



# Human Trafficking Prevention Texas

Recorded Video Home Study Course

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# Course Description

- “Human Trafficking Prevention” is an online recorded video continuing education course for health care professionals.
- This course focuses on defining the types of trafficking, vulnerability factors, health impacts, identification and assessment strategies, healthcare provider role in intervention, and resources available to individuals who are experiencing trafficking.

# Course Rationale

- This course is designed to equip health care professionals with the training needed to help detect potential victims of human trafficking and to provide them with adequate care and information regarding additional support services.
- It is designed to satisfy all of the training requirements mandated by Texas House Bill (HB) 2059.

# Goals and Objectives

1. Detail the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 as amended and identify the forms of human trafficking including sex and labor.
2. Define force, fraud, and coercion and differentiate between human trafficking and smuggling.
3. Recognize populations vulnerable to human trafficking, trafficker profiles, and recruitment techniques.

# Goals and Objectives Continued

4. Describe acute injuries, chronic medical problems, mental health issues, reproductive and sexual health concerns for victims of trafficking.
5. Identify barriers to disclosure, provider challenges, and opportunities related to identification and response.
6. Describe the role of trauma-informed care in trust-building and communication including appropriate language to assist with identification.
7. Recognize potential indicators of human trafficking.

# Goals and Objectives Continued

8. Describe strategies to assess safety, how to conduct private conversations with potential victims, and the importance of using professional interpreters.
9. Detail procedures for reporting cases using the National Human Trafficking Hotline, mandated reporter obligations, documentation, and law enforcement involvement.
10. Identify the importance of the health care provider role, survivor-centered, multidisciplinary referrals, and how to access state and community resources.



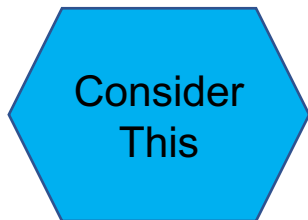
# Disclaimer

- Application of concepts presented in this webinar is at the discretion of the individual participant in accordance with federal, state, and professional regulations.

# Course Outline and Schedule

1-hour  
Recorded  
Video

Home Study  
Course



Topic	Time
<b>Definitions, Types of Trafficking, Dynamics, Vulnerability Factors</b>	0:00 – 0:20
<b>Trafficking Victims Protection Act</b>	
<b>Forms of Trafficking Including Labor and Sex</b>	
<b>Smuggling vs. Trafficking and Consent</b>	
<b>Force, Fraud and Coercion</b>	
<b>Involuntary Servitude and Debt Bondage</b>	
<b>Misconceptions and Limitations of Data</b>	
<b>Vulnerabilities to Trafficking</b>	
<b>Trafficker Profile and Recruitment Techniques</b>	
<b>Health Impacts</b>	
<b>Acute Injuries</b>	
<b>Chronic Medical Problems</b>	
<b>Mental Health Issues</b>	
<b>Reproductive and Sexual Health Concerns</b>	
<b>Quality of Life, Autonomy, and Independence</b>	0:31 – 0:50
<b>Identification and Assessment</b>	
<b>Clinical Settings Where Victims May be Encountered</b>	
<b>Challenges, Opportunities and Barriers to Disclosure</b>	
<b>Trauma Informed Care</b>	
<b>Indicators of Human Trafficking</b>	
<b>Safety and Law Enforcement Involvement</b>	
<b>Patient Centered/Trauma Informed Communication</b>	
<b>Appropriate Language and Professional Interpreters</b>	0:51 – 1:00
<b>Response and Follow-up</b>	
<b>Reporting Procedures and Obligations</b>	
<b>Health Care Provider Role and Documentation</b>	
<b>Survivor Centered Multidisciplinary Referrals</b>	
<b>Local Network Resources</b>	
<b>Organizational Protocols</b>	



# How to Obtain CEUs for this Course



- After viewing the course video, return to [www.cheapceus.com](http://www.cheapceus.com) to complete the post test.
- Multiple attempts permitted to achieve a score of at least 70%.
- Submit the online payment for the course and your print certificate.

# What is Human Trafficking?

- The recruitment, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining, by any means, a person for labor or services involving forced labor, slavery or servitude in any industry, domestic service or marriage.
- Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) was enacted to combat trafficking in persons.

(National Human Trafficking Hotline <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/what-human-trafficking>)  
(US Code Chapter 78 TVPA  
<https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/prelim@title22/chapter78&edition=prelim>)

# Health Care Provider Awareness

- Many victims access medical services during their trafficking situation and are unidentified by healthcare providers.



(Lederer, L. J., & Wetzel, C. A. (2014). The health consequences of sex trafficking and their implications for identifying victims in healthcare facilities. *Annals Health L.*, 23, 61. <https://tinyurl.com/yyr9z2ql>)

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# Forms of Human Trafficking

- Twenty-five types of human trafficking have been identified in the United States.

Domestic Work  
Commercial  
Cleaning

Landscaping  
Agriculture

Hotels  
Entertainment

Restaurants  
Manufacturing

Beauty  
Services  
Health  
Services

Sexual  
Servitude  
Commercial  
Sex

(Polaris. The Typology of Modern Slavery. <https://polarisproject.org/typology>)

# Severe Forms of Trafficking: Labor

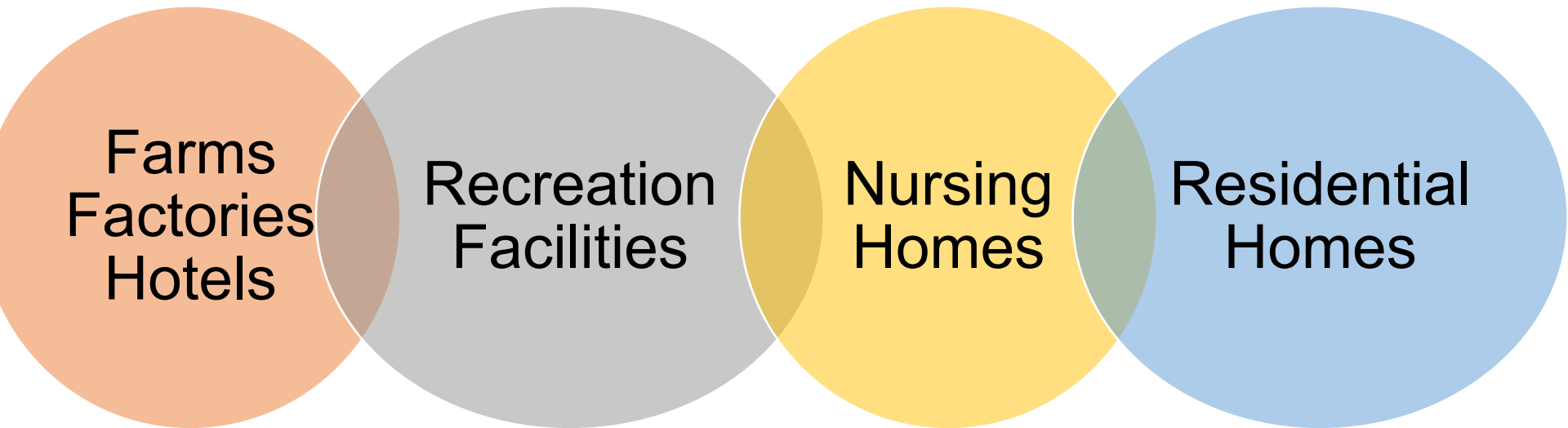
- The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. (22 U.S.C. § 7102(11)(B))



Image: <https://www.ovc.gov/pubs/FederalHumanTraffickingStrategicPlan.pdf>

# Labor Trafficking

- This form of modern-day slavery includes situations where individuals are forced to work against their will in many industries.



(National Human Trafficking Hotline  
<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/type-trafficking/labor-trafficking>)

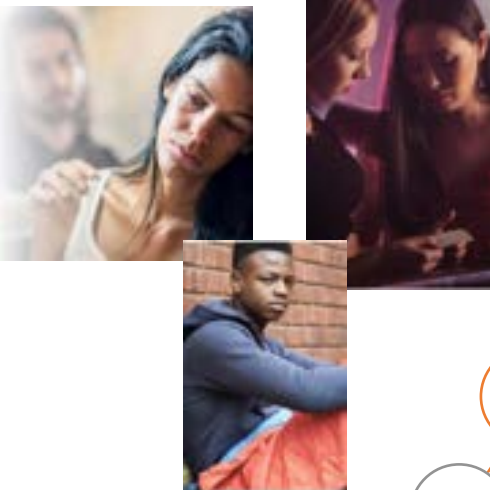
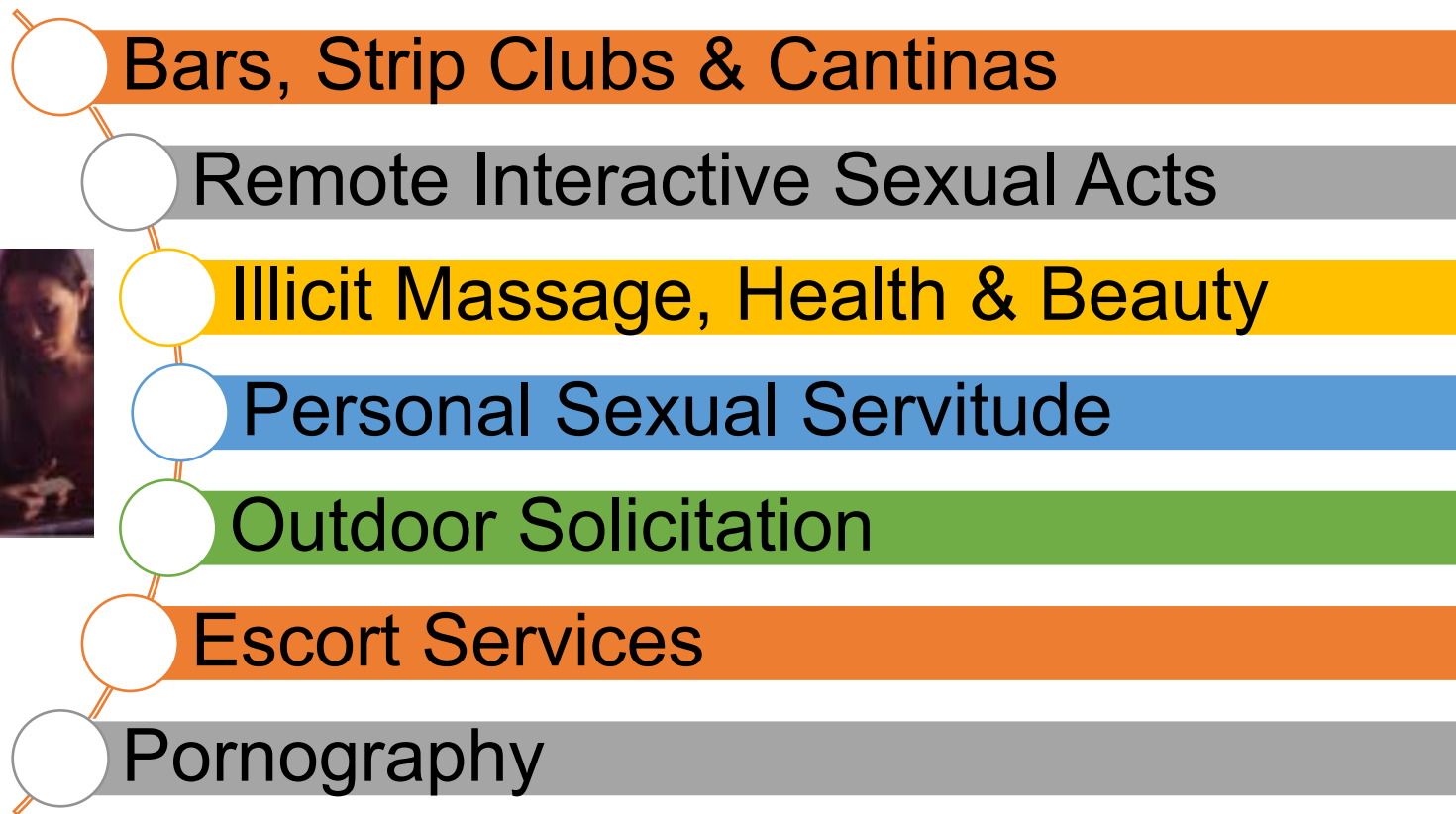
# Severe Forms of Trafficking: Sex

- A commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age.  
(22 U.S.C. § 7102(11)(A))

- The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act.  
(22 U.S.C. § 7102(12))

# Sex Trafficking

- A commercial sex act is any sex act on account of which anything of value is given to or received by any person. (22 U.S.C. § 7102(4))





# Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

- Any minor under the age of 18 who is induced to perform a commercial sex act is a victim of human trafficking regardless of whether there is force, fraud or coercion. (18 U.S.C. §§ 1591, 2251, 2423(C))
- This includes sexual activity for the financial benefit of any person or in exchange for anything of value given or received by any person.



(US Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention  
<https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/programs/commercial-sexual-exploitation-children>)

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Image: <https://www.ovc.gov/pubs/FederalHumanTraffickingStrategicPlan.pdf>  
[https://www.usfa.fema.gov/current\\_events/110818.html](https://www.usfa.fema.gov/current_events/110818.html)

# Post-Test Question #1

Which of the following is a criminal act that is classified as Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children?

- A. Sexual activity with a minor in exchange for food or shelter.
- B. Internet-based marriage brokering of a minor.
- C. Commercial sex act by a minor without any force, fraud, or coercion.
- D. All of the above

Please pause the video for a moment to consider your response to this question.

# Smuggling vs. Human Trafficking

- Smuggling and human trafficking may be related but are not the same crimes.
- Trafficking does not require crossing international or state borders.



(US Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
<https://www.ice.gov/factsheets/human-trafficking>)

# Smuggling vs. Trafficking Differences

## Smuggling



- Transportation
- Crime against country
- Individual acting of own free will

## Trafficking



- Exploitation
- Crime against individual
- Non-consensual with indefinite exploitation

(US Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
<https://www.ice.gov/factsheets/human-trafficking>)

# Consent

- Initial consent is not relevant to the crime or if the victim of sex trafficking is a minor.
- Sex trafficking is exploitation and differs from consensual commercial sex.
  - These adults willing participate in sex work that does not affect their human rights.

(Laboratory to Combat Human Trafficking. <https://combathumantrafficking.org/about-human-trafficking/#1479842398765-e96b3a3e-5d922f6a-e4a6>)

(Stop the Traffik <https://www.stopthetraffik.org/sex-trafficking-vs-sex-work-understanding-difference/>)

## Post-Test Question #2

Which statement is TRUE regarding human trafficking?

- A. The majority of trafficking victims receive medical services.
- B. Sexual exploitation is a component of all human trafficking.
- C. Labor trafficking only occurs in large industries.
- D. Smuggling and human trafficking are synonymous terms.

Please pause the video for a moment to consider your response to this question.

“My boyfriend (got me involved). He is very manipulating with his words and he very quickly over time made me feel worthless and made me feel like I couldn’t do anything so he pushed me in that direction. Saying it was my way to help out to pay bills. He would say I am helping now. I went along with it to make him happy with me.”

~ Anonymous Survivor

US Department of Justice Office of Justice Services. Amber Alert: Understanding the Perspective of the Victim: Recognizing the Complexity of Sex Trafficking Situations. <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh176/files/pubs/252021.pdf>

# How Traffickers Control Victims

## Force

- Physical restraint, physical harm, sexual assault, and beatings.

## Fraud

- False promises regarding employment, wages, working conditions, love, marriage, or better life.



(US Department of Health & Human Services Office on Trafficking in Persons <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/resource/fshumantrafficking>)

Image: <https://www.andersen.af.mil/News/Features/Article/1359504/what-hurts-one-affects-all/>



# Coercion

- Threats of serious harm to or physical restraint against any person and psychological manipulation.
- Document confiscation
- Shame and fear-inducing threats to share information or pictures with others or report to authorities.

(US Department of Health & Human Services Office on Trafficking in Persons <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/resource/fshumantrafficking>)

Image: <https://www.andersen.af.mil/News/Features/Article/1359504/what-hurts-one-affects-all/>

# Involuntary Servitude

- Person believes that, if they did not enter into or continue in such condition, they or another person would suffer serious harm or abuse of the legal process. (22 U.S.C. § 7102(8))



# Debt Bondage

- Pledge of personal services as a security for debt, if the value of those services as reasonably assessed is not applied toward the liquidation of the debt. (22 U.S.C. § 7102(7))



# Limitations of Data

- Existing data is not sufficient to fully identify the extent of human trafficking in the United States.
- The complex nature of the crimes poses challenges for investigation.
- Identification of cases relies on effective counter-trafficking responses.



(Migration Data Portal <https://migrationdataportal.org/themes/human-trafficking>)

# Limited Victim Identification

- Data is also limited by victims misidentified as criminals or undocumented migrants.
- Those who suffer are not likely to self-identify.

“I lost my job and I had no place to live. I didn’t have money to support myself to keep myself alive.”

“I’ve always had someone in my family or a family friend do things to me growing up, so when a pimp and I started talking it just went from there.”

~ Anonymous Survivors

US Department of Justice Office of Justice Services. Amber Alert: Understanding the Perspective of the Victim: Recognizing the Complexity of Sex Trafficking Situations. <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh176/files/pubs/252021.pdf>

# Misconceptions: Facts

- Greater percentage of reported cases are adults and a significant percentage are males.
- The greatest percentage of human trafficking is labor-related.
- Half had contact with health care professional and NONE self identified



Consider This

# Post-Test Question #3

The largest percentage of human trafficking is related to \_\_\_\_\_.

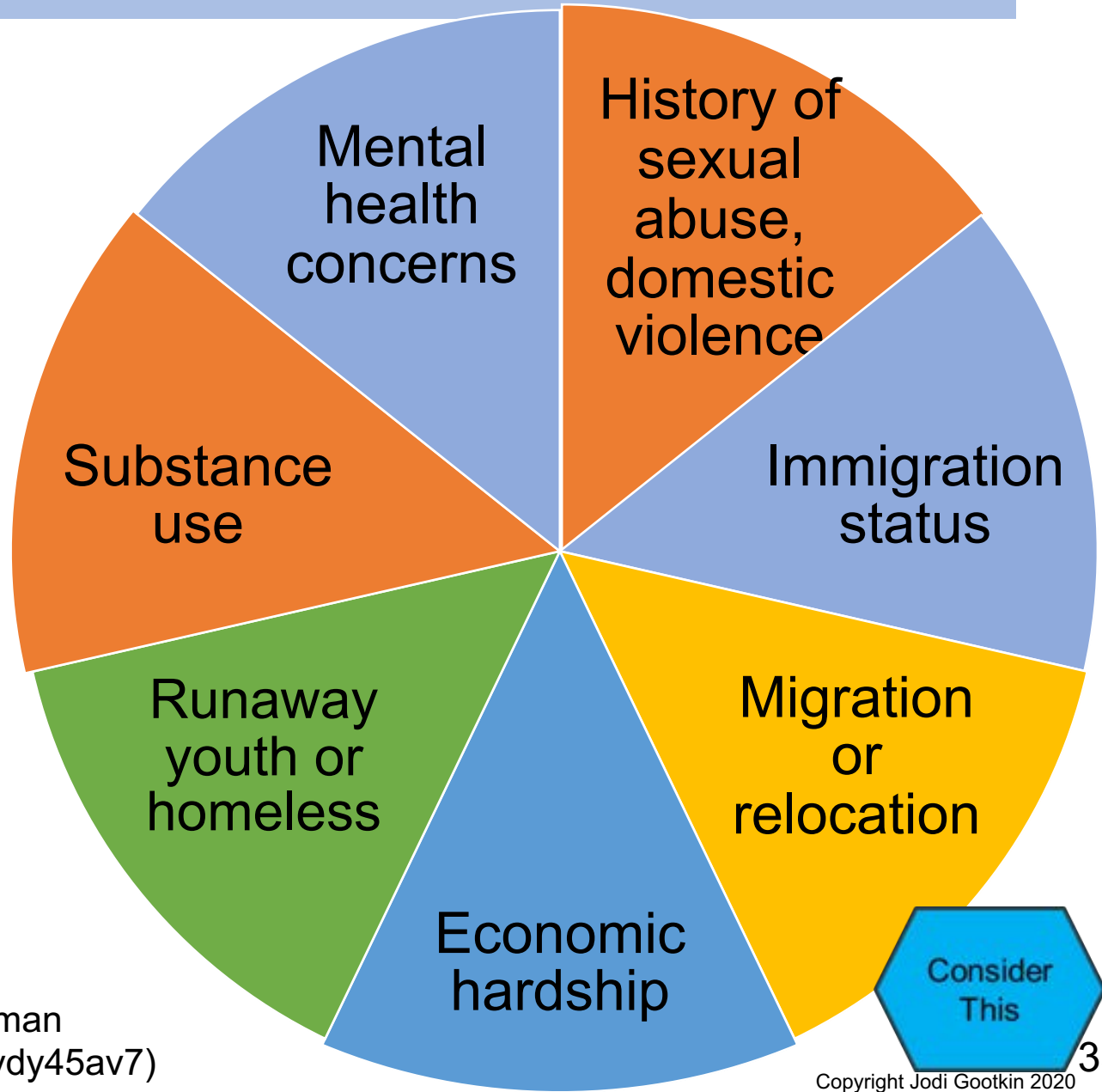
- A. Sex
- B. Labor
- C. Political asylum
- D. Religious freedom

Please pause the video for a moment to consider your response to this question.



# What Makes an Individual Vulnerable

- Victims can be any age or gender, US citizens, lawful permanent residents, or foreign nationals.



(Department of Health & Human Services <https://tinyurl.com/ydy45av7>)

# Trafficker Profile

- Perpetrators can be family members, friends, partners, acquaintances, strangers, or business owners.
- The trafficker may be more powerful and wealthy or of the same socioeconomic oppression as their victims.



(Texas Human Trafficking Resource Center

<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/safety/texas-human-trafficking-resource-center>)

Image: <https://www.hrsa.gov/enews/past-issues/2018/april-19/hidden-in-plain-sight.html>

# Recruitment Techniques

People are lured by grand, false promises of employment, financial benefits, and a better life.

No contract or in another language

Recruitment fees

Fast-moving asymmetric romantic relationship

Showering with gifts or money

Too good to be true job offer

Requirement to move far away without details


(Polaris <https://polarisproject.org/recognizing-human-trafficking-vulnerabilities-recruitment/>)

# Post-Test Question #4

Which of the following is a vulnerability that is frequently targeted and exploited by traffickers?

- A. Questionable immigration status
- B. Economic hardship
- C. Homelessness
- D. All of the above

Please pause the video for a moment to consider your response to this question.

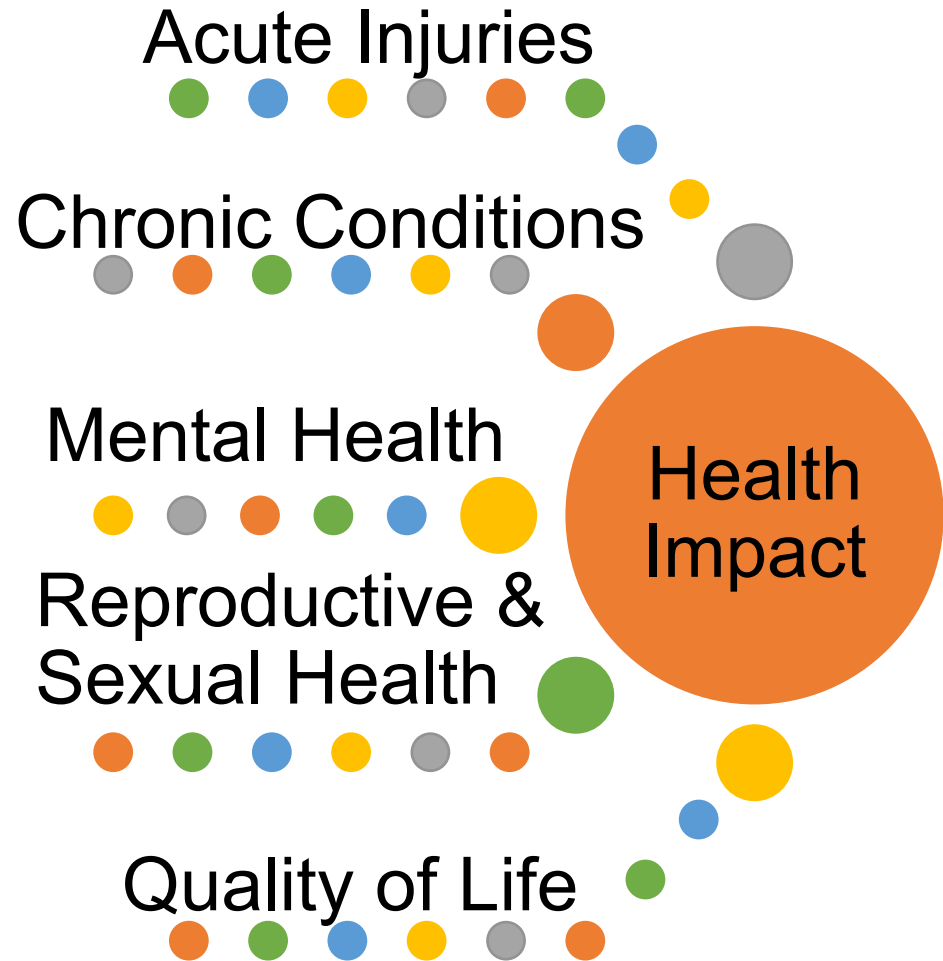


“The trafficker, a former resident of Georgia and a citizen of Nigeria, traveled to her home country in 2001 and enticed a 17-year old girl to come to the U.S. to work as her nanny. Once here, she abused the girl, beating her for not cleaning well, for not responding fast enough to her crying child, and for talking back to her. ”

United States Department of Homeland Security. Blue Campaign: What is Human Trafficking Human Interest Stories. <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/human-interest-stories>

# Health Impact

- Traffickers “condition” their victims and individuals face numerous health risks.



# Acute Injuries

- Dehydration and exhaustion
- Infections or mutilations from previous procedures
- Physical injuries from abuse

(US Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children & Families. Rescue & Restore Campaign Resources: Common Health Issues Seen in Victims of Trafficking. [https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/health\\_problems\\_seen\\_in\\_traffick\\_victims.pdf](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/health_problems_seen_in_traffick_victims.pdf))

# Chronic Medical Problems

- Malnutrition
- Chronic pain
- Respiratory issues
- Dental issues
- Hearing and vision problems
- Substance abuse or addictions

(US Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children & Families. Rescue & Restore Campaign Resources: Common Health Issues Seen in Victims of Trafficking. [https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/health\\_problems\\_seen\\_in\\_traffick\\_victims.pdf](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/health_problems_seen_in_traffick_victims.pdf))



# Mental Health Issues

- Depression and anxiety disorders
- Post-traumatic stress disorder
- Disorientation and confusion
- Phobias and panic attacks
- Helplessness, shame, denial
- Culture shock

(US Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children & Families. Rescue & Restore Campaign Resources: Common Health Issues Seen in Victims of Trafficking. [https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/health\\_problems\\_seen\\_in\\_traffick\\_victims.pdf](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/health_problems_seen_in_traffick_victims.pdf))

# Reproductive and Sexual Health

- Sexually transmitted diseases
- HIV/AIDS
- Pelvic pain
- Rectal trauma
- Urinary difficulties
- Pregnancy
- Infertility

(US Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children & Families. Rescue & Restore Campaign Resources: Common Health Issues Seen in Victims of Trafficking. [https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/health\\_problems\\_seen\\_in\\_traffick\\_victims.pdf](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/health_problems_seen_in_traffick_victims.pdf))



# Quality of Life and Autonomy

- Dangers of re-exploitation and re-traumatization
- Regaining power
- Finding personal strength
- Appreciating life experiences

# Path to Independence


Relationship  
development

Peer-  
support

Survivor  
leadership

Post  
Traumatic  
Growth

(Evans, Heather R. DSW, "From the Voices of Domestic Sex Trafficking Survivors: Experiences of Complex Trauma & Posttraumatic Growth" (2019). Doctorate in Social Work (DSW) Dissertations. 126. [https://repository.upenn.edu/edissertations\\_sp2/126](https://repository.upenn.edu/edissertations_sp2/126))



“It was never your fault no matter what, so let go of the toxic shame—it doesn’t belong to you. You are never too old, too lost, or too broken to begin healing today. Hope is the key and even if it starts out as small as a mustard seed, nurture hope—it will save you. And most importantly—you are not alone, you are not alone, you are not alone.”

~ Judge Robert Lung, Survivor and Former Member of the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking

(United States Department of State. (2020). Trafficking in Persons Report 2020. <https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020-TIP-Report-Complete-062420-FINAL.pdf>)

# Health Care Provider Role

- Health care providers can become the first point of contact in identifying and connecting with victims.



(Texas Office of the Attorney General. (2008). The Texas Response to Human Trafficking Report to the 81st Legislature.

[https://www2.texasattorneygeneral.gov/files/agency/human\\_trafficking\\_2008.pdf](https://www2.texasattorneygeneral.gov/files/agency/human_trafficking_2008.pdf) )

# Clinical Settings

- There are several settings where trafficked persons may be encountered
  - Emergency department, primary care and dental offices, nursing homes
  - Establishments providing massage services and massage therapy schools

(Committee on Commerce, Science, And Transportation US Senate 115 Congress. (2017). Senate Hearing 115-282: Force Multipliers: How Transportation And Supply Chain Stakeholders Are Combatting Human Trafficking. <https://tinyurl.com/y49sh2pj>)

# Survivor Barriers to Disclosure



Self-blame

Lack of trust

Law enforcement action or deportation

Isolation and threats with harm

Language barriers





# Challenges to Identification and Response

- Health care professionals must understand the mindset of victims to guide interactions.
- Resist making a quick judgement based on an initial encounter.
- Become aware of how to recognize individuals who are experiencing human trafficking.

# Victim Mindset



## Fear

Unaware of  
crime  
Safety

## Coping Mechanisms

Loyalties  
toward  
trafficker

## Isolation

Language  
barriers  
Unaware of  
location

(US Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children & Families. Rescue & Restore Campaign <https://tinyurl.com/yygrt9pt>)

# Trauma Informed Care

Supports victim  
rights and  
dignity



Trust building and  
communication

Minimize  
additional  
trauma

Bring traffickers  
to justice

(Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center. Human Trafficking Task Force e-Guide – Strengthening Collaborative Responses. <https://www.ovcttac.gov/taskforceguide/eguide/>


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# Post-Test Question #5

Which of the following is NOT a component of Trauma Informed Care?

- A. Supporting victims' rights and dignity.
- B. Minimizing additional trauma to the victim.
- C. Holding the victim legally accountable for their actions.
- D. Building trust and communication.

Please pause the video for a moment to consider your response to this question.



“You’re worth something. You’re very important to someone. No matter what he says, it’s not true. You’re worth something.”

~ Tonya, Survivor

US Department of Homeland Security ICE. (2017). Human Trafficking Victim Shares Story. <https://www.ice.gov/features/human-trafficking-victim-shares-story>

# Indicators of Human Trafficking

- Recognizing the red flags can identify victims to get them assistance.
- Not all indicators are present in every situation.
- The presence or absence of any of the indicators is not necessarily proof of human trafficking.



(National Human Trafficking Resources Center. (2016) Framework for Human Trafficking Protocol in Healthcare Settings. <https://tinyurl.com/y3jtty7g>)

# Red Flags – Living Conditions

- Not free to leave or come and go at will.
- Owing a large debt and unable to pay it off.
- Living and working on site and/or environment with high security measures.



# Red Flags – Work Conditions

- Forced to perform sex acts or juvenile engaged in commercial sex.
- Unusual restrictions, daily quotas, no breaks.
- Not paid directly and/or paid very little.
- Not given proper safety equipment.





# Red Flags - Mental Health and Behavior

- Fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive.
- Exhibiting unusually behavior after bringing up law enforcement or immigration officials.
- Showing signs of substance use or addiction.



# Red Flags – Physical

- Inappropriate attire for age or environment.
- Poor hygiene, malnourishment.
- Signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture.
- Unusual tattoos or branding.



Image: <https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dshs.texas.gov%2Fgrandrounds%2FGR-5-7-2014-slides.pdf&psig=AOvVaw14fe39v9OMP7fIUCiTzMc&ust=1576014970003000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAMQjB1qFwoTCNCxLnHqeYCFQAAAAdAAAAABAX> <https://www.justice.gov/elderjustice/video/collecting-evidence-physical-abuse-neglect-cases>  
[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/ag/2013\\_Human\\_Trafficking\\_Commission\\_Report\\_439218\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/ag/2013_Human_Trafficking_Commission_Report_439218_7.pdf) Flickr cropped Osseous <https://flic.kr/p/wH5RjX>

# Red Flags – Lack of Control

- Frequently monitored and isolated from friends or family.
- Scripted stories or not allowed to speak for themselves.
- Lacking personal possessions.
- Not in control of their own money and identification documents.




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# Post-Test Question #6

Which of the following is considered a “red flag” for human trafficking?

- A. Working a difficult and tedious job for minimum wage.
- B. Continuous monitoring and not being in control of their own identification documents.
- C. Having many tattoos.
- D. Being a foreign national and living in a poor neighborhood.

Please pause the video for a moment to consider your response to this question.



I just felt like that it was my fault and I deserved it and nobody would ever believe me or try to help me, so I just let them control how I thought about myself. They were always verbally abusive and putting you down and it got to the point that I actually started believing it. Just letting someone control your own freedom take over just what you do.”

~ April, Survivor

US Department of Homeland Security ICE. (2017). Human Trafficking Victim Shares Story. <https://www.ice.gov/features/human-trafficking-victim-shares-story>

# Clinician and Patient Safety

- If you identify red flags, assess safety before acting.  
Questions to consider:
  - Is the trafficker present?
  - Does the patient believe anyone else is in danger?
  - Is the patient a minor?



# Course of Action

- If you are unsure if the individual is experiencing trafficking and you can safely obtain more information, then do so to determine your course of action.
- If you have a concern that such a conversation would put you or any other person in danger, then make the call to report instead.

# Law Enforcement Involvement

- If someone is in immediate danger, call 911.
- Contacting law enforcement may not always be in a victim's best interest.
- Individuals may need services and support not law enforcement investigation to aid them in escaping their situation.



(US Department of Homeland Security. Blue Campaign. Identifying a Victim. <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/identify-victim>

Image: <https://www.ice.gov/features/human-trafficking-victim-shares-story>



# Legal Implications

- Trafficking victims can be arrested for crimes such as prostitution, possession of weapons and drugs.
- A criminal record may impact the individual's future employment, child custody, and government benefits.

(Polaris. The Importance of Criminal Record Relief for Human Trafficking Survivors. <https://polarisproject.org/blog/2019/03/the-importance-of-criminal-record-relief-for-human-trafficking-survivors/>)

# Post-Test Question #7

What step should you do immediately if an individual demonstrates several “red flags” for being a possible victim of human trafficking?

- A. Quickly relocate the person to another facility and assure them it is for their safety.
- B. Always Call 911
- C. Before proceeding, assess the situation for potential danger and safety considerations.
- D. Tell the potential victim about their legal and civil rights.

Please pause the video for a moment to consider your response to this question.

# Strategies for Private Conversations

- Before questioning suspected victims, discretely separate the patient from the individual accompanying her/him.
- Engage the patient/client assuring their safety.
- Meet the person's physical needs.




(Konstantopoulos, W, Owens, J. (2018). Adult Human Trafficking Screening Tool and Guide funded by U.S. HHS Administration for Children and Families, Office on Trafficking in Persons. <https://tinyurl.com/y4mzk9l7>)

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# Trauma Informed Communication

- Avoid touching the person.
- Adopt an open and nonthreatening body positioning.
- Use respectful empathetic language.
- Do not pressure the individual to talk or probe for unnecessary detail.



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(Konstantopoulos, W, Owens, J. (2018). Adult Human Trafficking Screening Tool and Guide funded by U.S. HHS Administration for Children and Families, Office on Trafficking in Persons. <https://tinyurl.com/y4mzk9l7>)

# Appropriate Language for Identification

- Start at the edges of his/her experience.

Can you leave your job or situation if you want?

Can you come and go as you please?

What are your working or living conditions like?

Where do you sleep and eat?

(US HHS Administration for Children & Families. Rescue & Restore Campaign Look Beneath The Surface [https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/health\\_care\\_provider\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/health_care_provider_brochure.pdf))

# Language for Follow-up Questions

Do you need permission to eat, sleep or use the bathroom?

Is there a lock on your door so you cannot get out?

Have you been threatened if you try to leave?

Has anyone threatened your family?

(US HHS Administration for Children & Families. Rescue & Restore Campaign Look Beneath The Surface [https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/health\\_care\\_provider\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/health_care_provider_brochure.pdf))

# Professional Interpreters

- Enlist the help of a staff member who speaks the patient's language and understands their culture.
- Ensure the interpreter for conflicts of interest including knowing the victim or traffickers.



(US HHS Administration for Children & Families. Rescue & Restore Campaign  
Resources: Screening Tool for Victims of Human Trafficking. <https://tinyurl.com/y3ddjtbg>)

# Post-Test Question #8

When trying to establish a relationship with an individual you suspect may be a human trafficking victim, you should \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Meet the person's physical needs.
- B. Ask probing questions so that you may thoroughly document the situation.
- C. Avoid going into private spaces with the suspected victim.
- D. Demonstrate an authoritative posture and language.

Please pause the video for a moment to consider your response to this question.



# Reporting Options

- Multiple options are available for the individual or practitioner to contact for assistance.
  - Law Enforcement
  - National Human Trafficking Hotline
  - State Agencies

# Reporting: National Human Trafficking Hotline

- Text: **HELP** or **INFO** to **233733 ( BEFREE )**
- Call: **1-888-3737-888**
- Website: **humantraffickinghotline.org**
- Email: **help@humantraffickinghotline.org**



# Reporting: Texas Resources

Law enforcement or local district attorney's office at non-emergency number.

**Department of Public Safety (DPS) Headquarters**  
**(512) 424-2211** or local region office

[https://www.dps.texas.gov/administration/staff\\_support/victimservices/pages/victimservicescounselors.htm](https://www.dps.texas.gov/administration/staff_support/victimservices/pages/victimservicescounselors.htm)

(Texas Office of the Attorney General.

<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/initiatives/human-trafficking>)

# Reporting: Texas Resources Continued

**Department of Child Protective Services**  
**1-800-252-5400** or Texas Abuse Hotline Online

<https://www.txabusehotline.org/>

**Office of the Attorney General**  
Human Trafficking and Transnational/Organized  
Crime Section  
**(512) 463-1646**

Email: [humantrafficking@oag.texas.gov](mailto:humantrafficking@oag.texas.gov)

(Texas Office of the Attorney General.  
<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/initiatives/human-trafficking>)

# Mandatory Reporter Obligations

- HIPAA protects patient confidentiality.
- It was not designed to prevent the reporting of trauma and crimes.
- All states require reporting of child trafficking to law enforcement.



(US HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. Public Health Emergency: Human Trafficking & Health Professionals: Questions and Answers. <https://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/planning/abc/Pages/human-trafficking-faqs.aspx>)

# Mandatory Reporter Obligations Continued

- Be aware of the requirements where you practice.
- Calling a hotline does not meet the legal requirement in states requiring mandatory reporting.
  - Local law enforcement must be contacted.




(US HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. Public Health Emergency: Human Trafficking & Health Professionals: Questions and Answers. <https://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/planning/abc/Pages/human-trafficking-faqs.aspx>)

# Post-Test Question #9

Who should you contact if you suspect that a child is a victim of human trafficking?

- A. Local community outreach group
- B. Facility human resources department
- C. Law enforcement agency
- D. National Human Trafficking Hotline

Please pause the video for a moment to consider your response to this question.



“I had to learn that if I don’t at least have some kind of love and value for myself, no one ever will. My advice to other girls would be to let people help you. It’s not your fault and that you didn’t deserve it. ”

~ Laura, Survivor

US Department of Homeland Security ICE. (2017). Human Trafficking Victim Shares Story. <https://www.ice.gov/features/human-trafficking-victim-shares-story>





# Provider Role in Intervention & Response

- Clinicians should understand the dynamics of human trafficking, know what questions to ask, and have appropriate resources to offer victims.
- Appropriate coding of medical encounters aids the collection of data on forced labor or sexual exploitation.

(Texas Health and Human Services. Texas Human Trafficking Resource Center.

# Importance of Appropriate Documentation

- Tracking confirmed or suspected cases allows health care systems to serve as a partner to eliminate trafficking.
  - Identify victim needs
  - Inform public policy
  - Support service and resource development

(American Hospital Association. (2018). ICD-10-CM Coding for Human Trafficking. [https://www.aha.org/system/files/media/file/2019/04/AHA-Fact-Sheet-icd-10-code-human-trafficking.updated\\_1.pdf](https://www.aha.org/system/files/media/file/2019/04/AHA-Fact-Sheet-icd-10-code-human-trafficking.updated_1.pdf))

# Survivor Centered Multidisciplinary Referrals

- Organization and community resources can empower victims to leave their situation and support establishing a new life.

Law enforcement investigation

Legal services

Food, shelter, healthcare

Counseling, education

Consider  
This

# National Resources

National Human Trafficking Hotline

<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/>

Office for Victims of Crime

<https://ovc.ojp.gov/program/human-trafficking/victimssurvivors#u1s1ss7>

Trafficking Victim Assistance Program

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/victim-assistance/victim-assistance-grants>

# Local Resources

Trusted local programs can spread awareness, identify victims, and support reintegration.

National Human Trafficking Hotline Referral Directory  
<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/training-resources/referral-directory>

Office for Victims of Crime Services Database  
<https://ovc.ojp.gov/program/human-trafficking/victimssurvivors#u1s1ss7>

# Organizational Protocols

- Implement a policy to see patients alone for part of every visit.
- Educate staff on how to identify and report suspected cases, and resources to address victim's needs.



# Protocol Development Resources

DHS - Blue Campaign <https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/about-blue-campaign>

HHS - SOAR (Stop, Observe, Ask, Respond) Training  
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/training/soar-to-health-and-wellness-training>

ACF - Rescue & Restore Tool Kits  
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/archive/otip/resource/about-rescue-restore>

HEAL Trafficking - Health, Education, Advocacy, Linkage <https://healtrafficking.org/>


# Post-Test Question #10

Which services are available for victims of human trafficking?

- A. Counseling and education
- B. Food and shelter
- C. Healthcare
- D. All of the above

Please pause the video for a moment to consider your response to this question.





“It’s a place where they feel community, find healing and receive services. It is the place I found community, and where a lot of my story and path to healing began.”

~Kyra Doubek, Survivor

Doubek, Kyra and Kellogg, Chelsea. (2017), Seattle Human Services Human Interests Blog: Empowered Women Empower Women. <https://humaninterests.seattle.gov/2017/02/16/empowered-women-empower-women-by-kyra-doubek/>

# Conclusion

- By identifying victims and reporting tips, you are helping rescue victims, and you might save a life.
- Health care providers not only can serve victims, but also help solve the trafficking problem.



(National Conference on State Legislatures. Human Trafficking and the Health Care System. <https://tinyurl.com/y2oef4kp>)

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