



PREVENTION CURRICULUM RATIONALE AND OVERVIEW

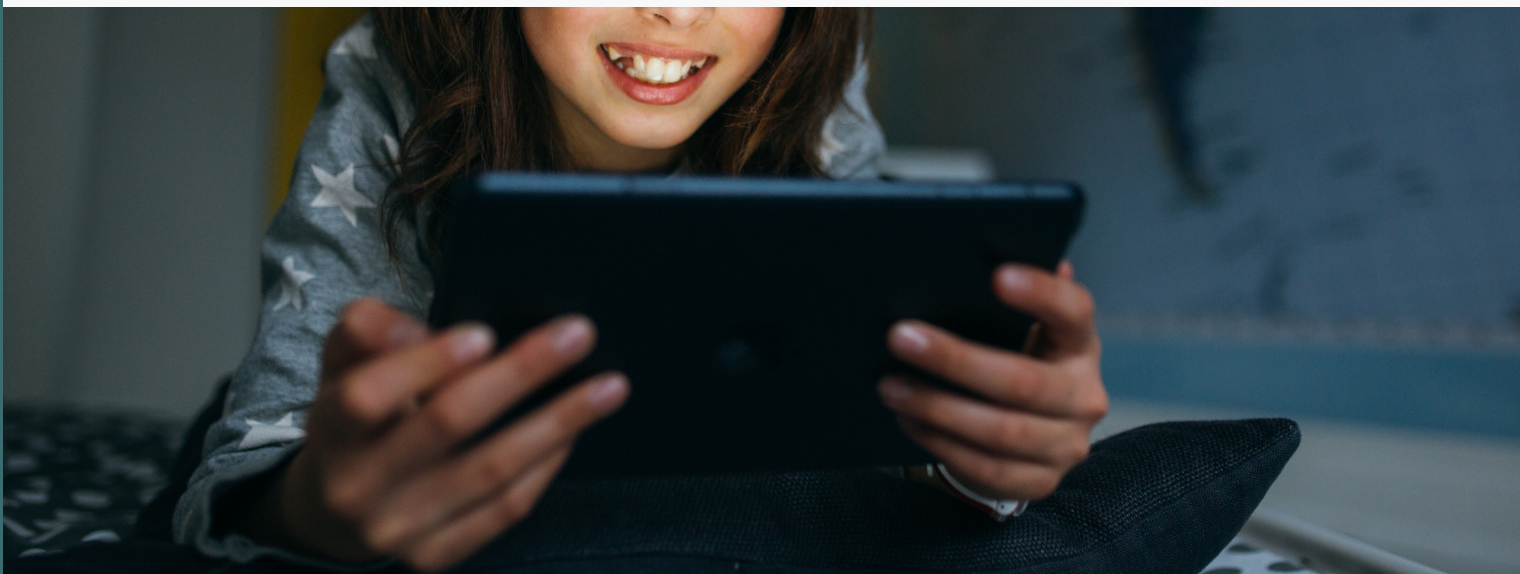


“Traffickers are looking for girls that appear to not have a lot of self-confidence... They know in the first 30 seconds of communication and engaging with a girl if she has a low self-esteem.”

~ Police Officer specializing in Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is highly rational, with the highest means of recruitment through family members, romantic partners, and colleagues or friends. Eighty six percent of victims knew their traffickers in some form of a relationship before being exploited.

~ Data from Polaris Report statistics



HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS BOUNDARIES & CONSENT

The Freedom 4/24 Prevention Education Curriculum has been developed to strategically prevent exploitation by addressing the vulnerabilities and risk factors in victims who were exploited into human trafficking. Stemming from the data in the 2021 Polaris Report, and what experts know regarding the grooming tactics used by traffickers with their victims, the curriculum's objective is to build the awareness of healthy relationships for youth in their own lives and increase self-awareness of boundaries and consent. Also, the lessons teach about online safety, and equip the students with problem solving strategies to face scenarios online and in-person that involve exploitative relationships.

The key to this prevention education curriculum is striving to reduce risk factors through lessons that support growth in awareness of self and others. All of this has been created with a trauma-informed approach, which is especially important for audiences with this trigger-sensitive material.

Every lesson addresses healthy relationships and internet safety, creating a repetition of the most important preventative factors for reinforcement. In the descriptions below, a brief overview is provided of the lessons, the main objective, and specific focal point of prevention that the lesson addressed.

LESSON OVERVIEW

Lesson 1: Healthy Relationships & Exploitation

Designed for students as young as 4th and 5th grade, this lesson lays a foundation for understanding healthy relationships and friendships, introduces the concepts of boundaries, consent, exploitation, abuse, and turning to a trusted adult.

Lesson 2: Human Trafficking

Sixth grade standard is used for this introductory lesson on the concepts of exploitation and human trafficking.

Lesson 3 : Human Trafficking, Grooming, and Sextortion

This lesson is recommended for 7th grade and above as it delves deeper into the grooming strategies of the traffickers. Online safety is a larger component of this lesson.

Lesson 4: Human Trafficking Vulnerabilities and Vignettes

This lesson has a shorter section of direct instruction at the beginning, and it is expected to span over two class periods involving significant independent student study of survivor vignettes. Students review risk factors and tactics of control used by traffickers.

AFTER CARE

This curriculum is not meant to be implemented without a follow-up plan in place for students who need support or an intervention from an unsafe relationship or environment. The curriculum training manual will provide facilitators with information and a structure to set-up support before implementing the lessons, including resources specific to the location.