



How Do I Know if Someone is a Slave?

Identify a Child Trafficking Victim

Pimps prey on boys and girls as young as 12. Traffickers target their minor victims through telephone chat-lines, clubs, on the street through friends, and at malls as well as by using children to recruit other children at schools and in after-school programs.

Any child having these potential indicators could be the victim of human trafficking.

1. Has unexplained absences from school or stops communicating
2. Demonstrates an inability to attend school on a regular basis and/or grades may be marked by a sharp decline
3. Chronically runs away from home
4. Refers to frequent travel to other cities
5. Exhibits physical trauma, withdrawn behavior, depression or fear
6. Lacks control over her/his schedule or identification documents
7. Is hungry, malnourished or inappropriately dressed (based on weather)
8. Shows signs of drug addiction
9. Demonstrates a sudden change in attire, behavior, or material possessions (e.g. has expensive items)
10. Makes references to sexual situations that are beyond age-specific norms
11. Engages in promiscuous behavior and may be labeled "fast" by peers

Identify an Adult Trafficking Victim

Any adult having these potential indicators could be a victim of human trafficking.

1. Is fearful, anxious, depressed, tense, or nervous
2. Avoids eye contact
3. Has few or no personal possessions
4. Is not in control of own money or identification documents
5. Not allowed to speak for themselves
6. Numerous inconsistencies in his/her stories
7. If foreign national, their visa/passport has been taken from them for "safekeeping"
8. Unable to give street address of residence of where they live
9. Not free to leave or come and go as he/she wants
10. Works excessively long hours; paid through tips
11. Owes a large debt and unable to pay it off
12. Recruited through false pretenses, concerning the nature and condition of the work
13. High security exists including opaque windows, boarded up windows, bars on windows, security cameras, etc.
14. Large numbers of people living in house and there is a spokesperson for the group

Would You Know the Signs if You Saw Them?



The Top Ten Tactics Traffickers Use to Lure Their Victims

The Affection Lure Most children are abused by someone they know and trust. Pedophiles exploit these relationships and are experts at taking advantage of normal tensions between teenagers and parents as well as youngsters who face issues at home like divorce, substance abuse or neglect.

The Bribery Lure Pedophiles will often use gifts like candy, toys, CD's, drugs, money, etc. to persuade them to go willingly with a potential abductor or as a reward for tolerating abuse or keeping a secret.

The Hero Lure Predators exploit their "hero" status or individuals they admire like favorite teachers, coaches, relatives, family members or local celebrities, to abuse youngsters. Children may endure repeated abuse in order to maintain the "friendship" or keep their hero out of trouble.

The Computer/Online Lure Predators successfully lure children through the use of anonymous chat-rooms, social websites and email to learn a child's personal information and to arrange private, in-person meetings.

The Name Recognition Lure Well-meaning parents often mark backpacks, clothing and other belongings with nametags. Predators read the names and call the child by name, creating a false sense of familiarity and trust.

The Pornography Lure Pedophiles routinely introduce pornography to set the stage for abuse. Children of all ages are curious about sex, and it is not difficult to hold their attention with this material.

The Assistance Lure This appeals to the helpful nature of children when predators ask them for directions or a helping hand. Tell children that, generally speaking, adults should ask other adults for help. The best defense against this lure is pretending not to hear, then quickly leaving the area.

The Ego Lure Sex offenders will compliment a child or teen and offer them to audition or model for them in private and tell them to keep it a secret from their parents.

The Job Lure The offer of a high-paying, interesting or fun job may be just a trick to abuse or abduct children and particularly college students. Phony interviews are often scheduled in secluded locations or advertised with only a post office box.

The Playmate / Companion Lure Pedophiles may lure youngsters to their home with a party atmosphere providing toys, sports equipment, use of a swimming pool, etc. They may promote an "anything goes" attitude that can be very attractive to adolescents.

If you believe you've seen a case of modern-day slavery, please call the National Human Trafficking Center's toll-free hotline at

1-888-373-7888

Text 233733 (Text "help" or "info")

