

# Human Trafficking: Risk Factors

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## **Purpose**

To discuss what puts individuals at risk for becoming victims of human trafficking.

## **Learning Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Describe risk factors that make individuals vulnerable to human trafficking.
  - State how traffickers use individuals' vulnerabilities to exploit them.
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### W-2 Contact Information

Questions regarding this training material should be directed via your local agency process to the Partner Training Team,  
 Email: [PTTTrainingSupp@wisconsin.gov](mailto:PTTTrainingSupp@wisconsin.gov)

A contact person is available to answer e-mailed questions related to this training material, assist you in completing any activity that you are having difficulty with, and/or provide explanation of anything else about this training material.

Questions regarding W-2 production cases and systems should be directed via your local agency process to the BWF Work Programs Help Desk at:  
 Email: [bwfworkprograms@wisconsin.gov](mailto:bwfworkprograms@wisconsin.gov)

Telephone: (608) 422-7900

W-2 Policy questions should be directed to your Regional Office staff.

DCF is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need information in an alternate format, or need it translated to another language, please contact (608) 535-3665 or the Wisconsin Relay Service (WRS) – 711.

For civil rights questions call (608) 266-5335 or the Wisconsin Relay Service (WRS) – 711.

# Risk Factors

Anyone can be at risk for human trafficking. However, there are some circumstances that make individuals more vulnerable.

## Risk Factor: Poor Neighborhoods

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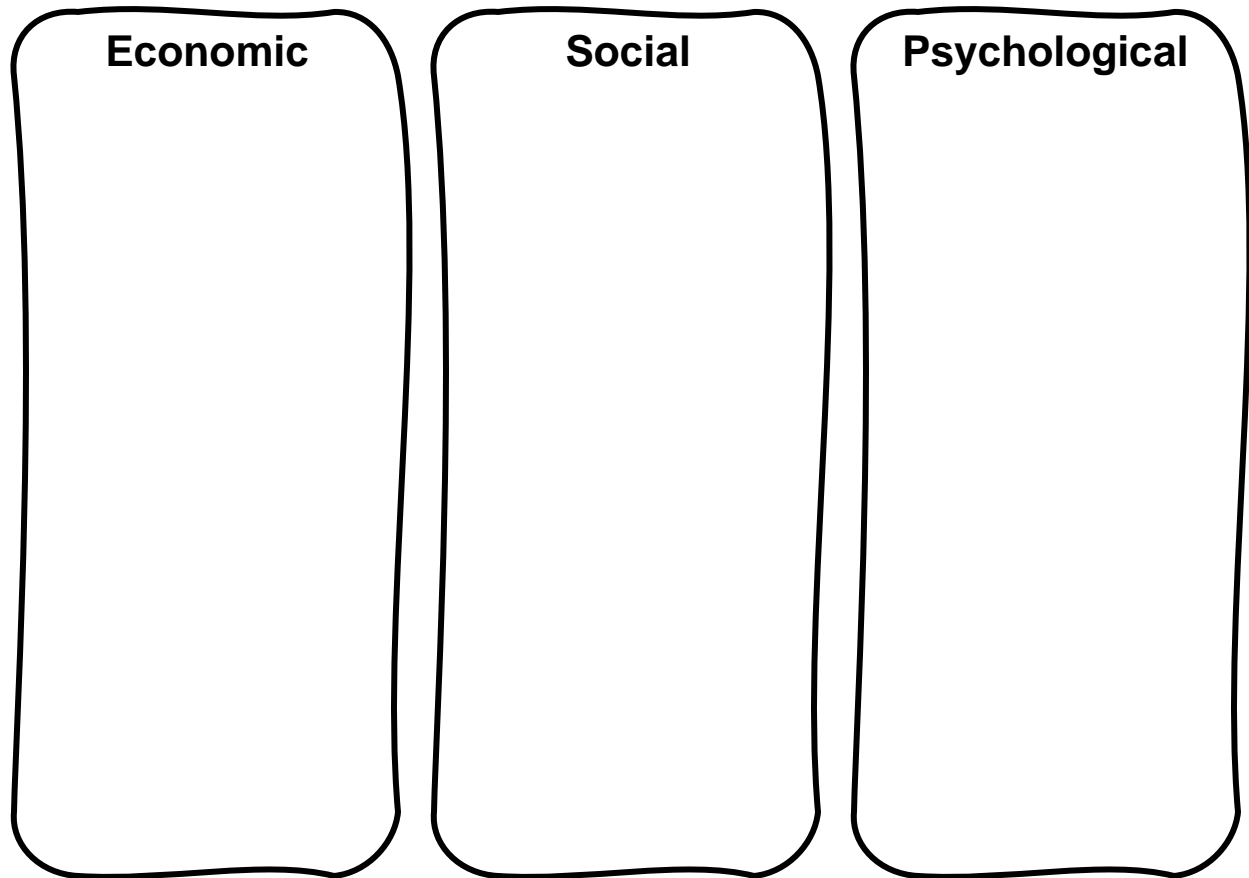
## Risk Factor: Abusive Homes

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## Risk Factor Categories

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### Human Trafficking Risk Factors

Social Inequality  
Unemployment  
Substance Use/Abuse  
Sexual Abuse  
Lack of Social Safety Net

Homelessness  
Mental Health Disorders/Concerns  
High Crime Areas  
Domestic Abuse  
Recent Migration/Relocation

**Notes:**

# Luring Victims

Most traffickers use individuals' vulnerabilities to prey on victims through psychological manipulation.

Most traffickers fall into one of five main personas:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.



## The Pretender

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A trafficker who \_\_\_\_\_ to be someone \_\_\_\_\_.

The pretender lures victims by being a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Notes:**

## The Provider

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A trafficker who offers to \_\_\_\_\_ of victims' \_\_\_\_\_.

Providers can \_\_\_\_\_ victims who are in dire need.

**Notes:**

## The Promiser

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A trafficker who \_\_\_\_\_ victims vast and extravagant things.

Promisers lure victims by giving \_\_\_\_\_ they never thought they would have.

**Notes:**

## The Protector

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A trafficker who uses physical \_\_\_\_\_ and intimidation to \_\_\_\_\_ a victim.

Protectors lure victims with a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Notes:**

## The Punisher

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A trafficker who uses threats and \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ a victim.

This is a \_\_\_\_\_ resort for traffickers.

**Notes:**

## Identify the Persona

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**Devon**

Persona the trafficker used:

**Ashley**

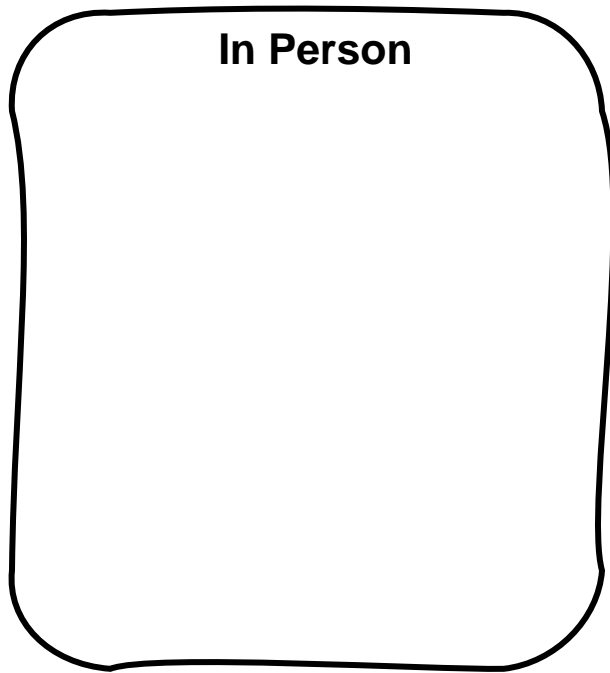
Persona the trafficker used:



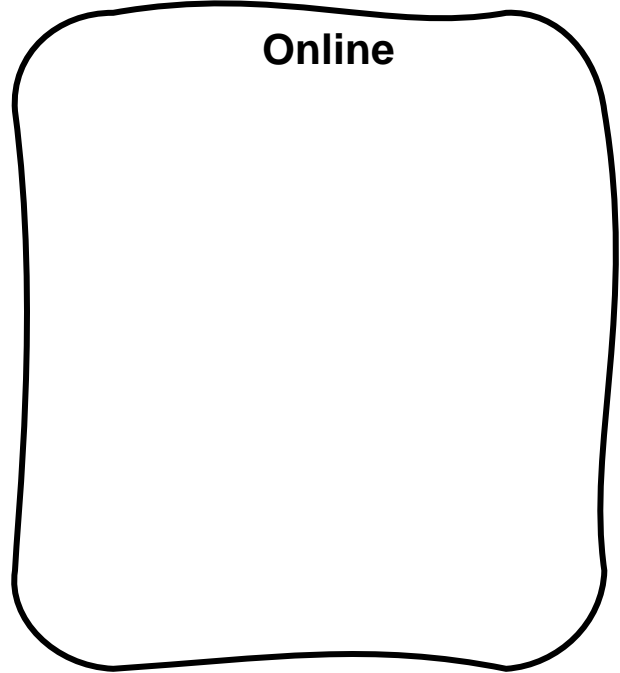
# How Are Individuals Targeted?

Traffickers target individuals in a variety of ways.

**In Person**



**Online**





## What Would You Do?



Asia recently left an abusive relationship. She moved to Wisconsin from southern Illinois for a fresh start. One night, a mutual friend introduced Asia and her roommate to a man at the bar. Asia and the man immediately clicked and started dating. He treated her well at first, surprising her with flowers, stopping by to say hello while she was at work, and lending an ear when she needed to vent. Asia thought he was the perfect boyfriend and the complete opposite of her last relationship.

After a month and a half of dating, the man had some friends over for a game of poker. He quickly lost his money and offered Asia up as a bet. Thinking he was joking, she went along with it. After he lost the game, the winner started taking her into a separate room. Concerned, she looked to the man for help. He reminded her of all the times he would buy her flowers and take her on dates, and begged her to appease the friend. Not wanting to lose him, she agreed.

From then on, Asia would have to settle all of the man's poker debts. Soon, he started forcing her to sleep with the landlord in exchange for rent as well.

Risk Factors:

How did the trafficker lure her?

# Additional Training

There is a variety of additional trainings available throughout Wisconsin on human trafficking and how to help victims. Some of these trainings may be an Enhanced Case Management (ECM) Equivalency. If you are interested in any of these trainings counting toward ECM hours, visit <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/w2-partnertraining/ecm> for more information on how to complete an ECM Equivalency request.

## **Damascus Road - Oshkosh**

Website: [www.damascusroadproject.org](http://www.damascusroadproject.org)

Damascus Road commits to bringing awareness through education, restoring and empowering the abused, and advocating for the prevention and abolition of human trafficking. They offer training catered toward a variety of different professions and areas. Contact them for more information on trainings and presentations.

## **Ending the Game (Sowers Education Group)**

Website: [www.endingthegame.com](http://www.endingthegame.com)

Ending the Game (ETG) is a survivor-created and survivor-informed curriculum that facilitates experiential learning through activities, guided reflection, and meaningful homework assignments. The ETG curriculum is designed for survivors; however, there is ETG Supporter Training that provides a broad overview of best practices for supporting sex trafficking victims.

## **Exploit No More – Milwaukee**

Website: [www.exploitsnomore.org](http://www.exploitsnomore.org)

Exploit No More's mission is to end child sex trafficking in the greater Milwaukee region. Their website lists several resources including infographics, local resources, documentaries, information on understanding trauma, printed resources, and more. There is also an option to request a speaker to talk about various topics.

## **UMOS**

Website: <https://www.umos.org/social-services/>

UMOS offers training, technical assistance, outreach, and public awareness throughout Wisconsin. You can find a map of the different regions and contact for each region on their website. They offer trainings such as Human Trafficking 101, Labor Trafficking, Sex Trafficking, and more.

## **University of Wisconsin – Madison Continuing Studies**

Website: <https://continuingstudies.wisc.edu/collections/human-trafficking/>

UW Madison offers a free, online course titled Human Trafficking 101: Understanding Child Sex Trafficking in Wisconsin. This course provides important information to professionals who may come in contact with children and youth who are victims of sex trafficking.

## **Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF)**

Website: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/aht>

DCF has information on their website regarding Wisconsin's anti-human trafficking efforts. DCF is focused on the trafficking of children and adolescents. The Anti-Human Trafficking Toolkit page has training available, including a documentary that is made up of a YouTube video series and an interactive Computer Based Training (CBT) catered toward the lodging industry.

## **5 Stones - Appleton**

Website: [www.5-stones.org](http://www.5-stones.org)

5 Stones is a non-profit that is vested in educating the community to increase awareness of human trafficking, decrease the demand for commercial sex, prevent victimization, and network with other organizations that fight against human trafficking. Their target audience is youth and communities in Wisconsin. You can request presentations and trainings through their website. 5 Stones also has created an educational training film called "Innocence Sold."

# Resources

Braun, J. Human Trafficking: A guide for criminal justice professionals (2020). Retrieved from

<https://www.doj.state.wi.us/sites/default/files/ocvs/human%20trafficking/DOJ%20HT%20Guide%20for%20Criminal%20Justice%20Professionals%20Jan%202020.pdf>

Grooming: A First Step in Human Trafficking. (n.d.). Retrieved July 10, 2020, from

<https://blog.3rdmil.com/grooming-a-first-step-in-human-trafficking>

National Sexual Violence Resource Center and Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape.

(2012). *Assisting Trafficking Victims: A Guide for Victim Advocates*. Retrieved from [https://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/2012-10/publications\\_nsvrc\\_guides\\_human-trafficking-victim-advocates.pdf](https://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/2012-10/publications_nsvrc_guides_human-trafficking-victim-advocates.pdf)

Presentation Template from Slides Carnival

[https://www.slidescarnival.com/?utm\\_source=template](https://www.slidescarnival.com/?utm_source=template)

Riley, B. (2016, July 13). The '5 disguises' used by human traffickers. Retrieved July 10,

2020, from <https://www.cnn.com/2016/07/13/opinions/5-disguises-human-trafficker/index.html>

*The Typology of Modern Slavery Defining Sex and Labor Trafficking in the United States*. (2017, March). Retrieved July 10, 2020, from Polaris website:

<https://polarisproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Polaris-Typology-of-Modern-Slavery-1.pdf>

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