



Human Trafficking Awareness for Ukrainian Newcomers to Canada



Human trafficking is a crime and a serious human rights violation, specifically the **loss of liberty**. It occurs all over the world, and can happen to anyone, even in Canada. It takes many forms and may be present in any community, nationwide.

What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking involves the recruitment, transportation or harbouring of persons, or the control of their movements, generally for the purpose of sexual exploitation or forced labour. Its defining feature is the **exploitation** of women, men and children – usually for the purposes of sexual exploitation (sex trafficking) or forced labour.

What is Human Smuggling?

Human smuggling is the importation of people into a country by the **illegal** crossing of an international border. Human smuggling is a business transaction - where the individual(s) **voluntarily agree** to be smuggled in exchange for a sum of money - that ends upon arrival at the destination. There are instances where people who asked to be smuggled into a country become human trafficking victims, at the hands of their smuggler.

What is Forced Labour?

Forced labour involves recruiting, moving or holding victims to coerce them into doing any kind of work. Victims may experience a wide range of abuse including verbal, physical, and sexual. Examples of forced labour may include:

- working without pay
- performing tasks outside the scope of the employment contract
- not receiving vacation or overtime pay
- working extremely long hours
- deduction of “fees” for food or accommodation from pay cheques
- crowded and unsanitary living conditions
- sexual violence

Why am I at risk of Human Trafficking?

Individual and societal factors make a person more at-risk of being targeted for trafficking. When we talk about risk, it's important to note that some groups are more at-risk, but that anyone can be vulnerable to this crime. Traffickers are extremely skilled at presenting themselves as potential protectors and providers or offering other solutions to a person's immediate perceived problem. For example, traffickers can offer to pay for clothing, food or rent to indebted you to them.

Displaced persons and those fleeing their homes due to war, armed conflict, or anticipated armed conflict are more at-risk for exploitation and human trafficking. Things like language barriers, disconnection from social





and cultural supports, lack of economic opportunities while they wait for work permits and other basic necessities are all things that make Ukrainian newcomers more at-risk for exploitation here in Canada. Many displaced Ukrainian nationals coming into Canada are women and children, whom are at an increased risk of being targeted for sex trafficking in Canada.

How do I recognize Human Trafficking? What are some warning signs?

You or someone you know could be a victim or at-risk of being a victim of human trafficking. Here are some signs to look out for:

- Being controlled by someone else (i.e. being escorted or watched all the time).
- Being tattooed (with the trafficker's initials), branded or scarred to show ownership by the trafficker
- Signs of malnourishment
- Someone speaks on their behalf despite being physically able to speak for themselves
- Not in possession of any forms of identification nor knowing the location of their passport
- They are frequently moving locations or being moved
- Signs of physical and sexual abuse, including visible injuries like bruises
- Expresses fear/intimidation through facial expressions and/or body language

It can be difficult for a victim to self-identify and/or see they are in a trafficking situation. Due to the degree of power and control exerted over them, exiting can be extremely challenging.

FEAR

RELUCTANT TO MEET PEOPLE,
BE ALONE OR GO OUTSIDE

ANXIETY

SHAKING OR HEART RACING

DIFFICULTY SLEEPING
OR CONCENTRATING

RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT SERVICES
FOR FEAR OF CONSEQUENCES TO
SELF OR OTHERS

SHAME & GUILT

DIFFICULTY MAKING
EYE CONTACT

DIFFICULTY EXPRESSING
THOUGHTS OR FEELINGS

DIFFICULTY EXPRESSING
DETAILS OF EVENTS &
EXPERIENCES

RELUCTANCE TO UNDERGO
INTERVIEWS & PHYSICAL
EXAMS

VICTIM MINDSET

LACK OF TRUST

DIFFICULTY MAKING AND
TRUSTING OWN DECISIONS

DIFFICULTY PLANNING
FOR THE FUTURE

BLAMES SELF FOR
THE SITUATION

DISTRUST OF POLICE &
SERVICE PROVIDERS

SUBSERVIENCE

RELUCTANT TO
MAKE DECISIONS

DESIRE TO PLEASE

EASILY INFLUENCED

DESIRE TO REVIVE LOVE FROM
INITIAL RELATIONSHIP

DIFFICULTY ASSERTING
THEMSELVES





The power and control exerted by human traffickers comes in various forms and severity depending on the trafficking situation. Some tactics are subtle and not easily detected by the victim(s). This makes detection by others even more difficult.

NO ONE CHOOSES TO BE EXPLOITED!!!

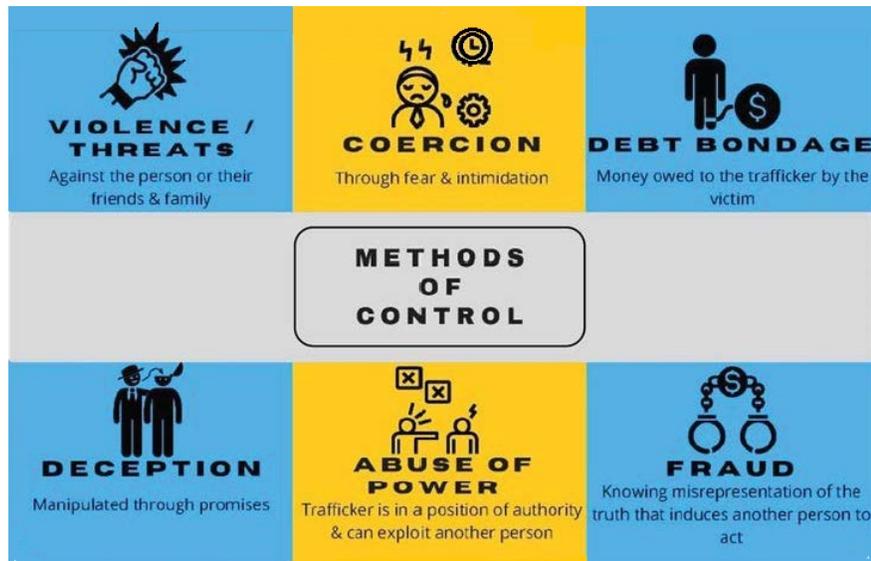
Traffickers create elaborate psychological and emotional barriers to manipulate the interpersonal dynamic between themselves and those they choose to exploit.

How do traffickers control victims?

To deceive victims, traffickers often promise a better or more glamorous life, or a relationship. To control them, traffickers target a person's self-confidence or use violence, including physical and/or emotional abuse, and/or extortion. They isolate and manipulate victims, and typically control the following aspects of a person's life:

- money
- identification documents (such as a passport)
- work locations
- living arrangements
- relationships

Human traffickers are master psychological manipulators who invest ample time and effort into grooming their victims.



Traffickers approach potential victims in many ways, including:

- Pretending to be a potential love interest, friend or sponsor
- Posting newspaper or Internet ads for too-good-to-be-true jobs and opportunities
- Threatening or abducting them or held in forcible confinement
- Connecting with them over social media
- Getting peers to recruit them in schools and shelters



Location of trafficking for sexual exploitation

Individuals can fall victim to sexual exploitation anywhere in Canada. Examples include:

- Hotels and motels
- Short-term vacation rentals
- Nightclubs, bars or escort services
- Massage parlours
- Online platforms
- Private residence

Location of trafficking for forced labour

Forced labour crimes can happen anywhere in Canada. Examples include:

- Non-unionized industries (i.e. textile industry, janitorial services, etc.)
- Restaurants
- Hotels or in the hospitality industry
- Commercial agriculture sites
- Construction sites
- Private residences

How can you help?

- Ensure all applicants for housing displaced Ukrainians undergo a criminal records check and a home inspection prior to family placement
- Learn the signs associated with someone being a victim of human trafficking
- Join/start an anti-trafficking network of service providers to strengthen local safety net/create pathways to service
- Raise awareness of human trafficking within your place of employment, schools, communities and at home
- Report any suspicious activities to your police of jurisdiction (they are there to help you!). Call 9-1-1 if there is an emergency to contact police, ambulance &/or fire fighters (i.e. severe injuries, &/or imminent danger of loss of life)
- Post the anonymous tip-line to report crimes at **Crime Stoppers** 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS)
- Learn about, share, and post the **Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline** number in your community:

1-833-900-1010

SPEAK OUT FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T!

Information provided by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's National Human Trafficking Section (NHTS) at Headquarters in Ottawa, Ontario.

For more information on human trafficking, please scan this code:



Please contact NHTS at NHTS-SNCTP@rcmp-grc.gc.ca if you would like a copy of the Newcomers Guide (available in multiple languages including Ukrainian, Arabic, English, French, Farsi, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Spanish, and Tagalog).

