

# IDAHO ANTI-TRAFFICKING COALITION

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IATC – Human Trafficking 101

# IATC – Program Operations

- **Education, Training, Awareness and Advocacy**
- **Direct Victim Services**
  - Crisis Intervention
  - Case Management
  - Transportation
  - Victim Advocacy
  - Direct Partner Referral
- **Crisis and Resource Hotline**
  - Crisis calls
  - Resources and information
- **Volunteer Program**

Out of the 251 individuals



# WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

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Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery. This crime occurs when a trafficker uses **FORCE, FRAUD or COERCION** to control another person for the purpose of engaging in commercial sex acts or soliciting labor or services against his/her will. Force, fraud, or coercion need not be present if the individual engaging in commercial sex under **18 years of age**.

# ELEMENTS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Trafficking in persons has three elements;

- **The Act (What is done)**

Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons

- **The Means (How it is done)**

Threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or giving payments or benefits to a person in control of the victim

- **The Purpose (Why it is done)**

For the purpose of exploitation, sexual exploitation, slavery, servitude

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING MYTHS

- **Human Trafficking only involves sex**

Human trafficking is the use of force, fraud or coercion to get another person to provide labor or commercial sex.

- **Human Trafficking is always a violent crime**

The most pervasive myth about human trafficking is that it always, or often, involves kidnapping or physically forcing someone into a situation. In reality, most traffickers use psychological means such as, tricking, defrauding, manipulating or threatening victims into providing commercial sex or exploitative labor.

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

Many survivors have been trafficked by romantic partners, including spouses, and by a family member including parents.

# **HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND VULNERABILITIES**

## **Traffickers target vulnerable people**

**Stalking Homeless Shelters;**

**Substance Use Treatment Facilities;**

**Community/Drop In Centers; and**

**Department of Corrections, Prison, or Reentry Programs.**

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND TRANSPORTATION

Traffickers rely on the transportation industry in every phase of human trafficking:

- for recruitment, moving and controlling victims, and delivering them to buyers who will complete the victims' exploitation through either commercial sex or forced labor ventures.
- The limited transportation-related human trafficking data available confirms that victims are being trafficked by airplanes, buses, subways, trains, taxis, rideshares, cruise ships, and private vehicles.



# INDIVIDUALS AT RISK

- Homeless/Runaways
- Children in foster care
- Children of parents involved in the Department of Corrections
- Youth Detention Centers
- LGBTQ+
- Active Gang affiliations
- Native Americans
- Immigrants/refugees
- Online solicitation/Social Media
- False education/Job opportunities
- Familial Sex Trafficking

# ADDITIONAL RISK FACTORS

- Lack of personal safety
- Emotional distress
- History of abuse or neglect
- Extreme poverty
- Family dysfunction, generations
- Childhood sexual abuse/assault
- Mental illness, trauma
- Disabilities
- Domestic violence
- Promotion of sexual exploitation by family members or peers
- Lack of social support, isolation

# GROOMING

- Traffickers will offer to buy/give them drugs or alcohol
- Provide “protection” from an abusive/unsafe home
- Online apps/games/chat rooms
- Online dating sights
- Craig’s list/generic online ads
- Schools/malls/theaters/sporting events/work
- Abduction from random locations



# GROOMING

- **Social Media, traffickers target pre-teens and teens by finding something to bond over, earn their trust and prey on their vulnerabilities**
- **Promises of a modeling and/or acting careers**
- **Jail-recruiters, Re-entry programs, letters to befriend, money on their books, “I posted your bond – now you owe me”**
- **Target homeless, approached by Trafficker within 24 to 48 hours- survival sex, basic needs provided for survival, job offers**

# WHERE DOES HUMAN TRAFFICKING HAPPEN?

- Hotels, motels, casinos, resorts
- Illicit massage parlors
- Rented houses/Airbnb
- Bus stops, train stations, ride share,
- Truck/bus stops
- Major Events: sporting events (Super Bowl), gun expos, state fairs, annual rallies (motorcycle rally)
- Urban areas e.g., construction Sites, “Man Camps”- oil and gas industry
- Tribal Lands, Native reservations
- Rural areas/farms- ‘housing’ for migrant labor

# WHO ARE THE TRAFFICKERS?

- Perpetrators of human trafficking span all racial, ethnic, and gender demographics and are as diverse as victims and survivors. Some use their privilege, wealth, and power as a means of control while others experience the same socio-economic oppression as their victims. They include individuals, business owners, members of a gang or network, parents or family members of victims, intimate partners, owners of farms or restaurants, and powerful corporate executives and government representatives.

# TYPES OF TRAFFICKERS

## PIMP

- **Romeo/Boyfriend Pimp:** convince victim that he loves and cares for them
- **Gorilla Pimp:** forces the victim into the life through violence, fear, kidnapping and/or threats on their life and their families lives.

## FAMILY

- **Family member or family acquaintance:** sells child for drugs, money or needs such as food or rent
- **Spouse sells partner for commercial sex**
- **Close family friend, relative, neighbor**

# TYPES OF TRAFFICKERS

## GANGS

- A means of entry, initiation or for protection

## CRIME SYNDICATES

- They have a diversified portfolio of trafficking humans, drugs, guns, illegal products

## EMPLOYERS/RECRUITERS

- Facilitators, hired to lure victims
- Businesses such as illicit massage parlors, dance clubs, restaurants
- Recruiters, same age PEERS



# HOW THE TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY MAY BE USED IN RECRUITMENT

According to research at Polaris on A Roadmap for Systems and Industries to Prevent and Disrupt Human Trafficking - TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY

Although most victims of human trafficking will indeed utilize some form of transportation in the course of their recruitment, the reality is, at this stage of the trafficking life-cycle;

- individuals likely do not suspect anything to be suspicious about their destination,
- victims may believe they are simply traveling to meet a new boyfriend, enter an exciting job opportunity, or simply going on vacation to meet new friends and see new sights,
- this makes identification and victim outreach extremely difficult (though not impossible) during this stage.

Despite this fact, it's still important to recognize the myriad of ways traffickers are relying on these systems for a steady supply of vulnerable individuals, and the types of transportation systems involved.

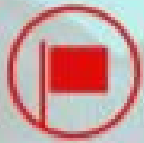
<https://polarisproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/A-Roadmap-for-Systems-and-Industries-to-Prevent-and-Disrupt-Human-Trafficking-Transportation-Industry.pdf>

# RED FLAGS FOR TRANSIT

Identifying a person who is being exploited is not a simple matter. Transit employees should be on the lookout for signs of control, vulnerability, recruitment or any indication that a person is involved in commercial sex. Keep in mind that multiple indicators will most likely present themselves when this crime is occurring.

**Be on the lookout for:**

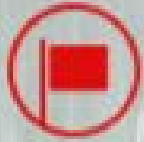
[https://truckersagainsttrafficking.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/BOTLtoolkit\\_transit\\_FINAL.pdf](https://truckersagainsttrafficking.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/BOTLtoolkit_transit_FINAL.pdf)



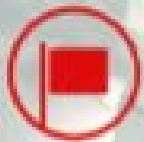
**Anyone who is offering to exchange sex for money or any other good or service, especially if it appears to be a minor**



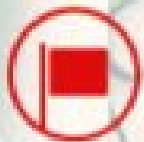
**Anyone who acknowledges having a pimp or needing to make a quota**



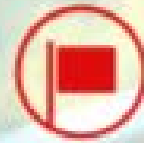
**Minors traveling without adult supervision**



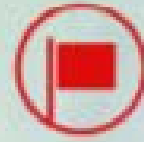
**Passengers who are not allowed to speak for themselves or make eye contact**



**Passengers with bruising, branding or other physical trauma**



**Passengers who look dirty and disheveled, or seem confused, panicked, or afraid**



**Passengers whose tickets, money, identification documents, or phone are being controlled by another person**



**Cars that are frequently at the transit center or terminal but no one gets out to board a bus**



**People in the transit center or terminal who regularly approach people who look vulnerable**

# Traffickers or “bottoms”

- (a term some pimps use to refer to a victim still under their control but who has “earned” a higher ranking among the other victims and may share recruitment responsibilities at the behest of the trafficker).

- **"Bottoms" approach potential targets and strike up what seems to be an innocuous and friendly conversation about their travel plans. According to Hotline calls, potential recruiters can sometimes take the bus or trains with potential victims to further build rapport, offer to "hang out" and kill time while they wait, or simply offer to give them a ride instead of the long bus/train trips potential victims have planned.**

# BUS AND TRAIN STATIONS AS RECRUITMENT GROUNDS

- Human traffickers use bus terminals and bus stops as recruiting areas when they're looking for vulnerable people, primarily minors and young adults, to exploit.
- Human traffickers use busing to transport their victims to locations where they'll be sold.
- Human traffickers are counting on busing employees to be ignorant of the signs to look for and the questions to ask which would help to spot victims in transit.

<https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/mission/international-policy-and-trade/against-human-trafficking/338066/acht-draft-final-report.pdf>

# HOW DO TRAFFICKERS CONTROL VICTIMS?

- Traffickers employ a variety of control tactics, the most common include physical and emotional abuse and threats, isolation from friends and family, and financial abuse. They make promises aimed at addressing the needs of their target in order to impose control. As a result, victims become trapped and fear leaving for myriad reasons, including psychological trauma, shame, emotional attachment, or physical threats to themselves or their family.





# WHY VICTIMS STAY

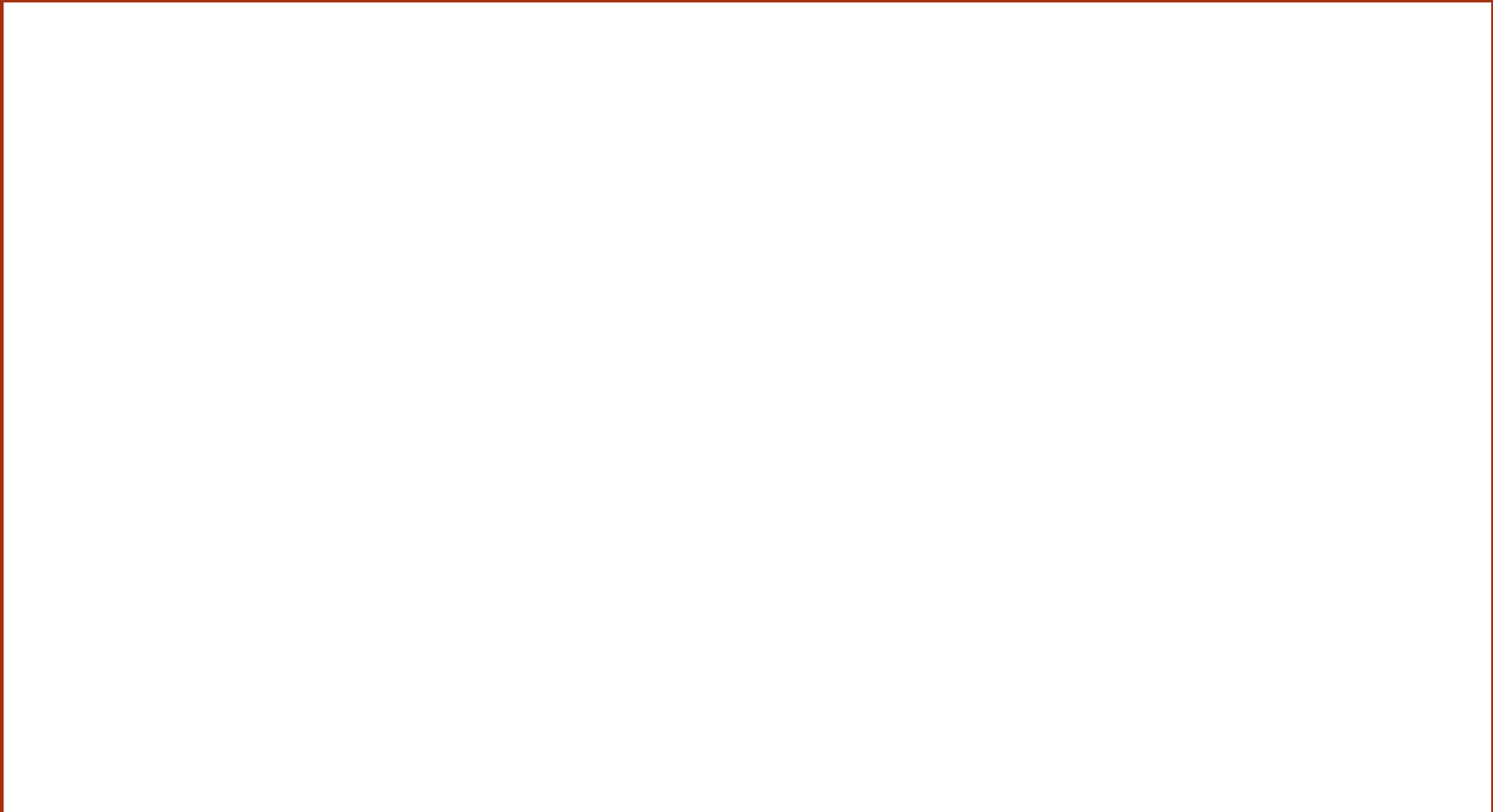
- Homeless or fear of homelessness
- Death threats, threats
- Survival mode - meet basic needs of shelter, food, money
- Familiar lifestyle - family, culture, religion
- Stockholm Syndrome, trauma bond
- Substance Use
- Might not view themselves as a victim
- TRAUMA-exposure to multiple types of abuse and abusers

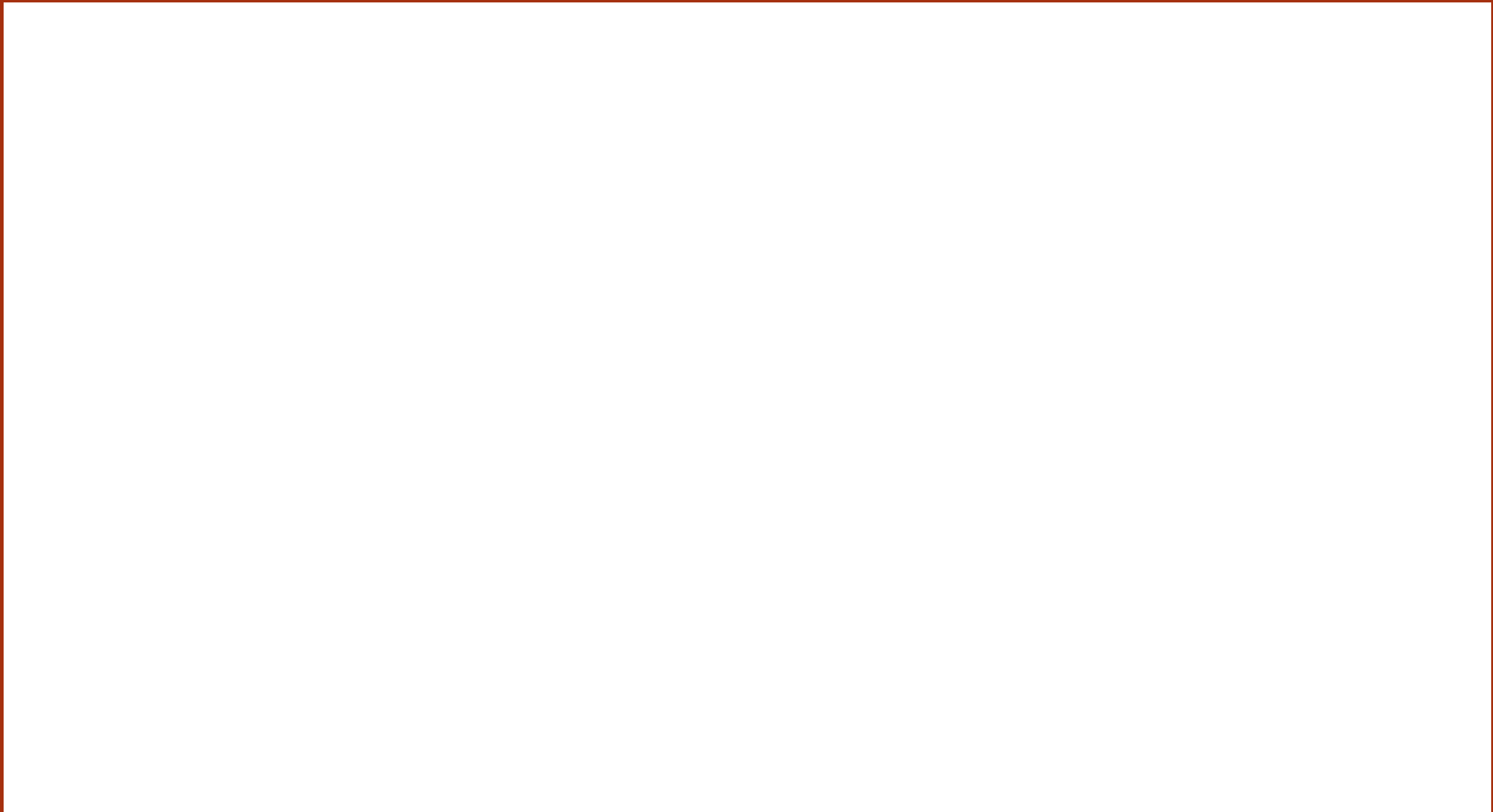
# VICTIM INJURIES

- Neck Bruises or “hickies”: Choke by hand or ligature, suction/ bite
- Impact Bruises to face, body, especially lips, and eyes
- Impact bruises to extensor surfaces of upper/lower arms, knuckles (Defense Injuries)
- Traumatic alopecia/subgaleal hematoma (Hair Pulling)
- Ligature marks to wrists/ankles (restraints w/rope or wire)
- Abrasion, friction injuries to body
- Branding, scars, tattoos

# TOP SEX TRAFFICKING GROUPS WHERE DEEPER INFORMATION IS NEEDED

- 1) Financial Services Industry
- 2) Social Media
- 3) Transportation
- 4) Hotels & Motels
- 5) Health Care





## **An effective strategy focuses on five key areas to maximize our impact to stop human trafficking:**

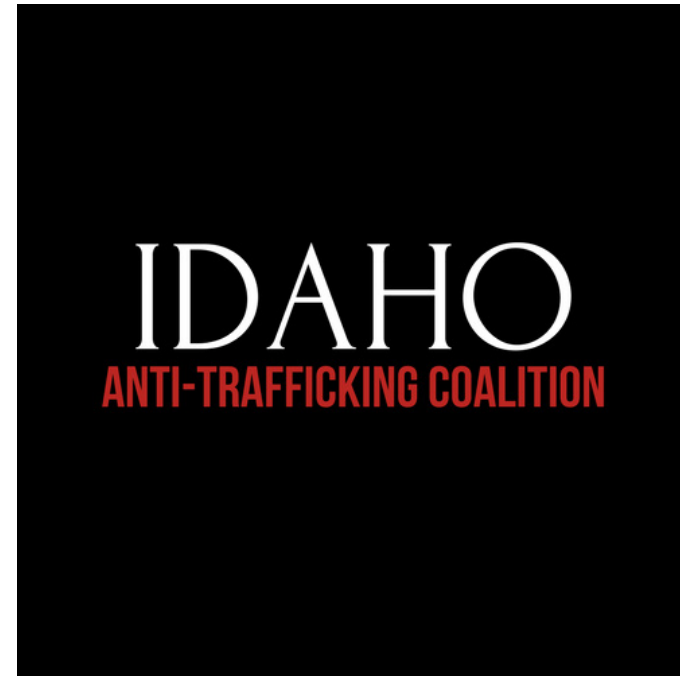
- **Leadership Engagement:** Leaders of transportation organizations taking a decisive stand on the issue and speaking out publicly.
- **Industry Education and Training:** Training all transportation professionals on how to recognize the basic indicators of human trafficking and to report potential cases.
- **Policy Development:** Integrating counter-trafficking efforts into organizational policy initiatives.
- **Public Awareness:** Reaching beyond the transportation workforce to engage the traveling public in this fight against human trafficking.
- **Information Sharing and Analysis:** Fostering a collaborative network of transportation stakeholders by sharing data and communicating best practices to maximize the collective impact on human trafficking.

# AWARENESS, POLICIES, PROTOCOLS

- **Develop, adopt, enforce, and implement a policy to address child sex trafficking;**
- **Make sure all employees are properly educated on sex trafficking and policy updates;**
- **Assess the environmental structure and take every possible step to help make it safe;**
- **Partner with experts to provide a community awareness program on the warning signs of sex trafficking, sexual exploitation, and trafficking recruitment tactics; and**
- **Implement safe, agency-wide steps for possible identification and emergencies;**
- **Have materials, posters, and other resources available.**



- **911-Immediate Danger**
- **Idaho Anti-Trafficking Coalition – IdahoATC.org  
Crisis/Resource Hotline - 208-630-6601 – Text/Call**
- **National Human Trafficking Hotline  
1-888-373-7888 or Text “BEFREE” (233733)**
- **Polarisproject.org – Freedom Happens Now**
- **National Center for Missing and Exploited Children 1-800-843-5678**
- **Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Services  
Idaho 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline 800-669-3176  
National 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline 800-799-7233**





# COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH THE BUS INDUSTRY

# BETH JACOBS



TRUCKERS AGAINST TRAFFICKING



# BUSES & TRAFFICKING: INTERSECTIONS



**Recruitment**



**Exploitation**



**Exit**



**Recovery**

# BUSES & TRAFFICKING: INTERSECTIONS

*A 2018 report from Polaris, based on research conducted with survivors, found several points of intersection between buses and trafficking.\**

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**54%**

access to transportation was a barrier to leaving their situation.

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**42%**

TRAFFICKERS USED LOCAL OR LONG DISTANCE BUSES IN THEIR EXPLOITATION.

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**26%**

public or mass transportation played a role in at least one exit attempt, with buses most frequent.

# SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS





CASE STUDY



# *Lakefront Lines* *Ohio*



# BOTL TRAINING RESOURCES



**Make the Call,  
Save Lives.**

**1-888-3737-888 (US)  
1-833-900-1010 (Canada)  
01800-5533-000 (Mexico)  
Text INFO or HELP to BeFree (233733)**

[www.busingonthelookout.org](http://www.busingonthelookout.org)

National Hotline: 1-888-3737-888 (Multi-Lingual)  
1-833-900-1010 (Canada)  
01800-5533-000 (Mexico)  
Text INFO or HELP to BeFree (233733)

Report by Email: [help@humantraffickinghotline.org](mailto:help@humantraffickinghotline.org)

**Warning:** Please do not approach traffickers. Call the hotline, and if instructed, the local police (911). Allow law enforcement to deal with traffickers and recover victims. Approaching traffickers is not only dangerous for you and their victims but could lead to problems in the eventual prosecution of traffickers. Also, please notify dispatch or your manager of the suspicious activity.

For more information on combating human trafficking, go to [www.busingonthelookout.org](http://www.busingonthelookout.org).




**Make the Call,  
Save Lives.**

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Human trafficking is modern day slavery. Traffickers use force, fraud and coercion to control their victims. Any minor engaged in commercial sex is a victim of human trafficking. Trafficking can occur in many locations, including bus terminals, restaurants, hotels/motels, strip clubs, casinos, private homes, truck stops, etc. Moreover, traffickers utilize bus terminals to recruit victims out of, as well as the bus itself to transport their victims. Whether you work behind a ticket counter, conduct bus maintenance, or are a professional driver, members of the bus industry are in a position to spot potential human trafficking situations and save a life. To report a tip or to help a victim access services, call the National Hotline at:

**1-888-3737-888 (US) • 1-833-900-1010 (Canada)  
01800-5533-000 (Mexico) • Text INFO or HELP to BeFree (233733)**

For law enforcement to open an investigation on your tip, they need "actionable information," and as many details as you can provide. Specific tips helpful when reporting to the hotline would include:

- Descriptions of cars (make, model, color, license plate number, etc.) and people (height, weight, hair color, eye color, age, etc.) Take a picture if you can.
- Specific times and dates (When did you see the event in question take place? What day was it?)
- Addresses and locations where suspicious activity took place

#### Questions to Ask:

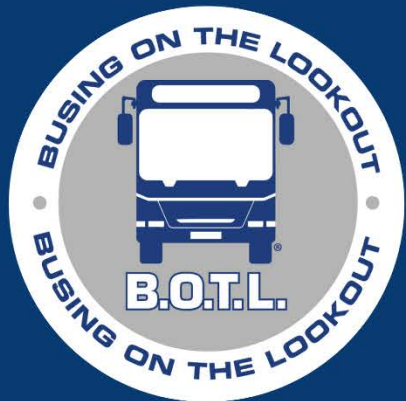
- Do you know the person who is picking you up?
- Do you feel safe with the person you're traveling with?
- Do your parents/siblings/relatives know where you are? If not, why not?
- Are you free to come and go as you please?
- Are you or your family being threatened? What is the nature of the threats?

#### Trafficking Red Flags to Look For:

- Restricted or controlled communication-not allowed to speak for self
- Disheveled appearance, unkempt, alone, scared/crying
- Minors traveling without adult supervision
- Offers to exchange sex for a ride, meal, etc.
- Does not know the person who is picking them up
- Any acknowledgement that she/he has a pimp and is making a quota
- Signs of branding or tattooing (often of trafficker's name)
- Is not in possession of own ticket or ID







# TRANSIT ON THE LOOKOUT

A Toolkit for Public Transit Agencies



# CASE STUDY

## *San Diego Metropolitan Transit*



# BOTL POSTERS

## WANT OUT OF THE LIFE?

Sarah was 15 when she ran away from home. She had big dreams about what her life could be and Chris seemed like the only person who cared. When Chris told her he would leave her if she didn't sell herself for sex, Sarah didn't think she had a choice. YOU ARE NOT ALONE. YOU HAVE OTHER OPTIONS.



Call the National Human Trafficking Hotline:  
1-888-3737-888 (US) or 1-833-900-1010 (Canada)  
Anonymous | Confidential | Toll Free | 24/7



If you or someone you know is being forced to engage in any activity and cannot leave, whether it is commercial sex, housework, farm work, construction, factory, retail or restaurant work, or any other activity, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 888-3737-888 to access help and services.

## NOT SURE WHAT YOU'RE WALKING INTO?

Thousands of girls, boys, women and men are forced into prostitution each year, as sex traffickers lure them into the life with promises of work opportunities and romance. You are not alone. You have other options.



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## LOVE DOESN'T HURT. TRICKS AND PIMPS DO.

Lisa was 16 years old and living on the streets when Scott, a handsome 25 year old, promised her love, financial security, and a place to call home. She thought she had it all until Scott told her she must sell herself to keep it. If somebody is asking you to sell your body or putting you in harm's way, that's not love.



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## DO YOU REALLY TRUST THIS PERSON?

If it sounds too good to be true, it usually is. Thousands of girls, boys, women and men are forced into prostitution each year, as sex traffickers lure them into the life with promises of work opportunities and romance. You are not alone. You have other options.



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TravelCenters  
of America



Rental | Leasing | Logistics



Volvo Trucks



Great Dane

TRESERVE, INC.

C.H. ROBINSON



human energy



HIE BROS.



# IN SUMMARY...



Implement



Adopt



Connect



Launch

**ANNIE  
SOVCIK**

**DIRECTOR OF  
BUSING ON THE LOOKOUT**

**410-952-0789**  
asovcik@truckersagainst  
trafficking.org  
www.busingonthelookout.org



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