

BE THE O.N.E. in the Fight Against Human Trafficking

Human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act from another person. Under law, children cannot consent to sexual exploitation and therefore, no force, fraud, or coercion is required to meet the definition of child sex trafficking.

What can you do about Human Trafficking?

BE THE O.N.E. – Observe. Notify. Empower.

OBSERVE indicators of trafficking.

Note that victims may seem complicit in their exploitation due to the fear they have of their traffickers or the trauma bonds the traffickers create to keep them from finding freedom.



Sex trafficking:

- Changes in school or work attendance, habits, friend groups, vocabulary, demeanor, and attitude
- Use of alcohol or drugs
- Older boyfriends, friends
- Sudden appearance of luxury items — e.g., manicures, designer clothes, purses, gift cards
- Sexually provocative clothing
- Tattoos or branding
- Multiple phones or social media accounts; hiding these
- Provocative pictures posted online or stored on the phone
- Unexplained injuries and health problems
- Social interaction and schedule being strictly controlled by someone else

Labor trafficking:

- Third-party control of schedule and social interaction; works excessively long or unusual hours
- Evidence of violence: bruises, swelling, scarring, etc.
- Living where the individual works
- Housing, food, hygiene products, transportation all being supplied by the employer
- Irregular pay periods
- Recruited through false promises related to citizenship or working conditions
- Inability to speak English
- Identification documents or money are being held by a third-party
- Malnutrition, dehydration, exhaustion; untreated disease or dental and/or vision problems; chronic pain — e.g., back pain, muscle strains, etc.



NOTIFY 911 if an emergency.

Otherwise, contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline at **1-888-373-7888**. You can also text "Help" or "Info" to 233733 or email Report@PolarisProject.org. For online exploitation of children, call the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) at **1-800-843-5678** or report it at www.missingkids.org.



EMPOWER yourself and others to prevent trafficking and empower survivors to find freedom

Parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be aware of the signs to look for and ask questions if you have concerns• Monitor social media• Do not blame your child or assume behavior is simply acting out• Establish yourself as a safe person to talk to about anything• Contact NCMEC for help with concerns about in-person or online contacts at www.missingkids.org or 1-800-843-5678
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Avoid unsafe situations• Know who you are talking to online• Learn about how traffickers find and lure their victims• Establish a relationship with a trusted adult to talk to about uncomfortable situations• Contact NCMEC for help with concerns about in-person or online contacts at www.missingkids.org or 1-800-843-5678
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn more by watching Be the One at www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/humantrafficking• Give your time or your financial contribution. For a list of organizations helping victims in your area, visit: www.humantraffickinghotline.org• Share information from trusted organizations and raise awareness within your business, church, school, or other circle of influence• Support high risk populations such as homeless or foster youth to reduce vulnerability• Become an informed consumer to ensure your clothing, food, and other goods are not produced by child or forced labor
Prevention Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Office on Trafficking in Persons provides resources and guidance on human trafficking prevention and victim assistance: www.acf.hhs.gov/otip• A21 raises awareness through the Can You See Me? Campaign and free student curriculum: www.a21.org• Love146 offers a variety of training and resources for youth, caregivers, and professionals: www.love146.org• Netsmartz provides free online safety resources and age-appropriate lessons: www.netsmartz.org• Unbound offers education and training for students, educators, and parents: www.unboundnow.org/kss

To learn more about how you can Be the One in the Fight Against Human Trafficking, please see:

www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/humantrafficking

<https://gov.Texas.gov/cstt>



Office of the Texas Governor
Child Sex Trafficking Team