Human Trafficking Warning Signs

- Missing school frequently
- Signs of drug use
- New or expensive items purchased by someone else
- New or multiple cellphones
- Changes in behavior, such as being anxious, submissive, fearful, or nervous
- Disinterest in activities previously cared about
- Avoids making eye contact
- Homelessness
- Habitual runaway
- Physical injuries or malnourishment
- Presence of an older or controlling partner
- Knowledge of the trafficking industry and associated slang
- Graphic or inappropriate online profile
- Offer of a high paying job that is too good to be true
- Person not in control of own identification documents

Do you suspect Human Trafficking?
If you see someone being trafficked, do not intervene, stay safe, and call for help:

SAN DIEGO CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE
Reports can be made 24/7
(800) 344-6000

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE
Help is available 24/7
(888) 373-7888
Or text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733)

EMERGENCIES
911

San Diego Trafficking Prevention Collective
www.SanDiegoTPC.org

An educated student is a protected student
To learn more and bring the Collective to your school and community, contact:

Don Buchheit
Regional Collective Director
info@SanDiegoTPC.org • (619) 770-9611

Human trafficking prevention education to protect students and the community from exploitation

In partnership with the San Diego County District Attorney’s Office
A Message from your District Attorney:

Human trafficking is an egregious violation of human rights and a serious violation of state and federal laws. Victims can be anyone—women, men, children, U.S. citizens or foreign nationals. However, in the area of sex trafficking, minors are particularly vulnerable targets. Social media is one way traffickers access and exploit children.

In order to protect our children, California passed laws requiring education and awareness in the area of human trafficking to students and educators. Other laws reinforced the mandated child abuse reporting laws to include human trafficking. The San Diego Trafficking Prevention Collective (SDTPC) brings together three anti-trafficking programs—PROTECT, Project ROOTS, and kNOw MORE—to decrease the number of children involved in trafficking in San Diego County.

As a leader in the fight against human trafficking, the San Diego District Attorney’s Office is extending its reach into local public schools through this first-of-its-kind public-private partnership. The programs are funded under a three-year grant by the UBS Optimus Foundation. This evidence-based prevention collective addresses barriers schools face from the lack of funding for prevention education. This prevention collective allows each student in San Diego County public schools, no matter where they go to school, the same access to education and awareness that keep them safe from exploitation.

As District Attorney, combatting human trafficking and protecting children from this modern-day slavery is a priority. We have a responsibility to provide students and teachers with accurate information about human trafficking. Through the SDTPC, we are committed to bringing human trafficking education into every public school in San Diego County.

Summer Stephan
District Attorney,
San Diego County

What is the San Diego Trafficking Prevention Collective (SDTPC)?

- A parent, teacher, and student partnership—building awareness around human trafficking and creating ways to stop the nearly 3,500 children and adults who are trafficked in San Diego each year
- Three unique anti-trafficking programs: PROTECT, Project ROOTS, and kNOw MORE, which combines education and advocacy to protect children
- It is a unique public-private partnership with the District Attorney’s Office and funded under a three-year grant by the UBS Optimus Foundation to support these three programs, which educate, empower, and ultimately protect our children from exploitation

Why the SDTPC is important?

- San Diego County ranks in the top 13 areas nationally for human trafficking
- Research estimates an underground sex economy worth $810 million a year
- Schools across San Diego County have confirmed that traffickers actively recruit children on or near school campuses and use social media to lure and manipulate victims
- The average age of entry into sex trafficking is 16, with many victims younger
- 90 percent of high schools studied in San Diego County identified cases of human trafficking involving students

How does the SDTPC work?

The SDTPC is educating and empowering students in elementary, middle, and high school about the ugly truth of human trafficking in our schools and neighborhoods through a three pronged approach—in-school prevention education, after-school intervention, and interactive multimedia training.

PROTECT (PRevention Organized To Educate Children on Trafficking)

PROTECT is a holistic classroom education program that provides teachers and students with a comprehensive understanding of the dangers and signs of human trafficking and exploitation. Online or in-person staff training, instructional resources, and curriculum are available to teachers in elementary, middle, and high school. PROTECT helps teachers identify vulnerable students and connect them to the appropriate resources.

PROJECT ROOTS

Project ROOTS is an after-school program that addresses the root causes of gender-based violence, exploitation, and unhealthy relationships through group mentoring and social emotional learning. As a primary prevention program, it aims to build protective factors in elementary and middle school youth through the three central themes of empathy, equality, and empowerment.

kNOw MORE

kNOw MORE is a student-centered human trafficking awareness and prevention curriculum for middle and high school students. The program provides a drama-based interactive training for students and their families. Through role-play, discussion, and information, participants develop techniques to recognize red flags and vulnerabilities around sex trafficking and what actions to take to prevent it.