

The truth about sex trafficking.

Traffickers are often a romantic partner or a family member.

Anyone, including boys, can be a victim of sex trafficking.

Traffickers often target women, girls, and members of the LGBTQ+ community.

Victims are emotionally and psychologically manipulated and though they may be physically “free to leave,” in reality, they are trapped in a cycle of abuse.

Most victims of trafficking freely enter into relationships where they are forced, manipulated, or coerced into commercial sex.

Sex trafficking happens any time a child or teen trades a sex act for something of value (food, shelter, clothes, money, protection, etc.)

Do you know someone who needs help?

PA ChildLine

1-800-932-0313

Child sex trafficking is child abuse.

As a mandated reporter, you are required to file a report to ChildLine should you suspect a child may be a victim of sex trafficking. Reports should be made immediately either online through Pennsylvania’s Department of Human Services’ website or by calling the number above.

National Human Trafficking Resource Center

Text “INFO” or “HELP” to “BeFree” (233-733)
1-888-373-7888

www.traffickingresourcecenter.org

If you or someone you know has experienced human trafficking or is in a potential human trafficking situation, call this hotline for help and services.

Find organizations + resources in your area and check out our downloadable resources:

<https://pcv.pccd.pa.gov/HT>



Learn more by following @traffickinghappenspa on social media.

Sex Trafficking Happens to Kids in PA



A Guide for Service Providers



pennsylvania
OFFICE OF VICTIM ADVOCATE

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Red Flags & Warning Signs:

Most signs of **sex trafficking** are invisible, but you might notice some of these:

Physical Signs:

- evidence of physical abuse, injury, or illness (often left untreated)
- multiple sexually transmitted infections
- malnourishment

Behavioral Signs:

- leaves home frequently for extended periods of time
- recent reliance on a new romantic interest
- seeming "out of it"
- regularly engaging in coping mechanisms like drinking or substance use
- acts afraid or aggressively toward authority figures
- engages in unhealthy sexual behavior

What is child sex trafficking?

It's any time a minor exchanges sex for something of value.

something of value could look like:

- shelter
- food
- drugs
- alcohol
- clothes
- cell phones
- money
- protection

Want to learn more?



Scan the QR code and follow **@traffickinghappenspa** on social media for more info.

When working with a child you suspect may be a victim of trafficking...

- Don't expect them to recognize their situation as exploitative, or to present themselves as a victim in need of immediate intervention.
- Meet them where they are, on their terms, and try to meet the needs they present.
- Be nonjudgmental when listening to a victim- don't react verbally or physically in a way that communicates disgust or disdain.
- Keep the victim talking and make them feel comfortable- don't dispute facts or comment on their motivation.
- Work to create strong interagency relationships to comprehensively meet victims' needs- don't assume sole responsibility for meeting the needs of a trafficking victim.