

## Common Needs of Victims

Victims of human trafficking have a variety of needs that include the following:

- ◆ Personal Safety Planning
- ◆ Legal services
- ◆ Housing
- ◆ Medical/Mental Health Care

Collaboration is key to helping these victims and it is often through multiple agencies and service providers that transitioning can be accomplished.

*Texas Young Lawyer Association*

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## Report Human Trafficking

Call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center and a specialist can help connect victims with local services and resources.

**1-888-373-7888**

All calls are confidential & toll-free 24-hours a day/7 days a week. Language interpretation is available.

**TRUST** (Training and Resources United to Stop Trafficking)  
Arizona non-profit organization [www.trustaz.org](http://www.trustaz.org)

**The Polaris Project**  
International non-profit  
[www.Polarisproject.org](http://www.Polarisproject.org)

**To Learn More About Human Trafficking**  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services—Campaign to Rescue and Restore Victims of Human Trafficking  
[www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking)

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# Coming Out of Hiding

Human Trafficking Resources for Education Professionals



## What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is a form of modern day slavery. The United States Criminal code, 18 S. 1170 has defined it as the act of compelling or coercing a person's labor, services or commercial sex act. The coercion can be subtle or overt, physical or psychological, but it must be used to coerce a victim into performing labor, services, or commercial sex acts.

*Victimology, 6th ed. Doerner and Elsevier*

### Labor Trafficking?

The recruitment, harboring, provision transportation, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercions for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

*Polaris Project*

### Sex Trafficking?

The recruitment, harboring, provision, transportation, or obtaining a person through force, fraud, or coercion (psychological, physical, financial) for the purpose of benefiting financially from the commercial sex act of that person. Transporting, obtaining, or providing a person can happen within cities and states as well as across state or international lines.

*Office of Sex trafficking, ASU School of Social Work*



## How does Human Trafficking Affect our Schools?

Trafficking can involve school-age children—particularly those not living with their parents—who are vulnerable to coerced labor exploitation, domestic servitude, or commercial sexual exploitation (i.e. prostitution).

The victims at risk are not just high school students. Studies demonstrate that pimps prey on victims as young as 12 years old for both girls and boys.

### What should I do as an educator if I suspect a person is a victim?

- ◆ **Recognize** the warning signs students may exhibit
- ◆ **Reach out** to the student to offer support
- ◆ **Refer** to appropriate school personnel and community contacts



## How Do I Identify a Victim of Human Trafficking?

### 1. Changes in behavior: does the student

- ◆ skip school or have unexplained absences from class?
- ◆ dress less appropriately than before or express sexualized behavior?
- ◆ show signs of physical abuse?
- ◆ seem withdrawn, depressed, distracted, keeping secrets or checked out?
- ◆ seem overly tired in class?
- ◆ shows signs of drug addiction?
- ◆ run away from home?

### 2. Changes in lifestyle: does the student

- ◆ brag about having or making lots of money?
- ◆ displays expensive items such as clothing, accessories, or shoes?
- ◆ talk about having access to or owning an expensive new car?
- ◆ display any branding or gang tattoos?

### 3. Changes in peers or their sphere of Influence: does the student

- ◆ mention an older boyfriend or girlfriend?
- ◆ have new friends with a different lifestyle?
- ◆ talk about wild parties or invite other students to attend parties?
- ◆ show signs of gang affiliation? (i.e. a preference for specific colors, notebook doodles of gang symbols, etc.)
- ◆ makes references to sexual situations that are unusual for a child that age?

*Office of Elementary and Secondary Education*