



Rotary District 5890
Greater Houston Area

WHAT EVERY TEACHER SHOULD KNOW AND WHY.

TEACHER AWARENESS ON TRAFFICKING

A 2016 study done by the University of Texas 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.

"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 TO KNOW.

Traffickers look for vulnerable youth in schools, neighborhoods and especially online. Traffickers are looking for young people who feel alone, have an unmet need, long for attention, or have a lot of unsupervised time (think time on internet/social media.) The trafficker then reaches out to the young person and establishes a relationship, building trust while simultaneously drawing them away from their family and friends. The tables then turn and exploitation begins. By this time, the young person does not recognize the danger they are in or feels too trapped to do anything about it.

WATCH FOR SIGNS.

- Noticeable change in attendance/academic performance
- Major change in personality/behavior
- Drug/alcohol use
- Sudden presence of an older boyfriend/friend
- New tattoos/branding
- Signs of psychological/physical trauma
- Inconsistent stories/responses
- Multiple cell phones, hotel keys, prepaid credit cards.

LEARN MORE.

For more information:

Visit love146.org or unboundnow.org

TexasAttorneyGeneral.gov

Intro to Human Trafficking: A Guide for Texas education professionals

hyperlink: https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/files/cj/HumanTraffick_RPRT2014.pdf

What can YOU do?

- Talk to your students about the dangers of trafficking
- Watch for signs of trafficking and ask non-threatening questions of those students
- Invite an anti-trafficking presentation to your class



For help or to make a report:

National Human Trafficking Hotline
(888-373-7888)

humantraffickinghotline.org

Houston Police Vice Division
713-308-8600