



Human Trafficking 101 for Community SCRIPT

Slide 1 -Title

- The Amistad Movement educates men, women, and youth who are immigrants to the United States on human trafficking so they know the signs of this crime and can protect themselves and their loved ones from falling victim.

Slide 2-The Amistad Movement Name

- You may be asking - Why do we call this workshop *Amistad*?
- Amistad got its name from a slave ship. The Amistad was a Spanish ship from the 1800s that was being used to transport illegally captured Africans that had been sold into slavery in Cuba. The captured slaves took control of the ship, and their right to freedom was later reaffirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court!
- This course reaffirms every person's right to freedom and empowers individuals by giving them knowledge on how to protect themselves, their families, and their communities from exploitation and human trafficking.
- This is especially important for immigrants, who often work for industries that are poorly regulated, such as agriculture, domestic/in home care, and hospitality.

Slide 3 -Agenda

- Today we will discuss what human trafficking is. We will look at sex trafficking and forced labor and how they are different from human smuggling.
- We will talk about how traffickers control their victims, who is at risk, how to spot a possible trafficking situation, and most importantly – how to keep yourself, your family, and your community safe.
- Finally, we will also review what to do if you or someone you know becomes a victim, particularly who you can call or talk to for help and assistance.



Slide 4 – *Human Trafficking – What does it mean?*

- Facilitator instructions: Ask participants what they think it means and what words come to mind. Remember: some people may have never heard of the term.

Slide 5- *What is Human Trafficking?*

- Human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery and violates a person’s human rights,
- How does human trafficking destroy a person’s human rights? It takes away people’s basic freedoms in order for a criminal to make money.
- Human Trafficking is illegal and a serious crime in the United States.

Slide 6- *What is Human Trafficking?*

- According to U.S. law (and in many other countries) human trafficking occurs when a person is exploited to work against his or her will for little or no money at all.
- If a person is forced, tricked, or threatened to work in the sex trade, he or she is considered a victim of sex trafficking.
- If a person is forced, tricked, or threatened to provide any other type of work or services, this is called labor trafficking or forced labor. There are many industries where we see forced labor happening in the U.S. We will go over these together soon.
- What is the most important point for us all to remember? In sex trafficking and labor trafficking, a victim’s body and/or work are being utilized for the economic benefit of a criminal, also known as a trafficker.

Slide 7-*Types of Control*

- Most traffickers trap their victims without ever locking them up. Force, Fraud, and Coercion are the 3 strategies that victims use to control their victim. They use these mechanisms to lure, scare, and keep victims in their grasp.
- Note that only one of the methods uses physical violence. It is a common misunderstanding to believe that all control requires physical abuse. Though traffickers do exert physical harm, it is not the only type of trauma that can be enforced.



Slide 7-Types of Control

Facilitator instructions: *Take some time to make sure the group understands the following:*

Force: *In addition to physical abuse, force can mean confinement. This is when a victim is not allowed to leave their place of work. Sometimes food, drink, access to bathrooms, and a place to sleep is denied to them as well.*

Fraud: *Fraud refers to false offers/promises of employment with a good wage, a marriage, or a better life overall. Once the victim arrives at their destination or work site, they found that all the promises were lies.*

Coercion: *Coercion is another word for threats - threats of harm or deportation. These threats can be used against the victim or their family members and loved ones.*

Slide 8- Examples of Control - No Chains Needed

Facilitator instructions: *Encourage participants to think of additional examples of how victims of human trafficking are forced to perform commercial sex acts and/or work. Ask for specific examples of force, fraud and coercion. Discuss the following examples on the slide:*

Debt bondage:

Traffickers loan the victim money with very high interest rates, making it almost impossible to pay off. The trafficker might also subtract money from the victim's salary by charging very high prices for food, rent, equipment, and travel. The victim is never able to meet their obligations and feels indebted to continue working without an end in sight.

Restrict communication:

The victim is not able to communicate or talk with anybody, especially family or friends.

Drug/alcohol addiction:

The trafficker might encourage or even force the use of these substances, so the victim remains dependent.

Seizure of identification documents:

Traffickers will take away or offer to keep a worker's identification documents "safe".

Constant movement:

This makes the victim confused and disoriented.



Slide 9-Trafficking vs. Smuggling

- Smuggling and trafficking are often confused with one another, but they are actually very different. Sometimes smuggling can turn into trafficking, which is why it is important for us to discuss the difference between the two!
- First, human smuggling is consensual. That means both parties agree to participate. Smuggling happens when a person asks a smuggler to help cross an international border without permission.
- Since permission was not granted to cross the border, it is considered a crime against a *country*. Also, smuggling usually involves a fee. For example, a group of smugglers may charge money from migrants to drive them across the border to another country and skip the official entry requirements.
- Finally, the relationship between the smuggler and the person who paid to be transported ends when the entry into the destination country is complete.
- Human trafficking, on the other hand, is never consensual. As we have seen, a person is forced to provide commercial sex, labor or services fraud. Therefore, it is a crime against a *person*. Also, human trafficking does not always involve crossing borders. Trafficking can also happen in the same city or town where a person lives!
- OJO: It is possible for human smuggling to turn into human trafficking. This can happen when the smuggler does not end the relationship once the person enters into the new country. Instead, the smuggler demands that the person perform sex acts, labor or services for them or someone else. This often occurs when the smuggler says that the person is not done paying the “debt” owed for help crossing the border.

Slide 10-Where Are People Trafficked?

- *Facilitator instructions: Ask the group, “What are some of the types of jobs or industries that you think might have trafficking?” Get responses before showing this list. Also mention that trafficking can happen anywhere, not just these places. There is even trafficking in unexpected places such as teachers (foreign on H2B visas) and circus workers.*



Slide 11 and 12 *Examples of Labor Trafficking*

- As you can see, the places we just discussed are diverse. Trafficking can happen almost anywhere.
- Here are more examples of jobs where people have been trapped into labor trafficking.
- Many victims in these jobs are immigrants. That is because these industries are often poorly regulated. That means there are either very few laws governing these industries to protect workers, or it is hard for the government to enforce the laws.

Slide 13 -*Victim Profiles – They are Varied*

- *Facilitator Instructions: Ask the group what type of people come to mind when they imagine a trafficking victim? Adult? Child? Gender? Age? Ethnicity?*
- *Then explain that in general, victims are varied. Some are educated, while others have no formal education. Victims include men, women, and children that have been trafficked as individuals, families, or groups. Trafficking victims can be documented or undocumented and come from many different countries. Victims are also different in age, race, class, gender, religion, and culture. There is no set profile for a victim of human trafficking.*

Slide 14 -*Victim Profiles – A Vulnerable Group*

- This crime can happen to anyone. However, there are groups of people that are extra vulnerable to exploitation and trafficking. One of those groups are immigrants, whether they are living in the United States with papers or without. Immigrant youth are also easily targeted.
- Why does this happen? Traffickers always look for people with vulnerabilities to exploit. They know that men, women, and children who are new to this country are unfamiliar with the laws and rights that protect them.
- They also know that immigrants often come to the United States looking for not only safety, but for economic opportunities. They know that immigrants often need to find a job quickly to help their families who are in need. Traffickers take advantage of this need by offering them false promises of a better life.



Slide 15-What Draws Victims?

- Victims can be drawn in for a variety of reasons such as: better opportunities to provide for their family, educational opportunities, love, marriage, and a better life in general. The vulnerability that victims are subjected to can increase their dependency on someone who makes false promises.

Slide 16 -Challenges to Finding Victims

- There several obstacles to identifying victims of human trafficking. First, there is a lack of understanding and awareness about human trafficking. If people do not know that trafficking is a problem around them, they will not be able to recognize it.
- Another challenge is that trafficking victims rarely self-identify. In other words, they don't realize they are a victim.
- Finally, a trafficker may be well known in the community. He or she could be an important community member who nobody suspects as a trafficker committing this horrific crime.

Slide 17-Signs of Human Trafficking

- Fortunately, there are signs that you can watch for to spot a potential case of trafficking.
- For example, be aware if a person has limited contact with family or friends, cannot leave their work environment or is not allowed to speak for themselves.
- There are also behavioral signs to be aware of, such as when a person shows fear or anxiety and is afraid to talk. They may behave as if they are instructed by someone else.
- Other signs are when a person receives little or no payment or works very long hours over extended periods of time
- *Facilitator instructions: Please reiterate to your audience that while these signs are not a guarantee that a person is being trafficked, they are warning signs that should be taken seriously.*

Slide 18-More Signs of Trafficking

Facilitator instructions: Here are additional examples of warning signs to review with your audience. Please make sure to place extra emphasis on workers who live and work in the same place (example number one). This makes it easier for traffickers to control a worker's movements, isolate them from the outside world, and charge very high amounts for lodging and food, which often keeps worker in constant debt.



Slide 19 -*Traffickers are Diverse*

- Traffickers are as diverse as their victims. They can be anyone from government officials to labor contractors or business owners.
- Recruiting companies, organized criminal groups, neighbors, friends, boyfriends, and even family members can all be traffickers. These people may act as recruiters, transporters, or guardians to the victims.
- People frequently traffic those within their own ethnic group.
- Traffickers are often in the U.S. legally while their victims may or may not have legal status.

Slide 20-*How Traffickers Find Victims*

- Traffickers find their victims through a variety of different avenues. This includes word of mouth, newspaper ads, employment agencies, force (abduction), internet ads, romance, social media, or a family relationship.

Slide 21-*BEWARE - Warning Signs*

- Immigrants and citizens need to be wary of offers that are too good to be true. They should also avoid jobs that “require” a “fee” to be paid.
- Employers that want to keep identity documents or who will lessen wages to repay smuggling fees should also be avoided.
- Also, be cautious of working conditions that are different than what was described or employers who do not give much information about the job in advance.

Slide 22 – *Group Activity: Job Advertisements*

- *Facilitator Notes:* Review the following job advertisements with the group. Encourage them to look for warning signs that indicate possible fraud, lies, and overall danger. If they have difficulty in doing so, remind them of warning signs mentioned in previous slide and see if they can identify similar ones in the advertisements. You can also bring in advertisements from the local paper to ask your group if they see any warning signs.



Slide 23 – Group Activity Continued: Job Advertisements

Facilitators Instructions: Use this summary to review the types of warning signs found in the job advertisements in the previous slide. You can also leverage this conversation to ask:

- What types of information do you need to help confirm that an advertisement is real?
- What does it mean to advance costs? Why is this dangerous?
- Can it be risky for someone to live with their boss or on the work site? Why?
- What specific dangers did you see in the job advertisements asking for women applicants?

Slide 24 – Important Tips to Stay Safe

- Today you have learned to identify false job offers so you can be informed and protect yourself from exploitation and human trafficking.
- There are legitimate and fulfilling opportunities waiting for you, and we want you to be able to concentrate on those. Here are some important tips to stay safe.
- Facilitator Instructions: Talk to your audience about important tips to stay safe, including: a.) not going into debt for a job, b.) holding on to identification documents, and c.) avoiding jobs where a fee is required for hiring purposes and where the individual must live on work premises.
- Finally, the most important take away is making the audience feel comfortable with asking for help anytime in case of any mistreatment, threats, or abuse.

Slide 25 – Asking for Help

- Facilitator Instructions: Please add your agency's number to this slide.
- It does not matter if you have papers or not. All people that work in the United States, including all of you, have the right to:
 - Be paid at least the minimum wage
 - Not be held in a job against your will
 - Keeping your passport and other identification documents in your possession
 - Leaving an abusive employment situation, and
 - Getting help!
- You can call your local human trafficking task force or the National Human Trafficking Hotline for free and confidential support. Call them if:
 - You have a question about human trafficking
 - If you see something suspicious and you'd like to report it
 - And most importantly, if you or someone you know is possibly a trafficking victim in need of support.



Slide 26-27 – *Quiz*

- *Facilitator Instructions: If you come to the end of the presentation and there is still time, feel free to ask simple quiz questions to help with recall on important points made during the workshop.*

Slide 28 – *THE END*