SEX TRAFFICKING SIGNS & INDICATORS:

HOW TO RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS

• Is in the commercial sex industry and has a pimp/manager
• Has little or no idea where they are geographically located and is always transported to and from the work site
• Going on unexplained shopping trips or having expensive clothing, jewelry, or a cell phone
• A person whose movement and activities appear to be closely controlled or monitored by another
• High security measures exist in the work and/or living locations (e.g. opaque windows, boarded up windows, bars on windows, barbed wire, security cameras, etc.)
• A minor or young adult who expresses interest in or is in an intimate relationship with a much older individual
• Inconsistencies in their story about where they stay or who is their guardian

POOR MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH OR ABNORMAL BEHAVIOR

• Shows signs of physical abuse
• Is fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid
• Avoids eye contact
• Appears malnourished
• Tattoos that indicate branding or ownership

LACK OF CONTROL

• Is not in control of his/her own money
• Is not allowed to speak for themselves (a third party may insist on being present)

REPORT TO THE NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

• Call 1-888-3737-888 or text BeFREE (233733)

CALL 911 or 888-3737-888 - or - TEXT HELP to #233733

Sources: Polaris & U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime. This project was supported by Subgrant Nos. 2009-SU-B9-0027 and 2010-D1-13X-0074 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs through the State of Ohio, Office of Criminal Justice Services.
Human Trafficking: Ohio’s Tragic Reality
NO ONE SHOULD BE SOLD FOR SEX

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