



JUNE 15, 2023



RAISING CANE'S RIVER CENTER | BATON ROUGE, LA

Overview and Learning Goals

- Gain a greater understanding of the issue of human trafficking and its prevalence in schools and communities
- Learn about indicators and warning signs of trafficking involvement
- Learn about prevention strategies
- Learn about reporting mechanisms

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What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is the crime of using force, fraud, or coercion to induce another person into commercial sex acts or labor services against their will; or to induce a person under the age of 21 into commercial sex acts.*

Two major types of trafficking:

- <u>Sex trafficking</u> in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 21 years of age (LA RS 14:46.2 and RS 14: 46.3).
- <u>Labor trafficking</u> in which a person is induced to perform labor or services through force, fraud, or coercion. (RS 14:46.2)

*Any person under the age of 21 that is engaged in commercial sexual activity is considered a victim of crime.



Common Misconceptions

- Happens only in other countries
- Happens only to women or girls
- Power is always maintained through drugs or physical force
- Movement is required for trafficking
- Labor trafficking is less common, does not happen here, is less traumatic
- Traffickers are always strangers
- Trafficking doesn't happen at home
- Victim behavior causes trafficking
- All survivors present the same way



What Does Human Trafficking Look Like?

- Any individual selling a person in their home, neighborhood, hotel, etc., in exchange for anything of value
- A child exchanging a sex act for anything of value
- Familial trafficking
- Children exploited through pornographic images*
- Forced criminal activity
- Intersection of sex trafficking and labor trafficking or forced labor
- *Meets the state definition of child sex trafficking





Sex Trafficking and Sexual Assault

On the Rise: Sextortion

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Sextortion, or sexual extortion, is a crime that occurs where a person is coerced or blackmailed into sending money, sharing additional explicit sexual content, or engaging in sexual activity.

 Often, this happens when a child shares a sexual or nude image to someone online, and they threaten to disseminate the image without their consent, unless the child meets their request.



Recruiting Can Happen Anywhere

- Social media
- Gaming with live chat
- Home, neighborhood, on the street
- Foster homes, group homes
- Juvenile detention centers
- Runaway and homeless youth shelters
- Schools and bus stops
- Anywhere people congregate





Online Recruitment and Exploitation

Know what grooming looks like:

- An adult engaging in sexual conversations with a minor
- Sharing sexually explicit images and/or trading money/gifts for images.
- Promises or job offers that seem too good to be true.

Know how to spot false job opportunities (legal or illegal)

- The payment and the job description do not seem to match (for example, a high hourly salary for a typically low-paying job).
- The employer does not request any information about your previous work experience.
- The employer asks for a photo of you as part of the application process, or asks a lot of personal questions about you that are not relevant to the potential job.
- The employer tells you not to tell anyone about the job or asks you to lie about your age.

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Vulnerabilities

Anyone can experience human trafficking, but some people are at higher risk than others.

- Childhood trauma
- Youth with runaway behavior or homelessness
- System involvement
- LGBTQIA+
- Immigrant or undocumented
- People with disabilities
- Substance use disorders and/or mental health disorders
- Poverty



Risk Factors

Individual

- Previous abuse
- Running from home
- Loss of caregiver
- Homelessness
- Truancy
- Foster system involvement

Societal

- Racism, sexism, homophobia/transphobia, ableism, xenophobia, and other forms of discrimination
- Poor labor protections
- Poverty
- Lack of resources
- Criminalization of vulnerable communities





Victim Identification and Reporting

Barriers to Identification

Victims often don't self-identify as victims

- Fear
- Safety
- Shame, humiliation
- Trauma-bond to the trafficker
- Distrust in systems/ individuals
- Do not see the trafficking as trauma compared to other life events
- Language barriers
- Cultural barriers



Potential Indicators

- Frequent truancy or running behavior
- Fearful, anxious, or submissive behavior
- Tattoos that they are reluctant to explain
- Evidence of controlling relationships, older boy/girlfriend
- Unexplained/suspicious injuries or health complications
- Scripted or recited story
- Physical exhaustion, malnourishment
- Not in possession of identification/ lies about identity
- Mentions not being paid for work or working in dangerous conditions
- Travel with an older male who is not a guardian

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Screening to Identify Potential Victims

• Screening tools are research and evidence-based tools to help professionals identify potential victims and provide them with services.

Louisiana provider use two main tools:

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- 1. West Coast Clinic's Commercial Sexual Exploitation Identification Tool (CSE-IT) training required for use.
- 2. Louisiana Indicator Tool for Child and Youth Labor Trafficking training encouraged.



16

Prevention

Prevention curriculums focused on:

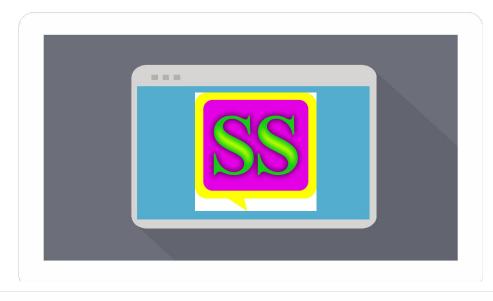
- online safety
- safe relationships
- sex education
- Understand the risk factors
- Know what to do and who to contact to report it
- Expand awareness in your community
- Understand how vulnerable communities are impacted





Reporting: Safe Schools App

You can make a report through the Crimestoppers Safe Schools Louisiana mobile app or at www.safeschoolsla.com





Your report will be read and responded to 24/7.



What to Report?

- Anger Issues / Hostility
- Bullying / Cyberbullying
- Child Abuse
- Dating Violence
- Depression / Anxiety
- Distribution of Inappropriate Photos
- Domestic Violence
- Drug Use
- Eating Disorder
- Gang Violence
- Guns / Weapons
- Hate Crime / Hate Speech
- Hazing
- Homelessness

- Human Trafficking
- Location of Missing Child / Student
- Physical Abuse
- Planned Fight
- Planned Party
- Planned School Attack
- Reckless Behavior
- Sexual Assault / Rape
- Skipping School / Truancy
- Smoking / Vaping / e-Cigs
- Suicide Threat
- Terrorism Threat / Ideation
- Theft / Stealing



Guns 🔿	=		Model
Harassment 🔶	Call 911 if this is an emergency.		
Hit list 🔿	Description of Concern/Event	Snapchat Username	Year
Homicide			
Human Trafficking Click arrow	>	Facebook User ID	Color
Knife		Other Social Media (Please include handles/usernames if known.)	License Plate
Planned Fights	Who is Involved?		
Planned Parties	First Name	Anything else about this person that might help	State
Planned School Attack		in identifying or helping them?	
Reckless Driving	Last Name		Description (any identifying marks, bumper stickers, company logos, etc.)
School Complaint	Grade	Vehicle Make	
Self-Harm 🔶		Wate	Additional Information
Sexting 🔶	Gender	Model	When / Time of Occurrence
Sexual Assault			Where / Location
Sexual Misconduct 🔶	Race/Ethnicity	Year	
Shooting 🔷			Attachment (Optional)
Stealing -	Twitter Handle	Color	Browse No file selected
Suicide 🔶		License Plate	Submit
	Instagram Handle		

National Human Trafficking Hotline is a national, toll-free hotline, available to answer calls, texts, emails, and live chats from anywhere in the United States, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in more than 200 languages.

Call 1-888-373-7888 | Text 233733 (Befree) | Live Chat

NCMEC's CyberTipline is the nation's centralized reporting system for the online exploitation of children. Make reports of suspected online enticement of children for sexual acts, child sexual abuse material, child sex trafficking, unsolicited obscene materials sent to a child, and misleading words or digital images on the internet, etc.

Make a report to the CyberTipline report.cybertip.org/



Louisiana State Police Reporting

- Suspicious or Criminal Activity Reporting on the LSP Website <u>www.lsp.org</u>
- See Something, Send Something (S4) Mobile Application for IOS and Android devices (aka My Mobile Witness)
- WeTip
- Crime Stoppers 800-222-1111
- Louisiana Homeland Security Hotline 1-800-434-8007





Reporting: DCFS Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline

As of January 1, 2023, DCFS will receive all calls of child sex trafficking. Mandatory reporters must report all cases of suspected or alleged sex trafficking to DCFS, regardless of parent or caretaker culpability.

To report a case of suspected sex trafficking, call the DCFS child abuse/neglect hotline at **855-452-5437**, then select **option #4.** The hotline is toll-free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. DCFS reports cases of confirmed or suspected trafficking to Louisiana State Police and to Care Coordination services.



Learn more about Act 662 and reporting to DCFS at <u>www.dcfs.la.gov/page/juvenile-sex-trafficking</u>

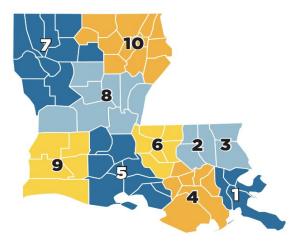




Resources and Services

Care Coordination Services for Minor and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking

- 1- Orleans: New Orleans Children's Advocacy Center
- 2- Covington I: Child Advocacy Services
- **3- Covington II**: Hope House Children's Advocacy Center
- 4- Thibodaux: Terrebonne Children's Advocacy Center
- 5- Lafayette: Hearts of Hope
- 6- Baton Rouge: Baton Rouge Children's Advocacy Center
- 7- Shreveport: Gingerbread House Children's Advocacy Center
- 8- Alexandria: Children's Advocacy Network
- **9- Lake Charles**: Family and Youth Counseling Agency
- **10- Monroe**: Children's Advocacy Center of Northeast Louisiana



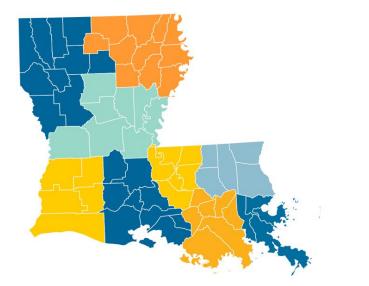
Referrals to Care Coordination:

Contact your local CAC, Regional Care Coordinator, or email <u>carecoordination@lacacs.org</u>.



More Resources for Survivors

For information on services and resources for survivors in your region, please visit <u>humantrafficking.la.gov/resources</u>.





Prevention · Protection · Promoting Healing & Justice



Sexual Assault Centers

Capital Area Branch

 5615 Corporate Blvd., Ste 200 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 Office: (225) 615-7093 Fax: (225) 615-7236

Central Louisiana Branch

 1403 Metro Drive, Bldg F Alexandria, LA 71301 Office: (318) 625-7592 Fax: (318) 625-7593

Greater New Orleans Branch

 123 N. Genois Street New Orleans, LA 70119 Office: (504) 407-0711 Fax: (504) 509-6368

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24/7 HOTLINE: (855) 435-STAR

Contact Information

Sierra Bridges, RSW

Investigative Specialist - Human Trafficking& Child Exploitation

Louisiana State Police Louisiana State Analytical & Fusion Exchange (LA-SAFE)

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30



Questions?