

Myths vs. Facts

- Myth: It's always or usually a violent crime (
- Myth: Only women and girls can be victims and survivors of sex trafficking (Most males are not identified or reported.)

 Myth: Human trafficking involves moving, traveling or transporting a person across state or national borders (A high amount of cases are in their forms area.)
- Myth: People being trafficked are physically unable to leave their situations/locked in/held against their will (Transportation, safety
- Myth: Traffickers target victims they don't know (R

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Objectives

- Understanding the importance of child protection issues.
- Definitions (Sextortion, Sex Offender, Sexual Exploitation, Grooming, Trafficking.
- Combating the System
- Social Media/Apps
- Reporting
- Follow-up & child communication

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Definitions:

- <u>Sextortion</u> Is a form of blackmail where someone threatens to share a nude or sexual image or video of you unless you give in to their demands.
 <u>Sex Offender</u> A person who commits a crime involving a sexual act.
- Grooming When someone builds a relationship, trust and emotional connection with a child or young person so they can manipulate, exploit and abuse them.
- Sex Trafficking The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion or in which the person induced is under 18.
- Sexual Exploitation A person profiting from the use of another person's body in a sexual manner in order to benefit (financially or otherwise.)

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- There are approximately 750,000 registered sex offenders in the United States.
- There are approximately 250,000 convicted sex offenders under criminal justice supervision in the community.
- Most sex offenders (80-95%) assault people they know.
- At least half of convicted child molesters report that they also have sexually assaulted an adult.
- Over 80% of convicted adult rapists report that they have molested children.
- Approximately one-third of sex offenders report assaulting both males and females. Research shows that most convicted sex offenders have committed many, assaults before they are caught.

Sex Offender Cont.

- Most sex offenders report that they have committed multiple types of sexual assault (sexual assault crimes include oral sex, vaginal penetration, attempted penetration, fondling, and incest)
- Over two-thirds of offenders who reported committing incest also report they assaulted victims outside the family.
- Studies of victims have shown less than 30% of sex crimes are reported to law enforcement.
- Young victims who know or are related to the perpetrator are less likely to report the crime to authorities.

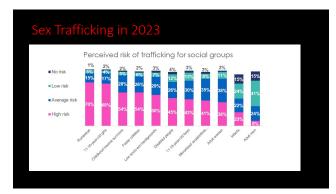
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Grooming

- Your underwear covers up your private parts and no one should ask to see or touch
 them. Sometimes a doctor, nurse or family members might have to. But they should
 always explain why, and ask you if it's OK first. Remember, what's in your pants belongs
 only to you.
- No means no and you always have the right to say 'no' even to a family member or someone you love. You're in control of your body and the most important thing is how YOU feel. If you want to say 'no', it's your choice.
- Encourage transparency in what your children are doing online. You can keep gaming devices and computers and laptops with webcams in the living room or family spaces. Use <u>parental controls</u> and keep up-to-date on the apps and games children and young people are using.

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•Approached by a trafficker or engaged with people involved in trafficking

•Multiple sex partners

•Frequent travel to other cities or out of state

•Frequently seen at hotels/motels or other sites where commercial sex exploitation is known to occur

•Sudden decline in academic performance

•Change in behavior or relationships

•New phones, clothes, or other material possessions

•Change in personal hygiene

•Uncharacteristic promiscuity and/or references to sexual situations or terminology beyond age-specific norms, highly sexualized online persona, or possession of unexplained sexual paraphernalia

•A "boyfriend" or "girlfriend" who is noticeably older and/or controlling

•Tattoos suggesting "ownership" by trafficker

•Has large amounts of cash or prepaid credit cards

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- Remember: Sexual exploitation involves forcing or coercing someone
 to engage in sexual activity against their will or consent. This can
 involve physical violence, emotional manipulation, or abuse of power
 dynamics. Exploitation can occur between people of any gender, age,
 or relationship dynamic, but it disproportionately affects marginalized
 and vulnerable populations.
- It is important to note that sexual exploitation is not limited to physical acts. It can also include non-physical forms of sexual abuse, such as sexual harassment, sexting, and online grooming. These forms of exploitation can have long-lasting effects on the victim's mental health and well-being.

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Social Media Apps

Online recruitment has existed for as long as there has been widespread access to internet platforms. The National Human Trafficking Hotline has recorded recruitment in all types of sex and labor trafficking on social media platforms including, but not limited to, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Kik, Meetme.com, WhatsApp, and dating sites/apps like Tinder, Grindr, and Plenty of Fish. Traffickers may build an intimate relationship with a victim through social media or advertise fake or deceptive job opportunities. Recruiters of traveling sales crews even post brazen photos of daily cash profits to entice potential victims and agricultural labor recruiters may advertise for U.S. visa contracts via social media.

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Reporting Crimes or Tips

- If you believe you may have information about a trafficking situation:
- Call the National Human Trafficking Hotline toll-free hotline at 1-888-373-7888: Anti-Trafficking Hotline Advocates are available 24/7 to take reports of potential human trafficking.
- Text the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 233733. Message and data rates may apply.
- Chat the National Human Trafficking Hotline via humantrafficking hotline, org /chat
- Submit a tip online through the anonymous online reporting form below. However, please note that if the situation is urgent or occurred within the last 24 hours we would encourage you to call, text or chat.
- Interpreters are available via phone call only.

Reporting in Missouri

- Anonymous and confidential.

- Anonymous and confidential.
 Accessible in 170 languages.
 Able to provide help, referral to services, training, and general information.
 Under HB 1246, beginning March 1, 2019, the Missouri Stop Human Trafficking poster shall be displayed in a conspicuous place in or near the bathrooms or near the entrance of each of the following establishments:
 Hotels, motels, or other establishments that have been cited as a public nuisance for prostitution under section 567.080;
- Strip clubs or other sexually oriented businesses;
- Private clubs that have a liquor permit for on-premises consumption, do not hold themselves out to be food service establishments, and are not affiliated with any nonprofit fraternal, athletic, religious, or veteran organizations;
- Airports

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Reporting in Missouri

- Train stations that serve passengers;

 Emergency rooms within general acute care hospitals;

 Urgent care centers;

 Privately operated job recruitment centers;

 Businesses or establishments that offer massage or body work services for compensation by individuals who are not licensed under section \$28.825;

 Women's health centers;

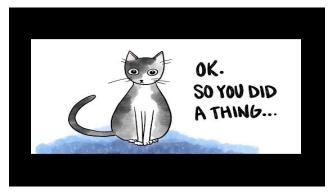
 Abortion facilities as defined in section \$88.015;

- Family planning clinics;
 Maternity homes as defined in section 135.600;
 Pregnancy resource centers as defined in section 135.630;
 Bus stations;
- Truck stops. For the purposes of this section, "truck stops" shall mean privately owned and operated
 facilities that provide food, fuel, shower or other sanitary facilities, and lawful overnight parking; and

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If you believe someone may be a victim of human trafficking, call the 24-hour National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or report an emergency to law enforcement by calling 911. Trafficking victims, whether or not U.S. citizens, are eligible for services and immigration assistance.



