

Chapter 7:

Human Trafficking

EDUCATOR FACILITATION GUIDE

PURPOSE OF THIS GUIDE

To provide practical tips and instructions for engaging students and handling difficult discussions on the topic of human trafficking.

MAIN OBJECTIVES

- ▶ To understand an age appropriate definition of human trafficking.
- ▶ To learn about different methods human traffickers use to groom victims both in person and online.
- ▶ To educate on what someone should do if they suspect human trafficking.

CREATING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

- ▶ Use inclusive language and terminology that acknowledges these issues can affect individuals of any gender, and ensure the tone remains non-judgmental.
- ▶ Emphasize respectful communication and confidentiality. It is important to listen and value each other's perspectives even if we don't agree with them.
- ▶ If your students have lots of questions or seem restless, take breaks in between the videos to debrief.
- ▶ Offer emotional outlets such as doodling or colouring sheets during the videos and discussion.
- ▶ Let your students know that if they feel triggered, they can go to the school office or speak with the school counsellor.
- ▶ Identify any local support resources and organizations on the issue ahead of time, so that you can readily refer students who may need additional support.

MODERATING DISCUSSIONS

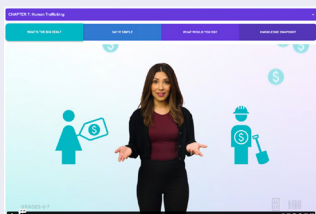
- ▶ Ensure that all students have the opportunity to speak.
- ▶ Providing the class with an anonymous question box might help the students who may not feel comfortable asking important questions.
- ▶ If a question is inappropriate or derails the discussion, gently redirect it back to the main topic.
- ▶ If you don't know the answer, it's okay to admit it! Provide additional resources or take note to look into the question later.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

- ▶ Human trafficking involves the recruitment, transportation, harbouring and/or exercising control, direction or influence over the movements (behaviours) of a person in order to exploit that person and profit from them [section 279.01].
- ▶ While kidnapping can be one method of forcing someone into human trafficking, it is not necessary nor the most common approach in North America.
- ▶ The age-appropriate definition we provide in this chapter is: Human trafficking involves being tricked into working without getting paid or into doing something sexual in exchange for money. If a friend, romantic partner, family member, or online acquaintance pressures you into doing something sexual and then makes money from it, that is considered human trafficking, and that person would be called a human trafficker.
- ▶ People can be human trafficked for labour, sexual services, or their organs.
- ▶ The most common type of human trafficking in Canada is sexual exploitation where people are sold for sexual services, otherwise known as sex trafficking.
- ▶ Most victims of sex trafficking are trafficked by their romantic partner, family member, a friend or someone else they know, such as an employer.
- ▶ General signs that someone is being sex trafficked include:
 - Unexplained bruises or physical harm.
 - Having someone else manage their money.
 - A lack of personal freedom on where to go or who to hang out with.
 - Not having their own ID.
 - Isolation from family, friends, or the community.
 - Limited social interactions or communications.
 - Owing a large debt and being unable to pay it off.
 - Having many items that are not affordable.
 - Having a new look or hanging around new groups of friends.
 - Having an older boyfriend or friend.
- ▶ Oftentimes, the human trafficker is someone who presents themselves as a romantic partner. They build trust and a relationship with their victim while grooming them, and eventually manipulate or coerce their partner into sexual exploitation.
- ▶ Signs that someone in grade 6/7 is being sex trafficked include:
 - Referring to an older friend they did not have before.
 - Sharing that someone online is giving them money or gaming tokens.
 - Coming to school with items they can not afford or unexplained money. This can even include having money to buy bags of candy that they could not before.
 - A change in their dress, look, and behaviours.
 - No longer hanging around their usual friend group.
 - Appearing more tired and anxious than before.
- ▶ Signs that someone is grooming you into human trafficking include:
 - Receiving lots of compliments, attention, and affection early on.
 - They shower you with gifts, money, or promises of a better life, job opportunities, or travel. This can be by a boyfriend, a friend, or an online contact.
 - They try to distance you from friends, family, and support networks.
 - They start to control aspects of your life, such as your appearance, your behaviour, or your interactions with others.
 - They introduce you to a new group of people who normalize provocative behaviours and party/ alcohol culture.
 - They make grand promises of employment, education, or financial opportunities that seem too good to be true.
 - You start to notice changes in your own behaviour.

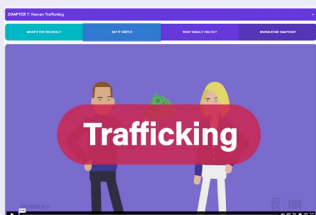
- ▶ When kids in the grade 6/7 age group are being targeted and groomed into human trafficking, it is more often done in person by a family member or an older acquaintance. Sometimes, it will be someone in high school or slightly older hanging around the school playground and providing an offer that is too good to be true.
- ▶ Anyone can be human trafficked regardless of their race, age, or gender. While the majority of victims are female, exploitation is all about opportunity for the offender.
- ▶ Anyone can be a human trafficker or be involved in grooming behaviours.

FACILITATION TIPS FOR CHAPTER 5



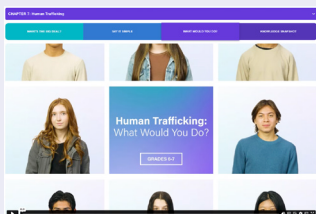
What's the Big Deal?

Pause the video at 0:38, and ask students to answer the question on the screen before hearing the explanation later on in the video. Following the video, engage students in a discussion to gather their reactions and thoughts about the content and the explanation provided.



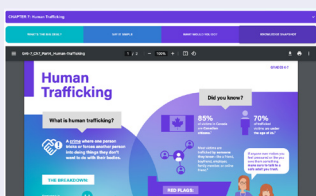
Say It Simple

After watching the video, engage students in a discussion about the concept of human trafficking using age-appropriate language. Encourage them to share their thoughts and questions about what they've learned. Emphasize the importance of speaking up if they suspect human trafficking is happening to themselves or someone they know. Provide information about relevant helplines and support services, reminding students that help is available.



What Would You Do?

Use this section as an opportunity for students to consider their responses to different scenarios related to human trafficking. Encourage them to think critically about how they would recognize red flags and support friends who might be in vulnerable situations. Discuss the importance of seeking help from trusted adults or using available resources if they encounter or suspect human trafficking.



Knowledge Snapshot

Print out the page to keep in the classroom or at home as a summary of the key learnings from this chapter. Encourage students to use the reflection page as a tool for reflection and planning. Discuss together the discussion prompt on ways they can help raise awareness about this issue and prevent it in their community.

FAQ'S AND RESPONSES TO GET YOU THINKING

Q: Why would a family member traffick their own relative, or a friend human traffick their friend?

R: Sometimes, people do bad things because they are in difficult situations or because they want money. A family member or friend might traffick someone they know if they are desperate for money, if someone else is threatening them, or if they are making poor choices. In addition, human traffickers will oftentimes pretend to be people we trust, like friends or family members, to trick us. It is easier to be tricked and to trust someone that you believe you have a relationship with. That's why it's so important to be aware and to tell a trusted adult if you ever feel unsafe or if someone is making you feel uncomfortable, even if it's someone you know.

Q: Why don't people who are trafficked just stop or ask for help?

R: There are many reasons why someone who is being groomed or experiencing human trafficking does not just leave or ask for help. Traffickers use threats and violence to control their victims, making them fear for their safety and the safety of their family. In extreme cases, they might take away their victims' identification and money so that they can't escape. In most cases, traffickers use emotional and psychological manipulation to make their victims feel powerless, ashamed and scared. They might tell their victims that no one will believe them or that they will be hurt if they try to escape. They might have ways to blackmail their victim. Victims might also be afraid to ask for help if they were tricked into doing something illegal and are now scared of getting in trouble.

Q: Is human trafficking only about making people do things for money?

R: Yes. Either to make money by selling sexual services and to profit the human trafficker or to save money by using cheap labour.

Q: How long does someone go to prison for if they get caught human trafficking?

R: It can range anywhere from four years to life in prison, depending on what type of charge they received and what other crimes were involved.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Create awareness posters for the school to share your knowledge and keep your fellow peers safe.
- ▶ Start a fundraiser with your class for Ally Global Foundation or your local anti-human trafficking organization.
- ▶ Invite a presenter from Exploitation Education Institute or your local prevention organization to provide a workshop on digital safety, emphasizing how traffickers might use the internet to exploit victims.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS



To access the following resources, scan the QR code or [click here](#).

More Videos

- ▶ Big Sis Advice
- ▶ Human Trafficking
- ▶ Sex Trafficking: What is it?

Articles and Cases

**Please review beforehand and provide an age appropriate summary to students*

- ▶ Andrew Tate is currently being investigated for allegations of human trafficking
- ▶ Calgary man, 24, charged with human trafficking in Winnipeg
- ▶ B.C. man sentenced for sexual assault of 13-yr-old girl

DISCLOSURES AND REPORTING

As a teacher, you may be one of the first trusted adults a student confides in about these topics. While some may be brief personal stories shared casually, others may require a more serious intervention.

- ▶ Be calm. Reacting with your own shock or disapproval creates further emotional distress.
- ▶ Listen attentively and without interrupting the student.
- ▶ Validate their feelings and acknowledge their courage in speaking up.
- ▶ Avoid making any promises about keeping things confidential or how their parent/ guardian may react. Provide them with comfort that you will continue to be a support and be sensitive to their worries.
- ▶ Ask them if anyone else knows about this already. If a trusted adult in their life already knows, you can simply engage in empathetic listening and ensure that you follow your school/organization's protocols. If a minor is currently at risk of harm or is being harmed, it is your duty to report it to your local child welfare services.
- ▶ Document the disclosure per your school/ organization's best practices.
- ▶ Provide continued support by checking in or providing them with other resources that are available to them.
- ▶ There may be times where a student does not feel comfortable coming forward or is not yet aware that they are experiencing a form of sexual exploitation. The following are signs to look out for as possible indicators:
 - Skipping class or school;
 - A change in grades or participation in classroom or school activities;
 - Appearing more tired than usual;
 - Device addiction;
 - Dressing more provocatively or having items they may not be able to afford;
 - Not hanging around their usual group of friends;
 - Isolating themselves;
 - Having profiles on apps that are not age appropriate;
 - Being involved in intimate image sharing; or
 - Having newfound mental health struggles.
- ▶ If you notice any of these behaviours from a student, make sure to take note and voice your concerns to a school counsellor or administrator.

KIDS HELP PHONE (24/7)

- ▶ Call 1-800-668-6868
- ▶ Text "CONNECT" to 686868

CANADIAN HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE (24/7)

- ▶ Call 1-833-900-1010
- ▶ Live chat: <https://www.canadianhumantraffickinghotline.ca>