



HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL ABUSE SIGNS AND STATISTICS GUIDE

SIGNS OF SEX TRAFFICKING

A LIFE OF SECRET KEEPING

- Secretive about partner
- Unexplained expensive gifts
- Lying about age
- Second cell phone
- Multiple hotel keys
- Runs away often

POOR HEALTH OR BEHAVIOR

- Avoids eye contact
- Physical signs of abuse
- New tattoo/branding
- Fearful, anxious, depressed
- Signs of psychological abuse/brainwashing

SHOWS A LACK OF CONTROL

- Lack of personal belongings
- In presence of older boyfriend or girlfriend
- Location tracked constantly
- Unable to speak for oneself
- Unaware of surroundings

SIGNS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

PHYSICAL SIGNS

- Sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- Signs of trauma to the genital area, such as unexplained bleeding, bruising, or blood on the sheets, underwear, or other clothing

BEHAVIORAL SIGNS

- Excessive talk about or knowledge of sexual topics
- Keeping secrets
- Not talking as much as usual
- Not wanting to be left alone with certain people or being afraid to be away from primary caregivers, especially if this is a new behavior
- Regressive behaviors or resuming behaviors they had grown out of, such as thumbsucking or bedwetting
- Overly compliant behavior
- Sexual behavior that is inappropriate for the child's age
- Spending an unusual amount of time alone
- Trying to avoid removing clothing to change or bathe

EMOTIONAL SIGNS

- Change in eating habits
- Change in mood or personality, such as increased aggression
- Decrease in confidence or self-image
- Excessive worry or fearfulnessIncrease in unexplained health problems such as stomach aches and headachesLoss or decrease in interest in school, activities, and friends
- Nightmares or fear of being alone at night
- Self-harming behaviors

SIGNS THAT AN ADULT MAY BE ABUSING A CHILD

BE CAUTIOUS OF AN ADULT WHO SPEND TIME WITH CHILDREN AND EXHIBITS THE FOLLOWING BEHAVIORS:

- Does not respect boundaries or listen when someone tells them “no”
- Engages in touching that a child or child’s parents/guardians have indicated is unwanted
- Tries to be a child’s friend rather than filling an adult role in the child’s life
- Does not seem to have age-appropriate relationships
- Talks with children about their personal problems or relationships
- Spends time alone with children outside of their role in the child’s life or makes up excuses to be alone with the child
- Expresses unusual interest in child’s sexual development, such as commenting on sexual characteristics or sexualizing normal behaviors
- Gives a child gifts without occasion or reason
- Spends a lot of time with your child or another child you know
- Restricts a child’s access to other adults
- Predators can be ANYONE. This includes family members, friends, members of faith communities, coaches, teachers, and anyone else with access to a child.

KEY STATISTICS

KNOW THE FACTS

- 1 out of 4 girls and 1 out of 13 boys are sexually abused as children.
- 91% of childhood sexual abuse victims report knowing their abuser.
- 92% of sex trafficking survivors were sexually abused as children.
- Many of the survivors at Selah Freedom report sexual abuse beginning between 2-4 years old.
- 2 million children are sold each year through sex trafficking.
- Child sex trafficking has been reported in all 50 states.
- Statistically, the average age of children running away and entering into sex trafficking is 15-17.
- Within 48 hours of running away, 1 out of 3 children are solicited for sex.
- Victims can be sold 15-40 times every 24 hours.
- It takes 7-8 touchpoints with a victim before she is ready to step into care
- Pornography gets more visitors each month than Netflix, Amazon and Twitter combined.
- 1 in 9 children receive online sexual solicitation.
- Traffickers recruit children into sex trafficking through close relationships (“friending”).
- Traffickers have made up to \$1.6 million per year off their victims.
- Sex Trafficking is a \$99 billion dollar industry.

TO REPORT SEX TRAFFICKING/SEXUAL ABUSE, CONTACT YOUR STATE'S MANDATED REPORTING HOTLINE/FOLLOWING MANDATED REPORTING PROTOCOL.

CONTACT AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SELAH WAY FOUNDATION AT:
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