



Human Trafficking Red Flags for Hospitality & Tourism



Human trafficking involves using force, fraud or coercion to control their victims and victims often exhibit one or more of the following indicators:

(Not all victims present any/all symptoms)

- 🚩 Several women are accompanied by one or few men who appear to be older than them
- 🚩 Defers to man or older woman to speak for them
- 🚩 If victim speaks, appears to be coached in response
- 🚩 Clothing and makeup may be inappropriate, especially for age of victim
- 🚩 Victims often cannot identify their current locale or know their address
- 🚩 Averts eyes or does not make eye contact, especially with a "boyfriend"
- 🚩 The man or trafficker will be focused on controlling the victims physically and/or psychologically
- 🚩 Victims and their trafficker will not "feel" like a family; normal family interaction missing
- 🚩 Commonly rooms are paid for with cash and room has less beds than patrons
- 🚩 Several rooms may be reserved and requested near each other
- 🚩 Victims often have no or few personal possessions and carried in small or plastic bags
- 🚩 There may be heavy foot traffic and/or taxi traffic
- 🚩 Visitor commonly are men who will know which room to visit. Visitors will likely stay for short periods of time or at odd hours
- 🚩 Victims may exhibit signs of abuse, such as bruises, cuts, burns, scars, poor personal hygiene, or appear malnourished
- 🚩 Victims usually will not engage in conversation with lodging employees
- 🚩 Shades or curtains always drawn on outward facing room
- 🚩 Mini-bar constantly in need of restocking, especially if children are in room
- 🚩 Victims show signs of poor hygiene, fatigue, sleep deprivation
- 🚩 Do not disturb sign used constantly
- 🚩 Individual claiming to be an adult although appearance suggests adolescent features
- 🚩 Presence of photography equipment, sex paraphernalia, condoms in mass quantity
- 🚩 Patron requesting information or access to adult services or local sex industry
- 🚩 Suspicious tattoos, marks, or branding, especially on girls on their hands, neck, or lip indicating ownership or money or when two or more share the same tattoo
- 🚩 Overly smelly room: (bodily fluids, marijuana, cigarettes, musk, sweat, etc.)
- 🚩 Victims commonly deny that they are victims, or need assistance
- 🚩 Car in parking lot parked backward, so that license plate cannot be read
- 🚩 Rooms not allowed to be cleaned until parties have left

IMPORTANT!

Any child 17 & under engaged in commercial sex is a trafficked victim regardless of force, fraud, or coercion

**If you see something, please say something:
1-888-3737-888 or Text BE FREE to 233733**

PolarisProject.org | dhs.gov/bluecampaign | humantrafficking.msu.edu

Compiled by SW Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force  Like us on Facebook