Curated By: Connect for Freedom

Grade Level: 9th Grade

Lesson Title: Human Trafficking Awareness & Prevention

Instructional Time Required: One Class Session

Lesson Objectives: Students should be able to:

- Define what human trafficking is.
- Understand the difference between sex and labor trafficking.
- Identify various youth risk factors and vulnerabilities.
- List the four types of child sex trafficking.
- Understand that human trafficking is common and affects all communities.

Lesson Overview:

This lesson starts by defining what human trafficking is and looking at the difference between sex and labor trafficking. Students will watch a video called "Human Trafficking Basics" created by the Alliance to End Human Trafficking, which goes into more detail about the issue of human trafficking. Students will learn about child sex trafficking statistics and youth risk factors and vulnerabilities that may make them susceptible to being targeted by traffickers. Students will learn about the four different types of child sex trafficking and signs that someone may exhibit if they are a victim of sex trafficking. Students will watch a video called "2024 Human Trafficking Myth vs. Truth" created by Our Rescue. This video is extremely impactful because it debunks misconceptions surrounding human trafficking.

Key Terms in Lesson:

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.

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
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. "*Child Sex Trafficking*." MissingKids.org, www.missingkids.org/theissues/trafficking

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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: Risk Factors BINGO

Lesson Handout: *Department of Homeland Security's Blue Campaign* What is Human Trafficking?

Student Assessment Recommendations:

- Define what human trafficking is.
- List five youth risk factors and vulnerabilities.
- Identify the four different types of child sex trafficking.
- Do you think that human trafficking is common? Why or why not?
- Is a victim under the age of 18 who commits an act of commercial sex automatically considered to be trafficked?

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
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