

SEX TRAFFICKING RISK FACTORS FOR MINORS

INDIVIDUAL RISK FACTORS

- Running away or being kicked out or homeless
- Insecure attachments or unsafe relationships
- Trading sex for food and survival
- History of abuse/neglect
- Substance use/abuse
- Involvement with Child Protective Services
- Developmental or intellectual disability
- Unmet physical and emotional needs
- Parental substance abuse

COMMUNITY RISK FACTORS

- Prevalent alcohol/drug abuse within community
- Poverty and lack of community resources
- Glamorization of pimping and prostitution
- Ethnic/racial minority community
- Negative peer influences
- Environment desensitized them to prostitution

IMPACT ON VICTIMS

- Feelings of isolation
- Frustration and Rebellious attitudes
- Even after leaving their trafficker, victims may not feel safe
- Physical and emotional injuries



WHAT OFFICERS CAN DO

- Use Trauma-Informed Care
- Understand that victims of human trafficking may not always act like typical victims
- Be patient with victims they may be distrustful
- Know the resources in your area