

HUMAN TRAFFICKING SCHOOL RESOURCES (Reference NUAHT.org)

Use this checklist to increase your knowledge of human trafficking in our school systems and identify potential red flags!

SCHOOLS' ROLE TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- Increase staff awareness through education on how to recognize and report.
- Increase student and parent awareness of the danger traffickers pose and the realities of trafficking.
- Develop a clearly defined district or state-wide protocol on how to recognize and report and enact a policy in the event of voluntary disclosure.
- Victims rarely self-disclose or identify themselves as a victim, so knowing the potential red flags is paramount for educators, parents, and support staff.
- Know the areas traffickers are grooming and recruiting vulnerable youth, and technology's role in trafficking through social media and gaming apps.
- Exploitation threatens the safety of the campus and the prosperous future of our children (US Department of Education, Trafficking in American Schools, 2015).

STATISTICS AND RED FLAGS OF SEX TRAFFICKING

The average age for a child to be exploited for sex is 9-12 for girls, and 11-13 for boys, but children as young as age four and six have been trafficked—Mean age 13 (varies with source). The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) 2017 data reported that of the 25,000 runaways reported, 1 out of 7 were likely victims of child sex trafficking and 88% were in the care of social services when they went missing (child welfare).

Potential Indicators of Human Trafficking:

- Changes in behavior or school participation, i.e., a spike in truancy, performance severely under grade level?

- Involved in a relationship with an older man, receives frequent, expensive gifts, and gets picked up by the trafficker/controller?
- Has multiple cell phones? Large amounts of cash?
- Online profile is sexually provocative or explicit on social media or internet sites.
- Sexually transmitted infection in a minor? Multiple sex partners? Frequent urinary tract infection?
- Tattoos that imply ownership, branding, or are sexually explicit; crown, dollar sign, initials?
- Sudden change in behavior; startles easily, profound fear, hypervigilant, signs of substance use?
 - Becomes withdrawn, isolated, depressed, suicidal, rebellious?
- Anyone under age 18, involved in a commercial sex act is a victim of child sexual assault/rape and falls under mandatory reporting guidelines.
- History of running away from home or being homeless, “couch surfing.” Be alert for sleep deprivation or signs of fatigue, or weight loss

Parental Controls and Social Network Safety:

- With Content & Privacy Restrictions in Screen Time, you can block or limit specific apps and features on your child's device and restrict the settings on your iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch for explicit content, purchases and downloads, and privacy (Apple, Inc).
- <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT201304#set-restrictions>
- <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT204396>
- <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT203033>
- <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT201087>
- <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT208982>

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- <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/hub/4099151/windows-security-help>
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