**Tools for Ending the Tragedy of Human Trafficking**

A one hour CEU course by Dr. Harvey Kaltsas,AP, Dipl. Ac. (NCCAOM)

It’s sad to say, but the scourge of slavery did not end in the USA with the Civil War. Today human trafficking, which enslaves tens of thousands of young people and children, is a $32 billion a year business in America. Fortunately, you, as a Florida health care provider, are in a position to do something about it.

The State of Florida now requires that by January 1, 2021 health care providers licensed by 15 professional Boards under the Florida Department of Health must complete a one hour Continuing Education course which covers the following topics:

* Sex and labor trafficking
* How to identify victims
* How to report human trafficking
* Resources available to victims

Those are the topics this course will cover, followed by a short exam. Once you return your exam with a passing grade of 70% or more, I will send a certificate of completion to you and report to CE Broker that you have completed the Human Trafficking requirement. This course will be considered a General course under your CEU requirement for license renewal. You need to complete this course only one-time. Ever.

We’ll start with an overview of America’s current problem of sex and labor trafficking.

**Sex and Labor Trafficking**

In an op-ed piece in **The Hill** entitled, **Porn consumption is contributing to child sex trafficking epidemic,** opinion contributor Timothy Head writes**:**

“A [2016 study by the Center for Court Innovation](about:blank) found that between 8,900 and 10,500 children, ages 13 to 17, are commercially exploited each year in the United States.

“Human trafficking is the fastest-growing organized crime activity in the United States, making almost $32 billion a year for traffickers while destroying the lives of tens of thousands of innocent children. Nearly 70 percent of these transactions now take place online….

“Researchers at the University of Massachusetts at Boston [performed a Google trend analysis showing searches for “teen porn” more than tripled between 2005-2013](about:blank), and teen porn searches reached an estimated 500,000 daily in March 2013 or over one-third of total daily porn searches. You read that right, 500,000 searches daily for teen pornography…”

America, we do have a problem. A really tragic problem.

### The U.S Government Department of Homeland Security reports the following NATIONAL TRAFFICKING STATISTICS:

* *“The annual number of persons prosecuted for commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) cases filed in U.S. district court nearly doubled between 2004 and 2013, increasing from 1,405 to 2,776 cases. Most suspects arrested for CSEC crimes were male (97 percent), were U.S. citizens (97 percent), were white (82 percent), had no prior felony convictions (79 percent) and were not married (70 percent). CSEC suspects had a median age of 39 years, and more than half (56 percent) had no more than a high school education. (*[***Bureau of Justice Statistics***](about:blank)*)*
* *“Since 2007, the*[***National Human Trafficking Hotline***](about:blank)*, operated by Polaris, has received reports of 22,191 sex trafficking cases inside the United States.”*

[**The statistics presented below come directly from the National Human Trafficking Hotline:**](about:blank)

TOTAL NATIONAL STATISTICS

“The National Human Trafficking Hotline uses the word "case" to represent distinct situations of trafficking reported to the hotline. A case can involve one or more potential victims of trafficking and can be reported to the hotline through one or more conversations via call, text, email, online report, or web chat. The use of the word case is not an indication of law enforcement involvement in the situation.

Polaris has changed the way we present certain data to include contacts initiated by text and chat. As a result, data obtained before this change may not match what is currently available on this site.”

***i***

SINCE *2007*

**Total Contacts:**

**229,020**

**Total Cases:**

**51,919**

**Total Calls:**

**186,234**

**Total Webforms:**

**15,436**

**Total Emails:**

**13,337**

***i***

**Total Victims - Moderate:**

**67,593**

**Total Victims - High:**

**59,092**

2018 data is current as of December 31, 2018.

*41,088*

CONTACTS THIS YEAR [2018]

*10,949*

HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES REPORTED THIS YEAR [2018]

Victims and Survivors Identified

***High Indicators 14,701***

***Moderate Indicators 21,864***

***Calls From Victims & Survivors 7,838***

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES REPORTED BY STATE -** California (1656),Texas (1000), Florida (767), New York (492), Ohio (443), Michigan (383), Georgia (375), Nevada (313), Illinois (296), North Carolina (287), Pennsylvania (275), Arizona (231), Washington (229), New Jersey (224), Virginia (198), Missouri (178), Colorado (178), Tennessee (165), Maryland (165), South Carolina (156), Louisiana (149), Indiana (142), Kentucky (141), Oregon (135)

**TYPE OF TRAFFICKING -** Sex Trafficking (7,859), Labor Trafficking (1,249),Trafficking Type Not Specified (1,202), Sex and Labor (639) – [total] # of Cases: 10,949

**TOP VENUES/INDUSTRIES FOR LABOR TRAFFICKING -** Domestic Work (214), Agriculture (157), Traveling Sales Crews (138), Restaurants/Food Service (71), Illicit Activities (58 – [total] # of Cases: 1,249

**TOP VENUES/INDUSTRIES FOR SEX TRAFFICKING -** Illicit Massage/Spa Business (861), Residence-Based Commercial Sex (635), Hotel/Motel-Based (605), Pornography (537), Online Ad, Venue Unknown (490) – [total] # of Cases: 7,859

**GENDER -** Female (7,126) Male (1,137), Gender Minorities (78) – [total] # of Cases: 10,949

**AGE -** Adult (5,070), Minor (2,378) – [total] # of Cases: 10,949

**CITIZENSHIP -** US Citizen/LPR (1,499), Foreign National (1,237) – [total] # of Cases: 10,949

*These statistics are non-cumulative. Cases may involve multiple victims and include males and females, foreign nationals and U.S. citizens, adults and minors. In some cases, callers do not provide demographic information.*

**BREAKDOWN OF REQUESTS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES -** Report a Trafficking Tip (7,985), Access Service Referrals (2,049), Request Crisis Assistance (866), Request General Information (44), Request T&TA (5) – [total] # of Cases:10,949

**TOP WAYS THE HOTLINE WAS FOUND -** Internet (1,968), Referral (1,721), Training/Conference (501), DOS Know Your Rights Pamphlet (191), Other (165) –

[total] # of Contacts: 41,088

**TOP CONTACT TYPES -** Community Member (12,538), Victim of Trafficking (7,838), Family of Trafficking Victim (3,367), NGO Representative (2,677), Victim of Other Crime (2,472) – [total] # of Contacts]: 41,088

* “In 2016, the [**National Center for Missing & Exploited Children**](about:blank) estimated that 1 in 6 endangered runaways reported to them were likely sex trafficking victims
* Globally, the International Labor Organization estimates that there are [**4.5 million people trapped in forced sexual exploitation globally**](about:blank).
* In a 2014 report, the [**Urban Institute**](about:blank) estimated that the underground sex economy ranged from $39.9 million in Denver, Colorado, to $290 million in Atlanta, Georgia
* The [Department of Justice](about:blank)has reported that more than half of sex-trafficking victims are 17 years old or younger
* In the United States, over eight in ten suspected incidents of human trafficking involve sex trafficking. ([US DOJ Bureau of Statistics](about:blank))
* NCMEC reported an 846% increase from 2010 to 2015 in reports of suspected child sex trafficking—an increase the organization has found to be “directly correlated to the increased use of the Internet to sell children for sex (Testimony of Yiota G. Souras, Senior Vice President & General Counsel, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, Nov. 2015)  
    
  \*\*\*Above national trafficking statistics taken from the [Polaris Project.](about:blank)”

**How to Identify Victims**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security reports the following Human Trafficking Indicators:

*“While not an exhaustive list, these are some key red flags that could alert you to a potential trafficking situation that should be reported:*

* *“Living with employer*
* *Poor living conditions*
* *Multiple people in cramped space*
* *Inability to speak to individual alone*
* *Answers appear to be scripted and rehearsed*
* *Employer is holding identity documents*
* *Signs of physical abuse*
* *Submissive or fearful*
* *Unpaid or paid very little*
* *Under 18 and in prostitution”*

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) also provides the following “**Questions to** Ask**”:**

*“Assuming you have the opportunity to speak with a potential victim privately and without jeopardizing*

*the victim’s safety because the trafficker is watching, here are some sample questions to ask to follow up on the red flags you became alert to:*

* *Can you leave your job if you want to?*
* *Can you come and go as you please?*
* *Have you been hurt or threatened if you tried to leave?*
* *Has your family been threatened?*
* *Do you live with your employer?*
* *Where do you sleep and eat?*
* *Are you in debt to your employer?*
* *Do you have your passport/identification? Who has it?”*

The United States Council of Catholic Bishops suggests that one be on the lookout for these red flags:

* Seems anxious, fearful or paranoid.  Avoids eye contact.
* Tearfulness or signs of depression.
* Unexplained bruises or cuts or other signs of physical abuse.
* Appears to be in a relationship with someone who is dominating.
* Never is alone and/or always has someone translating or answering questions on their behalf.
* Not in control of their own finances.
* Presents with secrecy or unable to answer questions about where they live.
* Inconsistent details when telling their story.
* Has no identification such as a license, passport or other ID documents.
* Inability to leave their job or residence.  Says they cannot schedule appointments.
* Being a recent arrival to the United States and does not speak English.
* Is under 18 and providing commercial sex acts.  Or at any age unwillingly providing commercial sex acts.
* Is afraid of law enforcement or receiving help from an outside entity.

The United States Council of Catholic Bishops also suggests -

**If you can find an opportunity to get he/she alone, ask him/her the following screening questions:**

* Can you leave your job or house when you want?
* Where did you get those bruises or is anyone hurting you?
* Do you get paid for your employment?  Is it fair?  How many hours do you work?
* (If foreign national) How did you get to the U.S. and is it what you expected?  Are you being forced to do anything you don't want to do?
* Are you or your family being threatened?
* Do you live with or near your employer?  Does your employer provide you housing?  Are there locks on doors or windows from outside?
* Do you owe debt to anyone?

**How to Report Human Trafficking**

If you think you have identified a victim of human trafficking, promptly call law enforcement at the numbers listed below. Do not attempt to rescue a trafficking victim. You don’t know how the trafficker may respond and what he/she may do to you and/or the victim. However, if you know that it is a victim who has escaped from the trafficker, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at **1-888-373-7888.**

In emergency situations, immediately contact local police by calling **911**. You may also call the National Human Trafficking Hotline (described above and below) so that it can alert law enforcement officers who know about human trafficking.

DHS says: *”The National Human Trafficking Hotline is a national 24-hour, toll-free, multilingual anti-trafficking hotline. Call 1-888-373-7888 to report a tip; connect with anti-trafficking services in your area; or request training and technical assistance, general information, or specific anti-trafficking resources. The Hotline is equipped to handle calls from all regions of the United States from a wide range of callers including, but not limited to: potential trafficking victims, community members, law enforcement, medical professionals, legal professionals, service providers, researchers, students, and policymakers.”*

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security also advises the following. The bold type emphasis has been provided by DHS, so heed its warnings:

***“Do not at any time attempt to confront a suspected trafficker directly or alert a victim to your suspicions.****Your safety as well as the victim’s safety is paramount.  Instead, please contact local law enforcement directly or call the tip lines indicated on this page:*

* ***Call 1-866-DHS-2-ICE (1-866-347-2423)****to report suspicious criminal activity to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Tip Line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year. Highly trained specialists take reports from both the public and law enforcement agencies on more than 400 laws enforced by ICE HSI, including those related to human trafficking. The Tip Line is accessible****outside the United States****by calling****802-872-6199****.*
* ***To get help from the National Human Trafficking Hotline (NHTH), call 1-888-373-7888 or text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733).****The NHTH can help connect victims with service providers in the area and provides training, technical assistance, and other resources. The NHTH is a national, toll-free hotline available to answer calls from anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year. The NHTH is not a law enforcement or immigration authority and is operated by a nongovernmental organization funded by the Federal government.”*

*“By identifying victims and reporting tips, you are doing your part to help law enforcement rescue victims, and you might save a life. Law enforcement can connect victims to*[*services*](about:blank)*such as medical and mental health care, shelter, job training, and legal assistance that restore their freedom and dignity. The presence or absence of any of the indicators is not necessarily proof of human trafficking. It is up to law enforcement to investigate suspected cases of human trafficking.”*

**“To report suspected human trafficking** **to Federal law enforcement:**

[**1-866-347-2423**](about:blank)

**To get help from the National Human Trafficking Hotline:”**

[**1-888-373-7888**](about:blank)

or text [**HELP**](about:blank) or [**INFO**](about:blank) to

**BeFree (233733)**

*“Everyone has the potential to discover a human trafficking situation. While the victims may sometimes be kept behind locked doors, they are often hidden right in front of us at, for example, construction sites, restaurants, elder care centers, nail salons, agricultural fields, and hotels. Traffickers’ use of coercion – such as threats of deportation and harm to the victim or their family members – is so powerful that even if you reach out to victims, they may be too fearful to accept your help. Knowing indicators of human trafficking and some follow up questions will help you act on your gut feeling that something is wrong and report it.”*

# Resources

### [Fiscal Year 2017 Strategic Action Plan](about:blank)

Read how Blue Campaign and the federal government are working to support victims of human trafficking at the web site below:

https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/share-resources

Here’s a collection of campaign materials, trainings, and videos from the Blue Campaign.

* [](about:blank)

### [Document Library](about:blank)

A comprehensive collection of all publications and materials available to download and print from the Blue Campaign.

* [](about:blank)

### [Request Blue Campaign Materials](about:blank) Browse a wide variety of human trafficking awareness materials to help educate the public to watch out for signs and indicators.

* [](about:blank)

### [Awareness Training](about:blank)

The Blue Campaign has developed awareness and training materials to help increase awareness and educate on the indicators of human trafficking.

* [](about:blank)

### [Awareness Videos](about:blank)

Select a category below to view videos designed to spread awareness of the signs and indicators of human trafficking.

**Legal Resources to End Sex Trafficking**

**“Human trafficking is a modern form of the oldest and most barbaric type of exploitation. It has no place in our world.”**

***President Donald J. Trump***

April 11, 2018 President Trump signed into law the **Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act of 2017 (FOSTA), which includes the Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act of 2017 (SESTA), that gives law enforcement and victims new tools to fight sex trafficking.**

In addition, April 11, 2018 t**he White House reported all that follows:**

* FOSTA amends the Communications Act of 1934 to create an exception for sex trafficking, making it easier to target websites with legal action for enabling such crimes. Under the package:
  + the “Communications Decency Provisions” can no longer be construed to impair or limit civil action or criminal prosecution relating to sex trafficking; and
  + those benefiting from “participating in a venture,” knowingly assisting supporting, or facilitating an act of sex trafficking are now in violation of the Federal criminal code.
* In addition, FOSTA provides new legal recourse for victims and law enforcement alike, by:
  + enhancing penalties—a fine, a prison term of up to 25 years, or both—for people who promote or facilitate the prostitution of five or more people or who contribute to sex trafficking through reckless disregard;
  + allowing victims or damaged individuals of sex trafficking seek justice against websites that assist in the violation of Federal sex trafficking laws; and
  + enabling State law enforcement officials to take action against individuals or businesses that violate Federal sex trafficking laws.

**HUMAN SEX TRAFFICKING IS AN EPIDEMIC: Human sex trafficking is a plague upon our great Nation and the world.**

* Sex trafficking is a global form of modern-day slavery in which individuals are coerced to perform commercial sex acts against their will.
  + Per the International Labor Organization, there may be as many as 24.9 million victims of forced labor across the world. Of these, 4.8 million were in forced sexual exploitation.
  + Over 99 percent of trafficked individuals trapped in forced sexual exploitation are women.
  + Over 21 percent of those trafficked for sex are children.
* The United States is a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and children—both United States citizens and foreign nationals—victimized by human trafficking and sex trafficking.
  + In FY 2017, DHS’s Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations (ICE/HSI) initiated 833 human trafficking cases, resulting in 1,602 arrests and 578 convictions, and identified 518 victims of human trafficking.
  + Since 2007, the National Human Trafficking Hotline has received reports of 22,191 sex trafficking cases in the United States.
  + Of the nearly 25,000 runaway children reports to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, one in seven were likely victims of child sex trafficking.
  + The underground sex economy is a multimillion dollar industry. A 2014 Urban Institute study estimated the combined worth of the underground sex economy in Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, Miami, Seattle, San Diego, and Washington, D.C., to be between $39.9 and $290 million.
* The situations that sex trafficking victims face vary widely:
  + Some are manipulated or forced into prostitution by romantic partners;
  + Some are lured in with false job promises, frequently modeling or dancing; and
  + Some are forced into prostitution by parents or family members.
* Sex trafficking happens to every population group and occurs in a wide range of venues, including online websites or ads, at varying businesses, and on the street.

**CONTINUING TO TAKE ACTION: Signing the FOSTA is a continuation of President Donald J. Trump’s efforts to take the fight to human traffickers.**

* The President’s Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (PTIF) is working around the clock to prosecute traffickers, protect victims, and prevent human trafficking.
* In March 2018, in light of the impending passage of FOSTA, Ivanka Trump led a bipartisan, bicameral roundtable discussion on Human Trafficking.
* Also in March 2018, the President appointed nine human trafficking survivors to serve on the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking for terms of two years.
* The President designated January 2018 as “National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month,” reaffirming his Administration’s commitment to do all in its power to end the horrific practice of human trafficking.
* In September 2017, Ivanka Trump and Deputy Secretary of State Sullivan joined more than 20 world leaders at the United Nations General Assembly for a global call to end modern slavery and to announce the State Department’s $25 million grant to the Global Fund to End Modern Slavery.
* In February 2017, the President signed Executive Order 13773, “Enforcing Federal Law with Respect to Transnational Criminal Organization and Preventing International Trafficking.”

**Moral Resources to End Sex Trafficking**

**If you see something, say something, and please, if you know of someone who watches porn, urge them to quit the nasty online teen porn habit. It significantly drives the demand for victims of a truly horrible criminal industry.**