What Is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is the use of power and control to force, trick, or coerce someone into engaging in providing labor or services, including commercial sex.

Traffickers exploit social and economic inequity for their own benefit, using tactics like violence, emotional manipulation, and psychological threats.

**Trafficking is a criminal act.**

Venues or industries where trafficking is commonly reported in NYS include:

- Agriculture
- Commercial sex work based in a residence or hotel/motel
- Construction
- Domestic work
- Escort services
- Illicit massage/spa businesses
- Restaurants and food service

Learn more about gender-based violence, including human trafficking, at [www.nyc.gov/endgbv](http://www.nyc.gov/endgbv)

Are You or Someone You Know...?

- in significant debt to an employer or trafficker?
- not being paid for your work?
- forced to live and work on-site, confined, physically restrained, or tortured at work?
- being forced or encouraged to trade sex for payment by someone you trust?
- being monitored or tracked by an employer, manager, or pimp?
- working for someone who controls your money, financial records, or bank accounts?
- working for someone who controls your identification documents, such as an ID or passport?

How to Help a Friend

- Believe them and let them know it’s not their fault
- Let them know you care about their wellbeing
- Ask them what they need and what would be helpful
- Listen and respect their choices even if you disagree
- Offer options and information about resources

Contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline for confidential services and supports to get help and stay safe, 24/7.

Call 1-888-373-7888 / TTY 711
Send a text to 233733 (BEFREE)

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO MAKE YOUR OWN CHOICES AND DECISIONS.
• **Anyone can be trafficked**, including U.S. citizens, foreign nationals and adults and children of any age, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

• **Anyone can be a trafficker**, including a person that you trust.

**Learn more about domestic and gender-based violence at [www.nyc.gov/endgbv](http://www.nyc.gov/endgbv)**

**Get Help**

If you think you or someone you know are experiencing any of these, or you are not sure, you can get help.

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Send a text to **233733 (BEFREE)**

**Visit the NYC HOPE Resource Directory at [www.nyc.gov/NYCHOPE](http://www.nyc.gov/NYCHOPE) for information and resources for domestic and gender-based violence**

**Visit any NYC Family Justice Center (FJC) to get free and confidential assistance.**

Open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., FJCs welcome people of all ages, sexual orientations, and gender identities, regardless of immigration status, income, or language spoken. No appointment is needed.

- **Bronx FJC** (718) 508-1220
  198 East 161st Street, 2nd Fl.
- **Brooklyn FJC** (718) 250-5113
  350 Jay Street, 15th Fl.
- **Manhattan FJC** (212) 602-2800
  126-02 82nd Avenue
- **Queens FJC** (718) 575-4545
  126-02 82nd Avenue
- **Staten Island FJC** (718) 697-2800
  126 Stuyvesant Place

**Get Resources AND INFORMATION**

**HELP IS AVAILABLE, 24/7**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

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- **Call 911 in an emergency**