Organizer: Connect for Freedom

Age/Grade Level: Ages 17–18 (12th Grade)

Lesson Title: Exploitation & How to Identify It

Instructional Time Required: One Session

Lesson Objectives: Youth should be able to:

- Define child exploitation.
- Identify the four types of child exploitation.
- Understand the common exploiters of children to watch out for.
- Understand what child sexual abuse material is and how common it is.
- Identify child exploitation when given real-life scenarios.

Lesson Overview:

This lesson starts with learning about what child exploitation is and the four types of exploitation of children. Participants will learn about who typically commits the exploitation of a child and the statistics correlated to this crime. Participants will watch a video called “Sexual Abuse in the Family” created by Fight Child Abuse. This video depicts a young girl who likes attention and gifts but is experiencing sexual abuse at the hands of a family member. Participants can see what that can look like, how it could feel, and how to safely navigate their way out of it. Participants will watch a video called “Modern slavery and human trafficking” created by Kent Police, which highlights the importance of vigilance and reporting when we see something that doesn’t look right. Participants will learn about two real-life stories about exploitation of minors, and we recommend having a staff led discussion after both scenarios.

Key Terms in Lesson:

Child exploitation- refers to a range of crimes that include the exploitation of a minor for sexual, financial, or other personal gain.

Child sexual abuse material (CSAM)- any visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct involving a minor.

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Lesson Enrichment Activity: Exploitation Kahoot!

Lesson Handout: *know2protect* How2Spot Online Predators

Youth Assessment Recommendations:

- What is child exploitation?
- What are the four types of exploitation of children?
- Do you think that child exploitation is common? What type of exploitation of children do you think is the most common?
- Do you think it is difficult to get out of one of these situations? Why or why not?
- Can you come up with some potential signs that show someone is being exploited?

Important Notice: Connect for Freedom has compiled information and materials from the Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign, Polaris Project, Thorn, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, and other reputable organizations.

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