



Child.trafficking@acs.nyc.gov

Trafficking Related Terms and Definitions

- **Brothel:** A location used for the purchase of, and engagement in sexual acts.
- **Child Soldiers:** Any girl or boy below the age of 18 who is recruited or used by an armed force or armed group, in any capacity.
- **Coercion:** Threats of serious harm to or physical restraint against any person or someone they care about.
- **Commercial Sex Act:** A sex act where anything of value is given to or received by a person due to force, fraud, or coercion, <u>or</u> in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age.
- Commercial Sex Industry: The sex industry (aka sex trade) consists of businesses that either directly or indirectly provide sex-related products and services and/or adult entertainment. It includes, but is not limited to exotic dancing, stripping, direct sexual acts, brothel work, paid domination/submission, sexual massage, media content (photos, videos), phone sex, internet streaming of sexual acts.
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: Any sex act on account of which anything of value is given to or received by any person who has not attained 18 years of age. Force, fraud or coercion do not need to be proved for persons under age 18.
- **Exploitation:** The act of treating someone unfairly in order to benefit from their work. Exploitation can be used interchangeably with the term Trafficking.
- **Force:** Use of aggression to control someone. Includes physical restraint, physical harm, sexual assault, and beatings. Monitoring and confinement is often used to break down the victim's resistance.
- **Fraud:** False promises regarding employment, wages, working conditions, love, marriage, or better life.
- Grooming: Psychological and physical process to lure victims away from their homes or to gain the trust and dependency of young runaways. Often includes use of violence, substance abuse, false promises and manipulation.
- Human Smuggling: Smuggling is not trafficking. In smuggling, victims consent to being smuggled. Smuggling involves the illegal transport of an individual across a national border. Smuggling is a crime against a country, not a person.

- Human Trafficking: The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons for the purpose of exploitation. Trafficking is a crime against a person.
- Involuntary Servitude: A condition of servitude due to any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that, if they did not enter into or continue in that condition, they or another person would suffer serious harm or physical restraint. Also, the abuse of legal action against a person, or the threat of abusive legal action.
- **Labor Trafficking:** The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude or slavery.
- Organ Trafficking: The illegal obtaining and sale of healthy organs from living or dead persons for transplantation.
- PINS (Persons In Need of Supervision): A child under the age of 18 who does
 not attend school, or behaves in a way that is dangerous or out of control, or
 often disobeys his or her parents, guardians or other authorities, may be found to
 be a Person In Need of Supervision or "PINS". All PINS proceedings are heard in
 Family Court.
- Recruitment: Proactive targeting of vulnerability and grooming behaviors
- Sex Trafficking: The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act.
- **Slavery:** The state of being under the ownership or control of someone where a person is forced to work for another.
- **Survival Sex:** Trading sex for food, clothing, shelter and other basic needs, including drugs/alcohol, transportation and any other need for survival.
- The Game/The Life: The culture of exploitation.
- Trafficker/Exploiter/Pimp: A person who deals in or trades something illegal, often by taking unfair advantage of vulnerabilities in another.
- Trap House: Originally used to describe a place where drugs were sold, it has been extended to exploitation, meaning a location where there is only one exit which is heavily guarded. Victims are trapped inside, and sex is exchanged for drugs.
- Trauma Bond: When due to psychological manipulation, the victim develops feelings of trust or affection for the trafficker and believes they are in a positive relationship.