

Human trafficking is a crime. It is a form of modern day slavery in which people are controlled and abused for the profit of others. There are different types of Human Trafficking.

- Labor Trafficking happens when people are forced to work in factories, farms, hotels, motels, restaurants, etc. for little or no pay and often in unsafe conditions;
- Sex Trafficking happens when people are forced to trade sex acts for money; and
- Domestic Servitude is when a person is forced to work in someone's home for little or no pay.

Human trafficking is one of the most profitable crimes in the modern world. It thrives because it remains hidden due to the threats made by traffickers which create fear in their victims. Human trafficking can and does happen anywhere. Victims come from all walks of life, can be U.S. Citizens or foreign born, male or female and any age.

Victims of human trafficking are often tricked or lured by traffickers who takes advantage of them. Some approaches traffickers use are false promises of well-paying jobs; love or marriage; and offers to give the victim a safe and better place to live.

Human traffickers can be family members, business owners, neighbors, local officials, organized crime units and even respected members of a community. One thing all traffickers have in common is their use of force, fraud and threats to keep their victims isolated and afraid. Traffickers do this to victims to keep them away from their support systems, destroy their urge to run away and make them feel helpless and dependent.

If you are a victim of human trafficking, you may have been threatened with physical harm or your family may have been threatened. Maybe the trafficker is threatening to tell your family if you have been forced into prostitution, and you are afraid of being dishonored. Your trafficker may have told you that it is illegal for you to work in the United States and that if you try to get help, the police will arrest you. These threats are a crime.

You are not to blame for what happened to you.

Human trafficking is a crime and you can get help from a victim service program in the area where you live or work. Even if you don't know where you are right now, because your trafficker won't tell you, you can still get help.

You can also get help whether you are a United States citizen or have been brought to the United States illegally by your trafficker. Click on this link and contact a [victim service program in your area](#) to get help.

If you think that you are in immediate danger, call 9-1-1. You can also call the National Trafficking Resource Center Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or text them the letters "Befree" or the number 233733 to reach them.

If you know someone who might be a victim of human trafficking or want to report suspicious activity in your community that could be related to human trafficking, you can [report a tip online through the Polaris hotline](#).