

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: STAYING SAFE TIPS FOR TEENS

What is human trafficking?

Human trafficking is when someone is commercially exploited for work or sex by using force, fraud, or coercion; OR if someone under 18 years old is participating in commercial sex.

What does it look like when someone tries to traffick someone for sex?

- Tries to get you away from your family/friends
- Promises you a better life or job if you follow them
- Asks you to keep your relationship a secret
- Bribes you with expensive gifts
- Asks for nude or suggestive photos
- Pushes you past what you are comfortable doing romantically
- Always needs to know where you are at
- Doesn't allow you to make any decisions
- Takes your ID or other important papers
- Takes your money
- Encourages you to get addicted to drugs or alcohol
- Hurts you physically or emotionally for not doing what they want

If you think you or someone you know might be in a trafficking situation, call the national hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or send a text to BEFREE (233733).

Tips for Staying Safe

In Real Life...

- Only hang out with friends who respect your personal boundaries.
- Keep walking if a stranger compliments your body
- If you have been sexually abused, keep reaching out to trusted adults until someone helps you. If you don't have anyone to talk to, you can Call 1-866-FOR-LIGHT or Text 'LIGHT' to 741741
- Thinking about running away? Talk to someone first. If you don't know who to talk to, you can call 1-800-RUNAWAY or chat/email with someone at www.1800runaway.org
- Say NO to sexting. There may be legal consequences, and you can't ever get it back!
- Don't mess with pornography. You can get addicted!
- Introduce your significant other to your friends/family and consider their input.
- Turn down offers for drugs, especially "free" ones.

On your devices (including gaming!)

- Keep your accounts set to private
- Avoid sharing your name, contact info and photos with people you don't know
- Only add friends you know in real life. Delete ones you don't know.
- Never post sexually provocative pictures of yourself or anyone else
- Don't meet anyone offline you don't know in person
- Turn off your location services on your devices' cameras, so people can't track you down.
- Always close your laptop or cover the webcam on your desktop so people can't hack into it.

When at Parties

- **Go with a trusted friend, leave with the same trusted friend.**
- Only drink what you pour yourself, and keep your drink with you at all times.
- Be aware of your surroundings, noting exits
- Go to www.nsteens.org for more tips!

