An Introduction To Human Trafficking



April 20, 2023



- Our Vision -

To have our community of Dufferin-Caledon, free of and safeguarded against Human Trafficking.





Human Trafficking

- Involves the recruitment, transportation or harbouring of persons for the purpose of exploitation.
- Traffickers maintain control through force, sexual assault, violence, and isolation.
- Victims are often transported across the country to ensure unfamiliar and isolating environments.



Who is being trafficked?

- Women and girls
 (though boys, men and people who are LGBTQI2S are also targeted)
- Vulnerable populations
 - Youth with low self-esteem
 - Youth that are bullied, isolated, or marginalized
 - Economically disadvantaged
 - Indigenous women and girls
 - People with addictions or mental illness

Facts

The average age of recruitment is between 12-14 years

100 to 200 criminal charges laid every year with an upward trajectory

Between 2018 and 2019, CDVS were made aware of 22 victims of trafficking, with seven being youth under the age of 18 and 14 victims being female.

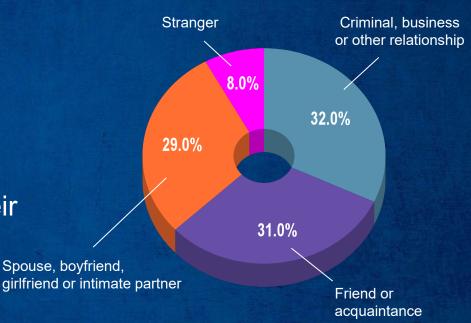
In 2022, CDVS reported 40 cases.

Many cases of Human Trafficking go unreported.

Who Are The Traffickers?

92% of human trafficking victims knew their trafficker

- They are known by their victims
- Criminal entrepreneurs, pimps, predators, organized crime
- It is estimated that 1 victim is worth over \$280K a year to their trafficker



"DEMAND IS WHAT DRIVES THE SYSTEM"

Small rural areas are easy targets for traffickers

- Fewer police
- Less awareness
- Lower cost per victim

Where and how are victims trafficked?

- The internet provides tremendous opportunities to share knowledge, expand creativity, explore the world, and connect with others, BUT unfortunately traffickers use this to their advantage...
 - Schools, community centres, malls, weekend parties, anywhere
 - Usually be-friended or boy-friended into a trusting friendship or relationship

Pimps are continually trolling the internet posing as teen girls or boys interested in friendship.





1. LURING Finding the right person

Approaching the victim (in person, online)

Testing their vulnerabilities and boundaries

Determine if person wants what they are selling

Collecting information about the person

Making them feel special

2.GROOMING
"Honeymoon Phase"

Filling a need

Promises of family, income & security

Engaging in physical intimacy

Collecting information about the person

Introduction to illicit drugs

Found her dream man. She feels in love

3.

COERCION AND MANIPULATION

Confiscates passport and important documents

Starts sending mixed messages and withdraws

Reduces information and compliments

Toys with emotions, makes her question feelings

He tracks her whereabouts and activity

She tries to please and make him love her

3.

COERCION AND MANIPULATION

Pushing sexual boundaries and desensitizing her

Establishes that sex has a price

Physical violence, torture and/or starvation

Makes her feel indebted to him. Sex for drugs or money

Although threatened, she feels she is in too far

4. EXPLOITATION

Broken self-esteem

Threatens her and her loved ones to keep control

Makes her feel indebted to him - owes him

She needs to offer sex in order to contribute

Control through abuse. Uses confinement and isolation from family and friends

Becomes totally dependant on trafficker. Feels no value or hope

AWARNING SIGNS

- Victim's behaviour and appearance changes
- New possessions that cannot be explained
- New boyfriend/friends that are not introduced to the family
- Grades are falling, not attending school

What Can You Do?

- 1. Make sure your <u>family</u> is **SAFE**
- 2. Make sure your neighbourhood is SAFE
- 3. Help **SPREAD** the word

Knowledge is Power We cannot bury our heads in the sand.



This is happening!!

LEARN MORE

CryNot.ca

Caledon Dufferin Victim Services 905-951-3838

Canadian Human
Trafficking Hotline 1-833900-1010

Joy Smith Foundation

SafeOnline.ca

MediaSmarts.ca