

Human Trafficking and the Healthcare Sector



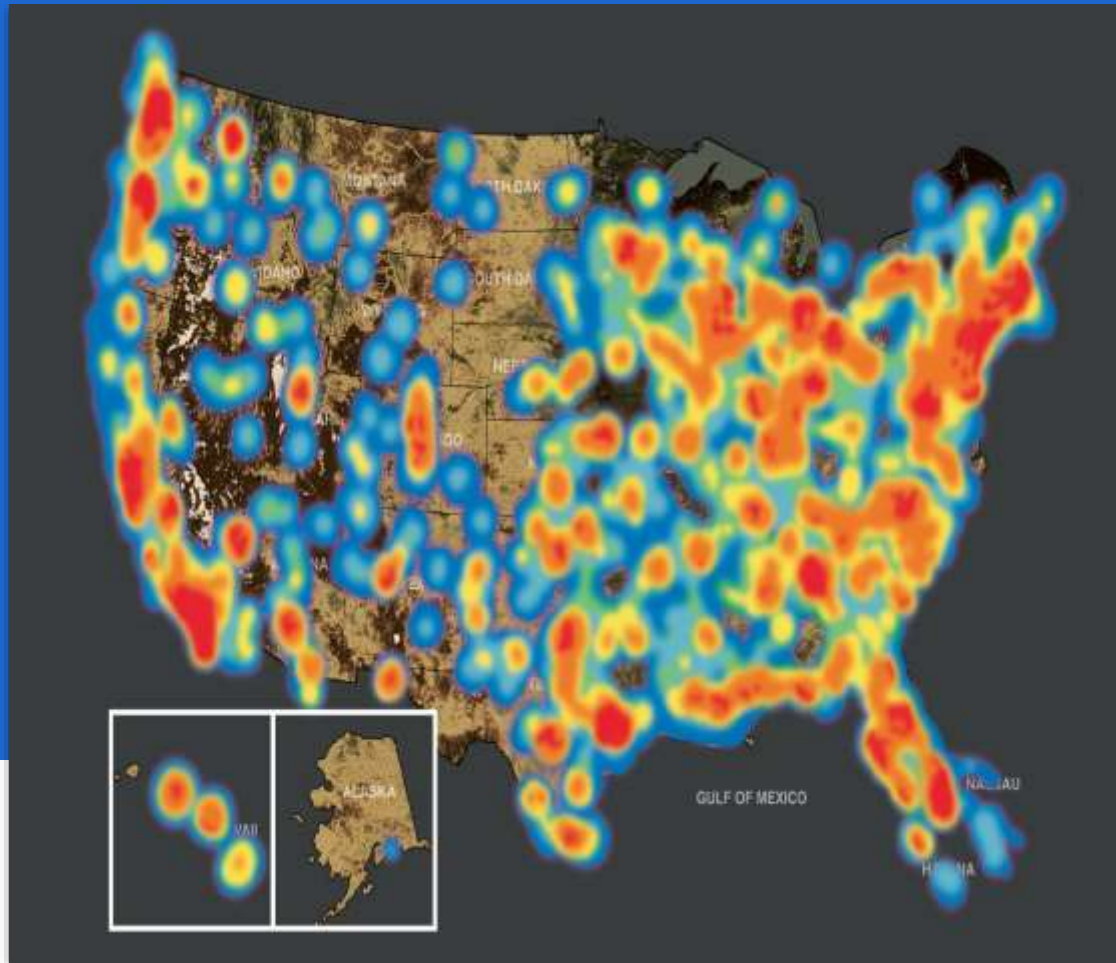
Terri Nickel, DO, MMM, FACOFP

No conflicts to disclose

Agenda

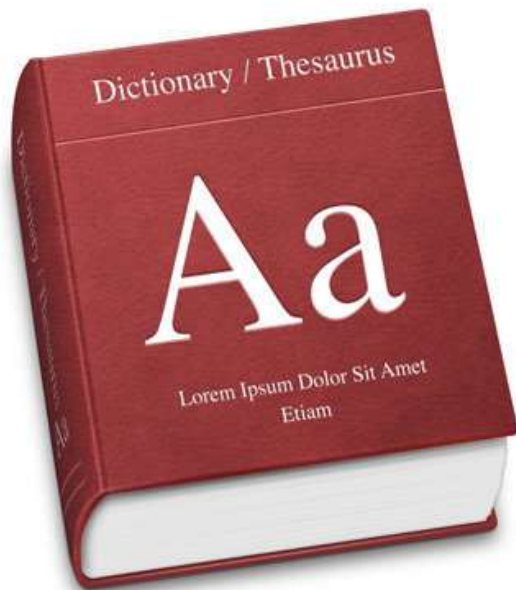
- ❖ Overview of Human Trafficking
- ❖ Implementation of a Human Trafficking Response Plan
- ❖ Red Flags and Indicators
- ❖ How you can help





Human trafficking is in your community.

Definitions

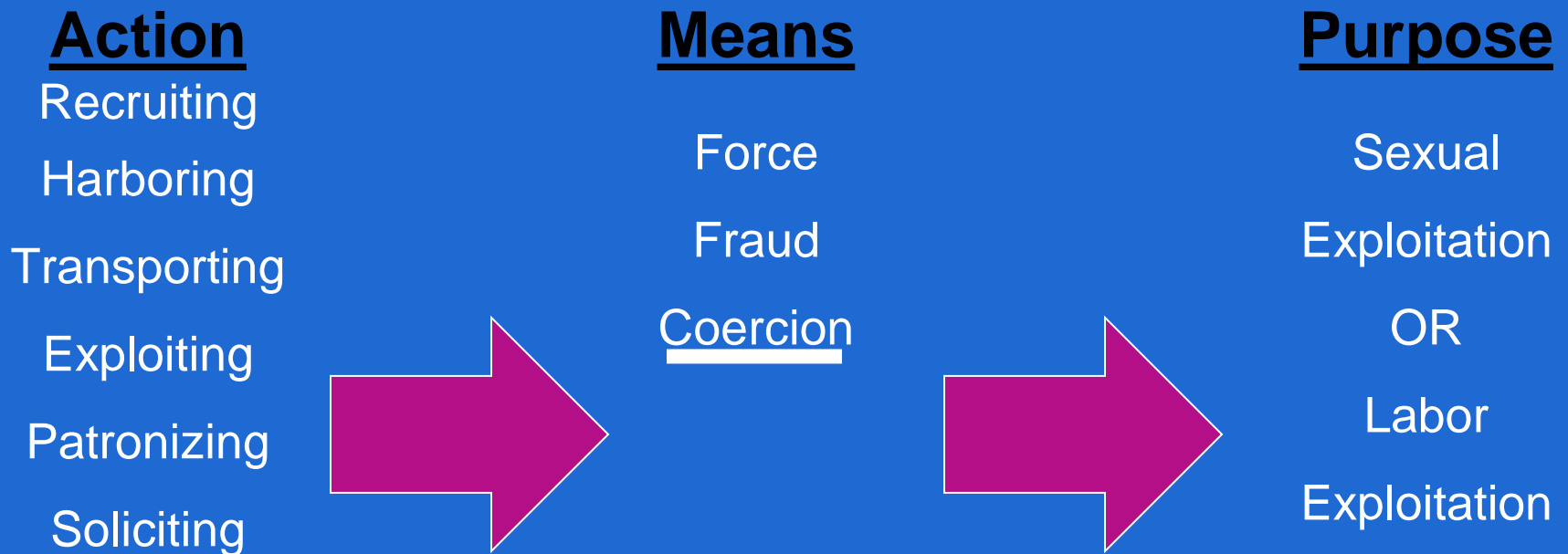


**Sex
Trafficking**

**Labor
Trafficking**

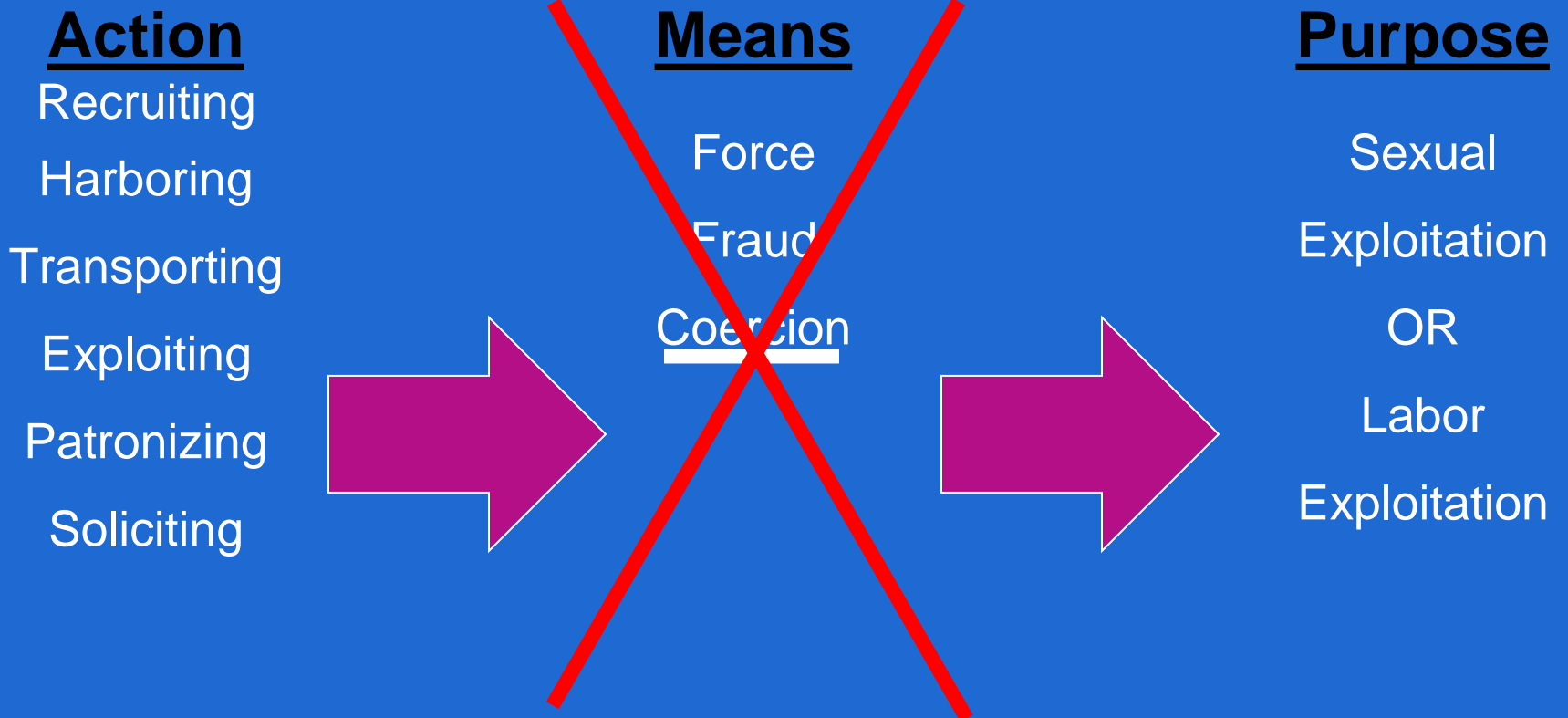
U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act

To be convicted of human trafficking



One Exception

Minor < 18 in commercial sex



WHO??



Who can be trafficked?

Runaway youth & homeless population are very high at risk.

ANY person, ANY age, ANY race, ANY gender can be trafficked!

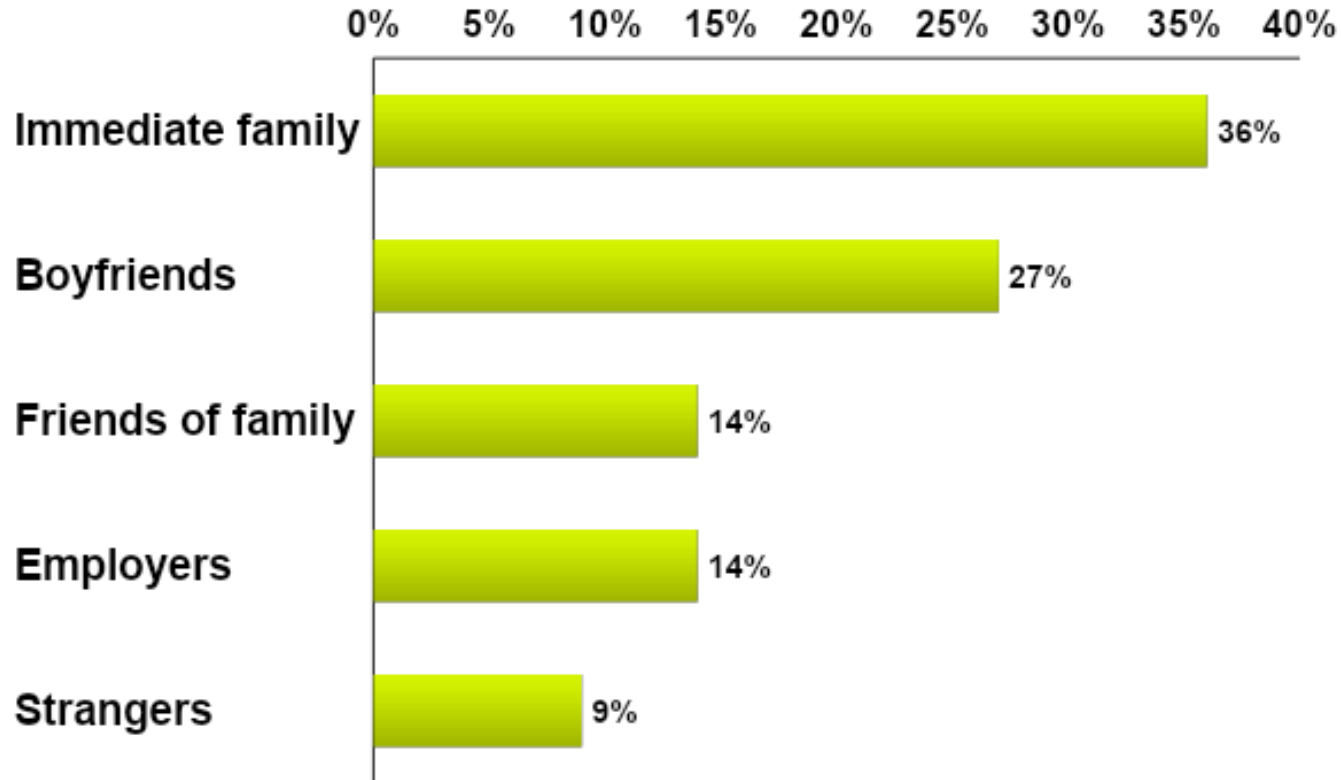
WHO?

Who can be trafficked?

- Nationally 450,000 children run away from home each year
- 1 out of every 3 teens on the street will be lured toward sexual exploitation within 48 hours of leaving home
- Of minors - 12 is the average age of entry into pornography and sexual exploitation in the U.S.²



Who are the traffickers?



“Homelessness, Survival Sex and Human Trafficking: As Experienced by the Youth of Covenant House” New York

Sexual Exploitation

Massage Parlors
Residential Brothels
Escort Services
Online Exploitation
Hotels & Motels
Street Exploitation
Truck Stops

Domestic Servitude

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing
Construction
Sales Crews
Factories
Service Industry (hotels & restaurants)
Small Businesses

Hostess Clubs/Cantina Bars
Exotic Dancing/Stripping
Pornography

Domestic Sex Trafficking and Healthcare

87.8% interviewed reported contact with a healthcare system.



ED Personnel Knowledge of Trafficking

Assessed knowledge among ER personnel in four large emergency rooms in the Northeast:

- 2% had formal training on trafficking
- 5% were confident in ability to identify a victim
- 7% were confident in ability to treat a victim

INDICATORS

Physical Indicators

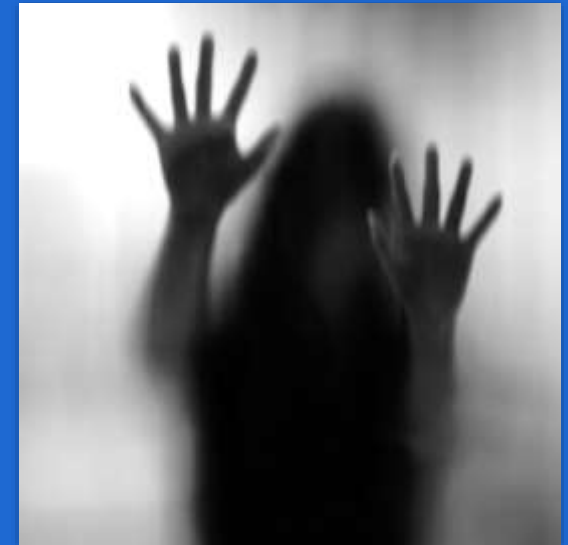


- Signs of physical trauma
- Branding tattoos
- Unusual infections
- Multiple STI's
- Malnutrition, dehydration
- Multiple pregnancies or abortions
- Unusual occupational injuries

RED FLAGS

Know the Red Flags

- Inconsistent or scripted history
- Discrepancy between history and clinical presentation
- Unable to give address
- Late presentation
- Doesn't know current city
- Minor trading sex for something of value
- Unusually high number of sexual partners
- Appearance younger than stated



CONTROL

Control Indicators



- Accompanied by a controlling person
- Controlling person does not allow person to answer
- Controlling person interrupts or corrects person
- Not in control of their ID or passport
- Exhibits fear, nervousness, and/or avoids eye contact

Methods of conditioning and control

- Starvation
- Confinement
- Beatings
- Torture
- Rape/gang-rape
- Threats of violence to family members
- Forced drug usage
- Fear of law enforcement



Obstacles to Overcome



- Attitude
- Use and threat of violence
- Misinformation/false promises
- Dependency on the abuser
- Distrust
- Lack of Knowledge
- Misidentification

Example Screening Questions...

- ◆ Have you ever exchanged sex for food, shelter, drugs, or money?
- ◆ Have you ever been forced to have sex against your will?
- ◆ Have you been asked to have sex with multiple partners?
- ◆ Do you have to meet a quota of money before you can go home?



What YOU Can Do

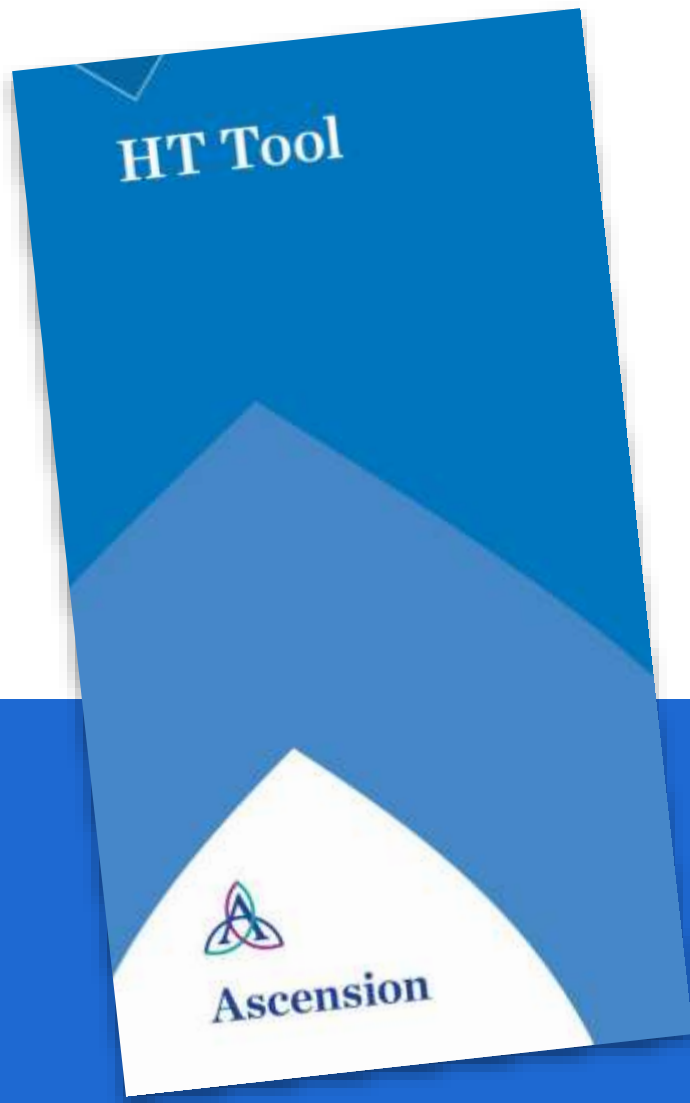
HELP

What You Can Do

Educate yourself and others

Volunteer/mentor

Encourage education and a response plan to be implemented where you serve



Human Trafficking Assesstment Tool

Example of HT Program

Ascension Via Christi's Efforts

Ascension Via Christi Health

- Task Force
- Action Plan: Assessment Tool/Protocol
- Collaboration
- Training and Education
- Leadership-Ascension Ministries
- HT Prevention Efforts

Ascension Via Christi HT Task Force

- Forensic Nursing
- Senior Leadership
- Clinical Care
Specialty/Emergency
- Physician
- Behavioral Health
- Case Management
- Education
- Communications
- Legal Department



**Example Response: ASCENSION VIA CHRISTI
WICHITA**

Ascension Via Christi Wichita Human Trafficking Response



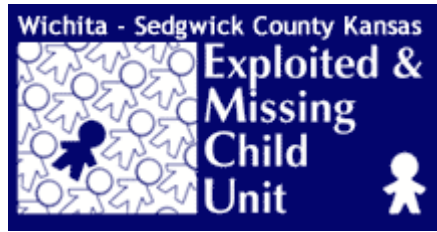
If you see any Red Flags, call 316-689-5252.

The Human Trafficking Response Team will be notified and a team member will meet with the patient.



The Wichita response team is a collaboration of Forensic Nursing, Behavioral Health, and the Foundation.

COLLABORATIONS



TRAINING

Ascension Via Christi HT Education

- HT Education Sessions
- Simulations
- Online Modules
- Educational Materials
- Education on How to Utilize Protocol
- Prevention-RESPECT Program



The poster features a person in a hoodie and backpack standing on a road at sunset, pointing towards the horizon. The background is a warm, golden light from the setting sun over a road.

Via Christi HEALTH
Ascension

Human Trafficking

Trafico Humano

Is someone forcing you into sexual acts?
Alguien te esta forzando a tener relaciones sexuales?

Are you or someone you know being forced into an activity?
Tu o alguien que conoces te obligan a realizar una actividad?

Is someone forcing you to provide labor?
Alguien te esta forzando a dar trabajo?

Help is available
Ayuda esta disponible

-  **Police**
Call 911
-  **Safe House Crisis Center Hotline**
Casa Segura Centro De Crisis Linea Directa
1-800-794-9148
-  **National Human Trafficking Hotline**
Linea Nacional De Trata De Personas
1-888-373-7888

NUMBERS TO KNOW

National Trafficking Hotline

National Trafficking Hotline:
1-888-373-7888

Cyber Tip Line
1-800-843-5678

<https://ag.ks.gov/public-safety/human-trafficking>



Questions?

Thank you for your time.



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