End Sex Trafficking in South Dakota!

If you See It, Report It.
**What Is Sex Trafficking?**

Sex trafficking is a part of human trafficking. Under federal and state law human trafficking includes recruiting, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for through the use of force, fraud or 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. It is referred to as a modern day form of slavery.

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

**Who Are Sex Traffickers?**

There is no one face of traffickers. They include a wide range of criminals. Sex traffickers common names are pimps, madams, “boyfriends or husbands”, or “Family”. 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 of sex trafficking are vulnerable, isolated, “invisible” to most of society. The majority is young and female. 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 target people, usually young people and women, who are vulnerable, isolated, trusting and desperate.

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

**What Are the Signs That Someone Is Being Trafficked?**

The majority of victims are extremely fearful and mistrusting and have had their freedoms taken from them!

**Indicators include:**

- Cannot by their own food or clothes
- Cannot come and go freely
- Not allowed to have friends, go to school or contact friends or relatives
- Embarrassed, ashamed and over-whelmed
- Malnourished

- Scarring, cigarette burns, tattooing/branding
- Alcohol/other drug abuse or addiction
- Traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress, anxiety disorder, depression

*Help end this form of modern day slavery!*

Watch for the Signs and Alert officials immediately if you suspect Trafficking.