

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS



Human Trafficking is modern day slavery. It involves exploiting a person through force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of forced labor, commercial sex, or both.

DID YOU KNOW?

79,000
estimated **minor sex trafficking victims** in Texas each year
*United Against Human Trafficking

244,000 to 400,000
estimated victims of human sex trafficking **nationwide** each year

 **40%**
of youth human trafficking cases come from **homeless youth**
*Polaris


1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually exploited before they turn 18


The **online solicitation** of minors **rose 93%** in 2020
*NCOSE

PREVENTION



- Be aware of the signs of human trafficking and the grooming process.
 - **Signs:** Sexually explicit social media profiles, increased time spent online and/or secretive online behavior, presence of an older boyfriend, branding of any kind, expressed need to pay off debt, major changes in behavior.
 - **Grooming Process:** target, befriend, gain trust, fulfill needs, sexualize, isolate, capitalize.
- Be informed and spread awareness on factual information. Look for organizations that present information that have been informed by survivors of human trafficking.
- Be an advocate for anti-trafficking non-profits and efforts in your community. Contact local officials, volunteer your time, and if possible, give of your resources.
- Boycott companies that promote (knowingly or unknowingly) human trafficking and exploitation through pornography.

CONVERSATION



Having honest, ongoing and age appropriate conversations with your student(s) about their bodies, values, and concerning behavior is critical to preventing victimization.

Ask your student:

- “What is your favorite social media platform and why?”
- “If you had to respond, what would you say to a stranger asking for pictures of you online? What if it was someone you have chatted with for a while?”
- “What are your future goals and how could social media positively, or negatively, impact your ability to achieve those goals?”

Ask yourself:

- “Do I know how my student spends their time online?”
- “What would I do if I suspected my child was being groomed or lured online? What if they told me they were being groomed?”
- “What is my motivation for using social media and internet platforms?”
- “Is my internet usage putting myself or my family in potential danger by sharing too much personal information?”



WHERE TO REPORT

National Human
Trafficking Hotline
888-373-7888

Houston Police Department
Vice Division
713-308-8600

Report Anonymously to
Crime Stoppers at
713-222-TIPS (8477)



PARTNERS & RESOURCES

- **United Against Human Trafficking:** Education, prevention, direct services and survivor empowerment. uaht.org
- **Elijah Rising:** Restorative care for survivors. Candle shop that employs survivors. elijahrising.org
- **Children at Risk:** Legislative efforts. Support the 2021 legislative agenda. childrenatrisk.org
- **National Center on Sexual Exploitation:** Leading organization exposing links between all forms of sexual abuse and exploitation. endsexualexploitation.org
- **Houston 20:** Advocates for the end of sex trafficking and sex trade in Houston. thehouston20.com



LOCAL OFFICIALS

It is important to be aware of what role each entity plays in the fight against human trafficking. From detainment to conviction everyone has a role to play.



Officer

Detains individual and contacts DA to see if they will accept charges. If charges are accepted, arrest is made and officer books individual.



District Attorney (DA)

Analyze and gather evidence to determine whether or not there are grounds for prosecution. Gives approval for arrest.



Judge

Oversees court proceedings.



Magistrate

Determines if the individual will be released on bond or detained in jail.



To schedule a prevention presentation and learn more about human trafficking, fill out our presentation request link here: https://crime-stoppers.org/presentation_request