

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING: STAYING SAFE TIPS FOR TEENS

## What is human trafficking?

Human trafficking is when someone is commercially exploited for work or sex by using force, fraud, or coercion; OR if someone under 18 years old is participating in commercial sex. Anyone can be a victim: boy, girl, adult, child, all races, religions, etc.

## What does it look like when someone tries to traffick someone for sex?

- Tries to get you away from your family/friends
- Asks you to keep your relationship a secret
- Asks for nude or suggestive photos
- Promises a better life or job if you follow them
- Bribes you with expensive gifts
- Pushes you past what you're comfortable doing romantically

In Real Life ...

## Tips for Staying Safe:

Only hang out with friends who respect your personal boundaries and know your boundaries. [loveisrespect.org/healthy-relationships/setting-boundaries/](http://loveisrespect.org/healthy-relationships/setting-boundaries/)

Avoid drugs - especially if "free"

Sexting is illegal so "just say NO"

Introduce your partner to people you trust and consider their input.

## On your devices (including gaming!)

- Set your accounts to private
- Avoid sharing your name, contact info and photos with people you don't know in person
- Keep friends list to those you know in person.
- Never post sexually provocative pictures of yourself or anyone else
- Don't meet anyone offline you don't know in person

Know your surroundings and trust your gut

Ignore inappropriate comments or advances & know when to report

If you have been sexually abused, IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT. Keep reaching out to trusted adults until someone helps you. If you don't have anyone to talk to, you can Call 1-866-FOR-LIGHT or Text 'LIGHT' to 741741

Thinking about running away? Talk to someone first. If you don't know who to talk to, you can call 1-800-RUNAWAY or chat/email with someone at [www.1800runaway.org](http://www.1800runaway.org)

You are valuable! Don't let someone treat you less than you are worth.

## When at Parties

- Go with a trusted friend, leave with the same friend.
- Only drink what you pour yourself, and keep your drink with you at all times.
- Know where exits are
- Go to [www.nsteens.org](http://www.nsteens.org) for more tips!

Need To Talk To Someone?

This Is Your Personal Space! You Own It!

**BOUNDARY AREA**

Or Do You Need Help?

If you think you or someone you know might be in a trafficking situation, call the national hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or send a text to BEFREE (233733) AND talk to a trusted adult.

[www.lhttf.org](http://www.lhttf.org)

[www.facebook.com/lakeshorehumantraffickingtaskforce](https://www.facebook.com/lakeshorehumantraffickingtaskforce)

