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5 FACTS & 5 TIPS

EMPOWERING FAMILIES TO BE THE SOLUTION

5 TIPS FOR PARENTS

ON HOW TO TALK WITH YOUR FAMILY ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

5 WAYS YOU CAN IDENTIFY

AT-RISK FACTORS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN YOUR COMMUNITY



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TIPS FOR PARENTS

As parents, you are the first line of prevention against human trafficking. Most victims in the United States suffer from instability in the home that leads them to feel low self-esteem and extreme vulnerability. Talking to your children may lead to preventing this injustice whether it be your child or someone they know who may be at-risk.

FAST FACTS [In U.S.]:

- 1 in 6 Runaways become victims*
- Avg. age of victim is 13 years old *



ON HOW TO TALK WITH YOUR FAMILY ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

2 BEING AWARE

This can be a heavy topic. Be aware of the mood of the conversation and when your family may be feeling a little fatigued. You could set a time limit for the conversation and allow yourselves to go over by just a little and save some topics or questions until next time.

3 YOU DON'T NEED TO BE AN EXPERT

Your family may ask questions which is exactly what you want. And being knowledgeable is great but if you don't know an answer to a question, look up the answer together. That will help to keep the dialogue open and accurate information is essential to being properly equipped to tackle this complex topic.

4 SUBSTITUTE FOR APPROPRIATE TERMS AHEAD OF TIME

Some of the vocabulary for this topic can be uncomfortable and possibly inappropriate depending on the age of the audience. Knowing the age of your family members, take some time before the conversation thinking of ways to still have the discussion but not be overwhelming or inappropriate.

1 DO YOUR RESEARCH

Walking into a conversation with family, you don't need to be an expert. But you should absolutely know the accurate and appropriate information for the conversation.

5 BE OPEN TO MULTIPLE CONVOS

Whether it be all of your family or one on ones, be open to have multiple talks with your family members. And be consistent and intentional when you do talk.

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WAYS YOU CAN IDENTIFY

AT-RISK FACTORS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

1 SAFETY

Spotting a potential victim can be difficult but signs of a lack of safety can be the most apparent way of knowing someone needs help. Signs of abuse such as consistent bruising or a fearful or anxious demeanor, are typical red flags for someone in need of help. Another sign may include fear of authority

2 BEING FOLLOWED

Public spaces and high travel areas are common places for traffickers to attempt recruiting or taking victims. Grocery stores and gas stations are two areas where there have been known traffickers that have followed potential victims through the building and out to their cars. Walking home alone or even separating from a group momentarily can all give traffickers opportunities to recruit or take a victim.

3 FAKE JOBS

Traffickers will sometimes use enticing job offers to lure unsuspecting teens and job needy adults. These fake jobs can lead to a “debt” that is used to coerce a victim into doing whatever it takes to paying that debt off whether that be forced labor or sexual exploitation.

4 SCHOOLS AND PLAYGROUNDS

Pay attention to who is around schools and playgrounds but do not have any children. Traffickers will often approach teens especially and offer rides home or promise gifts, or material goods if they get in the car with them.

3 REASONS TO BE AWARE

- Only 2% of all suspected human trafficking cases in Illinois get reported annually.*
- The most likely people to witness trafficking are those who are in the community consistently and know what to look for.
- ~~Knowing~~ knowing the signs of an individual at-risk may lead to preventing this injustice from ever happening in the first place.

5 SOCIAL MEDIA AWARENESS

With the presence of social media growing, so does an opportunity for traffickers to recruit through social media. Make sure to only friend people you know or ensure your privacy settings are set, especially for minors.



* <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/state/illinois>

BONUS

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WHAT CAN YOU DO NOW TO CREATE CHANGE?

1 SPREAD THE WORD → Share this info with someone you know!

2 KNOW WHO TO CALL → 9-1-1 is only to be used in case of emergency. Instead there is a human trafficking hotline you can call for any situation you feel may be trafficking related. That number is **888-378-7888**

3 BECOME AN ACTION PARTNER →

You can help to continue creating a future of change by becoming an Action Partner for \$15 a month. Action Partners will receive regular and transparent updates as to how their support is being used to change people lives who are need. You can sign up at provisionlab.org/actionpartner

4 ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITY →

Talk to your local schools, municipalities, churches, or business/organization to see what they are doing to help the fight against human trafficking. Provision Lab will come speak about human trafficking awareness and solutions. Visit provisionlab.org/speaker for more information.



**5 BE INSPIRED.
BE THE CHANGE.**

TEXT **"INSPIRED"** TO 41411 to give a one-time gift. 100% of your donation will go to ending human trafficking in our communities.