



HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human Trafficking is considered modern day slavery. It involves exploiting a person through force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of labor, commercial sex, or both. Growth of trafficking in minors is attributed to increased demand and access.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Only 9% of perpetrators are strangers.
- 91% of groomers/traffickers have a relationship with the student prior to capitalization (humantraffickinghotline.org).
- Victims can be anyone. Trafficking does not discriminate

REPORTING:

- You must report to an appropriate agency within 48 hours of trafficking disclosure: DCFS and local law enforcement
- You can make anonymous tips to www.safeschoolsla.com

BEST PRACTICES:

There are many misconceptions surrounding human trafficking, here are the facts:

- Most victims are not kidnapped; rather, they are groomed and lured over a long period of time.
- Most victims know their trafficker. Traffickers are often a family member, friend, or boyfriend/girlfriend.
- Many victims do not feel safe due to emotional manipulation and psychological control by traffickers.

Be familiar with the groom process:

Grooming is any manipulation used to control or take advantage of another. It typically involves gaining the trust of another individual prior to exploitation.



Be aware of indicators of sex and labor trafficking:

- Changes in typical activities, friends, hobbies, or demeanor; peer conversations about older boyfriends/girlfriends; rumors about someone offering a place where kids can party or live.
- Fear of social interaction, scripted answers, inconsistent stories, injuries, uses advanced sexual terms, low self-esteem.
- Branding tattoos (barcode designs or any symbol representing the pimp), gifts from unknown source, malnourishment, lacerations, poor physical hygiene, (Keep in mind many victims will not show any physical signs of distress.)

Most information was provided by Crimestoppers of Houston