NEW MEXICO HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

Human Trafficking in New Mexico





NEW MEXICO HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

- Grant co-partnered by NMOAG and The Life Link with FBI, HSI, U.S. Attorney's Office and others.
- Collaborative effort between law enforcement and service providers to combat Human Trafficking statewide.
 - **1.** Prevention: Enhancing public awareness and training professionals.
 - 2. Prosecution: Ensuring strong legislation and building strong cases through proactive investigations.
 - **3.** Protection: Victim-centered rescue and long term restoration.

A COLLABORATIVE

VICTIM SERVICES

Works with identified victims Providing legal & social services

<u>LAW</u> ENFORCEMENT

Collaborates with agencies on current/future investigations, provides officer trainings, & prevention tactics

AWARENESS

Community organizations partnering together to provide outreach and education to the community on human trafficking

NMHTTF

<u>TRAINING</u>

Provides trainings to organizations that might come into contact with victims.

PROTOCOL

Creating and evaluating protocol or the task force & the procedure for handling human trafficking situations

Purpose of this Training

- Empower education professionals to:
 - <u>Recognize risk factors and indicators related to human</u> trafficking.
 - Identify potential human trafficking victims and report.
- Provide a foundation to:
 - Share knowledge with colleagues, parents, and community members.
 - Engage in local prevention efforts.



Importance of this Training

 Education professionals serve an important role in New Mexico trafficking prevention efforts because teachers, administrators, and staff interact daily with children who are at risk of becoming or already victims of human trafficking.

 You can become our eyes and ears by recognizing human trafficking and reporting the abuse.



NMSA 30-52-1. Human Trafficking

A. Human trafficking consists of a person knowingly:

(1) recruiting, soliciting, enticing, transporting or obtaining by any means another person with the intent or knowledge that **force, fraud or coercion** will be used to subject the person to labor, services or commercial sexual activity;

(2) recruiting, soliciting, enticing, transporting or obtaining by any means a person under the age of eighteen years with the intent or knowledge that the person will be caused to engage in commercial sexual activity; or

(3) benefiting, financially or by receiving anything of value, from the labor, services or commercial sexual activity of another person with the knowledge that force, fraud or coercion was used to obtain the labor, services or commercial sexual activity.



B. The attorney general and the district attorney in the county of jurisdiction have concurrent jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this section.

- C. Whoever commits human trafficking is guilty of a third degree felony; <u>except</u> if the victim is under the age of:
 - (1) sixteen, the person is guilty of a second degree felony; or
 - (2) thirteen, the person is guilty of a first degree felony.
- D. Prosecution pursuant to this section shall not prevent prosecution pursuant to any other provision of the law when the conduct also constitutes a violation of that other provision.
- E. In a prosecution pursuant to this section, a human trafficking victim shall not be charged with accessory to the crime of human trafficking.
- F. A person convicted of human trafficking shall, in addition to any other punishment, be ordered to make restitution to the victim for the gross income or value of the victim's labor or services and any other actual damages in accordance with Section 31-17-1 NMSA 1978.



Understanding Human Trafficking

- Human trafficking is categorized as:
 - Labor trafficking
 - Sex trafficking
 - A crossover of both labor and sex trafficking
- Human trafficking can be prosecuted under federal or state law.
- Human trafficking is about exploitation and does not have to involve movement of a person.

Sex

Trafficking

Labor

Trafficking



Trafficking Can Occur Anywhere

- Our cities and towns
- Our neighborhoods
- Our schools
- Our foster and group homes
- Our shelters
- Our malls and parks
- Our online social networking

A victim can be trafficked without ever leaving their home or community.

Industries with Known Trafficking Cases

Labor Trafficking

- Agriculture, manual labor, or landscaping
- Construction
- Domestic servitude
- Restaurants and food service
- Peddling or begging Sales crews
- Hospitality and tourist industry
- Nail salons
- Fairs or carnivals
- Gas stations
- Cleaning services

Sex Trafficking

- Commercial sex/prostitution
- Residential brothels/Escort services
- Massage parlors
- Internet-based commercial sex
- Sexually oriented business, hostess and strip clubs
- Fake modeling agencies
- Child Pornography
- Restaurants/bars
- Truck stops

Trafficking vs. Smuggling

Trafficking

- Is not voluntary
- Entails exploitation of a person
- Need not entail physical movement of a person
- Can occur domestically
- Is a crime against the right of each person to be free from involuntary servitude

Smuggling

- Is voluntary individual typically contracts to be taken across a border
- Ends after the border crossing
- Fees are usually paid in advance or upon arrival
- Is always international in nature
- Is a crime against the nations sovereignty

Who are the Traffickers?

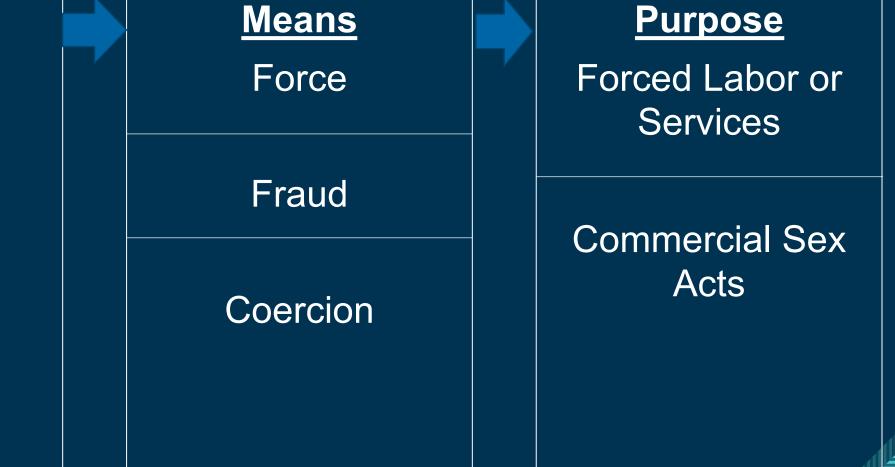
Traffickers can be anyone :

- Men or Women
- Parents or Family members
- Neighbors
- Boyfriends/Girlfriends
- Peers
- Employers
- Brothel or Massage Parlor Owners
- Organized Crime Participants/Gang Members

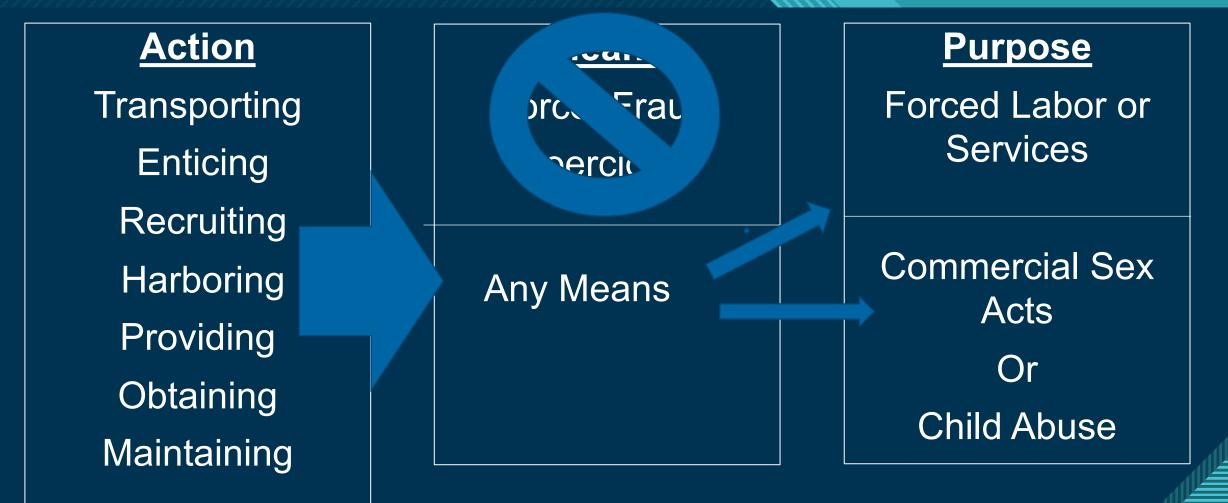


Elements of Trafficking: Adult (18 and older)

Action Transporting Enticing Recruiting Harboring Providing Obtaining Maintaining



Elements of Trafficking: Minor (18 and under)



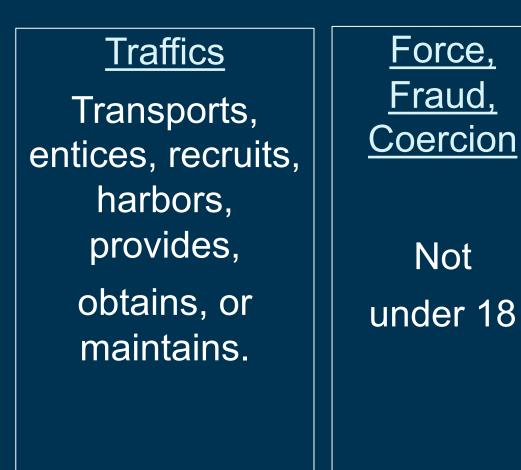


Sex Trafficking: Children

- Under New Mexico Law child sex trafficking occurs when a person:
- ACTION: Knowingly traffics a child under the age of 18
- **MEANS:** Causes by any means
- **PURPOSE:** That the child engage in or become the victim of commercial sex acts or child sex abuse



Sex Trafficking: Children cont.



Commercial Sex Acts or Child Sex Abuse

Commercial Sex Acts: Prostitution, promotion of prostitution, aggravated promotion of prostitution, or compelling prostitution.

Child Sex Abuse: Sexual assault, continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children, aggravated sexual assault, sexual performance by a child, employment harmful to children, indecency with a child, or possession or promotion of child pornography.



Child Sex Trafficking

 Force, fraud, or coercion is not required for sex trafficking victims under 18 years old

- To be a victim of sex trafficking, a child under age 18 does not have to
 - be: Deceived
 - Manipulated
 - Threatened
 - Physically harmed
 - Controlled
 - Forced or coerced in any manner



Human Trafficking as a Form of Abuse

 Cases involving abuse or neglect at the hands of a traditional caregiver may be investigated by Children Youth and Family Department (CYFD).

 All other cases must be handled by a law enforcement agency.

Children at Risk

"Among the diverse populations affected by human trafficking, children are at particular risk to sex trafficking and labor trafficking."

-U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



Understanding Child Trafficking

Thousands of children in the U.S. are at risk of trafficking.

Children have been trafficked throughout New Mexico.

- Average age a child is recruited or forced into prostitution: 11-14 years old.
- By understanding the dynamics of child trafficking you will be better able to identify suspected instances of human trafficking and report as required.

Child Sex Trafficking in the U.S.

"In the United States sex trafficking is the most common form of trafficking among domestic victims and, within the realm of domestic sex trafficking, domestic minor sex trafficking is especially prevalent."

Victims of sex trafficking are school-age

STOP CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING NOW

- Children at Risk

Child Sex Trafficking

Can occur through:

- Online advertisements of children for sex
- Children working in sexually oriented businesses
- Producing, buying, selling, or trading child pornography
- Buying, selling, or trading of children for sexual exploitation for anything of value
- Fake child modeling agencies
- Children engaging in sex acts to acquire food, clothing, or shelter

Preying on Children

 Traffickers prey upon children because they are easier to manipulate and deceive.

They often target children with vulnerabilities, including:

- Lack of family support
- Significant familial and school disruptions
- Parental alcohol or substance abuse
- Exposure to domestic violence
- Lack of supervision, care or basic necessities (food, clothing, and shelter)
- Physical or sexual abuse histories

How Does Human Trafficking Affect Our Schools?

- Traffickers may use your school as a place to recruit victims:
 - Students may recruit other students.
 - Adults may recruit on or near campus.
- Traffickers may text or contact students in school.
- Traffickers may use positions of authority to contact and recruit children.





Traffickers Target Children

"It is not surprising that young children and adolescents are the primary targets of traffickers/pimps, given their operational methods. Youth have less life experience, fewer coping mechanisms, and smaller social support mechanisms. This can work to the trafficker's favor as he implements different recruitment and control tactics."

- Shared Hope International

Individual Factors

- History of child abuse, neglect, or exploitation
- In a new unfamiliar country or location
- Runaway
- Disability Mental illness/mental health
- Homeless
- Low self-esteem

- Truancy Poverty or limited
 resources
- Delinquency Language barriers
- Substance abuse
- Distrust of authority
- Foster care
- Adolescent development
- Stigma and discrimination

Relationship Factors

Relationship Characteristics or Experiences May Increase Risk

- Family conflict, disruption, or dysfunction
- Peer pressure to engage in risky behavior
- Lack of long-term connections or sense of belonging
- Self-esteem not supported

- Unhealthy social relationships
- Social isolation
- Family and friends living elsewhere
- Gang affiliation

Community Factors

Community Characteristics or Experiences May Increase Risk

- Reluctance to believe trafficking occurs in the community
- No dedicated resources to identify victims or provide services
- Gang presence

- No clear understanding of human trafficking
- Limited community resources to assist at-risk populations
- Lack of school resources to provide prevention or referral programs

Societal Factors

Societal Characteristics or Experiences May Increase Risk

- Biases against human trafficking victims
- Prevalence of sexual violence
- Glamorization of pimp culture
- Apathy toward homeless and runaway youth

- Stigmas against prostitution
- Racism/racial inequality
- Children viewed as property or commodities
- Social norms



Trafficker Recruitment Methods

Pick recruitment location Identify exploit vulnerabilities Assert and maintain control



Recruitment Opportunities

PLACES

- School campuses
- Foster homes and residential
- Treatment Centers
- Bus stops Train/Metro stops
- Shopping centers Parks/playgrounds
- Street
- Concerts/sports/public events
- Court houses
- Shelters
- Restaurants and bars
- Juvenile detention

*If a trafficker does not have access to a recruitment location, the trafficker may send in another child as a recruiter.

INTERNET

- Social networks
- Gaming or other electronic devices with internet capabilities
- Texting apps
- Computers/tablets/laptops
- Smartphones and cell phones



Using Technology for Recruitment

Technology has facilitated exploitation of children.

- 75% of 12- to 17-year-olds own cell phones
- 93% of 12- to 17-year-olds go online

• Technology can be used to "reach children anywhere, anytime" and traffickers use it to their advantage.



Traffickers and Technology

Technology allows traffickers to more easily:

- Make contact or stalk victims
- Groom and recruit victims
- Control victims
- Employ sexting or sextortion tactics
- Advertise and market victims
- Connect with potential buyers
- Complete transactions
- Move victims
- Maintain anonymity
- Distance the trafficker from the crime

Trafficker Tactics

- Provide false feelings of love and affection.
- Create a dependency on drugs or alcohol.
- Isolate the victims from others.
- Physically, sexually, or verbally abuse the victim.
- Confine the victim.
- Control access to food or shelter.
- Place the victim in "debt."
- Exhaust victims with long work hours and quotas.
- Threaten friends, family, or other victims.
- Convince child that engaging in commercial sex or other forced labor is better than the life they have at home.



Why is it Difficult to Identify Victims?

- Victims may not be looking to be rescued.
- Victims may be misidentified by social service agencies.
- Victims mislabeled as criminals instead of victims.
- Technology can disguise the real age of a victim.
- Traffickers train victims to tell lies and false stories.
- Victims trained to distrust authority.
- Victims may be running away from something worse at home.
- • Traffickers maintain physical and psychological hold over the victim.



Why Don't Victims Ask for Help?



Limited Family/social support	False promises of security, love a better future		Trauma bonding		Language and social barriers/ unfamiliarity	
					, ,	
Normalization of sex for survival/abuse	Juvenile arrest histories –		Fear and distrust		No personal ID or documents	
	treatment as a					
	criminal		Threats of	1	Shame, self	
Confined or monitored			violence and		blame,	
	Feeling that no		reprisal against		hopelessness,	
	one will		loved ones		resignation	
	understand					

• Children may not self-identify as a victim or ask for help due to:



Educators are Essential

Children may still attend school while being trafficked.

- At school they are outside of the trafficker's presence.
- This provides an opportunity to identify and report.

• Educators are already trained to look for:

- Potentially dangerous behaviors.
- Changes in behavior and emotional state.
- Signs of abuse and neglect.



How Can Educators Help Identify Victims?

Education professionals can help identify potential victims by learning about human trafficking indicators, including :

- Physical Signs
- Behavioral Signs
- Academic Signs
- Use of Trafficking-Related Language

Human Trafficking Indicators: Physical Signs

Sex Trafficking

- Branding tattoos such as "daddy" or bar code designs, or any symbol for the pimp
- Gifts from unknown sources (clothes, hair styles, makeup, manicures, purses, shoes, etc.)
- Motel keys/cards in the victim's possession
- Large amounts of cash on hand
- New or pre-paid cell phones

Labor or Sex Trafficking

- Malnourishment
- Lacerations (hanger whippings), carvings or bruises from beatings (often with makeup used to cover the injuries), and injuries in less visible locations
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Pregnancy or history of pregnancy
- Burns, cuts, or bruises
- Bald spots, rotting teeth, or other indicators of poor health

How to Identify Victims

- Gang signs/affiliation
- Physical signs
 - Unexplained bruises, scars
 - Cigarette burns
 - Branding
 - Tattoos
 - Back of neck
 - Underarm
 - Ankle









Human Trafficking Indicators: Behavioral Signs

Sex Trafficking

- Victim has an older "friend" or "boyfriend" (likely appears fearful of him or her)
- Uses advanced sexual terms (not age appropriate)
- Victim has low self-esteem
- Young age with high number of sex partners
- Distrustful of law enforcement, disrespectful or indifferent toward authority

Labor or Sex Trafficking

- Victim avoids eye contact
- Fear of social interaction, signs of anxiety, depression, or nervousness
- Truancy, runaway, or homelessness
- Frequent travel
- Scripted answers or inconsistent stories involving work, injuries, whereabouts, or home life

Human Trafficking Indicators: Academic Environment

Sex Trafficking

- Social media usage or internet browsing history related to sexual advertising
- Peer conversations about older boyfriends
- Rumors about someone offering a place where youth can party or live
- Comments about leaving to meet someone they met online
- Use of street language

Labor or Sex Trafficking

- Truancy or frequent tardiness
- Frequent changes in schools
- Declining grades
- Tiredness throughout daytime; falling asleep in class
- Changes in usual activities or friends; changes in hobbies, demeanor, or economic circumstances



Human Trafficking Indicators: Language

Caught a case: When pimp or victim has been arrested and charged with a crime.

Daddy: What traffickers often call themselves and how victims often refer to them.

Exit fee: What pimp will charge victim for her to leave; usually high amount and victim is unable to leave.

Square: Trying to go straight and get out life, or that describes law enforcement and those that don't understand "the game."

Stable: Those under the trafficker's control.

The Life: Being commercially or sexually exploited (prostitution); the game.

Stroll or Track: Common area where street prostitution occurs.

Trick: Also called a John or date; a customer.



Remain Remain Calm. Assure the child that they did the right thing in telling Assure you and that they are not to blame for the abuse. Do not Do not make promises about what will happen to them or the trafficker. make Let the child tell their story, but leave the questioning to Let the professionals. Confront Never confront the suspected trafficker. Report **Report. Follow district protocol.**

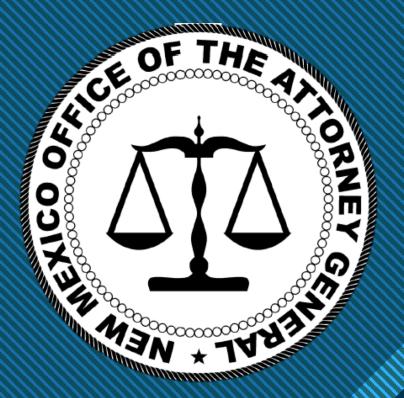
Make sure you and victim are safe.

What to do if a Child Makes an Outcry? Make

Recognizing Exploitation

- Recognize that all kids are at risk of exploitation.
- There is no such thing as a "good kid" or a "bad kid" when it comes to exploitation.
- Recognize that traffickers, recruiters, and victims cross ethnic, racial, gender, socioeconomic, and age lines.
- Recognize that traffickers brutalize the children that they traffic.
- Understand our children are being exploited.

REPORT WHAT YOU OBSERVE.



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