

## WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Human trafficking is defined as: "a crime that involves exploiting a person for labor, services, or commercial sex."

*Source: The United States Department of Justice*

## WHAT IS SEX TRAFFICKING?

Sex trafficking is defined as: "the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purposes 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 an act has not attained 18 years of age."

*Source: The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) (22USC 7102)*

## WHAT IS LABOR TRAFFICKING?

Labor trafficking is defined as: "the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery."

*Source: The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) (22USC 7102)*

Human trafficking involves exploiting a person through a third party for money or gain through force, fraud or coercion. None of these elements (force, fraud, or coercion) are required to be present if the victim is a child. The average age of entry into Human Trafficking is 12 to 14 years. A "sexually exploited child" is the proper term for a child that is the victim of human trafficking, compared to the incorrect term of "child prostitute." Just as adult sex trafficking victims are not "prostitutes," but are correctly termed, "human trafficking victims" or "sexually exploited victims."

## IMPORTANT HUMAN TRAFFICKING MYTHS (AND TRUTHS):

- This does not happen in the US. (It happens in cities and rural areas everywhere in the US.)
- Victims are moved/trafficked through immigration and 18-wheeler trucks. (Human smuggling is a crime against the border of a nation where someone enters the country illegally, typically by paying someone else to smuggle them.)
- Victims are kidnapped and locked away (victims can be in plain sight.)
- Only females are trafficked for sex. (Men, women, boys, and girls can be sexually exploited.)

## TYPICAL RECRUITMENT LOCATIONS:

- Parks
- Malls
- Homeless shelters
- Foster/group homes
- Bus stops and stations
- Online/social media/video games

## RECRUITMENT METHODS:

- Promises of love and affection
- Exploiting vulnerabilities
- Flattery, lies and manipulation
- Meeting the needs of the victim
- Offers of independence, luxury items and cash
- Exploiting position of authority

## SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

- The victim is not free to leave or come and go at will.
- The victim is unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips.
- Works excessively and/or unusual hours.
- Is not allowed breaks or suffers from unusual work restrictions.
- Owes a large debt and is unable to pay it.
- Was recruited under false premises.
- High security measures exist at work and/or living locations.
- Is living and working on site or being transported by a supervisor.
- Is not given proper safety equipment.
- Is being verbally/physically abused by a supervisor.
- No control over personal documents/documentation.
- Signs of poor hygiene.
- Is under the age of 18 and is providing commercial sex acts.
- Tattoos that show branding.
- Chronic runaway.
- Is frequently monitored.

## ACTIONS TO TAKE IF YOU BELIEVE SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS IS HAPPENING:

- Do not try to physically intervene with the victim and the trafficker.
- Report the activity to your local law enforcement or to the **National Human Trafficking Hotline: 888-373-7888, or text: 233733.**
- If you are already communicating with a victim, develop a safety plan honoring their requests.

Contact the Sexual Assault/Human Trafficking Specialist of the Family Crisis Center of East Texas for questions or to schedule an informative presentation for your group or organization:

**Sexual Assault/Human Trafficking Specialist  
Family Crisis Center of East Texas**

Phone: (936) 639-1681  
Cell: (936) 552-9258  
Fax: (936) 633-6280

## OUR MISSION

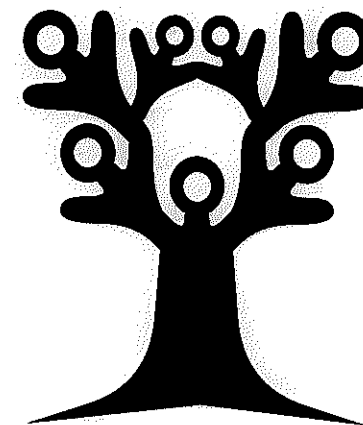
*The Family Crisis Center of East Texas is a non-profit organization that empowers survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault by providing crisis intervention and advocacy services. The FCCET also engages the community through education to build awareness and prevent domestic violence and sexual assault.*

## VISION STATEMENT

*End the culture of domestic violence and sexual assault.*

*The Family Crisis Center of East Texas provides service to the following counties:*

- |               |                 |               |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| ■ Angelina    | ■ Polk          | ■ San Jacinto |
| ■ Houston     | ■ Sabine        | ■ Shelby      |
| ■ Nacogdoches | ■ San Augustine | ■ Trinity     |



**Family Crisis Center**  
— of East Texas —

Women's Shelter of East Texas, Inc.

# Human Trafficking

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**24 HOUR HOTLINE  
1-800-828-7233  
OR SEND TEXT TO:  
(936) 552-9256**

[www.FamilyCrisisCenterOfEastTexas.com](http://www.FamilyCrisisCenterOfEastTexas.com)