
LUTHERAN
OFFICE
FOR PUBLIC
POLICY
in Wisconsin



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Human Trafficking

What does the church have to say?

This is a resource to address the problem of human trafficking and raise awareness about healthy versus unhealthy and abusive relationships.

A guide for congregations to use with youth and adults



WHAT DO WE VALUE?

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.

St. Luke 10:27

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about the things that really matter.

Martin Luther King Jr.

The sexual body is never to be used as an object for commercial purposes, and this church will speak against the public idolatry of pleasure, freedom, and wealth that undergirds such practices. Especially deplorable is the billion-dollar global sex market and the economic systems that thrive on it, both in the United States and abroad.

Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust Social Statement p. 34 (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

We cannot rely upon the silenced to tell us they are suffering.

Hanan Ashrawi, Palestinian legislator and activist

Slowly, I'm beginning to realize that what happened to me wasn't my fault, that I was taken advantage of by a group of vile, twisted men.

Girl A, Girl A, recovering victim of trafficking

It takes a village to raise a child.

African proverb

It takes a village to raise a child. It takes a village to abuse one.

The movie, Spotlight

What would you add? (You could also come back to this after you complete the study)

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for reading our guide and using it in any way you feel will most benefit your ministry with young people and adults. We hope in these few pages to help raise your awareness about the scandal of human trafficking, in particular of sex trafficking of youth in Wisconsin, and provide a tool for discussing human trafficking with adults and youth. Additional resources are listed in this guide and on the LOPPW website.

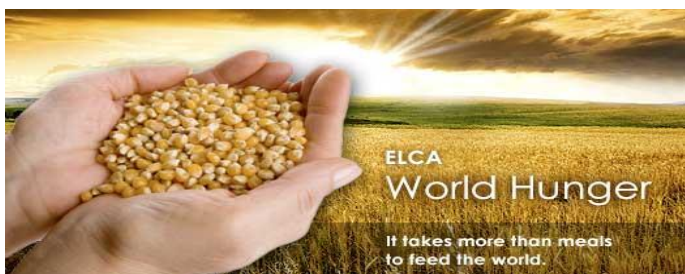
The Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin (LOPPW) is an advocacy ministry supported by **ELCA World Hunger** and **the six synods with congregations in Wisconsin**. In faithful response to God's love, we engage people of faith in the ministry of advocacy for policies that support peace, justice, and care for all of God's creation. We focus on injustice through the lens of how people in poverty are impacted and how vulnerable others are to becoming impoverished.

The linkage between human trafficking and poverty and hunger is clear. If someone is not impoverished before being trafficked there is a good chance that individual will be after being trafficked.

Some of the exercises in this guide are meant for youth and can be photocopied. Please use your discretion in deciding which other parts of this guide you would like to make available to younger people and which parts you would like to paraphrase or exclude from discussions.

When talking to youth, please keep in mind that the problem of sex trafficking of youth is insidious and present throughout Wisconsin, so not only will you be raising awareness, but possibly preparing someone to avoid a life threatening situation. Also please keep in mind that there may be youth who have been taught that taking advantage of certain aspects of the sex industry, for example, going to a strip club, is a male rite of passage. What many people may not know is that often traffickers send the newest girls they hold captive to begin their work without wages by dancing. During deer hunting season many of these girls are sent from southern Wisconsin to northern Wisconsin to dance in bars.

Which attitudes in our communities, the media, and society sanction the demand for commercial sex and affirm entitlement to it? Also this guide offers opportunities to discuss healthy and unhealthy relationships in general.



**Remember to donate generously
to ELCA World Hunger**

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & ABOUT THIS GUIDE

Many thanks to Genevieve Baldwin, intern from University of Wisconsin Madison, for her design and co-writing of this guide with LOPPW's director, Rev. Cindy Crane. Genevieve was part of the Social Transformation to End the Exploitation and Trafficking (STREETS) program.

What this Guide Includes

- Basic information about human trafficking with a focus on sex-trafficking; the guide can be used to educate adults and youth.
- Youth discussion questions about healthy relationships versus unhealthy and abusive relationships.
- Information on how to be an advocate for oneself and others, discussion questions, and sample letters to government officials.

How to Use this Guide

Read through this entire guide. If you are using this guide with youth, decide which information is appropriate for the age group you are speaking to. **Watch each video before showing to youth** to discern if you want to use the video or parts of it.

Remember, however, that the average age for being sex-trafficked in Wisconsin is 13 so building awareness among young people is beneficial, as is building awareness about healthy relationships in general.

As of the spring of 2016 this is still a work in progress. Please contact the director with your suggestions and/or to share your experiences using this guide: cindyc@loppw.org

Ideas for Prayer and Creativity: For beginning and ending prayers consider going to Cherish All Children <http://www.cherishallchildren.org> under Prayers for Cherishing Children. Read the prayers and also ask youth to write their own prayers. Consider asking youth to write in a journal or draw to express their feelings about what they learn. And ask them to come up with their own ideas.

WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

“Human trafficking is modern day slavery; it is more complex and involves a broader, more clandestine range of relationships that are different from the slavery of previous centuries.” (5)

Old Slavery	New Slavery
Legal ownership of human being as property High purchase cost Shortage of potential slaves Low short-term profits Long-term relationship (generations) Encouraged to reproduce Slaves maintained	No legal ownership of human being Low purchase cost Surplus of potential slaves Very high profits accrued very fast Short-term relationship (weeks/months/years) Prevented from conceiving Slaves disposable

The important distinctions between old and new slavery are summarized in the above chart from Kevin Bales (5).

In the United States, when we hear the words “human trafficking” we can easily imagine a far away land of people removed from our own communities, but the reality is that the countries that most often utilize the services of slaves are developed nations such as the US and western European countries. And people born and raised in the United States are also forced into slavery.

An international anti-trafficking organization, the Polaris Project defines human trafficking as “a form of modern slavery—a multibillion dollar criminal industry that denies freedom to 20.9 million people around the world. And no matter where you live, chances are it is happening nearby. From the girl forced into prostitution at a truck stop, to the man discovered in a restaurant kitchen, stripped of his passport and held against his will. All trafficking victims share one essential experience, the loss of freedom.”

Free the Slaves defines slavery as “A relationship in which one person is controlled through violence, the threat of violence, or psychological coercion, has lost free will and free movement, is explored economically and paid nothing beyond subsistence”.

To put it simply, slavery is work under the threat of violence with no pay.

WHAT IS SEX TRAFFICKING?

“When someone uses force, fraud, or coercion to cause a commercial sex act with an adult or causes a minor to commit a commercial sex act.”

-Shared Hope International

Sex trafficking is sometimes used interchangeably with prostitution or the sex trade. Someone trafficked is coerced into the sex industry and is not paid.

What are images we have of people in the sex industry? How about when we consider trafficked individuals? Again, not all people involved in the sex industry were trafficked. However, knowing what sex trafficking is helps us to clearly recognize its victims as victims, living in a society in which the demand for commercial sex keeps the deeply abusive illegal business thriving.

“In both policy and direct service, it is important to engage victims with empathy, understanding, and openness, focusing on serving, assisting, and healing them, not correcting or persecuting them as victims of sexual slavery.” (5)

As mentioned, we need to make a distinction between those who are trafficked and those who by their free will join the sex industry. However, according to Jan Miyazaki, project director of Respect Madison, a high percentage of women recovering from prostitution she has worked with over the last several years were at one time trafficked as youth or as young adults. This further raises the question of when prostitution is a victimless crime.

WATCH FIRST BEFORE SHOWING TO YOUTH

Video: *Truckers Against Trafficking*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IX_mPzSOI-g

Suggested Questions:

What are your reactions? What Surprised you? What was most disturbing? What was hopeful? How has what you watched changed your perceptions?

Global Perspective

The commercial sex trade is an extremely profitable business especially in developing countries where there are limited opportunities for education or employment. Generally, the flow of trafficked people is from East to West - the destination countries being the US or western European countries. The traffickers that work on a global scale are usually part of a crime group such as a mafia, gang, or cartel and usually traffic more than just people, i.e., drugs and firearms. Traffickers will often pass victims from one crime group to another, taking them farther from their home country, making them more dependent on their traffickers.

“Worldwide, women and children suffer disproportionately from trafficking. Poverty, gender discrimination, illiteracy and low levels of education, regional conflicts, and a lack of job opportunities affect women in great numbers.” Such conditions pressure women to migrate, which makes them particularly vulnerable to unscrupulous recruiters or employers who, through force, fraud, or coercion, place women in job situations to which they did not consent and from which they cannot freely escape. Accordingly, an estimated 80 percent of trafficking victims worldwide are women and children.” (1)

The United States

In the United States, trafficking victims range from being from other countries and the communities where they are trafficked within the US. Trafficking is invisible to most people living in the US because the internet is the main medium that traffickers use. Websites are buried in the web sphere removed from the public’s eye to provide a veil of invisibility for traffickers.

There are many different industries that traffickers will use to mask the sex trade including bars/clubs, massage parlors, hotels, and residential homes. Within each one of these venues, there are patterns that are often specific to the particular business while all of them follow one trend: catering to their audience. Traffickers tend to mainly traffic people who are in the same racial group as their audiences. However, the audience and consequently the victims for bars, clubs, hotels, and motels tend to be less specific to groups of people.

Immigration: While some trafficking victims are forced to work in the sex trade, many others are forced to perform other types of labor, such as domestic servitude, factory work or agricultural work. Trafficking victims commonly experience physical and psychological abuse, including beatings, sexual abuse, and food and sleep deprivation, threats to themselves and their family members, and isolation from the outside world.

In the United States, victims of labor trafficking are almost exclusively immigrants, and mostly immigrant women. The average age of labor trafficking victims in the U.S. is 20. “In the U.S., immigrant women and children are particularly vulnerable to the deceptive and coercive tactics of traffickers because of their lower levels of education, inability to speak English, immigration status, and lack of familiarity with U.S. employment protections. Further, they are vulnerable because they often work in jobs that are hidden from the public view and unregulated by the government.” (6)

Wisconsin

We lack data on human trafficking in general because of the hidden nature of it. In Wisconsin it is difficult to determine how many youth are being sex trafficked. As awareness of sex trafficking increases, professionals are recognizing more youth who are victims of trafficking. Jan Miyazaki, the director of Respect Madison, said that in her work with local women in the sex trade, she encounters between 50-75 cases a year involving force, fraud or coercion. A community educator who works with Milwaukee minors in the sex trade said she has come into contact with more than 100 young people in 2014 that she believes fit the definition of human trafficking victims.

More than 200 victims of human trafficking have been identified across half of Wisconsin's counties, according to the Wisconsin Dept. of Justice in 2013. During a nationwide FBI-coordinated investigation of trafficking in July 2013, 10 children were rescued in "Operation Cross Country" in Wisconsin alone. 100 suspected traffickers were arrested in a single day in the state. Nationwide, 105 minors were recovered and 159 suspected pimps were arrested, not including the 100 arrests in Wisconsin. The 3-day operation covered 76 U.S. cities. The rescued victims ranged in age from 14-17 years old.

In Wisconsin, most trafficked people are from the US and in particular, from within Wisconsin. The average age of a sex-trafficked youth is about 13 years old. Though Milwaukee has the largest numbers of victims, trafficking has been found in and associated with every county of the state.

Detective Dawn Jones of the Milwaukee Police Department said, "Our Milwaukee pimps love Wisconsin and they will travel anywhere and everywhere. Have you got a strip club?" Jones asked the audience (at a conference). "You can pretty much guarantee that our pimps are going to be there. You will not believe the number of girls from northern Wisconsin that our pimps from Milwaukee will pick up and bring down there."(6)

TYPES OF ABUSE

Physical Abuse: Trafficked victims are often beaten and brutalized, raped and sexually abused. Victims also frequently are deprived of adequate food, shelter and sleep.

Psychological Abuse: Traffickers commonly subject their victims to psychological abuse through threats, deprivation and isolation. Traffickers may threaten to kill or harm victims or their family members if they do not do as they are told. Very often traffickers deprive victims of freedom of movement by isolating them in the workplace and cutting off their contact with the outside world. Traffickers may subject their victims to patterns of abuse intended to cause fear and disorientation. For example, traffickers often employ severe verbal abuse and insults, intended to exacerbate feelings of isolation, shame, and betrayal that victims experience.

Abuse of Legal Process: Traffickers sometimes use legal mechanisms to enforce their control over victims. For example, traffickers may deprive victims of their passports or identification documents or threaten victims with arrest or deportation if the victims do not continue to labor for the traffickers.”

The combination of high demand, low risk and high returns in the human trafficking enterprise helps the business to thrive. The following enable human trafficking to exist and grow:

Population: A population explosion has tripled the number of people in the world, mostly in developing countries. In many places, the population has grown faster than the economy, leaving many people economically vulnerable. A fire, flood, drought, or medical emergency places them in the hands of ruthless moneylenders who enslave them.

Migration: Millions are on the move from impoverished rural areas to cities, and from poorer countries to wealthier ones, in search of work. Traffickers are able to trick them by posing as legitimate labor recruiters. Migrants are especially vulnerable—they are often very far from home, don't speak the local language, have no funds to return home, and have no friends or family to rely on.

Corruption: Global government corruption often allows slavery to go unpunished. Many law enforcement officials aren't even aware that bonded labor, where someone is enslaved to work off a loan, is illegal. In many places, those in slavery have no police protection from predatory traffickers.

Discrimination: Social inequality creates widespread economic and social vulnerability based on factors such as gender, race, tribe, or caste. (3)

Examples of a lures via promises of employment: “International cruise line seeks attractive and adventuresome hostess to greet passengers. See the world, meet new people and earn a stable income!” –sounds innocuous enough until a destitute and unwitting applicant with seemingly nothing to lose is recruited from her home country and arrives at her destination only to be forced into prostitution (2).

In the Midwest, a 19-year-old female responded to an Internet ad promoting modeling opportunities. Instead of offering her a modeling job, the offender enticed the girl to wait in a hotel room where she was expected to have sex with an unknown person. The offender, who would become her pimp, intended to sell the young woman for sex at an hourly rate.

There are many examples of traffickers trying to lure in young people with promises of dating as well. Note: Climate change is another factor related to poverty and migration, and therefore human trafficking.

Note: Climate change is another factor related to poverty and therefore human trafficking

HOW DOES TRAFFICKING BEGIN?

Traffickers use many different methods to capture and enslave victims but there are three common themes that link all of them together:

fraud, coercion, and force.

Children who run away face an extremely high risk of being forced into a trafficking situation. While children can run away for a multitude of reasons, they are increasingly vulnerable to being seduced into a seemingly “better” situation. Traffickers will offer a promise of a fulfilling life with love, material goods, and a home.

Who is most vulnerable?

Anyone can be vulnerable to traffickers regardless of socioeconomic background, race, and age. However, there are particular populations that are more vulnerable than others. As discussed in ‘Hub of Human Trafficking: Underground Sex Trade Thrives in Milwaukee’, often times, victims have a history of being neglected or experiencing violence, sexual abuse, or other types of trauma.

Ways to be vulnerable include being undocumented, homeless or in trouble financially.

WHO CAN BECOME VULNERABLE?

The common assumption of troubled juveniles in desperate circumstances becoming involved in prostitution doesn't always fit. In the King Tut case, the first federal case in the state of Wisconsin for domestic human trafficking, pimp Todd Carter (also known as King Tut, and now serving 25 years in prison) was able to lure young girls from ordinary, middle-class homes. 'I think a lot of people think that these are all second and third generation prostitutes and that their parents are all crackheads,' said (Detective) Jones. "But in the King Tut case, many of our kids had very stable family environments; their parents were not hooked on anything. They were honor roll students who were making something of their lives until they got tripped up in this."

Pimps have told FBI victim specialist (Monica) Rowsey that they intentionally go out into the suburbs and rural areas "because the girls are very trusting and naïve."

'Most of these girls are very attractive young ladies,' said Rowsey. And in a common setup, the pimp will say, 'You're beautiful. Are you modeling?' And when the girl says she isn't, he will move in with the bait. 'Really? Why not? You should be on the cover of a magazine. Have you at least done a photo shoot? No? Come on now. Hey, I got a buddy of mine, with a photography studio. I can hook you up. Call me. Because I would like to see you make some money.' Then the pimp grooms the victim in what the young girl takes to be a sincere romantic relationship, but is actually a scenario he's played with a series of other girls.

And when the victim realizes that the pimp is not in love with her, human trafficking can fall back on its fear-based business model: “Victims often don’t seek help because they are afraid,” said Rowsey. The pimp has told them that he will harm them, their family, and anyone they care about.” So a girl might continue as a victim until she can break away—and she may need help from someone like Rowsey or Jones.” (6)

In an interview with Jodi Emerson of Fierce Freedom in Eau Claire, WI, Emerson said it is important when discussing trafficking to children to emphasize looking out for friends. When people hear about signs and dangers of trafficking, they always think that it will never happen to them and that they’re too smart to be pulled in. However, that is not the case. As Emerson stated in her interview, “[traffickers] are looking for someone to exploit and that comes in all shapes and sizes”.

Even after talking about trafficking with youth as Emerson suggested, it is still difficult for a youth to grasp how vulnerable he or she can be. In order to still be able to educate and keep people on the lookout for signs, appealing to their caring and community sense can be what keeps them safe. In that way, emphasis on looking out for friends, treating each other with respect, and simply caring for one another can not only help someone to help another but to help him or herself.

WATCH FIRST BEFORE SHOWING PARTS OR ALL OF THIS TO YOUTH

Video: *Child Sex Trafficking on the Internet - Selling the Girl Next Door*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFRZ1NDR0Rc>

Suggested Questions:

What are your general reactions? How does this make you think about the Internet? Should victims of human trafficking be charged with a crime? Note: Wisconsin has passed some good laws helping more victims be viewed as victims rather than criminals, but we have a ways to go. LOPPW continues to advocate for our state government to provide more funding to help victims of sex trafficking who escape.

HOW TRAFFICKERS LURE VICTIMS

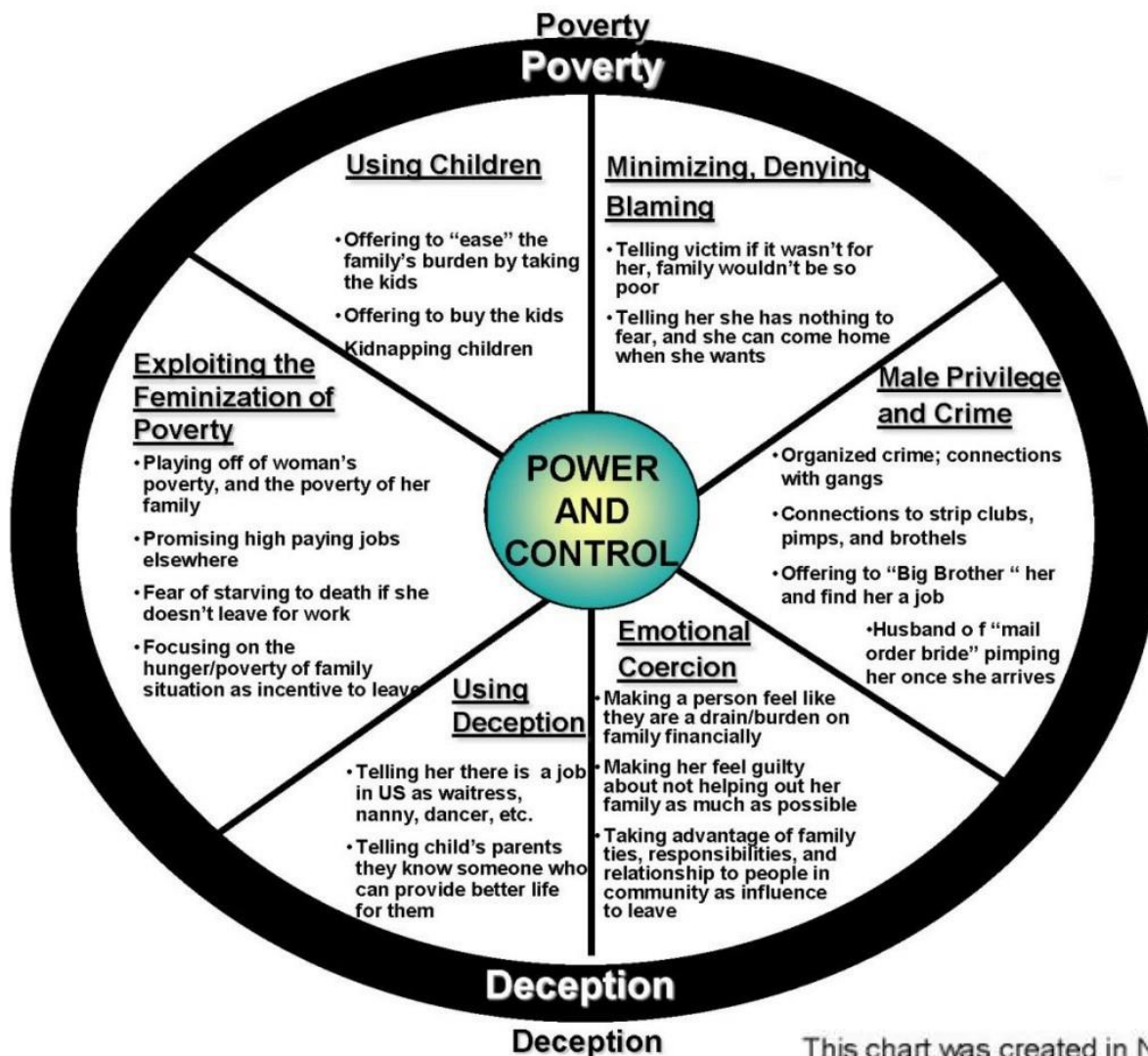
Traffickers often use a young person's addiction to drugs and alcohol either prior to meeting the youth, or after the traffickers force addiction upon the youth. Traffickers may also prey on transgender youth with promises of hormone or testosterone treatment. LGBT youth in general may be more vulnerable because a percentage of those youth who come out to their parents are kicked out of their homes. And homeless youth are most vulnerable to be trafficked.

Although some youth are more vulnerable than others, as already indicated, young people with more privilege can be at risk of getting involved with the wrong person and being forced or lured into the sex industry.

Warning, this is awful: “ Your prey, for example, may be beautiful women with low self-esteem. If the self-esteem isn't low enough, you must lower it. Why? A ho is a piece of property. You buy as low as you can and sell as high as the market allows... A ho to a pimp is worth nothing. She is actually worth everything, but he must make her believe that she is worthless. A pimp buys her soul. Once she has sold her soul, he has all the power over her life.” From a pimp handbook

And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow--not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. Romans 8:38

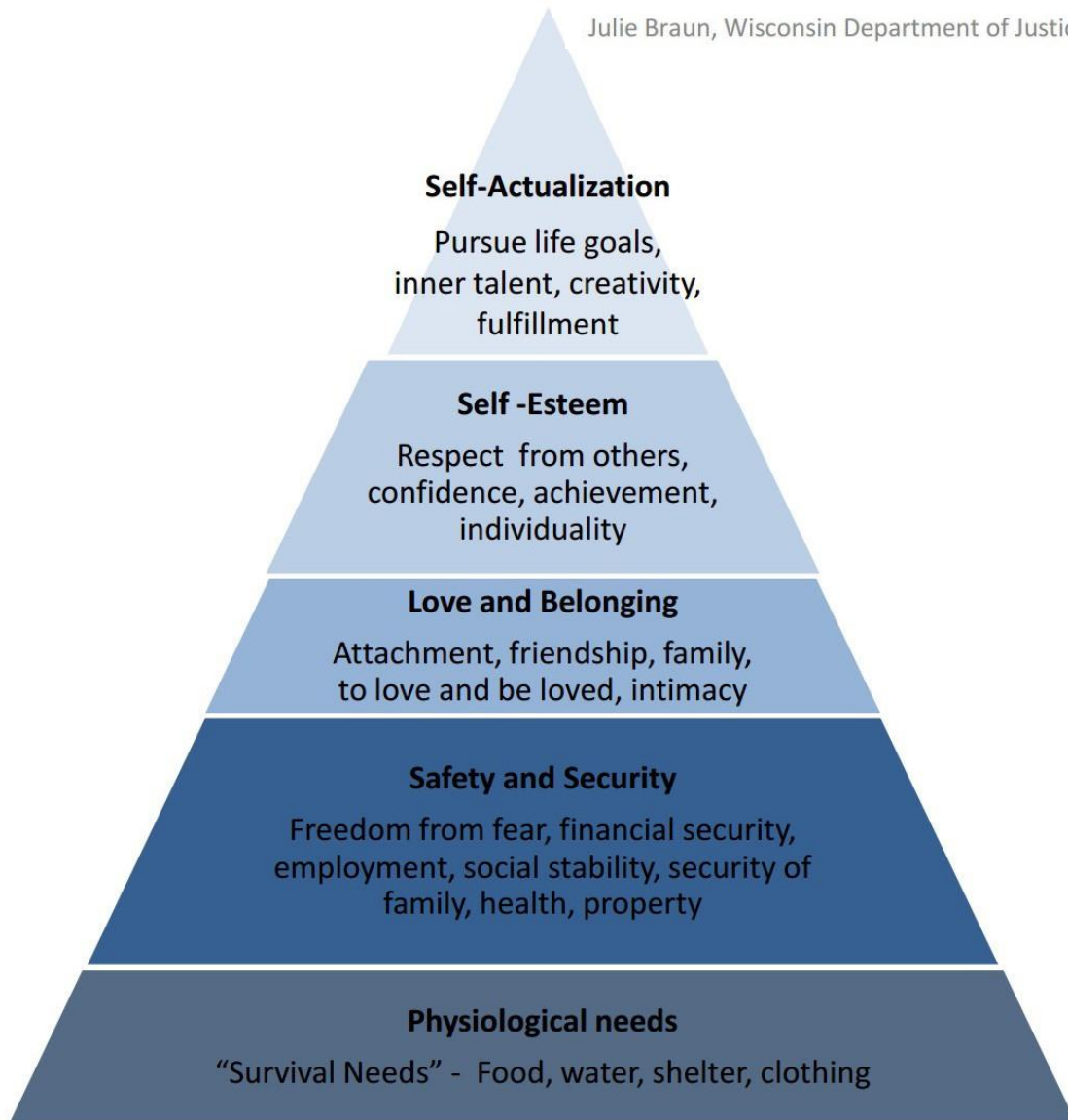
HOW TRAFFICKERS LURE VICTIMS



This chart was created in November 2002 by Katherine Kaufka and Todd Kooperman, Legal Interns with the Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WCADV) and updated in 2003 by Yer Vang, Immigration Attorney. Any adaptation or reprinting must acknowledge the WCADV.

HOW TRAFFICKERS LURE VICTIMS

Julie Braun, Wisconsin Department of Justice, March 2015



Dr. Abraham Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

By providing access to the first three levels of the hierarchy, pimps are able to lure the victims in and effectively make them believe that they need to stay for survival.

TYPES OF ABUSE

FORCE

- Beatings and torture
- Confinement/surveillance
- Rape
- Kidnapping/recapturing
- Use of restraints
- Isolation
- Forced abortions
- Lack of health care/ reproductive health care
- Forced to use drugs and alcohol

FRAUD

- False offers of employment, marriage, better life
- Promise of immigration/travel documents
- False promise of salary
- Misrepresentation of work/conditions of work

COERSION

- Threats of serious harm of any person
- Any plan to induce belief that being uncooperative would cause harm against them or loved one
- Denial of food/water/medical care/contraceptives
- Removal of children
- Degradation of self-esteem
- Threats of deportation
- Confiscation of passport and visas

AFTER THEY GET OUT

If a victim is able to escape, chances are that they will unwillingly return to a life of slavery. There is no single reason why this is the trend, but there are some explanations that we can pinpoint: lack of services provided, lack of opportunities, or simple inability to escape traffickers completely.

It is essential that there are services such as mental health support and stable housing provided in addition to access to educational and job opportunities. While these answers are easily presented and understood, to get funding for such projects is extremely challenging, further deepening the issue of trafficking.

In addition, even with all of these services, a past of trafficking can seem inescapable. Pimps have been known to go to victims' places of work, homes, or any environment they could be found it to try and coerce them back into the trade.

WATCH FIRST BEFORE SHOWING TO YOUTH

Video: *First-ever all boys shelter to help male sex trafficking victims built in Central Florida*

Why might it be harder for boys to talk about being abused? What do you think is similar about how predators find boys as they find girls? Answer: A lot of trafficking of boys has shifted from the streets to online.

HOW TO IDENTIFY A VICTIM OF TRAFFICKING

General signs to look for:

- Avoiding eye contact and social interaction
- Low self-esteem
- Signs of physical abuse
- Multiple cell phones
- Checking into hotels with older men
- Living with employer
- Inability to talk one-on-one with anyone
- Answers seem to be scripted and/or rehearsed
- Submissive or fearful
- Anxious when discussing law enforcement
- Lacks health care
- Appears malnourished
- Has few or no personal possessions
- Inability to specify address of residence or visitation
- No sense of time
- In relationships with significantly older people
- Under 18 and performing commercial sex acts
- Displays a limited wardrobe usually consisting of clothes of the sexual nature
- Entering or leaving vehicles of unknown adults

What can we do (more later on this)?

Talk to an adult you trust. Don't try to intervene in a dangerous or potentially dangerous situation. Some youth live with their traffickers and attend school. Don't go to the home of someone you suspect of being in trouble, but talk to an adult you trust. You can always call the toll free number from Polaris (used in Truckers Against Trafficking): 1 (888) 373-7888 .

Additional signs for peers and/or parents to look for:

- Less interest in age appropriate activities
- Untreated sexually transmitted infections
- Unpaid or paid very little
- Employer is holding identity documents
- Works excessively long/unusual hours
- Not allowed breaks or has unusual restrictions at work
- Has no control over their money, financial records, or bank account
- Sleeping on work premises
- Substance misuse
- Unable to travel freely
- Often going missing
- Secretive
- Has unexplained money and/or presents
- Associating with older people (out of normal social network)
- Performing unusual social activities with no plausible explanation

It is important to look at changes in an individual as a culmination of what they may be experiencing in their everyday life. Meaning, if you observe a change in someone's behavior and lifestyle, what would lead to that? Putting certain events together as if it was a puzzle can give a glimpse or indication of what they may be experiencing.

The problem of human trafficking and other problems that surround it are sourced from the demand. If there were no demand for sexual exploitation, the act of human trafficking would disappear. Slave Free Madison is promoting an End Demand Wisconsin Campaign.

WATCH FIRST BEFORE SHOWING TO YOUTH

Video *Theresa Flores - Find a Voice with Soap*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5QW_nsAjweE

Suggested Questions:

What are your reactions? What Surprised you? What was most disturbing? Did Theresa probably show signs she was being trafficked? How has what you watched changed your perceptions? How did Theresa become an advocate (How did she stand up for others)? People trafficked are taught to never speak up for themselves, to just be slaves. What does your faith teach you? When is it not only okay, but important to stand up for yourself?

STUDENT DISCUSSION

Relationships in General Discussion

Now, let's talk about relationships in general and explore what a spectrum of relationships looks like. Sex trafficking is an extreme form of abuse that is slavery. But what else do we need to keep our eyes open to as we try to live out our lives as healthy individuals who value sexuality as a gift from God?

What makes you different from your friends? Could be something really special. Could be funny. Anything.

At school, what are some traits and characteristics that make your peers popular? Are all of those reasons okay from your perspective?

What are some things that make people unpopular? Are all of those reasons okay from your perspective?

What makes your friends special to you? How do they help to build you up? How do you help to build them up?

Have you ever felt limited by your gender? Have you ever felt pressured to do or be something that you don't like because of your gender?

Where are some places you feel like you belong? What is it about those places or people that make you feel like you belong?

STUDENT DISCUSSION

Read the below section of the Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust Social Statement or the entire statement. What does it mean to be loved by God and believe in God's grace in relationship to this statement?

Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust Social Statement (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

The sexual body is never to be used as an object for commercial purposes, and this church will speak against the public idolatry of pleasure, freedom, and wealth that undergirds such practices. Especially deplorable is the billion-dollar global sex market and the economic systems that thrive on it, both in the United States and abroad. (pg. 34)

<http://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements/Human-Sexuality>

Discussion Questions:

- What kinds of expectations of all genders do you find in the media and among your peers? What is okay? What is challenging?
- How are messages different for different genders? What is positive? What is negative?
- Do you notice jokes about girls/women and sex?

In the next week, notice the messages you hear and see about sexuality, especially related to one's gender in the media.

Read a prayer from Cherish All Children

<http://www.cherishallchildren.org> under Prayers for Cherishing Children

STUDENT DISCUSSION

Write on a large sheet of paper or on a board the words below and invite the youth to brainstorm about each column one column at a time. Ask them not to focus on trafficking necessarily. Also for this section let them be free to talk about any kind of relationships (dating, friends, etc.)

Healthy

Unhealthy

Abusive

Where do they witness healthy behaviors? If and when they bring up school, ask them to name the places – hallway, classroom, the bus?

Where do they witness unhealthy ones?

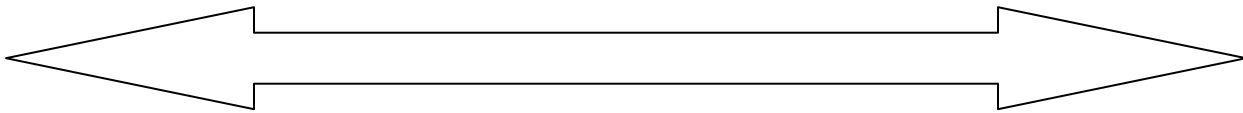
If they don't bring up communication on their own, ask about what communication between people looks like in each column.

After this discussion, show them the spectrum on the next page. And point out or ask questions that lead into a discussion about how bullying, abuse within dating relationships, and many other types of abuse are not the same as human trafficking. But discussions about how we treat one another and how we view targets of abuse help us to build self-awareness .

For a separate study on abuse between teen see resources at Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS) <http://abuseintervention.org/>

The Relationship Spectrum

(trafficking would be a separate column)



Healthy

Respect
Good Communication
Trust
Honesty
Equality

Unhealthy

Breaks in communication
Pressure
Dishonesty
Inconsiderate behavior

Abusive

One person makes
all the decisions
Accusations
Isolation
Manipulation
Blame shifting
Fear

Also note that many relationships, including those with traffickers begin with deep listening from the abuser.

WATCH FIRST BEFORE SHOWING TO YOUTH

Video: *Dating Abuse: Tools for Talking to Teens*

<http://datingabuse.worldsecuresystems.com/video>

Suggested Questions:

What are your reactions? What Surprised you? What was most disturbing? What was hopeful? How has what you watched changed your perceptions? What does God want for you? A woman said that when her husband beat her she thought she had to be obedient to him and suffer like Jesus on the cross – What's wrong with this theology?

STUDENT DISCUSSION

Read through the following situations and then discuss how that scenario violates the values that were talked about in the previous section. Try to give some specific words that fit the situation such as manipulation, coercion, fraud, abuse, etc. At the end of this section, there is a glossary of terms to help understand the exercise.

Nathan's older brother always yells at him and tells him hurtful things that make him feel bad about himself and the way that he lives his life.

Alicia is different from many of her peers in that she grew up in a very poor family. One of her friends tells her that the best way to make money is to do his homework and he'll pay her for it even though he can't guarantee money or say where the money would come from.

Daniel was told from some friends that he can make a lot of money by recruiting girls from his school to work as sex workers at a nearby business front. He knew that he'd have to lie to or manipulate the girls to get them to agree so he declined the offer. His friends then told him that if he doesn't work for them, then he and his family are in danger.

McKenna and her best friend are working on a school project together. That night, McKenna tucked in her shirt to a pair of old hand-me-down pants and her best friend told her that she looks like a middle-aged, white dad that's about to go to a barbeque. They laugh together and McKenna keeps wearing the pants because she likes them.

Can you come up with scenarios that would fit with some of the definitions that are listed in the glossary? What events in these situations made you choose a particular term? How can the definitions be changed to better fit each situation described above?

TERMS

Abuse: Treating someone or an animal poorly or with violence. This can include verbal abuse where the abuser says/yells hurtful things to another or physical abuse where the abuser uses violence and force to hurt another.

Manipulation: Using someone's differences against them to get them to do something you want. Someone can also force someone to do something they wouldn't otherwise do by making alternatives to that situation difficult to access.

Coercion: Forcing someone to do something they would not otherwise do with the use of force or threats.

Fraud: Deceiving someone for your own personal gain whether it be money, material goods, food, etc.

Bullying: Bullying is deliberate or intentional behavior using words or actions, intended to cause fear, intimidation or harm. It involves an imbalance of power and is repeated behavior.

Teasing: Making fun of someone or trying to upset them in a playful way that does not hurt the feelings of those being teased

Protect Yourself & Helping

Youth: The Internet is a tremendous tool but can be a very easy way for predators to pretend they are your friend.

Discussion questions:

- What kinds of social media do you use? What do you like about the social media you use? What is challenging?
- Do you know anyone who has been hurt on social media?
- What are examples of things that can go wrong? How can they go wrong?

Some basic advice:

- Don't post your personal information!
- Do not add people you have never met to your friend lists on whatever social media you use.
- Protect your photos. Use the highest security settings on social networking sites.
- What else?

Here is some advice about Snapchat: <http://cyberbullying.org/teaching-snapchat-safety-to-teens/>

Helping Others: If you suspect a situation you think involves trafficking, don't try to intervene yourself, but talk to an adult you trust or call the National Human Trafficking Resource Hotline: 1 (888) 373-7888

Adults: Talk to young people about the Internet. We have an internationally renowned resource on Cyberbullying right in Wisconsin: Cyberbullying Research Center <http://cyberbullying.org/> Cyberbullying is different than trafficking, but the resource offers education on protecting young people on the Internet.

STUDENT DISCUSSION

Advocacy is speaking up for oneself, other people, creatures or the earth.

Exercise:

Think of the first time you ever advocated for someone or a creature (a dog, cat, etc.) or nature. How did that make you feel?

Think of a time someone advocated for you. How did that make you feel?

Think of a time you wished you'd advocated for someone or you wished someone had advocated for you.

Think of a time you advocated for yourself. Is it okay to advocate for yourself?

How does the Bible teach us about resistance? What are some examples of resisting?

Another part of advocacy is getting to the core of an issue.

Exercise:

Think of a problem and ways to help. For example, people are hungry. Why are people hungry? How can we help? How do we get to the root?

Advocacy includes:

Becoming aware of people's struggles and roots of problems

Educating others – holding forums

Strategizing about solutions

Connecting with other groups such as Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin

Writing letters to the editor; writing letters to and calling legislators and visiting legislators and their staff

Advocating is a way of saying, I have hope for change, for a better world in response to God's love in my life.

As faith-based advocates, we place God first. We are not saved by writing letters or by what we do, but by God's grace. We always begin and return to God. Martin Luther stressed that we are already loved by God. So we respond to God's forgiveness and grace in our lives. Martin Luther also said, "If you want to change the world pick up your pen and write."

Let's start by knowing who your state senator and assembly person are.

You can go to <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/> and under Find My Legislators type in your full address. A map will come up with your senate and assembly districts. If you move your cursor over the blue dot your senator and assembly person will pop up. If you click on the hyperlink of the person's name you'll find his/her address. All senators have the same address and all representatives have the same address except for the room numbers.

For state SENATORS (for both letters and envelopes):

The Honorable _____(name)
Room(look on legislative website for room number)
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707

For state REPRESENTATIVES in the assembly (for both letters and envelopes):

The Honorable _____(name)
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

In your letter remember to:

- Contact your own legislator.
- Give your name and contact information. Put this information on the letter you send (if you send a letter) in case the envelope is lost or discarded.
- Ask for a response.
- Be polite.
- Be reasonable. Try not to ask for something your legislator cannot do.
- Be specific and clear.
- Be personal. To have the greatest impact, take the time to learn about the issue and then sit down and write a letter in your own words

Link to Wisconsin Statutes

<https://www.fbi.gov/milwaukee/press-releases/2015/fbi-announces-results-of-nationwide-human-trafficking-operation>

Also contact LOPPW to keep up with legislative efforts related to human trafficking and other issues and/or sign up for action alerts www.loppw.org

Before Jesus left this earth he told his followers that God "will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever." John 14:16

RESOURCES

National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline: 1-888-373-8888
SMS: 233733 (Text HELP" or "INFO") Hours: 24 hours, 7 days a week
Languages: English, Spanish and 200 more languages Website: traffickingresourcecenter.org

Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin (LOPPW) www.loppw.org
[Join us on Facebook](#) - search LOPPW

ELCA Advocacy <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church/Advocacy>

Cherish All Children www.cherishchildren.org

Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and the UP LSS in Superior 715-394-4173 LSS in Eau Claire 877-967-5577 LSS in Madison 608-277-2966 LSS in Marquette, MI 906-225-5437

Center Against Sexual & Domestic Abuse, Inc. <https://www.casda.org/>

Domestic Abuse Intervention Center (DAIS) <http://abuseintervention.org/>

End Domestic Abuse WI – the Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence
<http://www.endabusewi.org/>

Fierce Freedom in Eau Claire: <http://www.fiercefreespace.org>

How Traffickers Lure Victims and Why Victims Stay or Leave
<https://www.doj.state.wi.us/sites/default/files/ocvs/Maslow%20Hand%20out.pdf>

Human Trafficking Task Force of Greater Milwaukee
<https://www.facebook.com/HTTFGM/>

Respect Madison <https://www.facebook.com/Project-Respect-208929015838523/>

Reach Counseling Services in Oshkosh: <http://www.reachcounseling.com/>

Slave Free Madison: <http://slavefreemadison.squarespace.com/>

Truckers Against Trafficking <http://www.truckersagainsttrafficking.org/>

Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault <http://www.wcasa.org/>

Wisconsin Human Trafficking Protocol and Resource Manual (Tremendous new resource for Wisconsin) http://www.wcasa.org/file_open.php?id=336

See additional community and statewide resources in this manual

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Contact the director with feedback and suggestions at cindyc@loppw.org
www.loppw.org Like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/loppw) - Search for LOPPW