

Report Cases of Slavery or Trafficking

Learn how to identify victims of trafficking. Look for signs of trafficking. Listen for indications of trafficking. Victims are often hidden in plain view.

REPORT! If you have information or suspect that slavery or trafficking is happening near you, REPORT it to the U.S. Dep't of Health and Human Services Trafficking Information and Referral Hotline at 1(888)3737-888, or the U.S. Dep't of Justice Trafficking in Persons Complaint Line at 1(888)428-7581, or contact the FBI field office nearest you. Your call could save lives.

Victim Identification Tips

Common Work and Living Conditions: The Individual(s) in Question

- Is not free to leave or come and go as he/she wishes
- Is under 18 and is providing commercial sex acts
- Is in the commercial sex industry and has a pimp / manager
- Is unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips
- Works excessively long and/or unusual hours
- Is not allowed breaks or suffers under unusual restrictions at work
- Owes a large debt and is unable to pay it off
- Was recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of his/her work
- High security measures exist in the work and/or living locations (e.g. opaque windows, boarded up windows, bars on windows, barbed wire, security cameras, etc.)

Poor Mental Health or Abnormal Behavior

- Is fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid
- Exhibits unusually fearful or anxious behavior after bringing up law enforcement
- Avoids eye contact

Poor Physical Health

- Lacks health care
- Appears malnourished
- Shows signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture

Lack of Control

- Has few or no personal possessions
- Is not in control of his/her own money, no financial records, or bank account
- Is not in control of his/her own identification documents (ID or passport)
- Is not allowed or able to speak for themselves (a third party may insist on being present and/or translating)

Other

- Claims of just visiting and inability to clarify where he/she is staying/address
- Lack of knowledge of whereabouts and/or do not know what city he/she is in
- Loss of sense of time
- Has numerous inconsistencies in his/her story

How to Spot a Trafficker:

IMPORTANT: if you see a trafficker call 911 or 1-888-3737-888 DO NOT engage them

- Traffickers are master manipulators. They are experts at persuading you to do things you never thought you would.
- 2. Traffickers will tell you that parent, teacher and others adults don't understand or appreciate you.
- 3. If you're with friends, traffickers know who to get you to leave your friends. Talk to your friends about trafficking so you can look out for each other.
- 4. Women and kids your age can be recruiters for traffickers. It's not just sketchy looking older men.
- 5. You cannot tell a trafficker by his/her looks, age or clothes.
- 6. If an older guy tells you that you are mature for your age, he probably wants something you're not old enough to give him.
- 7. The people you care about the most will be the first to help you when you get in trouble so the trafficker will try to get you to turn against them.
- 8. If you look needy, a trafficker will figure out what you need and offer it to you.

Where you might find a trafficker:

The mall, your school, outside movie theaters, water/amusement parks or anywhere there are lots of young people