

# MAYOR'S OFFICE FOR VICTIMS' RIGHTS (MOVR)



## HELP IDENTIFY & STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING



***See something, say something, DO something***  
***Report signs of human trafficking***

### SIGNS: BE AWARE

Be on the lookout for a combination of these signs:

- Fear or anxiety
- Never alone: always accompanied by someone who seems to be "in charge"
- If you're able to ask them any questions, their answers sound memorized or prepared like someone told them what to say. Or, they seem afraid to answer any questions
- Exhaustion and/or poor hygiene or dental care.

Trust your instincts. If something feels wrong, it's worth reporting it.

### WHAT TO DO:

Trust your instincts. If something feels wrong, it's worth giving us a quick call to talk it through.

Call 911 if you think there's a lot of red flags and the situation is happening in front of you.

If possible, get contact information from the person you're worried about - then report to police non-emergency line (415-553-0123) or call MOVR (628-652-1175) and we will follow up.

### RESOURCES:

- **MOVR:** [www.sf.gov/MOVR](http://www.sf.gov/MOVR) / Ph: 628-652-1175 (confidential)
- **SF Collaborative Against HT Hotline:** 415-907-9911 (confidential)
- **SFPD Non-emergency:** 415-553-0123 (not confidential)
- **SFPD Anonymous Tip Line:** Text **TIP411** (847411) and keyword "SFPD" in text field followed by the message

### WHAT IS

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human trafficking is modern-day slavery. It involves controlling a person through force, fraud, or coercion to **exploit them for labor or commercial sex**. Traffickers use violence, threats, lies, debt, and psychological manipulation to trap victims.

**Any and all commercial sexual activity involving a minor (under 18) is trafficking**, regardless of whether force is present.

### MYTHS vs FACTS

*Only women are trafficked*

**FALSE:** Men, boys, women, girls, and gender non-binary people are trafficked

*Trafficking is not only sex trafficking*

**TRUE:** Trafficking can happen in any type of work, from agriculture to restaurants, hotels and hospitals, on streets and in private homes, and more

*Traffickers are evil international cartels*

**FALSE:** Traffickers can be "regular" people, leaders in the community, or known to the victim (including a family member)

*Trafficking can happen even if you're born here*

**TRUE:** Trafficking has nothing to do with your immigration status or where you were born

## RELIEF FOR SURVIVORS

### ALL VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING ARE PROTECTED UNDER UNITED STATES AND CALIFORNIA LAW

**Immigration:** Survivors are eligible for visas designed for trafficked victims and those who have experienced violent crime, including domestic violence and sexual assault. These visas can be a pathway to lawful permanent status and citizenship.

**Civil:** Survivors are eligible to seek unpaid wages and other workers' rights claims.

**Criminal:** Sometimes survivors are forced to commit crimes because they have been victims of trafficking. Trafficking is a complete defense to crimes committed as part of their trafficking. Prosecuting traffickers is also important to prevent more victimization and crime.

## DISPELLING COMMON HUMAN TRAFFICKING MYTHS

### *Trafficking is a violent crime*

**FALSE:** Most traffickers use psychological means to control victims - threats, manipulation, fraud, are common.

### *People being trafficked are physically locked up or held against their will*

**FALSE:** While that is sometimes the case, often victims stay for reasons that are more complicated. Some lack the basic necessities to escape - such as transportation or a safe place to live. Some are afraid for their or their loved ones' safety. Others have been effectively manipulated and do not identify being exploited or under the trafficker's control.

### *Traffickers target victims they don't know*

**FALSE:** Traffickers can be known community members, even trusted or respected by victims and/or their loved ones. Traffickers can be romantic partners, spouses, and even family members.

### *Human Trafficking is the same as Human Smuggling*

**FALSE:** The crime of trafficking does not have to involve human smuggling, which involves illegal border crossings. Survivors can be recruited and trafficked in their own home towns, even their own homes.