



High School Engagement- Grade 9

Human Trafficking Awareness & Prevention

# PREVENTION THROUGH EDUCATION IS THE SOLUTION

Connect for Freedom is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed to providing free **online safety** and **human trafficking awareness** materials to education stakeholders.



## Lesson



## Human Trafficking Awareness & Prevention

# Lesson Outline

1. Introduction to Human Trafficking
2. Alliance to End Human Trafficking “Human Trafficking Basics” Video (3 min.)
  - Discussion Questions
3. Child Sex Trafficking
  - Youth Risk Factors & Vulnerabilities
  - Examples of Child Sex Trafficking
  - Signs of Child Sex Trafficking
4. Our Rescue “2024 Human Trafficking Myth vs. Truth” Video (3 min.)
  - Discussion Question
5. DHS Blue Campaign Handout: What is Human Trafficking?
6. Activity

# What is Human Trafficking?

The use of **force, fraud, or coercion** to obtain some type of **labor or commercial sex act**.

HSI Blue Campaign



It affects **everyone**, regardless of sex, age, gender, race, or nationality.

HSI Blue Campaign

If a victim is **under the age of 18**, any act of commercial sex is considered to be trafficking, regardless of the use of force, fraud, or coercion.

The Exodus Road



# Types of Human Trafficking



**Sex trafficking-** using force, fraud, or coercion to obtain a commercial sex act

*Examples: escort services, pornography, brothels, massage parlors*

**Labor trafficking-** using force, fraud, or coercion to obtain labor

*Examples: restaurant workers, landscaping, factory workers, construction*

# Alliance to End Human Trafficking “Human Trafficking Basics” Video



Duration: 3:19 minutes

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XhbfGo7voB8>



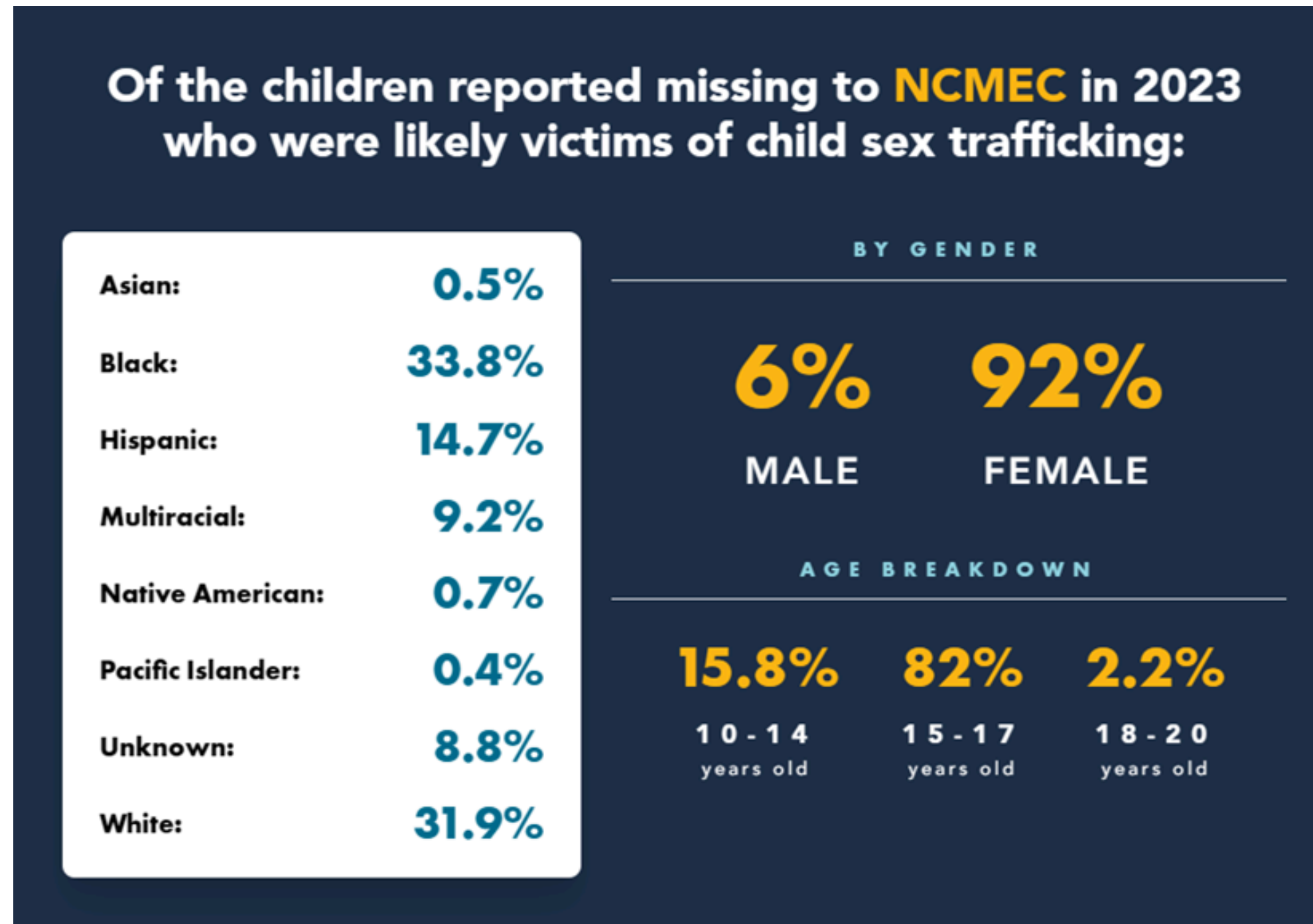
*Human trafficking can affect anyone, regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, financial status, etc.*

*What are some factors that can make someone more vulnerable to being human trafficked?*

*What are some things we can do to stop human trafficking?*

# Child Sex Trafficking Statistics

Of the more than 28,800 missing children reported to NCMEC in 2023,  
**1 in 6 were likely victims of child sex trafficking.**





# Youth Risk Factors & Vulnerabilities

Poverty and/or homelessness

Interaction with foster care or juvenile justice systems

Lack of support networks, like strong relationships with friends, family, or other trusted adults

Gang involvement, especially among youth who identify as female

History of running away

Low self-esteem or being bullied

Experience discrimination due to their race, gender, identity, sexuality, disability, or other personal characteristic





# Youth Risk Factors & Vulnerabilities (cont.)



Family history of sexual abuse or violence

Community or familial history of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation

Substance abuse or addictions

Experiencing or witnessing a traumatic event

Cultural-historical trauma (particularly among minority communities)

Being the sole or primary provider for their family

# Examples of Child Sex Trafficking

## **Pimp-Controlled Trafficking**

Child is trafficked by an unrelated individual, male or female, who develops an intentional relationship with the child who is later used as leverage in the exploitation.

## **Gang-Controlled Trafficking**

Child is trafficked by a member of a gang or trafficked by the gang. Gangs leverage their organizational structure, violence, and local, national, and international networks to instill fear and loyalty in the child victim.

## **Familial Trafficking**

Child is trafficked by a relative or a person who is perceived by the child to be a family member such as individuals referred to as “auntie” or “uncle” but are not directly related to the child.

## **Buyer-Perpetrated Trafficking**

Child is being trafficked but does not have a trafficker. Instead, the buyer is directly exploiting the child’s vulnerability by offering money, food, and/or shelter in exchange for the sexual exploitation.



# Signs of Child Sex Trafficking



Absences at school

Disconnected from friends and family

Dramatic change in mood/behavior

Seem timid or fearful

Constantly accompanied by someone

What they say sounds rehearsed

Have physical bruises

# Our Rescue “2024 Human Trafficking Myth vs. Truth” Video



Duration: 3:18 minutes

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7P6-chWY41s>

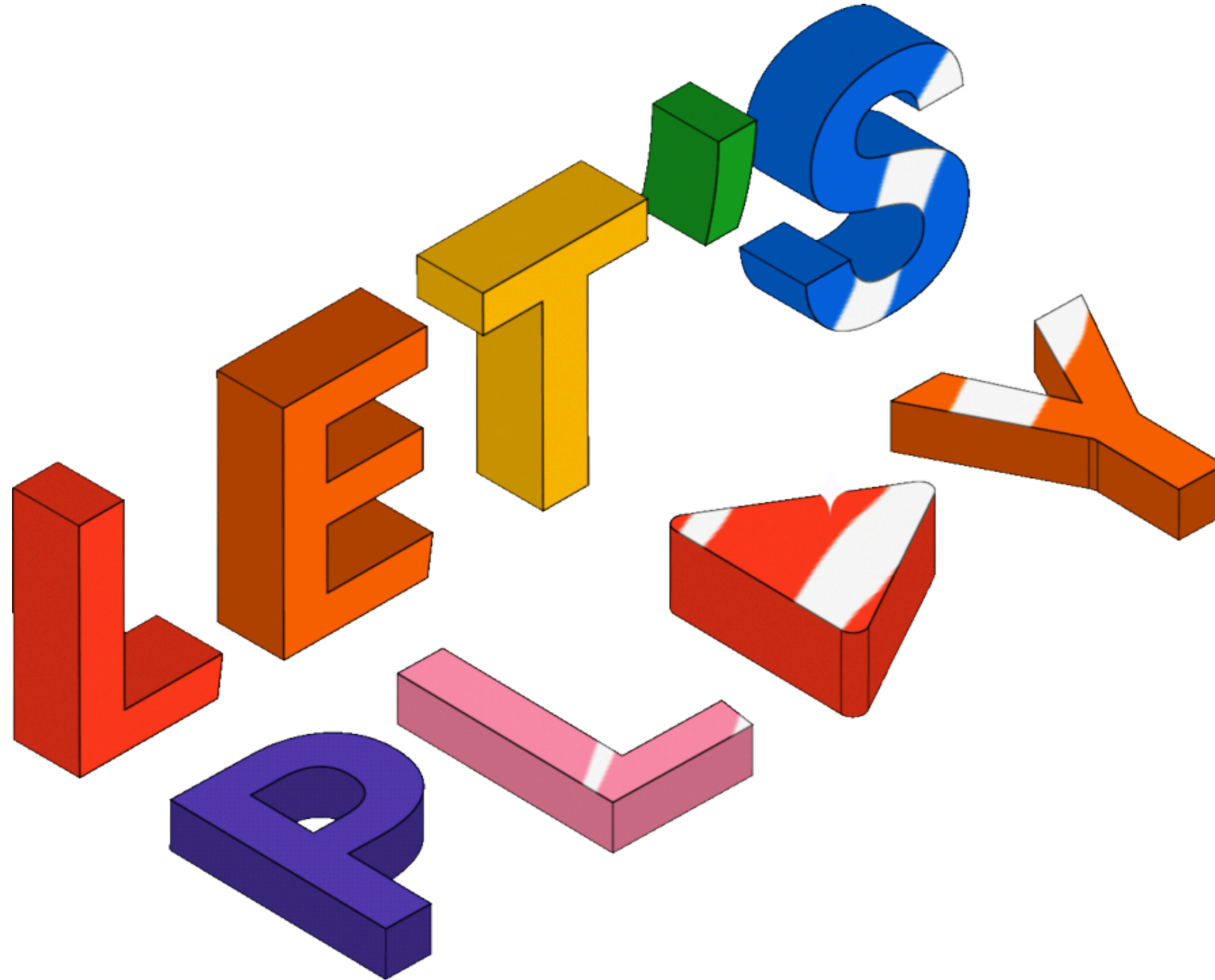
## Our Rescue “2024 Human Trafficking Myth vs. Truth” Teacher Led Discussion Question

*Were you surprised by any of these myths vs. truths?*

*Which one stood out to you the most and why?*



# Activity



# Activity

We recommend playing  
Connect for Freedom Risk  
Factors BINGO.

THE  
END

# Lesson Handout from Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign

## WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS...

Exploiting a person through force, fraud, or coercion

Anyone under the age of 18 involved in a commercial sex act

Sex trafficking, forced labor, and domestic servitude

A highly profitable crime

Exploitation-based and does not require movement across borders or any type of transportation

### THERE ARE DIFFERENT TYPES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

#### SEX TRAFFICKING

Victims are manipulated or forced against their will to engage in sex acts for money.



#### FORCED LABOR

Victims are made to work for little or no pay. Very often, they are forced to manufacture or grow products that we use and consume every day.



#### DOMESTIC SERVITUDE

Victims are hidden in plain sight, forced to work in homes across the United States as nannies, maids, or domestic help.



VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING MIGHT BE AFRAID TO COME FORWARD, OR WE MAY NOT RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS, EVEN IF IT IS HAPPENING RIGHT IN FRONT OF US.

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS HAPPENING IN THE UNITED STATES



SUBURBS



RURAL TOWNS



CITIES

### IT CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE

NO MATTER AGE, RACE, GENDER IDENTITY, SEX, ETHNICITY, NATIONALITY, IMMIGRATION STATUS, AND SOCIOECONOMIC CLASS



### RECOGNIZE AND REPORT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- To report suspected trafficking to federal law enforcement, call 1-866-347-2423 or submit a tip online at [www.ice.gov/tips](http://www.ice.gov/tips).
- Get help from the National Human Trafficking Hotline by calling 1-888-373-7888 or text HELP or INFO to 233733 (BEFREE).
- Call 911 or local law enforcement if someone is in immediate danger.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Visit the Blue Campaign website to learn more about the indicators of human trafficking: [DHS.gov/BlueCampaign](http://DHS.gov/BlueCampaign).
- Use Blue Campaign materials to raise awareness of human trafficking in your community.
- Follow @DHSBlueCampaign on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

# Links to Lesson Materials

Alliance to End Human Trafficking “Human Trafficking Basics” Video

Our Rescue “2024 Human Trafficking Myth vs. Truth” Video

Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign "What is Human Trafficking?" Handout

Connect for Freedom Risk Factors BINGO

# Recap of Lesson

**Human trafficking** is the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act.

2 Types of Human Trafficking: Sex & Labor

4 Types of Child Sex Trafficking: Pimp-Controlled, Familial, Gang-Controlled, Buyer-Perpetrated

## Youth Risk Factors & Vulnerabilities

- Poverty and/or homelessness
- Interaction with foster care or juvenile justice systems
- Lack of support networks
- Gang involvement
- History of running away
- Low self-esteem
- Being bullied
- Experience with discrimination due to race, gender, sexuality, etc.
- Family history of sexual abuse/violence
- Community or family history of trafficking or commercial sex exploitation
- Experiencing a traumatic event
- Being a sole provider for the family