Spot the signs of Sex Trafficking

Anyone can be a victim, however sex traffickers often target people they can take advantage of, like those who may be at odds or separated from their families, in need of work, desperate for money, or survivors of abuse. Many victims may also be trafficked by someone they know and trust, like a former or current intimate partner, family member, friend, co-worker, or boss. The recruiting process can sometimes be so subtle that victims may not recognize the risks of being trafficked.

Traffickers can control their victims through violence, threats, isolation, blackmail, drugs, and even confinement. Often sexual trafficking victims live and work in brutal conditions and suffer physical, sexual, financial and psychological abuse. These methods of control prevent most victims from seeking help or reporting it.

The warning signs are often hard to see, but there are things you can look out for.



Possible signs of Sex Trafficking

Do you or someone you know:





Have a **new relationship** with someone older or richer, perhaps online? Does the person seem to be controlling?



Receive **gifts or cash** from a partner for no reason?



Seem to be in a relationship that has taken a **sudden negative turn**?



Have **intimate images** of you been shared by someone online with/without your consent? Feel **intimidated** or **controlled**? For example, controlling where you go, who you see, or withholding a phone, or personal identification?



Live and/or work in **brutal conditions**?

Get the facts. Know the signs. Report it.

Canada.ca/human-trafficking

If you think you or someone you know may be a victim of human trafficking, call 911 or contact the Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline: **1-833-900-1010**

