



SEX TRAFFICKING INDICATORS FOR YOUTH

INDICATORS OF POTENTIAL VICTIMS: Does the individual...

- Show sudden or dramatic changes in behavior, such as unexplained absences from school, drop in school performance, or lack of interest in age-appropriate activities?
- Appear fearful, anxious, depressed, under distress, or withdrawn?
- Appear to be engaged in commercial sex through coercion or when under the age of 18?
- Show signs of abuse or maltreatment?
- Run away from home or lack stable housing?
- Defer to another person to speak for them, especially during interactions with authority figures?
- Suddenly have more material possessions, like purses, clothing, cell phones, and/or large sums of cash?

Learn more:
[DHS.gov/BlueCampaign](https://www.dhs.gov/bluecampaign)



INDICATORS OF POTENTIAL TRAFFICKERS: Does the individual...

- Control youth through the use of verbal threats, emotional abuse, or demeaning speech?
- Appear to restrict the movement or social interaction of youth?
- Contact youth on social media with false promises of love and/or employment?
- Consistently check youth out of class during school hours?
- Coerce youth to get tattoos as a form of branding?

No single indicator is proof that human trafficking is occurring.

REPORTING AND ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Do not at any time attempt to confront a suspected trafficker directly or alert a victim to your suspicions. In the event of an emergency, please call 911.

Homeland Security Investigations Tip Line: 1-866-347-2423

National Human Trafficking Hotline: 1-888-373-7888