



Who Are Traffickers?

- Friends or family members
- Boyfriends or girlfriends
- Husbands or wives

Trafficker Control Techniques To Look For

- Physical enslavement
- Isolation from public, family members, ethnic/religious community or age group
- Confiscation of identity documents, like drivers license, identification card, passport, etc.
- Use or threat of physical, sexual, emotional or psychological violence or abuse toward victim and/or victim's family
- Creating or perpetuating fear of law enforcement or other authorities through threats of imprisonment or deportation
- Threats of shaming victims by exposing circumstances to family, friends, etc.
- Debt bondage – financial obligations, etc.
- Control of victim's money, e.g. holding money for “safe-keeping”
- Moving victims from location to location or trade from one establishment to another leading victims to not know which state/town they are in
- Creation of psychological and/or emotional dependency – some traffickers begin relationships with victims by providing them with false love; gifts; intimacy; some victims are related to/in an intimate relationship with trafficker

IDENTIFYING DOMESTIC MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING VICTIMS IN CONNECTICUT

Connecticut
Department of
Children and
Families



DCF Careline
1-800-842-2288
TDD: 1-800-624-5518

505 Hudson Street
Hartford, CT 06106

<http://www.ct.gov/dcf/>

What is Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST)?

- **Sex trafficking** is forced prostitution or other types of sex work. Victims are tricked, lured, or forced to work on highly exploitative terms with little or no pay
- Anyone under the age of 18 engaged in prostitution in Connecticut is treated as a **sex trafficking victim** & must be referred to DCF; Youth 16 or under cannot be prosecuted for prostitution & anyone aged 16-17 is presumed to be a victim
- **Domestic minor victims of sex trafficking** are victims, often U.S. citizens, who are trafficked within the United States, either between or within state lines

Where Could Law Enforcement Personnel Encounter Domestic Minor Victims of Sex Trafficking?

- **Crimes:** Murder; kidnapping; prostitution, pandering or promoting prostitution; assault; sexual assault and battery; false imprisonment; domestic violence crimes; labor disputes or workplace violations; shoplifting; arms or drug trafficking; street gang activity; financial crimes or money laundering; organized crime
- **Field situations**
 - brothels, massage parlors, pornography production, street prostitution, prostitution rings, strip clubs
- Situations were youth under the age of 18 or youth who may be under the age of 18 are involved in any kind of sex work or forced labor – *it is important to verify the veracity of identification documents because some underage victims are provided with false documentation*
- Situations involving runaway or homeless youth – they are often exploited through “survival sex”
- Missing persons cases, which may involve trafficking within the state, country or outside the U.S.

Myths & Misconceptions

- *Only women are victims*
- *U.S. citizens are not trafficked outside the U.S.*
- *U.S. citizens cannot be trafficking victims - only foreign nationals or immigrants can be trafficked*
- *Trafficking must involve some form of travel, transportation or movement across state or national borders*
- *Victim knew what they were getting themselves into*
- *Victim was paid for services*
- *Victim had freedom of movement and opportunities to escape*
- *It can't be trafficking when the trafficker and victim are related, married or in an intimate relationship*
- *Victims are always poor*
- *If a trafficked person consented to be in their initial situation, they cannot be trafficked*