

## About Traffickers

Traffickers lure and ensnare victims into forced labor or sex trafficking using various techniques and control tactics, including:

- Keeping victims under lock and key
- Inflicting physical and mental abuse, and sexual assault
- Threaten violence against the victims or their family members
- Isolate victims from family, their community and the general public
- Threaten to shame the victim by exposing the circumstance to her family
- Telling victims they will be imprisoned or deported for immigration violations if they alert the authorities
- Controlling the victim's money
- Exploiting victims who are of the same ethnicity, which allows traffickers to better understand their vulnerabilities
- Addicting victims to street drugs

## Who are the Johns?

Men who purchase sex for sexual gratification come in all ages, sizes, different careers, ethnicities, social and economic backgrounds. This includes:

- Married and unmarried
- Parents and childless
- Professionals and unskilled workers
- Employed and unemployed

Sacramento Together conducts John sting operations throughout Sacramento County to target sex purchasers and reduce the demand side of human trafficking.

If you believe someone is a victim of human trafficking, get help.

### Law Enforcement

Citrus Heights Police	916.727.5500
Elk Grove Police	916.478.8000
Folsom Police	916.461.6400
Galt Police	209.366.7000
Sacramento County District Attorney	
Main	916.874.6218
Victim/Witness Assistance	916.874.5701
Sacramento County Sheriff	916.874.5115
Sacramento Police	916.264.5471



### Local Resources

3Strands Global Foundation	916.365.2606
Child Protective Services	916.875.5437
City of Refuge	866.733.8438
Community Against Sexual Harm	916.856.2900
My Sister's House	916.428.3271
National Human Trafficking Hotline	888.373.7888
Online chatting	<a href="https://humantraffickinghotline.org">humantraffickinghotline.org</a>
Opening Doors Inc.	916.492.2591
Sacramento FJC	844.664.7233
Sacramento Together	<a href="https://sacramentotogether.org">sacramentotogether.org</a>
UC Davis CAARE Center	916.219.7980
WEAVE, Inc.	916.920.2952
Resource card	<a href="https://sacramentotogether.org">sacramentotogether.org</a>

901 G Street - Sacramento, CA 95814

916.874.6218

CA Relay Service 800.735.2929 TDD or 711

@SacCountyDA    

# Human Trafficking



"Our office remains committed to working with our partner agencies and community organizations in the Sacramento Together coalition. Our mission is to protect children and adults from human trafficking and exploitation in our community."

- District Attorney Thien Ho



District Attorney  
**Thien Ho**

Sacramento County  
District Attorney's Office

[sacda.org](https://sacda.org)

## What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is a felony offense that involves the use of force, fraud, coercion, isolation and/or threats of violence to control victims for the purpose of engaging in commercial sex acts or labor services against his/her will.

The California Penal Code defines a trafficker as anyone who deprives or violates the personal liberty of another with the intent to obtain forced labor or services or commercial sex acts or anyone who causes, induces, persuades, or attempts to cause, induce or persuade a minor to engage in a commercial sex act.

## Forms of Human Trafficking include

- Forced prostitution
- Slavery or involuntary servitude
- Sex trafficking
- Debt bondage – financial obligations, honor-bound to satisfy a debt

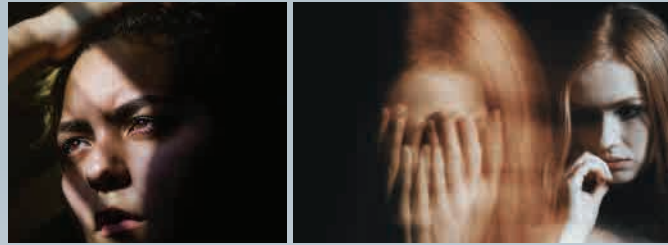
## Who are the victims?

There is not one consistent face of a trafficking victim. They can come from a range of backgrounds, including middle and upper class families. Trafficked persons can be:

- Runaway and homeless youth
- Men, women, teens or children
- Foreign nationals or US citizens
- Educated or no formal education
- Undocumented immigrant, new citizens
- Oppressed groups and individuals

**Victims of human trafficking do not often seek help immediately**, due to lack of trust, self-blame, or being directly trained by traffickers to distrust authorities. Sometimes trafficked individuals do not realize they are victims of a crime.

## Recognizing the signs



Human trafficking victims may look like the people you encounter every day. Be alert for these warning signs. Someone you meet may need help finding the path to freedom:

- Is the person accompanied by another person who seems controlling?
- Do they avoid eye contact?
- Rarely allowed in public (except for work)?
- Physical or psychological abuse?
- Does the person seem submissive or fearful?
- Do they lack identification or documentation?
- Is someone else collecting the person's pay or holding that money for 'safe keeping'?
- Are they not in control of their own money or possessions?

While anyone can become a victim of trafficking, certain populations are especially vulnerable with high risk factors, which may include:

- Low self-esteem
- Childhood trauma, abuse, endangerment
- Truancy
- Drug abuse
- Lack of stability in the home life (including runaways and foster care children)
- Easily coerced
- Fearful of law enforcement or deportation

## How is pimping a form of Human Trafficking?

Pimps are motivated by the opportunity to make money. They sell women, men and children in the commercial sex industry by using methods to gain control over their bodies and minds. Many of these behaviors meet the definition of force, fraud or coercion that are the central elements of the crime of human trafficking. Pimps often use some form of deceit, lies, manipulation, threats, or violence towards the victims they are attempting to control.

Contrary to common perceptions, pimps often do not offer protection, and they are not benevolent managers. The perception of a pimp are often romanticized, glamorized and far from the reality of how pimps behave.

Pimps usually take all of the money and typically establish nightly monetary quotas that adults and children are forced to earn in order to avoid violent repercussions. Pimps even "brand" those under their control with tattoos of their name or number identification to demonstrate ownership.

