

## What can YOU do?

- Educate yourself about crime of human trafficking and its effects
- Learn to recognize indicators of trafficking
- Share what you know with others
- Report suspected trafficking to authorities

### NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

**1-888-373-7888**

### MS CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE

**1-888-222-8000**

### MS HUMAN TRAFFICKING COORDINATOR

**1-800-829-6766**

## Human Trafficking Facts

- There are over 27 million slaves around the world-more than there have ever been in human history.
- Human trafficking is a \$32 billion industry.
- Human trafficking is the 2nd largest criminal industry in the world and is the fastest growing lucrative industry.
- The average victim of human trafficking is 12 years old.
- Anyone is at risk of being trafficked.
- According to the U.S. government, 100,000-300,000 children are at risk of being trafficked each year.

## Organizations Combatting Human Trafficking



Polaris Project  
[www.polarisproject.org](http://www.polarisproject.org)



Shared Hope International  
[www.sharedhope.org](http://www.sharedhope.org)



U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
[www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov)



United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime  
[www.unodc.org](http://www.unodc.org)



Mississippi Attorney General's Office  
Bureau of Victim Assistance  
P.O. Box 220  
Jackson, MS 39205  
800.829.6766  
601.359.6766  
[www.agjimhood.com](http://www.agjimhood.com)

## Human Trafficking



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## What is Human Trafficking?

Human Trafficking is a form of modern day slavery where people profit from the exploitation of others. Victims of Human Trafficking can be men, women, or children of all races and nationalities. Human Trafficking takes many forms, but is most easily divided into two types, sex trafficking and labor trafficking.

- sex trafficking occurs when a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or when the person performing the commercial sex act has not attained 18 years of age.
- labor trafficking occurs when an individual is recruited, harbored, transported, provided, or obtained for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud or coercion, for the purpose of subjection to some form of involuntary servitude, or debt bondage.

### MYTHS AND MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

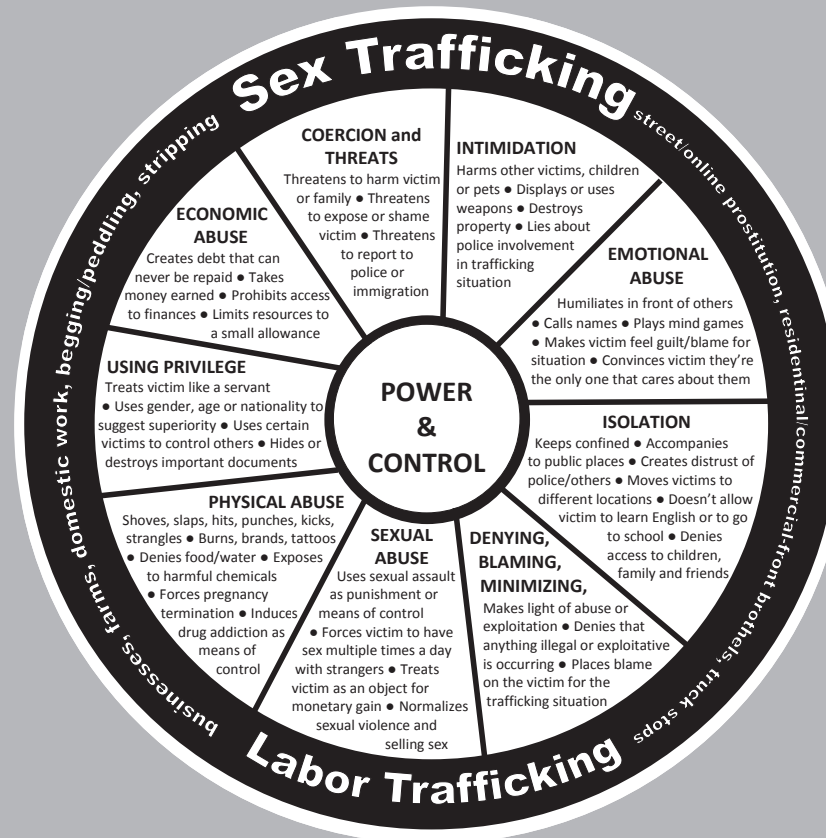
It is important to dispel certain myths about trafficking.

- Trafficking is not the same thing as smuggling:
  - trafficking does not require transportation or border crossing; and
  - trafficking does not only affect people in the US illegally.
- Trafficking does not require physical force, physical abuse, or physical restraint—other forms of coercion such as threats, intimidation or blackmail are often used by traffickers Non-physical forms of coercion may include:
  - threats to publish sexually explicit photographs or videos of the victim; or
  - providing or administering drugs or alcohol to the victim.

## Human Trafficking Indicators

### THE INDIVIDUAL(S) IN QUESTION:

- is not free to leave or come and go as he/she wishes
- is under 18 and is providing commercial sex acts
- is in the commercial sex industry and has a pimp/manager
- is unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips
- works excessively long and/or unusual hours
- is not allowed breaks or suffers under unusual restrictions at work
- owes a large debt and is unable to pay it off
- was recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of his/her work
- high security measures exist in the work and/or living locations (e.g. opaque windows, boarded up windows, bars on windows, barbed wire, security cameras, etc.)



## Mississippi Law

In Mississippi, the law defines human trafficking as recruiting, enticing, harboring, transporting or obtaining another person, knowing that the person will be subjected to forced labor or services. Some examples of force defined in Mississippi's law include: causing or threatening to cause physical harm to a person to get them to perform the labor or services; physically restraining, such as locking the person in a room or tying the person up, in order to get them to perform the labor or services; blackmailing the person to get them to perform the services; or taking their identification documents, like driver's license or passport and holding it to get them to perform the services. A person also engages in human trafficking if they employ someone knowing they have been trafficked. Labor and services can include a variety of things, including agricultural work, restaurant work, massage parlors, nail salons, brothels or street prostitution. Any time a minor under the age of 18 is involved in commercial sex, Mississippi law recognizes that minor as a victim of human trafficking and requires a mandatory report to the Mississippi Department of Human Services.

### What is the Mississippi Attorney General doing?

The Mississippi Attorney General's Office works closely with national and state authorities to improve our state's response to human trafficking offenses. In 2013, the Attorney General's Office drafted changes to Mississippi's Human Trafficking Laws, embodied in House Bill 673, which passed overwhelmingly in the Legislature. These changes took effect July 1, 2013. With these changes, Mississippi's laws now reflect current cutting edge shifts in the approach to human trafficking crimes— increasing the emphasis on offender accountability, while at the same time providing for safeguards and protections for victims of this horrible crime, such as safe harbor and confidentiality provisions for victims. The Office of the Attorney General will serve as the hub for information related to human trafficking in the state, housing the state's first Human Trafficking Coordinator.