

The Effect that Child Neglect has on the Trafficking of Minors: An exploration into  
the Gaps Between Victim Identification and Precursory Events

by

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## **Abstract**

Human trafficking is a global problem that takes many forms, making it difficult to identify. Published research has drawn a connection between children who suffer neglect by their care givers and children who are trafficked. This thesis will present an exploratory body of research that examines the screening tools from 20 states across the country. A qualitative study was conducted on all the screening tools to determine what tools are being used for both trafficking victim identification as well as establishment of victimization history. This research will present the importance screenings tools serving a dual purpose, by including prior victimization and victim services in addition to trafficking identification. Using a well-rounded screening tool allows investigators to obtain a full history of victimization, as well as establishing services needed, while limiting the number of times the victim must relive their trauma.

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## Chapter 1 – Introduction

What would you do to protect your children, your friends' children, and children you have never even met? What identification tools are needed to detect child neglect and human trafficking? Human trafficking and child neglect can be found in every community, regardless of the economic or social structure. According to the Administration for Children & Families (n.d), in the fiscal year of 2018, 3,534,000 (rounded number) investigations were conducted in the United States and of those investigations, 678,000 (rounded number) were found to be cases of maltreatment. The Administration for Children & Families goes on to explain that of the 678,000 cases of maltreatment found, 60.8% were cases of neglect, 10.7% were physical abuse and 7.0% were sexual abuse cases. Ohio is not exempt from child maltreatment. In 2018, Ohio had 3,746 substantiated cases of neglect according to the Children Services Dashboard for Ohio (Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, n.d).

While the rates of reported child neglect rates are easily accessible due to mandated reporting by children services and child advocacy agencies, the rates of minor trafficking are much harder to come by. The Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force (n.d), reports that from 2014-2018 Ohio had 2,090 human trafficking cases. Of those 2,090 cases, 719 were minors. However, the number of trafficking cases are likely much higher than these reports show. There are several issues with victim identification that will cause the number of cases that the state can report to not be accurate. Issues such as victims not participating in the investigation, lack of conformity in agency screenings tools and techniques, and screening tools that are not designed to be as effective as they could be just few potential issues in victim identification.

What is needed for law enforcement and social workers to identify human trafficking? How would knowing about prior maltreatment affect investigation techniques? This thesis will work to establish a link between child neglect and children being trafficked, thus giving responding personnel another tool to use in their day-to-day interactions with youths. The hypothesis of this research is that child neglect is a strong precursor to child trafficking based on Cohen and Felson's Routine Activity Theory. When you look at child neglect in terms of Routine Activities Theory, all three elements can be easily located. The elements that will be shown in this thesis are the lack of a capable guardian, the suitable target, and the motivated offender.

When children suffer from neglect, they are not being provided for or properly supervised by their parents/guardians (capable guardian), it leaves them with physical and emotional needs they may try and fill themselves. These factors make the child extremely vulnerable (suitable target) to traffickers (motivated offenders). Traffickers use the child's lack of basic needs as well as lacking a sense of family to bond with them. They offer love and, a safe place to sleep as well as food and clothing to children who may have never know a stable source for any of these.

One problem with this research is the lack of data where child trafficking is involved. While child trafficking is a crime that we hear about often in the media, as stated in the introduction of this thesis, the laws against child trafficking are still new and evolving. Conversely, child neglect laws have been in existence much longer and have been thoroughly researched. The research presented in chapter two shows that child neglect can be a strong indicator for children being trafficked. This thesis will explore the tools currently used to identify trafficking victims as well as the tools used to identify child neglect.

Human trafficking of minors was defined by Latzman, et. al, (2018) as “the exploitation of minors for forced labor or commercial sex” (p. 113). The lack of human trafficking information was a barrier to data collection, but it also provided an opportunity to use the framework of Routine Activity Theory to examine existing data collection methodologies and offer suggestions for improvement. The researcher understands that the human trafficking numbers available are difficult to come by, due to the need to protect ongoing investigations and a lack of conformity in reporting requirements. Any information that can be collected is needed for the continued understanding of human trafficking. In addition to the positive data that can be found, the profound lack of critical data is also crucial to pushing for more funding and research into human trafficking.

A possible issue with this is the number of cases that are not classified as trafficking when charges are filed or the outcome of court proceedings. In the preliminary research, the researcher spoke with A. Victory (personal communication, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020) of Collaborative to End Human Trafficking. She explained that there are no tax allocations for human trafficking. A.Victory went on to explain that the money that is designated for this research comes from the traffickers that they are able to convict of trafficking. If a trafficker is not convicted for trafficking crimes, then their seized assets do not go to help funding human trafficking programs.

The researcher discovered that human trafficking numbers were almost non-existent and those that were located, do not reflect the amount of estimated affected persons. The National Human Trafficking Hotline tracks the number of reported cases nationally by state. These numbers are just reported cases, and the hotline does not report the number of confirmed cases. For this thesis, the research will explore the tools used to identify victims of trafficking for 20 states across the country. These

identification tools will be compared to see what common factors are explored when trying to identify a trafficking victim, what factors vary from state to state and published research regarding effective trafficking tool development.

The researcher will present published data in chapter two to show the prevalence of child neglect in trafficking victims. Due to this, the researcher expects to see screening questions that address prior victimization. Having child neglect screening items included on screening tools adds to the body of data that is needed to understand part of what leads to children being trafficked. The events that lead to the trafficking are just as important to identify as trafficking overall because it will help put policies in place for additional supports to help potentially prevent trafficking. If precursory events to trafficking cases are not investigated, then agencies do not have the data they need to try to prevent the crime in the future.

The goal of this thesis is to find commonalities as well as differences within the tools and determine if maltreatment history is being explored for potential trafficking victims. The pathways that lead to a victim being trafficked is also a vital piece in their recovery. Not all child trafficking victims are snatched out of their bed at night, in fact that could be the minority of cases. The researcher feels that there are precursors to a child being trafficked and that child neglect, due to Routine Activities Theory, is a solid indicator.

In the following chapter, literature will be presented that supports the researcher's hypothesis. Research to be covered will be factors that cause child neglect as well as factors leading to minors becoming engaged in human trafficking. The body of research that has been reviewed was conducted in different states. The researcher will also outline the impact that the research being presented had on the thesis.

## **Chapter 2 – Literature Review**



## **Human Trafficking**

The researcher will use the term “trafficker” to identify any person who knowingly exploits a child. This will include parents, legal guardians, foster parent as well as people who do not have legal custody of the child (including but not limited to strangers and community members). Because traffickers take many forms, the researcher will use “trafficker” in broad terms.

When people hear the term human trafficking, the type of victimization that comes to mind is sexual exploitation. While this is the most thought of type of trafficking, it is not the only one. Labor trafficking is also a problem facing those who work to fight the global trafficking problem. In their published work that can be found in electronic form (2010) and as a book (2013), researchers Hepburn and Simon looked at human trafficking on a global level and focused most of their research on labor trafficking. The researchers report that “there are 12.3 million victims of forced labor and sexual exploitation worldwide at any given time,” (Hepburn & Simon, 2010, p.2).

One event that drew a large amount of labor trafficking in the United States was Hurricane Katrina. When this disaster struck, traffickers saw an opportunity to bring in trafficked person to work on the cleanup and rebuilding of New Orleans: “In August 2005 the traffickers brought the victims to the United States with temporary H-2A visas. Upon arrival, armed guards confiscated the victim’s return tickets, visas, and passports,” (Hepburn & Simon, 2013, p. 18). These victims were brought in from other countries and forced to work long hours and lived in dangerous conditions.

Debt bondage is one of the key factors that was reported by the researchers for both sex trafficking as well as labor trafficking. The concept of debt bondage can be explained simply as the traffickers pay to transport victims to other countries with the

promise of good paying jobs, but when the victims reach their destinations, they find themselves in deplorable conditions and heavily indebted to their traffickers. These victims must then work to pay back the debt they owe to their traffickers in addition to the costs of living that the traffickers levy against them.

The breakdown of labor trafficking as explained by Hepburn and Simon is reported as, 56% women and girls and 44% men and boys. It is also estimated by the researchers that labor trafficking is a \$44.3 billion industry globally. The authors cite child labor trafficking impacts U.S children as follows “the Child Labor Coalition estimates that 5.5 million U.S. children between ages 12 and 17 are employed,” (Hepburn & Simon, 2013, p. 25). They go on to explain that these children are working in unsafe conditions and unsuitable hours. The businesses employing these at-risk youth range from farms to retail companies.

Human trafficking will be the first aspect to be explored by the researcher. To give a background of the law, the researcher will present the literature found regarding human trafficking law. Even though the first laws on human trafficking were not enacted until 2000, the body of research regarding human trafficking is vast. Before human trafficking laws were enacted, sexual slavery was not seen as an involuntary act or victimization, even when minors were involved. Women At Risk (WAR) International explains that when it became apparent that children were being sold into sexual slavery, it sparked the beginning of what is now known as the human trafficking of minors.

In the article released by WAR International (2018) it is shown how the beginning of the movement to criminalize the sexual exploitation of minors happened starting in the 1880's when the age of consent was increased from age 10 to age 16. There were still no laws regarding sexual exploitation until 1910 when the MANN act

was enacted. This law was aimed at combating “forced prostitution and transportation of women from state to state,” (WAR International, 2018, para. 5). WAR International goes on to explain that with the start of child pornography in the 1970’s, “the Mann Act was amended to protect male and female minors from sexual exploitation, “(para. 5). The evaluation of the Mann Act continued in 1986 when it began linking criminal charges for the sex acts involving a minor. In 1994, the Mann act was amended again, this time making it illegal to transport anyone under the age of 18 for sexual exploitation. The first human trafficking law not passed until 2000 when the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act (TVPA) came into being.

The TVPA started the fight against human trafficking as we know it today and, is the first law to not only criminalize sexual exploitation but start to focus on the prevention of the crime. The authors explain the difference between the acts as, “while the Mann Act needs proof of transportation across state lines, TVPA needs no such evidence of trafficking,” (WAR International, 2018, para 10). The TVPA was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Bill Clinton on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2000. Logan et. al (2009) states that the definition of human trafficking according to the TVPA is:

- (a) the recruitment, harboring, transporting, supplying, or obtaining a person for labor services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of involuntary servitude or slavery: or (b) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud or coercion, or in which the person induced to preform sex acts is under 18 years of age. (p. 4)

The TVPA set the stage for trafficking laws in the United states and defined the acts that the law constitutes as criminal. In addition, the TVPA gives states a foundation to develop their trafficking laws off of.

While the TVPA was passed in 2000, Ohio did not have anti-trafficking legislation. This was until 2012, when then Governor John Kasich signed House Bill 262, the Safe Harbor Act. Ohio Right to Life (2012) states in their article announcing House Bill 262's signing:

This law implements a victim-centered approach to human trafficking in Ohio by protecting minor victims from prosecution and diverting them to treatment and allowing seized assets of convicted traffickers to create a fund to help the victims. The Safe Harbor Act will increase penalties for trafficking to a first-degree felony with a mandatory prison term of up to fifteen years, and poses customers with a possible felony charge for knowingly paying for sex with a minor. (para. 1)

When looking at the prevalence of human trafficking in Ohio as compared to other states, the National Human trafficking Hotline puts Ohio anywhere from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> (depending on the year) in the number of reported cases in the nation. Again, these are reported cases, not substantiated case. The trafficking hotline is not a reliable source for reported cases involving children due to the reporter not knowing the age of the victim.

According to *Ohio Population (2020)*, Ohio is the 7<sup>th</sup> most populated state in the national while being the 34<sup>th</sup> largest in geographical size. This same website also put Ohio 6<sup>th</sup> in the nation for human trafficking reports with 3.83 cases per 100,000 people in 2019. This website cites the Nation Human Trafficking Hotline as their source of information. As listed above, the Trafficking in Persons report also uses the hotline numbers when compiling the data for their report. With Ohio has one of the highest rates of reported human trafficking cases in the United States, more research is needed to find ways to fight this crime and safeguard the children in the state.

Logan et. al's (2009) work set a framework for outlining the basics of human trafficking. They explain that human trafficking is a lucrative crime because "traffickers gain fees charged to the trafficked victim as well as from the profits from the victim's labor," (Logan et. al, 2009, pg.5). With such a large income base and being difficult to identify by law enforcement, it is easy to see why traffickers choose this avenue for their crimes. Due to "lack of identification, prosecution, and sentencing of perpetrators for trafficking in humans make this kind of crime particularly profitable and low risk for the trafficker," (Logan et. al, 2009, p. 6).

The research listed above explains that there are three main ways to be engaged in trafficking and those are "(a) born into slavery: (b) kidnapped, or physically forced; or (c) tricked," (Logan et. al, 2009, p. 11). When we look at these reasons, it is easy to see how children can be prime targets. Children who are abused and neglected at home are, in the researcher's opinion, missing the physical and emotional needs to feel safe and supported. Should these children's paths cross with a trafficker, it would be easy to lure the children in with promises of a loving home and basic needs being met.

In addition to the ease of trafficking a child, once trafficked, the child will have to overcome many barriers to exit their trafficking. Some of the barriers that the child will need to overcome were presented in the 2015 work by Yvonne Rafferty. Rafferty listed several factors that prevent the child from leaving their situation. First, the issue presented is the child not identifying themselves as a victim due to the youth agreeing "to sell or exchange sex as a favor for a romantic partner (e.g. to help boyfriend pay bills), for financial reasons (e.g. a girl engaged in prostitution without a pimp), or for her own benefit or survival, (e.g., food, shelter, clothing)," (Rafferty, 2015, p. 163). Two other barriers faced by child victims listed by Rafferty were the

child not being able to support themselves without the income earned by being trafficked in addition to a non-stable family situation.

These factors support the need to provide victims with services that allow them to support themselves and live in a safe environment. These services are extremely difficult when dealing with minors as they are not old enough to qualify for benefits afforded to adult. In addition to services, information regarding a child's maltreatment history at home is also important. If the child was neglect while living with their family, returning them to their family may only lead to the child becoming trafficked again.

The four main reasons outlined by the researchers for victims to remain involved with human trafficking are "(a) fear, (b) lack of knowledge about alternatives, (c) isolation and (d) physical and psychological confinement," (Logan et. al, 2009, p. 13). The first step to helping these victims transition out of trafficking is to be identified as victims of trafficking. Once victims are identified they need numerous resources ranging from counseling, safe shelter and, in some cases, basic education so that victims can find employment to support themselves. The researchers explain that "because many service agencies do not understand human trafficking crimes as well as other crimes, services for human trafficking victims are harder to obtain," (Logan et. al, 2009, p. 18).

This article sets the stage for the problems that are faced with human trafficking as well as some of the struggles in overcoming barriers for victim identification. The researchers suggest the following to help effectively combat trafficking are "(a) training, education, and protocols; (b) services and outreach; (c) legal protections; and (d) research," (Logan et. al, 2009, p. 20).

Sexual exploitation is a huge problem, and the authors explain that the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services and Immigration estimate that, “there are 2 million children enslaved worldwide in the commercial sex trade,” (Hepburn & Simon, 2013, p. 26). They also estimate that “U.S. citizens make up 25 percent of child-sex tourists globally and up to 80 percent of child-sex tourists in Latin America,” (Hepburn & Simon, 2013, p. 26). How do these children enter sex and labor trafficking and why are they not able to get out of the cycle of victimization? The researchers cite debt bondage as the main cause of trafficking in the United States.

In terms of debt bonding in sex trafficking, the researchers give the example of women who are forced into the sex trade. These women start their victimization owing their traffickers \$2,000. To repay their traffickers, they

earn \$3 per ‘trick’, which they never actually received as they were told that their earning went toward paying off their \$2,000 per person transfer fee. To put some perspective on the situation – each woman would need to have sex with ~ 667 men before they could eliminate their debt. Additionally, the traffickers charged the women room and board, as well as other miscellaneous fees, further indebting them, (Hepburn & Simon, 2010, p. 5).

Now that the history of human trafficking and the basic concepts behind the crime have been established the research that has been examined for this thesis will be explained and tied into why it is being used for the thesis itself. The researcher will now outline the factors of child neglect and support these factors with published research.

## **Neglect**

This section will look at published literature that explains what child neglect is as well as the case studies that have been completed regarding the effects that neglect

plays in child trafficking. Some of the following pieces of research will show that child neglect is the most common form of maltreatment that is found in child trafficking victims, but some will show that other forms of maltreatment are found at higher rates. While the thesis is focused on child neglect, the researcher feels all type of maltreatment should be explored at trafficking screening. Literature will also be presented that explains the rates of child trafficking found in children who ran away from foster care.

The federal government's definition of child abuse and neglect was found on the Administration for Children and Families website (n.d) as:

The Federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) (42 U.S.C.A. § 5106g), as amended by the CAPTA Reauthorization Act of 2010, defines child abuse and neglect as, at minimum:

Any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation; or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm.

This outlines the acts that are included under the umbrella of child abuse and neglect.

The researcher will use the term maltreatment in thesis to include all acts listed in the government's definition above.

Reid et. al (2017) explore what factors cause a child to be trafficked in Florida from 2009-2015. The authors used adverse childhood experience (ACEs) to explain what lead youths into trafficking. Their research also utilized the number of cases reported to the Florida Abuse Hotline from 2009-2015. Reid et.al noted that "Between



2009 and 2015, the hotline made, and accepted abuse reports related to human trafficking involving 3,698 children,” (p. 4).

This research explored risk factors that lead to human trafficking but were unable to find one that was more prevalent than child abuse/neglect. “More specifically, ACEs indicative of child maltreatment-emotional abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional neglect, physical neglect, and family violence-were all more prevalent among youths who had trafficking reports,” (Reid et. al, 2017, p. 7). This research found a difference in causality between males and females. Reid et. al 2017 explains the differences in males and females where causality is concerned. The authors explain that “among boys, only emotional abuse and sexual abuse were significantly associated with trafficking,” (Reid et al, 2017, p. 8). However, “for girls, the impact of neglect on human trafficking also confirms previous research regarding the role of emotional and physical neglect in victimization,” (Reid et. al, 2017, p. 10).

A second body of research completed in Florida between 2010 and 2016 was conducted by Gibbs et. al in 2017. Gibbs et. al researched child maltreatment’s effect on human trafficking rates in Florida. The researchers explored the types of child maltreatment minor trafficking victims experienced before their engagement in human trafficking. All types of maltreatment were examined, and childhood neglect was found to be the highest indicator in those who were involved in human trafficking in this research.

Gibs et al’s 2017 work shows that child neglect was found in 82.4% of youths investigated. Other types of maltreatment found were physical abuse 64.6%, sexual abuse 40.6% and physical abuse 27.9%. This article supports the thesis’ theory that child neglect is a solid precursor of minor involvement in human trafficking. The researchers found that “children with trafficking allegations were more than twice as

likely as those without to have experienced prior maltreatment, with the greatest disparity found for sexual abuse. However, we found a negative association between trafficking allegations and sexual abuse alone,” (Gibbs et. Al, 2017, p. 7).

Latzman et. al (2018) explored youths in the Florida foster care system who have run away from placement at least once between 2011 and 2017. This research explored episodes of youths fleeing their foster placements, the trauma they suffered either in placement or before placement and the number of incidents of running away from foster placements. The researchers examined the rate of incidents of human trafficking that victims faced while they were in runaway status from their foster homes. The research sample consisted of 36,997 children ages 10 years old and up in Florida from 2011 and 2017 who have run away from their placement at least once. The authors were attempting to determine what factors caused a youth to leave their foster placement and how many of the youths that fled had human trafficking allegations.

Of the data presented for maltreatment related to youths in foster care with or without a episode of running away prior to their first runaway episode, child neglect was found in 94.4% of all youths in the foster system. The authors also report that of these runaways, 95.7% of the youths had at least one human trafficking allegation during their runaway incident (Latzman et. al, 2018, Table 1, p. 118). The other types of maltreatment of children in foster care with at least one episode of running away from foster care are physical abuse 73.8%, psychological abuse 35.6%, and sexual abuse 35.6% (Latzman et. al, 2018, Table 1, p. 118). Neglect was the most prevalent type of maltreatment experienced by youths after their first run away incident. The study found that 43.3% of cases with at least one runaway episode and 55.9% of the

youth with at least one human trafficking allegation also had a history of neglect, (Latzman et. al, 2018, Table 1, p. 118).

The final point of information from this piece of research was the rate of human trafficking allegations “of all foster care runaway episodes, 1.3% (n = 742) were associated with a human trafficking allegation,” (Lutzman et. al, 2018, p. 119). This research supports this thesis’ focus on child neglect being a potential risk factor for minors being trafficked, but not necessarily the link between foster care run away episodes and human trafficking engagement.

Havlicek et. al (2016)’s examined child trafficking in Illinois between 2011 and 2015 and involved 563 trafficking allegations. The allegations were taken from the four regions in Illinois to keep population size from effecting the results. The researchers started their work by gathering cases of “allegations of maltreatment between FY 2012 and FY 2015,” (Havlicek et. al 2016, p. 130). After these numbers were obtained, the Child Abuse and Neglect Tracking System (CANTS) “was used to identify any child under the age of 21 with an investigated allegation of human trafficking from July1, 2011 and to June 30, 2015,” (Havlicek et. al, 2016, p. 130).

There were two types of allegations in the CANTS system, allegations 40 and 90. Allegation 40 “involves abuse, including labor exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation such as prostitution, or production of pornography or sexually explicit performance,” (Havlicek et. al, 2016, p. 130). CANTS allegation 90 “includes incidents involving neglect or any blatant disregard of a caregiver’s responsibilities that resulted in a child or youth being trafficked,” (Havlicek et. al, 2016, p. 130).

They found that 85.7% of the cases they researched were associated with allegation 40 while 21.0% of cases were associated with allegation 90, and finally, 6.7% of the cases were found to have both allegations associated. To explain these

findings a little further, the abuse allegation (allegation 40) was found in 21.0% of the cases, the term abuse is being used to include all types of abuse (physical, sexual, emotional). Due to this allegation encompassing more forms of maltreatment, it makes sense these cases would have a higher percentage than the neglect allegation (allegation 90) because it only pertains to one type of maltreatment.

The reported results where types of maltreatment categories showed that the most prevalent type of maltreatment was neglect with 74.8% of cases. The other types of maltreatment were found in Havlicek et. al, 2016 at the following rates: sexual abuse (41.3%), physical abuse (52.4%) and risk of harm (72.8%). This study is another support for this thesis's theory that child neglect is a solid indicator or potential human trafficking involvement.

In addition to examining the children that were victimized, the researchers also explored the type of perpetrators. The researchers explained that CANTS identified 31 types of perpetrators. In order to streamline their research, they grouped all of the types "into 7 groups: 1) parents, 2) step-parent or paramour, 3) relatives, 4) substitute care, 5) community, 6) other and 7) unknown," (Havlicek et. al, 2016, p. 131). The following results were found for all the above listed perpetrators for all types of maltreatment: 1) parent (73.9%), 2) step-parent or paramour (9.5%), 3) relative (9.8%), 4) substitute care (1.2%), 5) community (2.4%), 6) other (2.4%) and 7) unknown (0.7%) (Havlicke et al, 2016, table 2, p. 132).

The WestCoast Children's Clinic in California conducted research on sexually exploited minors (SEM) in 2012. Once completed, they released "Research to action: Sexually exploited minors (SEM) needs and strengths." Their research was conducted with 113 youths that were receiving services at WestCoast Children's Clinic and other community partners from December 2010 and March 2012. They were looking at

children who were being sexually exploited, what caused the victimization, and what services were needed to help these youths overcome their victimization. They first looked at the victim's history of trauma and abuse. The authors found that "many youths do not want to disclose past experiences right away," (Basson et.al, 2012, p. 7). Once the youths opened up to the researchers, it was found that 75% reported maltreatment, "including severe or repeated episodes of neglect (56%), sexual abuse (53%), emotional abuse (53%), physical abuse (52%), and family violence (39%)," (Basson et. al, 2012, p. 7).

The researchers found that at risk youths are lacking both basic physical needs as well as emotional needs. Basson et. al (2012) report that "lack of food, shelter, safety, and love leaves children and youth especially vulnerable to varying degrees of coercion, intimidation and grooming for exploitation on the part of their exploiters," (p. 8). This statement is a support of child neglect being a strong risk factor to minors being trafficked. When the child is not provided with basic physical and emotional needs, they may seek to fill those needs outside of the home, thus making them easy targets for traffickers.

This theory is further supported by this research as they go on to explain that "emotional immaturity and desire for positive adult attention leaves these youths subject to manipulation," (Basson et. al, 2012, p. 11). The traffickers use this need for adult attention to bond the youth to them. The study found that "twenty four percent of youth in our study exhibit Stockholm syndrome, and 11% of all actively protect their exploiter from accusations of exploitation," (Basson et. al, 2012, p. 11).

The authors identify the problems that victims defending their exploiters plays in helping them end the cycle of abuse. They further outline the resources that the victims need to move out of their exploitative situation. Ultimately, these authors

focus on the need of therapy to help the victims more toward a lower risk lifestyle. They document the need for not only therapy, but education and basic medical attention. Each need was listed as follows: 12% suffering from medical issues, 31% have issues with sleep problems and 50% are either not attending school or making little progress when they do attend (Basson et. al, 2012, p. 13). They go on to list the progress the victims made within 6 months of therapy. Victims showed improvement in the following area with therapy: 50% saw improved sleep, 29% had improved health management, 51% improved their school behavior, 30% improved their attendance and 29% made more school achievements, (Basson et. al, 2012, p. 13).

Educational barriers were explored by Van Wert et. al. in their 2017 study that explored the hazards of children not meeting educational benchmarks and the factors that lead to the educational failures. Van Wert et al. list the parent's neglect in their children's education as a form of child maltreatment. They go on to state that, the effect of educational neglect is a long-term problem for the child. The authors report that the indicators for educational neglect are "school absences, particularly when chronic, are associated with children's mental health issues, homelessness, substance abuse, crime, and lack of basic necessities," (Van Wert, et. al, 2017, p. 50).

The researchers defined educational neglect for young children as "lack of parental involvement in learning and literacy activities, such as learning the alphabet, number colors, shapes, as well as reading to children," (Van Wert et. al, 2017, p. 51). The educational neglect in young children creates a long-term problem with their ability to learn and meet educational markers. When children miss the foundational educational blocks, they will have a more difficult time successfully completing basic education. Child welfare systems must intervene when these issues are seen by teachers and faculty. The authors found that "school attendance, especially among

younger children, has been shown to improve following the involvement of child welfare system for educational neglect,” (Van Wert et. al, 2017, p.58).

The number of children affected in the United States was listed as “approximately 4.9 per 1,00 children in the United States have experienced educational neglect according to the latest available statistics, and there was no significant change in the rates of educational neglect in the United States over time from 1986 to 2006,” (Van Wert et. al, 2017, p. 51). The age ranges that were examine were broken down to age groups 4-7, 8-11, and 12-15. The largest age group where educational neglect was found, was the 12-15 years age group. They made up 43% of the subjects. Age group 4-7 years of age had 38% of the educational neglect cases, and finally age group 8-11 represented 19% of educational neglect cases. They found that the gender of children was not an indicator of educational neglect.

While not requiring a child to attend school may seem harmless to a parent, the basic education that they miss opens the door for a wide variety of problems for their future. If a child does not complete High School, the wage that they can earn is not typically a livable wage. A livable/living wage is defined by Merriam-Webster (n.d.) as a “subsistence wage” or a “wage sufficient to provide the necessities and comforts essential to an acceptable standard of living.” A person that cannot support themselves by normal means could turn to income sources that are not legal or safe. The authors state that “with no source of income and lack of education needed to secure gainful employment, youths were unable to secure basic necessities and thus became vulnerable to sex work recruitment,” (Decoux et. al, 2020, p.62).

In addition to the employment barriers created by lack of education, parents that do not supervise their child, leaves them vulnerable to exploitation. When a child is not regularly in school, the chances of other types of maltreatment being detected is

limited and thus intervention is stunted leaving the child subject further abuse or neglect. For these reasons, this article supports the thesis' ideas of what causes a child to be trafficked and the effect that neglect plays in trafficking.

DeCoux et. al's 2020 work looked at youths who lacked proper adult supervision and what factors this creates in the youths being sexually exploited. Where neglect is concerned, researchers found that "even when basic needs were met, lack of an attentive adult was described as a contributing factor to commercial sexual exploitation involvement," (Decoux et al., 2020, p. 62). This research supports the use of Routine Activities Theory for this thesis. Not sending a child to school regularly and not monitoring their child (lack of a capable guardian) leaves the child (suitable target) vulnerable to those who would exploit them (motivated offenders).

Some positive factors that were found are victims filling the void of family with others engaged in sex work and learning how to be situationally aware and minimize self-risk. While these do not seem like much, the youths were able to forge relationships and develop coping strategies to deal with their situation. These positive factors also demonstrate the youth's ability to learn. Decoux et. al.'s 2020 work also lists the importance of getting these youths to complete basic education as a key factor of getting them out of sex work. To give the victims the ability to focus on school and finding employment, they must be placed into a safe environment and given funds to support themselves in a legal manner.

### **Victim Identification**

One common problem found throughout that literature review regarding human trafficking research is the ability to identify victims. This researcher completed research on victim identification specifically to determine what the underlying issues were. Authors Hartinger-Saunders et. al (2017) explored how knowledgeable



mandated reports were with sex trafficking. Their study was completed by sending surveys to 577 mandated reporters in the United states. The survey was initially set to 665 persons, but 88 of those chose to not participate in the survey.

Mandated reporters were defined as “social workers, medical professionals, dentists, school personnel, law enforcement officials, mental health professionals, childcare providers, child services organization personnel, as well as these organizations’ volunteers and student interns,” (Hartinger-Saunders, et al, 2017, p. 196). The professionals that were represented in the study were “either school (56.6%) or health care professionals (13.2%),” (Hartinger-Saunders, et al, 2017, p. 198).

The author’s goals were to determine what causes mandated reports to report suspected cases of sex trafficking, how mandated reporters are seen, how knowledgeable the reporters were on their state reporting policies, and the views of minor sex trafficking. Hartinger-Saunders et al (2017)’s results showed that mandated reports would definitely report a suspicion of a minor being raped (98.1%), being sexually exploited by a family member (96.6%), and a minor being trafficked for sex in other location (95.5%). The respondents chose the following reasons that their reporting would depend on the situation where minors were “exchanging sex for money, shelter or food (10.3%); being in pornographic images or videos (12.4%); being pressured be a peer to exchange sex for money or goods (17.9%); or working at a strip club (18.5%),” (Hartinger-Saunders et al, 2017, p. 199).

The survey asked the participants if they knew their requirements if they suspected a potential sex trafficking victim. An encouraging number of respondents (83%) reported that they aware of their requirements and 13% reported they were not sure of their state policy. The participants were also asked how confident they were in the effectiveness of their duties as a mandated reported. The survey results showed

that “only one third (34.9%) believed it was *usually effective*. More than half of the mandated reporters in the sample (56.7% said that reporting was only *sometimes effective*, and 7.4% believed it was *rarely effective*,” (Hartinger-Saunders et al, 2017, p. 200).

The more a mandated reporter reports suspects abuse, and no actions are taken, the more discouraged they may become. It is vital that mandated reporters are well trained in policies as well as the signs of trafficking to identify abuse and trafficking quickly so that victims can be given the resources, they need to permanently exit their victimization.

Medical professionals are key players in victim identification. It was stated in previous research that, trafficking victims had many medical needs that were neglected while involved with trafficking. When a victim is taken to a doctor for treatment, the doctor needs to be knowledgeable in the signs of trafficking because they may only have one chance to step in and help. Titchen, et. al’s work was published in 2015 and researched the level of knowledge of the physicians and medical students in human trafficking.

The authors used a survey to gauge the knowledge levels of physicians and medical students. The authors survey had a 99.2%, 1694 participants, response rate and those that responded:

“386 (22.8%) were practicing physicians, 92 (5.4%) were fellows, 744 (44.0%) were residents (512 [68.8%] pediatric) and 462 (25.1%) were medical students. Forty-six (2.7%) “other” respondents included nurses, physician assistants, physical therapists, premedical students, social workers, speech therapists, and researchers,” (Titchen et al, 2015, p. 103).

This shows that the authors engaged a wide range of medical professionals for their study. This is important because, there is a wide variety of professions that may meet a victim while they are trafficked.

When the participants were asked the importance of them to know about human trafficking, “physicians in community clinic and group practice types (94.7% and 92.1%) were more likely to agree or agree strongly than physicians in other settings,” (Titchen et al 2015, p. 104). All physicians should know the importance of human trafficking identification, as stated before, trafficking victims are not seen regularly by a doctor and when they are taken for treatment it is vital for doctors to understand this crime and be able to identify a victim when they encounter one.

Only 13.7% of doctors that participated in the survey reported having ever suspected that one of their patients may have been involved in human trafficking. When a doctor encounters a patient that they suspect of being involved in trafficking, do they know what resources are available and what actions to take? This study asked this question in their survey and found that “physicians with more than 20 practice years agreed more frequently (51.1%) than all others...; attending physicians agreed more frequently than residents and medical student,” (Titchen et. al, 2015, p. 105).

This research showed that physicians need to be trained on human trafficking and be able to identify victims when they encounter them. The researchers stated in their discussion that “because aspects of human sex trafficking parallel domestic violence, child abuse, and substance addiction, these are issues that an experienced physician in any specialty is likely to have encountered during practice or for which an experienced physician is likely to have received additional continuing medical education or professional training,” (Titchen et al, 2015, p. 107). Human trafficking training needs to be part of continuing education for medical professionals as this

crime is relatively new when compared to typical child abuse and neglect. As more information is found regarding this topic, medical professions need updating training, as do all mandated reporters.

In addition to the need for doctors to be fully trained on trafficking, nurses also need to be just as aware. In Long and Dowdell's 2018 research, they interviewed 10 nurses employed in emergency rooms. "Each interview consisted of 12 open ended questions (Figure 1) that asked emergency room nurses about their experiences in caring for victims of human trafficking prostitution and violence," (Long & Dowdell, 2018, p. 378).

When asked if the nurses had ever screened a patient for human trafficking, "none of the nurses interviewed had ever screened, identified, or knowingly treated a human trafficking victim," (Long and Dowdell, 2018, p. 378). While the nurses reported no formal training in human trafficking, they did state that they were trained in identifying interpersonal violence. While the nurses are honest about the lack of trafficking education, they all expressed the desire for more training on proper resources and effective treatment of victims. Because trafficking victims do not identify themselves as victims when interviewed, it is important for nurses and doctors to be trained to spot the signs.

The traffickers will be most likely be present during treatment of the victim. While the abuser in a normal interpersonal violence situation is a "controlling, over bearing man," (Long & Dowdell, 2018, p. 381) in cases of human trafficking, "human traffickers are experts at manipulating people, and are often present as charismatic, concerned boyfriends, community leaders, or family members," (Long & Dowdell, 2018, p. 381). This study confirms the needs for better education of our health care

professionals to not only know the signs of trafficking but being trained on the right questions to ask to confirm at risk victims.

Rafferty (2015) addressed the barrier that investigators face when won't participate with their investigation. Rafferty explains that lack of training of those who meet victims is a large problem. This has been explored in the last several bodies of research addressed in this literature. This research contains a wealth of information regarding the problems that reporters found of victim self-identification.

The first child-related barrier that Rafferty found was the psychological barriers. "Traffickers use a variety of coercive methods designed to destroy their hostages' physical and psychological defenses, create dependency, and limit chances for escape," (Rafferty, 2015, p. 162). There are three main psychological barriers are listed in this section and they were trauma bonding, fear/lack of trust, and inhibited by shame/stigma.

Trauma bonding is used by traffickers creating a Stockholm like effect with the victim. The trafficker removes the child's feeling of safety and belonging by taking them from their environment and making the child completely dependent on them for their basic needs and for supply of addictive drugs. The trafficker achieves this by "identifying gaps caused by family dysfunction or past sexual abuse, traffickers can strategically provide safety, security, love and belonging to establish a trauma bond and keeping the child vulnerable to the trafficker as a provider," (Rafferty, 2015, p.163). The basis of child neglect is the lack of basic physical and emotional needs. If a child does not have love, support, and basic needs, they are more susceptible to a trafficker using this to bond the child to them.

Fear/lack of trust to escape from the situation is another barrier that trafficked children face. "Children who have been physically, sexually, and psychologically

abused are often fearful to talk about their experiences because they have withdrawn emotionally, and compartmentalized their pain, in order to function in the face of their trauma,” (Rafferty, 2015, p. 162). These children fear for not only their safety but also for their family. Traffickers threaten violence or even death to the children or the families to keep them from seeking help or escape. In addition to the fear of the traffickers, the children often do not trust law enforcement to help them. “Almost all respondents reported very negative and even violent encounters in their day-to-day dealings with police,” (Rafferty, 2015, p. 162). This shows a need for a shift in how child victims are viewed by law enforcement officers. Due to their age, child victims are not old enough to consent, police need to be trained more in trafficking to stop seeing child victims as criminals and see them as victims in need of rescue. Safe Harbor Laws can help with this.

The third psychological barrier is inhibition due to shame or stigma. When the child is victimized by traffickers and can leave the situation, they can be further victimized by society’s views. “Some victims feel shameful about their experiences which also lead to remorse, regret, hopelessness, worthlessness, fear of stigma and family dishonor and self-blame,” (Rafferty, 2015, p. 162). These feelings can lead to the child feeling unworthy of love and, in effect, prevent them from leaving their situation. Traffickers make their victims believe they are not worthy of love and that they are the only ones that will ever love them. This creates further trauma bonding between the trafficker in the victim.

Rafferty also explained the problems presented when a child wants neither saved nor identified as a victim. Three factors are used to explain these barriers: 1) they do not see themselves as a victim, 2) they have no way to support themselves without their trafficker, and 3) continued risks in their family. “Some children do not

feel that the terminology of ‘trafficking victim’ applies to their situation,” (Rafferty, 2015, p. 163). Due to the child knowingly entering trafficking to survive they do not identify as a victim. Safe Harbor Laws can help with this as it defines minors in prostitution as victims as they are not old enough for legal consent, so regardless of why or how the child entered trafficking, they are not at fault for their prostitution acts.

Another barrier this research explains is victims choosing to not leave their situation due to continued lack of financial stability. Rafferty (2015) is quoted as stating, “although 87.2% of minors engaged in prostitution in the United States reported wanting to stop, none of them stated that a controlling pimp was their reason for staying,” (p. 163). This factor further supports that need to give victims the resources and support they need. These victims need a way to support themselves in a legal manner. Resources such as education, housing assistance as well as physical and mental health assistance can put the victim in a better place to find a way to permanently exit victimization.

The final barrier Rafferty outlines are risk factors when returning to their families and communities after exiting trafficking. Rafferty sites the work of Klatt, Cavner & Egan (2014) where it was “found that 25% of the children and young adults (12-26) in their study had family or friends who were involved in their trafficking,” (Rafferty, 2015, p. 163). In addition to family playing an active role in the child’s trafficking, abuse and neglect within the home may have also led to the victim running away and thus becoming engaged in trafficking. Throughout Rafferty’s work, this researcher found support for the thesis. When a child is abused or neglected, they are more susceptible to trafficking manipulation tactics. In addition, when the child does

not have a safe environment to return to, they are more likely to stay in their situation due to their basic needs being met even though they are still being abused.

During the literature review for this thesis, this researcher continued to see the need for a shift in how minor trafficking is viewed but also what resources are needed to give the victims a chance to permanently exit their trafficking. Gibbs et. al (2015) examined some of the resources available to minor trafficking victims. The research was conducted using “an evaluation of three programs funded by the Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) at the U.S. Department of Justice,” (Gibbs et. al, 2015, p.2). They looked at “the characteristics of minor trafficking victims, and their service needs, documenting services delivered and understanding programs’ experiences with service delivery,” (Gibbs et. al, 2015, p. 2). The three programs that were evaluated were Standing against Global Exploitation Everywhere (SAGE), Salvation Army Trafficking Outreach Program and Intervention Techniques (STOP-IT) and the Streetwork Project at Safer Horizon.

All three programs were required to offer the following resources “housing; physical, mental, and dental health; criminal justice advocacy; specialized educational services; and transportation,” (Gibbs et. al, 2015, p. 2). All of the required services listed above have been identified in previous research listed in this literature review. The study revealed that the most common resource needed at program intake was crisis intervention with 91%. This is understandable due to the research done by Rafferty (2015) who listed the barriers to victim identification. The victim needs help understanding that they are, in fact, a victim and can leave their situation. Safety planning, with 84% of the victims identifying this need, will help understanding where to go when they need help to keep them from falling back into victimization.



Gibbs et. al (2015) identified the following additional needs after crisis intervention and safety planning: food and clothing (74% of total victims), educational support (74% of total victims), mental health services (68% of total victims), long term housing (62% of total victims), employment/vocational support (62% of total victims), and medical care (27% of total victims). Providing victims with their immediate needs' builds trust with the program case managers and allows the victims to retake control of their circumstances.

While resources are available at intake, minors pose a unique problem for receiving them. Because "many housing and benefit programs are restricted to adults, and youths may avoid other service resources out of fear of child welfare involvement," (Gibbs et. al, 2015, p. 6). Some victims may have been involved in the child welfare system and fled the environment due to abuse before becoming involved trafficking. Gibbs et. al, (2018) reported that "among youth with at least one foster care runaway episodes, 7.4% has an allegation of HT while on runaway status," (117). This may cause continued distrust in community agencies and case managers because the youths are either returned to their families or foster care where they were previously abused, making the child continue to feel unsupported/unsafe.

One final piece of literature that was reviewed for this thesis was on Safe Harbor laws. Mir (2013) explored and explained the need to view minors participating in prostitution as victims instead of criminals. This work explains the value of safe harbor laws to help these victims exit their exploitation as opposed to arresting them and creating a criminal record that will make it even more difficult to support themselves by legal means. Mir (2013 states that "the overarching motivation behind passing Safe Harbor statutes is that the majority of minors engaged in prostitution are

victims of sex crimes, and thus deserve legal protection and treatment through social services, rehabilitation, or supervision,” (p. 167).

Mir explains the Safe Harbor laws in Illinois and New York in their article. The articles states that “Illinois emphasizes the absolute victimization experienced by minor whereas New York balances their victimization with their needs for safety and rehabilitation as well as the issue of community protection,” (Mir, 2013, p. 167). Illinois approaches the Safe Harbor laws as a way to protect and help all minors involved in prostitution through the use of child welfare services instead of the criminal justice system. The state of Illinois thinks that if the children engaging in prostitution do not face legal consequences they can effectively move forward with their lives. This supports the need to get victims into safe environments once they are identified.

New York’s Safe Harbor for Exploited Children Act “presumes that a minor charged with a prostitution offense is a severely trafficked person and mandates the provision of social services for trafficking victims,” (Mir, 2013, p. 168). These minor victims are provided with emergency services such as housing and medical services. The courts use their discretion to determine where to place the victims and what services are most appropriate to their individual needs. New York does not utilize cookie cutter services; they seek to tailor the services provided to their needs. In Mir’s opinion, New York’s model was the most effective at the time of the publication.

Ohio utilizes Safe Harbor laws and in June of 2012 implemented an expungement program for trafficking victims. The Ohio Justice & Policy Center’s website (n.d.) states that the expungement program was implemented to give trafficking victims a clean slate to help them move past their exploitation. The use of this program demonstrates the state’s understanding that victims face lifetime barriers

if they are charged for crimes committed as a result being trafficked. This is encouraging to the researcher, as their work in the human services knows the barriers that a criminal history has on employment.

Trafficking victims will benefit greatly from their criminal charges being expunged. They will not be victimized again by having to explain that they were exploited and that is why they have a criminal record. The lack of a criminal record also allows victims to obtain housing and allows victims the ability to focus on completing educational goals and leading a fulfilling life. The research presented thus far in this chapter has shown that child neglect is a potential risk factor in child trafficking. To confirm this, the trafficking screening tools will need to have questions/indicators present in them that show the exploration of child maltreatment prior to being trafficked.

### **Screening Tools**

To understand the effect of screening tools, we need to understand the methodology that goes into their development. Screening tools are used by first responders when they are interviewing potential trafficking victim. Some states create their own screening tools, while others utilize the tools created by organizations such as the Vera Institute and WestCoast Children's clinic. The researcher read literature by these organizations release regarding how their tools were developed.

WestCoast children's Clinic developed the Commercial Sexual Exploitation-Identification Tool (CSE-IT) in 2014 and validated it using a pilot study at locations that met the following criteria, "1) served youth, 2) were willing and able to implement a universal screening protocol using the CSE-IT: Pilot Version, and 3) were able to share de-identified data with WestCoast for research purposes," (Basson,

2017 p. 17). The authors sought to develop a tool that can be used to identify warning signs and identify indicators of sex trafficking in youths.

They outline a list of indicators that encompass past life events as well as current events that the victim has encountered at the time of the screening. The indicators their tool is designed to identify are: “1) housing and care giving, 2) prior abuse or trauma, 3) physical health and appearance, 4) environment and exposure, 5) relationships and person belongings, 6) signs of current trauma, 7) coercion and 8) exploitation,” (Basson, 2017, p. 25). These indicators each have their own sections on the screening tool. The researcher was encouraged to see that this tool explores the potential past maltreatment. This tool helps support this thesis in that it looks for past victimization as part of the screening tool.

The authors state that the tool should not be used as a guided interview, nor should it be given to the youth to complete on their own. The tool is designed to be completed by the contact person who is working with the youth and is designed to give the contact person a score at the end of the tool. “The higher the score, the greater the severity of exposure to the abuse and the greater the urgency of intervention to protect the youth’s safety,” (Basson, 2017, p 24). Each question in the indication sections have a level of risk 0 (no concern), 1 (possible concern) and 2 (clear concern). After the tool is completed, there is a continuum of concern to determine the level of at risk the youth faces. The scoring is as follows: 0-3 (no concern), 4-8 (possible concern) and 9-23 (clear concern). These scores are cumulative after each indicator section is completed. This tool not only explores the level of risk the youth is currently in as well as leading the interviewer to what supportive services the youth need and how immediate that need is.

The Vera Institute of Justice (Vera) also created a screening tool designed to identify indicators of trafficking in 2014. This tool is used by a few of the states that were explored in this thesis research. Vera is states that “the U.S. Department of States estimates that less than 1 percent of current trafficking victims in the U.S. have been identified. Resolving the controversy over the true scope of trafficking has been a challenge because of the dearth of standardized screening tools,” (Simich, p. 2, 2014). This supports this thesis in the pointing out the lack of standard screening tool. The more varied the strategies of trafficking identifications, the less reliable the data can be.

Vera’s tool works to identify all types of trafficking while WestCoast’s tool focused on sexual exploitation of minors. Both tools are used by different agencies across the country. Vera created a short and long version of their tool to allow it to be used in multiple settings and as the interviewing feels as appropriate and dependent on the amount of time available for the screening. Vera’s tool focuses more on immigrant groups and does state that more studies with domestic victims would be beneficial. Even in two studies that have been validated through testing and research, the differing variables can already be seen. Both organizations have the same goal, but their tactics are different. This shows that tools do not have to be identical to be shown as valid in trafficking identification.

Once completed their tool was “validated by statistical analysis after testing by victim service provider,” (Simich, p. 2, 2014). Vera also published an administration guide for using the tool. This guide explains the environment in which the interview should establish and answers frequently asked questions. The long version of the tool is set in 5 sections and covers the following topics: 1) screening background, 2) personal background, 3) migration, 4) work and 5) living/working conditions. The

short form is a list of 20 questions that cover migration as well as living/working conditions. Both versions include a post interview section that includes the interviewer's perception on trafficking probability and what services the interview feels the victim is in need.

This chapter covered literature regarding research for human trafficking, child neglect as well as how these two forms of victimization are potentially related. With the literature showing a potential link, the researcher feels that the screening tools to be reviewed will have exploratory questions regarding neglect. Should factors of neglect not be explored, a potential link cannot be established. This leads to the question of how to accurately provide victims with wraparound services if the whole picture of victimization is not being explored at screening.

Where are the gaps in victim identification that can be filled to help better victims as well as guide them to need services that would help the effectively overcome their victimization? Not every tool used across the country needs to be the same, in fact this could lead traffickers to coaching victims how to respond to avoid detection, but are there factors that need to be address on all tools?

The next chapter will outline the exploratory research for thesis. The researcher will explain the researched population, how the information was located and what research will be completed with the data obtained. The researcher will attempt to determine the variables that different from screening tool to screening tool as well as the variables that are consistent across all tools.

### **Chapter 3- Methodology**

The researcher selected twenty states in the United States and obtained the screening tools utilized by each for trafficking indication. The states that were selected for this study were determined by their location in the country, the researcher sought

geographic diversity as opposed to focusing on one area of concentration. The researcher selected states within each geographical area and started online searches to locate the screening tools. While searching for screening tools, the researcher found that not every state had their screening tools accessible online. Due to this, the researcher did not have to choose just one tool per state, because only one tool per state was ever located. The final list of 20 states was developed based on what states the researcher was able to locate screening tools for. While the researcher was able to locate the screening tools for some of the states that are in the top 10 for trafficking case (Nevada, Florida, Georgia, Ohio, California, Michigan and, Texas) this was not the case for all (Mississippi, Delaware and Missouri). While some states have a screening tool that they have developed, others utilize tools created by other organizations such as the Vera Institute and West Coast Children's Clinic. In the cases where states used a screening tool created by another organization, these tools were obtained and entered onto the matrix for that state.

For each state, the basic designs of their trafficking screening tool will be compared to one another. The following factors were compared for each state: 1) the state name, 2) the name of the screening tool, 3) the length of each tool, 4) whether the tool is completed in a guided interview or completed based on observed indicators, 5) whether the information being collected was disclosed by the victim, 6) the format of the interview, 7) the question type (open or closed), 8) if the tool is used for adults, minors or both, 9) the type of trafficking it is used to identify, 10) if aftercare services are addressed, 11) if past maltreatment is explored, 12) victims school attendance, 13) substance abuse by the parent or guardian, 14) safety place to sleep when with the parent or guardian, 15) availability to adequate food while with the parent or guardian,

16) access to clothing while with the parent or guardian and 17) if the victim was adequately supervised while with the parent or guardian.

Factors 1-10 are being used to demonstrate how each of the tools is designed in comparison to one another. The basic tool designs are important to this thesis because the researcher wanted to determine in what form the information was being collected by each state. The research of Rafferty (2015) explains that victims may not identify as victims as well as being fearful of cooperating. If all the tools used only victim disclosure, this could be problematic for victim identification. These factors were also reviewed to determine the types of questions that were used for each tool to determine if the victims, those who were willing, were able to tell their story or if they only had to answer yes or no. Open ended questions creates a dialogue between the screener and the victim. This is important because it can help bridge the gap of trust and help the screener gather more information.

The type of trafficking that the tool was designed to identify (minor or adult) was important to this study because, the thesis' focus is on minors. The researcher needed to determine how many of the tools could be used for the identification of minors. Finally, the type of trafficking the tool identified was also needed due to children being victims to both sexual exploitation and labor trafficking. With the tools' designs determined, the researcher went on to examine tools that were victim specific and could be used to identify child neglect.

Factors 11-17 are being used to determine if any type of child abuse was determined as well as neglect specific topics. Due to the focus of the thesis being on the effect neglect plays in child trafficking, the researcher wanted to see if screening tools are using past maltreatment in their screening to identify trafficking victims. The literature review showed strong links between child neglect and the child ending up in



a form of trafficking, which highlights the importance of including neglect questions on the trafficking screening assessments. Whether these factors were addressed in the screening tools or not provides important information to the researcher's hypothesis.

The factors being observed were selected to explore several variables leading to focus of the screenings. The first factor being examined is the conformity or lack of conformity used in trafficking identification. The researcher will use this information to suggest any changes to tool design that may strengthen them. The second factor that was examined was the settings that the tools are used in. Research presented in the literature view outlines the barriers that are caused by victims not identifying as victims and why those barriers exist. The third factor examined is the use of victim backgrounds in the screening tool.

The body of literature and theoretical framework provided earlier in this thesis leads the researcher to believe that child neglect may be a risk factor for trafficking. Detailing how neglect may be screened in the trafficking assessments is important if we accept that child neglect is a risk factor for trafficking victimization. If the screening tools do not examine the victims background, this will make linking the victimizations difficult. The potential link between neglect and trafficking has been studied and presented in the literature previously presented, so the researcher anticipates seeing these factors being included in the screening tools. Finally, victim services were also looked for on screening tools. Should the case be confirmed as a trafficking case, services will be needed for the victim immediately and having these needs on the screening tool allow the interview the opportunity to get the victim set up with services as quickly as possible.

In addition to the design, the tools were also compared by the questions included within the tool. The researcher sought to establish what factors were

consistent for all tools and what factors varied from tool to tool. The way questions were worded was also examined on each tool. Due to many victims not self-identifying as victims, questions were reviewed to determine if the wording would hinder accurate identification of trafficking victims. The way that the tools are completed is part of this exploration because, the victims may not be forthcoming with the interviewer. This could cause inaccurate identification of trafficking victims. Using tools where the interviewer is asking questions that include known risk factors for trafficking may be more effective. While no tool will be 100% effective, the researcher attempted to find some of the gaps in victim identification to being to explain why a crime that, according to the Federal Register (n.d), affects 24.9 million people globally, yield such low number of confirmed cases.

Due to the lack of concrete data where human trafficking rates are concerned, I opted to use a qualitative analysis. This will be an in-depth exploratory thesis looking at the barriers in victim identification with a call to include factors that are known predictors of child trafficking victimization, such as child neglect. The need for effective screening tools is just as important to the fight against trafficking as having all the data one could dream of. Effective screening tools are the first step in accurate data collection. Finding better ways to effectively identify victims can help those work with victims provide more victims with the services that they need to, potentially, exit trafficking permanently.

## **Chapter 4 – Results**

### **Tool Design Examination**

This chapter will present the data that resulted from the study of 20 screening tools used by states around the country. Each state's tool was retrieved and examined for their design as well as the screening questions used. The states that were selected

for this study are: California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington state and Washington D.C.

The first set of information to be presented will be the overall design of the screening tools. The researcher will be present how each of the tools is set up, administered and their content. The second set of information to be presented will be examination of the screening questions themselves and their presence or absence in each tool. The presence of victim services being addressed at the screening will also be looked for on all tools.

Table 1 is the matrix used by the researcher to compare the tool designs for each state. **Table 1**

*Tool Design Comparison*

State	Tool Name	Length	Guided interview	Victim Disclosure	Question Type	Adult/Minor	Type of Trafficking
California	Vera Institute: Trafficking Identification Tool (TVIT)	Long Version: 6 sections, 59 question, Short Version: 25 questions	Yes	Yes	Open	Both	Both
Colorado	Vera Institute: Trafficking Identification Tool (TVIT)	Long Version: 6 sections, 59 question, Short Version: 25 questions	Yes	Yes	Open	Both	Both
Florida	Human Trafficking Screening Tool (HTST)	71 questions	Yes	Yes	Both	Minors	Both

Georgia	Indicator of child sex trafficking or exploitation	28 questions	Questionnaire to be completed by individuals who work with children	No	Both	Minors	Sexual Exploitation
Hawaii	Rapid Screening Tool (RST) for Child Trafficking	12 Questions	No	No	Closed	Minors	Both
Indiana	Human Trafficking Identification: Screening Tool and Report	Initial Screening Questions:3, Sex Trafficking Assessment: 26, Labor Trafficking Assessment: 26	Yes	Yes	Both	Both	Both
Maine	Maine Human Trafficking Identification and Response Screening Tool	27 questions	Yes	Yes	Both	Both	Both
Maryland	Child Sex Trafficking (CST) Screening interview	25 questions	Yes	yes	both	minors	Sexual Exploitation
Michigan	Human Trafficking Screening Tool- Ongoing cases	39 questions	Yes	No	Closed	Minors	Both
Nevada	Human Trafficking Screening Tool	4 sections, 51 questions	Yes	Yes	Closed	Both	Both
New York	Rapid Indicator Tool	10 questions	No	No	Closed	Minors	Sexual Exploitation
North Carolina	Commercial Sexual Exploitation	46 questions	No	No	NA	Minors	Sexual Exploitation

	Identification Tool (CSE-IT)						
North Dakota	Rapid Indicator Guide	11 questions	No	No	Closed	Both	Both
Ohio	Human Trafficking Screening tool	9 questions	No	Yes	Both	Both	Both
Pennsylvania	Child Victims of Human trafficking (CVHT) Screening Tool	57 questions and two tiers of indicators	Yes	Yes	Both	Minors	Both
Texas	Commercial Sexual Exploitation Identification Tool (CSE-IT)	46 questions	No	No	NA	Minors	Both
Tennessee	Indicators of Human Trafficking	General indicators for Adults and children: 32 indicators, Child and Youth: 42 indicators	No	No	NA	Both	Both
Virginia	Screening Tools for Victims of Human Trafficking	49 Questions	Yes	Yes	Both	NA	Both
Washington D.C.	Vera Institute: Trafficking Identification Tool (TVIT)	Long Version: 6 sections, 59 question, Short Version: 25 questions	Yes	Yes	Open	Both	Both
Washington	Commercial Sexual Exploitation Identification Tool (CSE-IT)	46 questions	No	No	NA	Minors	Both

The length of the tools varied, ranging from 9 questions (Ohio) to 71 questions (Florida). The method of administration was also reviewed, and it was found that 55% of the tools (11/20) were guided interviews with the victim while 45% (9/20) were not. The tools that were not guided interviews presented the screener with a list of indication questions to complete instead. This method of administration can be useful due to the reluctance of victims to identify as victims. The literature published by Rafferty (2015) in chapter two outlines this effect psychological barrier to victim identification.

The use of only indicators can be a limiting factor as the interviewer can only make judgements on what they observe. Indication only tools are also limited in that they do not tell the screener anything about the victims past or what they experienced while trafficked. The research presented in the literature review leads the researcher to believe that a hybrid tool could be the most effective because, the screener can watch for behavioral cues as well as getting information directly from the victim. Again, victim information is not 100% reliable either due to them not regularly identifying as victims and hesitancy in cooperating with the investigation. However, a hybrid tool can address this shortcoming. Victim disclosure was also reviewed in all the tools in this study.

The researcher reviewed all tools for whether the information being collected was reported directly by the victim or not. Not surprisingly, the percent of tools that were victim disclosed versus those that were not, were the same as the guided interview versus not, 55% (11/20) showed victim disclosure while 45% (9/20) did not obtain their data for victim disclosure. As stated above, victim disclosure could be less accurate due to distrust and victims not identifying as victims. This further supports

the potential benefits of a hybrid screening tool. Of the 20 tools reviewed the researcher found that 45% (9/20) tools used both open and closed questions, 25% (5/20) tools used closed questions, 10% (2/20) were open ended questions and 15% (3/20) not questions, merely indicators. The researcher feels that the tools that utilize open and closed questions could yield a more reliable result due to it being a mix of what the screener is seeing in addition to what the victim is telling them.

The next aspect of the tool design that the researcher explored was if the victim being screened was a minor or an adult. The researcher found that 50% (10/20) of the tools were designed to identify minor victims, 40% (8/20) were used for both minors and adult and in 10% (2/20) of the tools it did not designate the specific population it was screening for. The researcher found it interesting that half of the tools used for this thesis were geared toward the identification of minors and encouraging that close to half could be used for both minors and adults. Children are not the only ones who are trafficked, but due to their innocence and inability to consent to sexual activity it makes the crime especially problematic. The fact that so many of the tools are designed to minor trafficking identification was a positive discovery for this thesis.

After the age population was determined, the researcher went on to determine the types of trafficking that were identified with the tools. The research found that 80% (16/20) were used to identify sexual exploitation and labor trafficking and 20% (4/20) tools identified only sexual exploitation. The Vera Institute tool that is utilized by California, Colorado and Washington D.C. does have identification questions for sexual exploitation, but the tool is largely designed to identify labor trafficking of foreign victims. After all the basic design sections were examined, the researcher then explored each tool to determine if victim services were addressed. Table 2 reflects the matrix of all states used in this study and whether they addressed victim needs.

**Table 2***Comparison of Victim Services Being Addressed*

State	Service Needs addressed
California	Yes
Colorado	Yes
Florida	Yes
Georgia	No
Hawaii	No
Indiana	Yes
Maine	No
Maryland	No
Michigan	No
Nevada	No
New York	No
North Carolina	No
North Dakota	No
Ohio	No
Pennsylvania	No
Texas	No
Tennessee	No
Virginia	No
Washington D.C.	Yes
Washington	No

The research found that 65% (13/20) tools did not include victim services while 35% (7/20) tools did include sections for services needed. Examples of services that trafficking victims may need are access to safe housing, medical attention, food, and clothing just to name a few. The victim needs will vary from victim to victim, this makes the need for a services section so needed.



When screening for trafficking, it is a good time to also explore immediate and long-term needs, especially if the victim is openly participating with the investigation. By not addressing the victim’s needs at screening, the victim will need to retell their story thus causing the victim to relive their trauma unnecessarily. In addition to identifying victim needs, the screening is a prime time to get a full view of the victim’s victimization, both the events encountered while trafficked as well as any prior victimization that could have set the stage for them being trafficked.

**Question Examination:**

The main purpose of this thesis was to identify the effect that child neglect has on child trafficking. Here, I discuss the tools for child neglect indicators initially and then expanded the review of the questions to find any commonalities within the tools. The child neglect factors that were selected were determined after the researcher completed the literature review for the thesis. Table 3 is the matrix of all 20 states and whether their tools included the neglect indicators.

**Table 3**

*Comparison of Maltreatment Being Explored*

State	Maltreatment History Asked	School Attendance Addressed	Parent/guardian substance abuse addressed	Safe place to sleep provided by parents/guardian addressed	Was food available with parent/guardian addressed	Was clothing provided by parent/guardian addressed	Parent/guardian provided adequate supervisor addressed
California	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Colorado	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Florida	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Georgia	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Hawaii	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Indiana	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Maine	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Maryland	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Michigan	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

Nevada	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
New York	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
North Carolina	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
North Dakota	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Ohio	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Pennsylvania	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Texas	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tennessee	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Virginia	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Washington D.C.	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Washington	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

The indicators of educational neglect were determined by the question of school attendance being used in the screening tool. The researcher was able to determine that 35% (7/20) tools had questions regarding school attendance and 65% (13/20) of the tools did not question the victim’s school attendance. In addition to the victim’s school attendance, the research also searched for potential child neglect indicators on the tools.

Routine Activities Theory set the framework for this study. This led the researcher to check the tools for factors that would reflect the lack of a capable guardian. The issue of parental substance abuse was looked for on the tools, but no tools included this information. Vanwert et. al’s (2017)’s work identifies the effect that parental substance abuse plays on a parent being a capable guardian. In their study, they report that 28% of the educational neglect cases they studied involved parents who were dealing with substance abuse issues. They also reported that in parental substance abuse was reported in 22% of the cases in their study that also had other types of neglect. Parents dealing with substance abuse issues, pose a unique problem for both child neglect and child trafficking. In the researcher’s view, the

parent may be too involved in their own recovery to pay adequate attention to caring and providing for their children or they could be involved in their child's trafficking, potential to fuel their addiction.

The researcher expanded the neglect indicators to include living conditions and access to food and clothing while the child resided with their parent or guardian. Rafferty (2015)'s research explained that children who find themselves lacking basic needs may turn to trafficking to fill these needs. Rafferty explained that while victims wanted to leave their situations, they had no financial stability to allow them to do so. This also explains why the victims do not feel that the term trafficking pertains to the, because they knowingly stay in their situation to meet their needs.

The access to basic needs and supervision was explored for all tools and it was found that only 15% (3/20) of the tools included these indicators. The questions searched for were those regarding if the child access to food, clothing, a safe place to sleep and adequate parental supervision. The tools that included these indicators were North Carolina, Texas and Washington, the states that utilize the Commercial Sexual Exploitation-Identification Tool (CSE-IT) developed by WestCoast Children's Clinic.

Of all the tools that were examined, the researcher feels the tool that was designed in the most reliable manner for child neglect and trafficking identification was the CSE-IT developed by the WestCoast Children's Clinic. Three states in the study currently use this tool (North Carolina, Texas, and Washington State). Inversely, there were a few states whose tools the researcher feels could be developed further to be more reliable in child neglect and trafficking (Hawaii, New York, and Maine).

Hawaii's tool contains some of the broad indicators for trafficking identification but, the tool does not include any information from the victim directly and is formatted with only yes or no as the screener response. Like Hawaii, the tool

used by New York has some common trafficking indicators included on it. New York’s tool is lacking in data collection, in the researcher’s options, because it only asking if the indicator is present and only considers the victim as trafficked if the screener can answer yes to any of the questions. Maine’s tool, like those of Hawaii and New York, include many common trafficking indicators. Unlike the other two tools, Maine’s tool does include a section for victim disclose, but all by one of the victim disclosure questions were open ended.

Table 4 compares the rate of child neglect for each of these states in 2018 and 2019. The data obtained for table 1 was obtained from the Administration for Children and Families (n.d) website under their Child Maltreatment Report for the years presented. The Administration for Children and Families is part of the Department of Health and Human Services and this report is generated from the data submitted by child welfare agency to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS). The researcher established the rate of cases per 1,000 children under 18, based on the population of minors in each state.

**Table 4**

*Child Neglect Incident Rate Comparison*

Year	North Carolina	Texas	Washington	Hawaii	New York	Maine
2018	1.40	6.16	3.13	0.00013	9.58	5.58
2019	1.12	7.38	1.97	0.0076	17.02	11.04

Table 4 shows the rate of all child neglect cases reported for the entire state. These vary greatly in the number of cases, but their geographical sizes are also very different. The amount of child neglect found in these states shows an effective process

of substantiating these cases. The researcher presented Table 1 to show the amount of child neglect that was found in the states being compared before the trafficking number of confirmed trafficking cases for these states were presented.

Table 5 will present the amount of minor trafficking cases for the states being compared. The numbers listed in Table 2 were reported by the Administration for Children and Families (n.d). The data in Table 2 was obtained in the Child Maltreatment Report for the years listed but is only for sex trafficking. Also, human trafficking was not included in these reports until 2018, which is why only these two years were included. To make the trafficking rates comparable to those in table 4, rate of cases per 1,000 children under 18, based on the population of minors in each state.

**Table 5**

*Incident of Minor Trafficking Rates*

Year	North Carolina	Texas	Washington	Hawaii	New York	Maine
2018	n/a	0.003	0.025	0.003	n/a	0.004
2019	n/a	0.004	0.018	0.053	n/a	n/a

While the researcher’s goal in presenting the above information was to show that the North Carolina, Texas, and Washington were more reliable tools in minor trafficking victims, the fact that North Carolina had no cases reported prevents the researcher from being able to draw this conclusion with this source. This is not to say that there were no sex trafficking cases reported for the states showing an “n/a”, only that they were not reported by the state to NCANDS for that year. Again, the lack of conformity in reporting techniques and requirements make studying trafficking difficult.

When comparing the child neglect rates with the child trafficking rates it is clear to see the disparity. We know from research presented in chapter 2 that child neglect is a strong risk factor in children being trafficked. This, however, is not reflected in the reported child trafficking rates for the states listed above. This further shows the need to improve our victim identification strategies to ensure we are accounting for all the trafficking cases that involve minors.

If a child is lacking their basic needs, they are suitable targets for traffickers who will offer them these needs. The use of trauma and debt bonding will be used to make the child indebted to the trafficker as well emotionally bound to them. Raftery (2015) explained how traffickers will create a Stockholm bond with their victims to keep them loyal to them and prevent them from seeing their situation in a negative light. Hepburn and Simon (2013)'s research gave an understandable example of debt bonded in their research. Once the traffickers have control of their victim, they continue to levy fees against them and take most of their profits, making it impossible to ever pay off what they owe. Traffickers are motivated by profit and can easily find youths that they can exploit, this makes them motivated offenders, thus we can see all three factors for Routine Activities Theory in play.

After the tool designs were examined and child neglect indicators were explored, the researcher moved on to trafficking indicators. The researcher started with questions regarding the victim's personal history and living situation. To establish this data, the research searched all tools for questions that reflected their residence and parental involvement. The tools showed that 20% (4/20) of the tools asked if the victim was residing with the parent or guardian while trafficked. For minors, this information is important to know at screening as it could suggest that the parents may have been involved in their trafficking and so should not be returned to

their parent or guardian's supervision. Tools were also examined for internet access the victim may have had that could have led to them being exploited or meeting their trafficker and found that only 15% (3/20) look for this factor.

The tools were then examined to find questions about the victim's history or running away from home and found that 60% (12/20) of the tools looked for this. Victims running away from home could point to maltreatment as well as a lack of basic needs being provided to the victim that they had to find a way to provide for themselves. Another indicator that was explored on the tools was if the victim was in possession of things that they could not explain how they had access to, such as cell phones, clothes, shelter, and money. 55% (11/20) of the tools used this metric. The same number 55% (11/20 tools) of tools also specifically asked if the victim exchanged sex for these items. Potential substance abuse was addressed on 40% (8/20) tools. This is important because if the victim has a substance abuse problem, they could be supporting their habit through being trafficked.

Tattoos and brands were another factor that was addressed on some tools. Traffickers will sometimes mark their victims as their property. The prevalence of this is not known, but these indicators were addressed on 60% (12/20) tools. The tools do not address these marks in general but look for markings that the victim cannot justify or explain. Other physical indicators were examined, namely if the victims appear to be sleep deprived, malnourished or dehydrated was addressed in 25% (5/20) tools. This led the researcher to also look for questions regarding the access to medical care for the victims and found this being addressed on 15% (3/20) of the tools examined.

The use of force, fraud and coercion are tactics used by traffickers to not only engage victims but also keep them from leaving their situation. The researcher searched all the tools for use of indications of these tactics. Hepburn & Simon (2010)

show the use of force, coercion, and fraud. They explained the use of fraud in a case that involved *Million Express Manpower Inc.* recruited victims from Thailand. “Victims were promised legal visas and 3 years of employment at \$8.24 per hour. Each [victim] paid over \$11,000 in fees to simply secure employment,” (Hepburn & Simon, 2010, p. 6). Once these victims reached the United States, their documentation was taken, and they were forced labor on farms and were then transported to New Orleans to work as labors for the clean-up after Hurricane Katrina. The authors confirm the use of force in this case by stating, “while in New Orleans, the victims were not paid and were closely ‘supervised by an armed guard to ensure they did not try and escape,” (Hepburn & Simon, 2010, p. 6).

The use of force was found in the tools in different ways, first was if the victim themselves was threatened, this factor was found in 65% (13/20) tools. Screeners could validate this report if the victim presents with injuries that they cannot or will not explain. Force can be especially effective when looking at child victims due to their increased vulnerability and lack of life experiences that would help them be able to navigate out of or avoid harmful situations. In addition to threatening the victim, traffickers may also threaten the victim’s family. This is screened for in 55% (11/20) tools. Another use of force is the question of freedom of movement or lack thereof that the victim may have. This factor was addressed in 45% (9/20) tools. Force is also found when asked if a victim was made to have sexual contact they did not want, this identifier was found on 55% (11/20) tools.

Coercion is another way that traffickers keep their victims in their situation. Use of coercion was screened for by looking for the following indicators: the victim’s identification documents are kept from them, 65% (13/20) of tools, debt bondage, 35% (7/20) of tools and, withholding earnings from the victim, 50% (10/20) of tools. By



keeping a victim's identification from them, the victim has no way to prove their identity to apply for services and access bank accounts, if they have one. Debt bondage and withholding funds is also effective in keeping a victim from leaving. Force and coercion can go hand in hand. When a victim is debt bonded to their trafficker, they can be threatened with harm if they do not pay back what they owe their trafficker. Also, if the victim cannot pay their debt back, the trafficker can threaten to go to the victim's family to get what they are owed and threaten to harm the family if they are unable to pay the victim's debt.

Finally, fraud was screened for in 20% (4/20) tools by questioning if the victim was promised a job and then was forced to work a different job. If a child needs to provide for themselves, the promise of a good paying job is enticing and hard to say no to. This is what makes employment fraud an effective tactic for traffickers. Another use of fraud by traffickers is the offer of a loving relationship. Neglected children may have not been loved and cared for by their families, so when someone offers them love and the family they want, the child can easily fall for the ruse. By the time they realize that they are neither loved nor cared for, they are already being trafficked. A screening indicator that was found for this type of fraud is the question of if the victim has a significantly older boyfriend or girlfriend, this was found in 40% (8/20) of the screening tools.

The following chapter will take the results from this section and discuss the effects that the screening tool design screening questions have on victim identification. The researcher will also discuss what they found regarding trafficking and neglect. Suggestions will be offered for policy and tool changes that could make the screening process more effective and why these changes are needed.

## **Chapter 5 - Conclusion**

The first, and most obvious, finding that came out of the research conducted for this thesis is that the tools differ from state to state, unless the state utilizes an institution validated tool created by an outside institution. Every state is required to screen for potential trafficking, but there is no standardized tool that states must use. Without common variables being required on screening tools, states will have different amounts of positive trafficking identifications. Without in depth research into the rate of each state, it is hard to say the effect that the lack of conformity has on the rate of identification. The researcher does feel that some of the screening tools would yield less identification due to the design simplicity.

The definition of human trafficking is the same in every state, so the researcher theorized that the methods of identification would be more similar. The researcher was not surprised by the variations in the screening tools but was interested in the identification factors that were used. The examination of the screening questions, listed in chapter 4 shows the prevalence of child neglect and trafficking factors in screenings. The tools varied in the types trafficking that it was used to identify as well as the age demographic that was intended for. Furthermore, the question format was interesting to the researcher.

Due to the barriers that screeners face in victim identification, the researcher feels that the most effective way to overcome barriers, such as victim reluctance to identify as victims, is to use a mix of visual indicators in addition to open and closed questions for the victim to answer. The victim may not see themselves as a victim, but the behavior observed by the screening in addition to any information given by the victim could yield more reliable data and accurate identifications. Using more of a hybrid model for a screening tool would, in the researcher's opinion, add more

opportunities to successfully identify victims, even when the victim does not actively cooperate in the investigation.

The study done on the screening questions themselves found that the following factors were the most common across the screening tool; 1) identification being kept from the victim (65%), 2) victim reporting that they were threatened while being trafficked (65%), 3) if the victim has a history of running away (60%), 4) the presence of tattoos or brands that the victim can't explain/justify (60%), 5) victim reporting that their family was threatened (55%), 6) victim reported having unwanted sexual contact (55%), 7) victim reported exchanging sex for good and shelter and (55%), 8) victim is in possession of items or housing they are unable to explain (55%). The factors listed above that can point to neglect leading the child to being trafficked are numbers 3 and 7. This suggests that the child's home environment was not providing the victim their basic needs and found themselves trafficked to provide for themselves. The remaining common factors are good trafficking indicators, and they were obtained from both visible indicators as well as victim disclosed questions. This also supports the suggestion of a tool that utilizes visible indicators and victim questions.

The question regarding the victim not having their identification is a clear sign of coercion being used by traffickers. Also, the traffickers use of forces is also represented on most of the tools the victim reporting they or their family for threatened as well as the victim reporting unwanted sexual contact. The question of trafficker using fraud is found less frequently on the screening tools and the questions that were present were geared toward labor trafficking. The questions of debt bondage were only found in 35% percent of the tools while questions focus specifically to sexual exploitation were seen in 55% of the tools.

After studying all the screening tools, the researcher suggests agencies consider expanding their tool to include both the visible indications and victim disclosed questions, both open and closed. This would prevent information from not being recorded due to it not being part of the tool. The additions needed on each tool would vary depending on how their current tool is designed. California, Colorado and Washington D.C. for example use the Vera Institute' tool and could adapt that tool to include more sexual exploitation indicators to make them more universal. North Carolina, Texas, and Washington could expand the WestCoast Children's clinic could expand off that tool to include question for labor trafficking. Florida and Pennsylvania's' tools are design to cover both types of trafficking and used many of the common indicators listed above, but both lack the child neglect indicators, 85% of the other tools lack these indicators.

The second finding from this researcher was that when a victim is screened, the tools examined focus mainly on what the victim experienced during the time they were trafficked. There were some tools that asked generalized questions about personal history, but on the whole tool questions are geared toward the toward what the victim experienced while trafficked. This information is needed because, without information on what happened during the trafficking, it cannot be confirmed. The researcher is not denying the need for these, but the researcher also feels that precursory events are just as important to confirming trafficking. Some children are abducted from lives with no prior vulnerability factors, but the research presented in chapter two of this thesis confirms that children who suffer maltreatment have a higher likelihood of finding themselves trafficked.

When WestCoast Children's Clinic completed their research on sexually exploited youths, part of their research included the victim's maltreatment history. It is

noteworthy that WestCoast Children's Clinic's screening tool for sexual exploitation is used by a few of the states in this study. Their tool is what the researcher expected to find in more of the states studied. The tool encompasses not only the events the victim encountered during their trafficking, but also the victim's life experiences prior to victimization. The researcher examined each tool for questions that could lead to child neglect in addition to straight forward questions regarding neglect and found that only 35% of tools past maltreatment and 15% of the tools addressed the neglect specific items.

Questions about the level of parental supervision, parental substance abuse, school attendance, access to adequate food and clothing in addition to whether the child had a safe place to sleep while living with their parent or legal guardian were factors that the researcher felt would show a tools exploration into neglect without direct questions of exploitation. Only the WestCoast Children's Clinic develop tool covered these areas.

The states that are constructed to reliably establish a link between child neglect and trafficking are those who utilize the CSE-IT (North Carolina, Washington State and Texas) developed by WestCoast Children's Clinic show the most focus on neglect and trafficking. This tool produces a more complete picture of the child's victimization. This tool is limited however in that, it is focused on sexual exploitation instead of both types of trafficking. In terms of the structure of how the tool is to be utilized, this tool encourages the inclusion of mental health profession in the screening process. Having mental health professionals present at screening allows them to evaluate what needs the child has and can start those services sooner.

When you have established a rapport with the victim and are conducting a screening, it is an opportunity to conduct a full exploration into, not only the

trafficking events, but also the victims past and how those experiences potentially lead to them being trafficked. The researcher knows from their work in social work that Child Advocacy Centers approach child maltreatment by utilizing multidisciplinary teams to conduct a full investigation with a team that ranges from Children Services representatives to medical professionals. They take this approach to limit the number of times a child must tell their story, thus limiting the number of times the child had to relive the events, preventing excessive re-victimization.

The researcher feels this process could make trafficking screening more effective and provide investigators a chance to obtain a more complete picture of the victim's history. In addition to obtaining the victim's history, this would also allow the investigators to obtain information that is desperately needed in the field of human trafficking. The screening is also a prime opportunity to identify services that the victim needs immediately and long term.

The third finding of the thesis research was the lack of consistent sections regarding services the victim needs. This study focused on minors being trafficked, the list of services that are available to the children are more difficult to provide, due to their age. Victims often need safe housing when existing trafficking, children however, are not eligible for housing services because of their age. The only options for housing would be their back to the parents/legal guardians or foster care. This poses a problem for children who suffered abuse/neglect while in these living situations prior to being trafficked. This is a prime reason that screening tools, especially for children, need to know what the child experienced prior to trafficking.

For a child to permanently exit trafficking, they need to be able in a safe and supportive environment with adequate supervision and have access to all services available to them. Only 20% (4/20) tools included sections regarding services needed

by the victim. Trafficking victims have a mountain of barriers to overcome to move past their victimization and lead successful lives. The fear and mistrust that the children may have will take a significant amount of time to move past and they need to be in safe, abuse free environments for this to occur. While this would not affect the identification of a trafficking victim, it is a section that needs added to screening tools.

Many of the victims will need immediate medical attention to treat illnesses sustained while trafficked. In addition to physical medical needs, these victims will also need mental health services. The trauma bonds that traffickers used to keep their victims from fleeing their situation will take time and counseling to counteract. The child needs to learn that their trafficking, even if they knowingly entered it to meet their basic needs, is not their fault and they can live a life free of trafficking. They need to learn coping strategies to deal with their trauma as well. Victims may need to engage in substance abuse programs to help free themselves from dependence on drugs and alcohol, the issue of substance abuse was included in 40% of the tools, but the researcher feels that this should be common on all tools. Substance abuse could be a coping strategy for the victims in addition to a way that the trafficker keeps the victim indebted to them. Mental health treatment can also help the victim break their substance abuse.

Most of the screening tools used in this research did not have sections regarding the services that the victim needed. This is concerning because this suggests to the researcher that the victim may have to be screened again and go through their ordeal again to have a list of services established for them. The researcher does not know whether the screening tool is used by service providers to establish services or if a separate screening is required as this is not addressed on the tools. The researcher feels that the screening and services establishment process should be streamlined into

one interview to prevent the victim for additional trauma that telling their story repeatedly causes.

This research has some limiting factors that will be addressed here. The first limiting factor is that the research is only using the tools that were able to be located online. The tool that is used for a state may not be the only tool in use or the most up to date. When located, the only tools that had a creation date on them were those of the Vera Institute and the WestCoast Children's clinic. The Vera Institute's tool was created in 2014 and WestCoast Children's Clinic's tool was implemented in 2017. Some of the tools that the researcher located may be outdated and the updated versions were not available online. Again, no dates were attached to these tools so the researcher cannot confirm or deny that the tools in the study are the most recent.

Another limiting factor of this research is that there may be other tools in use in the states being studied. These tools may be formatted differently and include identification factors that are not present on those that were located. This could be the case as not every state has their screening tools available online, so it is possible that there are additional tools being utilized in the state that were not accessible to the researcher's internet search. In fact, the tool that was obtained may not even be the model that is used across the state. Some of the tools located were included in state reports that had suggestions for further tool development leading researcher to believe that states are still working on evolving the tools used in their state. While this is a limiting factor for the research, it is encouraging that tools could still be, being developed to make them more accurate and useful.

The inaccessibility of current assessment tools is understandable, the researcher can see how having all the tools for victim identification accessible to the public could be problematic. Similarly, if the government mandated that every state



and agency use the exact same tool, it would make it easy for traffickers to change their tactics and groom their victims to present as a non-victim. Should this happen, the process of identifying victims would have to start over and new investigation strategies would have to be developed. While the tools do not have to be identical in every agency, more standardization of how screening is completed can lead to more reliable data.

Looking at the thesis that has been presented, the researcher sees that examining the tools used by children services and advocacy centers for abuse and neglect identification would add another layer of data to the thesis. A cross comparison would have shed more light on how screening is done at the children services level in addition to what is done at trafficking screening level. It would also demonstrate if trafficking screenings were being conducted for vulnerable youths, or only after the youth is recovered from a suspected trafficking situation. Future research should build on this idea.

After the research conducted for this thesis, the need for additional research was found regarding the method of data collection for minor trafficking victims. If we want to effectively combat minor trafficking, then we need to be able to identify not only the trafficking, but the full list of events that lead to the child being trafficked. States need to view trafficking with a broader lens, one that looks at the victim's entire history of victimization. Once a victim is removed from the potential trafficking situation, the level of trauma they have endured has to be treated from the beginning, not just the trauma suffered while trafficked. The lack of past trauma that is being explored at screening shows how important the research presented in this thesis is.

Trafficking does not fit into one category or mold and the mode of a victim becoming engaged in trafficking does not happen in one scenario. The research

presented in the chapter 2 confirmed that there are certain vulnerability factors that lead to trafficking. States miss a valuable opportunity to add to understanding what can lead to trafficking when they do not screen for vulnerability factors when interviewing suspected trafficking victims. The screening tools presented in this thesis show the room for improvement in the realm of data collection. The research that has been published outlines vulnerability factors that are found in trafficking victims, this research can be supported if screening tools include these factors of vulnerability that victims may have experienced prior to trafficking.

By identifying the need of tool expansion presented in this thesis, the researcher feels that this makes this thesis a valuable piece of research. There is always room for improvement in any process and the tools that are currently being used are a good start. The tools used in this thesis show that there are a variety of methods being used for victim identification and while tools do not need to be identical, there is a need for a more common focus on the method of victim identification.

In addition to the method of identification, there is also a need on victim services identification. The sooner that these services can be identified and provided, the sooner the victims can start to deal with their trauma and gain the help they need to move past it. This thesis also presents the great need for victim service expansion. This missing piece of the tools is one that needs added to help the victims not just the investigation it a trafficker.

Safe Harbor Laws were designed to treat trafficking victims as just that, victims. When looking at the tools presented in this thesis, it is easy to see that tools are designed to identify trafficking, but not needs of the victims. Adding this section to tools will not only help the victim the gain services they desperately need, but it will

also help to build trust. If the victim can see that the investigators are there to help them, and the victim is not just part of investigation, they may be more willing to help with the investigation. Victims have spent a great deal of time being a means to an end, getting services started as quickly as possible can work to bridge the gap in trust between the victim and the investigator. The lack of service questions on the tools presented is another reason that this thesis is so important.

While this thesis was unable to determine the effects that child neglect has on child trafficking, it was able to show that there are steps that can be taken to enable us to make that link. The data that would be needed to show the link between child neglect and child trafficking can be obtained if questions were added to the screening tools that encompass a victim's history of trauma prior to being trafficking in addition to the current questions that address the circumstances of their trafficking. The researcher still feels that there is a link between the two types of victimization based on the research that was presented in chapter 2 and, with expansion of screening tools, this link could be positively identified at the time of screening.

### **Researcher Recommendations**

The researcher developed several items of recommendations for tool design changes and implantation improvement. The following is a summary of the suggestions established by the researcher at the conclusion of the study:

- Formal training for staff who will interact with and interview potential victims
- Standardized guidelines for screening tools to make them more reliable
- Inclusion of past victimization to be included on screening tools
- Inclusion of victim services to be included on screening tools

This thesis was able to present research that supports the researcher's theorized link between child neglect and child trafficking. In addition to the published research, the exploration into the screening tools demonstrates what tactics are currently being used by agencies along with some potential shortcomings of the tools. Suggestions for tool development were able to be identified and the reason for the expansion explained. In the beginning of this thesis the research asked what agencies need to effectively fight child trafficking, the answer to that question is persistence, being open to continued development, adding to the body of research currently available and unending drive to continue to improve processes. No system will ever be perfect but if we never stop working and fighting, we will get as close as possible. We must be the voice for the children that are victimized.

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Susan was always ready with ideas for data sources and people to contact to obtain the information needed to complete this thesis.

I would also like to thank Dr. John Hazy for his input on the thesis focus, this input helped make this thesis a meaningful piece of research. When I started to plan my thesis, I wanted to produce a product that was a needed addition to the field of human trafficking research. Dr. Hazy's ideas for the thesis were vital to the finished product being one that the I feel is much needed in fight against human trafficking.

## **Appendices**

### **Appendix A: IRB Approval**

Dear Investigators,

Your study, Child neglect and the Role it Plays on Minors Being Trafficked has been reviewed and is deemed to meet the criteria of an exempt protocol. You will be using preexisting data that is available on the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. No new participants will be recruited by you; no new data is being collected by you.

The research project meets the expectations of 45 CFR 46.104(d)(4) and is therefore approved. You may begin the investigation immediately. Please note that it is the responsibility of the principal investigator to report immediately to the YSU IRB any deviations from the protocol and/or any adverse events that occur. Please reference your protocol number 084-21 in all correspondence about the research associated with this protocol.

Best wishes for the successful completion of your research.  
Karen

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*"Leadership is not about titles, positions or flowcharts. It is about one life influencing another."* J. C. Maxwell

### **Appendix B: Screening tools**

**Florida:**

- ☞ Singular items that in themselves require a mandatory report to the Florida Abuse Hotline will be highlighted in gray. An example is provided below:

Report of human trafficking by parent/guardian, law enforcement; medical pr service provider, teacher, child protective services, and/or juvenile probation officer.

- ☞ Screeners should use professional judgment in deciding whether to preface a question or a prompt with phrasing such as, "Please tell me more about that" or "If you are comfortable, could you tell me about that?"

Sections A, B, H, and I are preceded with the instruction — (DO NOT READ TO YOUTH) — these sections are intended to be completed by the screener and not asked of the youth.

- ☞ Please use the lines provided within the instrument to record youths' responses to open-ended questions.

- At the end of selected questions you will see this symbol which asks that screeners code for the likelihood that the youth's responses suggest any evidence of the problem targeted by the preceding item(s). An example is provided below:

Evidence of Unsafe Living Environment: (Check one) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

## Item-by-item Guide for Administering the Instrument

---

Section A is to be completed by the screener and not asked of the youth.

### Section A — Background Information

(DO NOT READ TO YOUTH)

---

Note: JJIS will prepopulate some of this demographic data.

1. Date Screened: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_(MM/DD/YYYY)

2. Screening Center:

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Screener Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Reason for Screening: (Check all that apply)

Law enforcement reports behaviors or circumstances indicative Of youth being trafficked

Department of Juvenile Justice staff observations are -indicative of youth being trafficke4 School personnel report behaviors or circumstances of youth being trafficked

Medical provider reports behaviors or circumstances indicative of youth being trafficked

Parent/guardian reports behaviors or circumstances indicative of youth being trafficked

Suspected trafficking is reported to the Abuse Hotline

Youth is referred by someone else (Fill in)\_\_\_\_\_

Youth acknowledges behaviors or circumstances indicative of being trafficked

## Human Trafficking Screening Tool | Administration Guide

- Youth has a history of running away 4 or more times, as indicated on the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) assessment
- Youth has a history of sexual abuse, as indicated on the PACT assessment
- Youth's presenting offense is for prostitution or youth has a prior prostitution charge
- Youth has a history of sexual perpetration (as indicated by sex offense charges)

5. Mode of Screening:

Interview completed without need for interpreter

Interview completed with the assistance of an

interpreter  Interpreter needed, but unavailable

Section B is to be completed by the screener and not asked of the youth.

Section B — Demographic Information

(DO NOT READ TO YOUTH)

---

6. Youth's Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

7. DJJID:

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Referral ID:

\_\_\_\_\_

9. DCF

FSFN#•

\_\_\_\_\_

10. SSN (last four digits):

\_\_\_\_\_

11. Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Race/Ethnicity:

\_\_\_\_\_

13. Preferred Language:

\_\_\_\_\_

Begin the screening by reading the following introductory comments to the youth:

This is an interview to better understand your current situation and experiences. I will be asking you questions about yourself. Try to be as honest as you can. Some questions may be sensitive and hard for you to answer. You do not have to answer anything you don't want to answer. You can take a break at any time, ask to finish at a later time, or stop the session. I want you to know that you can trust me and that your safety is my priority. Everything you say will be kept completely confidential, unless you describe a situation where you or someone else is in immediate danger or at risk of being abused or hurting someone else. Before we get started, do you have any questions?

Section C - Youth Personal Background

---

I'd like to begin with some general questions about you and your personal background.

14. What is your date of birth? \_\_\_\_\_(MM/DD/YYYY)

15. What country were you born in?

\_\_\_\_\_

16. What city do you live in?

\_\_\_\_\_

16a. (DO NOT READ TO YOUTH) Was youth arrested outside the city in which he/she resides?

No

17. Do you go to school?

No (If 'no,' skip to Item 18)

Yes (If 'yes,' proceed to Item 17a below)

Refused to answer



17a. Where do you go to school? (If school entered, ask item 17b)

17b. How many days have you attended school in the last two weeks?

- 0 days
- 1-5 days
- 6-10 days
- Not applicable/school not in session

18. Do you get on the Internet, Wi-Fi, or use phone or tablet apps?

- No (If 'no,' skip to Item 19)
- Yes (If 'yes,' ask Item 18a below)
- Refused to answer

18a. What kind of sites or apps do you use? (Check all that apply)

- Twitter
- Instagram
- Snapchat
- Online game chat
- Instant messaging
- Facebook
- Tinder
- Craigslist
- Backpage
- Other apps or sites (fill in)\_\_\_\_\_
- Refused to answer

19. Have you ever agreed to meet someone you met online or through the Internet or through a phone app?

- No
- Yes (If yes, prompt by saying, Tell me more about that.)
- Refused to answer

20. so, do you currently have a boyfriend or girlfriend?  No (If 'no,' skip to Item 21)

Human Trafficking Screening Tool I Administration \_\_\_\_\_ Guide

- Yes (If yes, ' ask Item 20a and Item 20b  
below)  Refused to answer

20a. How old is he/she?

- Less than 10 years old
- 10 to 15 years old
- 16 to 17 years old
- 18 to 21 years old
- 22 years or older
- Refused to answer

- 20b. How did you meet?
- Through a friend
  - At school
  - Through a family member
  - Online (Facebook, Internet, game console)
  - Public place (mall, movies, sports event)
  - Work
  - Other (Fill in) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Refused to answer

Evidence of Unsafe Online Activity: (Check one) Yes  No

21. Do you have any tattoos?  No (If 'no,' skip to Item 22)  Yes (If 'yes,' ask Item 2 1a through Item 2 1c below)
- Refused to answer or responded no

Staff observed tattoos (If selected, ask items 21a through 2 1c below)

- 21a. What is the tattoo(s)? (Screener may respond to this item based on youth response and/or based on observation of the tattoo) (Check all that apply)
- Dollar/currency sign, money bags
  - Star/hearts
  - Male name
  - Female name
  - Nickname or street name
  - Refused to answer
  - Other (Describe) \_\_\_\_\_

- 21b. What does your tattoo(s) mean? (Check all that apply)



Human Trafficking Screening Tool I Administration Guide

- Family connection
- Personal meaning (Fill in) \_\_\_\_\_
- Romantic partner's name
- Gang-related a Suspected \_\_\_\_\_  
traffiCker's name/inltialS

Forced branding/ownership

No meaning

Don't know the meaning

Refused to answer

Other (Fill in)\_\_\_\_\_

21c. Who was with you when you got your tattoo(s)? (Check all that apply)

Family member

Friend

Romantic partner

No one

Suspected trafficker

Gang member

Refused to answer

22. Do you have any scars or brands that were made intentionally, not from an accident or injury? (Screener should respond based upon youth answer and/or observation of visible scars)

No (If 'no, ' skip to Item 23)

Yes (If yes, ' ask Item 22a)

Screener observes mark(s), but youth denies mark(s) made intentionally  Refused to answer

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22a. Who was with you when you got your brand(s) or when you received the scar?

(Check all that apply)

- Family member
- Friend
- Romantic partner
- No one
- Suspected trafficker
- Gang member
- Refused to answer

O Evidence of Suspicious/Trafficking-Related Tattooing/Branding: (Check one) Yes

Yes  No

Section D — Living Conditions

---

Next, I'd like to talk to you about where you live and the people you live with.

23. So, tell me about your current living situation. What type of place do you live in?

(Screener may prompt the youth by listing examples from below) (Check all that apply)

- House
- Apartment

- Group/foster home
- Car/van
- Shelter
- Rehabilitation facility
- Hotel or motel
- Part of a residence — garage, basement, shed
- Squat
- Traveling/in-between residences
- Homeless
- Refused to answer
- Other (Fill in) \_\_\_\_\_

24. Who lives with you? (Check all that apply)

- Father
- Mother
- Both parents
- Guardian
- Step-parent
- Relative(s)
- Friend(s)
- Romantic partner (girlfriend/boyfriend)

- By myself
- Refused to answer
- Other (Fill in) \_\_\_\_\_

25. Do you pay for where you live?

- No (If 'no,' skip to Item 26)
- Yes (If 'yes,' ask Item 25a below)

25a. How do you pay for where you live? (Check all that apply)

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- Parents/relatives
- Friends
- Romantic partner
- Myself through employment/job
- Myself through selling drugs
- Myself through stealing
- Myself through engaging in sexual acts for money/material gain
- Panhandle/beg
- Refused to answer
- Other (*Fill in*) \_\_\_\_\_

26. Have you ever had any contacts or visits from the Department of Children and Families? (Note, youth may use other terminology including HRS, CPS, CBC, and/or The State)

## Human Trafficking Screening Tool | Administration Guide

- No
- Yes
- Refused to answer

Evidence of Unsafe Living Environment: (Check one) Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

### Section E — Work Information

---

Now I'd like to ask you some questions about work situations. What I mean by "work" is anything you have done where you have received something of value, like money, food, clothing, a place to stay, drugs, or gifts, in exchange for your efforts. This could include a more typical job like working at a fast-food restaurant or store, but may also include things that some kids have to do to survive when away from their homes, anything where you were given something of value for your efforts. So your boss may have been a typical employer or may have been a family member, friend, boyfriend or girlfriend, or someone you lived with or had a relationship with.

27. So, do you have a job or did you have one before coming here?
- No (If 'no,' skip to Item 35)

Yes (If 'yes,' continue to Item 28 below)

Human Trafficking Screening Tool | Administration Guide

28. What type of work do you do? (Check all that apply)

Agricultural/farm work

Housekeeping/janitorial work

Door-to-door sales

Restaurant work

Construction

Retail

Nails/hair

Massage

Personal dancing, stripping, pr similar activity

Refused to answer

Other (Fill in)

29. How much money do you make an hour? (Screener may ask relative to the minimum wage rate)

Below minimum wage (Minimum wage is \$8.05/hour in Florida)

At or above minimum wage but less than \$15 an hour  \$15-\$25 an hour  More than \$25 an hour

Does not know



Refused to answer

30. Does your boss or supervisor owe you money?

No

Yes

Refused to answer

31. Do any of your family members owe your boss money?

No

Yes

Refused to answer

Screener may prompt for something else that is owed like a favor, house, property, or land.

32. Have you ever worked or done something for your boss without getting the payment that you thought you would get?

No (If 'no, ' skip to Item 33)

Yes (If 'yes, ' ask Item 32a through Item 32c below)  Refused to answer

32a. What kind of work was it?\_\_\_\_\_

32b. What payment did you expect?\_\_\_\_\_

Human Trafficking Screening Tool I Administration Guide

32c. What did you receive?

---

O Evidence of Deceptive Payment Practices: (Check one) Yes  No

33. Do you live and work at the same place?

No

Yes

Refused to answer

34. Can you quit or could you have quit your job at any time without punishment from your boss or supervisor?

No

Refused to answer

Evidence of Forced Labor: (Check one) Yes  No

35. When you think about the future, what do you want to do when you get older?  
(Fill in) \_\_\_\_\_

---

Section F - Leaving or Running Away from Home

---

I'd like for you to think about the past 12 months and times when you have been away from home.

36. Have you run away, stayed away, or left your home without permission in the past year?

No (If 'no, ' skip to Item 37)

Yes (If yes, ' ask Items 36a through 36k below)

Refused to answer

36a. How many times have you run away or left without permission?

1 to 5 times

6 to 10 times

11 to 20 times

More than 20 times

Refused to answer

36b. How long were you gone the last time you left home?

- 1 to 6 days
- 1 to 4 weeks
- 2 to 3 months
- 4 months or longer
- Refused to answer

36c. Where did you go when you left? (Check all that apply)

- Friend's place
- Relative's place/other biological parent's place
- Romantic partner's place
- Motel/hotel
- Street
- Out of town
- Pro-social adult's place
- Anti-social adult's place
- Street gang
- Refused to answer

36d. While you were away, how did you support yourself? (Check all that apply)

- Family/relatives took care of me
- Friend(s) took care of me
- Romantic partner helped
- Worked (legal employment/jobs)
- Money through drugs
- Money/material gain/favors from prostitution, stripping or similar activities
- Didn't stay away long enough to need support
- Stealing
- Government assistance
- Panhandling
- Borrowed money from friends
- Trafficker/pimp
- Refused to answer
- Other (Fill in) \_\_\_\_\_ Money  
through drugs

Evidence of Excessive Running Away: (Check one) Yes      No

\_\_\_\_\_

36e. While you were away, were you in control of your own money?

- No
- Yes
- Refused to answer

36f. Who were you with while you were away? (Check all that apply)

- No one
- Friends
- Romantic partner
  - Suspected trafficker/pimp
- Guardian
- Family/relatives
- Street gang
- Refused to answer

36g. Did that person(s) ever give you things like money, drugs or clothes?

- No
- Yes
- Refused to answer

Evidence of Questionable Financial Support While Away: (Check one) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

36h. Did you leave town while you were away from home?

- No
- Yes
- Refused to answer

36i. While you were away, did anyone you were with not allow you to go back home?

- No
- Yes
- Refused to answer

Evidence of Coercion to Stay on the Run: (Check one) Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Sometimes people find themselves in situations where they feel unsafe, threatened, controlled or even tricked into doing something they didn't want to do. I am going to ask you a few questions about things that might have made you feel unsafe, threatened, controlled or tricked into doing something you didn't want to do.

36j. While you were away, did you experience anything that made you uncomfortable?

- No
- Yes; if so, what? (Fill in)\_\_\_\_\_
- Refused to answer

36k. Sometimes young people who are away from home can be taken advantage of and asked to do sexual activities in exchange for something of value. These activities can include dancing, stripping, posing for photos, or sex of any kind. While you were away, did anyone ever ask you to do something like that?

- No
- Yes,
- Refused to answer

O Evidence of Sexual Activities for Money, Supports or Gifts: (Check one) Yes  No

Yes

Section G - Sexual Exploitation/Coercion/Control

---

37. In thinking about your past experiences, has anyone ever locked doors or windows or anything else to stop you from leaving work or home?

- No
- Yes
- Refused to answer

O Evidence of Inability to Leave: (Check one) Yes  No

38. Has anyone ever forced you to get or use false identification, like a fake ID or fake green card?

- No
- Yes
- Refused to answer

Evidence of Forced Identity Deception: (Check one) Yes  No

39. Has anyone ever pressured you to touch someone physically or sexually when you didn't want to?
- No
  - Refused to answer
40. Has anyone ever asked/made you do anything sexually that you didn't want to do?
- No
  - Yes
  - Refused to answer
41. Has anyone in your home ever done anything sexually to you that you didn't want?
- No
  - Yes
  - Refused to answer

Evidence of Sexual Exploitation: (Check one) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

42. Have you or someone else received something of value like money, a place to stay, food, clothes, gifts, favors, or drugs in exchange for your performing a sexual activity?
- No
  - Refused to answer

Human Trafficking Screening Tool | Administration Guide

 Evidence of Compensation for Sexual Activity: (Check one) Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_

Screener, close out the interview by saying the following to the youth:

I want to thank you for being open with me and answering these questions. Do you have any questions or is there anything that you would like to talk about?

Section H — Parent/Guardian Information (DO NOT READ TO YOUTH)

Section H is to be completed by the screener.

43. Did you speak with the child's parent(s) or guardian(s)?
- No
  - Yes (If yes to whom did you speak? \_\_\_\_\_)

If yes then ask items 44-47.

44. Does the parent/guardian report that youth has a cell phone that a third party/trafficker pays for or might be paying for?



No

45. Does the parent/guardian report that youth returns home from running away with hair/nails done, new clothing or money that were not provided by the parent/guardian?

- No  
 Yes

46. Does parent/guardian report that youth has internet postings or text/cell phone messages that indicate youth may be exchanging sex for something of value to him/her?

- No  
 Yes

47. If youth has a tattoo of someone else's name, does guardian verify this person is who youth says they are?

- No  
 Yes

Evidence of Potential Trafficking: (Check one) Yes  No

Section I - Post-Screening Assessment

(DO NOT READ TO YOUTH)

---

Section I is to be completed by the screener.

48. Did you observe any nonverbal indicators of past victimization? (If so, explain)

\_\_\_\_\_

---

---

49. Did you observe any indicators that the youth's responses may have been false? (If so, explain)

---

50. Indicate the likelihood that the youth is a victim of trafficking:

- Definitely not  
 Likely not  
 Not sure

- Likely is
- Definitely is

51. Provide up to three reasons for your answer in Item 50: 1.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

If you answered "not sure," "likely is," or "definitely is" call the Florida Abuse Hotline at 1-800-962-2873

Reminder: If you have personal knowledge that the youth is a victim of human trafficking, you must call the Florida Abuse Hotline.

If call is accepted by DCF:

- Email the completed tool to local DCF staff.
- Enter the appropriate human trafficking alert into JJIS.

52. What kind of service referrals, if any, will you make for the youth?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Georgia:**

Section A/ PRIMARY-HIGH

YES NO DON'TKNOW Circumstances for Referral / NOTES

The youth has been charged or has a previous record of a charge of prostitution.

The youth discloses exploitation followed by a withdrawal of allegation/recantation.

The youth has started accumulating new goods such as a cellphone, clothes, shoes, and/or jewelry that is unaccounted for.

The youth has an increase in income that is unaccounted for.

There are ads online soliciting sex with the youth on internet classified websites (such as Craigslist, Backpage, sipsap, erotica).

There is evidence that the youth has visited or frequented strip clubs, truck stops, commercial-front brothels (fake massage parlors, nail salons, bars), escort services, or residential brothels.

The youth has a significantly older "boyfriend" or "girlfriend."

The youth has possession of prepaid, debit or gift cards and/or hotel keys or receipts.

The youth has special marked tattoos, or branding on their body (that they might be unwilling to explain).

Reports from reliable sources of the youth's involvement in the commercial sex industry.

The youth has friends or relationships with individuals who have confirmed involvement in the commercial sex industry.

The youth has a confirmed family history in the commercial sex industry.

The youth is labeled as a chronic runaway (including chronically returns home late or unexplained overnight absences).

## SECONDARY-MEDIUM

The youth frequently leaves home without permission, including chronically returning home late and/or unexplained overnight absences.

The youth frequently travels with an older male or person who is not their guardian.

The youth has disclosed or has confirmed history of child sexual abuse.

The youth discloses meeting individuals or establishing relationships with individuals who he/she originally "met" online,

There is evidence of the youth using a street name or alias.

There are reports or the youth discloses multiple sexually transmitted diseases/infections or multiple pregnancies.

The youth has multiple delinquent charges.

The youth has, or is currently experiencing homelessness.

The youth has an explicitly sexual online profile found on internet community sites, internet classified ads, and/or social media sites.

The youth has disclosed or has confirmed history of physical abuse or neglect.

The youth is chatting online with people their parents/ friends have never met.

The youth is using substances on a regular basis.

The youth has an unstable home environment.

The youth wears overtly sexualized attire or has suddenly changed their appearance to dress more provocatively.

C /TERTIARY-LOW \_\_\_\_\_ YES. NO

ReferrÅiii0T9ue

The youth is increasingly absent from school (truant) with no explanation of their whereabouts.

The youth is very secretive about where they have been and with whom.

The youth exhibits negative behaviors and lack of success/ attainment while at school.

The youth has lied about his/her age.

The youth has a confirmed history of frequent or multiple out of home placements.

The youth expresses low self-esteem and expressions of despair to include :

self-harm (cutting, eating disorder, overdosing, sexualized risk-taking) intensive acting out (threatening behavior, violent outbursts, bullying, offending behavior), known mental health diagnosis.

The youth expresses lack of support or unstable home environment due to expression of sexual orientation or gender identity.

The youth has no identification or is not in control of his/her identification documents.

The youth shows signs of physical trauma such as unexplained bruises, black eye, cuts or other marks.

The youth shows signs of emotional trauma including increased fear, anxiety, depression, tension, and/or nervousness.

The youth has no contact with support systems- including access to little to no natural supports.

## INSTRUCTIONS

TRANSFER THE NUMBER OF "YES" RESPONSES FROM SECTIONS A, B and C TO THE BELOW TABLE

Total # of "Yes" Responses for Section A / PRIMARY-HIGH

Total # of "Yes" Responses for Section B / SECONDARY-MEDIUM

Total # of "Yes" Responses for Section C / TERTIARY-LOW

Total # of "Yes" Responses for Sections B & C Combined

## HOW TO INTERPRET RESULTS

Once the tool has been completed, the scoring from the tool will determine the appropriateness of a referral to Georgia Cares.

Each level of primary, secondary and tertiary indicators represents a more significant list of warning signs for involvement in trafficking and exploitation:

Use the following rating system to determine the appropriateness of a referral to Georgia Cares:

1 or more "Yes" responses in Section A /  
PRIMARY-HIGH  
2 or more "Yes" responses in  
Section B / SECONDARY-MEDIUM  
3 or more "Yes" responses in Section C / TERTIARY-LOW  
3 or more "Yes" responses in Sections E & C combined

If these criteria are not met, then the information provided supports that the youth appears to be an at-risk youth, without an emphasis on sex trafficking or exploitation. Please ensure that a referral is made to the Department of Family and Children Services based on the concerns that were presented. If the criteria are met, use the "Next Steps" below to make a referral to Georgia Cares.

## NEXT STEPS

If these criteria are not met, then the information provided supports that the youth appears to be an at-risk youth, without an emphasis on sex trafficking or exploitation. Please ensure that a referral is made to the Department of Family and Children Services based on the concerns that were presented, at 1.855.GA.CHILD.



For youth that meet the criteria to refer to Georgia Cares, the following methods can be taken to complete a referral:

Call Georgia Cares at 404.602.0068. Georgia Cares operates a 24 hour hotline and can take a call at all hours of the day

Email a referral form to [referral@gacares.org](mailto:referral@gacares.org)

Fax a referral form to 404.371.1030

Referral forms and Release of Information/Consent Forms can be found at

Make a report to DFS on the basis of suspected abuse by calling the DFCS statewide centralized intake number at 1.855.GA.CHILD

**Hawaii:**

RAPID SCREENING TOOL (RST) FOR CHILD TRAFFICKING

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CPSS #: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CPSS

WORKER: UNIT: \_\_\_\_\_

**Process-Action**

Potential victim was or is currently being recruited, enticed, induced, harbored, transported, or obtained by family member, stranger, employer, or acquaintance.

Yes	No
	<p>Child has been accompanied OR transported to current location from anywhere in the U.S. or from another country; OR</p> <p>[3] Child has been promised things (e.g., job, payment, housing, school, legal status, improved circumstances/better life) in exchange for movement from one residence/community/city/state/country to another; OR</p> <p>Child is being kept or has been kept in someone's home or place of business without (or with undetermined) legal status, or lives with employer; OR</p> <p>[3] Child appears to have been "bought" or "sold." (If "yes" to this particular action, consult with a supervisor for next steps)</p>

**Means**

Potential victim has suffered physical harm, physical restraint, abuse of legal process, withholding or control of identification documents, financial harm/control, enticement, coercion, verbal threats, threats to harm physical or financial family members, scheme or plan, intimidation.

Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Evidence of physical harm OR threats of harm to child or child's family or friends; OR
<input type="checkbox"/>	Child told to distrust authority figures; OR
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identification documents (legitimate or fraudulent) have been taken away or manipulated; OR
<input type="checkbox"/>	Child is isolated (from family, friends, or community); OR
<input type="checkbox"/>	Child is not receiving payment for employment or services, or has "quota" of money to be earned for labor or (sexual) services, or not in control of money earned; or broken promises over a period of work sexual or labor related in.

**Purpose**

Potential victim has been forced into involuntary servitude, commercial sexual activity, debt bondage, or forced labor.

Yes	No
	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Child has engaged in any labor or services (e.g., retail, factory, farm, household, babysitting, cooking, restaurant, hotel, massage/spa, construction, exotic dancing, etc.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of prostitution or pornography (if "yes" to this particular action, consult with a supervisor for next steps)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child owes a debt (for any reason)</p>

**AFTER COMPLETING THE RAPID SCREENING TOOL:**

If you answered YES at least once in two or more sections, there is a good chance human trafficking is involved. Always consult with a supervisor for next steps based on the circumstances of the situation and your agency's protocol.

---

Adapted from Center for the Human Rights for Children, Loyola University Chicago & International Organization for Adolescents (IOFA)

cc: Case file  
Program Development

**Indiana:**

victim, we recommend that you refer them to your organization's trained\* staff member, who will complete a more thorough trafficking interview.

Sex Trafficking Assessment Questions:

- Have you ever been in foster care?

# Human Trafficking Detailed Interview Questions

## Indiana Protection for Abused and Trafficked Humans Task Force

- Have you ever left home without your parent or guardian knowing? If so, where did you like to go? What were some of the ways you took care of yourself?
- Do you have a boyfriend or girlfriend? How did you meet? How old is he/she?
- What are some things they do to show you they care about you? What are some things about the relationship that you don't like?
- Has anyone ever pressured you to engage in any sexual acts that made you uncomfortable?
- Has your boyfriend/girlfriend or someone else ever asked you to engage in sex for money in order to "help the relationship/the family"?
- Has anyone ever pressured you to engage in sexual acts with friends or business partners for favors/money? Has that person ever given you drugs, clothes, or gifts? • How old were you when you first became involved in this situation?
- Who decides whether or not you use a condom during sex acts?
- Are you ever required to earn a certain amount of money/meet a nightly quota by engaging in sex for someone? What happens if you do not meet this quota?
- Do you keep all of the money you make from working, or do you give all or part of your money to someone else?
- Has anyone ever pressured or forced you to engage in sex through online websites, escort services, street prostitution, informal arrangements, brothels, massage parlors or strip clubs?

---

(If your organization would like to receive IPATH training on human trafficking and trafficking interviews, please contact [HumanTraffickingInfo@.atg.in.gov](mailto:HumanTraffickingInfo@.atg.in.gov))

### Labor Trafficking Assessment Questions:

- How do you feel about where you work? How do you feel about your employer/supervisor/crew leader/or other controller?

- What type of labor/services do you do?
- How did you find out about this job?
- What were you told about the job before you started/what promises were made?
- Were you ever pressured or forced to sign a contract that you didn't understand or didn't want to sign? Was this contract ever used as a threat against you?
- [For foreign-born interviewees] Did anyone help you arrange for travel and immigration documents? If so, who? Do you owe them money for those services?
- Do you feel that you are paid fairly at this job? How much and how often are you paid?
- Do you have to pay weekly/monthly expenses? If so, how are these expenses calculated?
- Do you owe someone money? If so, what do you owe them for?
- Do you have access to any money that you earn? Does anyone take your money or a portion of your money? Does anyone hold your money for "safe keeping?"
- If the money you earn is kept in a bank account, who set up this bank account? Does anyone else beside you have access to the account?
- What are your normal work hours? How many hours do you have to work each day?
- What happens if you work fewer hours or take breaks?
- Has anyone ever threatened you if you indicated you did not want to work the hours expected of you?
- Does someone control, supervise or monitor your work/your actions?
- Is your communication ever restricted or monitored? Are you allowed to call or communicate with friends and family?
- Are you able to access medical care?
- Do you have to live in specific housing? What are the conditions like in this housing? Do you have to pay a fee in order to stay in this housing? Are there locks on the doors and/or windows that keep you from leaving?

- Has someone ever promised to secure, renew or pay for your legal documents or work visa? If so, who?
- Is someone holding your identification documents?
- Does someone provide transportation to the work site? What does this look like?
- Are you allowed to leave your work? What would happen if you left or tried to leave? Why do you think that would happen?
- Have you or anyone you work or live with been abused at work or home (slapped, hit, sexually violated)?
- Do you have to ask permission to eat, sleep, or go to the bathroom?
- Has anyone every threatened you or your family?
- What did this person tell you would happen if you were arrested or encountered a police officer or immigration official?







## Maine:

# Maine Human Trafficking Identification and Response Screening Tool

Human trafficking, as defined by the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act, is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, providing, or obtaining of a person, through force, fraud, or coercion, for labor services or commercial sex - OR any commercial sexual activity by a minor.

## Introduction

Some indicators of trafficking can be observed during one encounter with an individual, while others may be observed over time. The following tool may help to assess whether trafficking is present and to provide supportive questions you may consider asking to find out more about a person's circumstances. This tool is intended to help shape a conversation and begin to assess services needed. It is not intended to be given in 'check-list' form or given to the person you are working with.

## Indicators

If you have observed (or a person has disclosed) the following indicators, they may be experiencing or are at risk to experience trafficking or exploitation. The list is not exhaustive, and the presence — or lack of — indicators cannot confirm concretely whether trafficking is occurring.

### General and Labor Trafficking

- Referral from law enforcement or community partner with suspicion of trafficking.
- No access to personal identification, especially passports for foreign nationals.
- Mentions of quota or debt in reference to employer/family member/partner.
- Travel across state lines (without known resources to do so).
- Frequenting hotels or areas known for criminal activities.
- Unexplained physical injuries or signs of untreated illness or disease.
- Disconnected or cut off from any family or support system.
- Works excessively long hours or unusual hours and is unpaid, paid very little or paid only through tips.
- Cannot identify address or residence.
- Not allowed to speak for themselves—a 3<sup>rd</sup> party speaks or translates for them.
- Untreated mental health and medical needs (including STIs and a history of pregnancies).

- Evidence of a controlling, abusive or dominating employer, partner or older adult.

- Sex                      All of the above, as well as:
- Indicates involvement in commercial sex work (or witnessed by others or prostitution arrest).
- Trafficking
- History of involvement in the foster care or juvenile justice system.
  - Evidence of brands or tattoos.
  - Drug charges/substance abuse.
  - Unexplained expensive items (cells phones, clothing, etc).
    - For juveniles, multiple reports of running away and truancy issues.

Adapted by the Maine Sex Trafficking and Exploitation Network from Polaris Project and the US Department of Health and Human Services

#### Assessment Questions

The following questions may support you to better understand an individuals' circumstances, in order to better address their needs and plan for safety.

- Have you ever traded or been asked to trade sex/sexual acts for food, shelter or other basic needs?
- Does someone control, supervise or monitor what you do?
- How did you meet this person/how did you find out about this job?
- Is your communication (calls, emails, conversations) ever restricted or monitored?
- Do you have access to all your identification/personal documents?
- Do you have access to any money or the money that you earn? Does anyone take all or some of your money?
- What did you expect of this situation/relationship? Has it been as promised?
- What would happen if you didn't do what this person asked of you? • What would happen if you left this person/situation?

## How to Respond

If the indicators or assessment questions above lead you to suspect that trafficking or exploitation is occurring:

- Follow your internal agency protocol; and/or
- Call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center 24-hour hotline at 1-888-373-7888. The hotline can help you to safety plan, and connect you with Maine's local anti-trafficking service network.
- If the individual is a minor, mandatory reporting procedures may apply, and the Dept. of Health and Human Services can be reached at 1-800-452-1999

## Additional Resources

- Polaris Project [www.polarisproject.org](http://www.polarisproject.org)  
Information on trafficking assessment, data and statistics, and response resources.
- National Human Trafficking Hotline — 1-888-373-7888  
Connection with local resources, as well as support for victims/survivors and providers.
- Maine Dept. of Health and Human Services — 1-800-452-1999  
Mandatory reporting for minors, connection and referral with child welfare services. ● Maine Sex Trafficking and Exploitation Network [www.mainesten.org](http://www.mainesten.org)

**Maryland:**

CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING (CST) SCREENING INTERVIEW  
Tier One

CHILD'S NAME:

NICKNAME:

DOB:                      AGE:                      RACE:

GENDER: Female                      Male                      Transgender Female                      Transgender Male

CPS/Family Preservation Services                      CJ Placement & Permanency Services

INTERVIEW DATE(S):

SCREENING TOOL COMPLETED:                      YES                      NO

Directions: Staff completing this tool should have a conversation with the child, as soon as the child returns from runaway or when the worker suspects that trafficking may be an issue, and illicit information from the child on each of the questions listed below, While there is a need to address all of the questions, this should not be completed as a questionnaire but used as a guide for having a conversation with the child, Results of the conversation MUST be recorded on this form which needs to address each of the questions listed. (1) Indicate if the child does not respond after prompting. (2) BC aware of the attitude and demeanor of the child during the discussion and record observations at the completion of the discussion(s). (3) Let the child guide the amount of information he/she feels comfortable providing. The worker needs to create an environment so that the Child can feel comfortable during the conversation and know that the worker is 'interested in trying to get a better understanding of what is going on with the child. This conversation may need to take place over several visits. Once the worker has covered all of the topics, the tool must be completed and scanned into the MD CHESSIE File Cabinet. If trafficking is disclosed, the worker must report the trafficking to the appropriate CPS Screening unit.

The contents of the tool should be shared with the worker's supervisor. supervisor should review and discuss with the worker the outcome of the screening and ensure that the tool has been used correctly and that the outcome reflects the current status of the child.

If the child has runaway at any time, all questions under 1. and 2. should be addressed, If the child is not a runaway, but the worker is concerned that trafficking may have occurred or is currently occurring, the worker can skip to the questions under 2

- 1- Have you ever runaway or left home or foster care? DYES ONO If  
YES, ask the following questions:

1a. About how many times? (If child has difficulty, ask if only 1 time, 2-3 times, 4-6 times, 7-10 times, more than 10)

o If child reports running away 3 or more times, check CST Risk Factor box

1b. How long do you usually stay away? (If child has difficulty, ask 1-2 days, 3-5 days, 7 days, more than 7 days)

If child reports running away 3 or -more time check CST Risk Factor box

Can you tell me more about what made you leave?

How do you take care of yourself while away?

Can you tell me what you did when you needed food, clothing, shelter, a rides and etc. while you are away from home/foster home? Did you have friends that helped you with these things?

If- were did you spend the night while you were gone?

child reports staying in hotel motel at a boyfriend/girlfriend's home, or on the street, check CST Risk Factor box

1g. Who else was staying there with you?

111. Did you feel safe there?

1 i. Does child indicate staying with anyone? C] YES NO If YES, ask the following questions:

1j. Can you tell me about who you were staying with and what your relationship is to them?

1k. While you were away from home/foster home, did anything keep you from going back. Examples might include being afraid of getting in trouble, something wrong at home, didn't have transportation home; etc.

2. Do you have a special person in your life, boyfriend/girlfriend? YES NO If YES, ask the -following questions:

2a, Can you tell me about this person? (Is this person your age or older?)

2b. folder ask: -How much older?

If child reports having a romantic partner who is 4+ years Older€ check CST Risk Factor box

2c. What do you about this special friend?

2d. Does he/she give you nice things, takes you places, do special things for you?

O YES

If child reports yes, check CST Risk Factor box

2e. Has anyone asked you to do anything that has made you feel uncomfortable in exchange for something that you needed? (ex: food, shelter; clothing, water, a ride) O YES ONO

child reports yes, check CST Risk Factor

2f. Do you have any tattoos? OYES -ONO If YES, ask the following question:

2g is your tattoos and what does it/they mean to you?

If child has related to a romantic partner; gang, or information prostitution yecheck

CST Risk Factor box

-2h. the police in the last year O YES ONO If YES<sup>9</sup>.ask the following questions:

2i. In 'What cities or states did this contact occur in?

2j. Did the contact with the police result in an arrest? YES

If YES, ask the following questions:

2k. What was the arrest for?

If child reports having police contact for prostitution or related charges (loitering. trespassing, drug offenses, shoplifting solicitation) or police contact in multiple cities or States check CST Risk Factor box

\*NOTE: If child who is AWOL is picked up by police request a copy of the police report and gather details of how police came into contact with child,

21. We've talked about some possibly difficult topics in your life. What are a few of your hopes for the future?

\*NOTE: Worker should review social media profiles of child to determine whether the child has posts that are indicative of trafficking activities€

Number of CST Risk Factor boxes checked: out of 8 Risk Factors

If you have checked 3 or more CST Risk Factor boxes, the worker should consider the child at risk of being a human trafficking victim.

If child discloses experiencing any trafficking including both pimp controlled or engaging in any commercial sex act (prostitution, trading sex for food/shelter/transportation/etc. stripping. or pornography), worker must report all sex trafficking to CPS in the jurisdiction or state in which it occurred,

1. Did child disclose being trafficked? YES NO
2. Was a report made to CPS? DYES ONO
- 3, Based on the conversation/screening with child worker identified risk factors and recommends additional screening? DYES ONO
4. Has a referral for services been made? DYES C] NO
5. What belongings did the child have when they returned from runaway?  
(ex: clothing, money or credit/gift cards, cell phone/e) electronics, jewelry)

Below, please note my concerns as well as child's attitude and demeanor throughout the discussion(s).

After your intake specialist has flagged someone as a potential human trafficking victim, we recommend that you consider them a potential victim of human trafficking. Once an individual is flagged as a potential

**Michigan: HUMAN TRAFFICKING SCREENING TOOL – ONGOIN**

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

This screening tool should be used per SRM 300 when there is reason to believe a youth is a victim or at risk of being a victim of human trafficking. These indicators can help identify if a youth under the supervision of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) may be a victim or is a risk of being a victim of human trafficking. The following information will be learned during routine case management activities (home visits, court proceedings, interview with family members and/or child welfare personnel affiliated with the case). It should be used as a guide to identification and should not be the sole source for deciding whether the youth is being exploited. If the youth has already disclosed human trafficking victimization, this tool does not need to be completed.

Name of Youth	Date of Birth
Person Completing Form	Date
Agency/Contractor	

PART A: OBSERVATIONS



If ONE OR MORE BOXES ARE CHECKED "YES" PROCEED TO PARTS B&c		
Is someone other than the youth in control of his or her identifications?		
Does the youth have, or have they previously had, anyone with him or her who is controlling and/or whom the youth appears to be afraid of: boyfriend or girlfriend, guardian, caretaker, etc.?		
Does the youth have tattoos that he or she does not have a credible explanation for: known gage symbols, property of someone, daddy's girl, loyalty, a crown, etc?		
Does the youth have bruises in various stages of healing? Has gang affiliation been disclosed, reported, or suspected?		
Is the youth fearful, timid, or submissive? Do they avoid eye contact?		
Is there evidence of substance use? Does the youth appear disoriented or confused?		
Does the youth show signs of having been denied food, water, sleep, or medical care? Is he or she unable to identify where he or she sleeps, who holds his or her, medication, or what he or she ate last?		
Does the youth have money, a cell phone, hotel keys, or other items that he or she does not have the resources to obtain and cannot account for?		
Does the youth live at his or her workplace or with many people in a small area?		
Does the youth appear to be coached on what to say?		
Does the youth work long hours, often for little or no pay?		
Do you have any other reason to believe the youth may be a human trafficking victim?		

The following indicators are grouped into "high" levels, indicating that a youth may have been or is at serious risk of being trafficked. Consultation with supervision should determine if Centralized Intake needs to be contacted.

**PART B: HIGH-LEVEL INDICATORS**

YOUTH WITH A HIGHER NUMBER OF INDICATORS MUST BE CLOSELY MONITORED AND CONSIDERED FOR SERVICES.		
Youth disclosed serious sexual assault and then withdraws his or her statement		
Someone other than the youth's parent or guardian was in control of immigration to U.S.		
Youth has had multiple pregnancies and/or miscarriages or abortions		
Youth uses slang trafficking terms (calling romantic partner "Daddy" or "Mommy", talking about "the life" or ' the game").		
You does not know his/her address and/or has moved multiple times		
Someone other than the youth is in control of his or her identification or passport.		
Youth shows signs of having been denied food, water, sleep, or medical care and cannot identify where they sleep, who holds their medication or what they ate last		

Youth stays out overnight multiple times with no explanation or the story does not add up.		
Youth associates with adults or other youth who are being prostituted, or are known to be involved with trafficking and/or other exploitation		
Youth is in debt to his/her employer.		
Youth lives at his/her workplace, with many people in a small area, or with their employer		
Was the youth recruited for one purpose and then forced to engage in another job?		
Does the youth have freedom of movement? Can youth freely leave where they live? Are there unreasonable security measures?		
Youth is not allowed breaks or suffers under unusual restrictions at work.		
Youth exhibits unusually fearful or anxious behavior after bringing up law enforcement		
Youth claims he or she is just visiting and is unable to clarify where he or she is staying.		
Has the youth had a sudden or dramatic change in behavior?		

PART C:

ONE OR MORE OF THESE INDICATORS MANDATES THAT THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING PROTOCOL MUST BE REFERENCED,		
You the reports engaging in commercial sex acts		
Youth reports he or she has been prostituted or trafficked.		
Youth reports trading sex for a place to stay, food, drugs, or anything of value (survival sex)		
Youth reports being involved in the sex industry (working in strip clubs, private sex parties, etc.).		
Someone witnesses the youth engaged in a commercial sex act.		
There are photos or videos of the youth being victimized and/or being used to advertise the youth for sexual purposes (Backpage, Craigslist, etc.).		
Law enforcement refers youth instead of arresting for prostitution, or does not arrest for prostitution		
Youth is recruiting peers into exploitation.		
Youth discloses or someone reports the youth being moved around for sexual activity		
Youth over 18 is engaging in prostitution or commercial sex acts due to force, fraud, or coercion.		

If you identify the youth to be a victim of human trafficking and they are 17 or younger:

A Children's Protective Services (CPS) complaint must be made to Centralized Intake immediately at 855-444-3911.

If you identify the individual to be a victim of human trafficking and they are age 18 or older:

When any individual age 18 or older who is believed to be at risk of harm of abuse, neglect, or exploitation due to human trafficking, and there is a reasonable belief that the person is vulnerable and in need of protective services, the worker must make an Adult Protective Services (APS) complaint to Centralized Intake at 855-444-3911. Send a copy of this form to Program Office attention:

MDHHS                    Human  
Trafficking Analyst 235  
South Grand Avenue,  
Suite 514  
Lansing, MI 48933  
Office: 517-335-8909  
Fax: 517-335-7789

Email: [Child-Welfare-Policy@michigan.gov](mailto:Child-Welfare-Policy@michigan.gov)

The National Human Trafficking Hotline is a national 24-hour, toll-free, multilingual anti-trafficking hotline. Call 888-373-7888 or text 233-733 to report a tip, connect with anti-trafficking services in your area, or request training and technical assistance, general information, or specific anti-trafficking resources.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) does not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, genetic information, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political beliefs or disability.

**Nevada:**

HUMAN TRAFFICKING SCREENING TOOL

1. Fraud/Financial Coercion Questions

a) Where were you born?\_\_\_\_\_ (If not a U.S. Citizen continue to (a)-(d))

(a) How did you get into this \_\_\_\_\_

country? (b) Who brought you into this

country?

\_\_\_\_\_

(c) Who organized your travel?

\_\_\_\_\_

(d) Are you in possession of your own legal (I.D.) documents? If not, why?

\_\_\_\_\_

(e) Were you provided false documents or identification?

\_\_\_\_\_

(f) How was payment for your travel handled?

\_\_\_\_\_

(g) Did you come to this country for a specific job that you were promised? \_\_\_\_\_

(h) Were you forced to do different work? \_\_\_\_\_

(i) Who forced you into doing different work than what was promised? \_\_\_\_\_

b) How did you get your job? \_\_\_\_\_

c) Who promised you this job? \_\_\_\_\_

d) Was there some sort of work contract signed? \_\_\_\_\_

e) Are you getting paid to do your job? \_\_\_\_\_

f) Do you actually receive payment or is your money being held for you? \_\_\_\_\_

g) Do you owe your employer money? \_\_\_\_\_

h) Are there records or receipts of what is owed to your employer/recruiter? \_\_\_\_\_

i) Are there records/receipts of what was earned/paid to you? \_\_\_\_\_

j) How were financial transactions handled? \_\_\_\_\_

k) Are you being made to do things that you do not want to do? \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2. Physical Abuse Questions

a) Were you ever threatened with harm if you tried to leave?  
\_\_\_\_\_

b) Did you ever witness any threats against other people if they tried to leave? \_\_\_\_\_

c) Has your family been threatened? \_\_\_\_\_

d) Do you know about any other person's family ever being threatened?  
\_\_\_\_\_

e) Were you ever physically abused?  
\_\_\_\_\_

f) Did you ever witness abuse against another person? \_\_\_\_\_

g) What type of physical abuse did you witness?  
\_\_\_\_\_

h) Were there any objects or weapons used in the physical abuse?  
\_\_\_\_\_

i) Where are these objects or weapons located?  
\_\_\_\_\_

j) Was knowledge of this abuse ever communicated to a person outside of this situation

(e.g., police reports, domestic violence reports, hospital records, social service records)?  
\_\_\_\_\_

k) Was anyone else ever abused or threatened with harm in your presence?  
\_\_\_\_\_

l) How were medical problems handled, and who attended to them?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Freedom of Movement Questions

- a) Is your freedom of movement restricted?\_\_\_\_\_
- b) Do you live and work in the same place?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c) What were the conditions under which you were left unattended?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d) Were there instances of physical restriction through locks, chains, etc.?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- e) Where are the locks used and who has the keys to them?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- f) How was movement in public places handled (e.g., car, van, bus, subway)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- g) Who supervised your movement in public places?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- h) How was the purchase of private goods and services handled (e.g., medicines, prescriptions)?\_\_\_\_\_
- i) What forms of media or telecommunication did you have access to (e.g., television, radio, newspapers, magazines, telephone, the Internet)?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Psychological Coercion Questions

#### A. Behavioral indicators:

- a) Who are you afraid of?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b) Why are you afraid of them? \_\_\_\_\_
- c) What would you like to see happen to the people who hurt you (e.g., jail, deportation)?

\_\_\_\_\_

d) How do you feel about the police? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

B. Environmental Indicators:

a) Where do you live/work/eat/sleep? \_\_\_\_\_

b) Where do the alleged perpetrators live/eat/sleep? \_\_\_\_\_

c) Are the living conditions between the two excessively different?

\_\_\_\_\_

Sources: United States Department of Health and Human Services,  
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/resource/nhhtacadultscreening> National  
Human Trafficking Hotline Resource Center  
<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/resources/trauma-informed-human-trafficking-screenings>



New York:

NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

RAPID INDICATOR TOOL

To Identify Children Who May Be Sex Trafficking  
Victims or Are At Risk of Being a Sex  
Trafficking Victim <sup>1</sup>

Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person Completing Form: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

The following is a list of some red flags that indicate a child may be a sex trafficking victim or is at risk of being a victim of sex trafficking.

- Do not directly ask the child or family the questions. This is not a questionnaire.
- The child may be a victim or is at risk if the answer is "Yes" to any of the indicators below:

	Yes
Are there signs of child abuse of a sexual nature and reason to believe that the child, or parent/guardian of the child or other person(s) facilitating the abuse, was given or promised anything in return for the sexual abuse?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there reason to believe there are photographs, social media posts, or other recordings of instance(s) of sexual abuse of the child?	
Has the parent/guardian been a victim of trafficking or is there concern that the parent/guardian has been a victim?	
Does the child have a history of multiple runaways/AWOLS or episodes of homelessness/couch surfing in the past? (Family homelessness should not be counted)	
Does the child have tattoos that show, imply, or suggest ownership and/or that he or she does not have an explanation for? (e.g., daddy's girl, property of someone's name, symbols, etc.)	
Does the child have or has he or she previously had a significantly older boyfriend or girlfriend who is controlling and/or whom the child appears to be afraid of?	
Does the child have a history of multiple or chronic sexually transmitted infections, or pregnancies/abortions, or report multiple anonymous sexual partners?	

<sup>1</sup> Referenced as the quick screening tool in the sex trafficking requirements policies. <sup>2</sup>[Child Sex Trafficking Indicators Tool](#).

Does the child have money, a cell phone, hotel keys, or other items that he or she does not have the resources to obtain and cannot account for?	
Has a gang affiliation been disclosed, reported, or suspected?	
Is someone else other than the child's parent or guardian in control of his or her identification or passport?	
Do you have any other reason to believe the child may be a sex trafficking victim?	

**The Results: Documentation and Required Actions**

The worker must document the results of this tool in CONNECTIONS or JJIS.

No indicators have been marked "yes". The worker enters "No Risk Indicators" into CONNECTIONS/JJIS and no further screening is needed, unless new information is learned, the child's circumstances change, the child returns from being missing, abducted, or absent without consent or a new CPS investigative case is opened for the child.

There are one or more indicators marked "Yes" or the child has already been determined to be a victim. The worker enters "At Risk" into CONNECTIONS/JJIS and must complete the comprehensive screening tool(s) as outlined in the policies *Requirements to Identify*.

**Document, Report and Provide Services to Child Sex Trafficking Victims (LDSS/VAs) or Child Sex Trafficking/Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) (OCFS DJJOY)**

**North Dakota:**

NORTH DAKOTA HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE -

In North Dakota, a person is a victim of human trafficking if 1) an adult is compelled by a third party to participate in commercial sex through deception or coercion, 2) a minor is made available by a third party for the purpose of engaging in commercial sexual activity, or 3) if someone knowingly uses coercion to compel an individual to provide labor or services. NDCC SS 12.1-41-03(1), 04(1)(a). A minor CANNOT legally consent to commercial sex or prostitution, so any disclosed or apparent participation in commercial sex or prostitution by a minor is a HIGH RISK INDICATOR OF TRAFFICKING.

This guide offers some signs to look and listen for that indicate a person may be a victim of trafficking, or is at risk of being trafficked. INCLUDING THIS GUIDE IN A PERSON'S FILE WITH PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION COULD EXPOSE THEM TO CRIMINAL LIABILITY. A person suspected of being trafficked should be provided a more comprehensive screening and/or a referral for specialized services.

INDICATORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING:
Do you suspect involvement in providing commercial sex acts in exchange for money, drugs, food, shelter or other things with a monetary value? Is there evidence of force, fraud or coercion?
Is the person homeless or unable to identify his/her permanent residence or current location, and is this inability not explained by familial homelessness?
Has the person been/is the person currently in the company of adults, peers or a significant other in an unusual or controlling circumstance? (speaking for them, constantly present, etc.)
Does the person possess money, a cell phone, hotel keys, or other personal items that he or she does not have the resources to obtain? Does the person show signs of expensive personal services (manicure, hair coloring, etc.) that he/she does not have the resources to obtain? Are they without a convincing explanation of how they obtained the goods/services?
Is someone other than the person or the person's parent or guardian in control of his or her identification, money, passport, or other personal items?
Does the person have tattoos that show ownership and/or that he/she does not have an explanation for? (e.g., daddy's girl, property of someone's name, symbols, etc.)
Is the person suspected or confirmed to be a minor? If so, does the minor have a history of 3 or more runaways or AWOLS in the last year, or a history of <u>extended</u> absence/truancy from school or any permanent residence?*
Has the person been asked to work in exchange for services/housing/tools instead of getting paid?
Has the person received no paycheck for their work or only been paid in cash? (indicate)
Does the person lack legal immigration status? Has the threat of arrest or deportation been made against the person?
Do you have any other reason to believe the person may be a trafficking victim (sex or labor)? (i.e., information obtained in screening, multiple STI's/sexual partners, LGBTQ runaway, vocabulary — "Daddy, wifey, trick, the game, the life, folks", etc.) Please describe in comments section on next page.

**REFERRAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

The more indicators that are present, the greater the risk or likelihood of trafficking. If the indicators above are present, please make the appropriate referral, based on the following instructions:

If you believe the person is in imminent danger contact your local law enforcement or dial 911

- If the person is a minor, and child abuse or neglect is suspected, contact your county social services agency.
- If the person is a minor, and human trafficking is suspected, contact 1) your county social services agency, and 2) the appropriate regional Navigator, based on the attached services map.
- If the person is an adult, and human trafficking is suspected, contact the appropriate regional Navigator, based on the attached services map.

For Training and Technical Assistance in using this guide, contact the North Dakota Human Trafficking Task Force at 701-934-5593

Ohio:

Standardized Screening Trafficking Questions

The following questions are from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.<sup>2</sup> Although written for healthcare providers, many anti-trafficking resources note their applicability as general screening tools for situations of both sex and labor trafficking. Please note that the order listed does not indicate the order in which the questions should be asked. The type and order of the questions should be tailored to individual situations and amended to enhance their effectiveness and support of the client.

- Did someone control, supervise or monitor your work/actions?
- Can you leave your job or work situation if you want to? ● Was your communication ever restricted or monitored?
- Were you able to access medical care?
- Were you ever allowed to leave the place you were living/working? Under what conditions?
- Was your movement outside of your residence/workplace ever monitored or controlled?
- What did you think would have happened if you left the situation?
  - ❖ Was there ever a time when you wanted to leave, but felt that you could not?
  - ❖ What do you think would have happened if you left without telling anyone?
- Did you feel it was your only option to stay in the situation?
- Did anyone ever force you to do something physically or sexually that you didn't feel comfortable doing?
- Were you ever physically abused (shoved, slapped, hit, kicked, scratched, punched, burned, etc.) by anyone?
- Were you ever sexually abused (sexual assault/unwanted touching, rape, sexual exploitation, etc.) by anyone?
- Did anyone ever introduce you to drugs or medications?

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<sup>2</sup> From "Resources: Screening Tool for Victims of Human Trafficking," U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, [http://www.iustice.gov/usao\(ian/htrt/health screen questions.pdf](http://www.iustice.gov/usao(ian/htrt/health%20screen%20questions.pdf). Accessed 18 June 2013.

## What to do if you Suspect a Human Trafficking Situation

If during the course of your screening interview you suspect the individual is a victim of human trafficking, take the following actions as applicable:

- If you suspect there is a threat of immediate harm to a victim, call 911.
- If there is no immediate danger to victims, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline at 888-3737-888 and/or the state hotline at #677. This hotline will help you determine if you have encountered victims of human trafficking, will identify local resources available in your community to help victims and will help you coordinate with local social service organizations to help protect and serve victims so they can begin the process of restoring their lives.
- Contact your local Rescue and Restore Coalition or human trafficking victim service provider if applicable. (See: <http://www.polarisproject.org/state-map/ohio>)
- Follow your agency's internal procedure for responding to human trafficking victims, i.e. report the finding to management. If there is not an internal procedure established or it is unclear, contact the state Anti-Trafficking Coordinator at 614-995-7986 or [eiranade-janis@dps.state.oh.us](mailto:eiranade-janis@dps.state.oh.us).

For additional resources and information, visit the Polaris Project's website at <http://www.polarisproject.org>.

### Appendix I: Screening Protocol Tailored for the Ohio



## A. Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections (DRC) and the Ohio Department of Youth Services (DYS)

The following questions will be asked when the initial Detailed Mental Health Screen is completed for DRC and DYS. Responses will help determine if specialized mental health treatment may be needed during the offender's incarceration.

1. Prior to incarceration, did anyone control, supervise or monitor your work or actions against your will?
2. Was your communication ever restricted or monitored?
3. Did anyone ever introduce you to drugs or medications? (interviewer can expand upon with examples)
4. Have you ever been forced to put inappropriate photos on a social network page?
5. Did anyone ever force you to do something physically or sexually that you didn't feel comfortable doing?
6. If you were forced:
  - Was the person who forced you given money or other benefits for the acts you were forced to do?
  - Was there ever a time when you wanted to leave but felt that you couldn't?
  - What do you think would have happened if you left without telling anyone?

## B. The following questions will be asked in the event that mental health professionals at ODRC/ODYS receive a referral from prison staff concerning a current offender who may be in a potential human trafficking situation while residing in the institution.

1. Does anyone currently control, supervise or monitor your work or actions against your will?
2. Is your communication being restricted or monitored?
3. Have you been introduced to drugs or medications? (interviewer can expand upon w/examples)
4. Is anyone forcing you to do something physically or sexually that you don't feel comfortable doing?
5. If you are being forced:
  - Is the person who is forcing you given money or other benefits for the acts you are forced to do?
  - Is there ever a time you want to get out of this situation but feel that you can't?

- If you did take measures to get out of this situation, what do you think would happen?
- \*Questions 4 and 5 would automatically lead to PREA Protocol/line of questioning via Medical Investigator, MH, etc.

## Pennsylvania:

Tier One Indicators — If one or more Tier One indicators are present, a further assessment, using the CVHT Assessment Tool, is warranted.

[1][2][3][4]

ÜÜÜÜ Current incident or history of sex and/or labor trafficking or acknowledgement of being trafficked  
ÜÜÜÜ Child is recovered from runaway episode in a hotel or known area of prostitution  
ÜÜÜÜ Report of sex and/or labor trafficking by parent/guardian, law enforcement, medical or service provider, teacher, child protective services and/or juvenile probation officer

Tier Two Indicators — If two or more Tier Two indicators are present, a further assessment, using the CVHT Assessment Tool, may be warranted.

[1][2][3][4]

ÜÜÜÜ History of running away or getting kicked out 4 or more times in addition to a history of sexual abuse (Definition of running away or getting kicked out of home includes times the child did not voluntarily return within 24 hours. Include incidents not reported by or to law enforcement.)

ÜÜÜÜ History of running away from another county or state

ÜÜÜÜ Current incident or history of inappropriate sexual behaviors

ÜÜÜÜ Current incident or history of sexually transmitted diseases or pregnancies

Clüüü Child is not allowed or unable to speak for him/herself and may be extremely fearful

C]ÜÜÜ Child has no personal items or possessions (including identity documents if foreign born— labor trafficking)

ÜÜüü Child appears to have material items that he or she cannot afford (e.g. cell phones, expensive clothing, tablets, etc.)

ÜÜÜÜ Child shows signs of being groomed (i.e. hair done, nails done, new clothing, etc., that the child cannot afford or justify how it was paid for)

ÜÜÜÜ Suspicious tattoos or other signs of branding (e.g. tattoos of the trafficker's names, dollar signs, diamonds, stars, etc.; may also have certain designs/logos on nails, jewelry, etc.)

ÜÜÜÜ Child has no knowledge about the community he/she is located in

ÜÜÜÜ Child associates and/or has relationships with age-inappropriate friends, boyfriends and/or girlfriends

ÜÜÜÜ Child known to associate with confirmed or suspected child victim of human trafficking

ÜÜÜÜ Child is not living with parent, guardian, relative or caretaker of record

CICIC]ü Child has inappropriate, sexually suggestive activity on social media websites and/or chat apps

ÜÜÜÜ Child has a history of being arrested for loitering, curfew violations, disorderly conduct, simple possession of a controlled substance, criminal trespassing and false identification to law enforcement authorities

ÜÜÜÜ Child has a history of truancy or absence from school

\*\*\*The individual completing the screening tool has the ability to conduct a more detailed CVHT assessment regardless of the screening tool's findings\* \*\*

Name of Screener Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number/Email

\_\_\_\_\_

(The individual utilizing the screening tool has the ability to conduct a more detailed CVHT assessment regardless of the screening tools findings.)

1) Name of Child Number [11Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Screening

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Tier One Indicators

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Tier Two Indicators

\_\_\_\_\_

No Indicators Were Present During the Screening

\_\_\_\_\_

Date assessment was conducted

\_\_\_\_\_

No further assessment is needed

\_\_\_\_\_

Please explain why a further assessment is/is not warranted:

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2) Name of Child Number [21                      Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Screening

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Tier One Indicators

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Tier Two Indicators

\_\_\_\_\_

No Indicators Were Present During the Screening

Date assessment was conducted No further assessment is needed

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please explain why a further assessment is/is not warranted:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**p**

---

3) Name of Child Number [31                      Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Screening

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Tier One Indicators

Total Number of Tier Two Indicators

No Indicators Were Present During the Screening

Date assessment was conducted No further assessment is needed

Please explain why a further assessment is/is not warranted:

4) Name of Child Number [4]Date of Birth

Date of Screening

Total Number of Tier One Indicators

Total Number of Tier Two Indicators

No Indicators Were Present During the Screening

Date assessment was conducted

No further assessment is needed

Please explain why a further assessment is/is not warranted:

Name of Supervisor Signature

Date

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Supervisor Comments:

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## CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

-

### Preparation for the Assessment

The assessment should be conducted in a safe and non-threatening environment. Assessors need to be well-prepared, should be comfortable working with victims of trauma, and must recognize the need to ask questions in an appropriate manner that is sensitive to the needs of child. The following guidelines should be followed when preparing to conduct a CVHT assessment:

- O Read through the entire Assessment Tool and these instructions, so that you are familiar with the tool and able to conduct the assessment in a conversational style, allowing the child to direct the flow of discussion.
- ☞ Conduct the assessment in a private, quiet environment designed to make the child feel physically comfortable and safe.
- O Be prepared to provide the child with basic needs, such as an interpreter, tissues, drink, food, clothing, medical or therapeutic care, and/or access to services, as appropriate.
- ☞ If an interpreter is necessary, he/she should be trustworthy (unknown to the child being interviewed) and able to use the same wording as the Assessor when asking questions and the same wording as the child when answering questions. The interpreter is required to be an agency or certified interpreter.

Do not interview a child in front of a suspected trafficker or individual who is exhibiting controlling behavior over the child. Do not allow this person to interpret for the child if he/she does not speak fluent English.

- O Recognize that dressing in uniforms, suits, or other formal attire may cause a child to fear that you are with immigration services or other enforcement agencies.

Use strengths-based and trauma-informed care approaches during the assessment, allowing the child to lead the direction of the conversation.

The assessment process may need to take place over multiple contact points if Assessor judges the child needs more time. The Assessor may postpone the discussion to a later time when the child is ready to discuss his/her experiences.

### Instructions for the Assessment

Instructions for the Assessor are provided in italics throughout the tool. These instructions guide Assessors to sub-questions that may need to be asked, sections that requires information to be filled in, and questions that include prompts for further explanation.



CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

The Assessor should use a conversational approach to secure answers to the other questions, being sensitive to the needs of child who may be suffering from the effects of exposure to trauma.

- O The Assessor should use professional judgment in deciding whether to preface a question or a prompt with phrasing such as, "Please tell me more about that.. or "If you are comfortable, could you tell me about that?"

Sections A, B, H, and I are preceded with the instruction — (DO NOT READ TO OR ASK THE CHILD) — these sections are intended to be completed by the Assessor and not asked of the child.

- O Please use the lines provided within the Assessment Tool to record child's responses to open ended questions or any additional information that has been disclosed to you that is specific to your determination of the child's involvement.

At the end of selected questions, you will see this symbol which asks that Assessors code for the likelihood that the child's responses suggest any evidence of the problem targeted by the preceding item(s). An example is provided below:

O Evidence of Unsafe Living Environment: (Check one) Yes No

Item-by-Item Guide for Administering the Tool

Section A is to be completed by the Assessor and not asked of the child.

Section A — Background Information (DO NOT READ TO OR ASK THE CHILD)

- 1. Date of Assessment: (MM/DD/YYYY)
2. Location of the Assessment:
3. Assessor:

CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

4. Contact phone number or Assessor:

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5. Reason for the Assessment: (Check all that apply)

*Tier One Indicators*

- Current incident or history of previous sex and/or labor trafficking or acknowledgement of being trafficked
- Child is recovered from runaway episode in a hotel or known area of prostitution
- Report of sex and/or labor trafficking by parent/guardian, law enforcement, medical or service provider, teacher, child protective services and/or juvenile probation officer

*Tier Two Indicators*

- History of running away or getting kicked out 4+ times in addition to a history of sexual abuse (Definition of running away or getting kicked out of home includes times the child did not voluntarily return within 24 hours. Include incidents not reported by or to law enforcement.)
- History of running away from another county or state
- Current incident or history of inappropriate sexual behaviors
- Current incident or history of sexually transmitted diseases or pregnancies
- Child is not allowed or unable to speak for him/herself and may be extremely fearful
- C]  Child has no personal items or possessions (including identity documents if foreign born— labor trafficking)
- Child appears to have material items that he or she cannot afford (e.g. cell phones, expensive clothing, tablets, etc.)
- Child shows signs of being groomed (i.e. hair done, nails done, new clothing, etc. that the child cannot afford or justify how paid for)

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- 
- Suspicious tattoos or other signs of branding (e.g. tattoos of the trafficker's names, dollar signs, diamonds, stars, etc.; may also have certain designs/logos on nails, jewelry, etc.)
  - Child has no knowledge about the community he/she is located in
  - Child associates and/or has relationships with age-inappropriate friends, boyfriends and/or girlfriends
  - Child known to associate with confirmed or suspected commercially sexually exploited child
  - Child is not living with parent, guardian, relative or caretaker of record
  - Child has inappropriate, sexually suggestive activity on social media websites and/or chat apps
  - Child has a history of being arrested for loitering, curfew violations, disorderly conduct, simple possession of a controlled substance, criminal trespassing and false identification to law enforcement authorities

CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

Child has a history of truancy or absence from school

Elevated drug and/or alcohol use

Other

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Mode of Assessment:

Assessment with interpreter

Assessment without interpreter

Interpreter needed but unavailable (If an interpreter is not available, the assessment should stop until an interpreter is available.)

Section B — Demographic Information

(DO NOT READ TO OR ASK THE CHILD)

Section B is to be completed by the Assessor and not asked of the child.

7. Child's Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Child ID #

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Intake #

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Case ID # \_\_\_\_\_

11. SSN (last four digits): \_\_\_\_\_

12. Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

13. Race/Ethnicity:

\_\_\_\_\_

14. Preferred Language: \_\_\_\_\_

Begin the Assessment with introductory comments to the child similar to the following: This is a discussion to better understand your current situation and experiences. / will be talking with you and asking so me questions about yourself. Try to be as honest as you can. Some questions may be sensitive and hard for you to answer. You do not have to answer anything you don't want to answer. You can take a break at any time, ask to finish at a later time, or stop the session. I want you to know that you can trust me and that your safety is my priority.

## CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

Everything you say will be kept completely confidential, unless you describe a situation where you or someone else is in immediate danger or at risk of being abused or hurting someone else. Before we get started, do you have any questions?

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CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

Section C — Child Personal Background

15. What is the child's date of birth? \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_(MM/DD/YYYY)

15a. (If child does not know date): What is the age of the child?

\_\_\_\_\_

16. What country was the child bom in?

\_\_\_\_\_

17. What city does the child live in?

\_\_\_\_\_

17a. (DO NOT ASK THE CHILD) Was the child arrested outside the city in which he/she resides?

No

Yes

18. Does the child go to school?

No (If 'no,' skip to Item 19)

Yes (If 'yes,' proceed to Item 18a below)

Refused to answer

18a. Where does the child attended school? (Fill in. If school entered, ask item 17b)

\_\_\_\_\_

18b. How many days have the child attended school in the last two weeks?

0 days

1-5 days

6-10 days

Not applicable/school not in session

19. Does the child spend time on the Internet, Wi-Fi, or use phone or tablet apps?

No (If 'no,' skip to Item 20)

Yes (If 'yes,' ask Item 19a below)

Refused to answer

19a. What kind of sites or apps does the child use? (Check all that apply) Remember, sites and apps are easily created and ones used by the child might not be listed below.

Twitter

Instagram

Snapchat

Online game chat

CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

- Instant messaging
- Facebook
- Tinder
- Craigslist
- Backpage
- Other apps or sites (fill in) \_\_\_\_\_
- Refused to answer

20. Has the child ever agreed to meet someone he or she met online or through the Internet or through a phone app?
- No
  - Yes (If 'yes,' prompt by saying, Tell me more about that.)
  - Refused to answer

Evidence of Unsafe Online Activity: (Check one) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

21. Does the child currently have a boyfriend or girlfriend?
- No (If 'no,' skip to Item 22)
- Yes (If 'yes,' ask Item 21a and Item 21b below)
  - Refused to answer

21a. How old is he/she?

- Less than 10 years old
- 10 to 15 years old
- 16 to 17 years old
- 18 to 21 years old
- 22 years or older
- Refused to answer

21b. How did the child meet this person?

- Through a friend
- At school
- Through a family member
- Online (Facebook, Internet, game console)
- Public place (mall, movies, sports event)

CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

Work

Other (Fill in)

\_\_\_\_\_

Refused to answer

22. Does the child have any tattoos?  No (If 'no,' skip to Item 23)

Yes (If 'yes,' ask Item 22a through Item 22c below)

Refused to answer or responded no, but staff observed tattoos (If selected, ask items 22a through 22c below)

22a. What is the tattoo(s)? (Assessor may respond to this item based on child response and/or based on observation of the tattoo.) (Check all that apply.)

Dollar/currency sign, money bags

Star/hearts

Male name, female name, nickname, or street name

Refused to answer

Other (Describe)

\_\_\_\_\_

22b. What is the meaning of the child's tattoo(s)? (Check all that apply.)

Family connection

Personal meaning (Fill in)\_\_\_\_\_

Romantic partner's name

Gang-related

Suspected trafficker's name/initials

Forced branding/ownership

No meaning

Don't know the meaning  Refused to answer  Other (Fill in)

\_\_\_\_\_

22c. Who was with the child when he or she got the tattoo(s)? (Check all that apply)

Family member

Friend

Romantic partner

No one

Suspected trafficker

CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

Gang member

Refused to answer

Other (Fill in)

23. Does the child have any scars or brands that were made intentionally, not from an accident or injury?

(Assessor should respond based upon child answer and/or observation of visible scars)

No (If 'no,' skip to Item 24)

Yes (If 'yes,' ask Item 23a)

Refused to answer

Assessor observes mark(s), but child denies mark(s) made intentionally

23a. Who was with the child when he or she got the brand(s) or when the child received the scar?

(Check all that apply)

Family member

Friend

Romantic partner

No one

Suspected trafficker

Gang member

Refused to answer

Other (Fill in)

Evidence of Forced Tattooing/Branding: (Check one) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Section D — Living Conditions

24. What is the child's current living situation? What type of places does the child live in?



## CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

(Assessor may prompt the child by listing examples from below) (Check all that apply)

- House
- Apartment
- Group/foster home
- Car/van
- Shelter
- Rehabilitation facility
- Hotel or motel
- Part of a residence — garage, basement, shed
- Squat
- Traveling/in-between residences
- Live in same place of "employment"
- Homeless
- Refused to answer
- Other (Fill in)\_\_\_\_\_

25. Who lives with the child? (Check all that apply)

- Father
- Mother
- Both parents
- Guardian
- Step-parent
- Relative(s)
- Friend(s)
- Romantic partner (girlfriend/boyfriend)
- Employer
- Co Workers
- By myself
- Refused to answer
- Other (Fill in)\_\_\_\_\_

26. Where does the child sleep? (Check all that apply)

- In own room
- In own bed
- In shared room
- In shared bed

**CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**

Other (Fill in)

\_\_\_\_\_

27. Does the child pay for where he or she lives?  No (If 'no, 'skip to Item 27)

Yes (If 'yes, 'ask Item 27a below)

27a. How does the child pay for where he or she lives? (Check all that apply)

- Parents/relatives
  - Friends
  - Romantic partner
  - Myself through employment/job
  - Myself through selling drugs
  - Myself through stealing
  - Myself through engaging in sexual acts for money/material gain
  - Panhandle/beg
  - Refused to answer
  - Other (Fill in)
- \_\_\_\_\_

28. Has the child ever had any contacts or visits from the Department of Children and Child Services? (Note, child may use other terminology including, DHS, CYS, CPS, Children and Child, the county and/or the state)  No

Refused to answer

Evidence of Unsafe Living Environment: (Check one)      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      Yes      No

Section E — Work Information

The assessor needs to explain the meaning of work to the child. For example: What I mean by "work" is anything you have done where you have received something of value, like money, food, clothing, a place to stay, drugs, or gifts, in exchange for your efforts. This could include a more typical job like working at a fast-food restaurant or store, but may also include things that some kids have to do to survive when away from their homes, anything where you were given something of value for your efforts. So, your boss may have been a typical employer or may have been a family member, friend, boyfriend or girlfriend, or someone you lived with or had a relationship with.

29. Does the child have a "job", e.g., duties, expectations, responsibilities, or did the child have one before coming here?



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## CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

- No (If 'no,' skip to Item 32)
- Yes (If 'yes,' continue to Item 30 below)

30. What type of work has the child done? (Check all that apply)

- Babysitting/caring for other children
- Factory
- Agricultural/farm work
- Housekeeping/household chores (e.g., cooking and/or cleaning) janitorial work
- Door-to-door sales
- Restaurant work
- Construction
- Retail
- Nails/hair
- Massage
- Personal dancing, stripping, or similar activity
- Refused to answer
- Other (Fill in)\_\_\_\_\_

31. How much money did the child make an hour? (Assessor may ask relative to the minimum wage rate)

- Nothing — was not paid for work/chores performed
- At or below minimum wage (Minimum wage is \$7.25/hour in Pennsylvania)
- More than minimum wage but less than \$15 an hour
  - \$15-\$25 an hour
- More than \$25 an hour
- Does not know
- Refused to answer

32. Does anyone (boss, partner, boyfriend, girlfriend, parent, supervisor) owe the child money?

- No
- Yes
- Refused to answer

33. Does the child or any family members owe anyone money?

- No
- Yes
- Refused to answer

Assessor may prompt for something else that is owed like a favor, house, property, or land.

Evidence of Indentured Servitude: (Check one) Yes                      No

CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

34. Has the child been threatened with violence and/or been the victim of violence as a way to force him/her to perform "work", i.e., chores/duties?

No

Yes

Explain

\_\_\_\_\_

35. Has the child received threats related to his/her immigration status and/or had important "vital" documents taken and/or withheld?

No

Yes

Explain

\_\_\_\_\_

36. Has the child received threats related to his/her family members' immigration status and/or had important "vital" documents withheld from family members?

No

Yes

Explain\_\_\_\_\_

37. Has the child ever performed chores/duties, "worked" or done something for anyone (boss, partner, boyfriend, girlfriend, parent, supervisor) without getting the payment the child thought he or she would get?

No (If 'no, 'skip to Item 34)

Yes (If 'yes, ' ask Item 33a through Item 33c below)

Refused to answer

37a. What kind of chore/duty/work was it?

\_\_\_\_\_

37b. What payment did the child expect?

\_\_\_\_\_

37c. What did the child receive in exchange for performing "work" ?

\_\_\_\_\_

Evidence of Deceptive Payment Practices: (Check one) Yes No

\_\_\_\_\_

38. Does the child live and work at the same place?

No

CHILD VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

Refused to answer

39. Can or could the child quit their job at any time without punishment from his or her boss or supervisor?

No

Yes

Refused to answer

Evidence of Forced Labor: (Check one) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

40. What does the child want to do when the child is older? (Fill in)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Section F — Leaving or Running Away from Home

41. Has the child run away, stayed away, or left home without permission in the past year?  No (If 'no, 'skip to Item 42)

Yes (If 'yes, 'ask Items 41a through 41k below)

Refused to answer

41 a. How many times has the child run away or left without permission?

1 to 5 times

6 to 10 times

11 to 20 times

More than 20 times

# CHILD VICTIMS

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Refused to answer

41b. How long was the child gone the last time he or she left home?

- Less than a week
- 1 to 4 weeks
- 4 to 12 weeks
- 12 weeks or longer
- Refused to answer

Evidence of \_\_\_\_\_ Excessive Running Away: \_\_\_\_\_ (Check one) Yes  
No

41c. Where did the child go when he or she left? (Check all that apply)

- Friend's place
- Relative's place/other biological parent's place
- Romantic partner's place
- Motel/hotel
- Street
- Out of town
- Pro-social adult's place
- Anti-social adult's place
- Street gang
- Refused to answer

41d. While away, how did the child support his or her self? (Check all that apply)

- Family/relatives took care of me
- Friend(s) took care of me
- Romantic partner helped
- Worked (legal employment/jobs)
- Money through drugs
- Money/material gain/favors from prostitution, stripping or similar activities
- Didn't stay away long enough to need support
- Stealing
- Government assistance
- Panhandling
- Borrowed money from friends

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

- Trafficker/pimp
- Refused to answer
- Other (Fill in)

41e. While the child was away, was the child in control of his or her own money?

- No
- Yes
- Refused to answer

41f. Who was the child with while away? (Check all that apply)

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CHILD VICTIMS

- No one
- Friends
- Romantic partner
- Suspected trafficker/pimp
- Guardian
- Family/relatives
- Street gang
- Refused to answer

41g. Did that person(s) (from 36f) ever give the child things like money, drugs or clothes?

- No
- Yes
- Refused to answer

Evidence of Questionable Support While Away: (Check one) Yes No

41h. Did the child leave town while away from home?

- No
- Yes
- Refused to answer

41i. While the child was away, did anyone not allow the child to go back home?

- No
- Yes

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

O Refused to answer

O Evidence of Forced Restraint: (Check one) Yes No

41j• While the child was away, did the child experience anything that made him/her uncomfortable?

O No

O Yes; if so, what? (Fill in)

\_\_\_\_\_

O Refused to answer

41k. While the child was away, did anyone ever ask the child to do sexual activities in exchange for something of value. These activities can include dancing, stripping, posing for photos, or sex of any kind.

O No

O Yes

O Refused to answer

Evidence of Oppressive Activities: (Check one) Yes No\_\_\_\_\_

*Section G — Sexual Exploitation/Coercion/Control*

42. Has anyone ever locked doors or windows or anything else to stop the child from leaving work or

\_\_\_\_\_

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**CHILD VICTIMS OF**

home?

O No

O Refused to answer

O Evidence of Inability to Leave: (Check one) Yes No

\_\_\_\_\_

43. Has anyone ever forced the child to get or use false identification, like a fake ID or fake green card?





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## HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL  
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CHILD VICTIMS OF

*Section H — Parent/Guardian Information (DO NOT READ TO OR ASK THE CHILD)*

Section H is to be completed by the Assessor.

48. Did you speak with the child's parent(s) or guardian(s)?
- No (If 'no,' skip to item 53.)
- Yes (If yes, to whom did you speak?)

If yes, then ask parent/guardian items 49-52.

49. Does the parent/guardian report that the child has a cell phone that a third party/trafficker pays for or might be paying for?
- No
- Yes
50. Does the parent/guardian report that the child returns home from running away with hair/nails done, new clothing or money that were not provided by the parent/guardian?
- No
- Yes
51. Does parent/guardian report that the child has internet postings or text/cell phone messages that indicate child may be exchanging sex for something of value to him/her?
- No
- Yes
52. If child has a tattoo of someone else's name, does guardian verify this person is who the child says the person is?
- No
- Yes

Evidence of Potential Trafficking: (Check one) Yes      No

\_\_\_\_\_

Section I — Post-Assessment Results?

(DO NOT READ TO OR ASK THE CHILD)

Section I is to be completed by the Assessor.

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**HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**

53. Did you observe any nonverbal indicators of past victimization? (If so, explain)

\_\_\_\_\_

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54. Did you observe any indicators that the child's responses may have been false? (If so, explain)

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55. Indicate the likelihood that the child is a victim of trafficking:

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## HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

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Definitely not

Likely not

Not sure

Likely is

Definitely is

56. Provide at least three reasons for your answer in Item 55:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

57. If you answered "not sure," "likely is," or "definitely is": What kind of service referrals will you make for the child?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

If you have personal knowledge that the child is a victim of sex and/or labor trafficking, you must call ChildLine, Pennsylvania's Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-932-0313.

If you have personal knowledge that the child is a victim of sex and/or labor trafficking, you must call and report to the local police department.

## SERVICES

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

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**Tennessee:**Appendix A. Indicators of Human Trafficking  
General Indicators for Adults and Children ?<sup>6</sup>

- Out -of- state residence
- No identification or travel documents
- Few or no living essentials and personal possessions (i.e. money, clothes, etc.)
- Deprived of food, water, sleep, medical care or other life necessities
- Transient (i.e. live in hotels with no permanent or fixed address)
- Little knowledge of their whereabouts (i.e. the name of the city or state)
- Threatened with deportation or law enforcement action • Language barriers/United States is not country of origin
- Numerous inconsistencies in story deceptive
- Coached on what to say to law enforcement and immigration officials • Mostly live and travel in groups
- Medical issues (i.e. STD/STIs, untreated injuries)
- Branding and tattoos (i.e. derogatory and/or indicating ownership)
- Disposable or prepaid cell phones(multiple cell phones/hidden personal phones • Sleep and work in the same location
- Work unusual or long hours with few or no days off
- Clothes typical of those doing sex work
- Recruited for one purpose and forced to engage in some other job
- Mostly use sex-related terms in their communications
- Show signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement or torture
- Fearful, nervous, depressed, submissive, tense or paranoid
- Mental health issues
- Substance abuse and addiction issues
- Signs of trauma (physical or emotional)
- Has a pimp or manager

## SERVICES

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

- Unable to speak for self (i.e. third party insists on being present and/or translating)
- Escorted (i.e. little to no freedom of movement)
- Overbearing additional person with the victim or fictive "family" members that are not family
- Unable to speak the local language
- Specific requests when checking into hotels such as no maid service and/or selection of a specific room
- During hotel stays having numerous male visitors throughout the day and night, and making and receiving multiple phone calls
- Overly aggressive and defensive attitude
- Please note that the presence of one indicator may or may not be due to human trafficking victimization.

<sup>36</sup> Polaris Project. (2013). Recognizing the signs. Available at <http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/recognizing-the-signs>.

United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime. (n.d.). Trafficking indicators. Available at [http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/HT\\_indicators\\_E\\_LOWRES.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/HT_indicators_E_LOWRES.pdf).

U.S. Department of State. (n.d.). Identify and assist a trafficking victim. Available at <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/id/index.htm>.

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## Children- &amp; Youth- Specific Indicators:

- Substance abuse or addiction issues
- Shows evidence of mental, physical, or sexual abuse; or suspicious injuries • Cannot or will not speak on own behalf
- Not allowed to speak to others alone; is being controlled by another person
- Does not have access to identity or travel documents, or documents appear fraudulent
- Works long hours and/or is engaged in work that is not appropriate for a child/youth
- Is paid very little or nothing for work or services performed
- Heightened sense of fear, and untrusting of authority
- Experiences gaps in memory
- Lives at workplace/with employer, or lives with many people in confined area
- Is not in school or has significant gaps in schooling
- Has engaged in prostitution or commercial sex acts
- Has or mentions a pimp/boyfriend
- Presence of older male or boyfriend who seems controlling
- Difficult to engage/ does not make eye contact
- Attachment issues
- Self-harming and destructive behaviors
- Dramatic personality changes (i.e. dropping grades, abnormal behavior, etc.)

## TENNESSEE HUMAN TRAFFICKING SERVICES COORDINATION AND SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN

- External signs of trauma
- Does not consider self a victim
- Someone else was in control of migration to U.S. or movement into Tennessee • Any child working where "pa" goes directly towards rent, debt, living expenses/ necessities, fees for their journey/trip
- Threats to child's parents, grandparents, siblings or own minor children
- Chronic runaway/ homeless/ throwaway youth
- Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Questioning youth
- Methods of control that leave no visible, physical signs of abuse
- Sleeping/living separately from the "family" (in garage or on the floor, somewhere other than the bedroom)
- Is forced to sell drugs, jewelry, magazines on the street
- Has excess amount of cash
- Behavior is inconsistent with their age
- Isolated, appears to have no friends their age and no time to play or socialize with peers
- Demeanor is fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, nervous
- Possesses phone numbers for taxis
- Has hotel keys
- Lies about age/has fake ID
- Inconsistencies in story
- Unable or unwilling to give local address or information about parents

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<sup>37</sup> California Child Welfare Council. (2013). Ending the commercial sexual exploitation of children: A californiamulti-system collaboration in California. Available at [http://www.youthlaw.org/fileadmin/ncyl/youthlaw/publications/Ending-CSEC-A-Call-for-Multi-System\\_CoIIaboration-in-CA.pdf](http://www.youthlaw.org/fileadmin/ncyl/youthlaw/publications/Ending-CSEC-A-Call-for-Multi-System_CoIIaboration-in-CA.pdf). United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime. (n.d.). Trafficking indicators. Available at [http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafflcking/HT\\_indicators\\_E\\_LOWRES.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafflcking/HT_indicators_E_LOWRES.pdf).



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HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

Virginia:



RESOURCES:  
SCREENING TOOL FOR VICTIMS  
OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING



## SERVICES

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

This tool contains key questions law enforcement officers should consider asking to determine whether someone is a victim of human trafficking. The questions will also help to secure information that can later be used as testimonial evidence.

### Fraud/Financial                      Coercion

- Questions How did you
- get your job?
- How did you get into this country?
- Who brought you into this country?
- Did you come to this country for a specific job that you were promised?

Who promised you this job?

Were you forced to do different work?

- Who forced you into doing different work than what was promised?
  - Was there some sort of work contract signed?
  - Who organized your travel?
  - How was payment for your travel handled?
  - Are you getting paid to do your job?
- Do you actually receive payment or is your money being held for you?
  - Do you owe your employer money?
  - Are there records or receipts of what is owed to your employer/recruiter?
  - Are there records/receipts of what was earned/paid to you?
  - How were financial transactions handled?
  - Are you in possession of your own legal (I.D.) documents? If not, why?

Were you provided false documents or identification?

Are you being made to do things that you do not want to do?

### Physical Abuse Questions

- Were you ever threatened with harm if you tried to leave?
- Did you ever witness any threats against other people if they tried to leave?
- Has your family been threatened?
- Do you know about any other person's family ever being threatened?
- Were you ever physically abused, or did you ever witness abuse against another person?
- What type of physical abuse did you witness?

Were there any objects or weapons used in the physical abuse?

Where are these objects or weapons located?

Was knowledge of this abuse ever communicated to a person outside of this situation (e.g., police reports, domestic violence reports, hospital records, social service records)?

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**HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**

Was anyone else ever abused or threatened with harm in your presence? How were medical problems handled, and who attended to them?

## SERVICES

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**Freedom of Movement Questions

Is your freedom of movement restricted?

Do you live and work in the same place?

- What were the conditions under which you were left unattended? Were there instances of physical restriction through locks, chains, etc.? Where are the locks used and who has the keys to them?
- How was movement in public places handled (e.g., car, van, bus, subway)?  
Who supervised your movement in public places?  
How was the purchase of private goods and services handled (e.g., medicines, prescriptions)?  
What forms of media or telecommunication did you have access to (e.g., television, radio, newspapers, magazines, telephone, the Internet)?

Psychological Coercion Questions

Behavioral indicators:

Who are you afraid of?

Why are you afraid of them?

What would you like to see happen to the people who hurt you (e.g., jail, deportation)?

- How do you feel about the police? Why?

Environmental Indicators:

Do you live and work in the same place?

- Where do you live/eat/sleep?
- Where do the alleged perpetrators live/eat/sleep?
- Are the living conditions between the two excessively disparate?

Law enforcement officers questioning the victim should consider the following:

- Is there evidence of possible "Stockholm" or "Patty Hearst" Syndrome where the victim, because of his or her dependency, actually begins to identify with the trafficker?

If you think you have come in contact with a victim of human trafficking, call the National

Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1.888.3737.888. This hotline will help you determine if you have encountered victims of human trafficking, will identify local resources available in your community to help victims, and will help you coordinate with local social service organizations to help protect and

SERVICES

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**

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serve victims so they can begin the process of restoring their lives. For more information on human trafficking visit [www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking).

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

**CSE-IT (Texas, North Carolina and Washington)**

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e. Youth has several cell phones or their cell phone number changes frequently.				2
f. Youth travels to places that are inconsistent with their life circumstances.				
Indicator 5 Score: A -subtotal of 0 No Concern. subtotal of 1- or 2 = Possible Concern, A subtotal from 3 to 12 = Clear Concern. Circle score here		No Concern:	Possible Concern	Clear Concern
a. Youth appears on edge, preoccupied with safety, or hypervigilant.				2
b. Youth has difficulty detecting or responding to danger cues.				2
c. Youth engages in self-destructive, aggressive, or risk-taking behaviors.				2
d. Youth has a high level of distress about being accessible by cell phone.		0		2
Indicator 6 Score: A subtotal of 0 = No Concern. subtotal of 1 or 2 = Possible Concern • A subtotal from 3 to 8 = Clear Concern. Circle score here		NO Concern	Possible 1	2
a. Youth has an abusive or controlling intimate partner.				2
b. Someone else is controlling the youth's contact with family or friends, leaving the youth socially isolated.				2
c. Youth is coerced into getting pregnant, having an abortion, or using contraception.				2
d. Someone is not allowing the youth to sleep regularly or in a safe place, go to school, eat, or meet other basic needs.				2
e. The youth or their friends, family, or other acquaintances receive threats.				2
f. Youth gives vague or misleading information about their age, whereabouts, residence, or relationships.	0			2
Indicator 7 Score: subtotal of 0 —No Concern. subtotal of 1- = Possible Concern. A Subtotal of 2 to 12 = Clear Concern, Circle score here	0	No Concern	Possible Concern:	Clear Concern 2

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**HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**

a. Youth is exchanging sex for money or material goods, including food or shelter for themselves or someone else, e.g. child, family, partner.				2
b. Youth is watched, filmed or photographed in a sexually explicit manner.				2
c. Youth has a history of sexual exploitation.				2
d. Youth is forced to give the money they earn to another person.				2
Indicator 8 Score: A subtotal Of O No Concern. subtotal of A = Possible Concern. A subtotal from 2 to 8 = Clear Concern. Circle score here			Concern,	2

Scoring Instructions:

- Enter each Indicator Score in the corresponding box in this table.
- 2. Add Indicator Scores I through 7 and enter the total in box A.
- 3. If Indicator 8 score = 1 (Possible Concern), enter 4 in box B. If Indicator 8 score = 2 (Clear Concern), enter 9 in box B.
- 4. Add boxes A and B for a Total Score between 0 and 23 and enter the Total Score in the final box.
- 5. Plot the Total Score on the Continuum of Concern below to determine level of concern for exploitation.

Continuum of Concern

(draw a line indicating level of concern for exploitation)

III		
1. HOUSING AND CAREGIVING		
2. PRIOR ABUSE OR TRAUMA		
3. PHYSICAL HEALTH AND APPEARANCE		
4. ENVIRONMENT AND EXPOSURE		
5. RELATIONSHIPS AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS		
6. SIGNS OF CURRENT TRAUMA		
7. COERCION		
Add scores for indicators I through 7 Score cannot exceed 14 :		
8. EXPLOITATION		
If Indicator 8 score is I (Possible Concern) put 4 in Box B If Indicator 8 is a 2 (Clear Concern) put 9 in Box B	B.	

SERVICES

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

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### **Vera Institute: (Washington D.C., California, Colorado)**

#### Trafficking Victim Identification Tool (TVIT) Long Version

Screening purpose. This screening tool is intended to be used as part of the regular intake process or as part of enrollment for specific programs. In order for the results to be valid, the screening should be administered according to pre-arranged protocols, whether or not the client is believed to be a victim of human trafficking. Please refer to the User Guide for directions on using this screening tool.

Screening timing. Since each agency’s intake process is unique, agencies should determine how to best integrate this screening tool with their other intake forms or procedures. Whatever the timing and context of the interview, please begin and end with comfortable topics of conversation to minimize the client's discomfort.

Deferred/Suspended Screening. In some cases the intake process extends beyond the first meeting with the client. Service providers may sometimes choose to postpone sensitive screenings, judging that clients are not yet ready to disclose or discuss experiences of victimization and would prefer to continue the interview at a later date. If in the course of



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**HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**

an interview the client shows acute signs of anxiety, ask the client if s/he would prefer to stop the interview and resume it at a later time.

Section 1: Screening Background [DO NOT READ TO CLIENT]

1a. Date of interview: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (MM/DD/YYYY)

1b. How client was referred to your agency most recently [select only one]:

- Own agency/ internal referral
- Other social service provider [fill in]:

- Healthcare provider
- Local Police Department

Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS) / Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE)  Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

- Other law enforcement [fill in]:

Referred by other client

Referred by someone else [fill in relationship to client]:

Walk-in

1c. Client status: Official determination of trafficking known?

[INTERVIEWER: This includes HHS certification, T-visa approval, or certification by law enforcement or a judge]

- No
- Yes

1d. Sex of client: [3 male female [3 other le.

Language of interview:

1f. Client's preferred language: \_\_\_\_\_

1g. Client's English proficiency (please estimate to the best of your ability):

- Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor

1h. Mode of interview: interview with interpreter interview without interpreter

Section 2: Personal Background

INTERVIEWER READ: begin by asking you a few simple questions about u/ mily background."

SERVICES

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**

2a. What is your date of birth? \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (MM/DD/YYYY)

2b. If you don't know your date of birth, approximately how old are you?\_\_\_\_\_

[INTERVIEWER: If respondent cannot provide a number, offer the following response brackets to choose from]  under 12  13-17  18-19  20-24  25-29  30-34  35-39  40-44  45-49  50-54  55-59  60+

2c. How many years of schooling have you completed?  
 1-6 years    7-12 years    More than 12 years    Other\_\_\_\_\_

2d. What country were you born in?\_\_\_\_\_

2e. Are you a citizen of any other countries besides where you were born?  
 [INTERVIEWER: If concept of 'citizenship' is not clear, rephrase as Where were your parents born

No  
 Yes Other country of citizenship # 1\_\_\_\_\_ # 2\_\_\_\_\_

Don't know

Migration [PLEASE USE THE MIGRATION SECTION WITH FOREIGN-BORN CLIENTS ONLY]

3a. Can you tell me why you left your country?

- TO find work
- C] TO join family
- C] To join romantic partner (spouse/girlfriend/boyfriend)

Interviewer Read: "Now I am going to ask you some questions about your country of origin. I am not asking you this to find out about your immigration status. I am only trying to understanding fully what your circumstances are so that we can refer you for the right help, if necessary. The questions ask about your immigration to the U.S., who was involved, and how it was arranged."

For children, the may be rephrased: "We would like you to tell us about what happened to you when you traveled to the U.S."

3a. **Can you tell me why you left your country?**

- To find work
- To join family
- To join romantic partner (spouse/girlfriend/boyfriend)
- To escape abuse by family or someone else you know
- To escape conflict/violence/persecution
- Other [fill in]:\_\_\_\_\_

3b. What country did you live in for at least 3 months before you came to the U.S.?

SERVICES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

[INTERVIEWER: If client has come to the U.S. more than once, probe to make sure client refers to most recent place of residence]

3c. In what year was your most recent arrival to the U.S.? (YYYY)

[INTERVIEWER: If client has come to the U.S. more than once, you can ask them about other entries to the U.S. if relevant.]

If you don't know exactly when you arrived in the U.S., about how long have you been here [check one]?

- Less than 1 year
- 1 year 02 years
- 3 years
- 4 years
- 5 to 10 years
- More than 10 years

3d. Did anyone arrange your travel to the U.S.?

No

Yes Can you tell me who?

What did they do?

3e. Did the people or person who arranged your travel pressure you to do anything (for example, did anyone ask you to carry something across the border)?

[REPHRASE: Did you have to do anything so that they would help you P]

- No
- Yes What were you pressured to do?

3f. Can you tell me the total cost (approximately) of your migration:

[REPHRASE: How much did you pay to come to the U.S. ?]

\*What did the payment cover (e.g., transportation such as airplane or bus tickets, documents, work placement)?

\_\_\_\_\_

3g. Did you (or your family) borrow or owe money, or something else, to anyone who helped you come to the U.S.?

[INTERVIEWER: Probe for something else owed, such as property, a house, or land]

- No
  - N/A
  - Yes → Do you (or your family) still have this debt, or does anyone claim you do? No
- Yes

SERVICES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

[INTERVIEWER: Record volunteered information here]

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3h. If you did borrow or owe money, have you ever been pressured to do anything you didn't want to do to pay it back?

- No
- N/A

Yes if you are comfortable telling me, what kinds of things were you pressured to do that you didn't want to do?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

→ Could you describe how you were pressured?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3i. INTERVIEWER: If client offered additional information about debts or other victimization related to migration, record it here

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Work

Interviewer Read: "Now I'm going to ask you some questions about work you've done in the United States and people you have worked for and with. I'm particularly interested in any kind of work you've done in which you felt that you did not get paid as much as you should, or if you felt scared or unsafe while working. This includes jobs that were not

SERVICES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

‘official’ in regular workplaces. Remember, everything you tell me is confidential and you do not have to answer any questions that you don’t want to answer.”

4a. How have you supported yourself while in the U.S.? [REPHRASE: How have you paid for food, housing and other items in the U.S?]

4b. Have you worked for someone or done any other activities for which you thought you would be paid?

[INTERVIEWER: This could include activities like unpaid domestic work that might not be readily defined as "work" and should only detail those jobs in which the person felt unsafe or did not get paid what the person felt he/she should.]

- No
Yes —>What kind(s) of work or activities were you doing?

\*How did you find out about these jobs/activities? [INTERVIEWER: probe for details, especially as they deal with recruitment from abroad]

4c. Have you ever worked [or done other activities] without getting the payment you thought you would get?

[INTERVIEWER: You do not need to say "done other activities" if unnecessary and the client understands work does not just mean formal work.

- No
Yes Was it the same work as you described above?
What kind(s) of work or activities were you doing?

Form with horizontal lines for text entry, including prompts like 'Yes What payment did you expect and why?' and 'What did you receive?'

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

4d. Did someone ever (check all that apply):

- withhold payment/money from you,
- give your payment/money to someone else
- control the payment/money that you should have been paid?, or none of the above

[INTERVIEWER: Record volunteered information here]

4e. Were you ever made to sign a document without fully understanding what it stated, for instance, a work contract?

- No
- Yes [INTERVIEWER: Probe for details]

4f. Have you ever worked [or done other activities] that were different from what you were promised or told?

- No
- Yes What were you promised or told that you would do?

**→ What did you end up doing?**

4g. Did anyone where you worked [or did other activities] ever make you feel scared or unsafe?

- No
- Yes Could you tell me what made you feel scared or unsafe?

4h. Did anyone where you worked [or did other activities] ever hurt you or threaten to hurt you?

[INTERVIEWER: This could include any physical, sexual, or emotional harm]

- No
- Yes \*Could you tell me what they did or said?

SERVICES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

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4i. Did anyone where you worked [or did other activities] ever harm or threaten to harm people close to you, like family or friends?

[INTERVIEWER: This could include any physical, sexual, or emotional harm]

- No
- Yes \*Could you tell me what they did or said?

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4j. Were you ever allowed take breaks where you worked [or did other activities], for example, to eat, use the telephone, or use the bathroom?

- No What if you were sick or had some kind of emergency?

What did you think would happen if you took a break?

- Yes → **Did you have to ask for permission?**

What did you think would happen if you took a break without getting permission?

---

4k. Were you ever injured or did you ever get sick in a place where you worked [or did other activities]?

- No
- Yes Were you ever stopped from getting medical care?      NO    Yes
- If you feel comfortable, could you tell me more about what happened?

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4l. INTERVIEWER: if client volunteered additional information relevant to trafficking victimization in a U.S. work context, record it here:

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SERVICES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL  
Living and/or Working Conditions

**INTERVIEWER READ: "Next, I have just a few more questions I'd like to ask about problems you may have had in your living or working situation in the United States."**

5a. When you were in that situation, were you living [or do you currently live]:  
[INTERVIEWER: Should determine if client still in situation in question] CI by yourself,  
 with your family, or  
 with others? If others, who did you live with?

\_\_\_\_\_

5b. Do you live, or have you ever lived, in the same place where you work?  
[INTERVIEWER: This could include activities like unpaid domestic work that might not be readily defined as "work"]  
 No  
 Yes [INTERVIEWER: Record volunteered information here]

\_\_\_\_\_

5c. Have you ever felt you could not leave the place where you worked [or did other activities]? [INTERVIEWER: Probe for situations where someone threatened to do something bad if client tried to leave.]  
 No  
 Yes Could you tell me why you couldn't leave?

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you think would have happened to you if you tried to leave?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5d. Have you ever worked [or did other activities] or lived somewhere where there were locks on the doors or windows or anything else that stopped you from leaving?  
 No  
 Yes [INTERVIEWER: Record volunteered information here]

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



SERVICES

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**

5e. Did anyone at the place where you lived or worked [or did other activities] monitor you or stop you from contacting your family, friends, or others? [REPHRASE: did you have to ask permission to contact your family, friends or others?]

- No
  - Yes Could you tell me why not?
- 

5f. Did anyone ever take and keep your identification, for example, your passport or driver's license?

- No
  - Yes      Could you get them back if you wanted? [INTERVIEWER: Probe for details]
- 

5g. Did anyone ever force you to get or use false identification or documentation, for example, a fake green card?

- No
  - Yes      → [INTERVIEWER: Probe for details]
- 

5h. Did anyone where you worked [or did activities] ever tell you to lie about your age or what you did?

- No
  - Yes → **Could you explain why they asked you to lie?**
- 

5i. Did anyone you ever worked [or did other activities] for or lived with threaten to report you to the police or other authorities?

[INTERVIEWER: If client is foreign-born, probe for threats of being reported to immigration authorities]

- No
  - Yes [INTERVIEWER: Probe for details]
- 

5j. Did you ever see anyone else at the place where you lived or worked [or did other activities] harmed, or threatened with harm?

[INTERVIEWER: This can include any physical, sexual, or emotional harm]

SERVICES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

- No
- Yes •Y If you are comfortable talking about it, could you tell me what happened?

---

5k. Did anyone where you worked [or did other activities] ever trick or pressure you into doing anything you did not want to do?

- No
- Yes

→ If you are comfortable talking about it, could you please give me some examples?

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SERVICES

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**

51. Did anyone ever pressure you to touch someone or have any unwanted physical [or sexual] contact with another person?

- No
- Yes If you are comfortable talking about it, could you tell me what happened?

5m. Did anyone ever take a photo of you that you were uncomfortable with?

- No
- Yes If you feel comfortable talking about this, could you tell me who took the photo?

What did they plan to do with the photo, if you know?

[LAW ENFORCEMENT: If the respondent indicates that the photo was posted online, you should ask which website]

→ Did you agree to this?

- No
- Yes

5n. Did you ever have sex for things of value (for example money, housing, food, gifts, or favors)? [INTERVIEWER: Probe for any type of sexual activity]

- No
- Yes Were you pressured to do this? No      Yes
- Were you under the age of 18 when this occurred? No      Yes

50. Did anyone where you worked [or did other activities] ever take your money for things, for example, for transportation, food, or rent?

- No
- Yes Did you agree to this person taking your money? NO C] Yes →  
Could you describe this situation?

5p. Did anyone you ever worked [or did other activities] for or lived with control how much food you could get?

- No
- Yes Did you get enough food? NO Yes

5q. Did anyone you ever worked [or did other activities] for or lived with control when you could sleep?

- No
- Yes Did you get enough sleep? No Yes

5r. In this situation, did language difficulties ever prevent you from seeking help when you needed it?

SERVICES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

No  
Yes

22

5s. INTERVIEWER: if client volunteered additional information relevant to force, fraud or coercion in a work or living situation in the U.S., record it here: -

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Finishing the Interview

[INTERVIEWER: Please tell client what services are available at [organization]]  
Do you want me to ask someone else at (this agency) to get more help for you? [3 No [3 Yes

**INTERVIEWER: Tell client the interview is over. Thank the client for their time.**

SERVICES

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**

Post-interview Assessment (to be completed by the interviewer)

6a. Note any nonverbal indicators of past victimization:

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6b. Note any indicators that responses may have been inaccurate:

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6c. Indicate the likelihood that the client is a victim of trafficking: certainly not C] likely not uncertain either way likely certainly

6d. Briefly state up to three reasons for your rating:

(1)

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(2)

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---

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(3)

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---

6e. What kind of service referrals, if any, will you make for the client?

(1)

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(2)

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(3)

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SERVICES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

(4)

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(5)

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6f. Additional notes:

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SERVICES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

→ If you don't know exactly when you arrived in the U.S., about how long have you been here?

- Less than 1 year
- 1 year
- 2 years
- 3 years
- 4 years
- 5 to 10 years
- More than 10 years

2. Did anyone arrange your travel to the U.S.?

No

Yes Can you tell me \_\_\_\_\_  
who? →What did they do?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Did you (or your family) borrow or owe money, or something else, to anyone who helped you come to the U.S.? [INTERVIEWER: Probe for something else owed, such as property, a house, or land]

No

N/A

Yes Do you (or your family) still have this debt, or does anyone claim you do? No Yes  
[INTERVIEWER: Record volunteered information here]

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. If you did borrow or owe money, have you ever been pressured to do anything you didn't want to do to pay it back?

No

N/A

Yes → If you are comfortable telling me, what kinds of things were you pressured to do that you didn't want to do?

\_\_\_\_\_

Could you describe how you were pressured?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



SERVICES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

Working/Living conditions

5. Have you worked for someone or done any other activities for which you thought you would be paid?

[INTERVIEWER: This could include activities like unpaid domestic work that might not be readily defined as "work" and should only detail those jobs in which the person felt unsafe or did not get paid what the person felt he/she should.]

C] No

C] Yes What kind(s) of work or activities were you doing?

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---

—>How did you find out about these jobs/activities? [INTERVIEWER: probe for details, especially as they deal with recruitment from abroad]

---

---

6. Have you ever worked [or done other activities] without getting the payment you thought you would get? [INTERVIEWER: You do not need to repeat "done other activities," if unnecessary and the client understands work does not just mean formal work.] No

Yes Was it the same work as you described above?

No + What kind(s) of work or activities were you doing?

---

---

Yes What payment did you expect and why?

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---

→ What did you receive?

---

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7. Did someone ever (check all that apply): withhold payment from you, give your payment to someone else, or control the payment that you should have been paid?

[3 none of the above

[INTERVIEWER: Record volunteered information here]

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SERVICES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

8. Have you ever worked [or done other activities] that were different from what you were promised or told?

No

Yes What were you promised or told that you would do?

\_\_\_\_\_

→ What did you end up doing?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Did anyone where you worked [or did other activities] ever make you feel scared or unsafe?

No

Yes Could you tell me what made you feel scared or unsafe?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Did anyone where you worked [or did other activities] ever hurt you or threaten to hurt you?

[INTERVIEWER: This could include any physical, sexual, or emotional harm] No

Yes \*Could you tell me what they did or said?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

11. Were you allowed take breaks where you worked [or did other activities], for example, to eat, use the telephone, or use the bathroom?

No What if you were sick or had some kind of emergency?

\_\_\_\_\_

What did you think would happen if you took a break?

\_\_\_\_\_

Yes Did you have to ask for permission?

→What did you think would happen if you took a break without getting permission?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

12. Were you ever injured or did you ever get sick in a place where you worked [or did other activities]?

No

SERVICES

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**

- Yes Were you ever stopped from getting medical care? C] No [3 Yes  
If you feel comfortable, could you tell me more about what happened?

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13. Have you ever felt you could not leave the place where you worked [or did other activities]?  
 [INTERVIEWER: Probe for situations where someone threatened to do something bad if client tried to leave.]

- No
- Yes Could you tell me why you couldn't leave?

---

What do you think would have happened to you if you tried to leave?

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14. Did anyone where you worked [or did other activities] tell you to lie about your age or what you did?

- No
- Yes  Could you explain why they asked you to lie?

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15. Did anyone where you worked [or did other activities] ever trick or pressure you into doing anything you did not want to do?

- No
- Yes  If you are comfortable talking about it, could you please give me some examples?

---



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16. Did anyone ever pressure you to touch someone or have any unwanted physical [or sexual] contact?

- No
- Yes  If you are comfortable talking about it, could you tell me what happened?

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17. Did anyone ever take a photo of you that you were uncomfortable with?

- No
- Yes  If you feel comfortable talking about this, could you tell me who took the photo?

SERVICES

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL**

What did they plan to do with the photo, if you know?

[LAW ENFORCEMENT: If the respondent indicates that the photo was posted online, you should ask which website]

→ Did you agree to this?  No  Yes

18. Did you ever have sex for things of value (for example money, housing, food, gifts, or favors)?

[INTERVIEWER: Probe for any type of sexual activity]

No

Yes Were you pressured to do this? NO Yes

→ Were you under the age of 18 when this occurred? No Yes

19. Did anyone take and keep your identification, for example, your passport or driver's license?

No

Yes Could you get them back if you wanted? [INTERVIEWER: Probe for details]

20. Did anyone where you worked [or did other activities] ever take your money for things, for example, for transportation, food, or rent?

No

Yes Did you agree to this person taking your money? No Yes

→ Could you describe this situation?

Post-interview Assessment (to be completed by the interviewer)

SERVICES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

6a. Note any nonverbal indicators of past victimization:

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6b. Note any indicators that responses may have been inaccurate:

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6c. Indicate the likelihood that the client is a victim of trafficking:

certainly not   likely not C] uncertain either way   likely C] certainly

6d. Briefly state up to three reasons for your rating:

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

6e. What kind of service referrals, if any, will you make for the client?

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

(5) \_\_\_\_\_

6f. Additional Notes:

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SERVICES

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING (CVHT) ASSESSMENT TOOL

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