Organizer: Connect for Freedom

Age/Grade Level: Ages 13–14 (8th Grade)

Lesson Title: Online Enticement Can Lead to Sex Trafficking

Instructional Time Required: One Session

Lesson Objectives: Youth should be able to:

- Understand the connection between online enticement and human trafficking.
- Identify what risk factors make a teen vulnerable to being trafficked.
- Explain what human trafficking is.
- Identify the various ways someone may be trafficked.
- Understand the difference between human smuggling and human trafficking.

Lesson Overview:

This lesson starts with listing statistics on human trafficking to highlight the severity of the crime to youth and then draw the connection between online enticement and human trafficking. Participants will watch a video called "What is Human Trafficking?" created by the Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign. This video gives an introduction into human trafficking to educate youth on what the crime is, where it happens, and how it tends to occur. It is important to ensure participants understand the difference between human smuggling and human trafficking, as a clear distinction is made in this video. Participants will learn about the risk factors and vulnerabilities that may make someone susceptible to being trafficked. Participants will watch a four-part video series called "Mia's Story" created by the Department of Homeland Security Blue Campaign. This video shows a young girl who is vulnerable, falls in love with an older guy who grooms her, and then gets trafficked by him. It's important to engage the participants thoroughly in a discussion following this video so that youth can share their thoughts and understanding of the material presented in the videos.

Key Terms in Lesson:

Polaris Project. "*Home- Polaris*." PolarisProject.org. https://polarisproject.org/
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. "*Child Sex Trafficking*." MissingKids.org. https://www.missingkids.org/theissues/trafficking

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Grooming- the process in which an offender sexually abuses a minor. This is often the first step in fostering a relationship with them and building trust.

Human smuggling- the illegal movement of someone across a border.

Human trafficking- modern day slavery; the illegal exploitation of a person through force, fraud, or coercion.

Online enticement- involves an individual communicating with a minor on the internet with the intent to commit a sexual offense or abduction.

Lesson Enrichment Activity: Human Trafficking Kahoot! or Risk Factors Bingo

Lesson Handout: *NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking* Red Flags

Youth Assessment Recommendations:

- Do you think human trafficking is common?
- What is the difference between human smuggling and human trafficking?
- List five youth vulnerabilities and risk factors that could make someone susceptible to being trafficked.
- What is the most shocking thing you learned today about human trafficking?
- What would you do if someone you know exhibited signs that they were a victim of human trafficking?

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.

Polaris Project. "*Home- Polaris*." PolarisProject.org. https://polarisproject.org/
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