Curated By: Connect for Freedom

Grade Level: 12th Grade

Lesson Title: A Breakdown of Human Trafficking

Instructional Time Required: One Class Session

Lesson Objectives: Students should be able to:

- Define human trafficking.
- Understand the difference between sex trafficking and labor trafficking.
- Explain what the Action-Means-Purpose (AMP) Model is.
- Give examples of where labor trafficking takes place.
- Give examples of where sex trafficking takes place.

Lesson Overview:

This lesson starts with learning about what human trafficking is and understanding the difference between the two types of trafficking- sex and labor trafficking. Students will learn some very significant data about human trafficking to understand the seriousness of this crime. Students will learn about the Action-Means-Purpose (AMP) Model, which can help us better understand the federal law for human trafficking. Under this model, the trafficker takes ACTION (transports, recruits, provides), then employs the MEANS (force, fraud, coercion), for the PURPOSE of compelling a victim to provide labor or a commercial sex act. Students will watch a video called "What is Human Trafficking?" created by the Department of Homeland Security, which dives deeper into what human trafficking is. Students will learn about where human trafficking occurs the most for sex trafficking and labor trafficking. Students will watch a video called "'I'm gonna make it'- Stories of Child Trafficking from Survivors" created by Love146. We recommend the discussion that follows, it can be very powerful if teachers spend a decent amount of time discussing the questions in detail with students.

Key Terms in Lesson:

Department of Homeland Security. *"What Is Human Trafficking?"* DHS.gov, 24 Sept. 2025, www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/what-human-trafficking
U.S. Department of State. *"What Is Trafficking in Persons?"* State.gov, 20 Jan. 2025, https://www.state.gov/what-is-trafficking-in-persons
Polaris Project. "*The Typology of Modern Slavery*." PolarisProject.org. https://polarisproject.org/the-typology-of-modern-slavery/
Polaris Project. "*Understanding Human Trafficking*." PolarisProject.org. https://polarisproject.org/understanding-human-trafficking/

© 2026 Connect For Freedom, Inc.

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

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

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

New Jersey Student Learning Standards Addressed in This Lesson:

- 2.3.12.PS.1: Apply a thoughtful decision-making process to evaluate situations and influences that could lead to healthy or unhealthy consequences (e.g., peers, media).
- 2.3.12.PS.7: Analyze recruitment tactics that sex traffickers/exploiters use to exploit vulnerabilities and recruit youth.

Lesson Enrichment Activity: Human Trafficking Bingo

Lesson Handout: *Polaris Project* Human Trafficking Power and Control Wheel

Student Assessment Recommendations:

- What is human trafficking?
- What are the two types of human trafficking?
- Explain the main elements in the Action-Means-Purpose Model.
- Do you think that human trafficking is common? Why or why not?
- Do you think that human trafficking can occur in our community? Why or why not?

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.

Department of Homeland Security. *"What Is Human Trafficking?"* DHS.gov, 24 Sept. 2025, www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/what-human-trafficking
U.S. Department of State. *"What Is Trafficking in Persons?"* State.gov, 20 Jan. 2025, https://www.state.gov/what-is-trafficking-in-persons
Polaris Project. "*The Typology of Modern Slavery*." PolarisProject.org. https://polarisproject.org/the-typology-of-modern-slavery/
Polaris Project. "*Understanding Human Trafficking*." PolarisProject.org. https://polarisproject.org/understanding-human-trafficking/

© 2026 Connect For Freedom, Inc.