

HUMAN

TRAFFICKING

What Is Human Trafficking?

- Human Trafficking is Modern-Day Slavery and involves using force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some labor or commercial sex act. This involves the exchange of anything of value, like money, drugs, or a place to stay for sexual activity.

- Traffickers often target children between the ages of 10-14 due to their vulnerabilities. Traffickers are very patient & prey on these vulnerabilities. They use psychological pressure to gain the victim's trust to isolate them from their family & friends.



- Traffickers encompass all socio-economic, religious, racial, & cultural groups. Human Trafficking victims suffer from devastating consequences, including physical trauma, psychological trauma, disease, & even death

<https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign>



Why Human Trafficking Happens

- The causes of human trafficking are complex & interlocked together as one. They include economic, social, & political factors. Poverty alone does not necessarily create vulnerability to trafficking.

Why Human Trafficking Happens

- Human Trafficking is Lucrative. According to ILO (International Labour Organization), Human Trafficking profits \$150.2 billion as of 2019 in illegal profits per year. Approximately \$99 billion came from the commercial sexual exploitation of children.
- Human selling is 2nd to drug trafficking & distribution here in the U.S.
- Traffickers can profit \$320 thousand annually off of one person here in the U.S. alone.

Indicators of Human Trafficking

- Victims of human trafficking can be of any age, gender, race, or immigration status. They live in cities, suburbs, & rural areas. Human Traffickers relentlessly canvas ways to take advantage of people who find themselves in extreme adversity or violence, experience discrimination, economic vulnerability, or dependence. Communities that experience some of these hardships may be particularly vulnerable to human trafficking

Behavioral Indicators

- Sudden change in behavior
- Appears frightened, resistant, or frightened of authorities
- Looks to others before answering
- Does not self-identify as a victim
- The individual seems coached when talking to law enforcement
- Individuals use trafficking terms like “Trick,” “The Life,” or “The Game.”
- Money is the main topic of conversation

Physical Indicators

- An individual has multiple cell phones.
- Has large amounts of cash or prepaid credit card
- Multiple children are present with unrelated male or female
- An individual has sexual paraphernalia (bulk condoms/lubricant)
- Frequently misses school & travels out of town often
- An individual has been branded by tattoo or burn



Living Condition Indicators

- Does the person lack personal possessions & appear to have an unstable living condition?
- Does the person have freedom of movement? Can the person freely leave where they live? Are there unreasonable security measures?
- Has the person been deprived of food, water, sleep, medical, or other necessities?

Travel Indicators

- Does the person know their final destination? How will they get there?
- Do they know whom they are meeting at the final destination?
- Are they traveling with someone who does not appear to be their real parent/guardian?

SEXTORTION AND ONLINE PREDATORS

A close-up photograph of a computer keyboard. The central focus is a large, rectangular key colored in a deep, textured red. On this red key, the word "Sextortion" is printed in a white, serif font, slanted upwards from left to right. Surrounding this key are several standard black keyboard keys. To the left of the red key is a black key with a white upward-pointing arrow and the word "Shift" in white. Above the red key is a black key with a white question mark. To the right of the red key is a black key with a white vertical dashed line. Other visible keys include a semicolon/quote key with a blue asterisk, a key with a white double quote, a key with a white number 1 and a tilde, and a key with a white vertical dashed line. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the keys and the red key's surface.

Sextortion

Traffickers Can Look Like Anyone and Be Anywhere

- In 2021, Mount Pleasant businessman was charged with the sex trafficking of a minor. He brought the 17 y/o to the hospital, and when she was alone, she told the nurse she needed help. She referred to him as “sugar daddy.” In return for sex, he provided her with funds, drugs, and shopping trips.
- In 2021, 7 men were arrested in a sting operation in Tennessee. 2 of these human traffickers were from South Carolina.
- 2022 South Carolina: Over a dozen people were arrested for internet crimes against children in a single operation.



**Would
you follow
him?**



**Would
you follow
her?**



**Would
you follow
him?**





Example of a predator hiding behind a fake profile:

This man is from Myrtle Beach, SC. In 2018, he was arrested in a sex sting operation. This monster thought he was talking to a 14 y/o girl online. When he met up with her, he was met with handcuffs instead. He then confessed to the arresting officer that he had planned to use the child as a sex slave, kill her, then consume her.

He only received five years of probation.

In Our Community: 2020

- April 7th: Florence man was arrested for having sex with a minor under 11 & 14 counts of Sexual Exploitation of minors through pictures
- July 31st: Florence man was arrested on 20 counts of Sexual Exploitation of minors
- Aug. 31st: Hartsville man was arrested on three counts of Sexual Exploitation of minors & distributing
- Nov. 13th: Darlington Volunteer Firefighter was arrested for Sexual Exploitation of a minor and showing porn to the victim
- Nov. 18th: Florence man was arrested on ten counts of Sexual Exploitation of a minor.



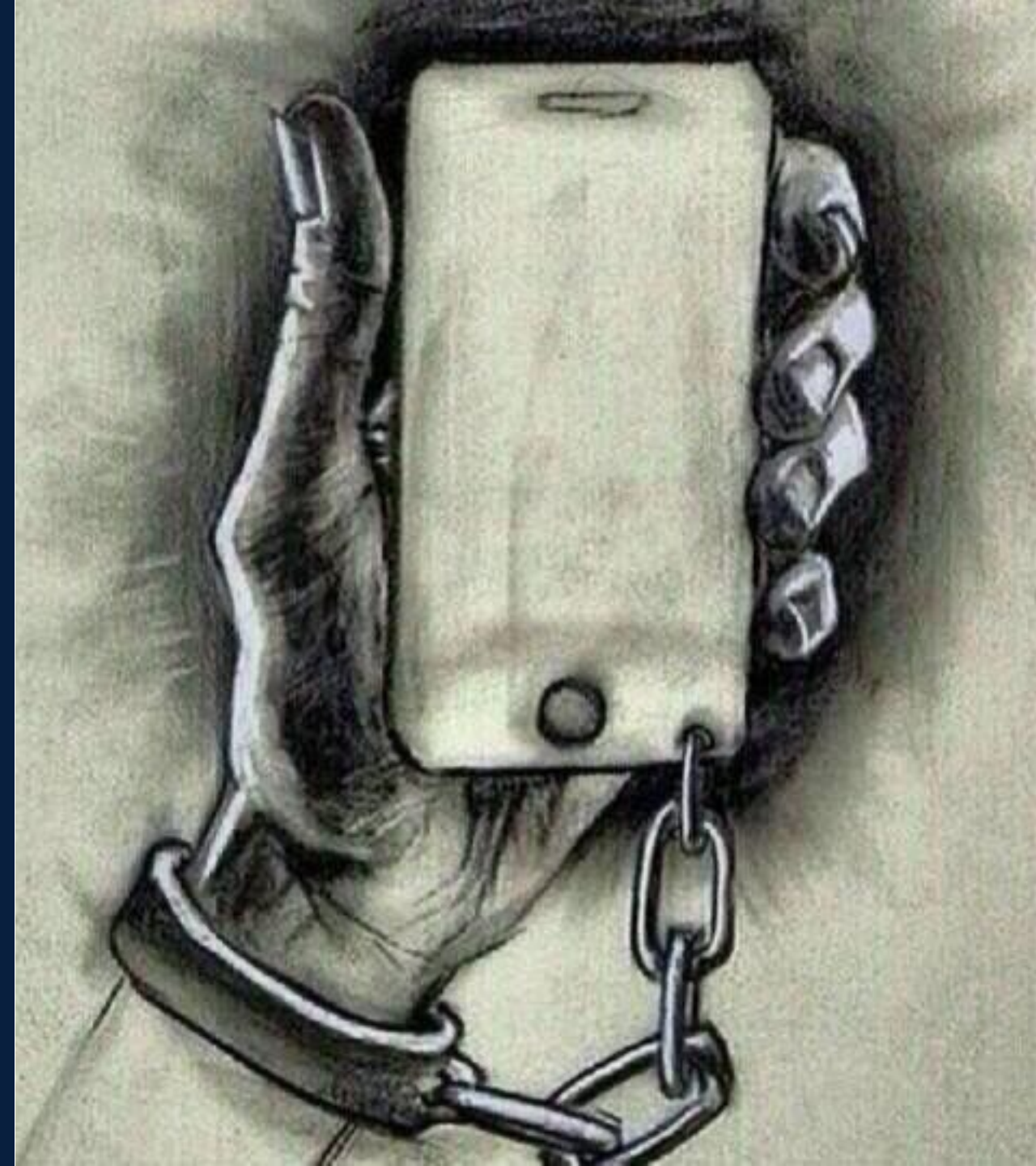
What Is Sextortion?

- Sextortion occurs when an adult, through threat or manipulation, coerces a minor into producing a sexually explicit image and sending it over the internet.
- Most Sextortionists lure victims through social media apps by creating multiple profiles that the potential victims would find interesting or appealing.



How to Protect Yourself from Sextortionists

- Open lines of communication with a parent, teacher, or trusted friend are the best line of defense
- People pretend to be anything or anyone online
- **NOTHING “DISAPPEARS”** online. Pictures have power.
- Set certain limits on internet use, spot check, and consider shutting off WIFI at night.
- Review settings on all your social media accounts
- Keep accounts **private** so predators cannot gather information about you.



WARNING SIGNS FOR CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

Chronic runaway/homeless youth.

Excess amount of cash in their possession (may be reluctant to explain its source).

Hotel keys and key cards.

Lying about age/false ID.

Inconsistencies when describing and recounting events.

Unable or unwilling to give local address or information about parent(s)/guardian.

Presence or fear of another person (often an older male or boyfriend who seems controlling).

A high number of reported sexual partners at a young age.

Sexually explicit profiles on social networking sites.

Injuries/signs of physical abuse (that they may be reluctant to explain).

Inability or fear of social interaction.

Demeanor exhibiting fear, anxiety, depression, submissiveness, tenseness, and nervousness.

Is not enrolled in school or repeated absence from school.

Does not consider self a victim.

Loyalty to positive feelings toward pimp/trafficker.

May try to protect pimp/trafficker from authorities.

Prepaid cell phone.

How To Help A Victim

- Let the person know that your first move will be to help, ALWAYS. The predators are powerful because of fear, and the victims suffer even more negative consequences as the crime carries on over days, weeks, and even months.
- If you're the adult that the child comes to, COMFORT THEM. Help them understand that they are a victim of a crime and HELP them report to local law enforcement.

ONLINE PREDATORS

HOW TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE



What YOU can do to protect your child.



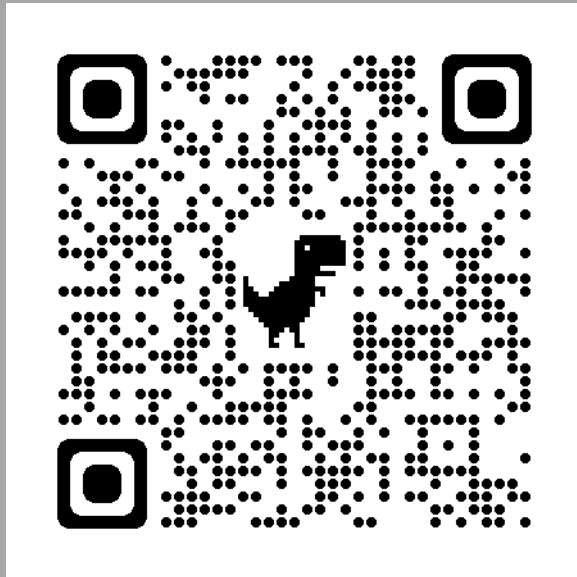
Limit your
child's time
on devices.

Lockdown
your Child's
phone.

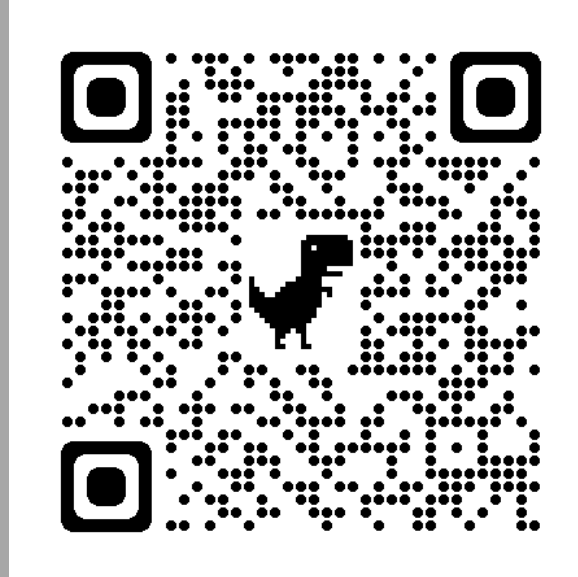


How To Lockdown Your Child's Phone

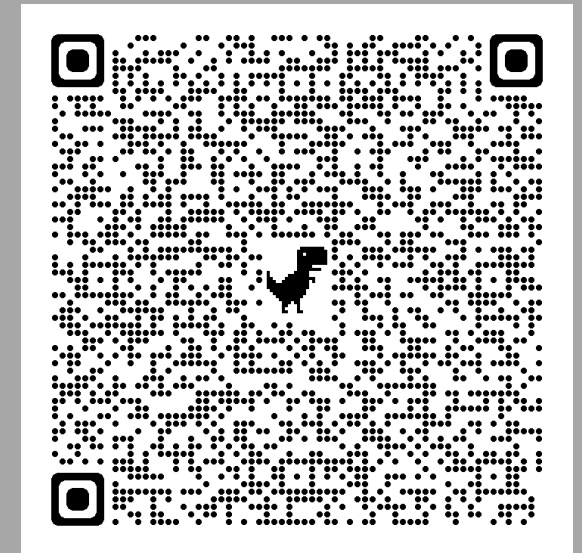
iPhone



Take It Down



Android



Predators will use Apps to connect with children.

Predators and human traffickers can gain youth access online because they are not always aware of how dangerous online environments can be or how to keep themselves safe. Predators often stalk online meeting places, such as chat rooms and social media sites, to identify and lure their victims.

<https://youtu.be/RoilZ7AHb1U>

Pending Human Trafficking Charges by County

COUNTY	NUMBER OF CHARGES	PERCENTAGE
• Florence County	7	21%
• Richland County	6	18%
• Berkeley County	3	9%
• Greenville County	3	9%
• Horry County	3	9%
• Lancaster County	3	9%
• Marion County	3	9%
• Sumter County	2	6%
• Charleston County	2	6%
• Pickens County	1	3%

Top Twelve Apps Predators Use To Connect With Children

Instagram



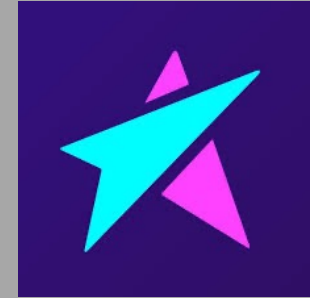
WhatsApp



Snapchat



Liveme



MeetMe



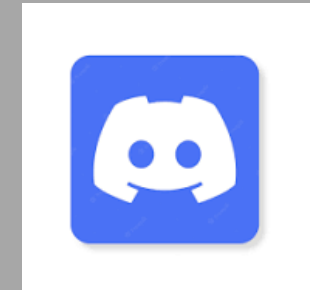
Onlyfans



TikTok



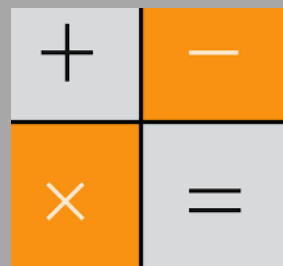
Discord



GRINDR



Calculator %



Askfm



Hoop



A woman with a serious expression is looking at a computer screen in a dimly lit room. The text is overlaid on the image.

“The Internet Connects **You** To The
World.....

Do You Know Who In The **World** Is
Connecting To **You**?”

~FBI

Resources

- Lily Pad Haven in Charlotte, NC - 704-312-2011
- Jasmine Road in Greenville, NC - 864-325-6916 - ask for Beth Hessick
- Cry Freedom in Goldsboro, NC - 919-920-5189 -ask for Beverly Weeks
- True Justice International NC - 910-554-1524 - ask for Tracy Kelin - two offices located in New Bern and Jacksonville NC
- The Formation Project SC - 843-990-4734 - ask for Maddie
- Toby's Place - Columbia SC - 803-210-9408 - ask for Julie Armstrong

thorn.org

<https://www.missingkids.org/>

U.S. Department of Homeland Security. (2019) Blue Campaign. <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign>



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