# WHAT TO DO IF YOU WITNESS OR SUSPECT TRAFFICKING OR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION?





#### **REPORTING TO POLICE:**

\*Note: individuals can choose not to consent to police involvement (if they are over 16 years of age).

**Halton Regional Police Services** 

Crimestoppers (Anonymous Crime Reporting)

905-825-4777 and

1-800-222-TIPS

Ask for on-duty VICE Unit Officer

### **CRISIS SUPPORT OR COUNSELLING:**

SAVIS of Halton 24/7 Crisis Line

**Distress Centre Halton** 

**COAST** (Mental Health Support)

905-875-1555

905-849-4541

1-877-825-9011

### PEER ACCOMPANIMENT OR MOBILE SUPPORT WORKERS:

**SAVIS** of Halton

**Elizabeth Fry Society of Peel-Halton** 

905-825-3622

905-459-1315

#### **EMERGENCY SHELTER OR PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE:**

Halton Women's Place

Salvation Army Lighthouse

**Victim Services** 

905-878-8555 (North)

905-339-2918

905-825-4810

or 905-332-7892 (South)

HEALTH CARE SUPPORT (or if they've been sexually assaulted or physically abused):

**Any Hospital Emergency Room** 

Nina's Place

and/or

905-336-4116

# SUPPORT FOR THOSE UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE, OR WHO HAVE DEPENDENTS UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE:

Halton Children's Aid Society

905-333-4441

**Halton Regional Police Services** 

905-825-4777 and

Ask for on-duty VICE Unit Officer

# INDICATORS OF TRAFFICKING & SEXUAL EXPLOITATION





#### A PERSON BEING TRAFFICKED MAY:

[]	Be unaware of local surroundings; may claim to be 'just visiting'
[]	Show evidence of control, intimidation or abnormal psychological fear; excessive concern about displeasing partner; may have strict rules they have to follow that seem unreasonable
[]	Be frequently accompanied by their trafficker; they aren't allowed to move freely, or must regularly 'check in'
[]	Have tattoos that act as 'branding' from the trafficker
[]	Be dressed in inappropriate clothing for the context or the weather
[]	Be unable to speak for themselves; an accompanying person speaks or translates for them
[]	Uses slang terms and lingo from within the sex work subculture (telly, THOT, daddy/pimp, bottom, etc.)
[]	Suddenly have expensive clothes, purses, shoes, hair and nail services, etc., that are outside of their own financial reach
[]	Not be permitted access to a phone (or alternatively, they may have 2-3 cellphones used for contact with clients and trafficker)
[]	Have their ID and money held by someone else
[]	Not be allowed to hang out with friends or family; may not be allowed to contact them at all
[]	Have bruises or show other signs of abuse or malnourishment; denial of basic needs
[]	Have experienced acts of violence or threats against themselves/friends/family/pets (or threat of informing others of their activities) — they may be punished for discussing their activities with outsiders
[]	Be forced to, or encouraged to, engage in other criminal activities (taking and selling drugs, recruiting other girls)
[]	Be taught to distrust outsiders, especially law enforcement. They have a sense of fear and distrust toward the government and police (i.e. fear of deportation in international cases)
[]	Be unlikely to self-identify as a trafficked person or may feel a dependency on their trafficker;
[]	Feel that they have to 'pay back' someone for 'debt' - gifts, clothes, drugs, money, accommodations, etc.
[]	Indicate that they are an independent sex worker, but that they have a nightly 'quota' they have to meet, or a manager/'daddy'/'pimp'
[]	Have their money withheld for their independent sex work, or they are forced to accept less money, drugs or other services in return for their sex work that they didn't agree to

Note: these indicators do not prove that an individual has been trafficked or sexually exploited, but are signs of potential trafficking or recruitment. It is also not your responsibility to identify 100% that a person is being trafficked. If you suspect an individual is at risk and needs help, refer them to the resources on the back of this page to help them access the services they may want in order to exit a situation of exploitation.

# What is sexual exploitation?

It is the commodification of a human for the purpose of sexual service. Children, women, and men are lured and recruited to sell a sexual service for the benefit of the exploiter. The Criminal Intelligence Service Canada estimates that a Canadian victim of sex trafficking is worth approximately \$280,000/year to her exploiter. The average age of recruitment in Canada is 13-15.

**Trafficker / Exploiter:** A trafficker is anyone who receives money or something of value for the sexual exploitation for another person. In Canada, we call them pimps. There are three kinds.

Friend Pimp: Pimps



### Gorilla (or Guerilla) Pimp:



Controls victims
almost entirely
through physical
violence and force.

**Boyfriend Pimp:** 



Controls people mainly

through psychological manipulation. He may win victims over with affection or gifts, but the threat of violence is always there. Recruiters can be female, although most are male.

The Game: The Game is a term to describe the subculture of prostitution. Like any subculture, it includes its own language, rules and hierarchy. Calling prostitution 'the game' makes it sound fun, instead of the dangerous lifestyle it really is.

## Pimps try to pick up their victims with lines:

- "Girl, I've been trying to get up enough nerve to speak to you. You're so beautiful; I thought you wouldn't talk to somebody like me"
- "You are just the girl I've been looking for beautiful, smart and sexy"
- · "Someone with your good looks and brains could be making way more money"

Facilitator: Any business or person that knowingly allows or helps a pimp make money. Facilitators (taxi drivers, hotels, etc.) benefit from the proceeds earned through the sexual exploitation of victims.

Quota: A set amount of money that an exploited victim must make each night before she can come "home." Quotas are often set between \$300 and \$2,000. If the victim returns without meeting the quota, she is typically beaten by her pimp and sent back out to earn the rest.

Does he get to keep all that money or does he share it

with his victims? The pimp only shares his money with the victim to purchase necessities and keep her working. He also has to pay for her expenses, favours, or assistance from facilitators.

Something of value for sexual acts. They can be a family member, friend, peer, teacher, sports coach, or member of the clergy. They can be male or female, but are typically male. They choose to believe the illusion that everyone involved in prostitution enjoys it.

### **Exploiters advertise victims by:**

- Word of mouth
- Strip clubs
- Online

