

# Human Trafficking

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# FBI

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*There is **NO** more urgent crisis than the exploitation of a child.*

*Predators are...*

- *More Transient*
- *More Sophisticated*
- *And More Brutal than in the Past*
- *And They Attack Our **MOST PRECIOUS** Assets*

# What is Human Trafficking?

**Sex Trafficking:** in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age;

(Commercial means anything of value exchanged such as money, drugs, shelter food or clothes. i.e. prostitution, pornography, and sexual acts)

**Labor Trafficking:** The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. (1)

**Force**-can involve the use of physical restraint or serious physical harm. Physical violence, including rape, beatings, and physical confinement, is often employed as a means to control victims, especially during the early stages of victimization, when the trafficker breaks down the victim's resistance.

**Fraud**-involves false promises regarding employment, wages, working conditions, or other matters. For example, individuals might travel to another country under the promise of well-paying work at a farm or factory only to find themselves manipulated into forced labor. Others might reply to advertisements promising modeling, nanny, or service industry jobs overseas, but be forced into prostitution once they arrive at their destination.

**Coercion**-an involve threats of serious harm to or physical restraint against any person; any scheme, plan or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that failure to perform an act would result in serious harm to or physical restraint against any person; or the abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process. (Office On Trafficking In Persons, 2012)

# MYTHS

## **Common myths and misconceptions about Human Trafficking:**

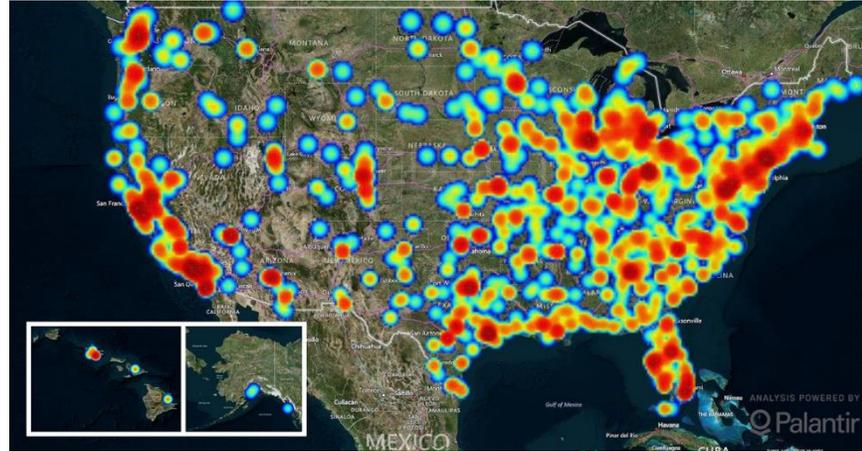
1. Human trafficking does not occur in the United States. It only happens in other countries.
2. Human trafficking victims are only foreign born individuals and those who are poor.
3. Human trafficking is only sex trafficking.
4. Individuals must be forced or coerced into commercial sex acts to be victims of human trafficking.
5. Human trafficking and human smuggling are the same.
6. Human trafficking victims will attempt to seek help when in public.

# FACTS

## **Facts about Human Trafficking(HT):**

1. 1 in 6 of the 18,500 runaways reported to the National Center For Missing and Exploited Children(NCMEC) in 2016 were likely sex trafficking victims.
2. 86% of these likely sex trafficking victims were in the care of social services or foster care when they went missing. (NCMEC, 2017)
3. Smuggling is a crime against a country's borders and HT is crime against a person.
4. In Human Smuggling transportation is always an element and in HT transportation not required.

# WHERE IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

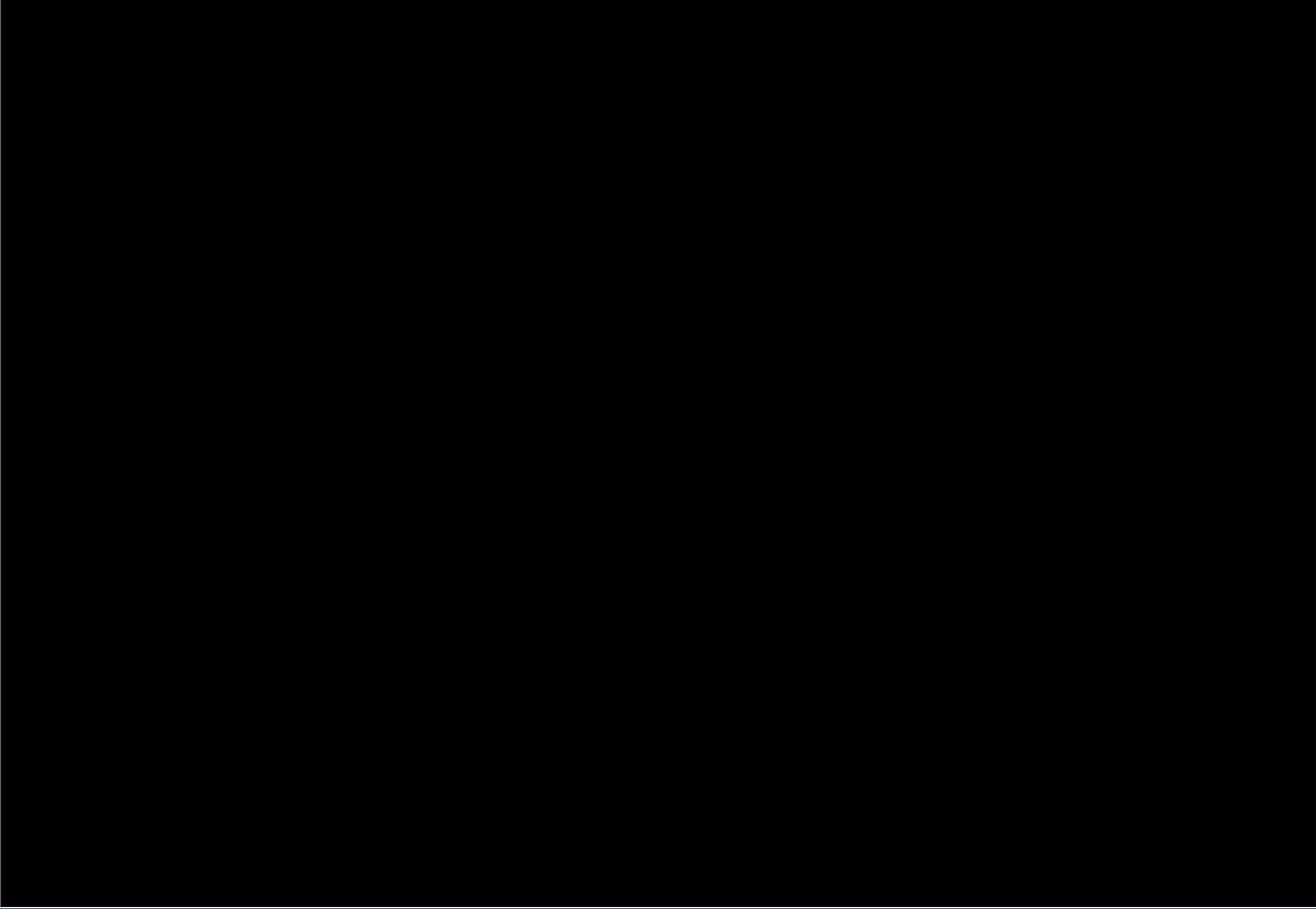


EVERYWHERE

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Not just in far-away places, like cities in Cambodia or in rural Brazil, but in cities and towns all over the world, including in the U.S.

Wherever you live...in every community  
...Chances are that some form of human trafficking has taken place there



# Labor Trafficking

1. **Involuntary servitude-** is a United States legal and constitutional term for a person laboring against that person's will to benefit another, under some form of coercion other than the worker's financial needs.
2. **Peonage-**is a system where an employer compels a worker to pay off a debt with work.
3. **Slavery-**is for life and Involuntary servitude is for a certain period of time.

# Labor Trafficking

## Vulnerabilities-

1. Immigration status
2. Debt
3. Isolation
4. Poverty
5. Lack of strong labor protections

# Labor Trafficking

## Examples-

1. Domestic Work
2. Traveling sales crews
3. Peddling and Begging
4. Construction
5. Commercial Cleaning services
6. Agriculture
7. Factories and Manufacturing
8. Hotels and Hospitality
9. Restaurant

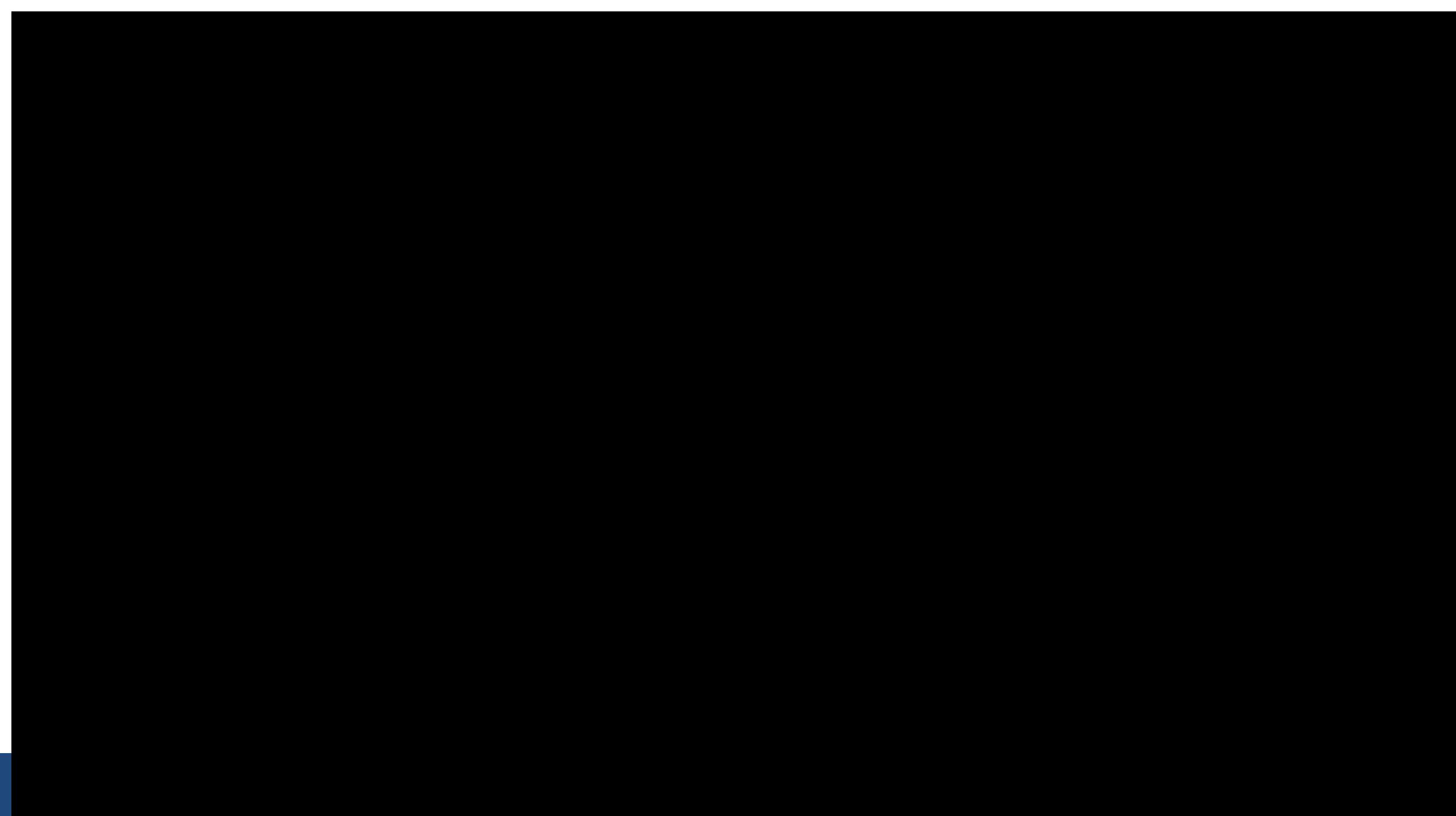
# Shipyard

- According to the lawsuit, this company recruited the workers from India through the federal H-2B guest worker program to work at its facilities in Texas and Mississippi in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.
- They had to pay 11,000-25,000 to come under false promises of green cards and good paying jobs for their family.
- EEOC alleged this company subjected the men to a pattern or practice of race and national origin discrimination, including unfavorable working conditions and forcing the men to pay \$1,050 a month to live in overcrowded, unsanitary, guarded camps.
- As many as 24 men were forced to live in containers the size of a double-wide trailer, while non-Indian workers were not required to live in these camps. This company and its agents threatened these plaintiffs with deportation, and perpetuated a campaign of psychological abuse, coercion and fraud.

# **Rapid Assessment Belhaven Social Work Department under the auspices of Shared Hope International**

## **Domestic minor sex trafficking study**

- September, 2014, an assessment team was compiled to perform a Rapid Assessment developed by Shared Hope International to study the scope of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking in Hinds, Rankin, Warren and Madison counties.
- Assessors contacted members of law enforcement, prosecutors, public defenders, juvenile court judges, juvenile detention centers, government agencies, and non-governmental service providers in an effort to gain involvement.
- An estimated 90 children were identified among interviewees as victims of DMST in recent years.
- The research found familial trafficking the most common among these victims.



# Sex Trafficking

## Examples-

1. Familial trafficking-when family members allow their children to be sexually exploited in exchange for something of value, money, drugs, rent etc.
2. Pimp controlled trafficking-occurs when an individual controls a victim engaged in commercial sex acts.
3. Gang controlled trafficking- Differs from pimp controlled in that the entire gang controls the victim.
4. Survival sex-victims exchange sexual services for food, cell phone or a place to stay.

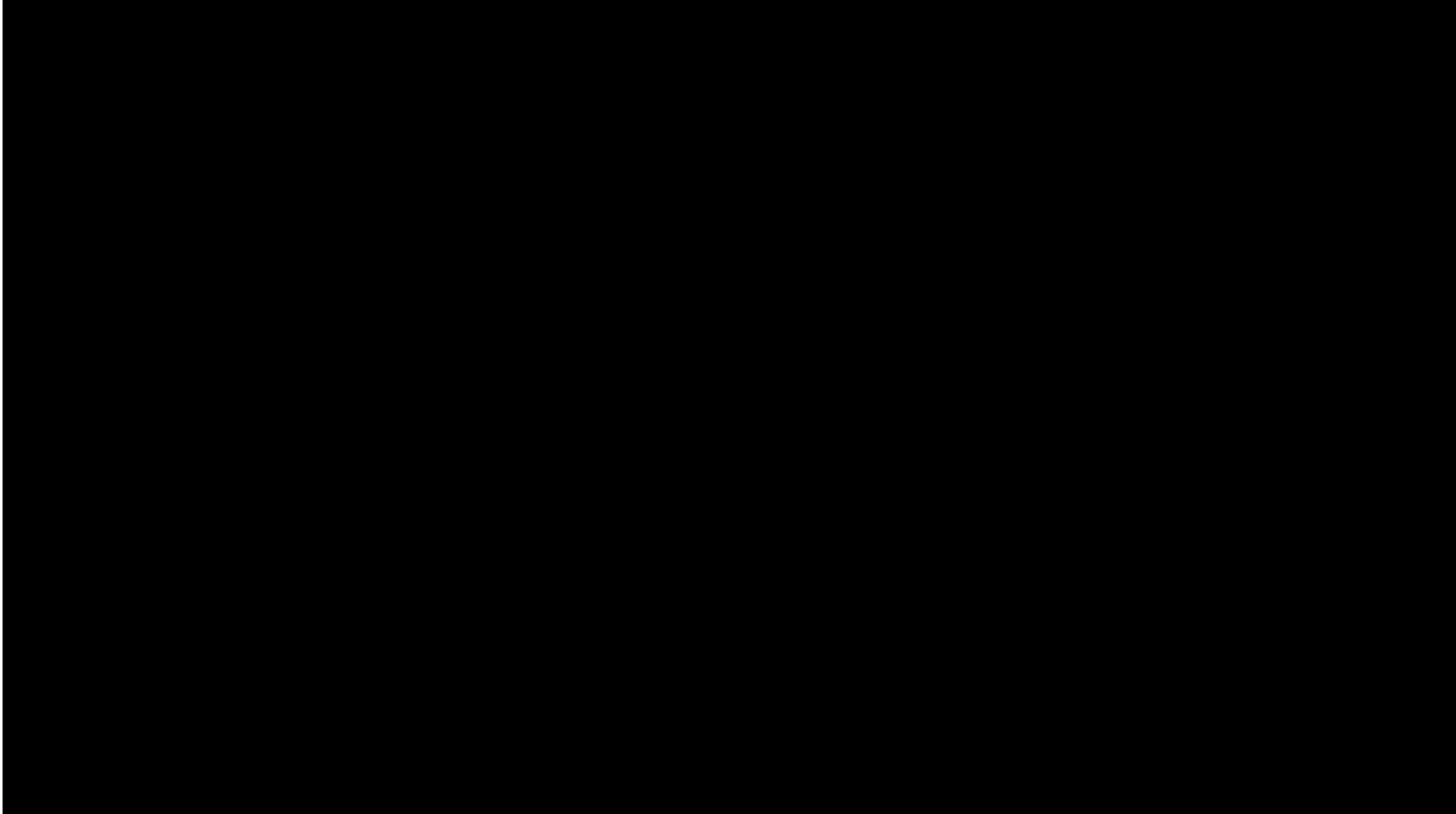
# EXAMPLES IN MISSISSIPPI

- 2 men from Memphis brought a 5 year old girl to a hotel room in MS, violently raped her, videotaped the rapes and disseminated the video to friends.
- A Hattiesburg man abducted a Panama City woman from her front yard, brought her to his home in Hattiesburg where he assaulted her and planned to force her into prostitution in Louisiana.
- A MS woman pimped out her 3 year old daughter in exchange for drugs. The drug dealer trained the girl to stay in a closet in his house except when he brought men over who paid to have sex with her.
- A 22 year old woman accepted a ride from an elderly lady who sold her to four men. She was gang raped repeatedly before escaping.
- A close family friend took two MS boys to New Orleans for the Super Bowl. He took them the Riverwalk, took them to eat and bought them souvenirs. He then sold them to three men for the night who raped them repeatedly.
- A Madison County man was arrested at Ridgeland hotel with a 16-year-old girl in his car. He told another inmate at the jail that he was the girl's pimp and had taken her to the hotel to have sex with a customer who answered his ad on [www.jackson backpage.com](http://www.jackson backpage.com). The girl told police that she was going to be paid \$150.00. The man entered a guilty plea to trafficking and was sentenced to 25 years.

# Criminality of Pimps

1. Pimps take all the money from their victims.
2. In Oakland, police identified 218 minors, aged 11-15, being prostituted by 155 pimps.
3. Each girl had a quota of \$500.00 a day, which went to the pimp.
4. Total annual earnings equaled 32,700,000 or \$211,000 a year per pimp.
5. Pimps engage in money laundering, income tax evasion and other associated criminal activity
6. Gorilla Pimps- A pimp that uses violence and rape to maintain control.
7. Romeo Pimps- A pimp that pretends to be a boyfriend and takes a Romeo approach.

# Gorilla Pimp



# Romeo Pimp



# Gang Trafficking

1. Girls being trafficked by a pimp are usually with her 24/7
2. Girls going to school and after school home by 8-9 every night
3. Gangs targeting neighborhoods they have control of and they use apartment brothel style or sending girls door to door in apartment complex
4. Very few members that don't use violence from beginning.
5. Branding/ tattooing

# Sex Trafficking

## **Vulnerabilities-**

1. Children who are chronically missing or who frequently run away (especially 3+ missing incidents).
2. Children who have experienced childhood sexual abuse especially if the abuse was unreported or unaddressed, or resulted in the child being removed from the home.
3. Children who have experienced prior sexual assault or rape.
4. Children with significant substance abuse issues or who live with someone who has significant substance abuse issues.
5. Children who identify as LGBTQ and have been kicked out or who have been stigmatized by their family.

# Sex Trafficking

## **Behavioral Indicators-**

1. Child has significant change in behavior, including increased virtual behavior (e.g., online activity/profiles) or who associates with new groups of online friends/older friends.
2. Child avoids answering questions or lets others speak for him or her.
3. Child appears frightened, resistant, or belligerent to law enforcement.
4. Child lies about his or her age and identity.
5. Child looks to others before answering questions.
6. Child does not ask for help or resists offers to get out of the situation (child does not self-identify as a victim).
7. Child seems coached in talking to law enforcement.
8. Child is preoccupied with “getting money” (e.g., displaying photos of cash).

# Sex Trafficking

## Physical Indicators-

1. Child has no identification (or ID is held by another person).
2. Child has sexual paraphernalia (such as bulk condoms or lubrication).
3. Evidence of travel (child is living out of suitcases, at motels, or in a car).
4. Child has a name or symbol tattooed, burned or branded onto his or her body, particularly when coupled with the child's reluctance to explain the tattoo or when the child's tattoo matches other children's tattoos.
5. Child references traveling to other cities or states or is not from the current location; the child may also lack knowledge of his or her travel plans, destination, and/or his or her current location.
6. Child has hotel keys, hotel receipts or other items from hotel/motel.
7. Presence of an overly controlling or abusive “boyfriend” or older female.
8. Children recovered at hotels, street tracks, truck stops, or strip clubs.

# Sex Trafficking

## Physical Indicators continued-

9. Child has notebooks or slips of paper containing phone numbers, dollar amounts, names, or addresses.
10. Child has items or an appearance that does not fit his or her current situation (e.g., a homeless or runaway child who has money, electronics, new clothes or shoes, and who has his or her hair or nails done).
11. Child references online classified ads or escort websites (child-serving professionals are encouraged to research classified ads or escort websites as these sites change and are sometimes geographically specific).
12. Child references traveling job opportunities (including modeling, singing and/or dancing in a music group or magazine sales crews).
13. Child has multiple cell phones and/or electronic devices; Child has unaddressed medical issues or who goes to the ER or clinic alone, or with an unrelated female.



# Safe Haven: HOMECORT Network

## Overview of Brothel Locations within 17 cities

Trafficking Central American, Mexican and Caribbean females into the United States. Brothels are in 17 cities that have been identified. Some females are brought to Houston, Texas, to be "trained" in Cantinas. Once "trained," females are then distributed throughout the 17 cities.

**Joint Task Force- Investigations (JTF-I)**



# Case

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- A man received 20 years for Human Trafficking.
- Another man received 20 years with 15 suspended for cooperating with Law Enforcement.
- March 31, 2016 authorities were notified of Prostitution ring at Quality Inn in Ridgeland.
- Two victims 17 and 33 stated they had been forced into prostitution.
- The victims told officers the men used a website to post photographs and information online to schedule sexual related meetings.

# Case

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- A man (subject 1) from Madison, MS received a mandatory life sentence in Jefferson Parish, LA for aggravated rape, human trafficking, second-degree battery, aggravated battery, sexual battery and being a felon in possession of a gun.
- Another man (subject 2) from Jackson, MS received 20 years for forcible rape, human trafficking and obstruction of justice in connection with the April 2015 crimes.
- According to the Jefferson Parish DA's office, the victim first met the subject in 2015 at a Florida hotel. The victim, who had turned to prostitution to support her drug addiction, set up a meeting through an ad she placed on Backpage.com.
- The victim arrived to the hotel meeting and was beaten until she passed out. She awoke in a car driven by the subject enroute to New Orleans with other women. Subject 2 followed in his parent's SUV.

- Trial evidence showed upon arrival in the New Orleans area, both subjects rented a hotel room on Manhattan Boulevard in Harvey and began advertising the victim and other women on backpage.com.
- The victim tried to escape, first by soliciting help from a "customer," but subject 1 followed the car and flashed a pistol on a busy roadway. The “customer” ditched the victim. She then tried to run.
- Once subject 1 recaptured the victim, he had other women beat her to unconsciousness, according to trial testimony. He raped her with the barrel of his pistol on which her DNA was later recovered.
- During a routine prostitution investigation, a Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office squad rescued the victim on April 13, 2015. After randomly selecting a backpage.com ad, an undercover deputy arranged a date with the victim and went to the Harvey motel room. The victim was found shaking on a bed, with eyes swollen and a cut above one eye.

*M.C.A. § 97-5-51*

# Child Protection Act

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# Child Protection Act

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- A mandatory reporter shall make a report if it would be reasonable for the mandatory reporter to suspect that a sex crime against a minor has occurred.
- Required report must be made immediately to law enforcement in the jurisdiction where it is believed sex crime occurred.
- M.C.A. § 97-5-51(4):

A law enforcement officer who receives a mandated report under the Child Protection Act SHALL file an affidavit against the offender on behalf of the State of MS if there is probable cause to believe that the offender has committed a sex crime against a minor.

# Child Protection Act

Mandatory Reporter includes the following individuals performing their occupational duties:

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**Health care practitioner** - any individual who provides health care services including physician, surgeon, physical therapist, psychiatrist, psychologist, medical resident, medical intern, hospital staff member, licensed nurse, midwife, emergency medical technician or paramedic.

**Clergy member** – any priest, rabbi, or duly ordained deacon or minister.

**Law enforcement officer**

**Teaching or child care provider** – anyone who provides training or supervision of a minor under 16 including teacher, teacher's aide, principal or staff member of public or private school, social worker, probation officer, foster home parent, group home or other child care institutional staff member, personnel of residential home facilities, a licensed or unlicensed day care provider.

**Commercial image processor** – any person who for compensation, develops exposed photographic film into negatives, slides or prints; makes prints from negatives or slides; or processes or stores digital media or images from any digital process, including ...

# Child Protection Act

“Sex Crime Against a Minor” means any offense under at least one of the following statutes when committed by an adult against a minor under 16:

§ 97-3-65 relating to rape

§ 97-3-71 relating to rape and assault with intent to ravish

§ 97-3-95 relating to sexual battery

§ 97-5-23 relating to the touching of a child, mentally defective person or incapacitated person or physically helpless person for lustful purposes

§ 97-5-41 relating to the carnal knowledge of a stepchild, adopted child or child of a cohabiting partner

§ 97-5-33 relating to exploitation of children

§ 97-3-54.1(1)(c) relating to procuring sexual servitude of a minor

§ 43-47-18 relating to sexual abuse of a vulnerable person

§ 97-1-7 relating to the attempt to commit any of the offenses listed in this subsection

# Child Exploitation

## M.C.A. § 97-5-33

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(1) No person shall, by any means including computer, cause, solicit or knowingly permit any child to engage in sexually explicit conduct or in the simulation of sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing any visual depiction of such conduct.

(2) No person shall, by any means including computer, photograph, film, video tape or otherwise depict or record a child engaging in sexually explicit conduct or in the simulation of sexually explicit conduct.

(3) No person shall, by any means including computer, knowingly send, transport, transmit, ship, mail or receive any photograph, drawing, sketch, film, video tape or other visual depiction of an actual child engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

(4) No person shall, by any means including computer, receive with intent to distribute, distribute for sale, sell or attempt to sell in any manner any photograph, drawing, sketch, film, video tape or other visual depiction of an actual child engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

# Child Exploitation

## M.C.A. § 97-5-33

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(5) No person shall, by any means including computer, possess any photograph, drawing, sketch, film, video tape or other visual depiction of an actual child engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

(6) No person shall, by any means including computer, knowingly entice, induce, persuade, seduce, solicit, advise, coerce, or order a child to meet with the defendant or any other person for the purpose of engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

(7) No person shall by any means, including computer, knowingly entice, induce, persuade, seduce, solicit, advise, coerce or order a child to produce any visual depiction of adult sexual conduct or any sexually explicit conduct.

# Procuring Sexual Servitude of Minor

## M.C.A. § 97-3-54.1

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A person who knowingly subjects, or attempts to subject, or who recruits, entices, harbors, transports, provides or obtains by any means, or attempts to recruit, entice, harbor, transport, provide or obtain by any means, a minor, knowing that the minor will engage in commercial sexual activity, sexually-explicit performance, or the production of sexually oriented material, or causes or attempts to cause a minor to engage in commercial sexual activity, sexually-explicit performance, or the production of sexually oriented material, shall be guilty of procuring sexual servitude of a minor and shall be punished by commitment to the custody of the Department of Corrections for not less than five (5) nor more than thirty (30) years and/or a fine of not less than \$50,000.

# Working with the Mississippi Department of Child Protective Services in Reporting/Investigation of Trafficking of Minors

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- MDCPS is the designated state agency to investigate cases of child abuse and neglect.
- Definition of Abused Child now includes a child who is or has been trafficked, regardless of the relationship of the person to the child.
- Expanded beyond parent, guardian or custodian of the child.

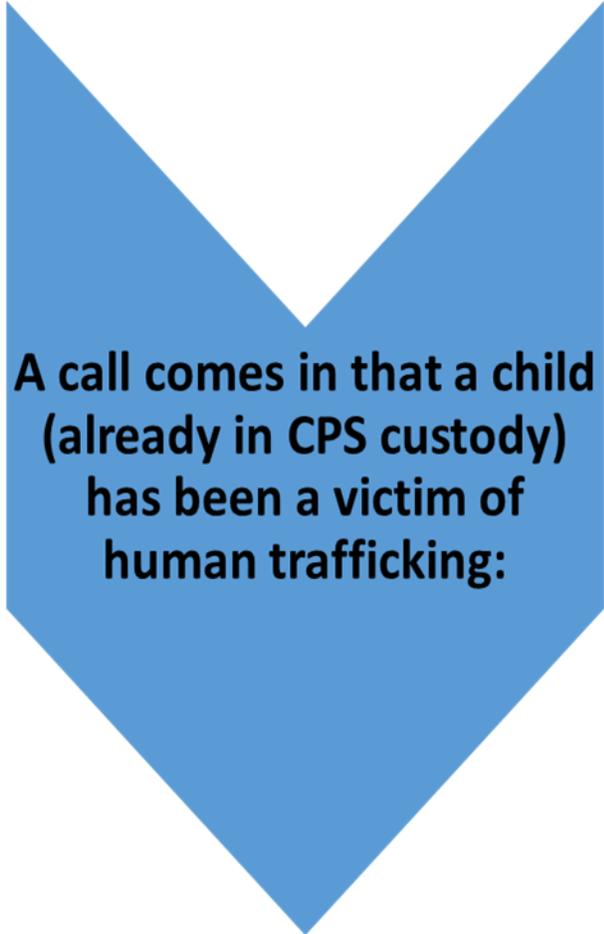
# Reports of suspected trafficking made to MDCPS

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- When MDCPS receives a report of alleged human trafficking the agency will immediately notify law enforcement in the jurisdiction where the alleged trafficking occurred.

OR

- If during the course of an investigation it becomes apparent that a child has been trafficked, or that a parent is being trafficked, MDCPS must immediately notify law enforcement in the jurisdiction where the alleged trafficking occurred.
- Report made to AG Office Human Trafficking Coordinator



**A call comes in that a child  
(already in CPS custody)  
has been a victim of  
human trafficking:**

The hotline will indicate the child is in custody and the report is concerning human trafficking.

If abuse occurred while child in custody, screening will go to the Special Investigations Unit and it will be screened in and assigned for investigation.

A minimal facts interview will be conducted with the foster child by the SIU assigned worker. If the child discloses HT, the assigned SIU worker will immediately send copies of the LE report to the AG's office and Law Enforcement. An appointment will be made with the CAC for a forensic interview. The SIU worker will coordinate with the COR worker and local authorities to have the interview recorded and follow normal protocols for forensic interviews.

The COR worker will work to locate a placement for the child in custody so he/she can be safe, not likely to recruit other foster children, and so they will have no access to adult perpetrators involved in human trafficking.



**A call comes in that any child (not currently in custody) has been involved in human trafficking**

**The hotline will indicate the report is concerning human trafficking and that report will go to the county intake supervisor.**

The County ASWS will screen in/out for investigation. If screened out, no further action by DCPS and the report will be forwarded to law enforcement for their involvement as needed.

Any screened in report of HT will go to a Special Assignment worker for that region.

The Special Assignment worker will immediately send copies of the LE report to the AG's office and Law Enforcement. A minimal facts interview will be conducted with the child(ren)/youth and a referral will be made to the CAC for a forensic interview if the child(ren)/youth gives any indication that they've been a victim of human trafficking.

The Special Assignment worker, COR worker, along with the AG's office, Youth Court, and any other community partners, will assist the uninvolved custodian with locating a placement for this teen, in order to provide this child(ren)/youth with a safe living arrangement and/or any services needed. Utilize the MDT teams to assist the family as needed.

If custody is required, the COR worker will locate a placement for the child in custody so he/she can be safe, not likely to recruit other foster children, and so they will have no access to adult perpetrators involved in human trafficking. If a placement requires a therapeutic ruling, the CAC will assist us in gaining this recommendation from a mental health counselor in their facility.

DCPS will continue to assist law enforcement as needed to assist with prosecution and continue to assess if the parents/caretakers are able to be protective.

# MDCPS

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- MDCPS will provide the law enforcement agency all the names and facts known at the time of the report, as well as any facts discovered during the course of investigation.
- MDCPS will also notify the local FBI office of any human trafficking reports received.
- MDCPS must notify the appropriate prosecutor (state or federal) within 48 hours of receiving the report.
- Preliminary reports filed with prosecutor's office within 24 hours.
- Reports to Youth Court within 72 hours.
- Both MDCPS and any law enforcement involved in the investigation are required to make additional reports to prosecutors as new information or evidence becomes known.
- MDCPS and the law enforcement agency = joint investigation of the reported trafficking.
- SW will not investigate without law enforcement accompaniment.

# Process for Reporting to MDCPS

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- ALL reports of HT and requests for assistance should go through centralized intake hotline.
  - 800-888-2000
  - Ensure that every one is documented and tracked, as per our federal regulation.
  - Ensure cases don't slip through cracks.
- Do not contact workers directly.
- Calls will be relayed to proper intake person and,
- Hotline staff has been trained to handle trafficking cases differently.
- Identify as law enforcement and ask for a worker to call or respond.
- MDCPS has assured that if system is not working, they will continue to train and work with staff
- PLEASE let us know of issues with hotline response.

# Reports of Runaways/Missing Kids

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- If a child in custody of DCPS runs away, the CPS worker is to notify the parents and the Youth Court immediately.
- A Serious Incident Report(SIR) is completed, as well as a runaway report with law enforcement. A SIR, as well as any Law Enforcement report, are sent to [runaway.DFCS@mdcps.ms.gov](mailto:runaway.DFCS@mdcps.ms.gov). The county is also asked to provide identifying information as well as a current color photograph so a report can be made to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children(NCMEC).
- A State Office designee reports this information to NCMEC and an identification number is given to reporter for future inquiries. The State Office designee emails the COR worker and ASWS to let them know what the ID number is and asks them to put a narrative in their record to indicate this report has been made to NCMEC.
- NCMEC assists the COR worker with locating the teen thru law enforcement and national media coverage. They also search for the teen with identifying information on social media sites.

# Bottom Line

We are all learning

We all need to work together

Help identify gaps in the system

# REPORT:

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## Attorney General's Office:

Paula Broome, Deputy Bureau Chief

Special Assistant Attorney General

Human Trafficking Coordinator

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P. O. Box 220

Jackson, MS 39205

(601) 359-6766

1-800-829-6766

## National Human Trafficking Hotline:

**1-888-373-7888**

**Text- BEFREE**