

# SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- SHELTER
- CASE MANAGEMENT
- ADVOCACY
- THERAPEUTIC SERVICES  
Including restorative yoga, mindfulness, animal-assisted therapy, and other evidence-based treatments, such as EMDR and cognitive behavior therapy.
- EDUCATION AND AWARENESS  
On addiction, codependency, the dynamics of human trafficking, healthy relationships, job readiness, and life skills.

INTRODUCING  
THE CENTER FOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION'S  
THE TOWER



The Tower provides trauma-informed mid to long term care for victims. Through our multi-disciplinary professional and community partnerships, The Tower will work to achieve victim safety, recovery, and restoration.

## IDENTIFYING A TRAFFICKER

Traffickers prey on the vulnerabilities of their victims. They may promise jobs, adventure, and/or a secure relationship to lure victims into trafficking. Traffickers may be:

ANY GENDER OR ANY AGE  
FOREIGN NATIONALS OR US CITIZENS  
SINGLE INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS OF PEOPLE  
FAMILY MEMBERS, INTIMATE PARTNERS,  
FRIENDS OR STRANGERS

## RESOURCES

### MISSISSIPPI

The Center for Violence Prevention  
800-266-4198 | 601-932-4198 | [www.ms cvp.org](http://www.ms cvp.org)



@msc4vp

The Center For Violence Prevention

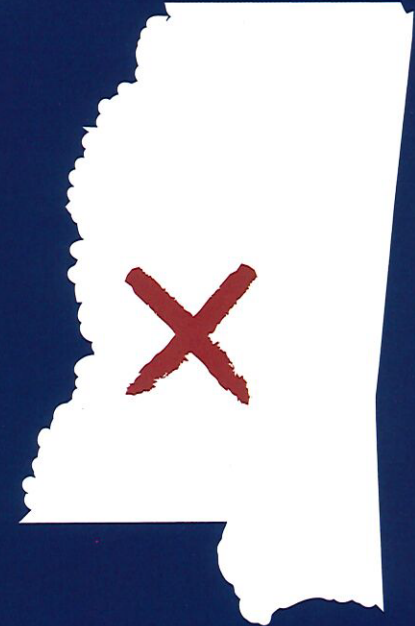
### NATIONAL

Polaris Project  
888-3737-888 | [www.polarisproject.org](http://www.polarisproject.org)

### FOREIGN NATIONAL

Tapestri  
800-317-3733 | [www.tapestri.org](http://www.tapestri.org)

This project is sponsored by Grant No. 15SX5991, awarded by the Department of Public Safety - Division of Public Safety Planning. The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Department of Public Safety - Division of Public Safety Planning.



# HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN MISSISSIPPI



24 Hour Crisis Line 800-266-4198  
601-932-4198 | [www.ms cvp.org](http://www.ms cvp.org)  
P O Box 6279 | Pearl, MS 39288-6279

# MISSISSIPPI HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACT

The **Mississippi Human Trafficking Act**, found at Mississippi Code Section 97-3-54 through 97-3-54.9, pertains to forced labor and forced commercial sexual activity of both minors and adults.

## 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, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

## SEX TRAFFICKING

Occurs when someone uses force, fraud, or coercion to cause a commercial sex act with an adult OR induces a minor to perform a commercial sex act.

■ If the victim is under 18, force, fraud, or coercion do not have to be proven.

■ A “commercial sexual activity” is defined as “any sex act on account of which anything of value is given to, promised to, or received by any person.” Miss. Code § 97-3-54.4(c).

“Traffickers” and “facilitators” are those people who recruit, enable, assist, or benefit from the sexual exploitation of another person for monetary or other non-monetary gain. Miss. Code § 97-3-54.1(1)(a). Facilitators – those who assist, enable, or financially benefit from sex trafficking – are subject to the same penalties as traffickers. This means that “johns” can be punished to the same extent that pimps are punished.

The punishment for human trafficking of a minor is five to 20 years in prison and/or a fine of \$20,000 to \$100,000. If the victim is older than 18, the punishment is two to 20 years in prison and/or a fine of \$10,000 to \$100,000.

A minor’s consent to his or her involvement is not a defense to the crime. Miss. Code § 97-3-54.1(1)(c).

The defendant’s belief the minor was over 18 is not a defense to the crime. Miss. Code § 97-3-54.1(1)(c).

A minor involved in prostitution related activity as a direct result of being trafficked is immune from prosecution. Miss. Code §§ 97-29-49(4), 97-29-51(3).

There is no statute of limitations for prosecuting human trafficking offenses. Miss. Code § 99-1-5.

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS A FORM OF MODERN DAY SLAVERY



Through our partnership with the Central Mississippi Human Trafficking Task Force, The Tower will offer screening, assistance, and rapid response when appropriate.

## RED FLAGS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- Not free to leave or come and go
- Under 18 and providing commercial sex acts
- In commercial sex industry and has pimp/madam
- Unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips
- Not in control of his/her own money, and/or has no financial records, or bank account
- Works excessively long/unusual hours
- Not allowed breaks/suffers unusual restrictions at work
- Lack control over documents/pay
- Overcrowded/substandard living conditions

## TEEN VICTIMS

Common red flags for teen victims include: a significantly older boyfriend, travel with an older male (not guardian), chronic runaway, multiple delinquency charges, homelessness, and/or substance abuse.

## DEFINING:

### FORCE

physical abuse, sexual assault, or confinement.

### FRAUD

false promises of work or living conditions, withholding money, or a better life.

### COERCION

threats, debt-bondage, psychological manipulation, or document confiscation.

## GET THE FACTS:

THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION ESTIMATES THAT

THERE ARE  
**20.9 MILLION**  
VICTIMS OF HUMAN  
TRAFFICKING GLOBALLY