

Child Trafficking Indicators

1.) Physical Harm/Threats

- Unexplained signs of physical abuse such as broken bones, loss of teeth, scars, burns, lacerations, bruising.
- Untreated wounds or illnesses.
- Suicidal attempts
- Signs of sexual exploitation.
- Threats to use physical force or other forms of coercion.
- Signs of organ removal.
- Physical impairments that appear to be the result of mutilation.
- Branding or tattoos that may indicate control by another.

2.) Restriction of Movement

- The victim:
 - cannot leave their workplace or home at their own free will, either due to physical barriers or threats.
 - is accompanied and unable to move freely.
 - sleeps at their workplace or lives with their employer.
 - is not allowed to attend school, or not allowed to do so regularly.
 - is not able to participate in age appropriate activities, or is forced to work when they should be in school.
 - appears dependent on their employer for services, or for their legal status.
 - is threatened with being reported to authorities.
 - is isolated from others.
 - appears to be under surveillance.
 - is not allowed to keep a telephone or personal communication device in his or her possession or is not allowed to access the internet.
 - is socially isolated and has no friends of their own age outside of work or the place of victimization.
- There is evidence that the victim is being harboured in a secret location.
- There is evidence that the victim has been kidnapped.

3.) Salary Reductions

- The victim:
 - has to repay high recruitment or transportation fees, which may be deducted from their salary.
 - is a migrant and remains indebted to the smuggler.¹
 - is paid through a third party.
 - received less than the salary they agreed to.
 - has excessive fees for accommodation, food or working tools deducted from their salary.
 - is disciplined through fines.
- There is inadequate remuneration for the work being done.
- The victim or a member of the victim's family has been given a loan or advance that makes it impossible to leave their employer.

4.) Withholding Wages

- The victim:
 - is unpaid or paid below national statutory requirements.
 - does not receive part of their income in order to repay debt for their travel, repay a fixed amount for food and accommodation, or give part of their income to third parties.
 - is not paid regularly and/or payment is delayed.
 - does not have access to or control over their earnings.
 - is bonded by debt, or believes himself/herself to be bonded.
 - is paid through a third party.
- The employer is unable to produce employment contracts or wage records.
- The employer is unable to produce a register or records to monitor employment of children.

5.) Documentation/Retention of Identification

- The victim:
 - has false identification or travel documents.
 - has no identification or travel documents and/or claims to have lost them, or is unable to say who has them.
 - is working without a work permit.
- The victim or trafficker has on their person multiple travel documents.
- The employer controls the victim's travel documents.

¹ "Smuggling" is the illegal movement of people or things across an international border.

6.) Inconsistent Statements

- The victim:
 - defers to an adult for answers to basic questions.
 - makes statements that are incoherent, sound rehearsed, or show indoctrination.
 - appears excessively agitated around law enforcement personnel.
 - cannot seem to recall timelines or seems to suffer from memory loss.
- The victim's story is inconsistent.
- There is a discrepancy between the history, presentation and pattern of a victim's injury.
- The trafficker attempts to speak on behalf of the group and prevents the victim from speaking to people alone.
- There is evidence that the victim has been forced to lie to their family or friends about their safety, welfare and whereabouts.

7.) Recruitment

- The recruitment was online or in a newspaper for personal services.
- The recruitment did not include specifics about the position or their firm
- The victim:
 - was recruited for a job they were unqualified for
 - was recruited through peers or family members.
 - was given promises for work that do not correspond to the actual working conditions.
 - provides services without receiving compensation.
 - has no employment contract or work permit.
 - appears to identify with his/her victimizer.
 - was deceived or tricked into accepting the employment or other offer.
 - knew or suspected that they might be uncomfortable with the arrangement, or that they might be subject to exploitation.
- There is evidence of "child shifting."²

² "Child shifting" involves moving a child from its parents to live with a relative, friend or unrelated person for an extended period of time. This is often justified as an effort to give the child access to greater opportunities, but may end up as a trafficking situation. See, for example, Office of the National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons - ONRTIP:

Sandy and her sister Cindy live in a rural area of Jamaica. As they are products of a single parent household, their mother finds it difficult to care for them both and their 3 other siblings. To ensure they get a proper education, the sisters are sent to live with their aunt in an urban area. Instead of sending them to school, the aunt forced both sisters to cook, wash and clean for the household. This is child Shifting. As both Sandy and Cindy were exploited for labour, they are recognized as victims of Human Trafficking.

<https://www.facebook.com/onrtip/photos/a.670822739934861/966748027008996/?type=3&theater>

- The recruiter seemed to have targeted a particular nationality, age group, or other grouping
- The recruitment involved “revenge porn” or other forms of blackmail.
- There is evidence of a fictitious or forced marriage or relationship.

8.) Fraud

- The victim:
 - is forced to do work that is different or in a different location from what was originally promised.
 - was reported missing by their employer despite still living in their employer’s house.
- The working permit was provided on different grounds than the work being done.
- The victim’s employer:
 - lacks the basic training and professional licenses for the work they claim to do.
 - lacks the documentation required for employing workers from other countries.
- There is evidence of illegal adoption (for example, “lost” or false papers, or an inability to produce documentation).
- The trafficker claims to have “found” an unaccompanied victim.

9.) Forced Begging/Selling/Stealing

- The prevalence of children or disabled persons who tend to beg or sell for the benefit of others in public places and on public transport.
- The victim seems to be punished (or believe that they will be punished) if they do not meet their quota by collecting or stealing enough.
- There is evidence:
 - that the victim has been involved in begging or in committing petty crimes in another community or parish.
 - that the victim is being used to solicit the compassion of others.

10.) Inhumane Treatment

- The victim:
 - is forced into poor living conditions.
 - is exploited by the trafficker’s abuse of power.
 - is degraded or assaulted by the trafficker.
 - is required to perform activities under coercion/threat, such as blackmail.
 - has no access to education, healthcare, or time for play.
 - is forced to eat apart from other members of the “household” and is given only leftovers or minimal amounts to eat.
 - has limited contact with their families or with people outside of their immediate environment.

- is forcefully restrained or bound.
- The victim or members of their family are threatened with being handed over to authorities.
- The victim's position of vulnerability is exploited by the trafficker.

11.) Slavery

- The labour or services of the victim are received or obtained by threats of harm or death.
- There is evidence that individuals or groups of people are under the control of others.
- There are indicators of forced surrogacy, domestic servitude or debt bondage.
- The victim:
 - has been transferred to another owner on the basis of a sale, purchase, exchange, rent, transfer on account of debt, donation or the basis of similar onerous gratuitous transactions.
 - was found in conditions suggesting serfdom or bondage.

12.) Possessions

- The victim:
 - is carrying or wearing clothes that are not theirs or is dressed differently from others they are with.
 - has few or no personal possessions.
 - has possessions on themselves, in their luggage, or in their vicinity that cannot be explained, such as expensive clothing, phones, tablets, hair/nails, or access to expensive services.
- The victim's clothing does not reflect their circumstances, duration of stay in Jamaica, occupation, or climate (for example, snow boots).
- The victim's clothes are the kind typically worn by or possessed by persons doing sex work.

13.) Home/Residence

- The victim:
 - does not know the address and location of their residence or place of work.
 - lives or is kept apart from other children.
 - lives with a family, but does not eat with them.
 - has no privacy or access to privacy.
 - lives in the presence of a person with a history of violent behaviour.
 - does not know his or her relationship to other persons in the home.
 - lives outside his or her own home with other victims, often in overcrowded conditions.
 - reports frequent changes of residence.

- There is another child in the home with a history of being trafficked or victimized.

14.) Unsafe Work Conditions

- Victims are forced to work under unsanitary, unhealthy, unsafe, or hazardous conditions with no personal protection gear or equipment.
- Working hours are longer than the legal maximum of working hours.
- Victims have few, if any days off.
- There is a lack of reasonable rest breaks during the work day.
- There is no grievance process for workplace complaints.
- Victims are expected to work under all circumstances, even during or after illness or pregnancy.
- The victim has no labour contract.
- There are no health and safety notices in the workplace, and the health and safety equipment is of poor quality or missing.
- The work equipment has been modified so as to be operated by children.
- There is evidence that labour laws have been violated.

15.) Poor Health

- Injuries in various stages of healing.
- Signs of prolonged infection that would be treatable in a routine medical examination.
- An absence of medical or dental care that would be considered to be routine for the victim's age.
- Suicidal ideations; evidence of self-harm.
- Presence of sexually transmitted infections.
- Developmental regression.
- Substance and drug abuse and addiction.
- Emotional distress or manifestations of trauma.
- Malnutrition or poor personal hygiene.
- Evidence of:
 - lack of care for previous conditions.
 - emotional or other abuse.
 - forced sexual intercourse.
 - Forced abortion.

16.) Language

- The language the victim speaks does not match their travel documents or those of their travel companion(s).
- Employment contracts not in the language of the child.
- The victim:

- is unfamiliar with the local language.
- cannot speak the language of the country in which they claim residency.
- only knows how to say sex-related words in the local language or the language of the client group.
- uses terms of affection or inappropriate language to refer to supervisor.
- The victim's vocabulary is inconsistent with his/her age (e.g. child overly familiar with sexual language).
- Most notices posted in a place of work are in languages other than the local language.

17.) Child-Specific

- Pregnancy
- Surrogacy
- The victim aged 13 or 14 works more than 4 hours per day or 14 hours per week.
- The victim's family is dependent on their income.
- The victim's behavior is not typical of a child their age (such as inappropriately sexual, withdrawn, or aggressive).
- The victim's academic performance or social development is significantly below the low end of the customary range for their age group.
- A large group of unrelated children has the same adult guardian who cannot properly account for them.
- An adult claims to have "found" the victim.
- The victim:
 - has been found openly soliciting or working at a nightclub or bar.
 - The victim's parent or guardian is assisting them in soliciting.
 - is being "pimped out" or coordinates the activities of other victims offering sexual services.
 - is working in prostitution, pornography, stripping, dancing or other services in the sex industry.
 - is in possession of multiple sexual paraphernalia.
 - has untreated wounds
 - does not speak the local language or dialect.
 - is dressed in significantly different garb than others.
 - lies about his/her age.
 - provides an age older than eighteen.
 - has had multiple sexual partners.
 - is using, carrying and/or selling illicit drugs.
 - inexplicably possesses expensive items and valuables.
 - has been sold by a parent or guardian.
 - is a runaway, moves from locations frequently, or has been reported missing.
 - has dropped out of or does not attend school.
 - lives with gang members who are not their parent(s) or guardian(s).
 - is required to engage in illicit activities.

18.) Demeanor

- The victim:
 - is subordinate, hyper-vigilant, aggressive, anxious or fearful.
 - is unusually passive or unusually cooperative.
 - seems to have depression, anxiety or other evidence that they are in crisis.
 - appears to have been blackmailed, acting under duress, or not acting of their own volition.
 - fears that they will be deported or arrested.
 - is reluctant to accept help and provide information.
 - does not trust authorities or tells lies until trust is developed.
- The victim's behavior does not correspond with behaviour typical of children their age.
- Note that sex workers may often appear sad, distressed or distant.

19.) Background/Contextual Indicators

- The victim:
 - is accompanied by an over-protective guardian or companion.
 - works at a massage shop, night club, prostitution or escort service, hotel or motel, bar, exotic dancing or stripping joint, pornography business, or factory.
 - works in an informal sector of the economy, such as in domestic service, agriculture, or fishing.
 - comes from a difficult socio-economic situation and/or there is a lack of opportunity in their home country.
 - participates in gang activity.
 - has a physical and/or mental impairment that increases vulnerability to being trafficked.
 - works at a bar, nightclub, brothel or similar place that offers the services of young individuals of a particular grouping.
 - has been displaced due to climate change natural disasters, persecution or violent conflict.

20.) Travel

- It is difficult to establish a travel history for the victim.
- The victim:
 - is unable to explain the reasons for their travel or provides reasons that feel rehearsed or incoherent.
 - does not know where they have been or where they are going.
 - has no relation to the adult travelling with them.
- The type of documentation the victim is carrying does not match what they say they are doing.

- The victim's luggage, money, or clothing is inconsistent with the purpose or duration of their trip.
- Several people are travelling together and do not know the cost, destination, or route of their travel.
- One individual is in charge of an entire travelling group.
- There is evidence that the group of victims has moved, over a period of time, through a number of countries.
- No written permission from a parent/guardian authorizing the adult who is travelling with a child to do so.