

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. They roam malls, aftercare centers, bus stations and social media to lure victims
- * Traffickers will tell you that parents, teachers and others adults don't understand or appreciate you. They will make you feel wanted and secure. They prey on young people's hopes or dreams to improve their lives.
- * If you're with friends, traffickers know how to get you to leave your friends.
- * Women and children your age can be recruiters for traffickers. It's not just suspicious older men.
- * You cannot tell a trafficker by his/her looks, age, socioeconomic level, daytime job or clothes.
- * If an older guy tells you that you are mature for your age, he probably wants something you're not old enough for. Traffickers will trick you into believing they are your "boyfriend" and shower you with gifts.
- * 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.
- * If you appear desperate or needy, a trafficker will figure out what you need and offer it to you.

Where you might find a trafficker:

Online (Facebook, Instagram...), the mall, your school, movie theaters, water/amusement parks, church, any place there are lots of young people

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Victim Identification Tips

Common Work and Living Conditions

- * Is not free to come and go as he/she wishes
- * Is under 18 and is providing commercial sex acts or 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
- * Unable to attend religious services

Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Red Flags:

- * Grades dropping or missing school
- * Frequent sickness and UTIs. Depression, exhausted, fearful
- * Bruises or tattoos (branding). Much older dominating boyfriend. Unexplainable new clothes or jewellery.
- * Mentions sexual situations or terms that are beyond age-specific norms

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