

Look Beneath the Surface

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Child Sex Trafficking



Child Sex Trafficking Myths



Faces of Child Sex Trafficking Victims



Child Sex Trafficking

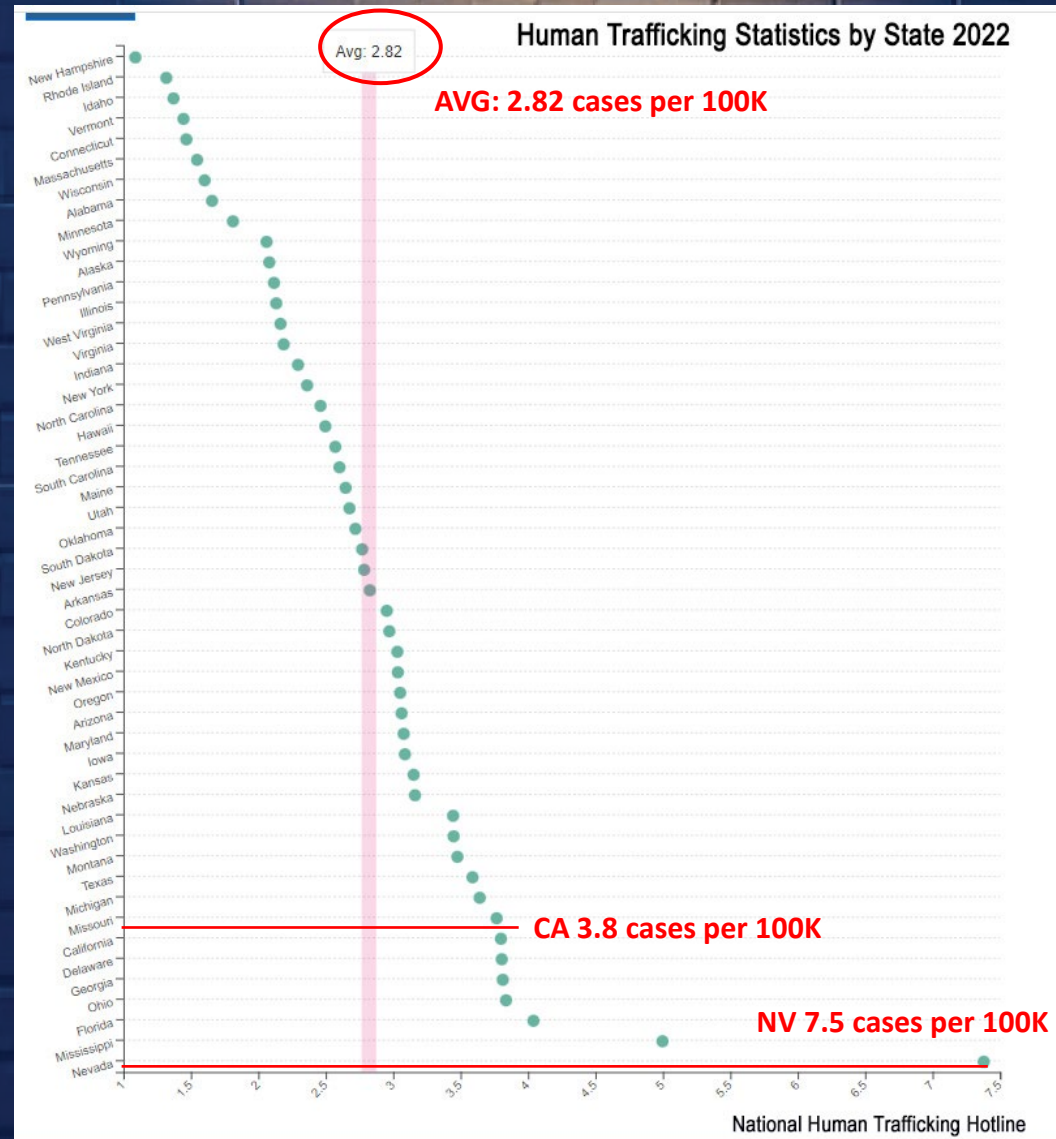
- A form of child abuse that occurs when a child under 18 is advertised, solicited, or exploited through a commercial sex act
- Victims are usually repeatedly violated, vulnerable to continued abuse and exploitation, and will suffer lifelong emotional and psychological trauma

Child Sex Trafficking

- **Statistics**

- The Silver and Golden States are one of the top 10 states for human trafficking
- Nearly 70% of all reported sexual assaults/trafficking occur to children age 17 and under
- African American children have almost twice the risk of sexual abuse/trafficking than white children.

Child Sex Trafficking



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Child Sex Trafficking

- **Who are the victims?**

- Living in poverty
- Homeless or unstable living arrangements
- Experience physical, emotional or sexual abuse
- Isolated or alone
- Latch key
- Foster care
- Low self-confidence and/or self-esteem
- Single parent families
- Indifferent/uncaring parents
- Parents spend little quality time

Child Sex Trafficking

Characteristics of the Victims and Consumers

- **Children**

- Immature
- Lack self-confidence
- Lack self-esteem
- Lonely
- Non-assertive
- Belligerent
- Looking for a person that will pay attention to them

- **Consumers**

- Master manipulators/groomers
- Showmen
- Understand vulnerabilities
- Sociopathic tendencies
- Sexual gratification
- Narcissistic
- Deceitful
- Some are respected members of the community

Child Sex Trafficking

- Who are they?
 - 90% of victims are local children
 - 90% of victims are girls
- Children and Consumers
 - All demographics
 - All communities in the Valley

Child Sex Trafficking

Potential Signs

- Unexplained school absences
- Abrupt changes in behavior
- Change in clothes and hairstyle
- Change in language (slang)
- Seen with older unknown males
- Talk of suicide
- Increase in being angry
- Suddenly appear depressed or anxious
- Avoid eye contact
- Physical trauma
- Unusual tattoos/branding
- Unexplained cash or electronics
- Posture
- Lost of appetite
- Substance abuse

Child Sex Trafficking

- **Prevention Steps**

- Be observant at all times
- Educate yourself about child sex trafficking
- Monitor apps on phones, laptops, tablets, etc.
- Engage children in meaningful activities
- Spend quality time with your children, together and separately

Child Sex Trafficking

- Difficult to learn if a child is a victim?
 - The primary reason that the public is not sufficiently aware of child sexual abuse/trafficking is that 73% of child victims do not tell anyone for at least a year; 45% of victims do not tell anyone for at least 5 years and some never disclose
 - 65% are uncooperative during investigations

Child Sex Trafficking

- If you think a child is a victim?
 - Approach your child in a compassionate, caring, and nonthreatening manner
 - Ask if he or she is having a problem that he or she is willing to talk about
 - Don't force the issue
 - Avoid accusing him or her of anything
 - Contact law enforcement. It is not the parent's job to fully investigate the situation. In addition, family members or other known people may be the consumer

Look Beneath the Surface

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