

# The Realities of Sexual Exploitation 101

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Heritage of Hope



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## CE Statement



The Georgia Board of Nursing deems Southwest Georgia Area Health Education Center (SOWEGA-AHEC) as an approved provider for nursing continuing education (CE). This activity is approved for 1.0 contact hour towards the continuing education competency requirement for Georgia nursing licensure renewal. No partial credit offered.

Activity #2022-07A

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## Disclosures

- Planners & Speaker Disclosed No Conflicts of Interest
- No Commercial Support Provided for Activity

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## Objectives

- Identify the victims of sexual exploitation
- Identify the vulnerabilities that exist that enable traffickers to manipulate victims
- Access resources to connect survivors to National Human Trafficking Hotline & Heritage of Hope

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# HERITAGE OF HOPE

## awareness training



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What do you know about  
human trafficking?

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## WHAT IS SEX TRAFFICKING?

### THE ACT OF: OF:

RECRUITMENT

TRANSPORT

TRANSFER

HARBORING

RECEIPT OF PERSONS

### BY THE MEANS OF:

THREATS / FORCE

FRAUD

COERCION

DECEPTION

ABUSE OF POWER

EXPLOITING  
VULNERABILITIES

PAYMENTS / BENEFITS

### FOR THE PURPOSE

EXPLOITATION SUCH AS:

PROSTITUTION OF  
OTHERS

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

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## FACTS:

Human trafficking can take place even if the victim initially consented to providing labor, services, or commercial sex acts. The trafficker's coercive scheme is what matters, not a victim's prior consent or ability to meaningfully consent thereafter. Likewise, in a sex trafficking case, an adult victim's initial willingness to engage in commercial sex acts is not relevant where a perpetrator subsequently uses coercion to exploit the victim and cause them to continue engaging in the same acts. In the case of child sex trafficking, the consent of the victim is never relevant as a child cannot legally consent to commercial sex.

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## FACTS

- THE ILO (INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION) ESTIMATES THERE ARE AROUND 24.9 MILLION TRAFFICKING VICTIMS IN THE WORLD.
- 4.8 MILLION VICTIMS OF FORCED SEXUAL EXPLOITATION GLOBALLY -TIP REPORT (TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPORT)
- 76% OF TRAFFICKING VICTIMS ARE FEMALE.
- IN THE US ALONE, A CHILD IS SOLD FOR SEX EVERY 2 MINUTES
- THE AVERAGE AGE OF ENTRY INTO SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IS 13.

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## FACTS

- APPROXIMATELY 1 / 3 RUNAWAYS WILL LIKELY BECOME A TRAFFICKING VICTIM
- 1.6 - 2.8 MILLION RUNAWAY TEENS IN U.S., FEMALES REPRESENTING ABOUT 55%.
- ONLINE EXPLOITATION IS ON THE RISE DUE TO THE PANDEMIC. Online recruitment and grooming increased as children spent more time online for virtual learning due to school closures, often with little parental supervision.

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**WHY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING ON THE RISE?**

**YOU CAN SELL A GUN OR DRUG ONCE. BUT, A  
HUMAN BEING CAN BE SOLD REPEATEDLY.**

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## MEDIA SHAPES OUR IDEAS OF TRAFFICKING

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## MORE COMMON OCCURRENCES OF TRAFFICKING

- LANDLORDS FORCING TENANTS TO HAVE SEX TO COVER RENT WHEN BILLS CANNOT BE PAID.
- A BOYFRIEND ASKING HIS GIRLFRIEND TO SLEEP WITH A FEW PEOPLE TO COVER THEIR HOTEL ROOM OR CAR PAYMENT.
- A MOTHER OR FATHER LETTING OTHERS HAVE SEX WITH THEIR CHILD IN EXCHANGE FOR DRUGS OR MONEY.

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## HOW IS CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING DIFFERENT?

- THE **CRUCIAL** DIFFERENCE IS THERE IS NO NEED TO DEMONSTRATE THE MEANS (FORCE, FRAUD, COERCION) TO SHOW THAT A CHILD IS BEING TRAFFICKED.
- CHILDREN **CANNOT** GIVE INFORMED CONSENT, SO THERE IS NO NEED TO PROVE THEY'VE BEEN FORCED, COERCED OR DECEIVED INTO EXPLOITATION.
- EXPLOITATION ALONE IS SUFFICIENT TO DEMONSTRATE THAT A TRAFFICKING OFFENSE HAS LIKELY TAKEN PLACE.

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## MISCONCEPTIONS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING



- Requires foreign or interstate travel / border issues.
- If payment is issued, they aren't victims.
- Victims self identify.
- It's a crime that only involves foreigners (half/half)
- There are always origin, transit and destination countries.

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VICTIMS

TARGETED

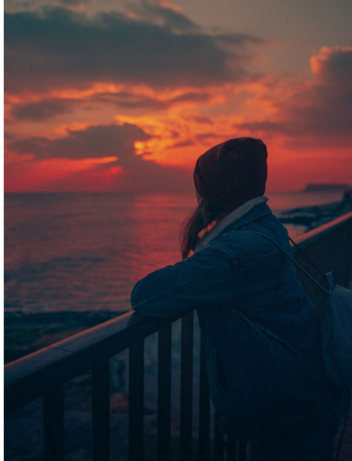
TRICKED

TRAUMATIZED

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# TARGETED



PIMPS OFTEN “SHOP” FOR THEIR VICTIMS IN VARIOUS PLACES. FOR EXAMPLE, PIMPS TARGET VICTIMS ONLINE, AT THEIR FREQUENT HANGOUT SPOTS, SCHOOL FUNCTIONS, HOMES, OR PARKS.

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## WHAT MAKES SOMEONE AT RISK FOR TARGETING?

**LACK OF PERSONAL SAFETY**

**ISOLATION**

**POVERTY**

**FAMILY DYSFUNCTION**

**CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE**

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

**EMOTIONAL DISTRESS**

**RUNAWAYS \*\***

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## RISK FACTORS FOR TEENS



PIMPS SEEK TO EXPLOIT CHILDREN DUE TO THE PERCEPTION THAT CHILDREN ARE EASY TO MANIPULATE AND ARE MORE PROFITABLE. CHILDREN FROM NEGLECTFUL HOMES OR RUNAWAYS ARE MORE AT RISK.

PROMISES OF FRIENDSHIP, LOVE, SUPPORT, ATTENTION AND A SAFE PLACE LURE IN CHILDREN WHO MAY NOT BE RECEIVING THESE IN OTHER AREAS IN THEIR LIFE.

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## RISK FACTORS FOR TEENS

ONCE THE PIMP HAS GAINED CONTROL OVER THE CHILD, THE ABUSE BEGINS. HE OR SHE WILL OFTEN USE VIOLENCE, INTIMIDATION, THREATS, AND MANIPULATION TO KEEP A CHILD TRAPPED IN EXPLOITATION.

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## HOW ARE PIMPS RECRUITING ONLINE?

IT IS EASY FOR A PREDATOR TO PORTRAY THEMSELVES AS SOMEONE THEY ARE NOT ONLINE. THIS IS OFTEN USED TO BUILD TRUST WITH THE VICTIM.

TRAFFICKERS CAN EASILY IDENTIFY VULNERABLE YOUTH BASED ON THEIR SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE.

MANY TEENS AND YOUTH OFTEN SHARE DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THEMSELVES AND THEIR HOME LIFE. POSTS ABOUT LOW SELF ESTEEM, PARENTAL ISSUES, AND/OR RELATIONAL ISSUES CAN SPARK THE ATTENTION OF TRAFFICKERS.

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<https://thegoldwater.com/news/38503-Predator-Uses-Kik-App-To-Lure-Young-Models-For-Ex-...>  
**Predator Uses Kik App To Lure "Young Models" For Exploitation**

Predator Uses Kik App To Lure "Young Models" For Exploitation. For nearly as long as the internet has existed pedophiles have used it to network, share child pornography and discuss topics related to targeting children. In recent years, however, social media and apps have become a stalking ground for predators. Just yesterday Roy David Evans Jr ...

[https://www.nj.com/news/2018/09/predators\\_use\\_these\\_19\\_apps\\_to\\_lure\\_minors\\_this\\_is\\_...](https://www.nj.com/news/2018/09/predators_use_these_19_apps_to_lure_minors_this_is_...)  
**Predators use these 19 apps to lure minors. This is what ...**

Predators use these 19 apps to lure minors. This is what parents need to know. Updated: May. 14, 2019, 2:24 p.m. ... Users must be 13 to use the app, the company website says. "If Kik obtains ...

<https://abcnews.go.com/US/16-alleged-child-predators-social-media-lure-kids/story?id=626...>  
**16 alleged child predators used social media to lure kids ...**

16 alleged child predators used social media to lure kids for sex throughout New Jersey. One of the accused is a police officer.

<https://www.wkrn.com/news/predators-turn-to-social-media-to-lure-teenagers-into-sex-traffic-...>  
**Predators turn to social media to lure teenagers into sex ...**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (WKRN) - Predators are turning to social media as a way to lure teenagers into human trafficking. The danger is literally lurking in the palm of your children's hands.

<https://www.live5news.com/2019/11/29/how-sexual-predators-are-using-everyday-social-m-...>  
**How sexual predators are using everyday social media apps ...**

The operation saw 19 alleged child predators arrested for using social media apps to lure underage girls and boys into sexual activity. It describes 27 different apps that could be used for that purpose today. Some of the apps are obscure, and you'd be forgiven for never having heard of all of them. Jones hasn't.

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## TRICKED

GAINING THE TRUST OF THEIR VICTIM  
IS IMPORTANT TO A PIMP.

THIS MAY LOOK LIKE: GIFTS,  
PROMISES OF A BETTER LIFE, TIME,  
AND AFFECTION.

THIS NORMALLY TAKES PLACE  
**BEFORE** TRAFFICKING BEGINS.

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## TRICKED



TRAFFICKERS ARE KNOWN TO USE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS TO DECEIVE  
VICTIMS THROUGH ILLEGITIMATE JOBS OFFERS. THESE JOBS RANGE  
ANYWHERE FROM DANCERS, MODELS, TO NANNIES. TRAFFICKERS CAN  
DISGUISE THEMSELVES AS A BUSINESS PROFILE ON FACEBOOK, OR EVEN  
AN EVENT PAGE.

THE TRAFFICKER WILL NORMALLY TRY AND BUILD A RELATIONSHIP/BOND  
WITH THE VICTIM BEFORE A "JOB OFFER". THIS INCREASES THE  
LIKELIHOOD THAT THE VICTIM WILL GO THROUGH WITH THE OFFER.

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## TRAUMATIZED

PIMPS ARE MASTER  
MANIPULATORS.

THEY USE PSYCHOLOGICAL  
MANIPULATION AND PHYSICAL  
VIOLENCE TO MAKE THEM  
FEEL POWERLESS.

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## HOW TRAFFICKERS CONTROL VICTIMS



TRAFFICKERS NORMALLY CONTROL THEIR VICTIMS THROUGH THREATS, FRAUD OR COERCION, ALTHOUGH THIS DOES NOT NEED TO BE PROVEN IN THE CASE WITH A MINOR.

REGARDLESS OF AGE, TRAFFICKERS ARE EXPERTS AT IDENTIFYING AND EXPLOITING CERTAIN VULNERABILITIES. WHETHER THESE VULNERABILITIES ARE PRE-EXISTING PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA, DRUG DEPENDENCY, HOMELESSNESS, DISLOCATION OR ISOLATION.

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## IDENTIFYING VICTIMS OF SEX TRAFFICKING

IT CAN BE VERY DIFFICULT TO IDENTIFY A SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIM. TRAFFICKERS TEND TO ISOLATE THEIR VICTIMS. THIS CAN INCLUDE MOVING THEM TO VARIOUS LOCATIONS OUT OF PUBLIC VIEW AND AWAY FROM DETECTION.

OUR UNDERSTANDING CAN BEGIN WHEN WE KNOW THE VULNERABILITIES THAT EXIST: POVERTY, ADDICTION, ABUSE, PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA, ETC.

RECOGNIZING THE POPULATIONS THAT ARE MOST VULNERABLE IS CRITICAL TO IDENTIFICATION BY AGENCIES AND THOSE CHARGED WITH THEIR PROTECTION.

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## BARRIERS TO IDENTIFYING VICTIMS

1. MISSED OPPORTUNITIES TO IDENTIFYING A VICTIM BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF AWARENESS ON THIS CRIME.
2. VICTIMS DO NOT NORMALLY SELF IDENTIFY!!!

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## Why do victims not come forward?

- Fear for their own lives;
- Not understanding that they are victims of human trafficking;
- Be taught to distrust outsiders, especially law enforcement and other government authorities; Foreign victims may be afraid they will be detained and deported, or they may have limited language skills;
- Be completely unaware of their rights or may have been intentionally misinformed about their rights in the U.S.;
- Fear for their families and/or loved ones;
- Feel threatened that traffickers will harm their families if they report their situation to, or cooperate with, law enforcement.

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## Georgia Statistics : 2019 [humantraffickinghotline.org](http://humantraffickinghotline.org)

In 2019, **1,057 contacts** were made and **417 Human Trafficking Cases Reported**

### TYPES OF TRAFFICKING

309 reported cases were sex trafficking

73 reported cases were labor trafficking

20 reported cases were BOTH sex and labor trafficking

15 cases were not specified.

### TOP VENUES OF LABOR TRAFFICKING

AGRICULTURE (24)

DOMESTIC WORK (9)

CONSTRUCTION (6)

RESTAURANT / FOOD SERVICE (5)

RETAIL / OTHER SMALL BUSINESSES (4)

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# Georgia Statistics : 2019 [humantraffickinghotline.org](http://humantraffickinghotline.org)

## TOP VENUES OF SEX TRAFFICKING

ILLICIT MASSAGE / SPA BUSINESS (37)  
 HOTEL/MOTEL (21)  
 PORNOGRAPHY (22)  
 RESIDENCE BASED COMMERCIAL SEX (22)  
 ONLINE AD, OR UNKNOWN VENUE (21)

## GENDER

FEMALE (333)  
 MALE (77)  
 GENDER MINORITIES (4)

## AGE

ADULT (272)  
 MINOR (91)

## CITIZENSHIP

FOREIGN NATIONAL (64)  
 US CITIZEN (54)

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## WHO TO CALL

HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE 1-888-373-7888

HERITAGE OF HOPE 1-229-598-9900

GEORGIA HOTLINE FOR DOMESTIC MINOR TRAFFICKING 1-844-842-3678



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## Evaluation



- Submission of registration information, attendance and completed evaluation/successful post-test required for CE certificates. Please select evaluation link from your email registration confirmation.

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