

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING:
WORKING TOGETHER AS PARTNERS OF
EXCELLENCE FOR BETTER IDENTIFICATION
AND PREVENTION**

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Medical Director/ Kids TALK Children's
Advocacy Center

1

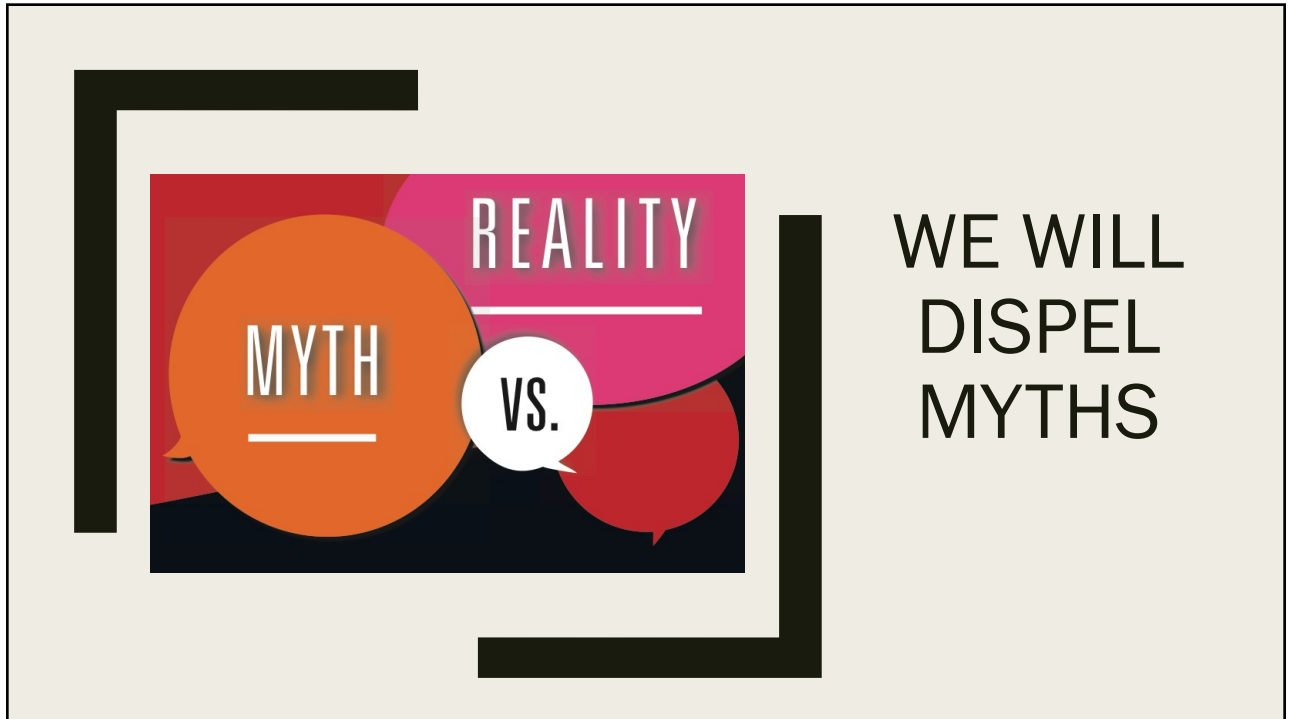


LEARNING Objectives

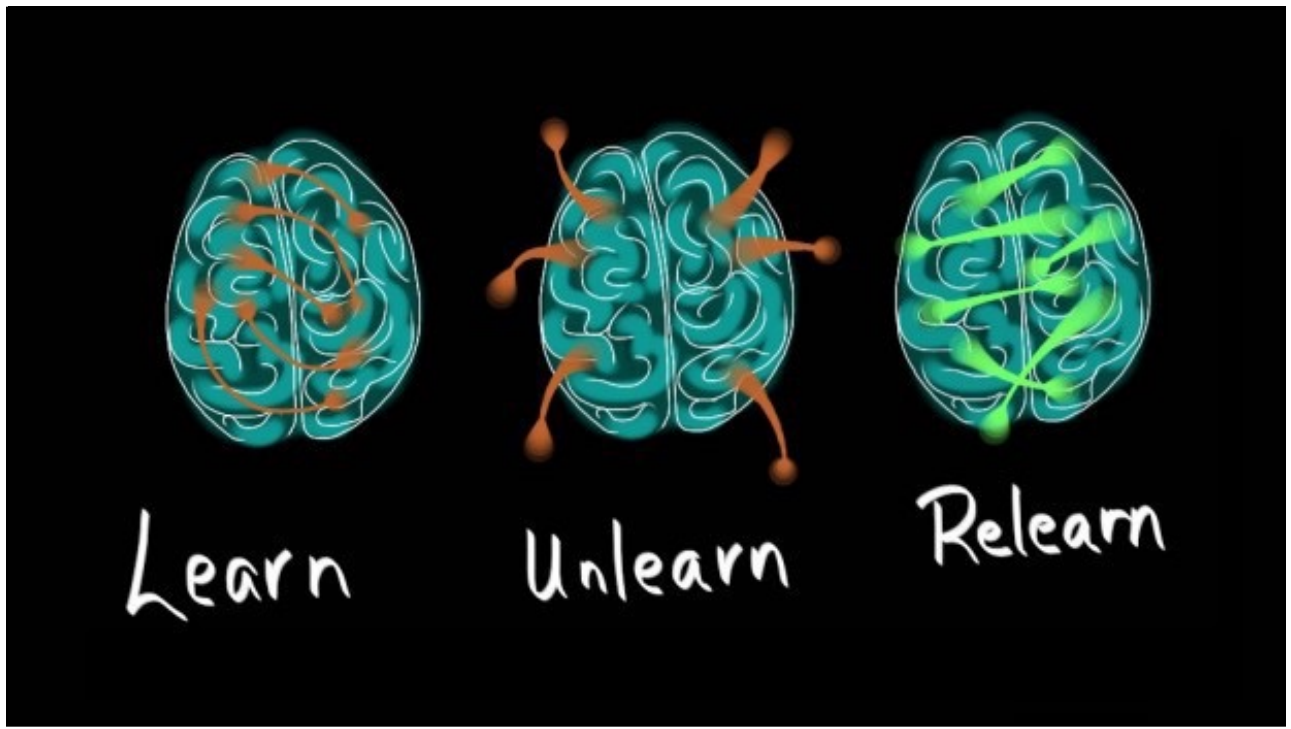
- Identify the **warning signs** of human trafficking
- Identify **victims** of human trafficking
- *Dispel myths and misconceptions regarding human trafficking*
- *Learn-Unlearn-Relearn*
- **Working together as partners of excellence for better identification and prevention**

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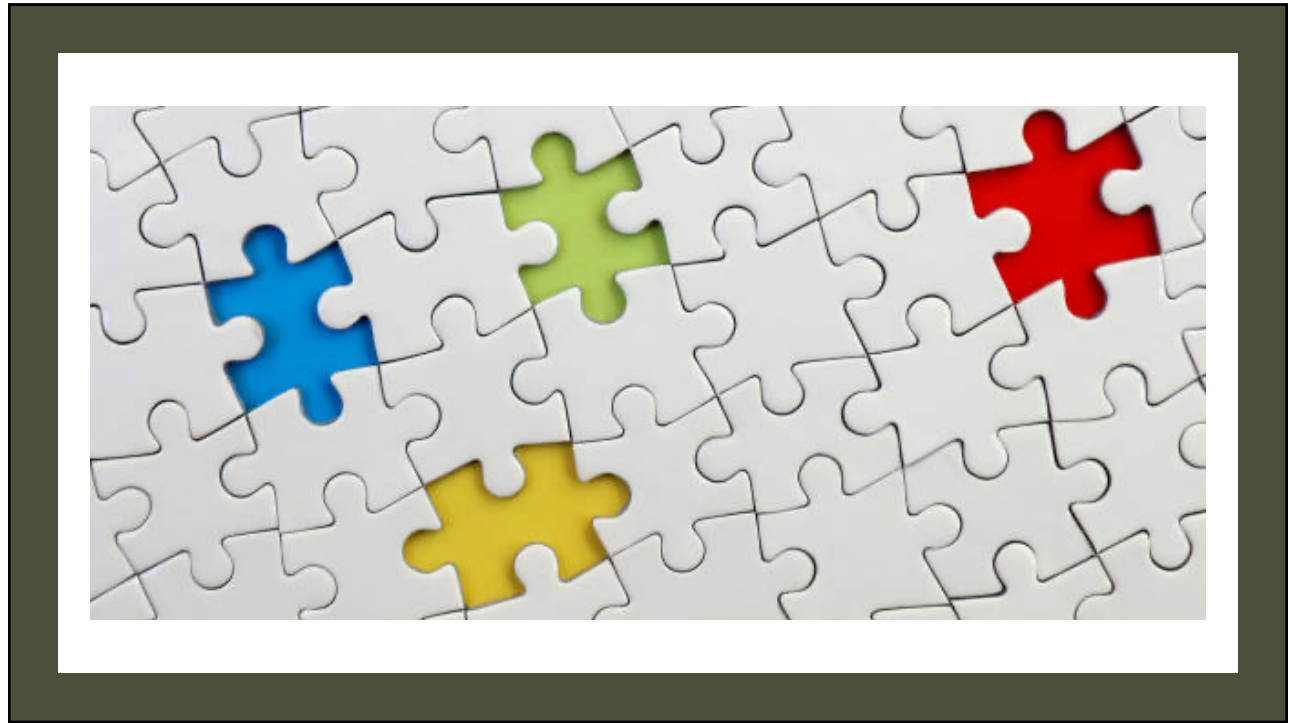
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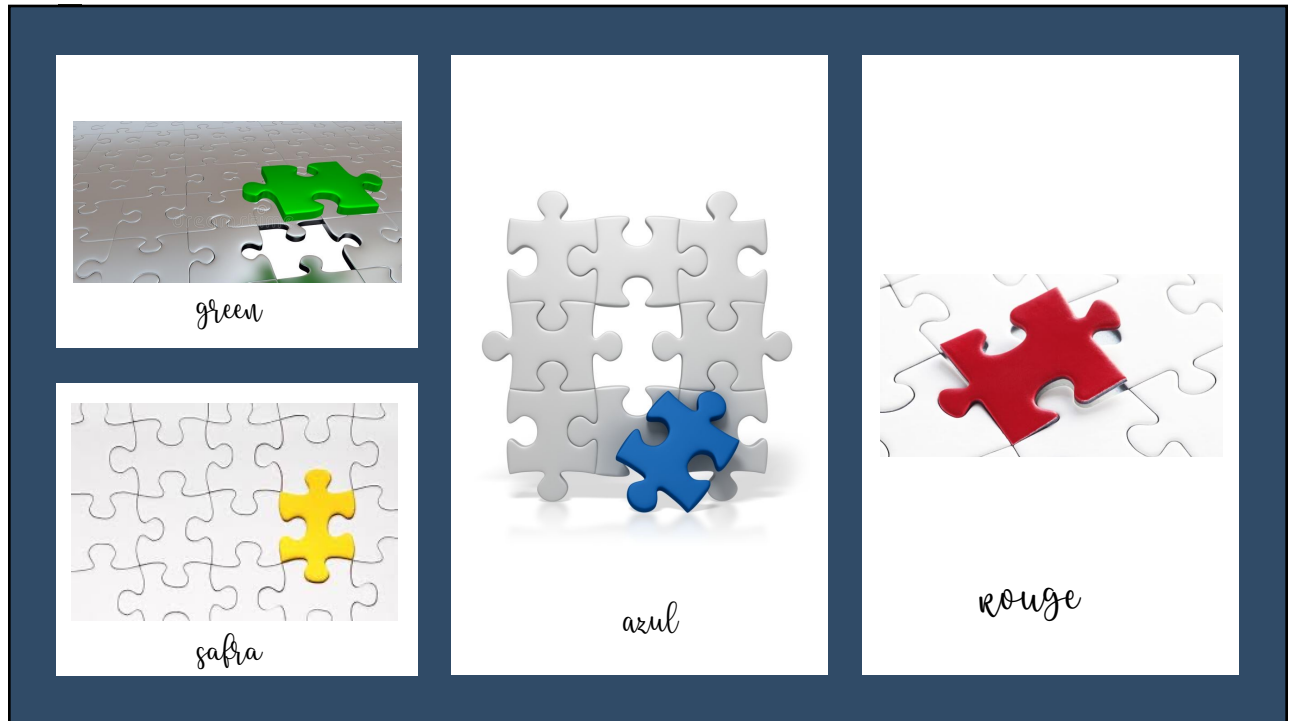
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**WORKING
TOGETHER AS
PARTNERS OF
EXCELLENCE FOR
BETTER
IDENTIFICATION
AND PREVENTION**

7

**WHAT IS HUMAN
TRAFFICKING?**

8

What is Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is a violation of human rights and a public health crisis.

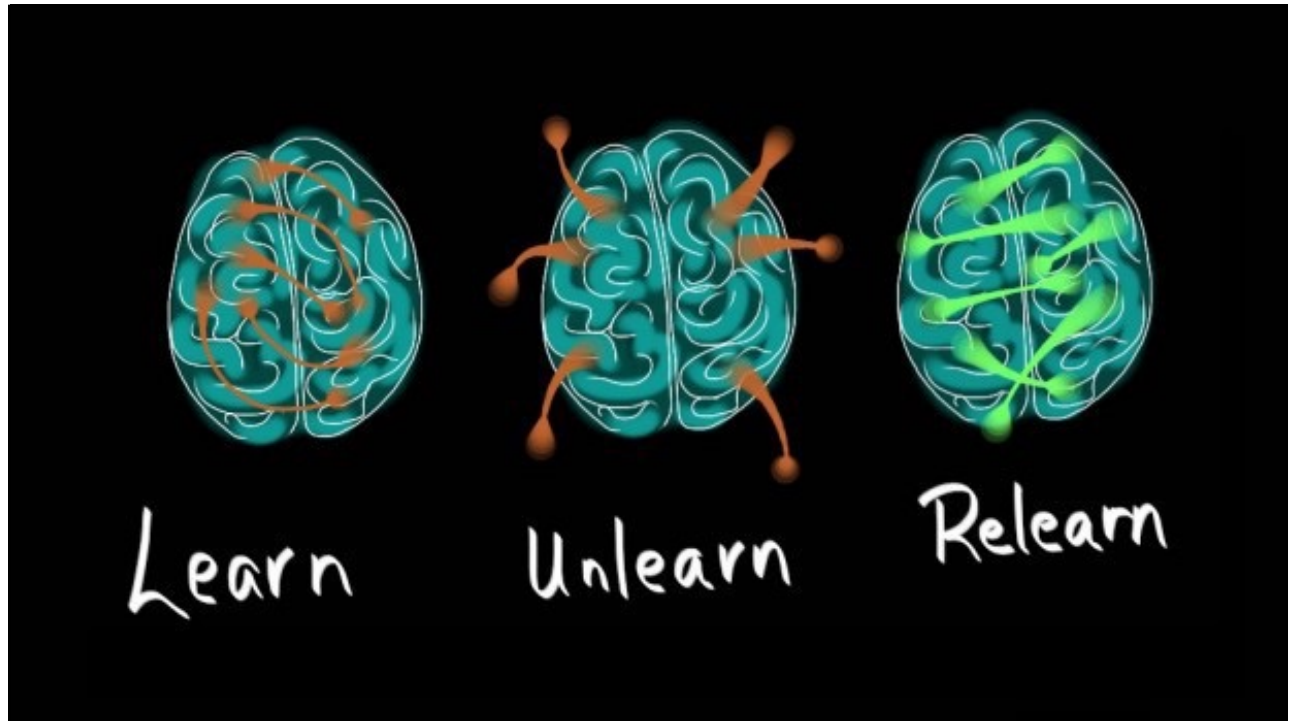
United Nations: a crime based on exploitation

All trafficking victims share one essential experience: the **loss of freedom**.

<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/type-trafficking/human-trafficking>

9

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10

Language: Modern day slavery.. Not recommended !

- This language minimizes historical enslavement of African people and the multi-generational trauma and resulting impact.
- It can also be harmful to survivors, as it paints an inaccurate picture of many trafficking experiences.
- Approaching language with intentionality can help individuals and communities more intimately
 - *understand the issue of human trafficking*
 - *who is most impacted by it*
 - *how to responsibly move toward action*

11



12

Myth vs. reality

- **Myth :** *Sex trafficking is the only form of human trafficking and affects only women.*
- **Reality:** The federal definition of human trafficking encompasses both sex trafficking and labor trafficking, and the crime can affect men and women, children and adults.



<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/what-human-trafficking/myths-misconceptions>

13

13

Federal Definition of Human Trafficking

Sex Trafficking

Commercial sex act induced by force, fraud or coercion, **or in which person performing the act is under age 18.**

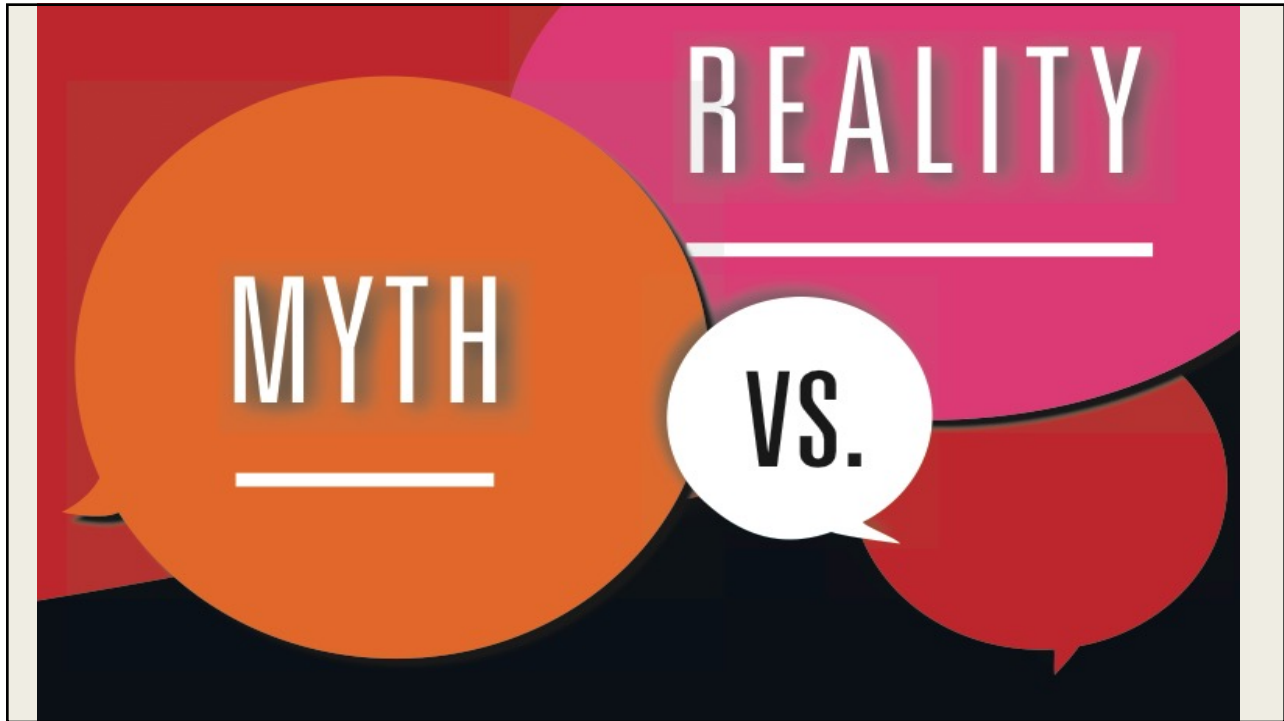
Labor Trafficking

Using force, fraud or coercion to recruit, harbor, transport, or obtain a person for labor or services in involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.

Human trafficking is the exploitation of one person by another for financial or personal gain

14

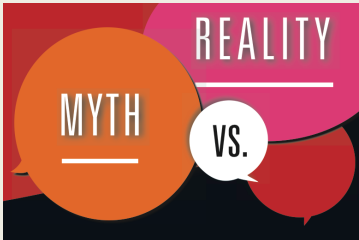
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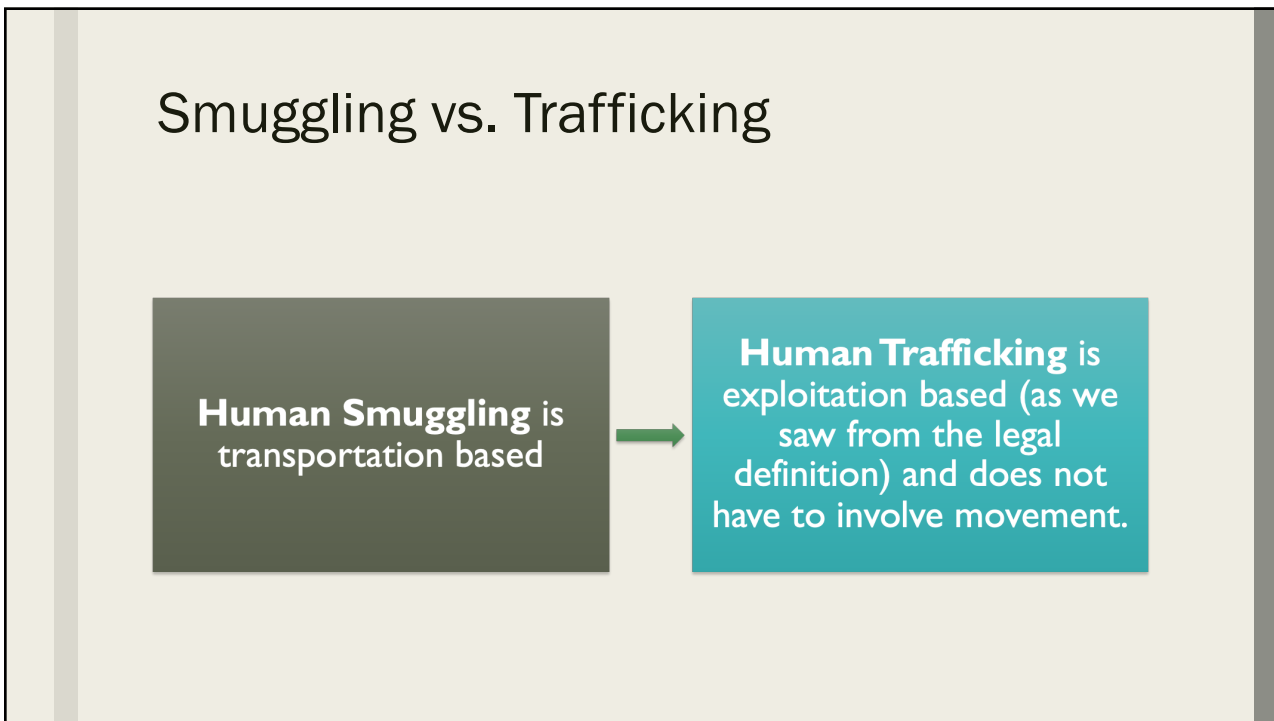
Myth vs. reality

- **Myth:** *Human trafficking is essentially a crime that must involve some form of travel, transportation, or movement across state or national borders.*
- **Reality:** **Trafficking does not require transportation.** Transportation may be involved as a control mechanism to keep victims in unfamiliar places but is not a required element.

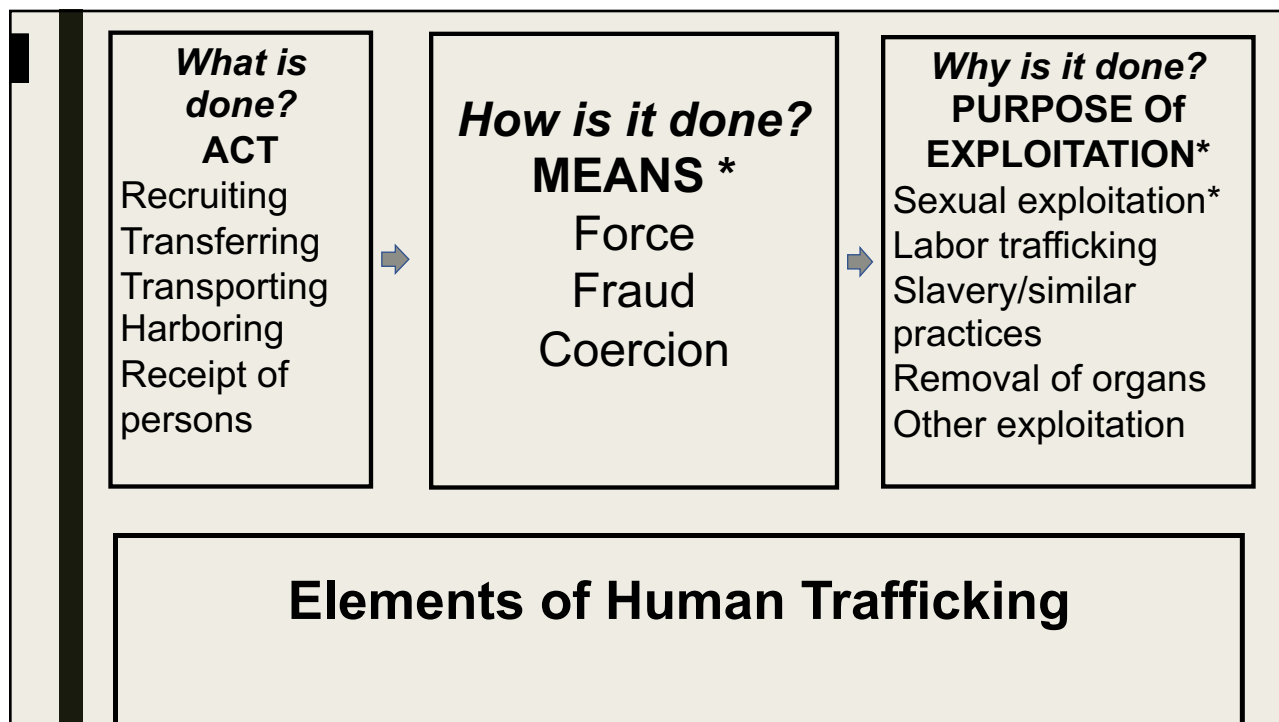


<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/what-human-trafficking/myths-misconceptions>

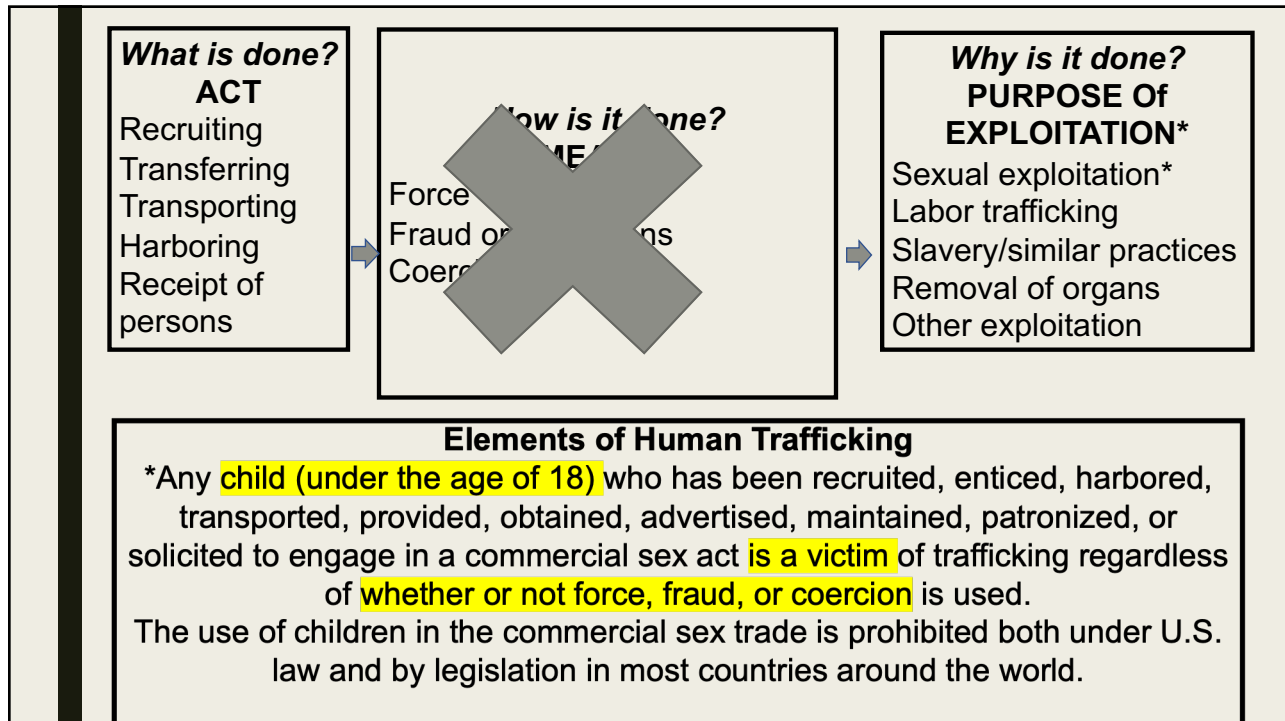
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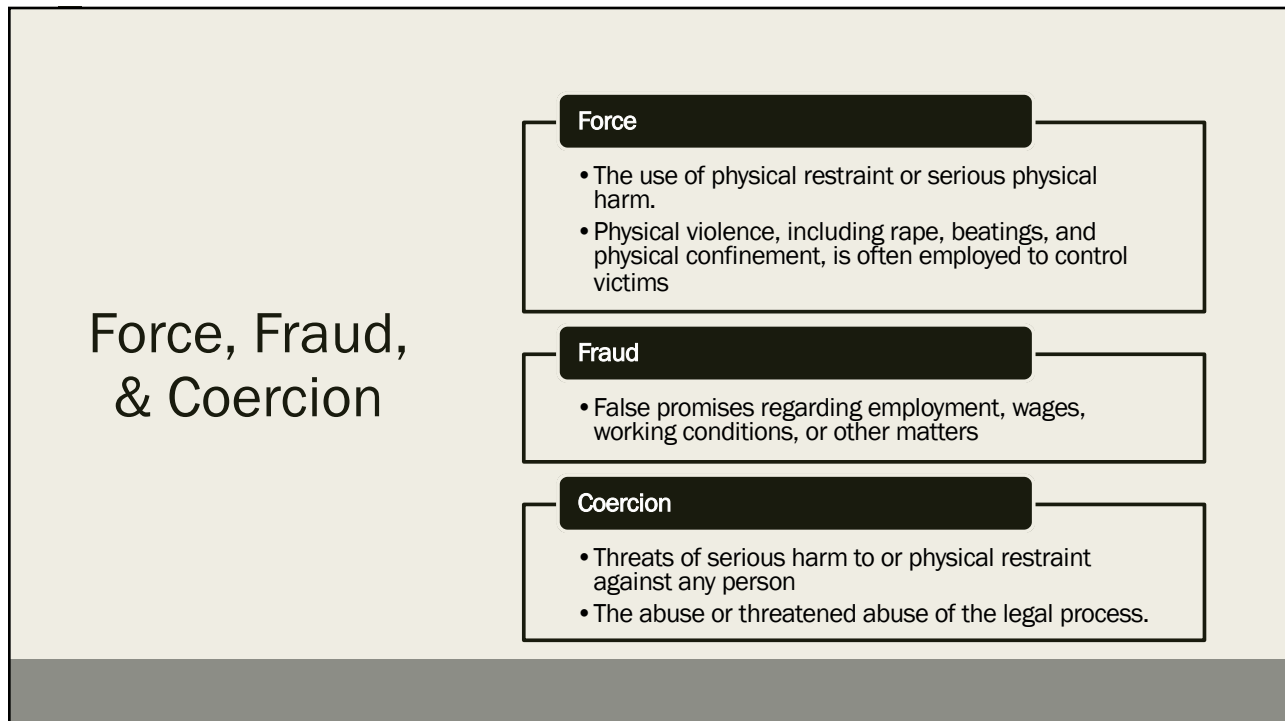
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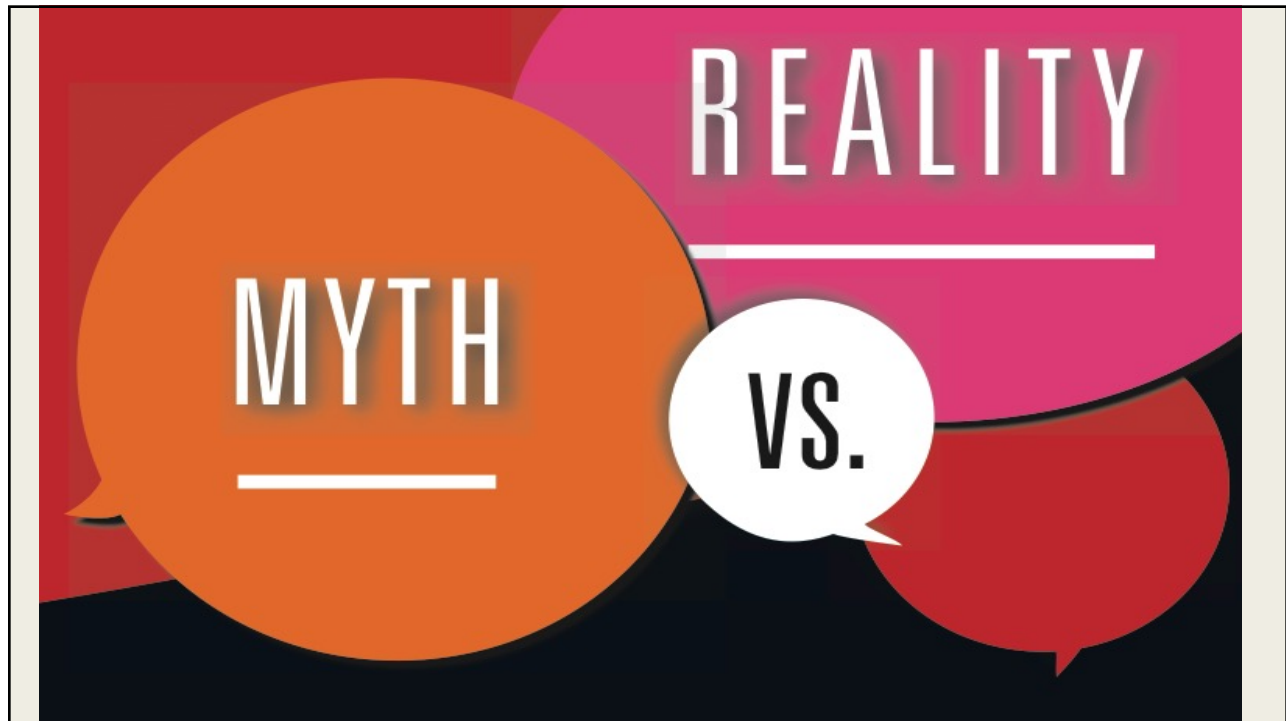
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19



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21

Myth vs. reality

- **Myth :** *Human trafficking victims always come from situations of poverty or from small rural villages.*
- **Reality:** Victims can come from a range of income levels, and many may come from families with higher socioeconomic status. Chances are it's happening nearby!



<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/what-human-trafficking/myths-misconceptions>

22

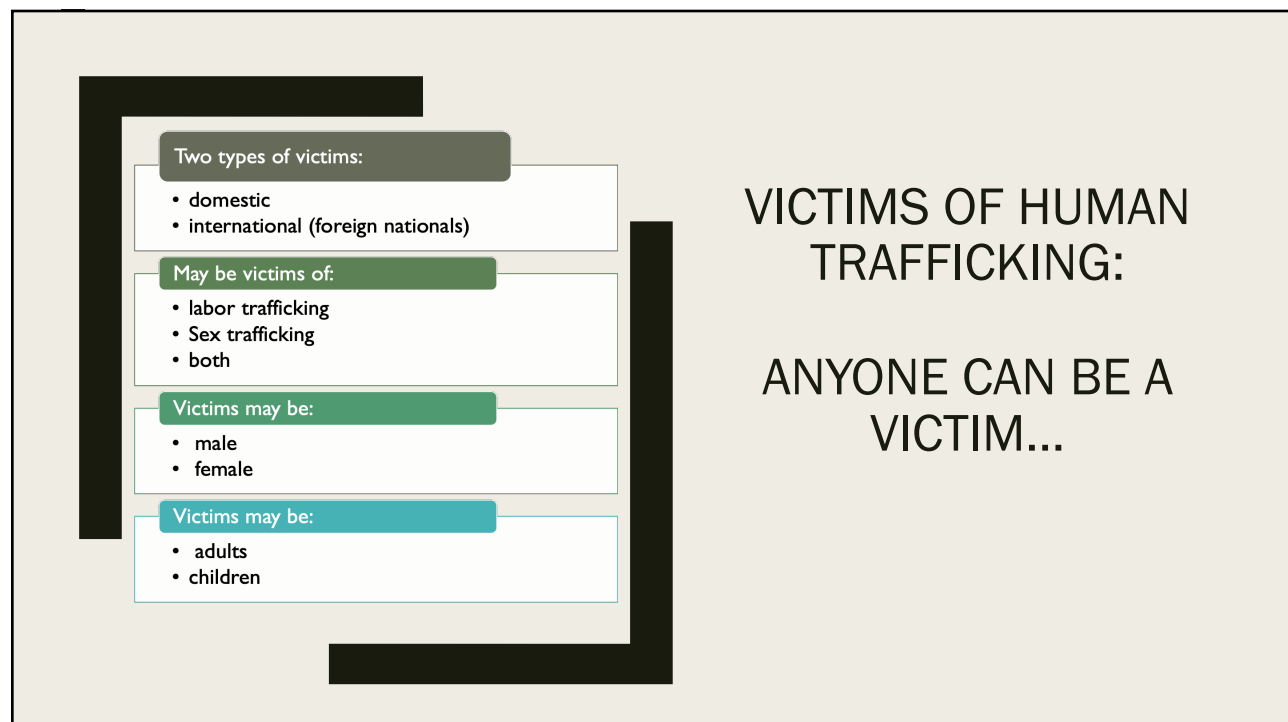
Why and How does it exist?

- Victims are most often trafficked by someone they know, such as a friend, family member or romantic partner.
- Human trafficking is a market-driven criminal industry that is based on the principles of supply and demand
 - demand for cheap labor, services and for commercial sex
 - Vulnerable children and adults

High Profits: Individuals are willing to buy commercial sex and products. It is profitable for traffickers to sexually exploit children and adults.

Low Risk: Human traffickers perceive there to be little risk or deterrence to affect their criminal operations.

23



24




THE SLAVE IN THE GARAGE

25

Shiyama Hall: The slave in the garage

- Sold by her parents in 1998 when she was 8 years old to pay her sister's debt of \$30
- Smuggled from Egypt to the US
- Trafficked for 2 years
- Finally freed in 2002 when child services received an anonymous tip on her whereabouts



26



27

DOES HUMAN TRAFFICKING HAPPEN IN MICHIGAN?



The slide features a large, bold, black L-shaped graphic on the left side. The text 'DOES HUMAN TRAFFICKING HAPPEN IN MICHIGAN?' is centered in a large, black, sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a black silhouette of the state of Michigan. The background is a light beige color.

28

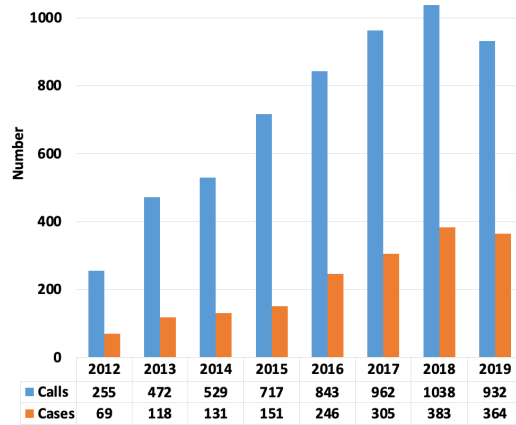
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Numbers in Michigan

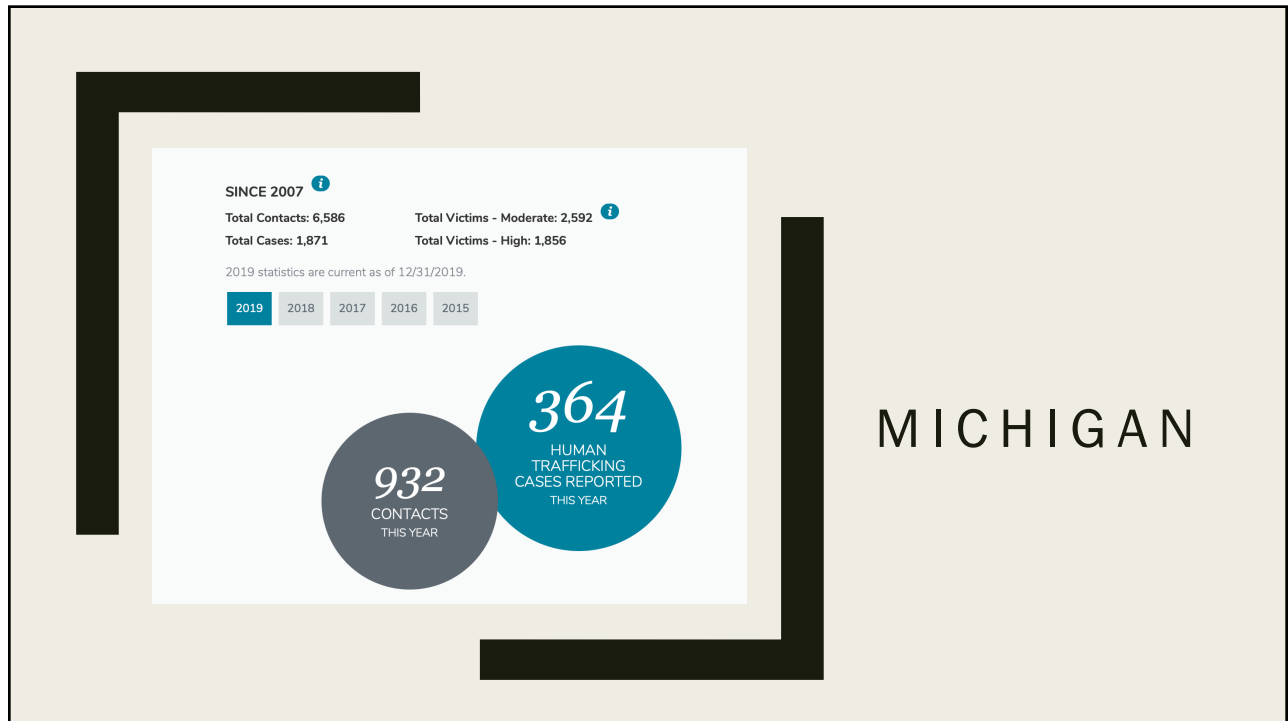
- *Reliable statistics come from the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) hotline run by Polaris*
- <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/stat-es>
- *2019 statistics are current as of 12/31/2019/ not updated in 2020*



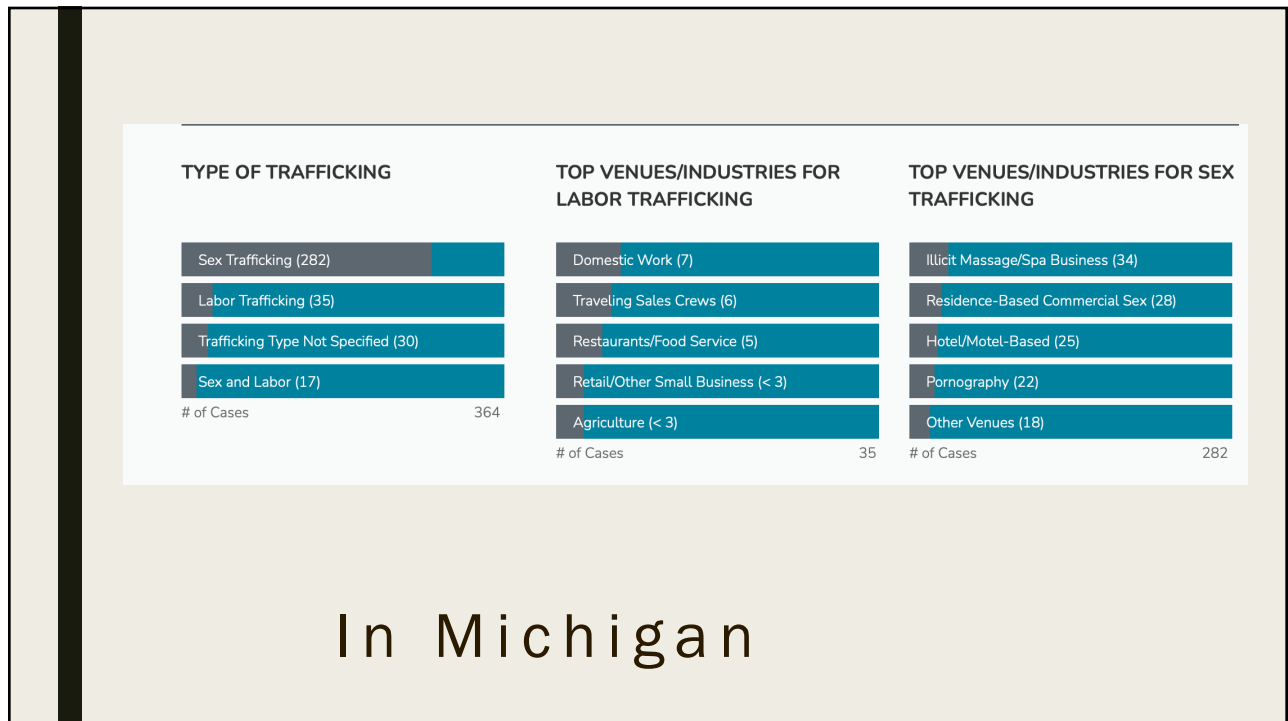
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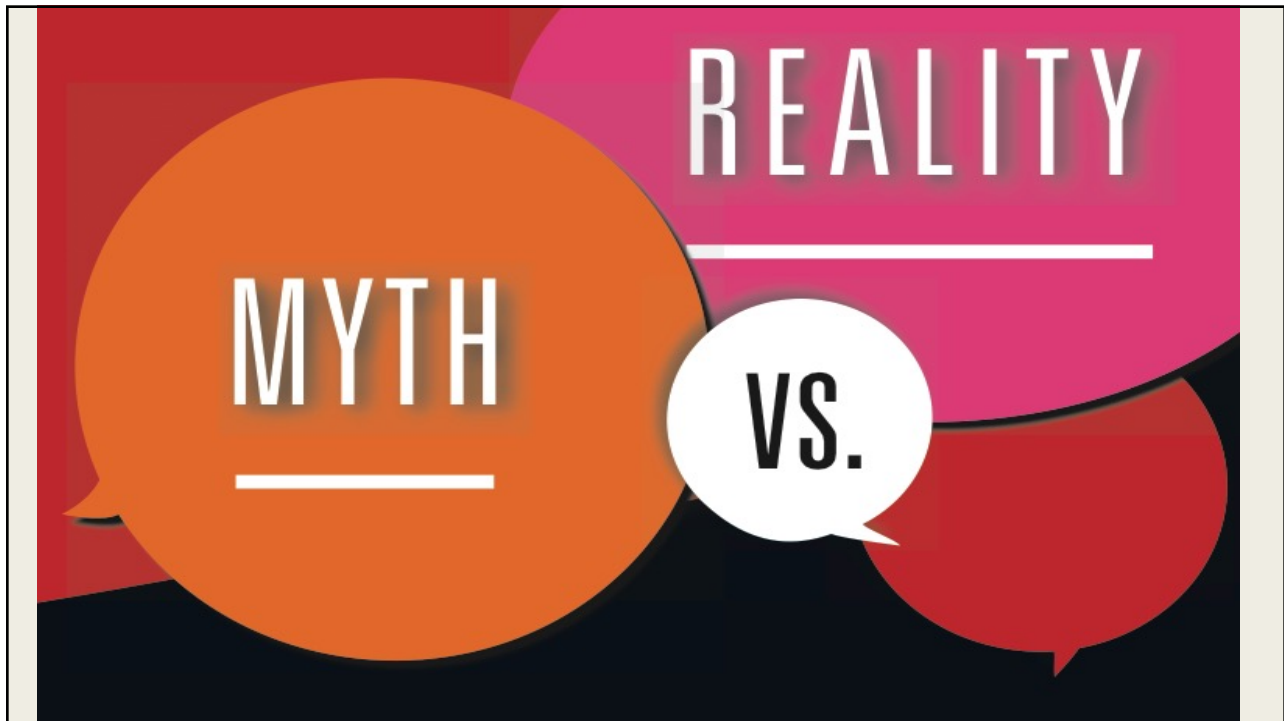
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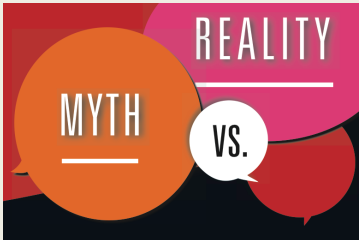
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33

Myth vs. reality

- **Myth:** *Human trafficking only occurs in illegal underground industries.*
- **Reality:** Trafficking can occur in legal and legitimate business settings as well as underground markets. It has been reported in business markets such as restaurants, hotels, and manufacturing plants, as well as underground markets such as commercial sex in residential brothels and street based commercial sex.



<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/what-human-trafficking/myths-misconceptions>

34



Novi couple pleads guilty to hiding 5 immigrants who died in 2016 fire

35

fire VICTIMS

- *Brayan Medina Contreras, 16 Simeon Diaz Nunez, 18*
 - *Leonel Alvarado Rodriguez, 18 Miguel Nunez Diaz, 23*
 - *Pablo Alvaro Encino, 23.*
- *"If Mr. Tam loved them like his own family, then why doesn't he know their names? Why didn't he pay them minimum wage? Or overtime? ... Why did he lie to the 911 operator when he told 911 that everyone was out safely?"*
 - Two days before the fire, Tam and his wife left the Novi home because of a cockroach problem and went to stay at their lake house.

36

STATE EFFORTS TO ADDRESS HUMAN TRAFFICKING

37

Legislation

- *In 2014, Governor Snyder signed into law a 21-bill legislative package to strengthen the state's efforts to address human trafficking*
- *Included in the legislative package:*
 - *Safe harbor provisions*
 - *Presumption that minors engaging in prostitution are victims*
 - *Allows victims to clear criminal records of crimes they were forced to commit by traffickers and avoid prostitution convictions*
 - *Tools to hold traffickers accountable*
 - *Training for medical professionals*
 - *Creation of the Human Trafficking Commission and Human Trafficking Health Advisory Board*

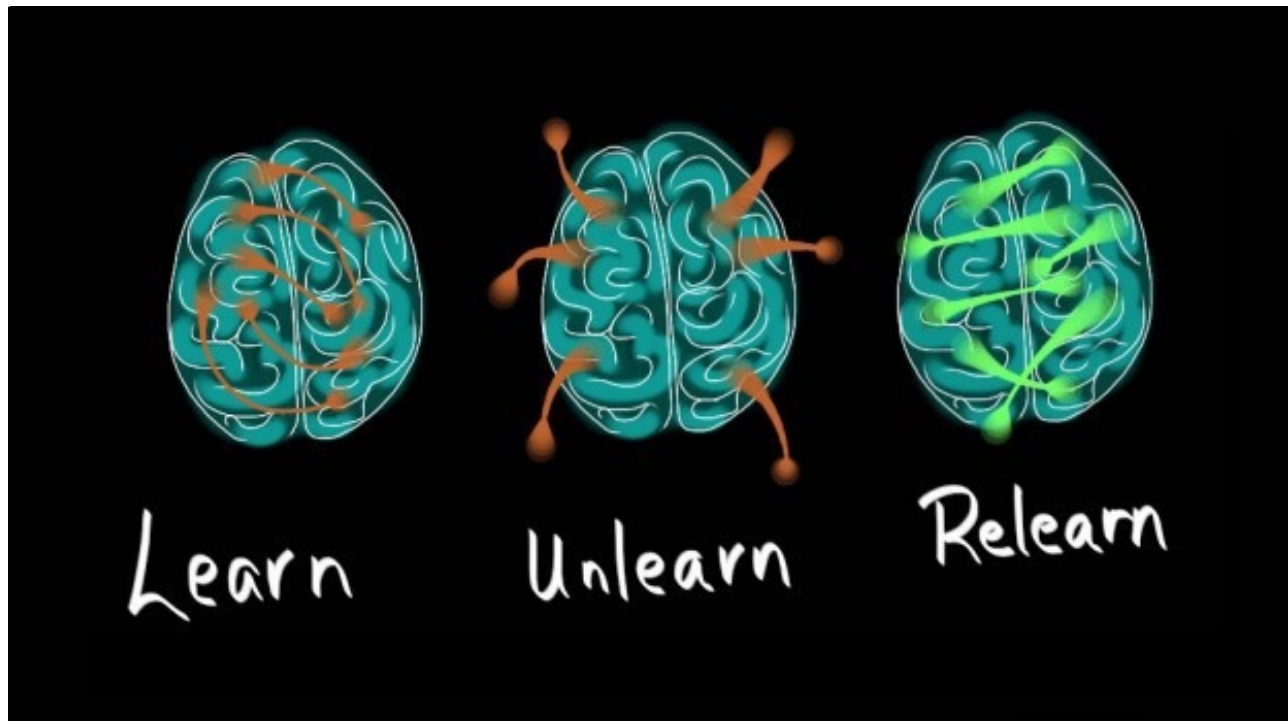
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The training must cover all the following:

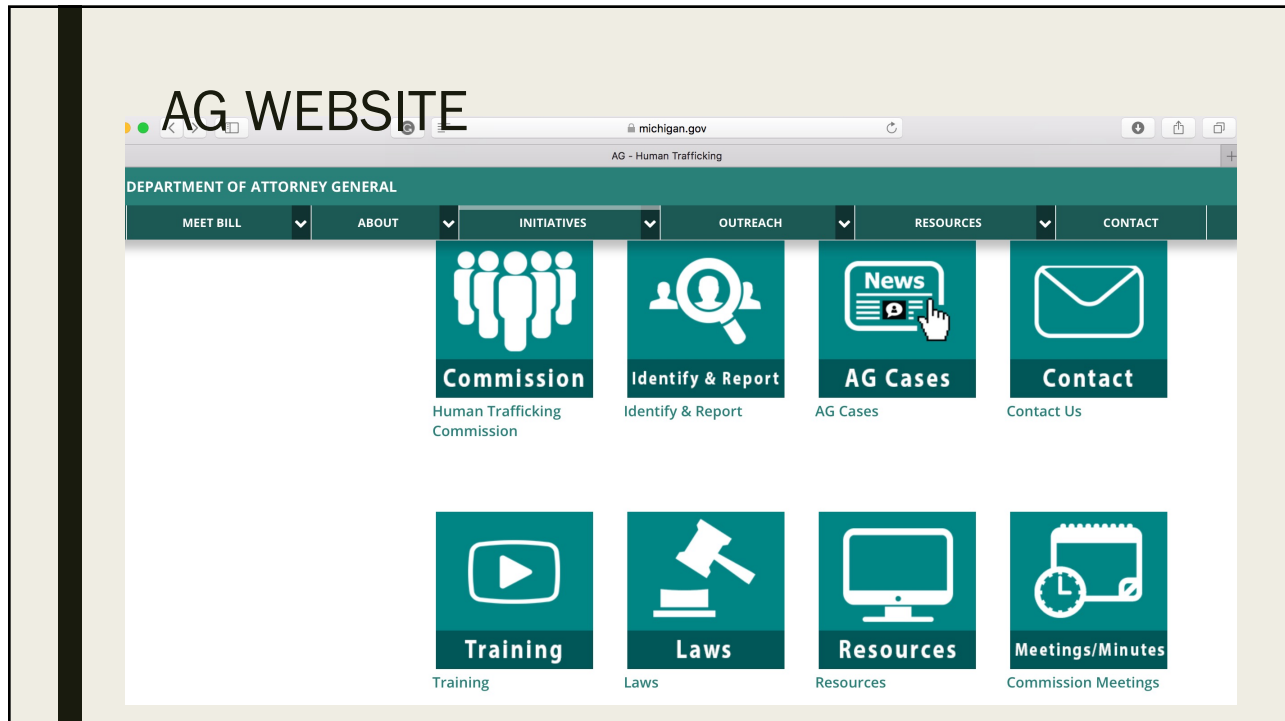
- understanding the types and venues of human trafficking in the United States
- Identifying victims of human trafficking in health care settings
- Identifying the warnings signs of human trafficking in health care settings for adults and minors
- Identifying resources for reporting the suspected victims of human trafficking.



39



40



41

Gruesome!

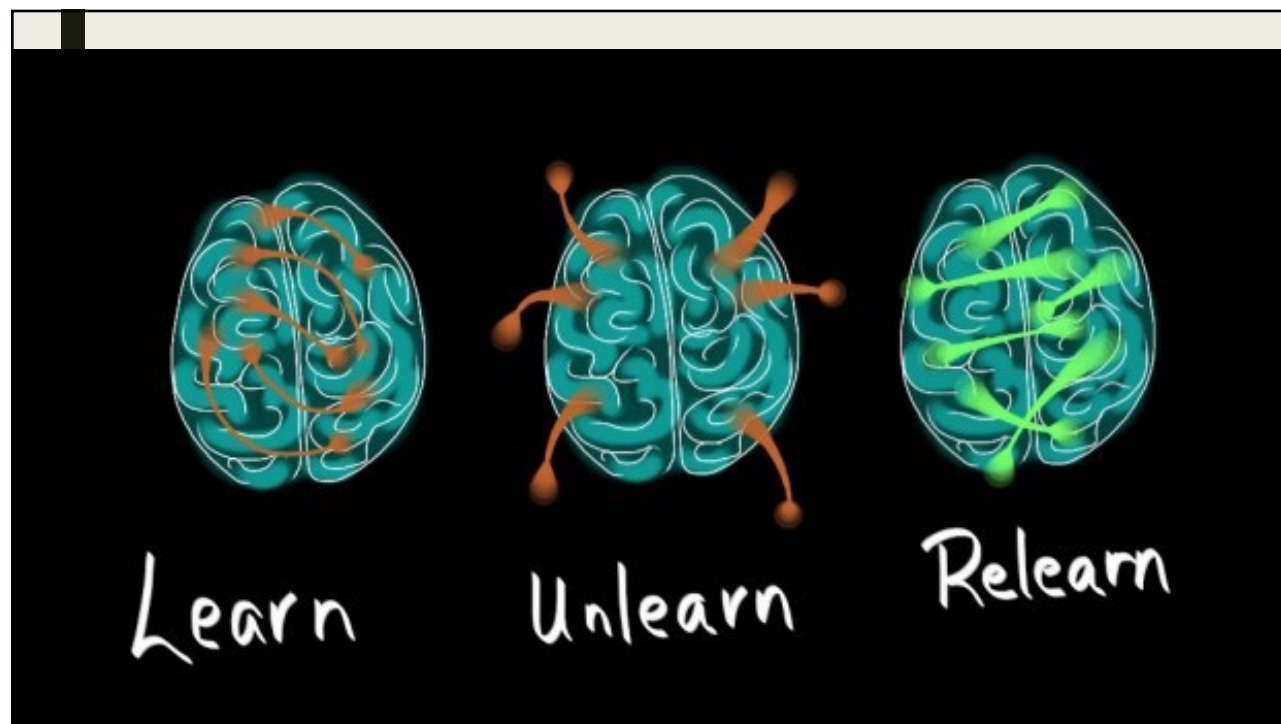
- *Sedrick Leman-Isaac Mitchell, whose street name was Gruesome, was a pimp who preyed on young girls, forcing them into the sex trade.*
- *He kept several girls in a house on Detroit's east side, all of whom engaged in "prostitution" under Gruesome's direction. He forced the girls to work the streets at night and hand over their earnings, and would physically abuse them if they did not earn enough money for him.*
- *Apart from forcing these girls into the sex trade, he also raped victims, choking a 15-year-old when she resisted him.*

42

Gruesome's Victim

One of his victims: *"I cannot sleep at night because I have bad dreams, the shakes and night sweats. I feel that I am not a normal teenager like my friends because of all the bad things he did to me and made me do with different men. I feel like I am nobody and nobody will ever love me."*

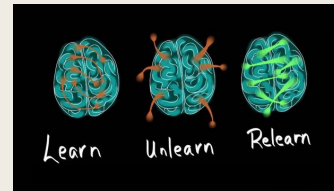
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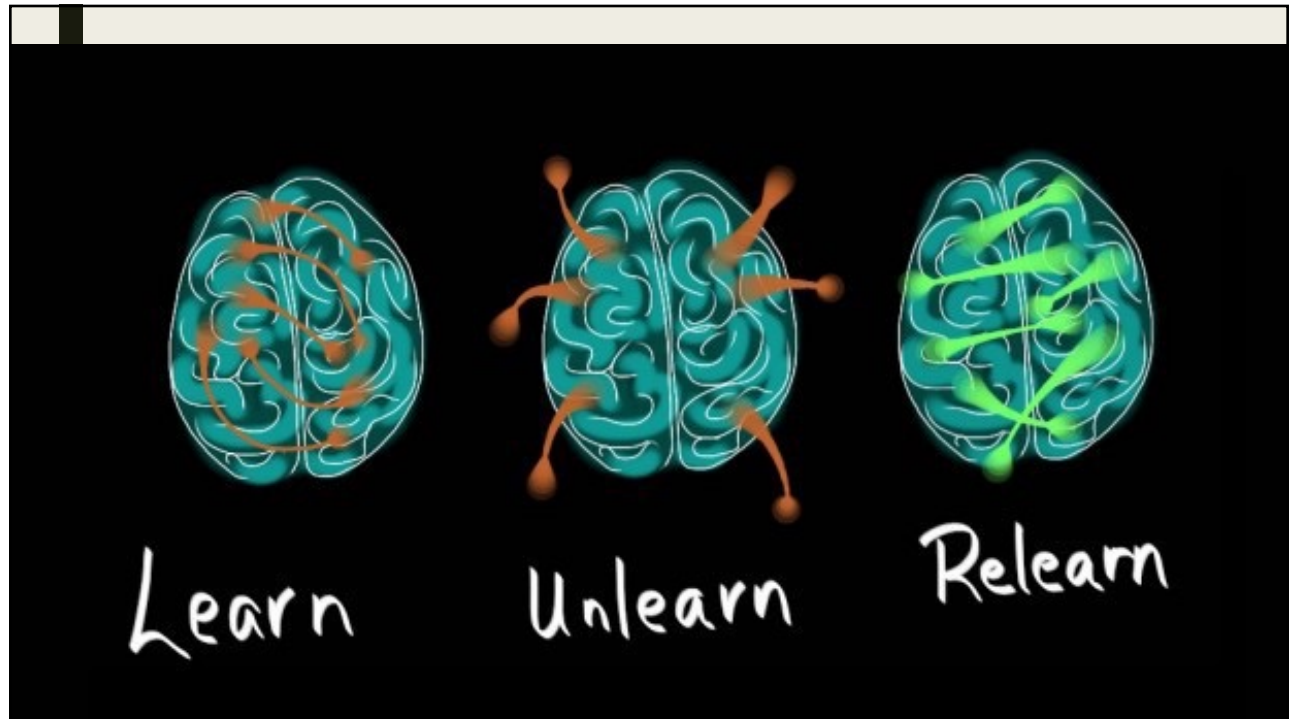
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Language often sensationalizes exploitation and abuse.

- Gruesome details and graphic content of exploitation do not positively impact survivors or move the cause forward.
- Conversely, they serve only to shock the audience, rather than spread education.
 - *Survivors are more than what has happened to them.*
 - *The focus should be on a young person's strengths and resilience.*
 - How did they survive?
 - What has been their journey forward?
 - What can they share to help others do the same?



45

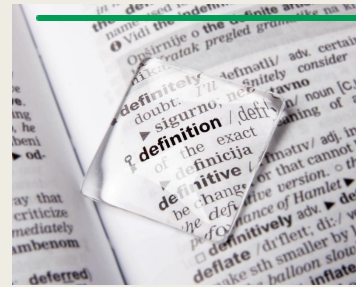


46

New vocabulary

■ Teen/Child "Prostitute"

- Implies choice*
- Bad kid*
- Resistant*
- Not worth the effort*
- Professional, working, doing job*
- Juvenile offender, criminal*
- Deserving of consequences: sexual violence, social isolation, incarceration*

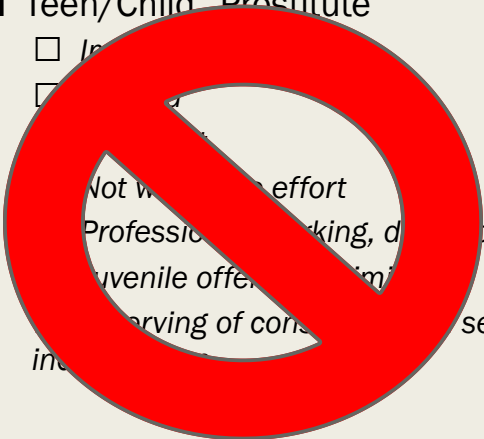


47

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48

Sexually exploited child

- A young person who has been sexually used, coerced, manipulated, and violently controlled for another person's profit
- Victim
- Inequality, power imbalance
- Vulnerability
- Multiple systems of oppression
- System of violence against women and children
- Call for social responsibility and accountability

49

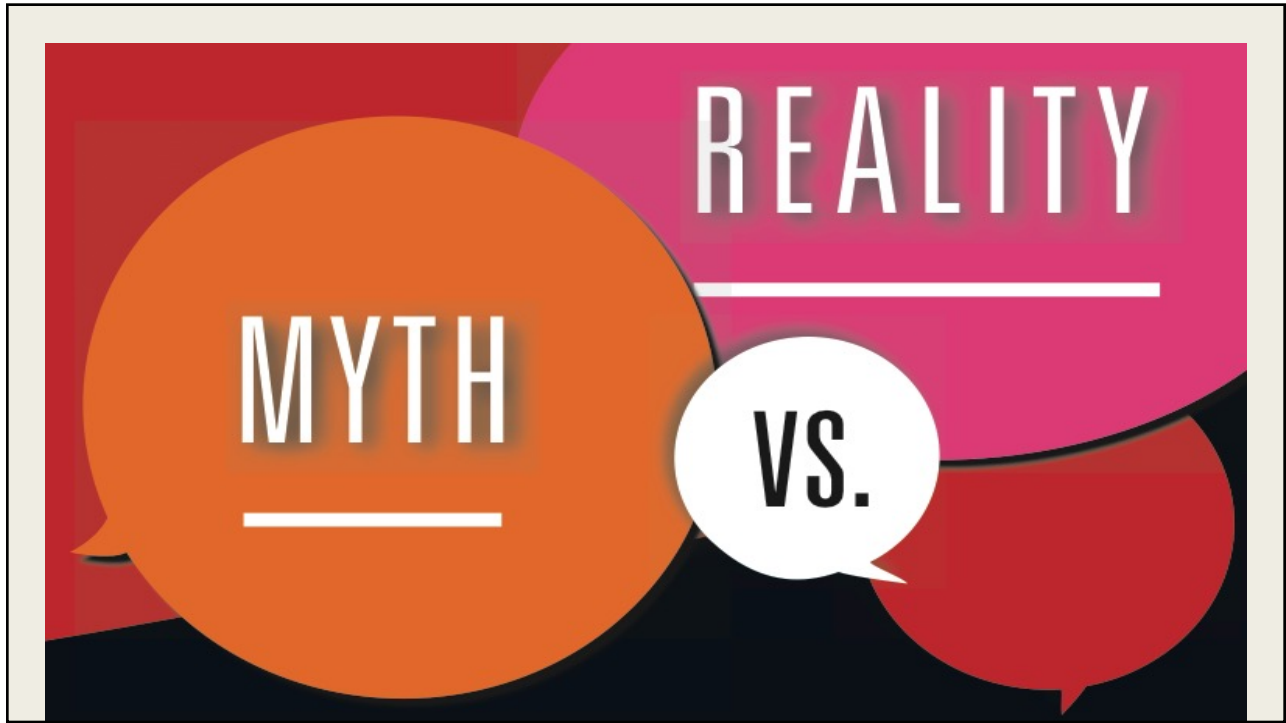
OBJECTIVES:

IDENTIFYING VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN HEALTH CARE SETTINGS.

IDENTIFYING THE WARNING SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN HEALTH CARE SETTINGS FOR ADULTS AND MINORS.

50

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51



- Myth: ~~pimps~~ pimp-trafficckers look like this!
- Reality: they may look like anyone!




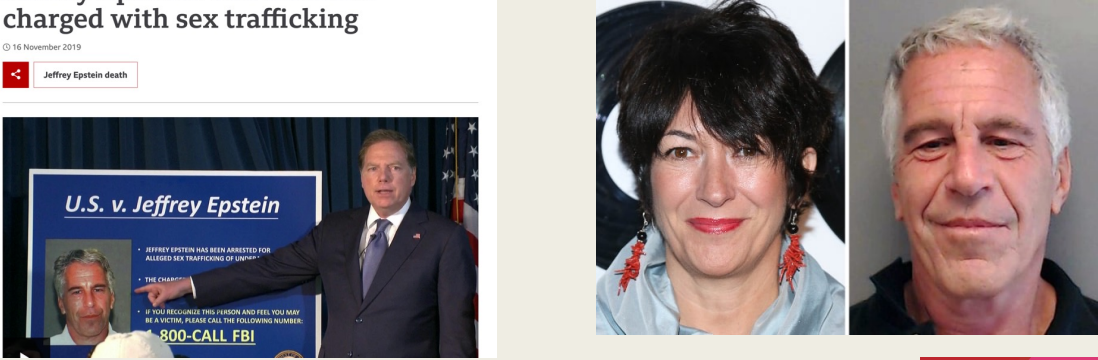
The complex block contains a photograph of a man dressed in a red velvet suit with black and white striped lapels and cuffs, wearing multiple gold chains including a large dollar sign pendant, and holding a gold cane. To the right of the photo is a list with two items. At the bottom right of the block is a smaller version of the 'MYTH VS. REALITY' graphic seen on slide 51.

52

Jeffrey Epstein: The financier charged with sex trafficking

© 16 November 2019

Jeffrey Epstein death



53

Traffickers

- In 2020, 42% of trafficking victims were brought into trafficking by a member of their own families
- 39% were recruited via an intimate partner or a marriage proposition

54

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND HEALTHCARE

55

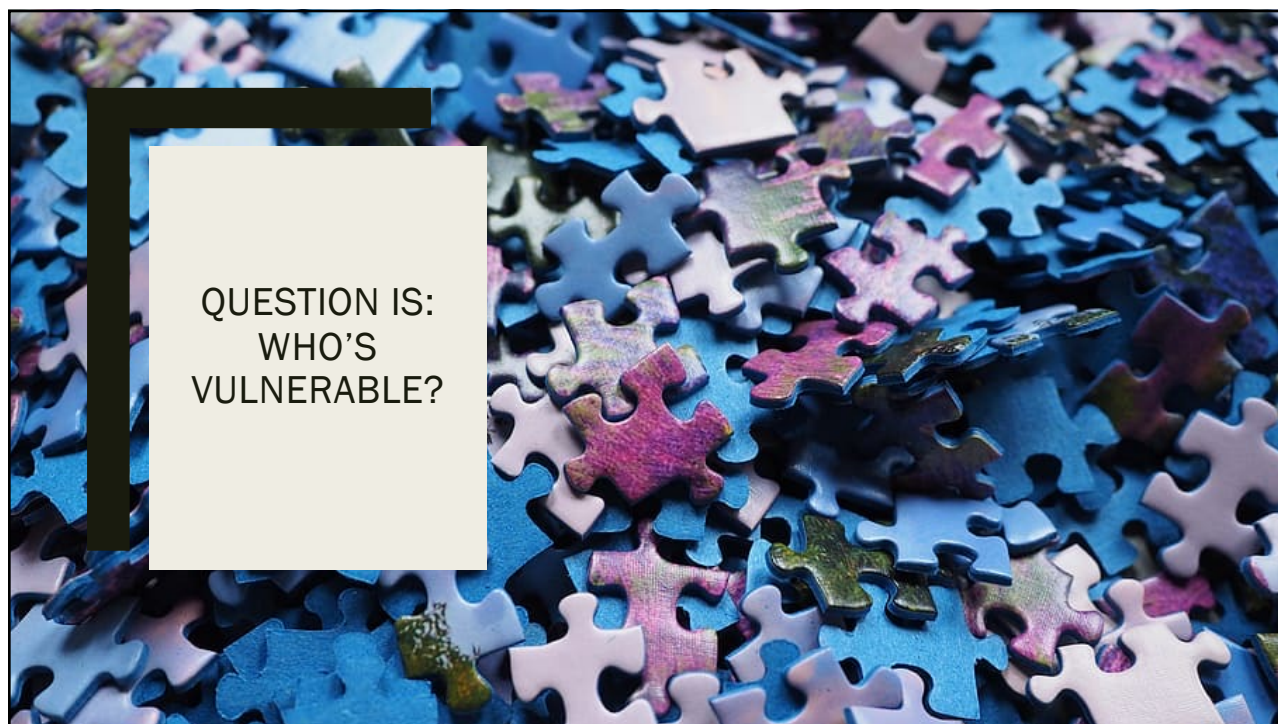
Healthcare's Unique Opportunity

- Healthcare professionals are on the frontlines to identify and intervene in cases of trafficking.
- One of the most likely groups to interact with victims.
- Unique opportunity to identify victims and offer assistance.
- Approximately 88% of domestic sex trafficking victims had contact with healthcare while being trafficked

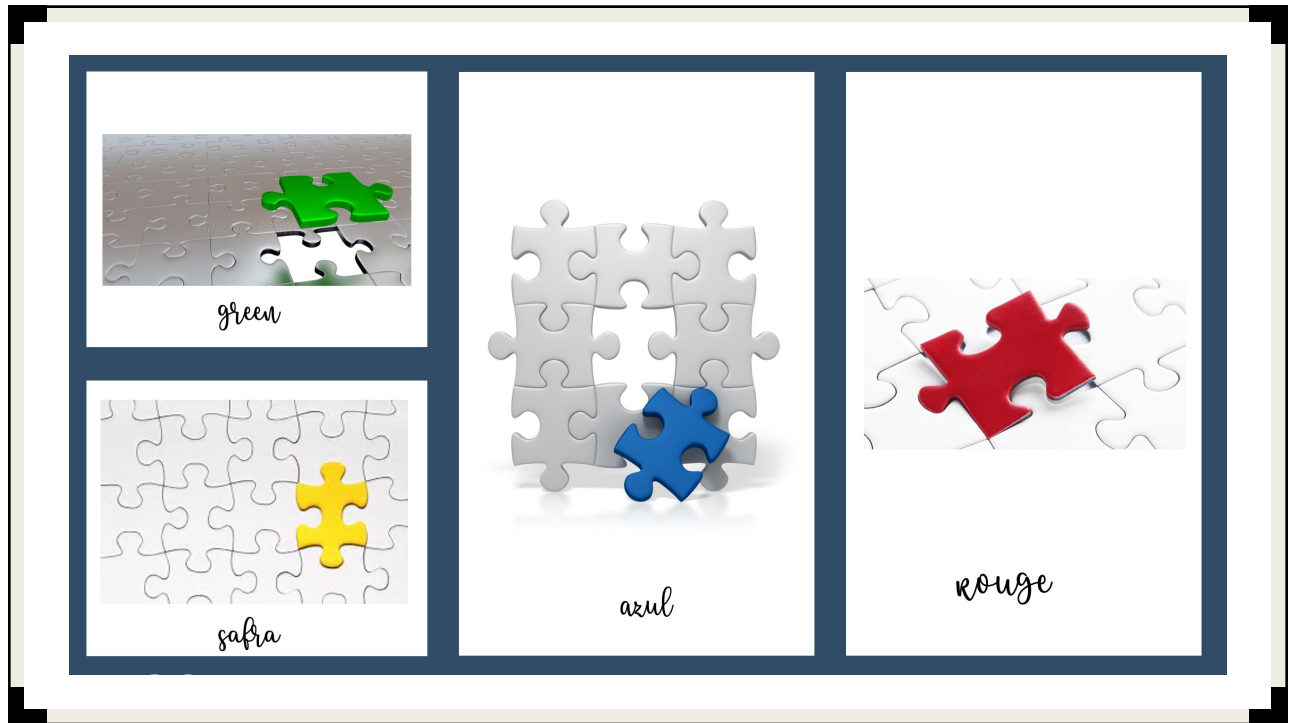
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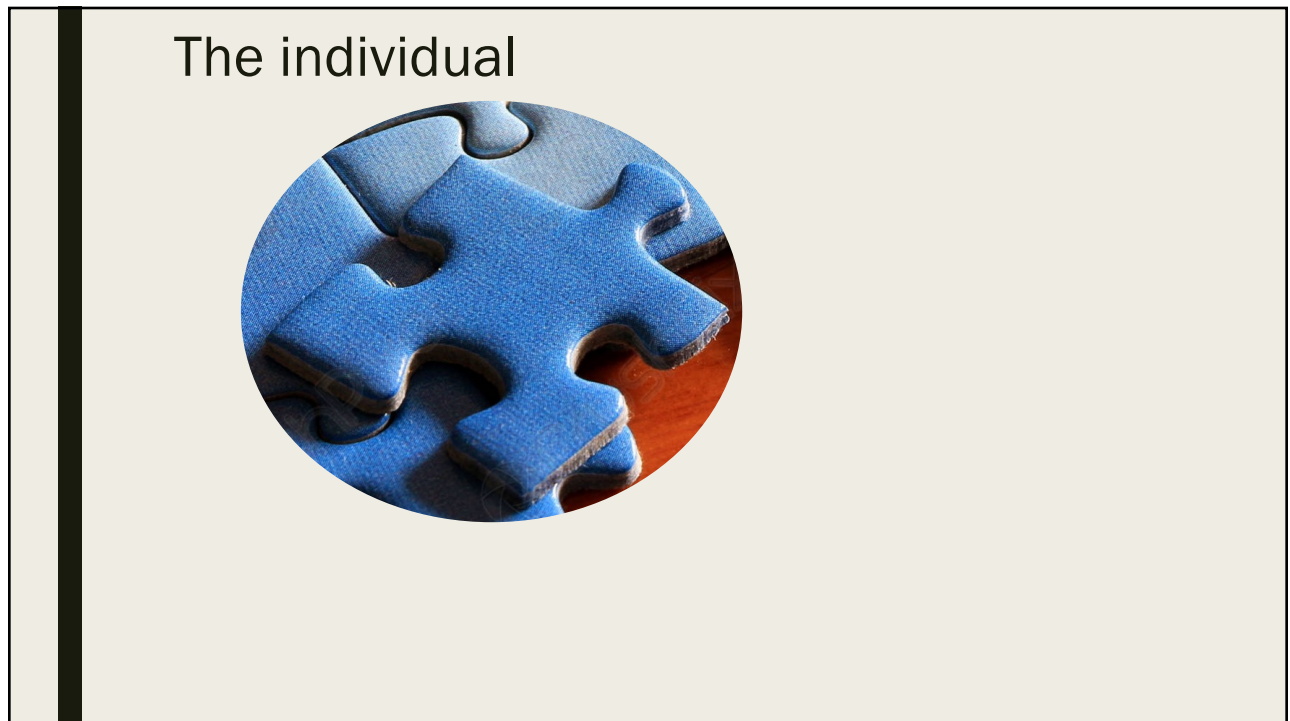
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58



59



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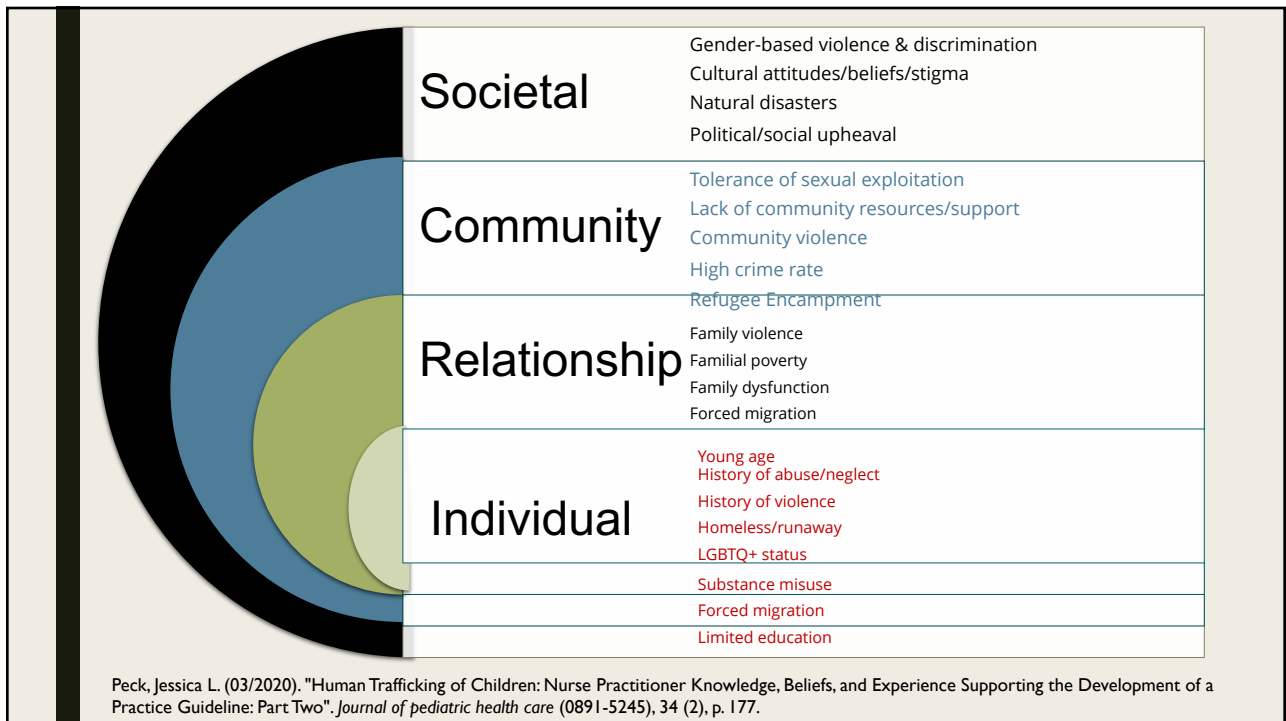
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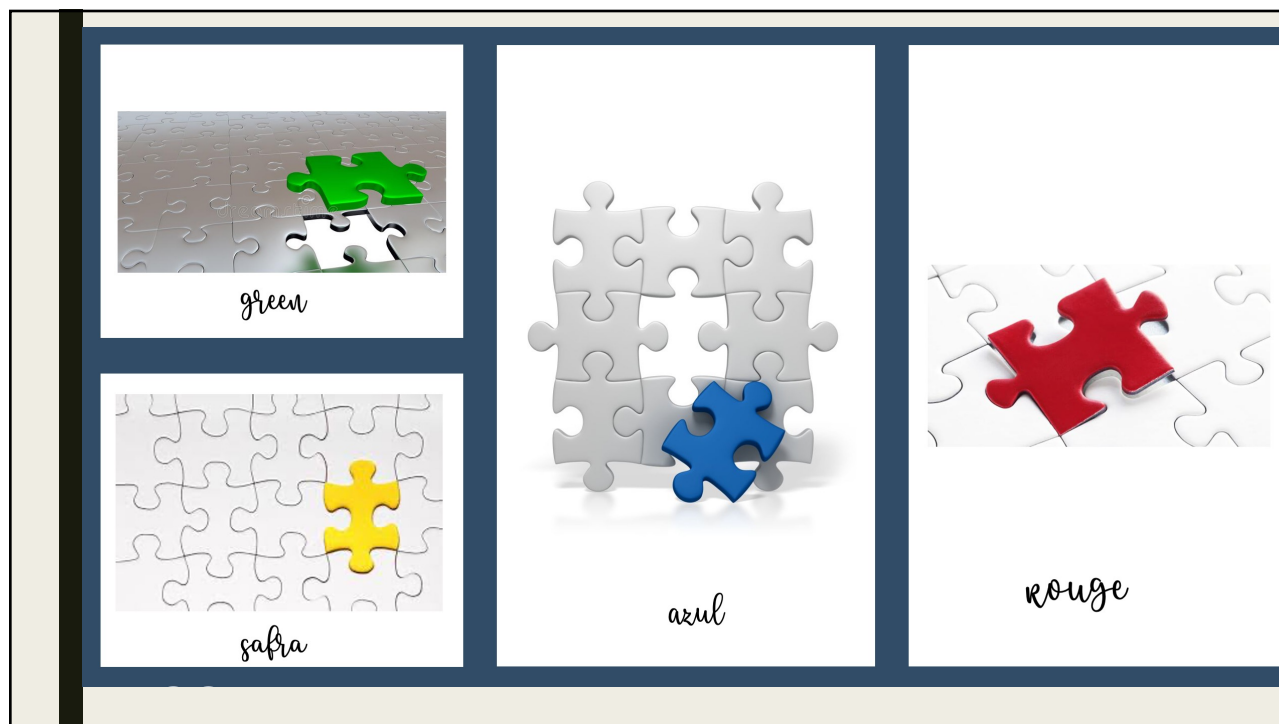
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64

IDENTIFYING VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

65



66




Safra

- Safra is a 19-year-old.
- She is pregnant and needs assistance with resources.
- She was sent by her family to live with her cousin in Detroit and pursue her education after her family experienced financial trouble in Mexico.
- She does not speak English and her cousin is by her side to translate.

67

67



Safra

- Safra appears malnourished and exhausted.
- When asked for her ID, her cousin pulls it out of his wallet.
- She does not know her address and has had no prenatal care so far.
- Safra says she works for her cousin at his convenience store.

68

68

Safra..More to the story..



- Safra was forced to do domestic work at her cousin's home all day and would work at his corner store late at night.
- She was not paid for her work and was denied education and medical care.
- She was kept away from the public's eye and neighbors didn't know she lived there.
- She was denied contact with her family and was verbally and physically assaulted.
- Recently her cousin started locking the store at night and having male customers come in where Safra would be forced to "have sex" with up to 5 customers /night

69

Human Trafficking Red Flags



- *Indicators of control*
- *Physical Red Flags for sex and labor trafficking*

70

Red Flags: Indicators of Control



Domineering accompanying individual

- May be accompanied by trafficker or person working for trafficker
- Other person with them may claim or actually be their boyfriend, husband, family member

Subordinate, fearful, hyper-vigilant

Scripted/inconsistent history

71

Red Flags: Indicators of Control



Individual cannot give an address/doesn't know city

Lack of control over personal documents

Paying in cash

Clothing inconsistent with the weather

Delayed presentation for medical care

72

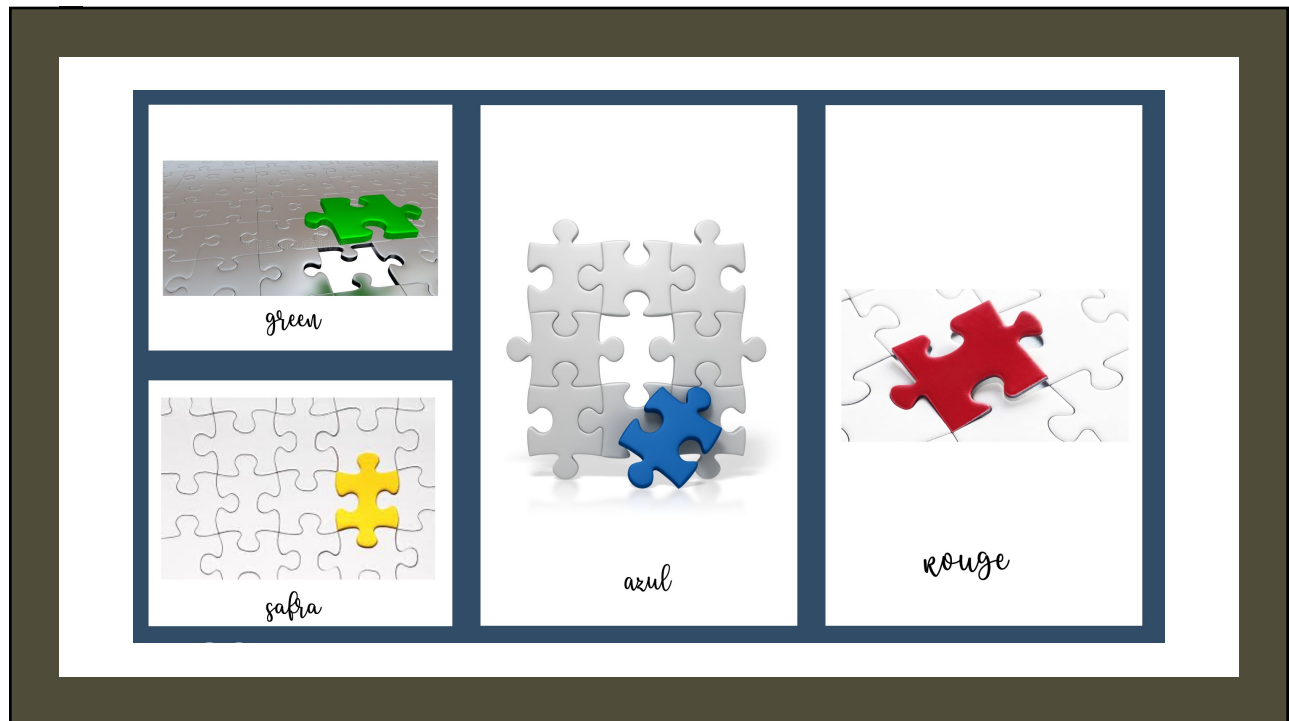
Couple sentenced for holding Nigerian nanny hostage for 2 years



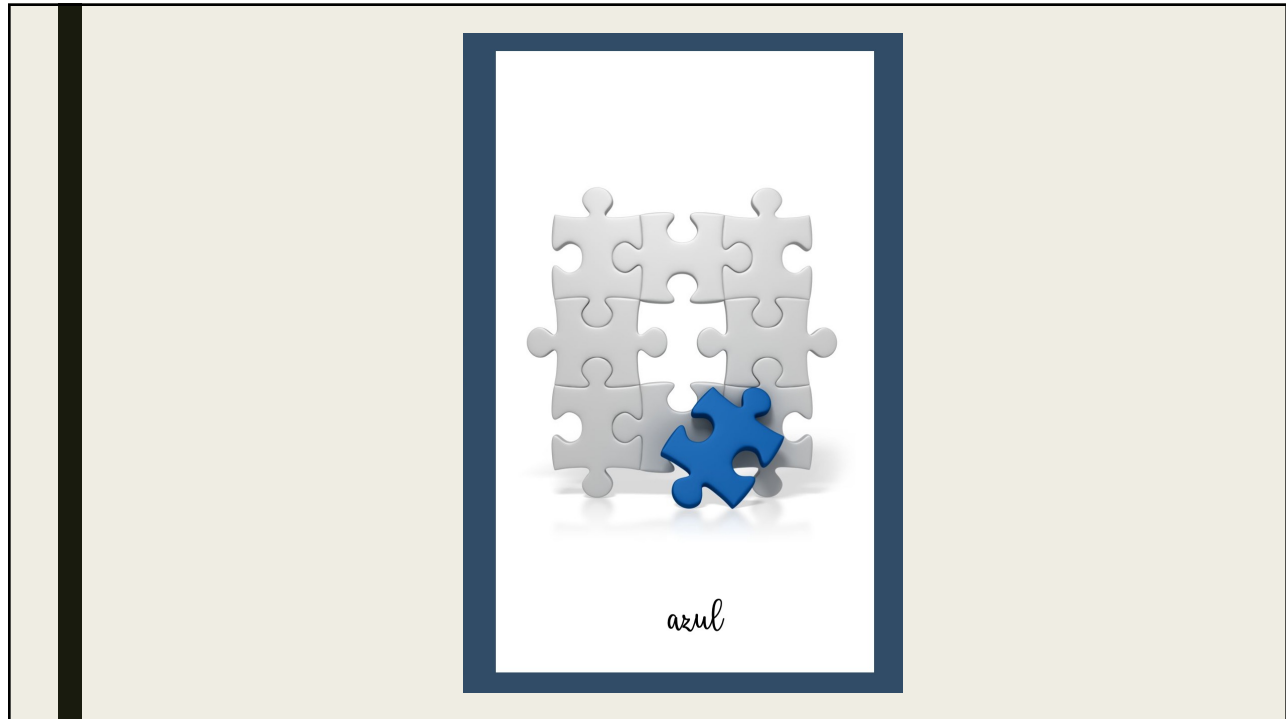
The naturalized U.S. citizens originally from Nigeria recruited the woman there with the promise of a \$100 monthly wage.

Instead, authorities say they abused her physically and verbally while she worked at their home from September 2013 to October 2015.

73



74



75

AZUL

Azul is a 17-year-old who ran away from his home in Lansing, MI. He ran out of money and was sleeping and living on the streets.

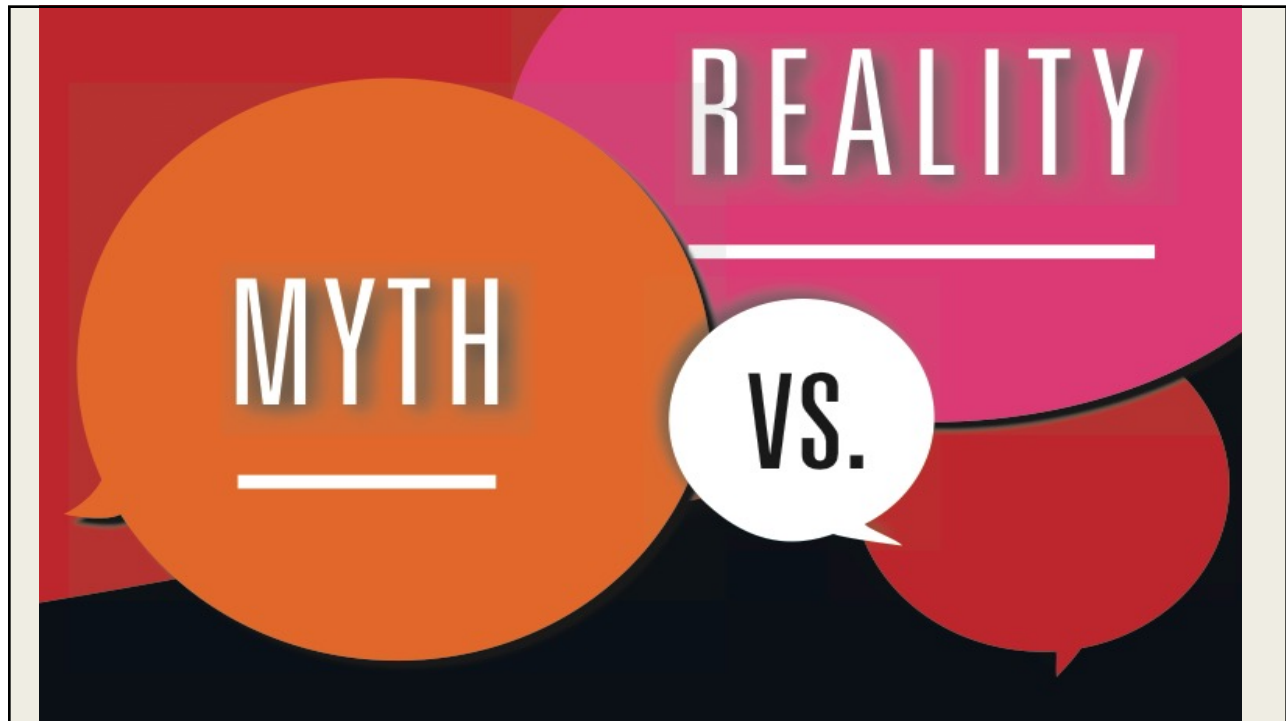
He was introduced to heroin by a group of friends who also introduced him to a group of older men who would pay him for “sexual favors”.

After a few years of living on the street, he decided to get tested for HIV and presented to the urgent care clinic.

He tested positive for HIV and Hepatitis C.

He got upset when asked for more information and refuses further help offered to him.

76



77

Myth vs. reality

- **Myth:** *If the trafficked person consented to be in their initial situation or was informed about what type of labor they would be doing or that commercial sex would be involved, then it cannot be human trafficking or against their will because they “knew better.”*
- **Reality:** Initial consent to commercial sex or a labor setting prior to acts of force, fraud, or coercion (or if the victim is a minor) is **not relevant** to the crime, nor is payment.

azul

<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/what-human-trafficking>

78

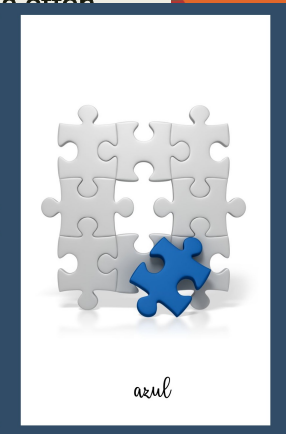
Myth vs. reality

- **Myth:** *Victims of human trafficking will immediately ask for help or assistance and will self-identify as a victim of a crime.*
- **Reality:** *Victims of human trafficking often do not immediately seek help or self-identify as victims of a crime due to a variety of factors including:*
 - *lack of trust*
 - *self-blame*
 - *specific instructions by the trafficker regarding how to behave and what to say*

MYTH

VS.

REALITY




<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/trafficking-myths/>

79

79

Important to Remember...

- *Not every victim you identify will want or feel safe to leave their situation*
 - Let them know your setting is a safe place
 - Equip with resources/hotline
 - Affirm they are not criminals
- *Trauma-informed approach*
- *Empowerment vs. "Saving"*



azul

80

Trauma informed care

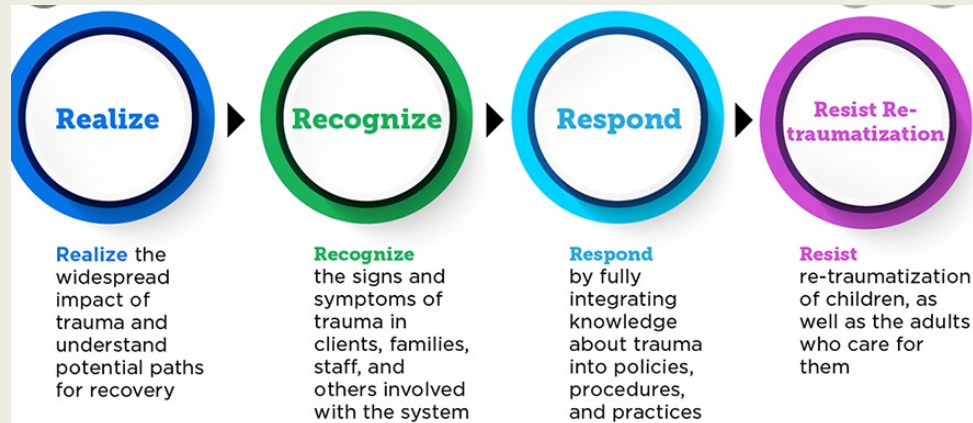
- Understand the impact of trauma on individuals, families, and communities.
- Understand that trauma may cause stress that manifests in a variety of ways involving physical, emotional, and behavior domains



azul

81

Trauma informed care



This figure is adapted from: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2014). SAMHSA's concept of trauma and Guidance for a trauma-informed approach. HHS publication no. (SMA) 14-4884. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

82

DO NOT ASK

- How much of the money were you allowed to keep?
- What is your boyfriend's name?



azul

83





Questions you may ask...

- When was the last time you ate?
- Did anyone physically hurt you?
- Do you feel comfortable telling me about it?




azul

84

 <p><i>green</i></p>	 <p><i>azul</i></p>	 <p><i>rouge</i></p>
 <p><i>safra</i></p>		

85

 <p><i>rouge</i></p>

86

ROUGE

Rouge is a 13-year-old child who presents to the emergency department with vaginal discharge.

She missed her last 2 periods.

She states she is sexually active with multiple partners including her 30-year-old boyfriend and his friends.

She ran away from home and her boyfriend is providing her a place to stay.



rouge

87

ROUGE

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She missed her last 2 periods.

She states she is sexually active with multiple partners including her 30-year-old boyfriend and his friends.

She ran away from home and her boyfriend is providing her a place to stay.



rouge

88

Children as Victims of Sex Trafficking

- The USE of any child <18 for sexual purposes in exchange for cash or in kind favors.

Don't have to show

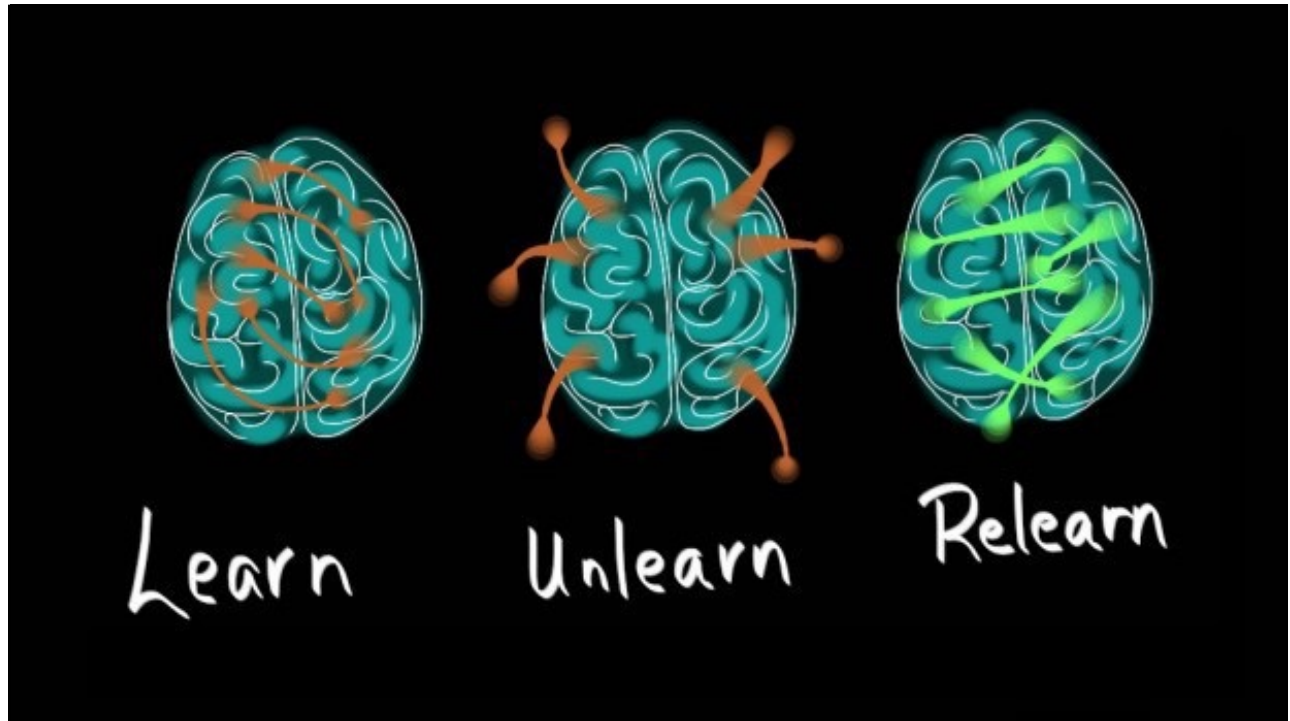
- Force
- Fraud
- Coercion

Minors cannot consent to commercial sex acts



rouge

89



90



The average age a child is first exploited through prostitution is **13 years old,** though children as young as **infants** have been identified in pornography.

Some victims may be forced to have sex up to **20-48 times a day**.

Not proven by research !
However, a good reminder for us

The infographic features two black and white photographs: a woman covering her mouth in distress and a young child with a sad expression. The text is overlaid on a dark, textured background.

91



The average age a child is first exploited through prostitution is **13 years old,** though children as young as **infants** have been identified in pornography.

Some victims may be forced to have sex up to **20-48 times a day**.

VICTIMS

Trafficked/exploited

The infographic is identical to the one on slide 91, but includes red text annotations. The word "VICTIMS" is written in large red letters over the top right text, and "Trafficked/exploited" is written in red over the bottom left text.

92

IDENTIFYING CHILD VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

93

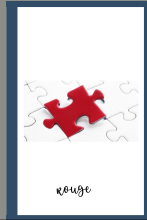
Potential Indicators of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children HISTORICAL FACTORS



- Multiple sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- Previous pregnancy/abortion
- Frequent visits for emergency contraception
- Chronic **runaway behavior**
- Chronic **truancy or problems in school**
- History of **sexual abuse/physical abuse/neglect**
- Involvement of **child protective services** (especially foster care/group home)
- Involvement with department of juvenile justice
- Significantly older boyfriend
- Frequent substance use/misuse
- Lack of medical home and/or frequent emergency department visits

94

Potential
Indicators of
Commercial
Sexual
Exploitation of
Children
PHYSICAL
FINDINGS



- Evidence suggestive of inflicted injury
- Tattoos (sexually explicit, of man's name, gang affiliation)
- Child withdrawn, fearful
- Signs of substance misuse
- Expensive items, clothing, hotel keys
- Large amounts of cash
- Poor dentition or obvious chronic lack of care

95

January, 2018

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

A Short Screening Tool to Identify Victims of Child Sex
Trafficking in the Health Care Setting

V. Jordan Greenbaum, MD, Martha Dodd, DNP, FNP-BC,* and Courtney McCracken, PhD†*

96

96

TABLE 3. Six-Item Screening Questionnaire

- Is there a previous history of drug and/or alcohol use?
- Has the youth ever run away from home?
- Has the youth ever been involved with law enforcement?
- Has the youth ever broken a bone, had traumatic loss of consciousness, or sustained a significant wound?
- Has the youth ever had a sexually transmitted infection?
- Does the youth have a history of sexual activity with more than 5 partners?
-

97

97

Additional
questions
when you
suspect
CSEC:

1. Has anyone ever asked you to have sex in exchange for something you wanted or needed (money, food, shelter, or other items)?
2. Has anyone ever asked you to have sex with another person?
3. Has anyone ever taken sexual pictures of you or posted such pictures on the Internet?

98

FIRST AID IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES

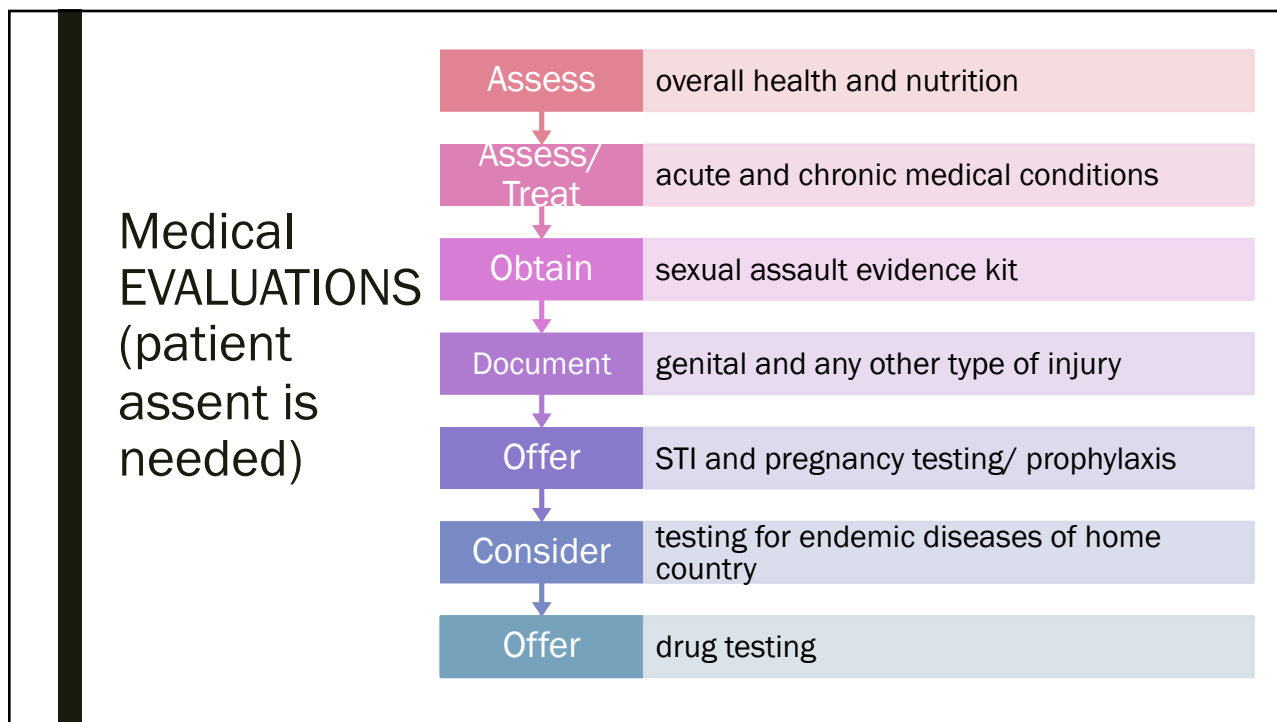
**REMEMBER
YOU MAY BE THE
VICTIM'S ONLY CHANCE!**

No matter how small your role as a first responder,
you are part of a global effort to fight
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

UNODC UN.GIFT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

MEDICAL
EVALUATION

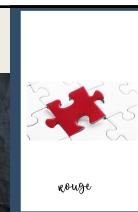
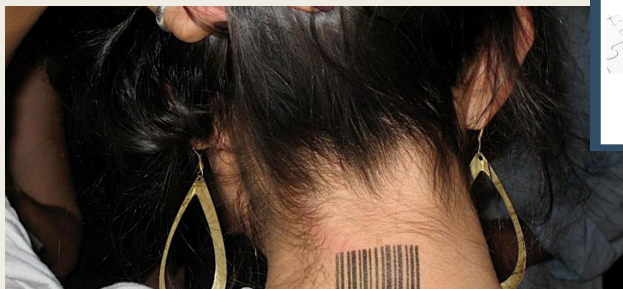
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100

ROUGE

- Her physical examination reveals a thin child with multiple bruises on her arms and legs
- Her anogenital examination is normal
- Her labs are positive for gonorrhea.
- Pregnancy test is positive



101



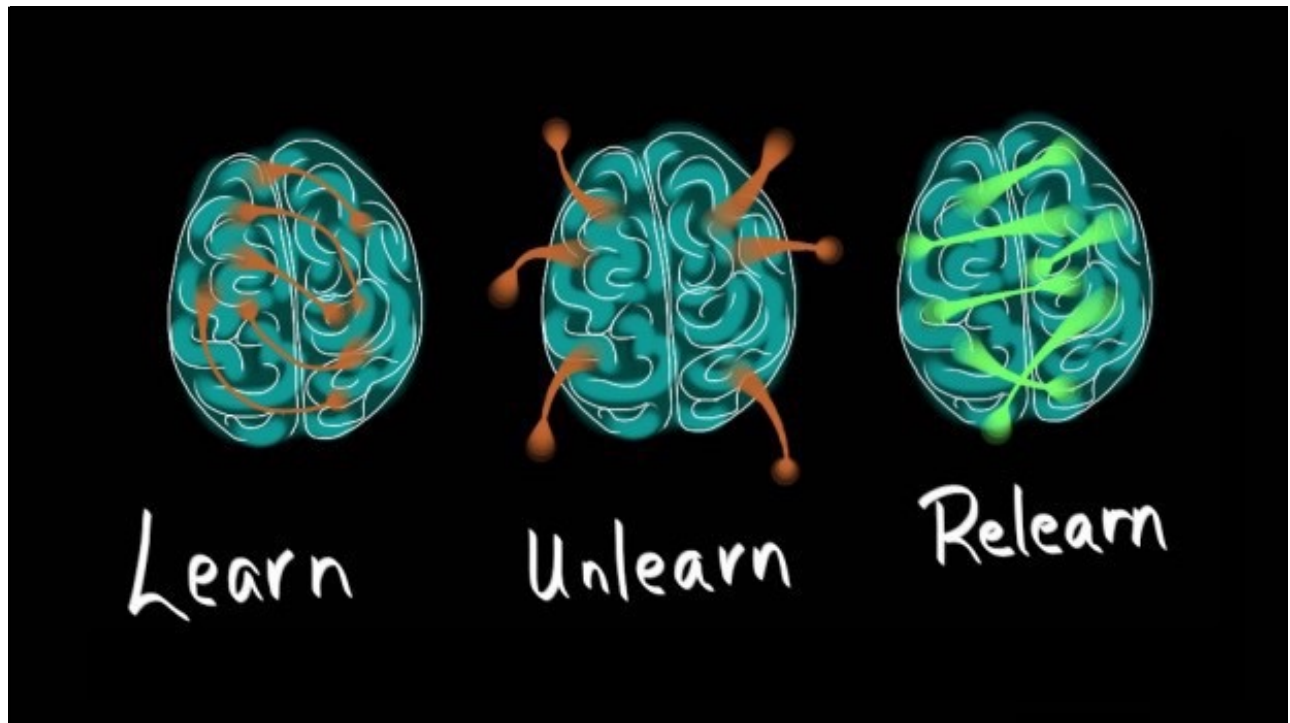
Self-harm

102

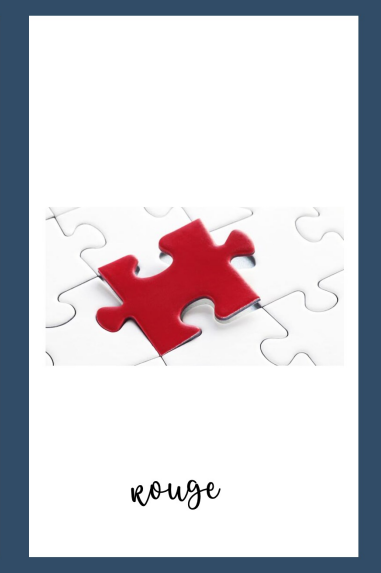
Tattoos...branding...



103



104




A NORMAL
EXAMINATION
DOES NOT RULE
OUT SEXUAL
ABUSE

105

It's Normal to be Normal

- Only a small percentage of children have signs of genital or anal injury upon examination.
 - *no injury was sustained due to the nature of the physical contact*
 - *the contact involved penetration of tissues that stretched without being injured*
 - *the contact resulted in injuries that healed by the time the child was examined.*



106

"Normal" Does Not Mean "Nothing Happened"

- **Genital Anatomy in Pregnant Adolescents: "Normal" Does Not Mean "Nothing Happened"** Nancy D. Kellogg, Shirley W. Menard and Annette Santos

■ *Pediatrics* 2004;113:e67

Only 2 of the 36 subjects had definitive findings of penetration.



rouge

107

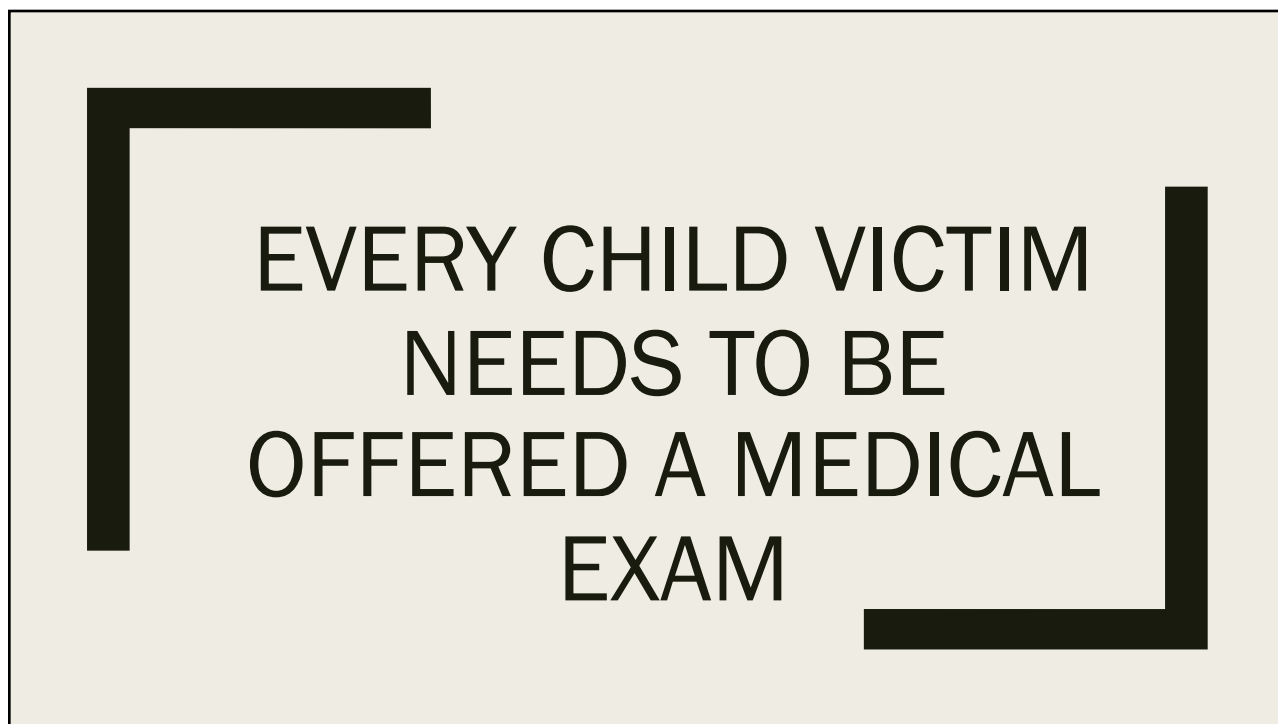
What to do next

- Follow existing protocols for child abuse, sexual abuse, rape, domestic violence, etc.
- Explain reporting obligations to the patient
- Provide options while keeping in mind the patient's age and immigration status
- Know the local organizations that help survivors of trafficking – governmental, non-governmental, international
- In U.S., provide the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHRTC) hotline number: 1-888-3737-888
- *"If I am concerned someone has abused or hurt you, I would need help and would have to talk to other adults, but I would talk to you first so that we could figure out together whom we should talk to and the best way to handle it"*

108



109



110

WHEN DO WE EXAMINE CHILDREN?

111

Acute Exam: As soon as possible if child presents close to the time of the incident

Within 120 hours in Michigan

- (WITHIN 72 HOURS) Need for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for STIs including (HIV)
- Evidence Collection (rape) Kit needs to be completed
- Bleeding or pain of the genital/ rectal area
- Physical abuse cases involving serious injuries (fractures, burns, head trauma,...)

112

Non-acute Exam: When disclosure is delayed, exam can be arranged

Disclosure more than 120 hours and often days to months to years after the incident

- Acute injuries are not expected to be present and there is no evidence to be collected
- Child is asymptomatic
- Please ensure child is safe and the proper authorities have been notified
- Siblings may also need to be evaluated

113

Who does the acute and the nonacute exams in your county?



114

Complex Needs of Victims

Housing

Food, clothing, School etc.

Interpreter services





Emotional support

Mental health care

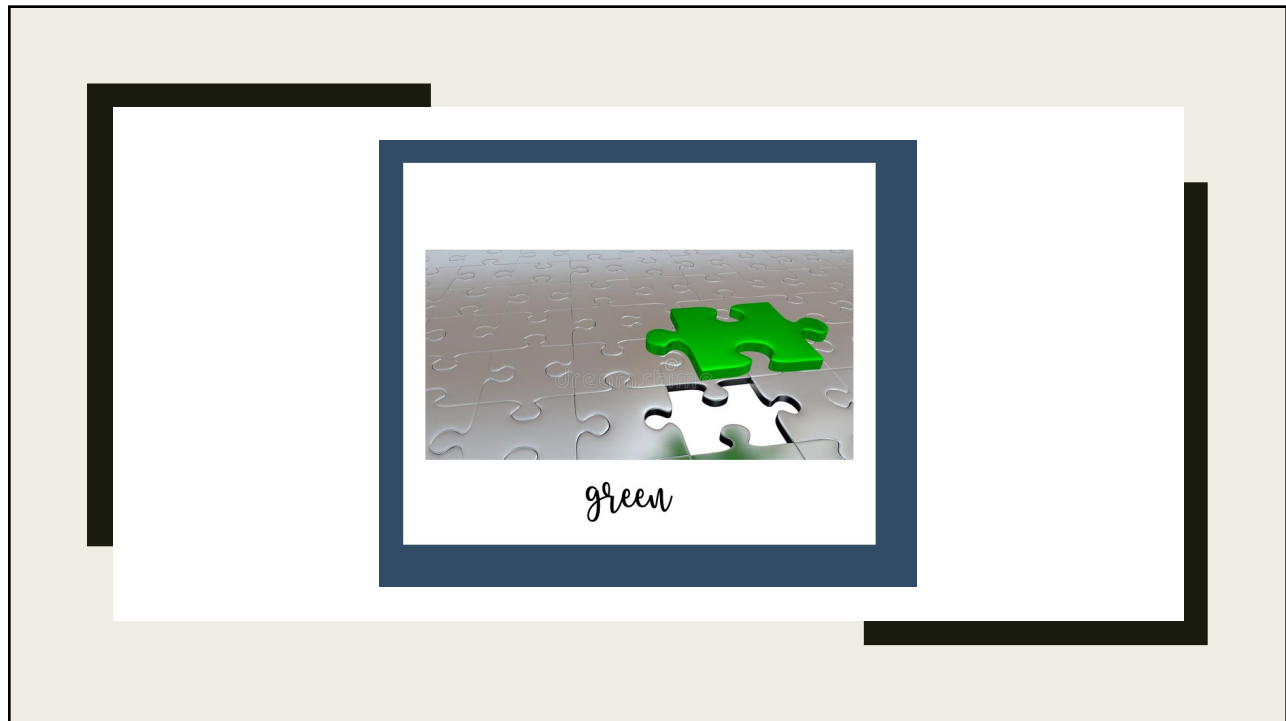
Legal advocacy

Case management

115

 <p><i>green</i></p>	 <p><i>azul</i></p>	 <p><i>rouge</i></p>
 <p><i>safra</i></p>		

116



117

GREEN

- Green is a 14-year-old child who accepted a 'friend' request on Facebook. She was texting him back and forth using her school laptop.
- He asked for her photo and said he was in love with her and wanted more photos. He then requested to meet her.
- Green sent him photos and agreed to meet him at a motel in Detroit where him and a group of men sexually assaulted her.
- Green ran away from the motel to a nearby gas station and called her parents who notified the police.

118

Forms of Sex Trafficking & Exploitation

ONLINE :

- Grooming and Online Solicitation
- Child Sexual Abuse Materials (CSAM)
- Live-stream sex acts

OFFLINE

- Prostitution, escort services
- Performing at sex venues
- Child Marriage; temporary marriage
- Sexual exploitation in armed conflict
- Domestic Servitude – Forced sexual services

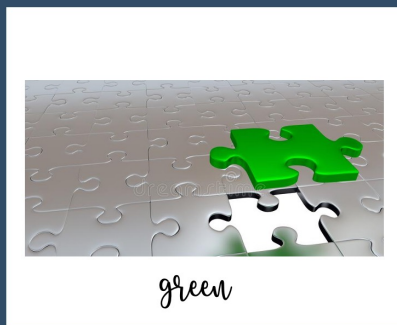


Often involves BOTH online and offline activities

ECPAT, 2008; TIP Report, 2020

119

Potential Indicators of Online Exploitation



Spends more and more time on the internet and social media platforms

Becomes secretive about use of technology

Becomes more possessive of phone, anxious if someone wants to look at it

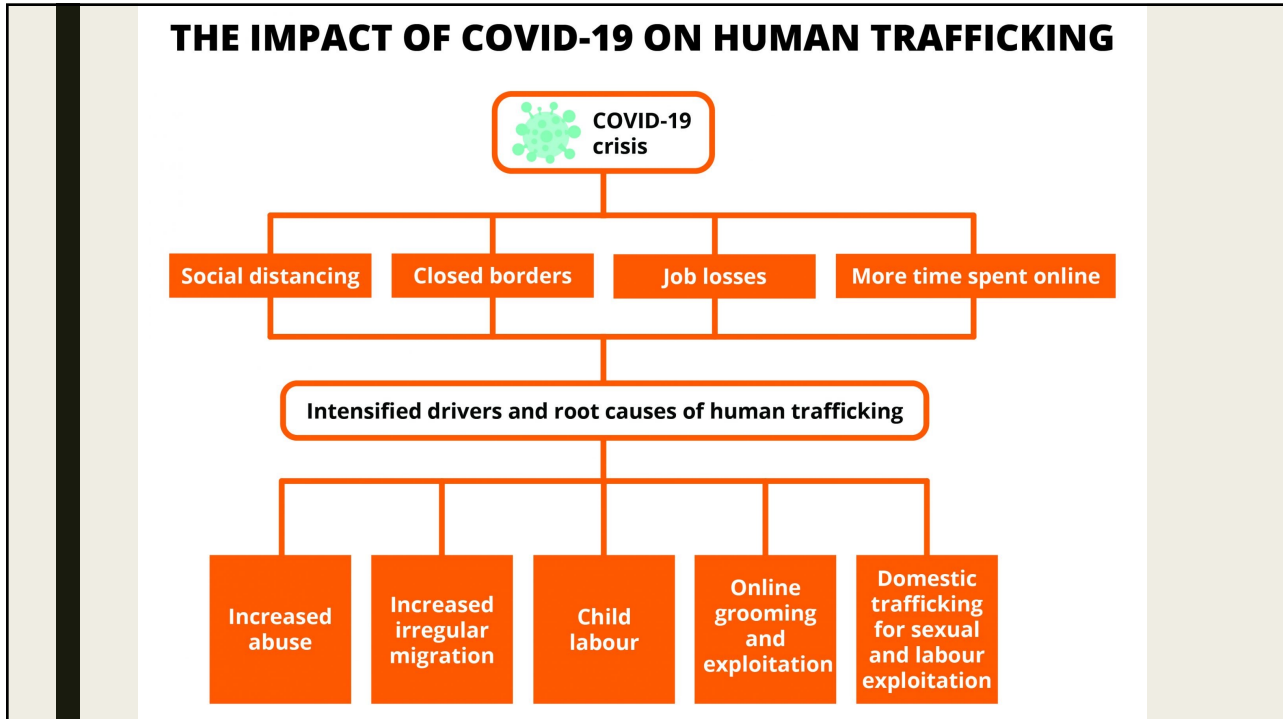
Agitated when answering phone, needs privacy for calls

Vague talk of “new friend” online

Starts leaving home for periods, without explanation

Academic decline

120



121





RESPONDING TO TRAFFICKING

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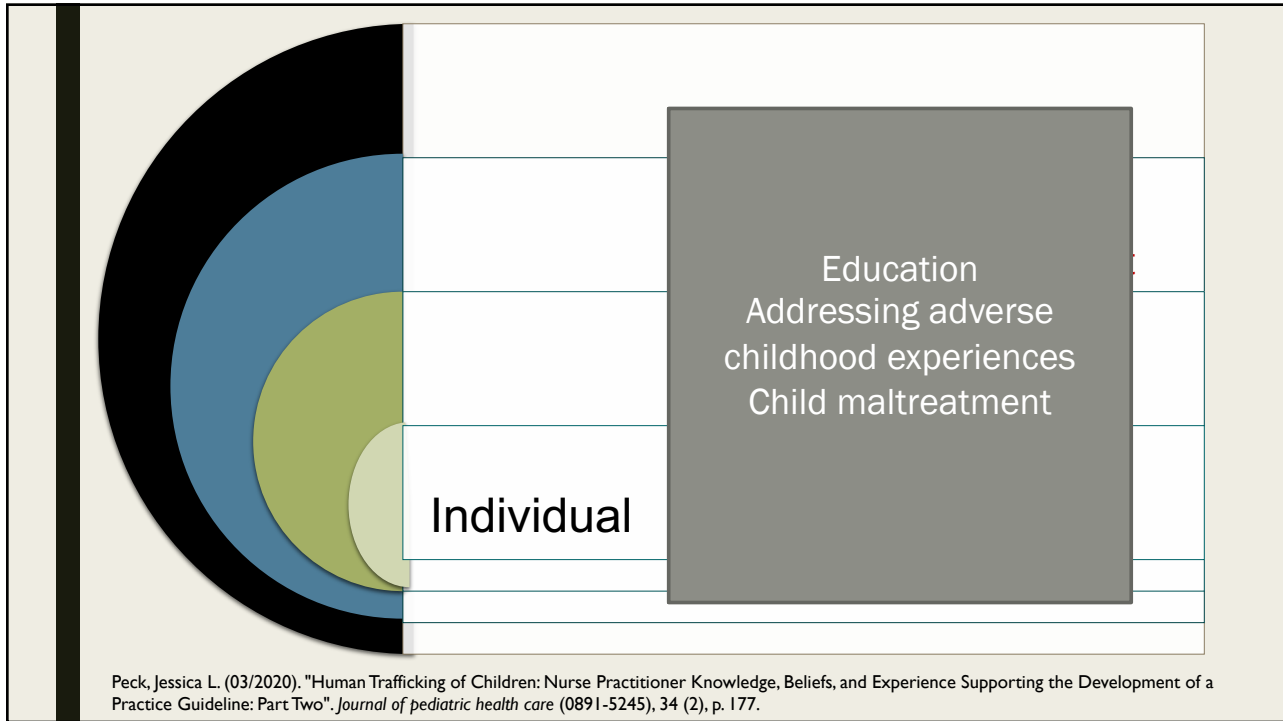


WHO'S VULNERABLE?

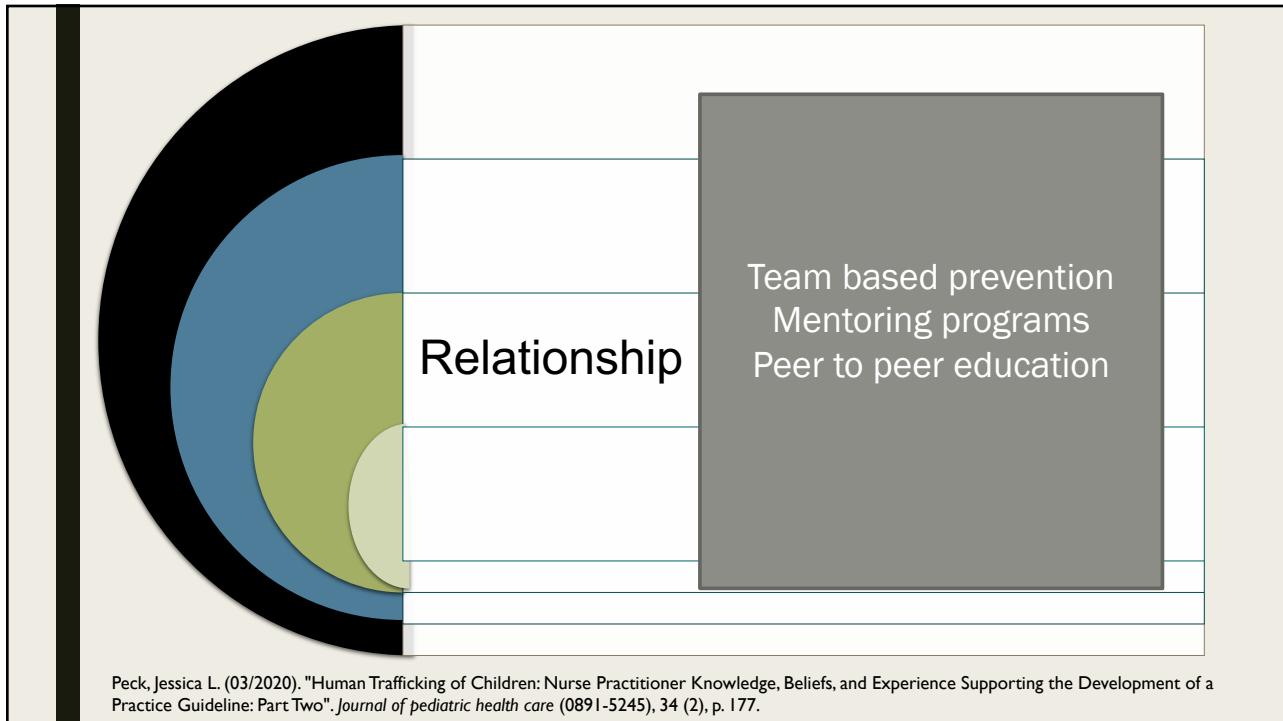
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 <p><i>safra</i></p>		

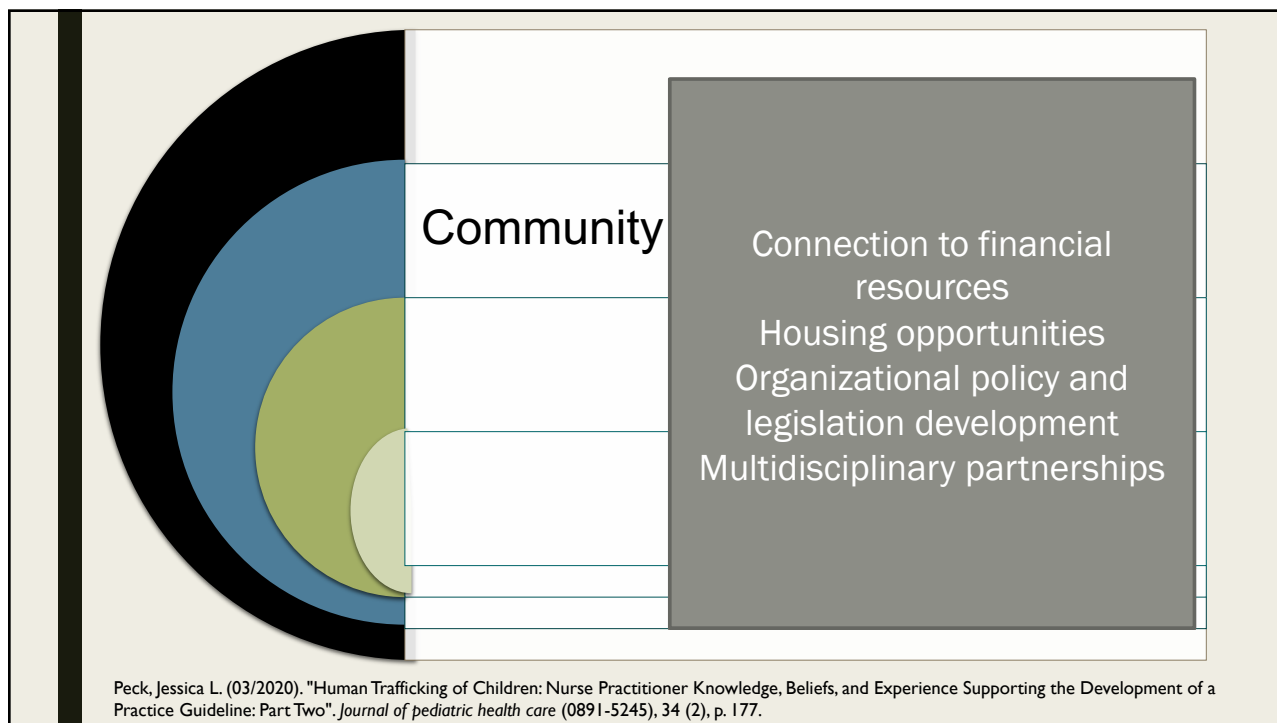
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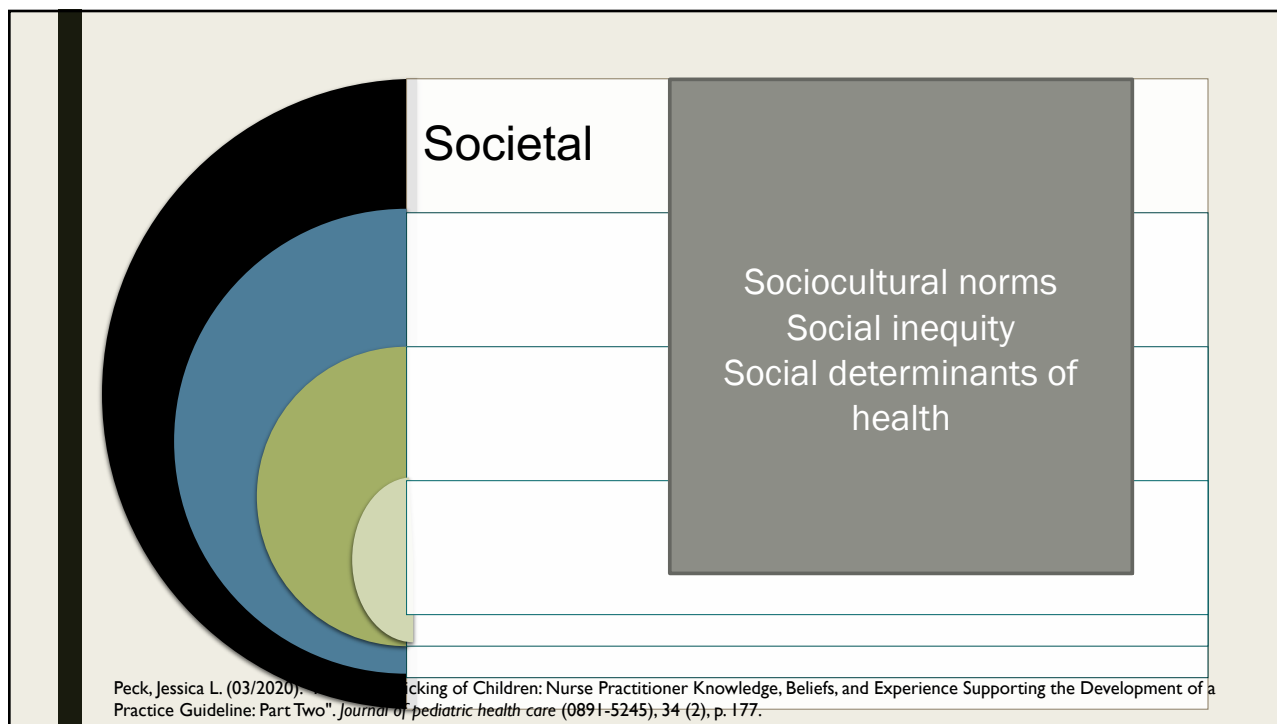
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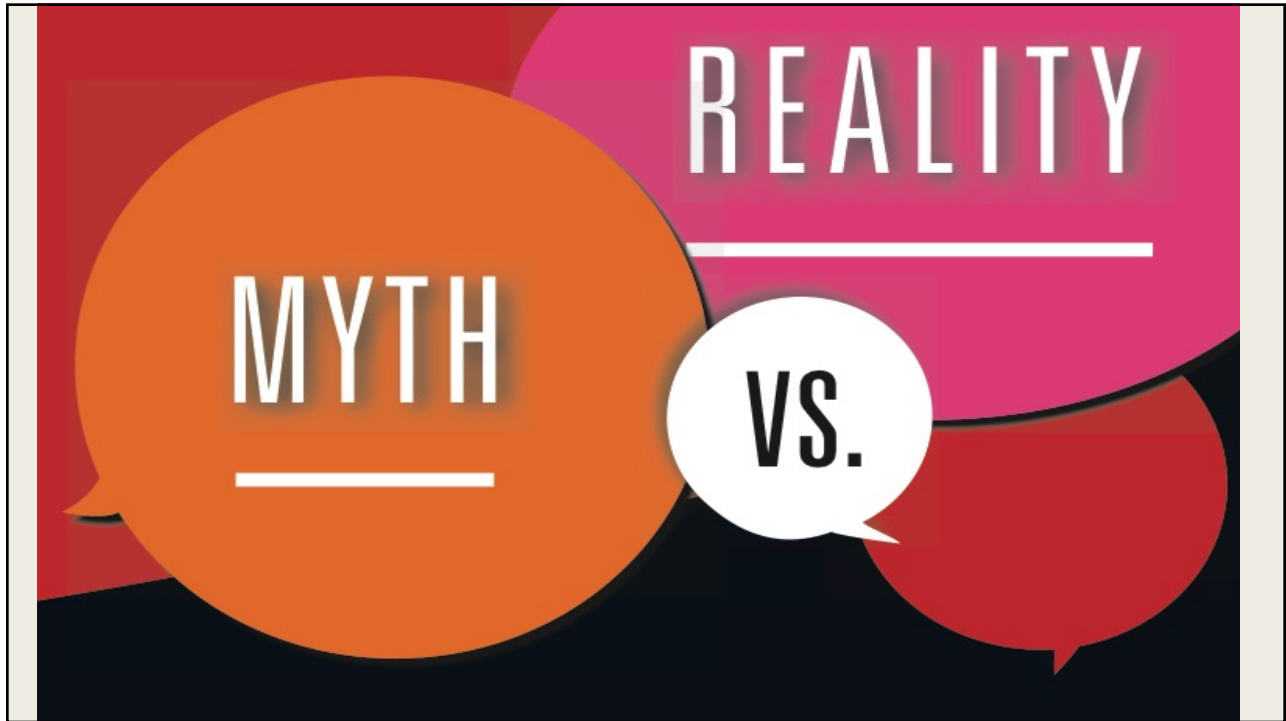
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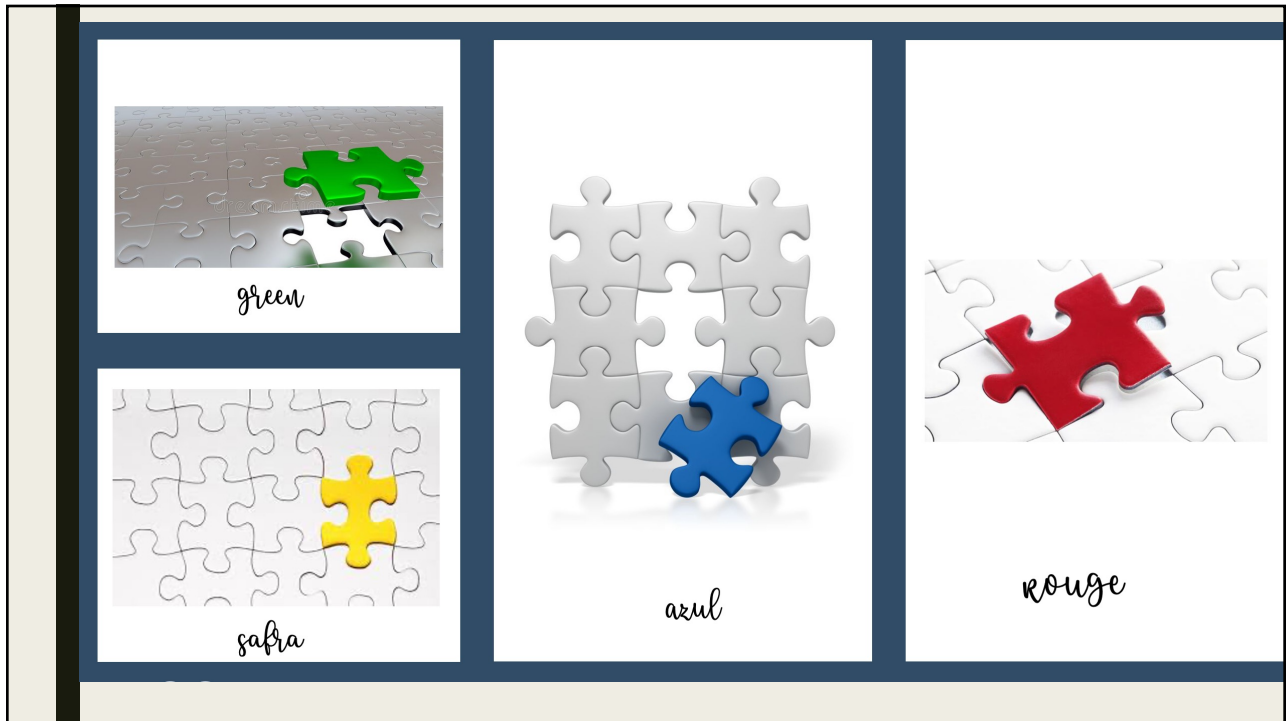
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128



129



130



131



132

Take Action

■ IDENTIFY:

- *Male and female victims of human trafficking may present for medical care for a variety of reasons*
- *Look more carefully for red flags of human trafficking*

■ EVALUATE:

- *Evaluations of victims may be challenging.*
- *Empowerment nor rescuing*
- *Obtain a list of resources*



azul

133

Take Action

■ RECOGNIZE:

- *Pregnant victims of human trafficking*
- *Self harm marks and tattoos*

■ REPORT:

- *YOU are mandated reporters of suspected child abuse and neglect.*
- *Call the Human Trafficking Hotline*
- *Always talk with your patient/ client alone*
- *Always obtain help from a professional interpreter*



safra

134

Take Action

■ CONNECT:

- *Connect with the Children's Advocacy Center for a forensic interview and medical evaluation*
- *Connect with services and do warm hand offs*



rouge

135

Take Action

■ ADVOCATE:

- *Educate professionals and families*
- *Give anticipatory guidance to parents and children regarding Internet safety as well as common recruitment scenarios.*



green

136

Resources

- National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline (1-888-3737-888)

- Polaris Project: A national resource for human trafficking: <http://www.polarisproject.org/what-we-do/global-programs>.

If you suspect abuse or neglect, call **855-444-3911** any time day or night. This toll-free phone number allows you to report abuse or neglect of any child or adult. One number. One call. One person can make a difference.

137

137

References and suggested reading

- Nazer D, Greenbaum J. **Human Trafficking of Children**. *Pediatric Annals*. 2020;49(5):e209-e214. <https://doi.org/10.3928/19382359-20200417-01>
- Greenbaum J, Bodrick N; Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect; Section on International Child Health. Global human trafficking and child victimization. *Pediatrics*. 2017;140(6): e20173138. doi:[10.1542/peds.2017-3138](https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2017-3138).
- Greenbaum J, Crawford-Jakubiak JE; Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect. Child sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation: health care needs of victims. *Pediatrics*. 2015;135(3):566-574. doi:[10.1542/peds.2014-4138](https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2014-4138).

138