



Westchester County (NY) Chapter

National Trends and Services Facet Human Trafficking and Mental Health Presentation



January 26, 2019



Westchester County (NY) Chapter

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month



Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service

Westchester County (NY) Chapter

Human Trafficking

- National initiatives are programs designed and implemented in response to critical national issues that affect communities of color. **The Human Trafficking Initiative is one of the eleven the national Initiatives and it is under the National Trends Facet.**
- 57,000 to 63,000 people are enslaved and trafficked in the U.S. This is a close estimate, not an exact number due to the challenge in identifying an accurate count (Vera Institute of Justice www.vera.org)
- Less than 1% of human trafficked individuals are identified according to the U.S. State Department 2010 estimate (Vera Institute of Justice www.vera.org)



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Human Trafficking

- **OVER 15% OF ALL MEN IN AMERICA PURCHASE SEX.**
- **85% OF THOSE SOLD IN SEX SLAVERY WERE ABUSED AS CHILDREN.**
- **90% OF VICTIMS ARE ARRESTED FOR SELLING SEX; LESS THAN 10% OF BUYERS ARE ARRESTED.**

U.S. Institute Against human Trafficking Health <https://usiaht.org>



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Human Sex Trafficking

Red Flags

- Show signs of physical abuse such as burn marks, bruises or cuts
- Appear malnourished; poor physical and/or dental health
- Have tattoos or branding, particularly related to money, ownership, and/or gang symbols
- Be in possession of large amounts of cash, multiple cell phones and/or hotel keys
- Miss school often, be overly tired at school, be out of school during school hours
- Be caught lying about age/with a false ID
- Avoid eye contact, social interaction, and authority figures/law enforcement

Closer Look

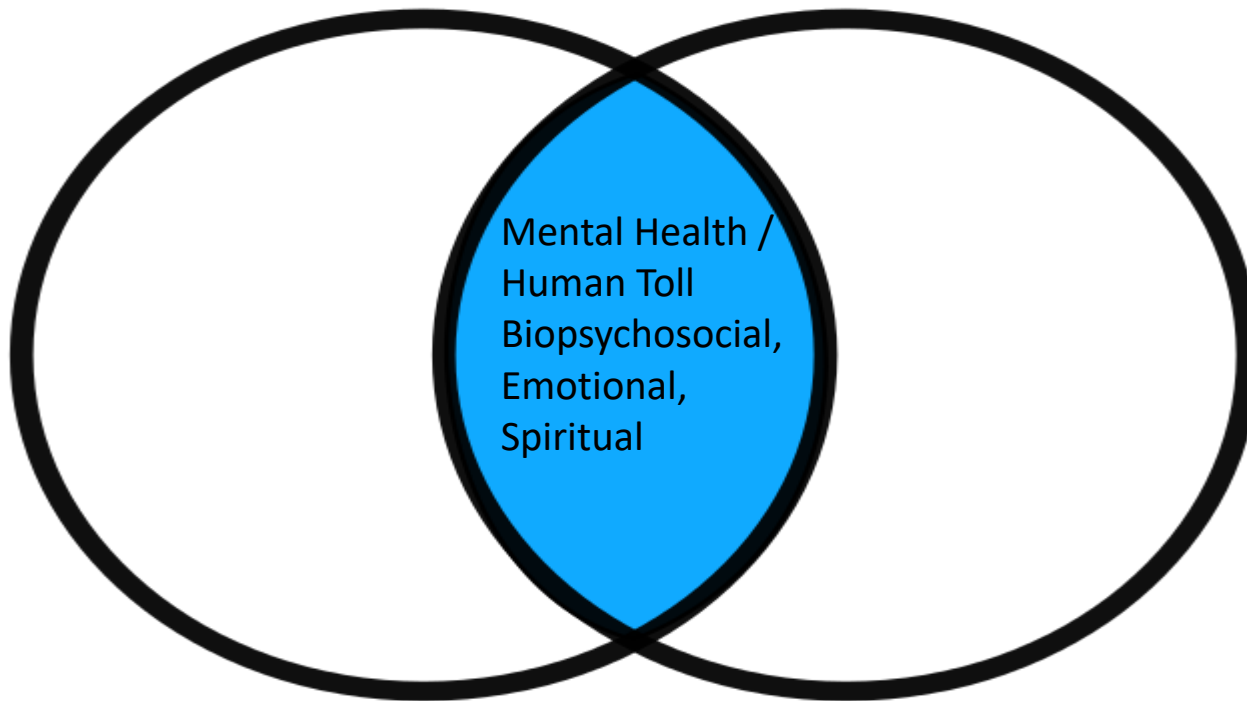
- Be constantly in the presence of a controlling/possessive boyfriend or girlfriend
- Be protective of and/or submissive to boyfriend/girlfriend
- Seem to adhere to scripted or rehearsed responses in social interaction
- Lack official identification documents
- Be unable or unwilling to give local address or information about parents/guardian
- Exhibit sudden changes in dress or behavior, particularly becoming more sexualized
- Behave withdrawn, depressed, distracted or checked out
- Have new friends with a different lifestyle
- Have a new boyfriend (especially older) who is jealous, controlling, violent, buys expensive gifts
- Show signs of gang affiliation
- Maintain sexually explicit profiles on social networking sites



Human Trafficking

PERSON

ENVIRONMENT





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Who is T ?
www.talkwithT



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Human Trafficking

National Hotline Human Trafficking

Call 1-888-373-7888 (TTY: 711)

Text 233733

Live Chat

Mental Health Services

Mission

- The Steve Fund is the nation's only organization focused on supporting the mental health and emotional well-being of young people of color. The Steve Fund works with colleges and universities, non-profits, researchers, mental health experts, families, and young people to promote programs and strategies that build understanding and assistance for the mental and emotional health of the nation's young people of color. The Fund holds an annual conference, Young, Gifted & @Risk, and offers a Knowledge Center with curated expert information. With multicultural mental health experts it delivers on-campus and on-site programs and services for colleges and non-profits, and through tech partnerships it provides direct services to young people of color. www.stevelfund.org
- **In crisis? Text STEVE to 741741.**

The Steve Fund has created a special keyword, STEVE, that young people of color can text to 741741 to connect with a trained crisis counselor 24/7. The Fund views text messaging as a key component of its strategy towards addressing the unmet mental health needs of college and university students of color. Through its partnership with the Crisis Text Line, the Fund promotes text messaging as a means to improve the critically needed access for young people of color to crisis counseling. [The Steve Fund.org](http://TheSteveFund.org)

**Together, the Links can heighten awareness about Human Trafficking
Through friendship and service!**

Helping to strengthen each other, the Chapter and our community!

