Trafficking Card
- Hosted *Fight Human Trafficking* Conference in May 2017 and numerous events
- Co-authored and passed State Legislature on tougher laws on trafficking
- Hosted dozens of awareness events
- Participated in White House Summit on Human Trafficking
- Developing referral network for victims among service providers
- Working with MT OPI on trafficking curriculum for schools
- Working with Billings City Council on illicit massage business ordinance
- Training “trainers” and establishing a speakers bureau on trafficking, especially for specific industries, like transportation, education, hotel/motel, and healthcare
- Members participate in MT USAO statewide task force
- Partnering with Holiday StationStores for multi-state Red Sand Events



anything suspicious:
406.657.8200
Billings Police Department

specific victim info:
406.896.4389
Montana DOJ – Agent Gary Seder
406.254.8117
FBI – Special Agent Brandon Walter

victim services:
888.816.4702
tumbleweedprogram.org

Montana Internet Crimes Against Children & Yellowstone County Area Human Trafficking Task Forces

RECOGNIZE SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIMS IN YELLOWSTONE COUNTY

- physical abuse, fatigue, malnourishment • no ID •
- submissive or fearful • unsure of current location •
- avoids eye contact • waits for permission to speak •
 - gives confusing answers to simple questions •
 - crown, “property of...” or “daddy’s girl...” tattoo •
- older man with younger girl, they don’t look related •
- someone you know has unusual amounts of cash •

NEVER APPROACH A SUSPECTED TRAFFICKING SITUATION!

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

Join us on [Facebook](#) at **Human Trafficking – Yellowstone County, Montana**

Follow us on [Twitter](#) @YCAHTTF and use #MTFightsHT

Penny Ronning and Stephanie Baucus
Volunteer Co-Chairs and Co-Founders

Pam Rogina
Volunteer Administrative Coordinator

Yellowstone County Area Human Trafficking Task Force

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