

# The truth about sex trafficking.

Traffickers are often a romantic partner or a family member.

Anyone, including boys, can be a victim of sex trafficking.

Traffickers often target women, girls, and members of the LGBTQ+ community.

Victims are emotionally and psychologically manipulated and though they may be physically “free to leave,” in reality, they are trapped in a cycle of abuse.

Most victims of trafficking freely enter into relationships where they are forced, manipulated, or coerced into commercial sex.

Sex trafficking happens any time a child or teen trades a sex act for something of value (food, shelter, clothes, money, protection, etc.)

## Do you know someone who needs help?

### PA ChildLine

1-800-932-0313

#### Child sex trafficking is child abuse.

As a mandated reporter, you are required to file a report to ChildLine should you suspect a child may be a victim of sex trafficking. Reports should be made immediately either online through Pennsylvania’s Department of Human Services’ website or by calling the number above.

### National Human Trafficking Resource Center

Text “INFO” or “HELP” to “BeFree” (233-733)

1-888-373-7888

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

If you or someone you know has experienced human trafficking or is in a potential human trafficking situation, call this hotline for help and services.

Find organizations + resources in your area and check out our downloadable resources:

<https://pcv.pccd.pa.gov/HT>



Learn more by following @traffickinghappenspa on social media.

# Sex Trafficking Happens to Kids in PA



## A Guide for Caregivers



pennsylvania  
OFFICE OF VICTIM ADVOCATE

@traffickinghappenspa

# Kids you know may be vulnerable to sex trafficking if they...

- have an unstable living situation
- experience violence at home
- are involved in the juvenile justice or foster care system
- have run away from home
- are undocumented immigrants
- are facing poverty or economic need
- have a history of sexual abuse
- struggle with substance use

**Most signs of trafficking are invisible.**

The best thing you can do is be supportive and give your kids and their friends a safe place to talk.

# What is child sex trafficking?

**It's any time a  
minor exchanges  
sex for something  
of value.**

**something of value  
could look like:**

- shelter
- food
- drugs
- alcohol
- clothes
- cell phones
- money
- protection

**Want to learn more?**



Scan the QR code and follow  
**@traffickinghappenspa**  
on social media for more  
info.

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# Social media safety

Traffickers use social media to **recruit and exploit** people. Here are 3 things you can do to protect kids:

**01.**

Follow your kids on social media.

**02.**

Talk to your kids about safe social media practices including private profiles, direct messaging, & photos.

**03.**

Be aware of all the ways your kids can access the internet – including cell phones, laptops, gaming consoles, and tablets.

**04.**

Knowing which devices they have access to will help you keep them safe.

