

ON THE ROAD WARNING SIGNS

Truck Stops • RV or Camping Parks • Rest Areas



WHY A VICTIM **WON'T LEAVE**

- They fear the physical abuse the pimp will inflict if they are caught
- They have been brainwashed into 'loving' their trafficker
- They are trained to distrust law enforcement and social service providers
- They have been told they are all alone, no one cares about them and if they leave they have nowhere to go
- They're told their loved ones are under threat of harm or death if they leave
- They have no control over their money, so have no cash to run away with
- They believe there is no safe place to go
- They may literally be confined or restrained
- They may be frequently moved around and may not know who to contact
- Facilitators may be helping the trafficker do illegal business such as hotel or club owners, landlords or taxi drivers who are paid to look the other way
- May owe a large debt that is impossible to pay off
- Recruited through false promises concerning the nature of the relationships, or the work they agreed to do
- Is forced to meet daily quotas; will suffer consequences if not met

Signs to watch for:

- Numerous men coming and going in short intervals to an RV, camper, van or truck
- Adult men going into the restroom or shower area with a young person they just met in the parking lot
- Minor females lingering in the parking lot, visiting multiple truck cabs, appearing solicitous
- Vehicle parked for a long period of time, or seems out of place (RV parked in back lot during day)

DEMEANOR OR PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

- Not in possession of ID or money; may have two cell phones
- Few possessions, or baggage
- May not know current date, time or location
- Inability or fearful of making eye contact, especially with the controlling trafficker or 'boyfriend'
- Is not free to come and go at will
- Is under age 18 and appears to be providing commercial sex acts
- Works excessively or unusual hours
- Panicky about being paid, or needing to get money
- Protects identity of person abusing them, or minimizes the signs of abuse
- May refuse to speak, try to run if questioned, or respond with violence
- Restricted, confusing or scripted response or communication
- May show anxiety, fear, depression, keeps eyes down, tension, nervousness or resentment/anger
- May show signs of substance abuse or addictions
- Presence of controlling or intimidating escort (male or female) who is always nearby, or escorts the youth in parking lot
- Injuries, or physical signs of abuse or torture
- Signs of branding: initials, name, saying or symbol; may deny knowing meaning of the tattoo
- Dressed inappropriately for the weather or their age

TO REPORT A TIP OR CONNECT WITH ANTI-TRAFFICKING SERVICES IN YOUR AREA, CONTACT:

⚠️ If you see something suspicious, MAKE THE CALL.

You don't have to know all the details to be helpful.

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children
1-800-843-5678

If you have information about a missing child or suspected child sexual exploitation, call to report it or visit their website.
cybertipline.com

IN AN EMERGENCY: 911

National Human Trafficking Hotline
1-888-373-7888

A national, toll-free hotline, available from anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year.