

Sex Trafficking

HOW IT HAPPENS IN ALASKA



TARGETING

is a connection established in person or online with the intent of developing a relationship for the purpose of exploitation.



GROOMING

is identifying and fulfilling the needs and dreams of an individual to build trust, buying gifts, providing drugs, and alcohol.



ISOLATION

is creating distance between individual and their loved ones.

MANIPULATION & COERCION



are sending mixed messages of romance, making claims like "you owe me" or making threats of force.

FRAUD AND FORCE



are sexual and physical assault, confinement, and violence against others as punishment.



EXPLOITATION

is ensuring ongoing participation in commercial sex acts while taking away a person's earnings and independence.

Sex Trafficking is modern day slavery.

Sex trafficking exists in Alaska and is a crime which involves exploiting a person for commercial sex.



**See something?
Say something.
Call 9-1-1**

If you or someone you know is in a labor or sex trafficking situation, the **National Human Trafficking Hotline** has local Alaskan resources for you. **Get Confidential Help: 24/7**

National Human Trafficking Hotline

**1 (888) 373-7888,
or text at BEFREE (233733),
send the word "HELP" or "INFO"**

SEX TRAFFICKING IN ALASKA



ALASKA
GOVERNOR'S
COUNCIL ON
HUMAN AND SEX
TRAFFICKING

To Get Help

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Human Trafficking Hotline
at **1-888-373-7888** or text **"HELP"**
or **"INFO"** to **233733** for **24/7**
confidential help.

Contact Us!
<https://dps.alaska.gov/CHST/Home>
dps.chst@alaska.gov



Red Flags of Trafficking

These are some key red flags that could alert you to a potential trafficking situation that should be reported:

- Withdrawn from family & friends
- Overly controlling partner
- Signs of physical or mental abuse
- Submissive or fearful
- Inability to speak to individual alone
- Employer/"boyfriend" is holding identity documents
- Unpaid or paid less than minimum wage
- Under 20 and in prostitution
- Trading sex for anything of value; a place to stay, food, clothes, money, or drugs.
- No Identification card or driver's license
- Specific branding/tattoos

See something? Say something!

"Many people in active sex trafficking situations do not recognize themselves as being victims because they have been expertly groomed by a trafficker to believe they have chosen to participate in commercial sex."

~ Polaris Project



In the wrong hands, love is a powerful weapon of exploitation.

WHAT LOVE IS NOT:

- Being unable to come and go freely
- Wanting to stop and feeling scared or afraid to leave
- Being threatened or hurt when attempting to leave
- Having family members threatened
- Eating and sleeping at work or being transported to work by guards between home and work place
- Being pressured into selling sex, stripping or working at an illicit massage business
- Not being allowed to speak or meet with anyone alone
- Having movements, spending, and communications monitored



If you are afraid to call the police, you can anonymously text the keyword AKTIPS, followed by your crime tip to 847411.



Trafficking in Alaska

Traffickers take advantage of people who are vulnerable.

100% of trafficked clients served at Priceless Alaska report a history of sexual abuse as a child. ¹

80% of trafficking clients at MyHouse Alaska have attempted suicide. ²

50% of Priceless Alaska clients are Alaska Native and 25% identify as LGBTQ+. ¹

Anchorage Covenant House identified 3 common factors amongst their clients. Of these risk factors, 75% have 2 or more of the following:

- Less than one permanent connection in their life
- Suffered from disorders such as substance abuse, mental health, or behavioral conditions
- Had an income of less than \$1,341 monthly ³

Among Polaris Project trafficking victims/survivors surveyed, 80% reported living with people who were physically abusive to them at some point in their childhood. ⁴

Human and sex trafficking is the second most profitable crime trade worldwide, only behind the illicit drug trafficking crime trade. ⁵

Sources:

1. Priceless Alaska, 2023, data included in Governor's Council on Human and Sex Trafficking Data Summary Document
2. My House Alaska, 2023, data included in Governor's Council on Human and Sex Trafficking Data Summary Report
3. Covenant House, 2023, data included in Governor's Council on Human and Sex Trafficking Data Summary Document
4. Polaris Project, 2023, <https://polarisproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/In-Harms-Way-How-Systems-Fail-Human-Trafficking-Survivors-by-Polaris-modified-June-2023.pdf>
5. Monique Burr Foundation. November 2023, <https://www.mbfpreventioneducation.org/resource/human-trafficking/>