

# Overview of Human Trafficking

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# Disclosure

I have no actual or potential conflict of interest related to this program/presentation.

# Objectives

- ▶ Define sex trafficking and labor trafficking.
- ▶ Identify individuals who may be victims of human trafficking.
- ▶ Describe how to report cases of human trafficking and resources for victims.

# Human Trafficking Laws



# Human Trafficking Defined By Federal Law

- ▶ “Severe Forms” of human trafficking are:
  - (a) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or
  - (b) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, **through the use of force, fraud, or coercion** for the purposes of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

<sup>1</sup>These definitions are from the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000

*Example of human trafficking*  
1350-1400; Middle English  
remnant of food given as alms,  
an expressive base bri(m)b- denot

**human trafficking** noun  
: the illegal practice of procur  
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# Simply put..

there are three categories of human trafficking victims:

1. Those under 18 involved in commercial sex acts.
2. Those 18 or over involved in commercial sex acts through force, fraud or coercion.
3. Those forced to perform labor and/or services in conditions of involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery through force, fraud or coercion.

# Human Trafficking Defined by Florida State Statute

## ▣ Chapter 787.06 Human Trafficking

- The Legislature finds that victims of human trafficking are subjected to force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of sexual exploitation or forced labor.
- Engages, or attempts to engage, in human trafficking with the intent or knowledge that the trafficked person will be subjected to forced labor or services; or
- Benefits financially by receiving anything of value from participation in a venture that has subjected a person to forced labor or services;
- Commits a felony of the second degree.

# Sex Trafficking Defined by Florida State Statute

- ▶ Chapter 796.045 Sex Trafficking
  - ▶ Any person who knowingly recruits, entices, harbors, transports, provides, or obtains by any means a person, knowing that force, fraud, or coercion will be used to cause that person to engage in prostitution, commits the offense of sex trafficking, a felony of the second degree.
  - ▶ A person commits a felony of the first degree, if the offense of sex trafficking is committed against a person who is under the age of 14 or if such offense results in death.

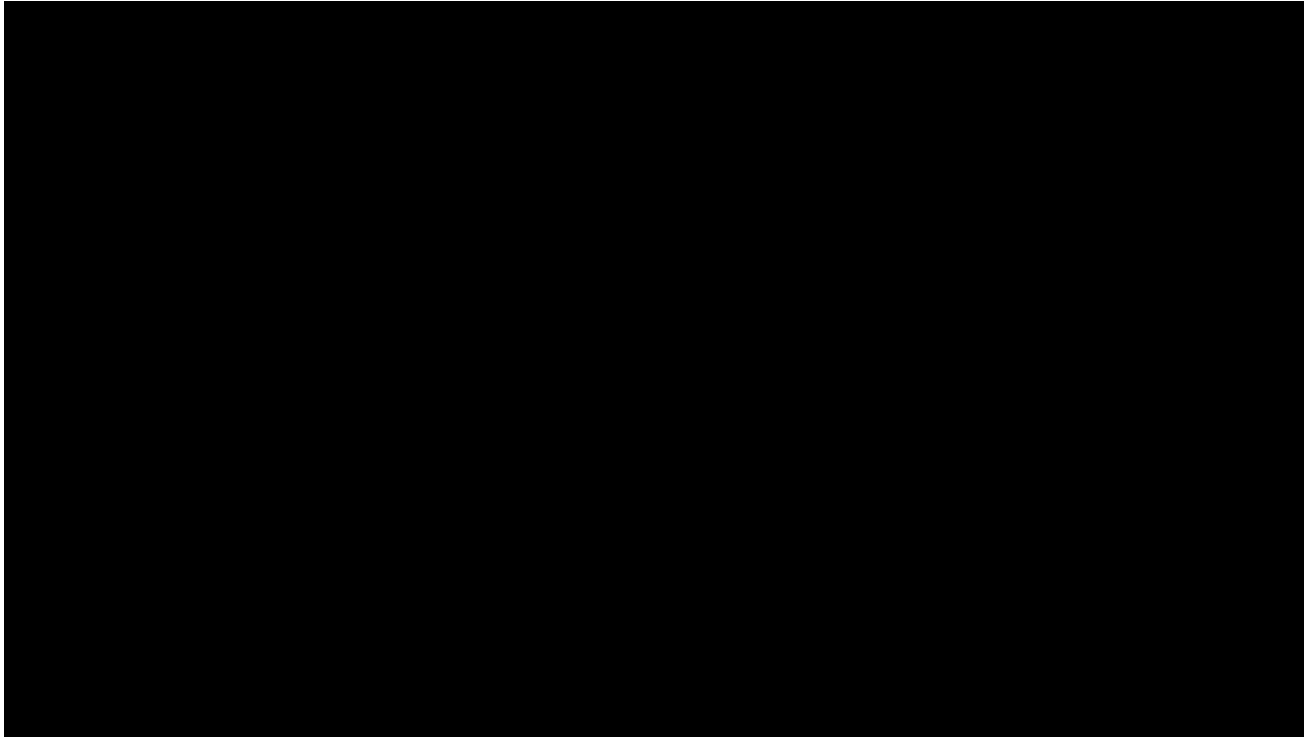


# Defining Force, Fraud and Coercion

- ▶ **Force:** Rape, beatings, confinement.
- ▶ **Fraud:** Includes false and deceptive offers of employment, marriage, better life.
- ▶ **Coercion:** Threats of serious harm to, or physical restraint of, any person; any scheme, plan or pattern intended to cause victims to believe that failure to perform an act would result in restraint against them; or the abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process.



# Human Trafficking



# Smuggling VS. Human Trafficking

## ▣ Smuggling

- An offense against the integrity of the U.S. borders.
- Focus is transporting or harboring an undocumented person.
- Smugglers make their money early and their “business relationship” with the immigrant terminates at the U.S. border.
- Must involve an undocumented migrant.

## ▣ Human Trafficking

- An offense against a person’s individual rights.
- Focus is coercion and exploitation; no movement required.
- Traffickers may use smuggling debt as a means to control victims.
- Victim can be a citizen, documented migrant, or undocumented migrant.

# The A-M-P Model

## ACTION

- Recruiting
- Harboring
- Transporting
- Providing
- Obtaining
- Patronizing\*
- Soliciting\*

\*Only for sex trafficking

## MEANS

- Force
- Fraud
- Coercion

*DOES NOT NEED TO BE  
PRESENT IN A SITUATION  
OF SEX TRAFFICKING OF  
MINORS*



## PURPOSE

- Commercial Sexual Exploitation
- Forced Labor

**THESE ACTIONS  
ARE CRIMES!**



(U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, 2017)

# Labor Trafficking

- ▶ The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.
- ▶ Forced labor trafficking involves significant violations of labor, public health, and human rights violations and impacts the nationwide employment network and labor market.
  - ▶ Trafficking Victims of Protection Act of 200 (TVPA)  
(22USC SS7102(9))

# Labor Trafficking

- ▶ Human trafficking victims make a high number of consumer goods and food products imported to the United States and produced domestically.
- ▶ In the U.S. labor traffickers exploit and enslave both foreign nationals and U.S. citizens.

# Global Scale of Human Trafficking

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING ON A GLOBAL SCALE

GET HELP for you or someone you know:  
CALL: 1-888-3737-888 TEXT: #BeFree

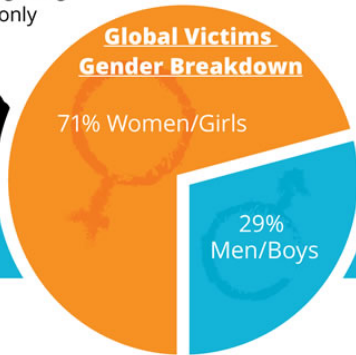
Talk to a Professional, Get Connected to Services, Help A Child Break Free!

### 40+ Million People Enslaved

Human trafficking is people enslaving or exploiting other people, and it is occurring in every country across the world and in every state in the U.S. Human trafficking is big business globally, second in size only to the illegal drug trade.



1 in every 4 victims is a child

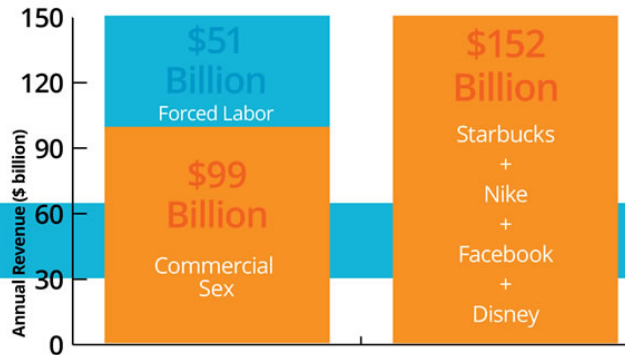


**UNITAS** [www.unitas.ngo](http://www.unitas.ngo)

### \$150 Billion Industry

\$99 Billion from commercial sex & \$51 Billion from forced labor. Human Trafficking almost matches the annual revenue of Starbucks, Nike, Facebook, & Disney combined (approx. \$152 Billion).

Human Trafficking Annual Revenue vs. Major Corporations



For more info on these stats please visit [unitas.ngo/humantrafficking101](http://unitas.ngo/humantrafficking101)

# Human Trafficking in the United States - 2019

2019 2018 2017 2016 2015



VICTIMS & SURVIVORS  
IDENTIFIED

High Indicators

4,149

Moderate Indicators

10,495

## TOP STATES BY SEX TRAFFICKING



# of Cases


8,248



# Trafficking in Florida 2019

SINCE 2007 

Total Contacts: 14,906

Total Victims - Moderate: 5,844 

Total Cases: 4,636

Total Victims - High: 6,568

2019 statistics are current as of 12/31/2019.

2019

2018

2017

2016

2015

2,068

CONTACTS  
THIS YEAR

896

HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING  
CASES REPORTED  
THIS YEAR

VICTIMS & SURVIVORS  
IDENTIFIED

High Indicators

630

Moderate Indicators

1,246

Calls From Victims &  
Survivors

617

# Types of Trafficking in Florida 2019

## TYPE OF TRAFFICKING



# of Cases 896

## TOP VENUES/INDUSTRIES FOR LABOR TRAFFICKING



# of Cases 128

## TOP VENUES/INDUSTRIES FOR SEX TRAFFICKING



# of Cases 640

## GENDER



# of Cases 896

## AGE



# of Cases 896

## CITIZENSHIP



# of Cases 896

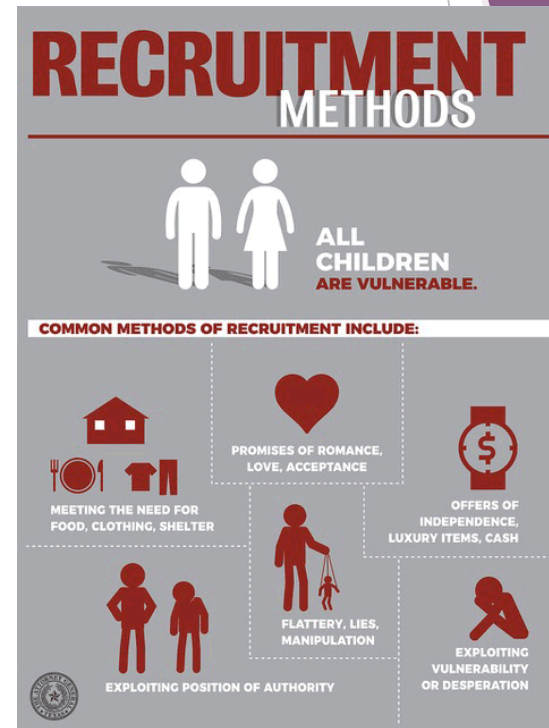
*These statistics are non-cumulative. Cases may involve multiple victims and include males and females, foreign nationals and U.S. citizens, adults and minors. In some cases, callers do not provide demographic information.*

# Why is Human Trafficking on the Rise

- ▶ Profit
  - ▶ Resalable commodity
  - ▶ Substantially lower amount of dedicated Resources
  - ▶ Lower consequences
- 
- ▶ After drug dealing, Human Trafficking is tied for second with the illegal arms trade for the most profitable illicit trade in the world.

# Who are the Victims of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking?

- ▶ Youth of any ethnicity, race, or religion.
- ▶ Youth of any socio-economic class.
- ▶ Female, male, and transgender youth.
- ▶ Youth of all ages, including teenagers.
- ▶ Vulnerable youth.



# Possible Trafficking Indicators

- ▶ Excess amount of cash.
- ▶ Hotel room keys.
- ▶ Chronic runaway/homeless youth.
- ▶ Signs of branding (tattoo, jewelry).
- ▶ Lying about age/false identification.
- ▶ Inconsistencies in story.
- ▶ Lack of knowledge of a given community or whereabouts.



# Myths and Misconceptions

- ▶ **Myth:** The child knew what they were getting into.  
**Fact:** Victims are often seduced, coerced, tricked or forced into prostitution by pimps.
- ▶ **Myth:** The child is a criminal.  
**Fact:** The child is a victim of the crime of sex trafficking.
- ▶ **Myth:** The victim was paid for his or her services.  
**Fact:** All or most of the money usually goes to the pimp; the child rarely keeps any.
- ▶ **Myth:** The child had freedom of movement.  
**Fact:** Victims are held in physical and/or emotional bondage and are not free to leave.



# Recognizing Indicators of Human Trafficking in Healthcare Settings

# When do Victims Seek Medical Services?

- ▶ In an emergency
- ▶ After an assault
- ▶ After a workplace injury
- ▶ For gynecological services
- ▶ For prenatal care
- ▶ For routine checkups
- ▶ For mental health services
- ▶ For addiction treatment
- ▶ For pre-existing conditions
- ▶ For health issues unrelated to trafficking



In one study, 87.8% of trafficking survivors reported accessing healthcare services during their trafficking situation.

Of these survivors, 68.3% were seen at an emergency department.

(Lederer &Wetzel, 2014)

# Recognizing Indicators of Labor Trafficking

## ▶ Physical indicators

- ▶ Musculoskeletal and ergonomic injuries
- ▶ Malnutrition/Dehydration
- ▶ Lack of routine screening and preventive care
- ▶ Poor dental hygiene
- ▶ Untreated skin infections/Inflammations Injuries or illness from exposure to harmful chemicals/unsafe water
- ▶ Ophthalmology issues or vision complaints
- ▶ Somatization Symptoms (recurring headaches, abdominal pain, etc.)



# Recognizing Indicators of Labor Trafficking

## ▶ Behavioral Indicators

- ▶ Anxiety/Panic attacks (e.g. shortness of breath, chest pains)
- ▶ Unexplained/Conflicting stories
- ▶ Overly vigilant or paranoid behavior
- ▶ Inability/Aversion to make decisions independent of employer
- ▶ Affect Dysregulation/Irritability

# Recognizing Indicators of Adult Sex Trafficking

- ▶ **Physical Indicators**
  - ▶ Multiple or recurrent STIs
  - ▶ Abnormally high number of sexual partners
  - ▶ Trauma to vagina and/or rectum
  - ▶ Impacted tampon in vagina
  - ▶ Signs of physical trauma
  - ▶ Somatization symptoms (recurring headaches, abdominal pain, etc.)
  - ▶ Suspicious tattoos or branding



# Recognizing Indicators of Adult Sex Trafficking

## ▶ Behavioral Indicators

- ▶ Depressed mood/Flat affect Anxiety/Hyper-vigilance/Panic attacks
- ▶ Affect dysregulation/Irritability
- ▶ Frequent emergency care visits
- ▶ Unexplained/Conflicting stories.
- ▶ Using language about “the life”
- ▶ Signs of drug or alcohol abuse

# Recognizing Indicators of Child Sex Trafficking

## □ Behavioral Indicators

- ▶ History of running away from home or foster care placements
- ▶ Truancy/Stops attending school
- ▶ Highly sexualized behavior or dress
- ▶ Angry/Aggressive with staff
- ▶ Depressed mood/Flat affect
- ▶ Signs of drug or alcohol abuse

# Recognizing Indicators of Child Sex Trafficking

## ▣ Physical Indicators

- ▶ Pregnancy at young age
- ▶ Evidence of abortions at young age
- ▶ Early sexual initiation
- ▶ Trauma to vagina and/or rectum
- ▶ Symptoms of STIs and/or UTIs
- ▶ Abnormal number of sexual partners for young age
- ▶ Suspicious tattoos or branding

# Healthcare Response to Human Trafficking





# Barriers to Self-Disclosure

- ▶ Shame or guilt
- ▶ Fear of retaliation by the trafficker
- ▶ Fear of arrest or deportation
- ▶ Lack of transportation or controlled movement
- ▶ Fear of a report to social services
- ▶ Lack of understanding of US Healthcare System



# Trauma-informed Approach

- ▶ Check in to make sure the survivor is hearing and understanding your statements or questions and provide frequent breaks.
- ▶ Be aware that changes in memory do not necessarily indicate falsehood or storytelling, but may be a trauma response.
- ▶ Help break down tasks concretely; assume that even small tasks may feel overwhelming.
- ▶ If the individual appears shut down or disconnected; this may be a sign that the person is overwhelmed.

# Trauma-informed Approach

- ▶ Don't take strong reactions personally; manage your own emotional responses.
- ▶ Provide opportunities for control and empowerment whenever possible.
- ▶ Be aware of the importance of physical as well as emotional supports.
- ▶ Be aware of the often confusing nature of the individual's relationships with the perpetrators; be conscious of not making assumptions.

# Victim-Centered Approach

- ▶ Meet basic needs
- ▶ Reassure the potential victim
- ▶ Build trust and rapport
- ▶ Be conscious of language
- ▶ Remain sensitive to power dynamics
- ▶ Avoid re-traumatization

# Victim Needs

- ▶ Emergency
  - ▶ Safety, housing, food/clothing
- ▶ Short Term/Long Term
  - ▶ Legal assistance
  - ▶ Intensive case management
  - ▶ Medical care
  - ▶ Alcohol and substance abuse counseling/treatment
  - ▶ Mental Health counseling
  - ▶ Life skills training
  - ▶ Education
  - ▶ Job training/employment
  - ▶ Family reunification



# Challenges in Combating Human Trafficking

- ▶ Lack of social services for victims
- ▶ Difficult to identify victims & traffickers
- ▶ Cooperation of victims difficult to obtain
- ▶ Discrepancies between federal and state laws
- ▶ Lack of public knowledge/prevention programs

# Your Role

- ▶ **Recognize:** the indicators of human trafficking.
- ▶ **Respond:** victim-centered, trauma informed-approach
- ▶ **Refer:** coordinate services with local providers, contact hotlines for more information.



# Screening Questions

- ▶ Have you had any injuries that you are worried about?
- ▶ Are you worried about any recent sexual activity, such as STI risk or pregnancy?
- ▶ When is the last time you had a meal?
- ▶ Where do you sleep?
- ▶ Are you able to keep the earnings you make, or does someone take all or part of your earnings?
- ▶ When was the last time you were paid?

# What Can You Do?

- ▶ Coordinate with local service providers to meet the needs of victims.
- ▶ Contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline
  - ▶ 1-888-373-7888.
- ▶ Contact the Florida Domestic Violence Hotline
  - ▶ 1-800-500-1119
- ▶ Call 911



800-355-8547

24-hour hotline

# Resources

- ▶ National Human Trafficking Hotline
  - ▶ <http://humantraffickinghotline.org>
- ▶ Polaris Project
  - ▶ <http://www.polarisproject.org>
- ▶ Department of Justice
  - ▶ <http://www.justice.gov>
- ▶ HumanTrafficking.org
  - ▶ <http://www.humantrafficking.org/>
- ▶ Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking
  - ▶ <http://www.stophumantrafficking.org/>
- ▶ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
  - ▶ <http://www.unodc.org>

# References

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