

Human Trafficking: It's Happening Here.

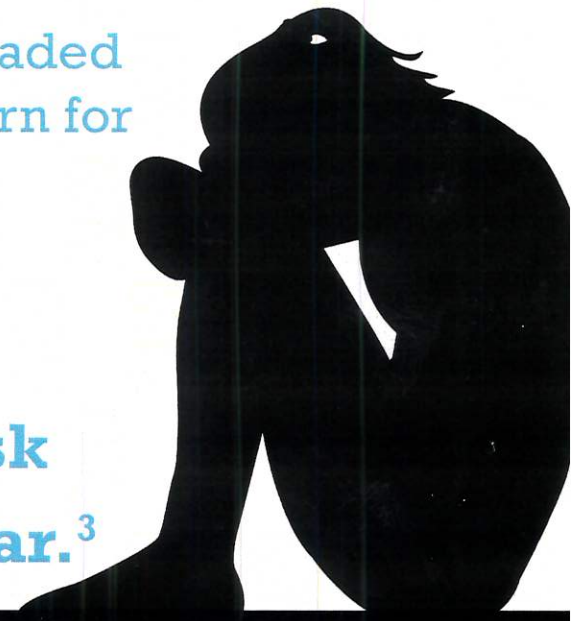
Nearly every community in Plymouth County, Massachusetts, has experienced a case of human trafficking in the form of **Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)**.

A commercially sexually exploited child is one under the age of 18 who engages, agrees to engage, or offers to engage in sexual conduct in exchange for money, food, shelter, clothing, education, or care.

CSEC is Child Abuse.

The average age of entry into the commercial sex trade is **12 to 14** years old for girls.¹

Shelter is the #1 traded commodity in return for sexual activity.²



Between 100,000 and 300,000 children are at risk of being exploited in the United States every year.³

A youth who is being sexually exploited may:

- Run away or go missing from home, care or school;
- Have unexplained money, gifts, cell phones, hairstyles, etc.;
- Have a new peer group coinciding with major behavioral changes;
- Have a new tattoo he/she is unwilling to talk about;
- Be evasive, even fearful, of answering questions or discussing concerns.

If you are at risk of sexual exploitation, you may have someone in your life who:

- Asks you to stay away from family, friends, and things that were once important to you;
- Pressures you to perform sex acts in order to get something that you or he/she wants or needs;
- Asks you to do something sexual for his/her friends;
- Asks you to pose for photos to use online or to make money;
- Makes you feel like you can't say no to them.

If you or someone you know is being exploited, help is available. Please call or text the **National Human Trafficking Hotline** to reach help now.

Please Take One Please Take One Please Take One

Call: 1-888-373-7888

Text: INFO to 233733



This poster was created by the Plymouth County District Attorney's CSEC Task Force

¹ Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 2014; ² Covenant House Report, 2017; ³ U.S. Dept. of Justice