



VIDEO SESSION 1: WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

In this series, we hope to help you understand **what human trafficking is** and **who it affects**.

- You will learn how to **see it** in our very own communities.
- You will learn how to **say it** by discovering the proper channels of reporting.
- We will also discuss how to **stop it** to put an end to the suffering of God's children.
- We will cover how you should respond once equipped with the information you will learn.

WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

The **Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)** provides the national framework for the federal response to human trafficking and defines the primary forms of human trafficking as sex trafficking and forced labor.

For adults, sex trafficking is defined as the commercial, sexual exploitation of a person through force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of personal gain.

The term “commercial” is what distinguishes sex trafficking from other crimes like sexual assault or sexual abuse. **Commercial** refers to anything of value, which may include money, shelter, clothing, food, and substances.

Minors cannot legally consent to a commercial sex act. **For victims and survivors under the age of consent**, sex trafficking can be defined as the exchange of a sexual act for anything of value.

Being **trauma-informed** means we acknowledge the full extent of the trauma experienced by a survivor, and we allow that reality to shape our language and approach.

Language sensitivity is extremely important when using terms like rescue, save, and victim. Ultimately, our mission is to point those who have been trafficked back to Jesus Christ.

ANTI-TRAFFICKING: 101



VIDEO SESSION 2: WHO DOES SEX TRAFFICKING AFFECT?

DO WE KNOW WHO TO LOOK FOR?

The **largest population** of identified sex trafficking victims are predominantly women and children. Sex trafficking also leverages on an individual's unique vulnerabilities.

The **risk factors** that make an individual susceptible to trafficking include:

- 1. Societal risk factors:** The gap in knowledge and understanding of the commercial sexual exploitation of children, the sexualization of children, and the lack of resources to address it.
- 2. Community risk factors:** Peer pressure, social norms, social isolation, and under-resourced schools, neighborhoods, and communities.
- 3. Relationship risk factors:** Family conflict, disruption, or dysfunction.
- 4. Individual risk factors:** Homelessness, children who run away, the LGBTQ+ community, time in the juvenile justice system or the foster care system, and stigma or discrimination.

Traffickers come in many forms but are often individuals who are close to the victim, such as family members, significant others, or trusted friends.

The gradual increase of pushing an individual's boundaries is called grooming.

It is imperative to keep children safe online by teaching them about the dangers of sex trafficking.

DO WE KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR?

Indicators that suggest an **individual** is being trafficked:

- They are in a controlling or dominating relationship.
- Signs of physical or sexual abuse, such as visible marks or bruises.
- May appear disoriented.
- Provide scripted answers or inconsistent details.
- May demonstrate fear towards authorities.
- May be accompanied by an older companion, male or female.
- May access medical care with issues that are symptomatic of sexual trauma like STD's, pregnancies, or abortions.
- Will likely not be in control of their own documentation, personal possessions, or money.
- May suffer from severe drug and substance abuse, or addiction.

Indicators that a **child** is being groomed for or is being trafficked include:

- Increase in school absences.
- Running away from home.
- Acquiring new expensive items.
- Notable changes in behavior or personality.

SOCIAL NORMS AND STIGMATIZATION

Because of **social norms** and stigmatization, victims are often categorized by how they are dressed, the language they are using, their race or ethnicity, and behaviors that may be associated with criminality.

It is important to be mindful of **stigmas** that can inaccurately attribute the lifestyle of a trafficking survivor to their bad decisions or choices.

Survivors often develop **over-adaptive survival skills** that, on the surface, may present as dysfunctional or anti-social behaviors such as aggression, manipulation, numbing, disassociation, and distrust.

Many survivors are **not ready to leave or change** their situation due to:

- The traumatic bond created between the abuser and survivor.
- Mistrust of law enforcement or authorities.
- Fear of judgment or shame.
- Fear for their safety or the safety of their families.
- Fear of what is next.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO NEXT?

In this series, you have learned that some sex trafficking survivors find it difficult to leave their situations; however, you should still report potential trafficking victims and occurrences.

STEP 1: Contact Your Local Law Enforcement Agency

Sometimes we are hesitant to make a report for fear that we may be wrong or wasting the time and resources of law enforcement. When in doubt, make the call.

While you may think your encounter with a trafficking situation is an isolated incident, your call for help on their behalf may not be the first. Multiple reports provide leads to recovering missing victims, zeroing in on the location of wanted traffickers, or identifying a location where recruitment into sex trafficking may take place.

When you make a call to law enforcement, be sure to take note of the following:

- **Description:** gender, ethnicity, hair color and style, height, weight, clothing, identifiable marks.
- **Note:** type of vehicle, license plate number, a name.
- **State indicators:** what you witnessed that made you think this is a trafficking situation.

STEP 2: Contact a Child Welfare Agency

If the trafficked individual may be a minor, it is important that you also call your local child welfare abuse hotline.

STOP

IN EVERY SITUATION, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU DO NOT PERSONALLY INTERVENE OR PUT YOURSELF IN HARM'S WAY WHEN GATHERING INFORMATION TO MAKE A CALL FOR HELP.

STEP 3: Contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline

888.373.7888

SMS: Text INFO to 233733

humantraffickinghotline.org

This hotline can direct you to resources in your local community that assist trafficking survivors who may be recovered.

Now that you have this information, our prayer is that God begins to reveal to you who might be vulnerable in your community and who might need you to help.

HOW DO WE STOP IT?**STEP 1: Truth**

We must continually echo God's truth that every individual is created in His image. Allow that truth to resound through advocacy against the objectification of His children, the sexualization of women and children, and the use of pornography.

STEP 2: Education

So far, you have learned who is vulnerable to trafficking and that social media is the leading tool for recruitment. Caregivers should familiarize themselves with their children's access to technology, how their child accesses social media, and whom they interact with on each platform.

STEP 3: Prevention

Now that you have been informed about vulnerable individuals that traffickers may target, you are equipped to prevent trafficking by wrapping around those individuals.

Susceptible targets of trafficking include:

- Foster children
- Children in single-parent households
- Those living in poverty
- Homes in which children are experiencing instability, abuse, or neglect

Most of us underestimate the impact of trafficking prevention through simply supporting a single mom, wrapping around a foster family, or feeding hungry children.



VIDEO SESSION 6: HOW SHOULD WE RESPOND?

THE FIRST STEP TO SEEING IT, SAYING IT, AND STOPPING IT.

Education is the first step.

After we become educated, the next step is to determine how we need to respond to the sex trafficking happening in our communities.

Our first response should be our obedience to **PRAY**:

- Pray for an end to the oppression of God's people.
- Pray for the rapid recovery of those who are impacted by this crime.
- Pray for God to give us the wisdom in how to be the light when fighting such a dark and difficult evil.

Our next response is a compelling move to **ACTION**:

- Act compassionately towards those who may be vulnerable and at risk for sex trafficking, along with those who have been victimized in this way.
- Action through compassion does not look the same for everyone. It may involve financial partnership. It may involve organizing a Comfort Kit Packing Party, or organizing a Bible drive. It may be preventative action such as becoming a foster parent, or providing wraparound support to those who are fostering, supporting single mothers, or providing meals to hungry children.

To find out more about what you can do to protect vulnerable children and support survivors, visit **onemorechild.org** where you can find actionable steps you can take to get involved in the fight against trafficking. Bringing an end to child sex trafficking is possible because of people like you who say yes to awareness, education, advocacy, and volunteering.

Yes, we can certainly do it, together, for one more child.

ANTI-TRAFFICKING: 101

JOIN US IN PRAYING...

- for vigilance and awareness in your life to see the signs of trafficking around you. (Luke 4:18)
- for an overwhelming, holy peace from the Lord for survivors. (2 Thessalonians 3:16)
- for One More Child staff who work with survivors, and opportunities to reach victims of trafficking in your community. (Matthew 25:34-40)
- for our church and government leaders to be awakened to the needs and for laws that protect more survivors. (Daniel 2:21)
- for Christ to intervene and overwhelm the offenders of this terrible crime, and change their hearts. (Ezekiel 36:26)
- for victims to leave the familiarity of their dangerous situations and to find salvation in Christ. (Psalm 9:9)



**Thank you for taking
the time to pray with
One More Child!**

onemorechild.org