



U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Indicators of Human Trafficking

Recognizing key indicators of human trafficking is the first step in identifying victims and can help save a life. Here are some common indicators to help recognize human trafficking. You can also download or order the Blue Campaign [indicator card](#), ([blue-campaign/materials/indicator-card](#)), which is a small plastic card that lists common signs of trafficking and how to report the crime.

- Does the person appear disconnected from family, friends, community organizations, or houses of worship?
- Has a child stopped attending school?
- Has the person had a sudden or dramatic change in behavior?
- Is a juvenile engaged in commercial sex acts?
- Is the person disoriented or confused, or showing signs of mental or physical abuse?
- Does the person have bruises in various stages of healing?
- Is the person fearful, timid, or submissive?
- Does the person show signs of having been denied food, water, sleep, or medical care?
- Is the person often in the company of someone to whom he or she defers? Or someone who seems to be in control of the situation, e.g., where they go or who they talk to?
- Does the person appear to be coached on what to say?
- Is the person living in unsuitable conditions?
- Does the person lack personal possessions and appear not to have a stable living situation?
- Does the person have freedom of movement? Can the person freely leave where they live? Are there unreasonable security measures?

Not all indicators listed above are present in every human trafficking situation, and the presence or absence of any of the indicators is not necessarily proof of human trafficking.

Topics

[HUMAN TRAFFICKING \(/TOPICS/HUMAN-TRAFFICKING\)](#)

Keywords

[BLUE CAMPAIGN \(/KEYWORDS/BLUE-CAMPAIGN\)](#)



(tel:18663472423)

To report suspected human trafficking to Federal law enforcement:

[1-866-347-2423](#) (tel:18663472423)



(tel:18663472423)

Para reportar un posible caso de trata de personas:

[1-866-347-2423](#) (tel:18663472423)



(tel:18883737888)

To get help from the National Human Trafficking Hotline:

[1-888-373-7888](#) (tel:18883737888)



(tel:18883737888)

Obtenga ayuda de la Línea Directa Nacional de Trata de Personas:

[1-888-373-7888](#) (tel:+18883737888)

or text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733)

o enviando un mensaje de texto con HELP o INFO a BeFree (233733)

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