

Know the Signs

Indicators of Sexual Exploitation and Sex Trafficking

POOR MENTAL HEALTH AND ABNORMAL BEHAVIOR

- Avoids eye contact
- Is fearful, anxious
- Unusually fearful, anxious, and defensive after bringing up law enforcement

LACK OF CONTROL

- Has few or no personal possessions
- Is not in control of his/her own money
- Is not in control of his/her identification or government issued documents
- May be with an older woman or man who speaks for him/her
- Intimidated by man or woman accompanying him/her

POOR PHYSICAL HEALTH

- Lacks health care
- Appears malnourished
- May or may not have signs of substance abuse
- Shows signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture

COMMON WORK AND LIVING CONDITIONS

- Is not free to come and go as he/she pleases
- In the commercial sex industry as a prostitute/hooker, stripper, masseuse
- Commonly has a pimp, manager, or boss, he/she is forced or coerced to work for
- Works excessive and unusual hours

OTHER

- Has numerous inconsistencies in his/her story
- Claims of just visiting or staying with someone
- Frequent visits from men (buyers)