
RECOGNIZING LABOR TRAFFICKING

- Labor trafficking includes situations where men, women, and children are forced to work because of debt, immigration status, threats and violence.
- Keeping victims isolated –physically or emotionally –is a key method of control in most labor trafficking situations. That does not mean you never cross paths with people who are experiencing trafficking:
- Feel pressured by their employer to stay in a job or situation they want to leave;
- Owe money to an employer or recruiter or are not paid what they were promised or are owed;
- Do not have control of their passport or other identity documents.
- Are living and working in isolated conditions, largely cut off from interaction with others or support systems;
- Appear to be monitored by another person when talking or interacting with others;
- Are working in dangerous conditions without proper safety gear, training, adequate breaks, or other protections;
- Are living in dangerous, overcrowded, or inhumane conditions provided by an employer.

RECOGNIZING SEX TRAFFICKING

- Sex trafficking occurs when individuals are made to perform commercial sex through use of force, fraud or coercion. Any child under 18 who is involved in commercial sex is legally a victim of trafficking, regardless of whether there is a third party involved.
- People may be experiencing sex trafficking if they:
- Want to stop participating in commercial sex but feel scared or are unable to leave the situation;
- Disclose they were reluctant to engage in commercial sex but someone pressured them into it;
- Live where they work or are transported by guards between home and workplace;
- Are children who live with or are dependent on a family member with a substance use problem or who is abusive;
- Have a “pimp” or “manager” in the commercial sex industry;
- Work in an industry where it may be common to be pressured into performing sex acts for money, such as a strip club, illicit cantina, go-go bar, or illicit massage business.
- Have a controlling parent, guardian, romantic partner, or “sponsor” who will not allow them to meet or speak with anyone alone or who monitors their movements, spending, or communications.



WHERE TO REPORT

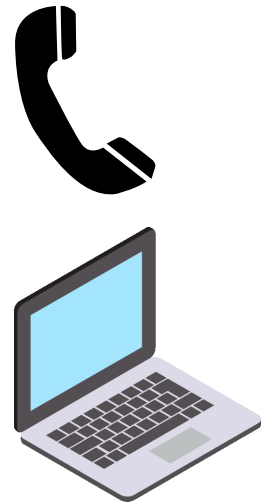
DHS CENTER FOR COUNTERING HUMAN TRAFFICKING TIP LINE
1-866-347-2423 or <https://go.usa.gov/xMGSg>

REQUEST HELP TODAY **1-888-373-7888**

CALL 911 IN AN EMERGENCY SITUATION

REPORT SUSPECTED FORCED LABOR TRADE VIOLATIONS
eAllegations.cbp.gov/Home/allegation

INFORM YOUR FBI IMA PSC FOR INFORMATION SHARING PURPOSES



MINDSET OF TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

- May develop a mindset of fear, distrust, denial, and conflicting loyalties.
- Foreign victims are often fearful of being deported or jailed and, therefore, they may distrust authority figures, particularly government and law enforcement officials.
- Similarly, traffickers may convince sex trafficking victims who are U.S. citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents that, if they report their traffickers to the police, the police will jail the victim for prostitution while the traffickers, pimps or johns will go free.
- Many victims of both sex and labor trafficking fear that, if they escape their servitude and initiate investigations against their trafficker, the trafficker and his/her associates will harm the victims, the victims' families, or other.

PSYCHOLOGICAL AND BEHAVIORAL CLUES

- Develop general feelings of helplessness, shame, guilt, self-blame, and humiliation;
- Suffer from shock and denial, or display symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder. phobias, panic attacks, anxiety, and depression;
- Suffer from sleep or eating disorders;
- Become addicted to drugs and/or alcohol as a way to cope with or “escape” their situation, or as a method of control used by their traffickers;
- Become emotionally numb, detached, and disassociated from the physical and psychological trauma and display “flat affect”;
- Experience “trauma bonding” with the trafficker, possibly identifying with the trafficker and believing that, despite repeated abuse, the trafficker is a loving boyfriend, spouse, or parent.

