

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

WOULD I RECOGNIZE IF MY PATIENT WERE AT RISK?

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DISCLOSURES

NO RELEVANT FINANCIAL OR NONFINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS TO DISCLOSE.

OFF-LABEL/INVESTIGATIONAL USE

NONE

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Define human trafficking and its subsets
- Review the neurobiology of the brain during episodes of trauma
- Learn to identify potential human trafficking victims in a healthcare setting
- Understand the role healthcare providers play in preventing, recognizing, and responding to exploitation and trafficking
- Review national and local resources for victims and survivors



HUMAN TRAFFICKING

WHAT DO YOU SEE?





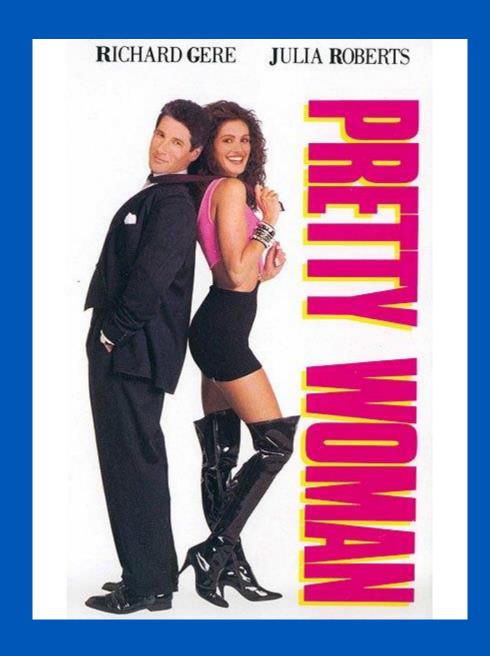












LABOR TRAFFICKING

The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the labor or services through the use of:

force, fraud, or coercion

for the purpose of subjection to:

 involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.

SEX TRAFFICKING

The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced:

by force, fraud, or coercion

OR

 in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age

Rebecca's Story



SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Annually > \$135-\$150 billion



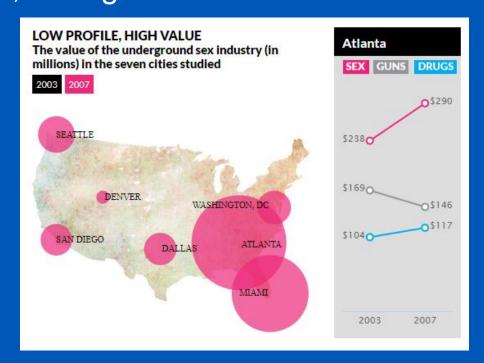




- 31% of Spanish-speaking migrant workers in Southern California had experienced labor trafficking
- National Center for Missing & Exploited Children
 - 18,400 reports of possible child sex trafficking
 - 1 in 6 of 28,800 missing children in 2023 likely sex trafficking victims
 - 1. https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/2022-02/CCHT%20Annual%20Report.pdf
 - 2. https://www.missingkids.org/home
 - 3. https://www.jstor.org/stable/24541775

SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM **HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

 Urban Institute (2014) estimated that the underground sex economy ranged from \$39.9 million in Denver, Colorado, to \$290 million in Atlanta, Georgia.





Dank, Meredith L, et al. "Estimating the size and structure of the underground commercial sex economy in eight major US cities." (2014) https://apps.urban.org/features/theHustle/index.html

IMPACT OF COVID-19

- Even in the midst of a global pandemic that suppressed commercial activity across industries, human trafficking continued to thrive.
- · Social isolation of families and severe economic distress amplify the risk of interpersonal violence, unemployment and homelessness, as well as increased internet use by undersupervised children.
- The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children noted an increase from 2 million to 4.2 million reports of online exploitation from March to April 2020.
- Restrictions increased barriers to identification
 - Masks
 - PPE

TOTAL NATIONAL STATISTICS

The National Human Trafficking Hotline uses the word "case" to represent distinct situations of trafficking reported to the hotline. A case can involve one or more potential victims of trafficking and can be reported to the hotline through one or more conversations via call, text, email, online report, or webchat. The use of the word case is not an indication of law enforcement involvement in the situation.

Polaris has changed the way we present certain data to include contacts initiated by text and chat. As a result, data obtained before this change may not match what is currently available on this site.

SINCE 2007 Total Calls: 216,082
Total Contacts: 276,654 ... Total Webforms: 19,916
Total Cases: 63,380 Total Emails: 16,155

Total Emails: 16,155 Total Victims - High: 59,962

Total Victims - Moderate: 74,370

2019 data is current through December 31, 2019.

11,500

48,326
CONTACTS
THIS YEAR

Victims and Survivors Identified

High Indicators

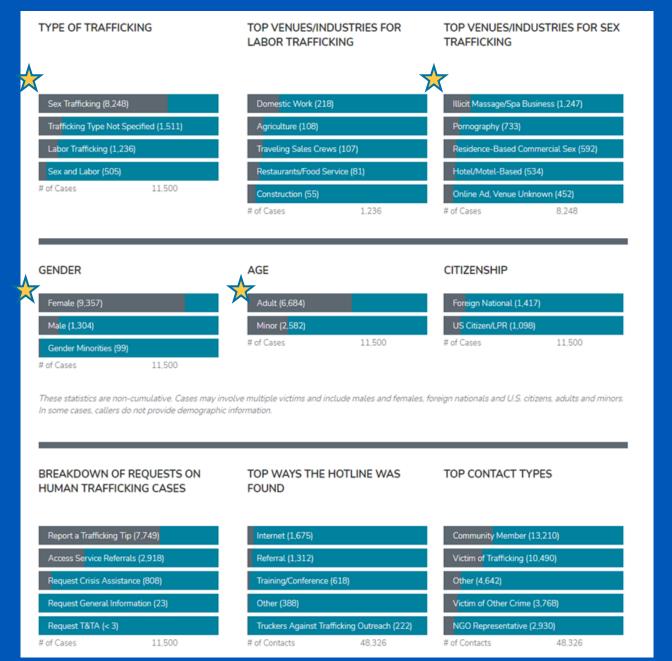
7,491

Moderate Indicators

14,916

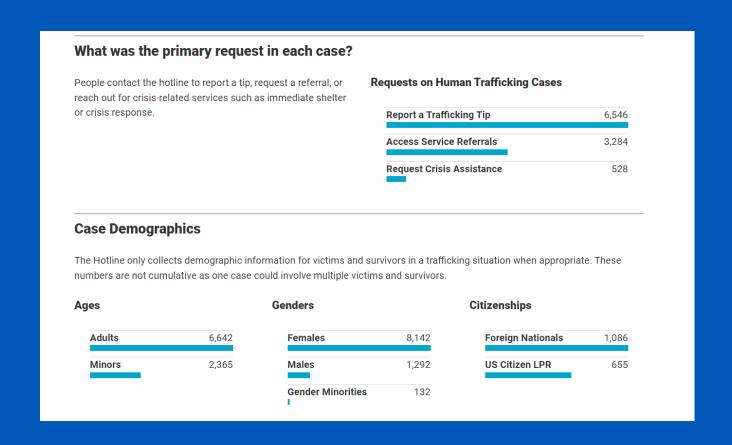
Calls From Victims & Survivors

10,490



2021 STATISTICS

- 50,123 calls to the hotline
 - California: 5257
 - Texas: 3534
 - Florida: 2894



BY THE NUMBERS

• January 2020-August 2022

TOP NUMBERS (1/1/2020-8/31/2022)

Total Trafficking Situations, by Form



Form of Trafficking	# of Situations
Labor	2,873
Sex	19,283
Sex and Labor ¹	1,005
Other/Not Specified	3,711
Grand total	26,872

Total Likely Trafficking Victims, by Form



Form of Trafficking	# of Likely Victims
Labor	9,735
Sex	27,370
Sex and Labor	1,862
Other/Not Specified	4,004
Grand Total	42,8873

BY THE NUMBERS

January 2020-August 2022

TOP 5 EXPLOITER TYPES

Intimate Partner of Victim(s)

Labor Trafficking

(1/1/2020-8/31/2022)

Exploiter's Relationship to Victim	% of Victims
Employer	85%
Familial Relationship to Victim(s)	7%
Recruiter (Non-Employer)	5%
Smuggler	4%

Sex Trafficking	
Exploiter's Relationship to Victim	% of Victims
Familial Relationship to Victim(s)	44%
Intimate Partner of Victim(s)	39%
Employer	6%
Dealer/Illicit Substance Provider	5%
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: No Controller	3%

Cov Trofficking

THE A-M-P MODEL

Action

- Recruiting
- Harboring
- Transporting
- Providing
- Obtaining

<u>Means</u>

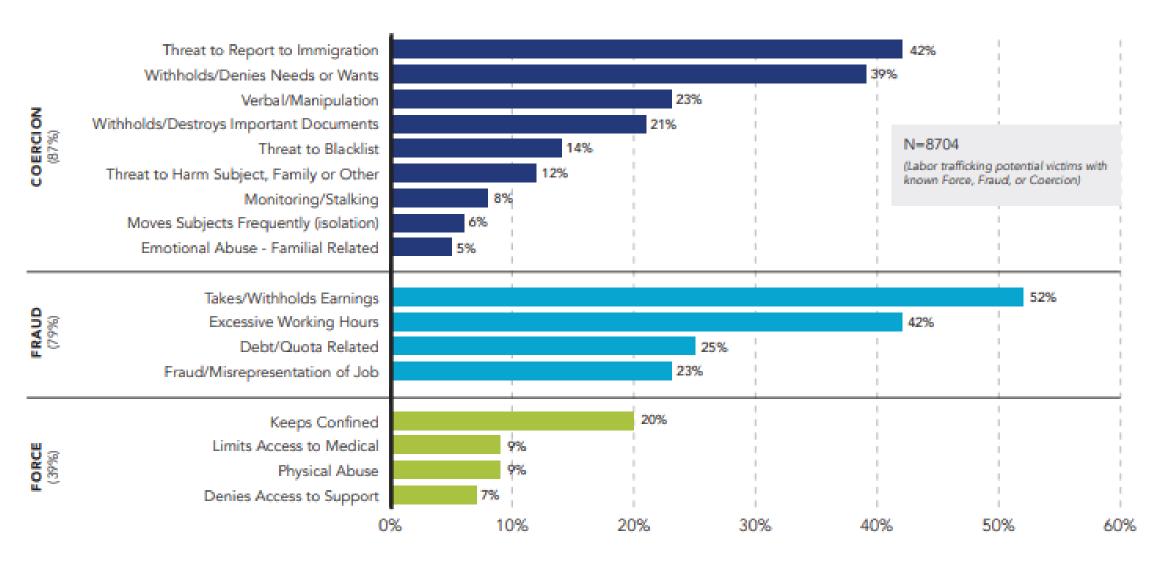
- Force
- Fraud
- Coercion

<u>Purpose</u>

- Exploitation
- Involuntary Servitude
- Peonage
- Debt bondage
- Slavery

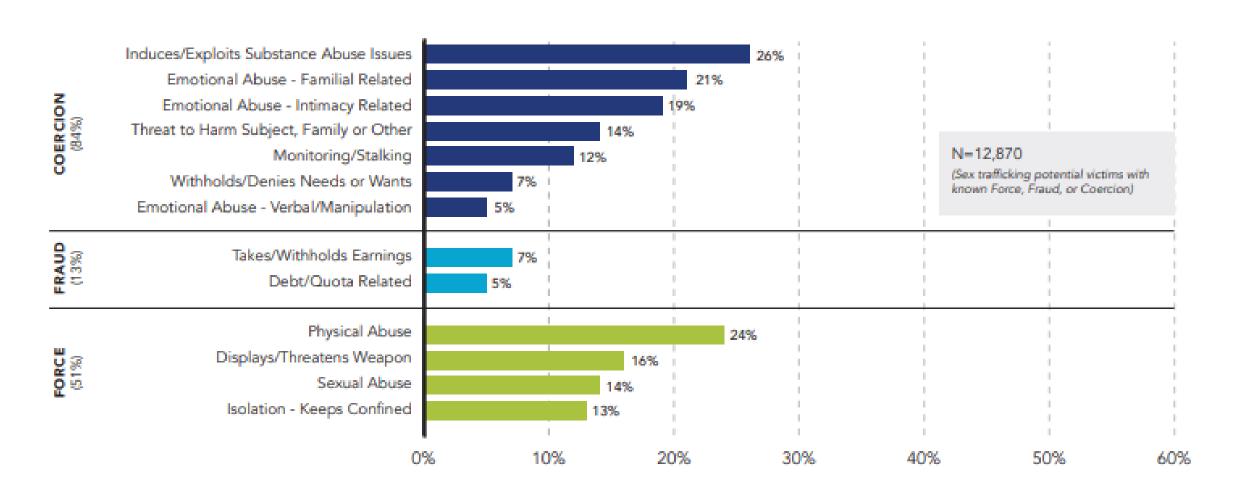
EXPLOITATION OF VICTIMS OF LABOR TRAFFICKING

(1/1/2020-8/31/2022)



EXPLOITATION OF VICTIMS OF SEX TRAFFICKING

(1/1/2020-8/31/2022)



ANYONE CAN BE A VICTIM

- Age
- Race
- Nationality
- Socio-economic status
- Sexual Orientation

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- Children, youth
- Commercial sex workers
- Undocumented immigrants
- Homeless
- Addiction and/or substance abuse history
- Mental or behavioral health history
- Lack of social or family support
- Young mothers
- Patients with learning disabilities

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- Pediatric population
 - History of abuse or neglect
 - Poverty
 - Mental illness
 - History of running away
 - Exposure to bullying
 - Lack of supervision
 - Foster children
 - LGBTQI
 - Friends and family in the commercial sex industry

EXAMPLES OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

Pimp-Controlled Trafficking

Child is trafficked by an unrelated individual, male or female, who often develops an intentional relationship with the child which is later used as leverage in the exploitation.

Familial Trafficking

Child is trafficked by a relative or a person who is perceived by the child to be a family member such as individuals referred to as "auntie" or "uncle" but are not directly related to the child.

Gang-Controlled Trafficking

Child is trafficked by a member of a gang or trafficked by the gang. Gangs leverage their organizational structure, violence, and local, national, and international networks to instill fear and loyalty in the child victim.

Buyer-Perpetrated Trafficking

Child is being trafficked but does not have a trafficker. Instead, the buyer is directly exploiting the child's vulnerabilities by offering money, food, and/or shelter in exchange for the sexual exploitation.

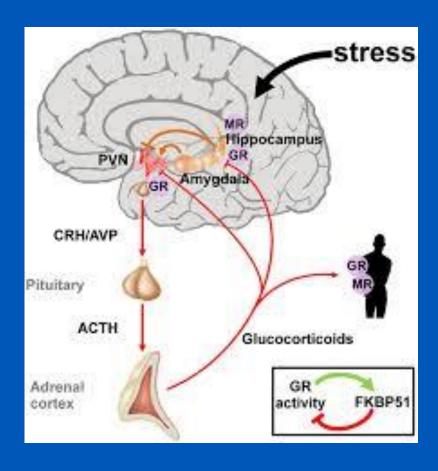
GROOMING (RECRUITING)

- Targeting a victim noticeable vulnerability (emotional neediness, low self-confidence or economic stress).
- Gaining trust and information casual conversations
- Filling a need using the information gained to fill a need in victims life, dependency (gifts, food, housing, beginning a love relationship, drugs or alcohol)
- Isolation major role in victim's life and distance them from friends and family
- Abuse begins demands that a service must be repaid.
- Maintain control threats, violence or fear.

LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSPECTIVE

- "The stuff they say makes no sense. What victims say when they come to me, it doesn't make sense to me. It's puzzling. I don't understand it. It makes no sense."
- "I see them hedge, making it up as they go along."
- "They lie all the time. I can tell."
- "No way it's true. No one would act like that if it's true."
- "They can't get their story straight."

NEUROBIOLOGY OF TRAUMA



HORMONES RELEASED DURING TRAUMA

Catecholamines Adrenaline Help with fight so the body can fight back against traumatic event Can also help with flight to try to run from the threat

Cortisol
Effects the amount of energy the body has for its reaction to fight or flight

Opiates Body's natural morphine To counteract physical pain that may accompany emotional pain Could tie into freeze (tonic immobility)

Oxytocin Increase positive feelings To counteract physical pain that may accompany emotional pain Could tie into freeze

TRAUMATIC SITUATIONS

- Loss of prefrontal regulation: chemicals from the brain stem impair (and may shut down) the prefrontal cortex
- Bottom-up attention: attention is automatically captured by anything perceived as dangerous or threatening, or as necessary for survival.
- Emotional reflexes: reflexes are automatic and include freeze, flight or fight responses as well as bodily responses such as increased heart rate.

MEMORY ENCODING DURING TRAUMA

- Hippocampus processes information into memories through encoding
- Amygdala responds to hormones, fear circuitry activates
- Impaired prefrontal cortex, decreased rational thought.
- Memories become fragmented. Retrieved memories can be unpredictable, incomplete or disorganized.

HEALTH CARE INTERACTION

- More than 85% of survivors had contact with a health care professional while being trafficked.
- 97% not recognized or offered assistance
- Reported going to:
 - Hospital
 - ED
 - Family Physician, Internist
 - OB/GYN
 - Urgent Care
 - Neighborhood and women's health clinics

http://www.globalcenturion.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/The-Health-Consequences-of-Sex-Trafficking.pdf

HEALTH CARE INTERACTION

- 2007 study of ED personnel in NYC
 - 29% respondents thought that human trafficking was a problem
 - Only 13% felt confident or very confident that they could identify a victim
 - Fewer than 3% had ever received training to recognize a victim
- 2014 Survey of 461 Pediatric Residents
 - 92% underestimated the number of US children trafficked for sex each year by over one half
 - <10% suspected they had encountered a victim
 - 20% knew what to do if they encountered a victim

¹⁾ Chisolm-Straker M, Richardson L. Assessment of emergency department (ED) provider knowledge about human trafficking victims in the ED. Acad Emerg Med. 2007;14(suppl 5):S134-S134.

²⁾ https://www.jpagonline.org/article/S1083-3188(14)00057-6/abstract Domestic Child Trafficking: Assessment of Pediatric Residents' Knowledge and Educational Needs

PA INTERACTIONS

- 2022 NCCPA Annual Survey
 - PAs working in ED (11.2%) and Urgent Care (5.6%)
- 2021 Survey of 184 practice PAs
 - 90.2 % were not confident in assisting in the care of patients who were victims of sex trafficking
 - 96.4% believed that providing care to this population was their responsibility as a healthcare working
 - 75% had no training on sex trafficking
 - 84.8% thought there should be a nationwide curriculum requirement for this topic in PA school

WHAT MAKES VICTIMS HARD TO RECOGNIZE?

- Limited public knowledge in US
- Cultural and language barriers
- Confusion: forced prostitution versus sex work
- Who can be a trafficker?
- Who can be a victim?
- Victims are not aware they are victims

BARRIERS TO VICTIM SELF-IDENTIFICATION

Shame or guilt

Fear of retaliation by trafficker

Lack of transportation or controlled movement

Fear of arrest or deportation

Fear of a report to social services

Lack of understanding of the U.S. healthcare system

GENERAL INDICATORS

- Scripted or inconsistent history
- Hesitant to answer questions
- Accompanied by someone who speaks/interprets for them
- Controlling or dominating relationship
- Behavior: hostile, fearful, anxious, avoids eye contact
- Unable to provide his/her address
- Not aware of location, date, time
- Not in possession of identification documents
- Not in control of his/her own money



PATIENT PRESENTATIONS & SCENARIOS

PATIENT PRESENTATION: LABOR TRAFFICKING

- Malnourished
- Physical injuries, abuse or threatened with harm by employer
- Inadequate PPE for hazardous work
- Required to live in housing provided by employer
- Has debt to employer
- Recruited for different work than he/she is currently doing







PATIENT SCENARIO - JOE

- 45 year old male presents to urgent clinic
- CC: Rash on his foot
- Speaks limited English
- The MA is fluent in Joe's native language
- Working at a farm for extra money to send to his family.
- He doesn't have health insurance
- Has no official forms of identification with him.

PATIENT SCENARIO - JOE

• Exam:

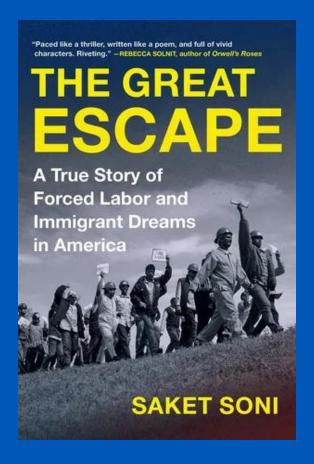
- "Rash" on Joe's foot is cellulitis.
- His boots appear well worn and threadbare, and his socks have holes.

Social worker

- Options on how to obtain the medicine he needs.
- Asked about his living and working conditions
- He lives in a tent with the others and was told they would get paid only at the end of the contract after expenses for room and board were subtracted.

REAL WORLD STORY





PATIENT PRESENTATION: **SEX TRAFFICKING**



- Poor eye contact, anxious
 Substance addiction
- "Attitude"
- Runaway & Foster Care youth
- Constantly texting
- Sexually promiscuous
- Repeated STDs
- Malnourished

- 3rd party present
- Weather-inappropriate clothing
- Bruising/scars/burns/cuts in "hidden" places
- Tattoos of pimp's name or a strange symbol

BRANDING

- Tattoo identifying their pimp or owner.
 - Dollar signs
 - Bags of money
 - Crown with initials
 - Full name
 - Bar code











PATIENT SCENARIO - CLARISSE

- 18 yo white female
- "burning down there"
- Form fitting shirt and short skirt
- Accompanied by older female "Auntie"
- Ran away from home
- Auntie refuses to wait in the lobby of the ED or leave during examination

PATIENT SCENARIO - CLARISSE

- Exam
 - Bruising to inner thighs
 - Mucopurulent vaginal discharge
 - Friable cervix
- Medical record review
 - Chlamydia and gonorrhea several times within the last year
 - Noted to be a suspected victim of human trafficking

PATIENT SCENARIO - CLARISSE

- Social worker
 - Agrees with preliminary suspicion
 - Interviews patient while Auntie is distracted on the phone

REAL WORLD STORY

- Human trafficking victim shares story | ICE
- Human trafficking survivor: I was raped 43,200 times | CNN



SCREENING

RETRAUMATIZATION

- Becoming re-traumatized greatly reduces the likelihood that a victim will be cooperative.
- Healthcare staff can be confused by victim's behavior or comments
- Avoid repeated questions
- Be mindful of language
- Disclosure is not goal of first encounter
- Use trauma-centered approach

SCREENING TOOLS

- Adult Human Trafficking Screening Tool (AHTST)
- Comprehensive Human Trafficking Assessment Tool

ADULT HUMAN TRAFFICKING SCREENING TOOL (AHTST)

- 8 questions, short, conversational
- Sometimes lies are used to trick people into accepting a job that doesn't exist, and they get trapped in a job or situation they never wanted. Have you ever experienced this, or are you in a situation where you think this could happen?
- Sometimes people make efforts to repay a person who provided them with transportation, a place to stay, money, or something else they needed. The person they owe money to may require them to do things if they have difficulty paying because of the debt. Have you ever experienced this, or are you in a situation where you think this could happen?

RESCUE AND RESTORE: SCREENING TOOL





- Can you leave your job or situation if you want?
- Can you come and go as you please?
- Have you been threatened if you try to leave?
- Have you been physically harmed in any way?
- What are your working or living conditions like?
- Where do you sleep and eat?
- Do you sleep in a bed, on a cot or on the floor?

- Have you ever been deprived of food, water, sleep or medical care?
- Do you have to ask permission to eat, sleep or go to the bathroom?
- Are there locks on your doors and windows so you cannot get out?
- Has anyone threatened your family?
- Has your identification or documentation been taken from you?
- Is anyone forcing you to do anything that you do not want to do?

COMPREHENSIVE HUMAN TRAFFICKING ASSESSMENT TOOL

- Reviews environment, tone, language and dynamics for your assessment
- Breaks questions down into specific sections: safety, fraud, coercion, debt-monetary, force and questions about their controller, labor and sex trafficking.



LAWS, REPORTING, & RESOURCES

FELONY OFFENSE

- Washington (2002) first to enact human-trafficking criminal statute
- Now all 50 states and the District of Columbia have passed legislation
- CAPTA The federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act of 1974
- 2015 amendment to CAPTA young adults up to age 24, victims of "child abuse and neglect" or "sexual abuse"

MEANS OF TRAFFICKING

- Alaska identifies anyone who benefits from trafficking in any way as being guilty of human trafficking in the 2nd degree. Direct involvement is 1st degree trafficking.
- Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi allow, under certain circumstances, businesses and corporations to be prosecuted for trafficking crimes.
- Vermont's trafficking definition includes "benefitting financially" from participation in a venture where a person is compelled to engage in commercial sex.

PENALTY ENHANCEMENTS

- Vulnerable Group Examples:
 - Delaware raises labor trafficking from a class C to a class B felony when committed against a minor.
 - Florida raises the trafficking penalty for commercial sexual activity from a first degree felony to a life felony when the crime is committed against a person who is "mentally defective or mentally incapacitated."
 - Missouri law creates the crime of "Contributing to Human Trafficking" for those who misuse immigration documents to facilitate trafficking crimes.

- Aggravating Circumstance Examples:
 - Nebraska raises labor trafficking from a class III to a class IIA felony when coerced by inflicting, or threatening to inflict, serious injury.
 - New York raises labor trafficking from a class D to a class C felony when compelled by using a controlled substance to impair a person's judgement.
 - Utah raises the penalty for human trafficking from a second degree felony to a first degree felony when it results in death or serious bodily harm, involves rape or sodomy, involves 10 or more victims, or involves a victim who is held against their will for longer than 30 days.

PENALTIES FOR BUSINESSES

Criminal Penalties and Fines

- Alabama law makes a business entity criminally liable for human trafficking if an agent, by act or omission, performs an element of the crime while acting within the scope of his or her duties and the crime was authorized, requested, commanded, performed in a way that the entity knew or should have known was occurring.
- Massachusetts enables a business entity that commits trafficking of persons for forced labor services to be fined up to \$1,000,000. The state also holds any business that knowingly aids, or is jointly involved in, labor trafficking civilly liable.
- South Carolina law requires an additional penalty of up to ten years in prison if a business owner used his or her business to facilitate sex or labor trafficking crimes.

Business Dissolution

- Hawaii requires, upon a conviction for labor trafficking, that the court revoke any business license issued by the state to the enterprise that the convicted person used to facilitate the offense.
- For businesses found guilty of trafficking, Minnesota law enables, in addition to criminal penalties, a court to dissolve or reorganize an entity, suspend or revoke any license or permit granted by a state agency, or order the surrender of its charter or its certificate to conduct business in the state.
- In Vermont, if any business is found guilty of human trafficking, the Attorney General is empowered to commence a proceeding in the Civil Division of the Superior Court to dissolve it.

JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING ACT OF 2015

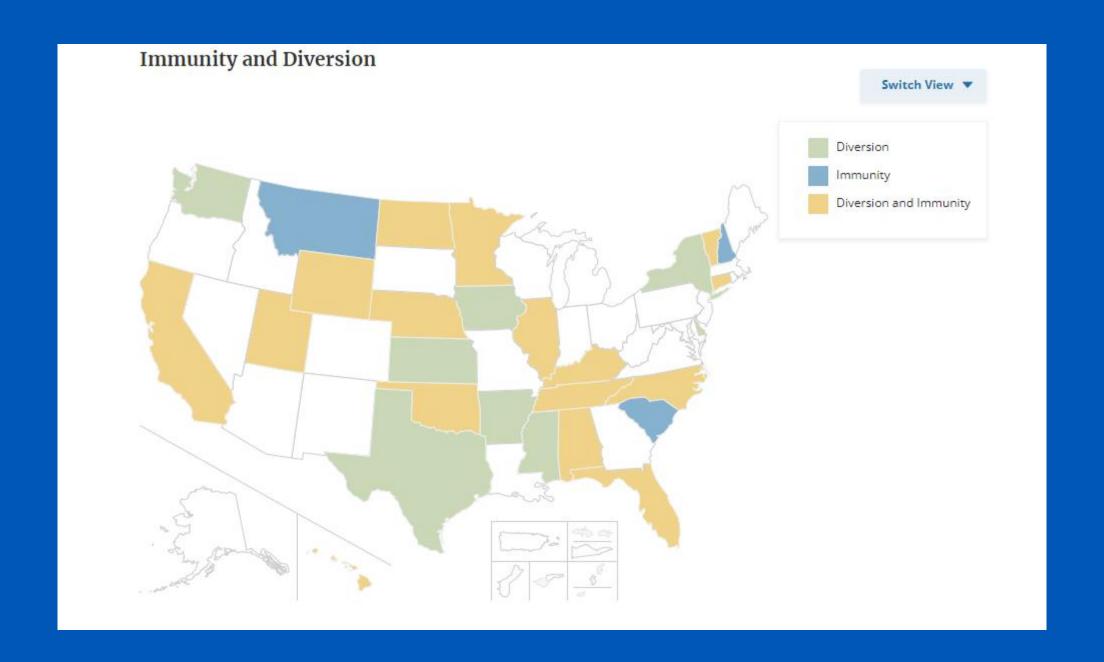
- Improves the U.S. response to human trafficking.
- Amendments that:
 - Strengthen services for victims
 - Changes in the criminal liability of buyers of commercial sex from victims of trafficking
 - Creation of a survivor-led U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking
 - New directives for the implementation of a national strategy for combating human trafficking.
- Requires the creation of a domestic trafficking victim's fund to support victim assistance programs

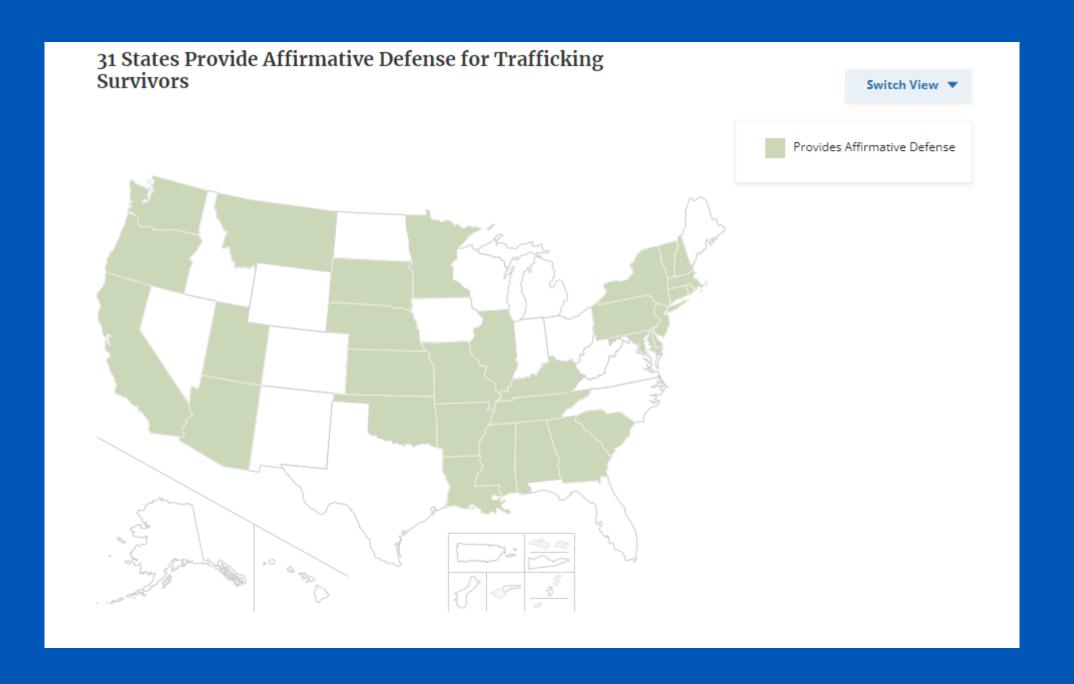
JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING ACT OF 2015

- Block grants for child trafficking deterrence programs
- Additional training requirements for first responders
- Amended the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) by declaring youth who are victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons are eligible for services under the RHYA.
- Amended the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) by adding human trafficking and child pornography as forms of child abuse.

PREVENTING SEX TRAFFICKING AND STRENGTHENING FAMILIES ACT OF 2014

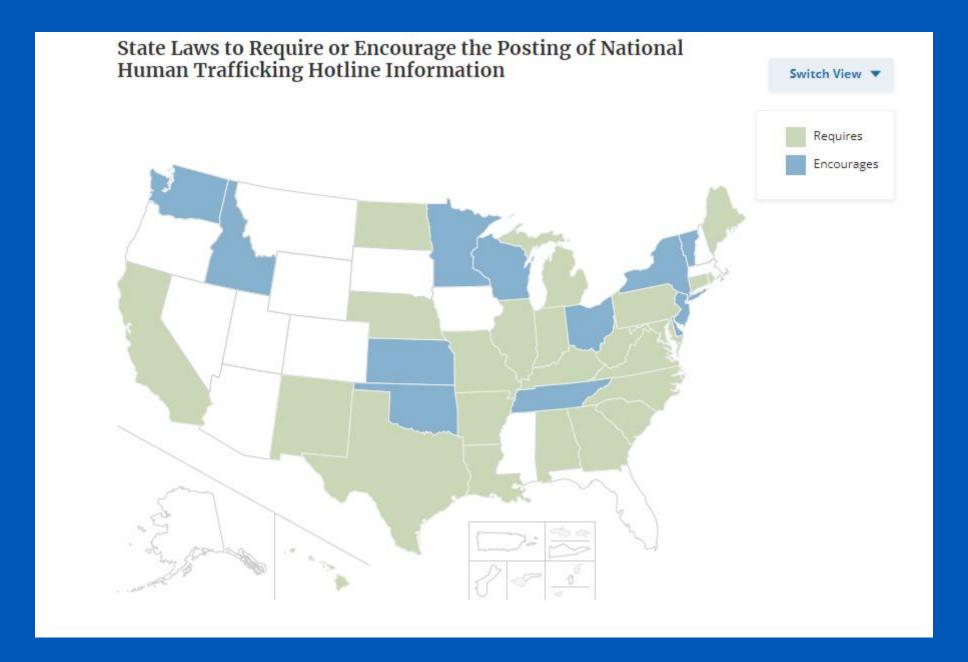
- Reduce the incidence of sex trafficking among youth involved in the foster care system.
- Requires child welfare systems to improve their response to sex trafficking by screening and identifying youth who are sex trafficking victims or those who are at risk for sex trafficking, provide appropriate services to youth who experience sex trafficking, report missing children to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and develop protocols for locating missing or runaway children and determine what circumstances they faced while away from care.
- State child welfare agencies are required to report instances of sex trafficking to law enforcement and provide information regarding sex trafficking victims or at-risk youth to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, who will in turn report these numbers to Congress.



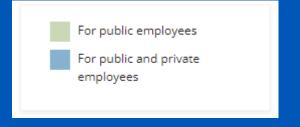


REPORTING

- You must understand mandatory reporting laws and your responsibility to report within the state(s) in which you practice, including whether human trafficking is a reportable event.
- Visit www.victimlaw.org to find mandatory reporting laws for your state.
- Not HIPPA violation to call human trafficking hotline don't identify







KNOW YOUR RESOURCES:

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

- National:
 - National Human Trafficking Hotline
 - Polaris Project
 - 1-888-3737-888 or text "help" to BeFree (233733).
 - Department of Homeland Security
 - 1-866-DHS-1ICE (374-2433)

TWENTYFOUR-SEVEN ANTI-TRAFFICKING QR CODE®



Strategic QR Code Placement

Companies receive there own Twentyfour-Seven QR code® for their locations that are strategically placed for individuals to access unobserved.



Instant Reporting

When a Twentyfour-Seven QR code® is scanned a report is started. As user adds details, the report is updated in real time.



Automated Authority Notifications

Local contact information is provided within the app based on location and report is sent to the designated response team/person.

Effectiveness by Industry ¹⁰									
1) Hospitality	Records Captured	Records Captured Reports Submitted			Reports Actioned				
	•	ı	•		١				
Hotel and Casino	<u>Count</u> 2.124		Count 34	<u>%</u> 1.60%		Count 8	<u>%</u> 24%		
Restaurant	46		1	2%		1	100%		
Kestaurant	40		1	270		1	100%		
2) Transportation									
2, mansportation	Records Captured	Ι	Reports Submitted			Reports Actioned			
	Count		Count	<u>%</u>	'	Count	<u>%</u>		
Trains	850		1	0.10%		1	100%		
Airports	153		5	1.3		2	40%		
3) Not-For-Profit (NGO)	Records Captured		Reports Submitted			Reports Actioned			
	Count		Count	<u>%</u>		Count	<u>%</u>		
	553		3	0.5		2	66.7		
	Baranda Cantunad	ī	Daniel C		ı	D			
4) Local Government (Municipalities)	Records Captured	ı	Reports Submitted				s Actioned		
	Count		Count	<u>%</u>		Count	<u>%</u>		
	45		1	0		0	0		
5) Twentyfour-Seven Anti-Trafficking QR	Records Captured	1	Reports Submitted		1	Reports Actioned			
Code® (Placed by Volunteers)	Count	1	Count %			Count			
code (Fluced by Volunteers)	239		80	33%		21	26%		
	233		00	3370		21	20/6		



TAKE HOME POINTS

TAKE HOME

- Trafficking labor/sex
- ANYONE
- During trauma memories fragmented, disorganized but accurate
- Healthcare providers prevention, recognition
- Know your national/regional resources

TAKE HOME

- Be aware of the mandatory reporting in your state
- Keep HIPAA in mind, informed consent to disclose
- Medical record is admissible in court
- Use forensic nurses or sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs) when able, to collect and record evidence
- Know the protocol/guidelines of your institution

REFERENCES

- Humantraffickinghotline.org
 - https://humantraffickinghotline.org/resources/comprehensive-human-trafficking-assessment-tool
 - humantraffickinghotline.org/resources/what-look-healthcare-setting
- www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/resource/nhhtacadultscreening
- www.traffickingresourcecenter.org
- Dank, Meredith L, et al. "Estimating the size and structure of the underground commercial sex economy in eight major US cities." (2014)
- http://www.missingkids.com/home
- "The Neurobiology of Sexual Assault" NIJ Research for the Real World Seminar, Rebecca Campbell, Ph.D.
- http://www.globalcenturion.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/The-Health-Consequences-of-Sex-Trafficking.pdf

THANK YOU!

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