



It could happen to them.

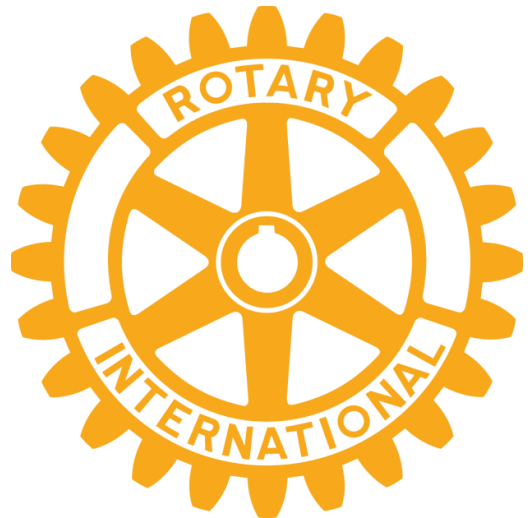
IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU.

A recent study estimates that in Texas there are **79,000 youth and minors living as victims of sex trafficking**. Trafficking is happening all around us in the Houston area: in the inner city, in the suburbs, in every walk of life. The truth is, **it *could* happen to you!**

That could never happen to me!

We certainly hope that it won't!

However, traffickers are very good at what they do. **To stay safe, it's important to know how traffickers operate.**



**Rotary District 5890
Greater Houston Area**

It's important to know...

how a trafficker starts a relationship to help keep yourself safe! Traffickers look to take advantage of kids and teens in schools, neighborhoods and especially online.

Traffickers take advantage of a person's vulnerabilities which could include: age; feeling alone; needing to feel love or friendship; having a lot of unsupervised time; etc.

Traffickers establish what seems to be a normal and safe relationship, and begin building trust. Once a relationship is formed, it starts changing and the trafficker becomes controlling and abusive. When this happens, a person may not recognize the danger they are in or feels too trapped to do anything about it.

WATCH FOR SIGNS.

- Someone you met online or in person asks you questions about your life but won't answer questions you ask about their life, or they are brief in their response.
- Someone you met online wants to know if you are alone.
- Someone you met online wants to meet up in person.
- Someone tells you that they know a way you can earn money fast.
- You are asked to do things that you don't want to do.
- You are threatened when you don't do the things they asked you to do.

WHAT IS TRAFFICKING?

“Sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age. The term “commercial sex act” means any sex act on account of which anything of value is given to or received by any person.” –HumanTraffickingHotline.Org

What can YOU do?

- Be aware of who you talk to on social media
- Always let someone know if you are beginning a relationship with someone, in person or online.
- Stick to your “no” and don’t let someone push you into a “yes.”
- Trust your gut- if something doesn’t feel right, leave.
- Tell a trusted adult. If you begin to feel unsafe or if someone is trying to make you do something you don’t want to do, let someone help you!



For more information:

Visit love146.org or unboundnow.org

For help or to make a report:

National Human Trafficking Hotline
(888-373-7888) humantraffickinghotline.org