

# DAY 6

## Human Trafficking



**BIG IDEA**

You can detect and prevent human trafficking.

Updated 3/25/2024

# WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?



Video

# IT CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE

NO MATTER RACE, AGE OR GENDER



Human trafficking involves exploiting people of any age, race, gender, or socioeconomic class. The biggest myth about trafficking is that it only involves kidnapping of victims. Most human traffickers use psychological means such as tricking, manipulating, or threatening victims into providing commercial sex or exploitative labor. Ways they exploit adolescents is through their vulnerabilities such as lack of safety at home from violence, abuse, and neglect; homelessness or runaway status; and isolation from family, friends, or community. Traffickers make promises to address the needs of their target in order to impose control, so victims become trapped and fear leaving because of shame, emotional attachment, or physical threats to themselves or their family.

# Types of Human Trafficking

Victims are found in legitimate and illegitimate industries.

## Sex Trafficking

Manipulated or forced against their will to engage in sex acts for money


Traffickers use violence, threats, manipulation, or the promise of love and affection to lure victims

## Forced Labor

## Domestic Servitude

Through force, fraud, or coercion, victims are made to work for little or no pay

Forced to manufacture or grow products sold online or in stores; can be forced caregivers--nannies or maids; traffickers take a victim's ID documents to limit their freedom



EVERY YEAR  
IN THE UNITED STATES  
**THOUSANDS**  
OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
CASES ARE REPORTED, BUT  
**MANY MORE  
GO UNNOTICED**

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
IS A HIDDEN CRIME**

VICTIMS MIGHT BE AFRAID TO COME FORWARD,  
OR WE MAY NOT RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS,

**EVEN IF IT IS  
HAPPENING RIGHT IN  
FRONT OF US.**

WE NEED TO BRING THIS CRIME  
**OUT OF THE SHADOWS**

Department of Homeland Security law enforcement alone identifies hundreds of girls, boys, women, and men as victims of human trafficking in the United States every year.

# Protecting yourself from exploitation while online :

- Don't share personal information (where you live, work, go to school, or details about your personal life).
- Set your profile to private so only your friends in real life can get access.
- Never accept a friend request from someone you don't know in real life.
- Don't share photos with anyone that you wouldn't be comfortable with your parents, guardians, or friends seeing.
- If you do share a photo and someone uses it to threaten or blackmail you, you have options; talk to a trusted adult about how to get help.
- If you plan to meet someone you met online in person, it should be in a public setting, like a restaurant or coffee shop, and let a trusted adult know who, where, and when you are meeting.
- If someone isn't who they seem to be, or you think you are being lured into a potentially exploitative situation, tell a trusted adult; reporting the person could help stop them from potentially exploiting other people.
- Trust your instincts! If something feels wrong about a conversation you are having with someone online, stop the conversation and block the profile.

# WHAT YOU CAN DO TO STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING



**If you learn what exploitation looks like and how it starts, you can learn to say no and protect yourself and others.**

- Consider how you shop and eat. Who made your clothes? Who prepared your food? Find out which [goods may be produced by child or forced labor](#).
- Know your employer has a credible business and reputation with current and former employees; be cautious of people who offer you a job that seems too good to be true.
- Stories become weapons in the hands of human traffickers—tales of romantic love or a lavish lifestyle. Sometimes, the stories themselves raise red flags. Other times, traffickers or potential traffickers may raise red flags during recruitment. Be cautious online and in person when it seems too good to be true.

## Here are a few situations that might raise concerns:

### A would-be employer

- refuses to give workers a signed contract or asks them to sign a contract in a language they can't read.
- collects fees from a potential worker for the “opportunity” to work in a particular job.

### A friend, family member, co-worker, or student is

- newly showered with gifts or money or otherwise becomes involved in an overwhelming, fast-moving, and asymmetric (e.g., large difference in age or financial status) romantic relationship.
- a frequent runaway and may be staying with someone who is not their parent or guardian.
- developing a relationship that seems too close with someone they know solely on social media.
- lives with a parent or guardian and shows signs of abuse.
- offered a job opportunity that seems too good to be true.
- recruited for an opportunity that requires them to move far away, but their recruiter or prospective employer avoids answering their questions or is reluctant to provide detailed information about the job.



# RECOGNIZE AND REPORT SUSPECTED HUMAN TRAFFICKING



To contact federal law enforcement, call **1-866-DHS-2-ICE**



Or submit a tip online at **[www.ice.gov/tips](http://www.ice.gov/tips)**

For victim support from the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC), call **1-888-373-7888** or text HELP or INFO to **Befree(2333733)**

Human trafficking victims have experienced significant trauma and harm. Victims may be unable or prevented from getting help due to existing vulnerabilities. It is important to treat victims with care and respect, and get immediate, professional support to ensure a victim-centered and trauma-informed response.

# After You Read

Reviewing Facts and Vocabulary

1. Define the term *human trafficking*.

# After You Read

Reviewing Facts and Vocabulary

- 2. What are two ways you can protect yourself from exploitation while online?**

# After You Read

Reviewing Facts and Vocabulary

**3. What can you do to stop human trafficking?**

**DAY 6**  
**Human**  
**Trafficking**  
**END OF PRESENTATION**



**BIG IDEA**

You can detect and prevent human trafficking.