The Red Flags of Human Trafficking

Appearance Red Flags

- Branding
- Clothing
- Possessions
- Money
- Hygiene

What is human trafficking?

Human trafficking, also known as modern-day slavery, is the buying, selling, or trading of labor or sexual services for commercial gain. It’s anytime human beings are treated as possessions to be controlled and exploited. Over 20 million men, women, and children around the world are currently being trafficked.

What difference can I make?

The current odds of a victim being rescued from the world of trafficking are 1 in 200. We want to change that. One of the simplest ways you can do is to learn how to spot them. While this guide will not make you an expert in victim identification, memorizing and recognizing these red flags can make all the difference.

Behavior Red Flags

- Confusion
- Timidity
- Submissiveness
- Lack of freedom

Notice these red flags? Report it!

Here’s how:

If you observe these red flags and think someone is being trafficked:
- Call 911
- Tell the dispatcher you are reporting suspected human trafficking

After you report to the police:
- Call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline at 1-888-3737-888 OR text details to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at BeFree (233733)

Other things you can do:
- Note details like license plates, hotel room number, etc.
- Look for tattoos and descriptions of parties involved
- Take discreet photos without being caught

Things you should NOT do:
- Don’t take photos if it puts you in danger
- Never attempt to intervene or take the victim out of the situation by force. You could be putting yourself and them in danger.

Communication Red Flags

- Origin
- Time
- Address
- Language
- Rehearsed
- Deferral

- Dominant
- Coached
- Anger
- Age
- Travelling
- Vulgar

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