



# Human Trafficking Community Awareness Event

Sponsored by the SCPS Mental Health  
Advisory Committee



# **Definition- Federal Law Sex Trafficking**

There are NO teen or child prostitutes, they are human trafficking victims!

Sex trafficking is 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 (22 USC 7102).



# Definition- Federal Law Labor Trafficking

Human Trafficking ≠ Human Smuggling. There is no need for a border to be crossed for the crime of Human Trafficking to have occurred.

Labor trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion, for the purposes of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery (22 USC 7102).

# Virginia Laws on Human Trafficking

SB 1188 and HB 1964 were passed on April 1, 2015. They were the first bills in **Virginia** to define sex trafficking, establish penalties, criminalized child sex trafficking as a Class 3 felony without the need to prove force, intimidation or deception, and criminalized recruitment for commercial sex.





# Definitions

**MINOR**  **COMMERCIAL SEX** 

OR

**FORCE or FRAUD or COERCION**  **COMMERCIAL SEX** 

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**Where O'Where Is This Happening?**

EVERYWHERE

Rural, Cities, Suburbs, Reservations

No place is immune



## Who are the victims?

Children are targeted by sex traffickers because they are in demand by buyers.

Affects **ALL** ethnicities, races, classes, genders:

- Men & Women
- Adults & Children
- Foreign Nationals & US Citizens
- Undocumented & Documented
- Educated & Uneducated
- Individuals, Families, & Groups

Human trafficking is about  
**VULNERABILITY and EXPLOITATION**



## Who are the traffickers?

- Pimps- Gorilla and Romeo
- Criminal street gangs or crews
- Intimate partners
- Family members
- Businesses (e.g., strip clubs, commercial front brothels, labor recruiters, small/large businesses)
- Otherwise Legitimate community members





# Human trafficking is exploitation- based

- It is **involuntary**.
- It is **indefinite in duration** (life expectancy is about 7 years for commercial sex trafficking).
- It involves forced/involuntary exploitation for **labor or commercial sex** in the U.S.
- It **does not require physical movement** and **may occur domestically**.
- It **targets the vulnerable**, including children.

# Targeted Vulnerabilities

Victims of Prior  
Violence/Abuse

History of domestic violence, abuse or neglect,  
or sexual assault

Runaway &  
Homeless Youth

Age, limited access to resources, need for  
shelter and food

Financially  
Vulnerable

Displaced after disasters or conflicts, no job  
prospects, seeking opportunity

Undocumented  
Foreign Nationals

Lack of identification, unauthorized status, fear  
of law enforcement

Temporary Visa  
Holders

Visa restrictions, debt bondage,  
transient/frequent movement

Developmental &  
Physical Disabilities

Limited mobility, access to education/employment, or  
protection from predators



# Youth are Vulnerable

Over **300,000** kids are trafficked annually in the US

A child is sold every **30 seconds** in America

A child's youth and **vulnerabilities** can make them susceptible to a Traffickers lure.

Too many kids **stay in exploitive situations** because they don't know where to find help.

*"I was trafficked for three years starting when I was 14 years old. The whole time I was going to school and living at home, but no one ever helped me. I didn't know where to turn to. No one ever asked me what was wrong. If someone had just asked I could have been saved sooner! "*

*- Taylor (17-year old victim)*

**WHAT CAN  
YOU DO?**





**SAFETY, SAFETY,  
SAFETY, SAFETY,  
SAFETY, SAFETY!**

- Physical
- Emotional
- Financial
- Environmental/Community





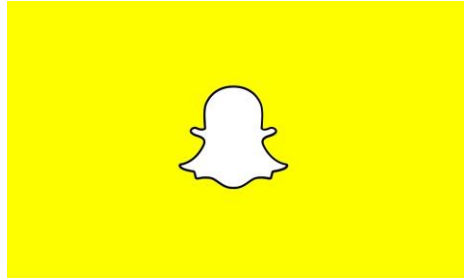
# Supervision

- *What does that look like for your family?*
- *Developmental ages*
- *Risk factors*
- *Protective factors*
- *What are your expectations?*
- *Knowing your kids*
- *Know your limitations:*
  - *What is possible?*
  - *What is impossible?*

# askfm



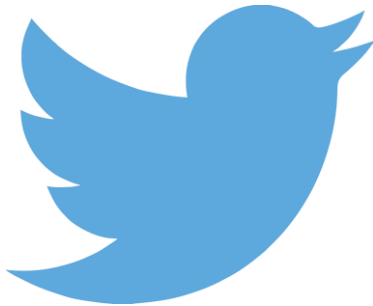
## Phone Apps



musical.ly



Tik Tok



# How to support our children:

**Build Relationships**

**Active Supervision**

**Meet Basic Needs**

**Connect with Community**

**Learn More**

**See Something Say Something**





## Who can you contact in the school trained in Human Trafficking?

- **School Social Worker**
- **School Counselor**
- **School Psychologist**
- **School Resource Officer**