

Indicators of Trafficking - Adults

- *Has their passport or I.D. been confiscated by their employer, or someone who got them the job?
- *Are they accompanied where ever they go?
- *Does someone always answer questions on their behalf?
- *Do they work and sleep in the same place?
- Are they bullied or shouted at or physically abused?
- Have they been threatened with deportation or jail if they try to leave their situation?
- Does their employer make sexual advances, demands or exploit them?
- Are they denied adequate food?
- Are they denied adequate clothing?
- *Are they denied medical or dental care, time off, sleep?
- *Do their wages go to repaying an impossibly large debt?

All of the above are possible indicators of a person being trafficked for labor with the asterisk notating strongest descriptors. If someone is being commercially exploited (trafficked) for sex you may *also* observe or be interacting with them because of:

- Behavior consistent with PTSD symptoms
- STI's (Sexually Transmitted Infections)
- They may be in custody for minor crimes or prostitution charges
- Untreated medical or dental issues that have become urgent
- Strong attachment to a person who appears to be controlling or abusive
- Suicide attempt/self-harming behaviors
- Tattoos (esp. of a money bag, dollar sign, bar code or male's name)

Indicators of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)

Relationships and Interests/Awareness:

- *He/she is involved with a 'girlfriend' or 'boyfriend' who is older, controlling, and initially indulgent
- He/she has new friends and is reluctant to explain how they met
- He/she is disconnected from family or other caregivers
- He/she uses language from "The Life" (wife-in-law, daddy, the life, stable, bottom bitch)
- He/she may have little knowledge of the community where they are located
- He/she has an interest in pornography or other parts of the sex industry
- He/she has a history of running away - 4 times or more is a strong indicator
- He/she has unexplained absences from her home/placement or school

Physical or Medical Indicators

- He/she has visible signs of abuse.
- He/she appears to be exhausted
- *He/she has a tattoo that they are reluctant to explain (often a name on the neck or arm)
- He/she has a history of multiple sexually transmitted infections and/or multiple pregnancies
- Untreated medical or dental issues that have become urgent

Mental and Behavioral Indicators

- He/she has lost interest in age appropriate activities
- *He/she exhibits fear, tension, shame, humiliation, nervousness
- He/she has behaviors consistent with PTSD
- Suicide attempt/self-harming behaviors
- He/she exhibits over-sexualized behavior, or has a history of inappropriate sexual behavior, not limited to prostitution (although a minor should not be charged with prostitution)

Other indicators:

- *He/she does **not** identify themselves as a victim of human trafficking
- They have been or are in custody for minor crimes
- *He/she has one or more cell phones, given to her by another party – especially a pre-paid phone
- He/she has excessive amounts of cash on hand – or the opposite, no personal possessions or personal items
- *He/she has new material possessions (or services performed for her, like nails, hair extensions), unjustified by his or her income and acquired through someone other than a parent