

# Potential Signs of Human Trafficking



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# About Restoring Oaks Inc

- Restoring Oaks is a Florida based 501c3 nonprofit community alliance to prevent and end human trafficking
- We have a three-pronged approach to fighting human trafficking
  - Safe-housing
  - Education and Advocacy
  - Individual and Community Involvement



# What is Human Trafficking?

- Human trafficking is when a person is exchanged for an act or service.
- There are two major forms of trafficking
  - Sex Trafficking - Sex trafficking is the crime of using force, fraud or coercion to induce another individual to sell sex. Common types include escort services, pornography, illicit massage businesses, brothels, and outdoor solicitation.
  - Labor Trafficking - Labor trafficking is the crime of using force, fraud or coercion to induce another individual to work or provide service. Common types include agriculture, domestic work, restaurants, cleaning services, and carnivals.



# How Human Trafficking is Prosecuted

- Force - Physical Restraint, physical harm, and sexual assault
- Fraud - False promises regarding employment, wages, working conditions, love, marriage, or a better life
- Coercion - Threats of serious harm, physical restraint, psychological manipulation, document confiscation, and shaming
- In order to prosecute human trafficking, at least one of these elements need to be present

What should I be looking for to identify a human trafficking situation?



Love



Every  
Person  
Needs...

Security



# Think Like a Trafficker

- Look for loners
- Meet targets where they are
- Video Games
- Social Media
- Mobile Apps
- Public Places
- Offer love and security







# Keep Our Eyes and Ears Open

- Check in on the kids in our lives
  - Be transparent
  - Be open
  - Be available
  - Show love and security
- Be aware of surroundings in public
  - Not just for yourself
- If you see anything suspicious, report it

# Who should be on the lookout?

- Teachers
- Coaches
- Students
- Medical Personnel
- Youth Pastors
- Employers
- Colleagues
- Retail Workers
- Landlords
- Friends
- Parents
- Neighbors
- Drivers
- Hotel Workers/Visitors
- Non-Profit Volunteers
- Law Enforcement

Everyone

# What Can I Look Out For?

- Walking the streets alone
- Couple where one looks uncomfortable and/or much younger than the other
- Having a boyfriend or girlfriend that you can't meet
- Frequent tardiness or absence from work, school or other normal functions
- Constant working
- No identification or phone
- Signs of abuse
- Unstable living conditions
- Receiving lavish gifts, or making large purchases
- No bank account or money
- Drug addiction

- Problems at home
- Cryptic about work or boyfriend/girlfriend
- Meeting people on video games or social pages who ask for personal details
- Expression of love or job opportunities that sound too good to be true
- Elaborate or inconsistent
- Multiple people coming to the house
- Signs of illness
- Isolation
- Trauma bonding even if in clear abusive situation
- Lack of knowledge of whereabouts
- Talk of quota or debt that they owe
- Insecurity or feeling marginalized
- Mental instability

What  
can I  
listen  
for?

# What Questions Can I Ask?

- “Who do you depend on if you live out here?”
- “Have you been asked to do anything you’re uncomfortable with?”
- “What kind of work do you do? Do you have a quota?”
- “Have you spoken to your family or friends recently?”
- “Do you have a phone/Is your communication monitored?”
- “What would happen if you left your job/boyfriend or girlfriend?”
- “How did you hear about your job?”
- “Where did you meet...?”
- “Have you ever needed to do anything in order to get necessities?”
- “Are you able to go where you want?”



If you find someone who is in a potential trafficking situation, you must build their trust.



# What should I do if I see a situation?

- Don't assume that the victim will cooperate or want help
- If they do ask for help, take care of their immediate needs first and give resources if available
- Speak on their terms and let them share what they are willing to share
- Gather as many details of the person, situation and trafficker if present to present to authorities later. (You probably won't get an arrest at that moment)
- Make the necessary calls to the police, child protective services, and programs like the human trafficking hotline and the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC)
- Let the victim know that they will not get in trouble if they work with you
- Throughout the interaction, regardless of where it ends, show them love and security

# Helpful Resources

- Polaris Project
- NHTRC
- To report a potential trafficking situation:
  - Call authorities first
  - Call the human trafficking hotline:  
1-888-373-7888  
\*Text 233733
  - Call child protective services if needed





# Thank you!

- Visit the [Restoring Oaks website](#) to learn more, donate and find the recorded version
- In the next webinar, we will focus on prosecution and legal needs of traffickers
- [Subscribe to our newsletter](#)
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