### What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is the exploitation, manipulation, and/or control of a person (usually female) by violence or threats of violence to provide sexual services or forced labour. Prostitution on the streets is known as "the game".

For more information and helpful resources for both youths and parents, please visit:

- www.canadiancentretoendhumantrafficking.ca
- www.Protectkidsonline.ca
- www.thefamilyhelpnetwork.ca
- www.Protectchildren.ca
- www.kidshelpphone.ca

#### Other resources and contacts:

- Canadian Human Trafficking 24/7 hotline: 1-833-900-1010
- Hands 24/7 Mental Health Crisis Line: 1-844-287-9072
- Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868 or text 686868

#### **Contact Us**

### If you require immediate assistance; call 9-1-1

135 Princess Street West North Bay, Ontario P1B 8J8

Phone: 705-497-5555

Email: mbaron ette @north baypolice.on. ca

Web: www.northbaypolice.ca

# Safeguarding Children and Youth: Human Trafficking



### THE NORTH BAY POLICE SERVICE

"Dedicated to Service, Committed to Community"

### Know the signs

The best way to be vigilant and protect your family and friends is by learning the signs and indicators of trafficking and by candidly talking about the possible risks with your kids. Having open, honest discussions about this will go a long way. If your kids encounter an uncomfortable or potentially dangerous situation/person, ensure they have access to safe adult to report it to. Traffickers often connect with children online and begin the process of grooming and luring. They look for vulnerabilities or holes in a young person's life and try to fill them.

### 1) Targeting the victim

Does your child have low self-esteem?

Traffickers will compliment them and tell them they are good-looking. They will try to alienate your child from family and friends. Traffickers will pose as doting boyfriends and make false promises & gain their trust. Traffickers and other predators are using Facebook, Twitter, Ask.fm, Whisper, Snapchat, Instagram, TikTok to have direct access to kids. Social media provided traffickers with a convenient way to find and groom their victims. Traffickers will also use other females to help with the recruitment process and trick a victim into sex work.

<u>Tip:</u> Parents should insist on **knowing the passwords** to all electronic devices their kids use.



### The steps

## 2) Honey Moon Stage: Gaming and Grooming



"You will feel loved and your dreams will come true". During this stage, the trafficker will make his target fall in love. Some things the he/she might do at this stage are: buying expensive gifts, take the target out for dinner and/or to destinations, be extra romantic, have sex with her very affectionately, and make false promises.

### 3) Coercion and Manipulation



In this stage the trafficker starts playing on her emotions. He will push his target girl to do things that make her uncomfortable during sex, in order to "numb" her to these acts. When she does what he wants, he will then treat her with gifts; associating sex with payment. The cycle continues, eventually he will make her believe she did something wrong that made him take away

his love and that she owes him money for the gifts and/or for the money that was spent on her during the honeymoon phase.

#### 4) Exploitation "The Game"

Once the target's self-esteem is broken down and she is alienated from her friends and family, the trafficker will force her into sex work. The pimp will convince her that she needs to work to support them financially. The exploitation may continue by use of force or threats of violence.