WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

HUMAN TRAFFICKING is modern day slavery. It is happening everywhere, even in the United States, and victims can be U.S. citizens or of any nationality, age, force, fraud, or coercion. It involves sex trafficking, forced labor, or any person under the age of 18 involved in a commercial sex act.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS A HIGHLY PROFITABLE CRIME. Human Smuggling and Human Trafficking are different crimes. Human Smuggling is the illegal movement of someone across a border. Human trafficking is the illegal exploitation of a person.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS HAPPENING IN THE UNITED STATES. It is happening everywhere—suburbs, rural towns, cities. It can happen to anyone, no matter race, age, or gender.

There are different types of human trafficking:

SEX TRAFFICKING

Sex trafficking victims are manipulated or forced against their will to engage in sex. Truck stops, hotel rooms, rest areas, street corners, clubs, and private residences are just some of the places where sex trafficking occurs. Sex traffickers might use places where victims are vulnerable to violence, threats, manipulation, or the promise of love and affection to lure victims.

FORCED LABOR

Through force, fraud, or coercion, victims are made to work for little or no pay. Very often victims are forced to manufacture or grow products that we use and consume every day. Forced labor could be found in factories, on farms, doing construction work, and more.

DOMESTIC SERVITUDE

Victims of domestic servitude are hidden in plain sight, forced to work in homes across the United States. They are prisoners working as nannies, maids, or domestic help. Traffickers sometimes take a victim's identification papers and travel documents in order to limit their freedom.

EVERY YEAR in the United States, thousands of victims are exploited. Many more go unnoticed. How the Department of Homeland Security is fighting human trafficking:

The Department of Homeland Security created the Blue Campaign to take a stand against modern day slavery and help combat this heinous crime by raising awareness of human trafficking around the country.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING

JOIN THE DHS BLUE CAMPAIGN

• Visit the Blue Campaign website: dhs.gov/blue-campaign
• Learn more about the signs and indicators of human trafficking: dhs.gov/blue-campaign/awareness-training
• Spread the word—download and share anti-human trafficking materials: dhs.gov/blue-campaign/resource-catalog
• View and share our Public Service Announcement: dhs.gov/gallery/blue-campaign-video
• Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/bluecampaign

BE AN INFORMED CONSUMER

Know who makes the products you buy and the food you eat to help keep slavery tainted items out of your home. Visit the Department of Labor list of goods that could be subject to human trafficking at dol.gov/ilab/reports/child-labor/list-of-goods.

RECOGNIZE AND REPORT SUSPECTED HUMAN TRAFFICKING

To contact federal law enforcement, call 1-866-DHS-2-ICE. Or submit a tip online at www.ice.gov/tips. For victim support from the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC), call 1-888-373-7888 or text HELP or INFO to Befree (2333733). Help us bring this crime out of the shadows and into the light. Join the Blue Campaign.