



# STOP DOMESTIC CHILD TRAFFICKING

## FACT:

Child trafficking is a modern day form of slavery.

## FACT:

Twenty-six percent of human trafficking cases involve the sexual exploitation of a child.

## WHAT IS CHILD TRAFFICKING?

- Child trafficking is the exploitation of minor children for commercial sexual activity or for other labor/services through force, fraud, or coercion.
- **Any child (under the age of 18) engaged in commercial sex is a victim of sex trafficking, regardless of whether they have been forced or coerced into the activity.**
- Sex trafficking victims are often forced to engage in prostitution, exotic dancing, or pornography.
- Labor trafficking victims are often forced into domestic servitude, restaurant or salon work, begging or street peddling, or the drug trade.
- Child sex trafficking and child labor trafficking frequently intersect.

## WHO CAN BE A VICTIM?

- Any child under the age of 18 can be trafficked regardless of race, class, education, gender, age, or citizenship

## IDENTIFYING VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

*Everyone has the potential to discover a human trafficking situation. While the victims may sometimes be kept behind locked doors, they are often hidden right in front of you.*

If you suspect something is wrong, ask yourself these questions:

- Is this a minor engaged in commercial sex?
- Does the minor exhibit bruises or other signs of physical trauma, withdrawn behavior, depression, anxiety, or fear?
- Are there signs of drug addiction?
- Is the minor hungry, malnourished, deprived of sleep, or inappropriately dressed (based on weather conditions or surroundings)?
- Does the minor demonstrate an inability to attend school on a regular basis and/or has unexplained absences?
- Does the minor appear to be in a relationship with an older person?
- Does the minor run away from home frequently or have current status as a runaway?
- Are there inexplicable appearances of expensive gifts, clothing, or other costly items?
- Does the minor make references to frequent travel to other cities?
- Is there gang involvement?
- Does this minor lack control over his or her schedule and/or identification or travel documents?
- Has the minor expressed a need to pay off a debt?
- Does the minor appear to have coached/rehearsed responses to questions?

## HOW TO REPORT CHILD TRAFFICKING

If you suspect a child is in urgent need of assistance, contact law enforcement or child protective services to report abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a child.

### Human Trafficking Victim

Assistance Hotline:

**855.END.NJ.HT**  
(855-363-6548)

[www.NJHumanTrafficking.gov](http://www.NJHumanTrafficking.gov)

The National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC)

**1.888.3737.888**

**Text "BEFREE" or 233733**

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children®

**1.800.THE.LOST**  
**(1.800.843.5678)**

## Hudson County Prosecutor's Office Trafficking Liaison

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## Polaris Project

Newark, NJ

Phone: 973-624-5454 (local office) or

1-888-373-7888 (national hotline)

[www.polarisproject.org](http://www.polarisproject.org)



This poster has been brought to you by the Hudson County Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC), the primary planning body for the Hudson County Department of Health and Human Services. HSAC works closely with both the State and County, making recommendations for allocation of funds, monitoring, and maintaining a large advocacy role on behalf of the needs and concerns of County residents. For further information on HSAC please contact (201) 369-5280.