

WHAT IS SEX TRAFFICKING?

Sex trafficking victims are forced through fraud, threats, beatings, physical and psychological torture to engage in prostitution, pornography and exotic dancing.

SEX TRAFFICKING IS A PART OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING. IT'S HUMAN SLAVERY!!

Under federal and state law, human trafficking includes recruiting, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for through the use of force, fraud of coercion for the purpose of involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bond, or slavery.

Trafficking occurs in labor exploitation – often in restaurant work, sweatshop factory work or migrant agricultural work.

WHO ARE SEX TRAFFICKERS?

There is no one face of traffickers. They include a wide range of criminals. Sex traffickers may be called pimps or “boyfriends.” Sometimes they are relatives of the victim, or pose as their employer. Traffickers may be small or large business owners, be part of a loose knit decentralized criminal network or international organized criminal syndicate. The majority of “johns” are male.

WHO ARE THE VICTIMS OF SEX TRAFFICKERS?

Victims can be your neighbor, friend or relatives. The majority of victims of sex trafficking have already experienced sexual and other forms of violence. Many are “throw away kids,” or chronic runaways. Some may be non-citizens, without legal status. Some are vulnerable because of emotional or mental instability. Severe poverty can make many targets for trafficking.

HOW ARE PEOPLE RECRUITED INTO TRAFFICKING?

Traffickers usually target young people and women who are vulnerable, isolated, trusting and desperate. Some victims are as young as 12 years old.

Traffickers may use friends and relatives to help recruit victims. They may pose as someone the victim can trust. Alcohol and other drugs often play a large part in manipulating victims. Traffickers control victims by:

- Force: Rape, beatings, confinement
- Fraud: False offers of caring, marriage, employment, a better life
- Coercion: Threats to harm the victim or their family & friends, debt-bondage, psychological abuse

SIGNS OF SEX TRAFFICKING - “RED FLAGS”

- Can't move away or leave a job
- Bruises or other signs of physical abuse
- Fear or depression
- Not speaking on own behalf
- Can't come or go freely
- Terrorized or family threatened
- Forced tattooing
- Must ask permission to eat/sleep/go to the bathroom
- Locked doors/windows so you can't get out

PREVENTION TIPS

- Be aware of your surroundings. Partying and kidnapping are common ways that traffickers get their victims, so pay attention and recognize the “Red Flags.”
- Watch for the signs within your family and community. Start an open discussion about this crime.
- Seek help and/or report this crime to local law enforcement.

NO MORE PIMPING OUT! Be Aware of Sex Trafficking



**PROTECT WOMEN AND
CHILDREN FROM THIS VICIOUS
CRIME HAPPENING IN SOUTH DAKOTA
AND ON RESERVATIONS!**

Facts:

- In three sex trafficking federal cases in South Dakota, 40% of the victims were Native women.
- Sex Trafficking has been called “Pimping Out” on Reservations for decades.
- Sex Trafficking began on Native lands with colonization. Sadly, today Native people are also trafficking their own relatives and so-called friends.



WHEN DELILAH MET JOHN

“He was nice to me and bought me nice things. I thought he loved me.”

Delilah was a beautiful Native girl, who loved to read, go to school and play video games. When she was 14 her mother, a meth user, was beat up and so they had to go seek safety in a women’s shelter. However, her mother continued to use meth, so Delilah was placed in a group home.

When Delilah was 15 she met John, a handsome man who was 20 years older than her. She saw him drive by the group home many times, but when he would see her outside he would drive by real slow. He would often times wave at her in a friendly gesture.

One day, as she was coming back from school, he stopped her a few blocks from the group home. He said she looked real pretty and that he’d like to see her again.

Feeling excited that someone wanted to see her again; she began skipping school to be with John. Many of the outings with him involved going to the Mall. There he’d buy her new clothes or jewelry, or take her out to eat.

Delilah began to trust John. In the past the only adult men she knew were her mother’s boyfriends, and they were mean and many times would force themselves on her and say they would hurt her younger sister if she told. So Delilah kept silent about being raped.

John was nice to her. He told her that she was beautiful and he would talk to her like she was special. She was in love.

The outings went on for a few weeks, and then he began to make his move. He took her on a longer ride out in the country. He brought a bottle of wine and told her they were celebrating their friendship. At first Delilah didn’t want to drink, but John said, “If you really like me you’ll toast to our friendship, just try a little.”

After several glasses, she was feeling good and there he began touching her and kissing her. At first she was scared, but he told her that he loved her and would never hurt her. She felt she was in love with John and he must really love her since he was nice and bought her new things. After John had sex with Delilah, he told her, “There, you belong to me now.”

Only a few weeks passed when Delilah ran away from the group home and started living with John. “He said he was my boyfriend and that he’d take care of me. But he would get really mad at me and say that he needed to pay the rent, or buy me food, or needed drug money, so he’d make me have sex with his friends.” Delilah, now 16, felt trapped, force into prostitution by her so called “Boyfriend”.

Grooming is part of a “PIMP’S” plan to lure young girls or boys into prostitution.

Pimps prey on victims as young as 12 years old.



He Ain’t Your Boyfriend...

He makes you do sexual things with others for food, a place to stay, material things or to prove you love him or because if you don’t he’ll hurt you.

If this has happened to you it’s called “trafficking.” It is Not your fault.

You are a victim, not a criminal.

Mostly girls and women are trafficked in the U.S., but it happens to boys and men, too.

What happened to you was wrong, and the person who did this to you should be in jail.

You have a right to live without being abused.

A TRAFFICKER COULD BE ANYONE... even a mother, father, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, or friend.

If you are being trafficked or you think someone you know is being trafficked, call your local domestic or sexual violence program or contact the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (open 24/7) at 1-888-3737-888 or text BeFree (233733)

Call local police if you or the victim is at risk of imminent harm.



South Dakota Coalition Ending Domestic and Sexual Violence
www.sdcedsv.org



For referral only
call: 1-800-572-9196
or a local Women’s Shelter

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Selling a human for sex in exchange for money, drugs, alcohol, a place to live, etc is Sex Trafficking and this does happen in Native Communities.