
HART Monthly Newsletter

Aug 2024



BACK TO
School



As we head back to school, it's important to remember that this time of year can bring both excitement and new challenges for our children. With increased social interactions, online activities, and time spent outside the home, kids may face heightened risks of trafficking and exploitation. It's crucial for caregivers to stay informed and vigilant. Here are some valuable resources to help you learn more about how to protect our children and keep them safe this school year.

Resources for Children

Internet Safety Classroom Activity: My Trusted Adults ([LINK](#))

NetSmartzKids Online Safety Cartoon for Kids ([LINK](#))

Resources for Adults

Deepfake Nudes and Other Trends in Youth Online Behavior ([LINK](#))

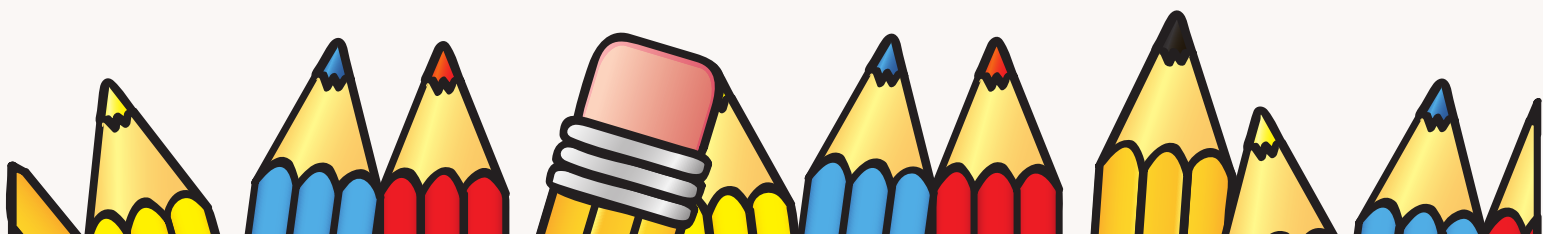
Navigating Deepfake Nudes: A Guide to Talking to Your Child About Digital Safety ([LINK](#))

Preventing the Trafficking of Youth: A Retrospective Evaluation of kNow MORE! ([LINK](#))

NetSmartz Resources for Parents, Educators, and Communities ([LINK](#))

Know2Protect CSEA resources ([LINK](#))

Listen to HART Director Tammy Sneed discuss how to protect children from Child Trafficking on the Mommyhood Unscripted Podcast! ([Apple Podcast](#)) ([Spotify](#)).



Excellent resource for law enforcement and school safety officers!



TRAFFICK  STOP

The TraffickSTOP program, developed by the National White Collar Crime Center with support from the Office for Victims of Crime, educates high school students about human trafficking through a multidisciplinary approach. It involves collaboration between law enforcement, school resource officers, social service providers, and community stakeholders. The program uses facilitator-led discussions and activities to build awareness of trafficking, healthy relationships, and online safety. Students who complete the program share what they've learned with their peers, empowering them to recognize and prevent trafficking.

For more details, visit the site! ([LINK](#))



Funding Opportunities

Department of Justice Application Season is Here! Take a look at the application checklist ([LINK](#))



How to apply for funding through the Office for Victims of Crime ([LINK](#))

Resources

Human Trafficking Institute Annual Report for 2023 ([LINK](#))

Human Trafficking: Agencies Need to Adopt a Systematic Approach to Manage Risks in Contracts. ([LINK](#))

Human Trafficking Response Guide for the Hospitality Industry. ([LINK](#))

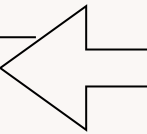
Caring for Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Patients: Recommendations for Identification, Interventions, and Resources. ([LINK](#))

Developing Standards of Care for Anti-Trafficking Service Providers, OVC ([LINK](#))

Labor Trafficking in the United States ([LINK](#))

State of Connecticut Annual Point-In-Time Count of Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness ([LINK](#))

Video Resources



Fervent Justice with Nusura Kemigishi: Video highlighting HTI collaboration with law enforcement ([LINK](#))



Governors Hochul, Murphy and Lamont talk impact of cellphones and social media on kids ([LINK](#))



New school aimed at helping child sex trafficking victims to open this fall ([LINK](#))



Child Marriage

Child marriage is the practice of marrying a person below the age of 18. In the United States, while federal law prohibits individuals under 18 from marrying in some cases, laws vary significantly from state to state, with many states allowing minors to marry under certain conditions such as parental consent or judicial approval.

Key Statistics on Child Marriage in the U.S.:

- **Prevalence:** Between 2000 and 2018, nearly 300,000 minors were legally married in the U.S. Only 8 states have fully banned child marriage.
- **Gender Disparity:** The vast majority of these minors—about 86%—were girls, often marrying adult men.
- **State Variation:** Some states have stricter laws than others. For example, Delaware, New Jersey, and Minnesota have banned marriage under 18 entirely, while others like West Virginia and Mississippi still allow it with conditions.
- **Age Gaps:** In many cases, minors are married to much older adults, leading to concerns about coercion and exploitation.

Child marriage is associated with numerous adverse outcomes, including lower educational attainment, increased likelihood of domestic violence, and greater risk of poverty. There is growing advocacy for nationwide reforms to ban child marriage completely.

Resources, Information, and Articles

US: Child Marriages Map Shows US States With Most and Least instances of Child Marriage ([LINK](#))

Iraq: Parliament Poised to Legalize Child Marriage ([LINK](#))

USAID: Child, Early, and Forced Marriage Resource Guide: How to prevent child marriage and serve married children. ([LINK](#))

Child brides in the US share stories of exploitation, becoming a wife: 'I knew I was 11. I knew he was 20.' ([LINK](#))

Tahirih Justice Center: Child Marriage Fact Sheet ([LINK](#))

Child Marriage Survivor Fights to End Practice in US: 'Kids Deserve to Be Protected' ([LINK](#))

Analysis of Minimum Marriage Age Laws and Age-Based Sex Offenses in the U.S. ([LINK](#))

Girls Not Brides: Child Marriage Atlas ([LINK](#))

Labor Trafficking of U.S. Citizens

The study of 122 labor trafficking cases among U.S. citizens revealed key data about vulnerabilities and exploitation patterns. Financial instability played a major role, with 63% of victims experiencing unstable housing, while 32% had prior experiences of sexual violence. Notably, 40% of victims had disabilities, making them prime targets for exploitation through restricted access to resources and increased dependence on others. Common tactics used by traffickers included threats (47%) and psychological manipulation (72%). These findings highlight the critical need for tailored prevention, legal protections, and support services for vulnerable populations.

Understanding and Characterizing Labor Trafficking Among U.S. Citizen Victims ([LINK](#))

An Exploratory Study of Labor Trafficking Among U.S. Citizen Victims ([LINK](#))

Sergio's Story and Resources for Supporting Victims of Labor Trafficking ([LINK](#))



Articles

Comic-Con human trafficking sting in San Diego leads to 14 arrests, 10 rescues ([LINK](#))

US: Leave No Child Behind in the Fight Against Human Trafficking Survivor Stories ([LINK](#))

US: Senate passes landmark bills to protect kids online, raising pressure on House ([LINK](#))

Former CT school employee now facing federal charge for alleged sexual assault of 11-year-old ([LINK](#))

Meta removes thousands of Instagram and Facebook accounts tied to sextortion schemes ([LINK](#))

US: DHS inspector general report says ICE lost track of thousands of migrant children ([LINK](#))

Police raid Andrew Tate's home in Romania as new allegations emerge involving minors ([LINK](#))

US: Can a prosecutor's closing argument undermine a sexual grooming conviction? ([LINK](#))

US: Rethink the Kids Online Safety Act to balance safety, freedom (Opinion) ([LINK](#))

Man indicted on smuggling charges after 53 migrants die in a trailer in Texas ([LINK](#))

Department of Labor finds child labor violations by operators of 5 McDonald's locations in Western Pennsylvania; Assesses \$26k in penalties. ([LINK](#))



Training and Events

National Judicial Institute on Child Sex Trafficking, 09/10-09/11, Travel Scholarships Available. See Flyer Below. ([LINK](#))

Identifying and Addressing the Needs of Children Exposed to Human Trafficking 09/11, 2-3:30PM ([LINK](#))

Love 146 Not A Number Facilitator Certification Training, 09/17-09/19 (See Flyer Below)

Training of Trainer: Intro to Child Trafficking in CT (See Flyer Below)

Child Sex Trafficking: From Suspicion to Disclosure 09/24, 11 AM-6 PM ([LINK](#))

My Life, My Choice: Advanced Residential Institute On Serving Trafficked And High-Risk Adolescent Girls in Congregate Care 09/23-11/11 ([LINK](#))

My Life, My Choice Commercial Sexual Exploitation Of Children: Understanding And Responding To Victims ([LINK](#))

Join Shared Hope International for the Annual JuST (Juvenile Sex Trafficking) Conference 10/22-10/24 ([LINK](#)) Due to budgetary restraints, attendance must be self-funded.

My Life, My Choice: Skills And Strategies For Providing Effective, Trauma-Informed Services To Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth 11/14 ([LINK](#))

My Life, My Choice 10 Week clinical course for behavioral health approaches to working with CSE survivors. 10/08-12/10 ([LINK](#))



To request training for your organization, please email

DCFHART@ct.gov

For any questions or upcoming events, please contact:

Tammy Sneed, Director, Office of Human Trafficking Services and
Director, CT Human Anti-trafficking Response Team (HART) at

tammy.sneed@ct.gov

NOT A NUMBER

FACILITATOR CERTIFICATION TRAINING

Developed by **LOVE146**

Not a Number is an interactive five-module prevention curriculum designed to teach youth how to protect themselves from human trafficking and exploitation through information, critical thinking, and skill development. The program integrates a holistic view of the issue by focusing on respect, empathy, individual strengths, and the relationship between personal and societal pressures that create or increase vulnerabilities. Through open conversations, engaging activities, the use of media, and opportunities for disclosures, participants find ways to move beyond awareness to behavioral change.

The training is designed to equip professionals to implement *Not a Number*. It will include:

- Training on human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children
- Modeling of *Not a Number* modules
- Coaching on facilitation techniques with diverse settings and appropriate response to disclosures
- *Not a Number* participant teach-back

To attend the training, the participant's agency will be required to sign a licensing agreement. At the conclusion of the training, participants who have successfully completed the training will be certified to implement *Not a Number* through their respective agency's license.

→ www.love146.org/curriculum-preview

September 17-19, 2024

9:00 am -4:30 pm

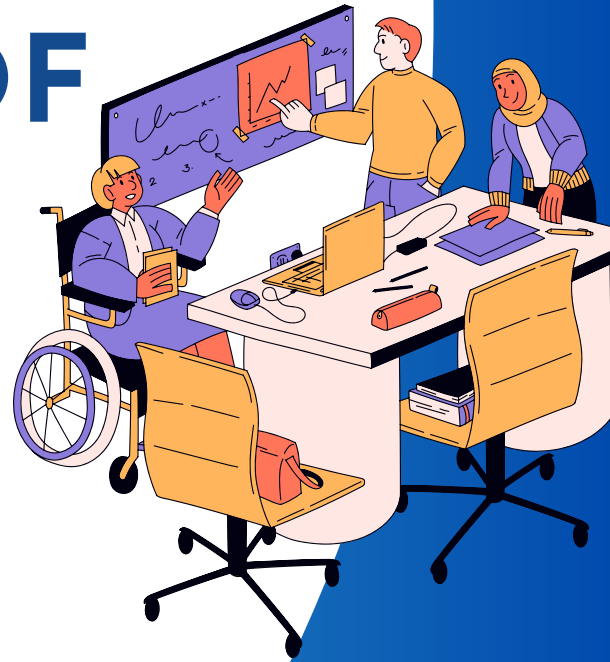
The cost of the training is \$750.

Hosted at Hosted at Love146
85 Willow Street,
New Haven, CT 06511

Please contact Desiree Lakey at notanumber@love146.org or (203) 824-5587 to register for this training, and regarding any other questions.

A light breakfast will be provided.

INTRO TO CHILD TRAFFICKING IN CONNECTICUT: TRAINING OF TRAINER



**Sept 23rd & 24th
9AM to 4PM**

**Wethersfield Community Center
30 Greenfield Street
Wethersfield, CT 06109**

[REGISTER HERE!](#)

**Or
Scan Below**

- **Must have attended the Intro to Child Trafficking in CT prior to the TOT.**
- **Must attend both days.**
- **Registration Required**

