

## Human Trafficking Resource Page

### Did you Know?

Texas ranks top in the nation for reported human trafficking cases according to The Human Trafficking Institute. El Paso sits along the I-10 corridor and is a border town, both factors, which increase vulnerability to sex and labor trafficking.

<https://www.traffickingmatters.com/wp-content/uploads/state-reports/2018/2018%20Human%20Trafficking%20Report%20TX.pdf>

### What is Human Trafficking?

Child sex trafficking occurs when a person knowingly:

- **Traffics** a child under the age of 18 and **causes by any means** the child to engage in or become the victim of **commercial sex acts or child sex abuse**;
- **Receives a benefit** from participating in a venture that involves child sex trafficking; or
- **Engages in sexual conduct** with a trafficked child.

*\* Regardless of whether the actor knows the age of the child at the time of the offense  
Tex. Penal Code § 20A.02*

Traffics	Causes	Commercial Sex Acts or Sex Abuse
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• transports,</li> <li>• entices,</li> <li>• recruits,</li> <li>• harbors,</li> <li>• provides, <b>OR</b></li> <li>• otherwise obtains by any means</li> </ul>	<p>By any means causes (<b>no force, fraud or coercion required if victim is under 18</b>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• continuous sexual abuse; indecency with a child; sexual assault and aggravation;</li> <li>• prostitution; aggravated promotion of prostitution; compelling prostitution;</li> <li>• sexual performance by a child;</li> <li>• employment harmful to children;</li> <li>• possession or promotion of child pornography</li> </ul>

### Red Flags for Child Sex Trafficking

- Changes in school attendance, habits, friend groups, vocabulary, demeanor, and attitude
- Sudden appearance of luxury items — e.g., manicures, designer clothes, purses
- Truancy (absence) from school
- Sexually provocative clothing
- Tattoos or branding
- Refillable gift cards
- Multiple phones or social media accounts
- Lying about the existence of social media accounts
- Provocative pictures posted online or stored on the phone
- Unexplained injuries
- Social interaction and schedule being strictly controlled by someone else
- Isolation from family, friends, and community

## Additional Resources

<https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/other-services/human-trafficking-of-school-aged-children>

<https://gov.texas.gov/organization/cjd/childsextrafficking>

<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/initiatives/human-trafficking>

<https://www.endslaverynow.org/>

<https://sharedhope.org>

## How to Report

### Texas

- [BeFree Textline](#) Text "BeFree" (233733) or call 1-888-373-7888
- Call 911 and tell them this is a human trafficking or child sexual exploitation case so they will send the appropriate investigators
- Contact CPS and report because child sexual exploitation is child abuse 1-800-252-5400
- Contact DPS who have victim advocates who specialize in human trafficking. 915-849-4079 Roberta Farley

### National

<https://traffickingresourcecenter.org/>

<http://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign>

## Additional Contacts

**Paso Del Norte Center of Hope** – Crisis Shelter for Victims of Human Trafficking and does education and awareness training and facilitates HT Task Force monthly 915-307-2175

**Child Guidance Center** – Specialize in Trauma Informed Care required for Victims of Human Trafficking

**Center for Children** – Specialized foster homes and trauma informed counselors who deal with child victims of human trafficking. 915-565-8361

**Advocacy Center for Children** – professionals who interview children who have been victimized in El Paso 915-545-5400

**EPCARES** – 915-922-8205 – Awareness Training and Outreach to potential victims on the street, strip clubs, and other vulnerable places to connect with resources in El Paso.