



Human Trafficking Detection

for Financial Institutions

By Timea Nagy



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Survivor, International Award-Winning Trainer

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FOREWORD

It is an absolute honor to partner with Timea in her mission to bring awareness to the issue of human trafficking and advocate to bring real change both globally and here in our own country. Timea's story is one of great misfortune, but also of triumph and resolve. There are many important lessons to learn from her experience, but none more important than awareness, detection and prevention. It is critical Timea's message is heard and her insights are transferred to financial service professionals who are in a unique position to help detect, report and protect potential victims. Timea's story pulls on the heart strings and is impossible to ignore. For her efforts to become a reality it is imperative that financial service professionals are adequately trained to identify and respond to suspicions of human trafficking.

Timea has created a fantastic resource to enable financial service professionals to be effective in combating human trafficking. It includes practical guidance to help understand the thoughts and actions of a victim alongside tips on how to identify red flags; both valuable to every institution's success in this fight. Please take the time to absorb Timea's message, knowledge and tools for detection. You never know who the next victim will be and we all owe it to each other to protect present and future victims, where at all possible. We cannot thank you enough for taking the important step in reading Timea's story and joining in the fight.

OnCourse Learning is leading provider of governance, risk and compliance training to financial institutions across the country and internationally. We pride ourselves on being at the forefront of training in these areas and on issues that go beyond the financial institutions we serve. Human trafficking is at the forefront of those issues; the effects of which cross the same territories and impact the lives of individuals in the greater communities of the clients we serve. We are honored to help shed light on this issue and provide training and education to financial institutions and their employees so they can contribute positively in the fight to uncover human trafficking and end modern-day slavery.



Jeff Kelly

*VP of Governance, Risk & Compliance | Financial Services
OnCourse Learning*

INTRODUCTION



My name is Timea E. Nagy. I am a survivor, advocate and educator. I was trafficked to Canada in 1998 from Budapest, Hungary. My mother was a police officer. I thought I was coming to Canada for light summer work that would help me pay off debt; instead I was forced into the sex industry. Many people ask why I didn't call the police or didn't try to escape right away.

Victims of Human Trafficking are shackled by an invisible chain that is extremely hard to break.

It took me 12 years to realize that I was a victim of Human Trafficking. I saw a newspaper article about Russian girls being trafficked for sex. They told their stories and I realized that I was a victim of this terrible crime. I decided to reach out to police agencies and I decided to talk about it.

That was seven years ago. I also started training the Social Service providers, or just about anyone who needed to learn more about what it was like being trafficked. Eventually I started an agency called "Walk With Me" and opened a safe house for victims of trafficking. Before you know it, my team and I assisted over 500 investigations, and 300 victims and family members. We helped to change laws, we advocated for more funds, and we trained over 15,000 police officers and thousands of service providers. I was a victim, and I worked in the system as a frontline worker side-by-side with the police and learned a lot about these investigations.

This manual was written based on my personal knowledge as a victim and as a service provider. I hope this book will help you to detect Human Trafficking and help you to implement some of the strategies in your line of work.



Human Trafficking is a very dark subject. I am suggesting you to take a break sometimes when you read through this manual. It will be hard to digest some of the components if you never heard about this before.

WHO CAN BENEFIT FROM THIS MANUAL?

Human Trafficking can be challenging to understand. But once you look through the lens I am about to give you, spotting this horrific crime will be a lot easier. Understanding the mindset of a Human Trafficking victim will empower you to reach out and take action.

Agencies that will benefit from information in this manual:

- ▶ Financial Institutions
- ▶ Emergency Room Workers (frontline nurses)
- ▶ Social Service Agencies
- ▶ Front Line Police Officers
- ▶ Criminal Investigators
- ▶ Domestic Violence Units
- ▶ Sexual Assault Units
- ▶ Traffic Patrols
- ▶ Intelligence Units
- ▶ Crown Attorneys/Prosecutors
- ▶ Judges
- ▶ Defense Lawyers
- ▶ Immigration Lawyers
- ▶ Translators

WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

According to the RCMP:

*From the publication "Human Trafficking in Canada"
prepared by RCMP Criminal Intelligence*

"Human Trafficking involves any person who recruits, transports, transfers, receives, holds, conceals or harbors a person, or exercises control, direction or influence over the movements of a person for the purpose of exploiting them or facilitating their exploitation. Victims of Human Trafficking may be exploited for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced labor or organ trafficking. However, information gathered thus far does not substantiate organ trafficking on Canadian soil. Trafficked victims usually cannot, or perceive that they cannot, leave their circumstances. While Human Trafficking is commonly believed to involve the exploitation of foreign nationals, it is crucial to note that anyone can be trafficked."

[Source: http://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2011/grc-rcmp/PS64-78-2010-eng.pdf]

According to the FBI:

From the article "Human Sex Trafficking" by Amanda Walker-Rodriguez and Rodney Hill

Human sex trafficking is the most common form of modern-day slavery. Estimates place the number of its domestic and international victims in the millions, mostly females and children enslaved in the commercial sex industry for little or no money. The terms Human Trafficking and sex slavery usually conjure up images of young girls beaten and abused in faraway places, like Eastern Europe, Asia, or Africa. Actually, human sex trafficking and sex slavery happen locally in cities and towns, both large and small, throughout the United States, right in citizens' backyards.

Appreciating the magnitude of the problem requires first understanding what the issue is and what it is not. Additionally, people must be able to identify the victim in common trafficking situations.

Human Sex Trafficking

Many people probably remember popular movies and television shows depicting pimps as dressing flashy and driving large fancy cars. More importantly, the women— adults— consensually and voluntarily engaged in the business of prostitution without complaint. This characterization is extremely inaccurate, nothing more than fiction.



In reality, the pimp traffics young women (and sometimes men) completely against their will by force or threat of force; this is human sex trafficking.

The Scope

Not only is human sex trafficking slavery, it is big business. It is the fastest-growing business of organized crime and the third-largest criminal enterprise in the world. The majority of sex trafficking is international, with victims taken from such places as South and Southeast Asia, the former Soviet Union, Central and South America, and other less developed areas and moved to more developed ones, including Asia, the Middle East, Western Europe, and North America.



Ms. Walker-Rodriquez is an assistant state's attorney in Baltimore County and a current member of the Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force.



Mr. Hill, a retired police lieutenant, is an assistant state's attorney in Baltimore.

Unfortunately, however, sex trafficking also occurs domestically. The United States not only faces an influx of international victims but also has its own homegrown problem of interstate sex trafficking of minors.

Although comprehensive research to document the number of children engaged in prostitution in the United States is lacking, an estimated 293,000 American youths currently are at risk of becoming victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The majority of these victims are runaway or thrown-away youths who live on the streets and become victims of prostitution. These children generally come from homes where they have been abused, or from families who have abandoned them. Often, they become involved in prostitution to support themselves financially, or to get the things they feel they need or want (like drugs).

Other young people are recruited into prostitution through forced abduction, pressure from parents, or through deceptive agreements between parents and traffickers. Once these children become involved in prostitution, they often are forced to travel far from their homes and, as a result, are isolated from their friends and family. Few children in this situation can develop new relationships with peers or adults other than the person victimizing them. The lifestyle of such youths revolves around violence, forced drug use, and constant threats.

Among children and teens living on the streets in the United States, involvement in commercial sex activity is a problem of epidemic proportion. Many girls living on the street engage in formal prostitution, and some become entangled in nationwide organized crime networks where they are trafficked nationally. Criminal networks transport these children around the United States by a variety of means— cars, buses, vans, trucks, or planes — and often provide them counterfeit identification to use in the event of arrest.



The average age at which girls first become victims of prostitution is 12 to 14.

It is not only the girls on the streets who are affected; boys and transgender youth enter into prostitution between the ages of 11 and 13 on average.

The Operation

Today, the business of human sex trafficking is much more organized and violent. These women and young girls are sold to traffickers, locked up in rooms or brothels for weeks or months, drugged, terrorized, and raped repeatedly. These continual abuses make it easier for the traffickers to control their victims. The captives are so afraid and intimidated that they rarely speak out against their traffickers, even when faced with an opportunity to escape.

Generally, the traffickers are very organized. Many have a hierarchy system similar to that of other criminal organizations. Traffickers who have more than one victim often have a “bottom” who sits atop the hierarchy of prostitutes.

The bottom, a victim herself, has been with the trafficker the longest and has earned his trust. Bottoms collect the money from the other girls, discipline them, seduce unwitting youths into trafficking, and handle the day-to-day business for the trafficker.

Traffickers represent every social, ethnic, and racial group. Various organizational types exist in trafficking. Some perpetrators are involved with local, street and motorcycle gangs, others are members of larger nationwide gangs and criminal organizations, and some have no affiliation with any one group or organization. Traffickers are not only men—women run many established rings.

“The United States not only faces an influx of international victims but also has its own homegrown problem of interstate sex trafficking of minors.”

Traffickers use force, drugs, emotional tactics, and financial methods to control their victims. They have an especially easy time establishing a strong bond with young girls. These perpetrators may promise marriage and a lifestyle the youths often did not have in their previous familial relationships. They claim they “love” and “need” the victim and that any sex acts are for their future together. In cases where the children have few or no positive male role models in their lives, the traffickers take advantage of this fact and, in many cases, demand that the victims refer to them as “daddy,” making it tougher for the youths to break the hold the perpetrator has on them.

Sometimes, the traffickers use violence, such as gang rape and other forms of abuse, to force the youths to work for them and remain under their control. One victim, a runaway from Baltimore County, Maryland, was gang raped by a group of men associated with the trafficker, who subsequently staged a “rescue.” He then demanded that she repay him by working for him as one of his prostitutes. In many cases, the victims are beaten until they submit to the trafficker’s demands.

In some situations, the youths have become addicted to drugs. The traffickers simply can use their ability to supply them with drugs as a means of control.

Traffickers often take their victims’ identity forms, including birth certificates, passports,

and drivers' licenses. In these cases, even if youths do leave they would have no ability to support themselves and often will return to the trafficker.

These abusive methods of control impact the victims both physically and mentally. Similar to cases involving Stockholm Syndrome, these victims, who have been abused over an extended period of time, begin to feel an attachment to the perpetrator. This paradoxical psychological phenomenon makes it difficult for law enforcement to breach the bond of control, albeit abusive, the trafficker holds over the victim.

[Source: <https://leb.fbi.gov/articles/featured-articles/human-sex-trafficking>]

Human Trafficking is a Ghost Crime



Human Trafficking is a ghost crime, designed to be hidden from the public. Victims don't walk around in chains and traffickers don't always look like criminals.

I would like to highlight the fact that:

Human Trafficking is a GHOST crime. It was designed NOT TO BE SEEN.

Let me explain by using an example: 28 men were invited to Canada from Hungary, to work at a stucco business. The men were kept in seven different residential houses. They were forced to live in the basements under horrible conditions.

One of the victims was 62 years old. He was the "house slave." He worked at the kingpin's house. He worked day and night without a break. He built an entire fence while the neighbours would wave to him and said, "Hello!" every morning. He built a deck all by himself during a heat wave and was forced to clean the house, top to bottom every day. He made coffee every morning, and if it wasn't warm enough, he would be slapped, or spat on by the trafficker's six-year-old son. He did this for over two years. The house was located in a very upscale

neighborhood where house prices averaged about \$750,000. The same house had four more victims in the basement.

Every morning at 6 a.m., the victims left with the traffickers to go and do stucco work. They came home late at night. After having worked a 20-hour day, they would be locked in the basement. This went on day after day, night after night for years. Not one neighbor

suspected anything. Not one person called the police.

Why not? — Because it looked “normal.” As a matter of fact, after the police raid the media came and asked the neighbours what they thought of the charges?

They said that they thought that the old man who was building the fence was the grandfather, and the young men who went to work every day were all part of the family.

The biggest myth!

Human Trafficking is the most mysterious crime that has ever existed! How can a human being allow herself to be “trafficked?” How can they not know they are being trafficked? Well, first of all it happens slowly, and in stages. Every Human Trafficking case involves three elements.

1. **GREEDY TRAFFICKER:** A person driven by greed and control,
2. **DESPERATE HUMAN BEING:** A person in search of money, a better life, a nicer family, a bigger house, a desire to go to school, etc,
3. **SHAME/GUILT:** Once the victim realizes that s/he was trapped, lied to, and believes they have bought horrible shame to his/her family, they will not come forward and will not ask for help.

There are vital steps a trafficker must take. Breaking the human spirit requires a methodical and deeply psychological approach. The method has developed over a long period of time, possibly for hundreds of years. It has evolved over time, but the main elements have stayed the same.

“Breaking The Human Spirit”



Step 1: Relocation

In most cases the victim is asked to go somewhere far away from her/his own surroundings, family and safety net. The further away from home, the better. Once the victim is relocated, s/he becomes extremely vulnerable and will need to rely on the trafficker as a caregiver. This is the beginning stage where Stockholm Syndrome starts to develop between the victim and the trafficker.



Step 2: Denying food

Again, in most cases the victim has already begun to fully rely on the trafficker, and can't just go and buy food on her/his own.

Therefore the victim will only eat when the trafficker will feed her/him.

Traffickers know that this stage is a very important part of the process. Food is one of the most important essentials, next to sleep...



Step 3: Denying sleep

At this point, the victim is already relying on the trafficker for food, and is being told what to do every single moment. During this phase, the victim is vulnerable but still strong spirited. The next thing to do is to deny sleep.

Victims are working between 18-22 hours a day. They still think that they are making money for themselves. They don't eat a lot and they don't sleep a lot. This is what I call the "zombie stage."



4. Emotional/Physical Threats/Brainwashing

Imagine if someone pulls out a photo of you naked and drunk, and says "I will blast this all over on social media right now if you don't do what I say?" It is very intimidating! Now imagine if it is told to a 17 year old girl. The threats and brainwashing are verbal, but if the victim still isn't broken completely in spirit, or if the traffickers are the violent type, the beating and the torture will start.

These four steps will bring the victim to a place where they can be easily manipulated and controlled. I will explain this in more detail under the Mindset section.

TYPES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

International Trafficking

International Trafficking is when victims are trafficked from outside of North America into North America.

The Victims: Victims can be any age or gender. Identifying elements for an international victim of Human Trafficking will most likely start with the fact that they don't speak English. Secondly, they will probably have someone representing them at the bank or social service office. Thirdly, they may appear undernourished, look nervous, or won't look anyone in the eye.

The Traffickers: Traffickers can be any age, gender or background. What is the most expensive overhead in any business? People! Most businesses are built on human contribution. Human beings serve you food at restaurants, prepare your meals, look after your children as a nanny or babysitter, work at the nail salons, construction sites, you name it. Where there is work, there can and often will be trafficking. Traffickers are greedy.



You might be saying to yourself, “but that can be anybody!” You're right, so your best chance to be accurate is not to assume anything. Don't stereotype. However, if you notice something that seems off, that doesn't sit right. If your instincts are telling you something is up, dig deeper. If the red flags are there, don't hesitate to contact your police agency, or if you are the police agency, then go with your instincts.

The truth is that victims can be anywhere. But let's break it down... International Victims are trafficked for many different purposes.

They can be trafficked for:

- ▶ Forced Labour
- ▶ Forced Marriage
- ▶ Sex Trade Work
- ▶ Domestic Servitude
- ▶ Child Care
- ▶ Other fields of work that exploit labour or earn traffickers significant profit
- ▶ Organ Trafficking

International Victims can be found in (but are not limited to):

- ▶ Migrant Farms
- ▶ Factories
- ▶ Restaurants
- ▶ Nail Salons, Beauty Spas
- ▶ Construction Sites
- ▶ Houses (household worker, nanny, etc.)
- ▶ Brothels
- ▶ Hotels/Motels/Condos
- ▶ Massage Places
- ▶ Strip Joints
- ▶ Hidden Apartments
- ▶ Basements

Domestic Sex Trafficking

Domestic Trafficking is when Canadians/Americans (male and female) are trafficked within our borders. **Approximately 80% of the victims in Canada right now are victims of Domestic Trafficking. 80% of victims are young girls and women born and raised right here in Canada or the U.S.**

Victim Profile:

Typically victims are 12-25 year old girls and boys from a variety of backgrounds, including small towns, urban centres, broken homes, foster homes, or group homes. Many victims are misunderstood teenagers and runaways (Please note that the age can be younger than 12 and can be older than 25. We are averaging based on reports and based on our own experience with victims).

How are the victims deceived?

They are mainly deceived by **"The Game."** This is a term used by an American pimp named Don "Magic" Juan in the 1970s and is currently a term used to talk about forced prostitution and domestic sex trafficking. The Pimp Game is the name of a "training manual" written by Mickey Royal for traffickers in North America. The strategies from The Pimp Game have been adopted by pimps around the world. The Pimp Game teaches recruitment methods including how to find the most vulnerable victim, how to groom and condition them, how to make the most money from a victim, and how to "break them" into sex slavery.

Domestic Trafficking

Most of the domestically trafficked victims can be found in your local:

- ▶ Strip joints
- ▶ Massage Parlours
- ▶ Condominiums
- ▶ Apartment Buildings
- ▶ Above Stores/Local Businesses
- ▶ Motels/Hotels

■ Trafficking Lifestyle

Victims who are trafficked are often forced to endure the following:

- ▶ Working 18-20 hours a day
- ▶ Sleeping 4-5 hours a day
- ▶ Eating minimal food (i.e., leftovers or one meal a day)
- ▶ Not allowed to call home; in cases where a call is allowed, the traffickers will remain by the victim listening to every word or telling them what to say
- ▶ Not allowed to leave the residence
- ▶ Not allowed to talk to anyone
- ▶ Not allowed to ask questions
- ▶ Must turn in all money to the trafficker (that is, even if they see the money they work for...)
- ▶ Must work regardless of illness
- ▶ Can't call the police
- ▶ International victims are brainwashed into believing that Immigration will take them and throw them in jail for the rest of their lives for being illegal immigrants

MINDSET OF A HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIM

Being Trafficked Step by Step!

■ Upon arrival

Victims of international trafficking are often kept in a place that is considered their “residence.” The only other people they will be allowed to come into contact with are their traffickers and other victims. The residences are often unfriendly and harsh environments (i.e., cold basement, no windows, mattress on the cement floor etc.). Imagine sleeping in a room the size of a bathroom with multiple people, on a mattress, and on the floor. Victims are not fed adequately, and the traffickers will say that it is because money is still owed to them for items such as airfare, housing, food, etc.

The traffickers may say that they have to keep all identification, so that they can apply for work permits. Often when victims inquire about these work permits, they will be told that it can take a very long time to get it. Meanwhile, the trafficker will never apply, or they will let the victim’s first work permit expire, so that they can use threats of immigration and jail as a way to control and manipulate the situation.

When I was trafficked, I tried to buy a sandwich on my second day on the “job” in the strip club. The sandwich was \$5. When they found out, they told me I owed them \$50 more for a penalty because I was spending “their” money. After that I had to eat only when they bought me food once a day. I went from 125 to 89 pounds in two weeks.

Victims quickly realize that they have no choice but to do as their traffickers say. They realize that they are extremely vulnerable and they believe that they have to work as hard as they can to pay off their “debt” with the belief that the quicker they pay off their “debt,” the quicker they will be able to start making money for themselves and their family.

Victims are often forced to work 18-20 hours a day. This does not leave much time for sleep and rest, and victims are emotionally and physically drained. Illnesses and sickness are not adequately cared for, and if any work is missed as a result of sickness the victim's "debt" or "quota" will increase. Victims will be forced to work even if they have a high fever or the worst flu of their lives. Trust me, I experienced this situation and it is horrible.

Once victims are getting close to paying off their "debt," the traffickers will find all types of excuses and reasons to incur more indebtedness. For example, they can say "today we had to change the oil in the car that takes you to work every day." Since you are a foreigner and don't really know any better, the trafficker can say it costs \$350 to change oil in Canada. That's what they told me, and I didn't know the difference. So I paid them \$350 for the oil change. Once I also paid \$500 for them to change the headlight in the car. I found out 11 years later when I bought my first car, and I had to change the headlights, that it actually only costs around \$12.

■ The "Zombie Stage"

Once victims get to the point where they realize that they will never be able to keep their money, and that they were totally misguided and lied to, their body and mind will start the process of shutting down. They will begin to accept that there is no money and they will go to work.

They will accept that they are criminals because the traffickers tell them that they are. Victims are often threatened with stories of immigration, deportation or jail. Victims are uneducated about the immigration system and the law of the country, so they will believe that they are a criminal and will not reach out for assistance. In a very twisted way, victims become almost grateful to their traffickers for housing them, feeding them, and hiding them from the authorities.

This is why trafficked victims are similar to kidnapped victims. The trafficker becomes the "caregiver." There is also a special, weird, twisted bond between them (trauma bonds). These bonds can be so strong that by the time the victim is rescued, they do not know whose side they are on anymore. They do not know if they are supposed to protect the trafficker or go against them. This behavior is very similar to Stockholm Syndrome. The relationship between the victim and the trafficker is also similar to Domestic Violence. Would you call the police on a "loved one" who has done nothing but try to "help you" (and your parents, children, etc.) through hard times, even while they are abusing or molesting you?

Things can go in two totally different directions from this moment based on the individual and on the trafficker's personality.

■ Escape

The trafficked victim can get to the point emotionally where they decide to fight back and/or try to escape. If they escape, it is highly unlikely that they will go to the police. They will probably go to a church or to a store that they are familiar with and ask for help from someone that they think they can trust. Some victims will get to a point where they think that going to the police cannot be possibly worse than what they have endured at the hands of their trafficker; some have gone to the police asking to be arrested because they know that a translator will then be arranged for them.

■ Become one of them



Some victims may decide that it is better to be the abuser than the abused. At this point, they start to move up the ladder and become a recruiter or a worker for the traffickers. This usually happens after being with the trafficker for a longer period of time.

■ Systematic Failure

Human Trafficking is a victim-centered crime. Investigators mainly need evidence to prove that the person is indeed being trafficked. Currently, we need the victim to come forward and say that she was held against her will and her money was taken. It is very rare or hardly ever heard of that that has ever taken place in the past. Victims don't come forward for many reasons. Investigators have to have proper education to be able to seek out the victim, to reach out, to build a rapport, and when the time is right, to ask the victim for a statement. That could take months, if not years. And then the victim gives a statement, tells her story for the first time, second and third time and then repeats herself in court and then at trial. While waiting for court and trial, she has a hard time accessing support due to lack of awareness in the social agencies, therefore she may not show up in court until many years later because her bigger issue is to have a place to live. Without a proper system in place, victims often disappear by the time court happens. Case closed, trafficker dismissed! The odd time the victim sticks around for court. By the time they are done with examining her, and with very little actual physical evidence, it becomes a "she said/ he said" case, and usually the trafficker gets a minimal punishment, or walks out of court. It is really hard to explain to a judge and the courts why this victim never left when there was no

gun against her head. It is even harder to explain the judge, why wouldn't the victim just run back home to her family when she is rescued.



Our number one problem is lack of awareness and real understanding of the crime.

Without awareness and understanding of the crime, the victim's mindset and what it looks like, you can look at a victim's transactions; you can even talk to her in the bank, but still have no idea that you might be talking to a victim of Human Trafficking. That is because most of the lecture materials, pictures, images and even movies misrepresent one type of Human Trafficking.

As we explained earlier there are different types. There is International trafficking and within that there are people who are trafficked into North America for labour or sexual exploitation. There is also domestic sex trafficking, which is completely different.

In this chapter we will take a closer look at why Domestic Sex trafficking is overlooked and most often "misdiagnosed". Once you read this chapter, you will start to think of some of your cases/files/accounts and maybe realize that they are not sex workers, they are victims of sex trafficking. The most common type of sex trafficker is known as the "Romeo Pimp," who lures his victims with promises of love and a better life. The best way to explain how that works is by using an example. Have you ever seen the reality show called The Bachelor? The Bachelor is a TV show, where 40 woman audition to be on the show and compete. Their prize is "Prince Charming," and the goal is to be married. Imagine 40 women audition to be on a show to find their husband. They are so desperate for love that they are willing to be on a reality show and let the entire world see their raw emotions and hear them talking about very private matters. That is desperation. That means they have a dream and they are willing to do just about anything to achieve it.

It sounds crazy if you put it that way, or it sounds very romantic and sweet. Either way, we are spending millions of dollars to make this show and millions of dollars is made on this show, by millions of people watching it.

What it means is that it is perfectly okay in our society to watch 40 women, between the ages of 20 to 40 move away from their current lives, children, and jobs, for 6 months, in hopes of finding their dream life with Mr. Perfect.

They move into a Villa, all 40 of them, and they start dating the Bachelor. 40 women start dating the same man... ONE man! As the show progresses, the Bachelor eliminates the

women based on one or two dates. In some cases, the woman who gets eliminated may have only had one or two group dates with this man, but by then she “claimed” that she was already so in love with him, that he made her feel so special, and that she was sure that that is the man of her dreams.

When she gets sent home after two weeks, they show her in the limo that takes her away from the Villa. They show her crying inconsolably, as though she just lost her husband of 40 years.

The remaining contestants continue to go on dates with the same man. Months later, he eliminates his choices down to four ladies who have been living together and dating the same man. No one has left the residence; no one was allowed to go home, or talk to family members. All they have is each other. But they are still here, and in it to win it. They are still fighting for the goal, the dream, and the hope of being married to this man. They will not give up without a fight. By this time, the viewers have seen the Bachelor kissing over 30 women, telling each and every one of them how beautiful, nice and special they are. They all believe that they are the one because he makes them feel all very special when they are alone. Towards the end, he is down to four contestants. The producers tell him that the next episode will be about going into the “Fantasy Suite,” meaning cameras will not follow them for the night. Basically what it means is that he will have four sleepover dates with different women. Meanwhile the four women are still roommates and will get to see each other getting ready and leaving for their dates with the same man. They will also see each other coming home in the morning after the sleep over with their “boyfriend.”

Basically this one man is dating four women at the same time, sleeping with them, and all four women believe that they are special. All four women believe that he will choose them. These women are educated, coming from a wealthy or emotionally stable background. They are usually between the ages of 25-34. The worst part is that this is totally acceptable by our society given the popularity of the show. At the end he chooses ‘THE ONE’ and he proposes to her.

The other three go home with a broken heart, back to their lives, pretty houses, loving family, and support. Most of them return to offers from other TV shows, becoming the face of “the strong woman,” public support, waiting jobs, and much more.

What does this have to do with Domestic Sex Trafficking?

Sex Trafficking victims are often between the age of 12-21. Young girls and women who are going through a lot of emotional change. This is the age when all of us go through the most insecure time of our lives. This is the age when we have the most to prove; this is the age when we feel our emotions 100 times stronger than when we get older. This is a time of our life when we are desperate for love and attention. In some cases girls are running away from a terrible situation at home. Some girls run away from the foster care system. But it doesn't really matter what are they running from and what their dreams are. The only thing that matters is that they are desperate for something. They are desperate and extremely inexperienced in life. They are naïve and they are very vulnerable.

The trafficker recognizes that. They will step in and they promise whatever it is these young girls or women need at the time. They will become their best friend; they will become Prince Charming. They will promise the world to them. The girls will jump and leave at the first opportunity they have. They will leave everything behind, family, friends, brothers or sisters, or a small child.

They will do anything they can to please this person because this person is the ticket to their future and happiness. No different than the women on bachelor. After the trafficker spends enough time with the victim, and has enough time to build the trust and paint a beautiful picture of the future, the trafficker will propose an idea, to move to another city because that is where they can find the money or a job or the agency that can help her.

That is a very important step. It's called isolation. Now the victim just lost her support system and is in a totally different city. She doesn't know her way around and she may have even angered her entire family or friends when she left. She may have burned some bridges and she feels that now she has to go anyways. She is putting her entire life into his hands. Once the victim is under total control of the trafficker, the relationship changes drastically. The victim arrives to the new city, and usually there is no housing, so they arrive at a hotel where she meets three or possibly four other girls. They are all very friendly to "her boyfriend." She is confused but she is already here, she has left everything behind, and she has a lot to look forward to, so she becomes compliant. Soon after her arrival, she realizes that this is not at all what she was promised, but if she tries to leave, her so called "boyfriend" will either beat her, or get her gang raped, or will call her parents or loved ones in front of her to intimidate her that there is no escape. As long as she does what he asks her to do, her family will be okay.

So she starts working like all the other girls. She starts serving 10 or 15 men a day. She starts making about \$1,000-\$1,500 a day. She turns over everything she makes. She sometimes uses her own bank card. She makes her own hotel reservations and becomes part of the "team." Eventually she may even feel or look like she actually wants to do this but that is all for her own survival and it is all for a show. She has to pretend she is okay with this because she never knows which girl will tell on her. All the other girls are only there to please him. They all think that he is going to solve their problems and help them to achieve their dreams. He is promising them something every single day. He may show up one day and take one of them out to dinner. We heard of a group where the trafficker had a reward system. Whichever girl made the most money would spend a night with him that week. Don't forget the fact that while they are traveling to different hotels, she is serving 10-15 men a day. He is taking their money at the end of the day, he beats them, and he won't let them sleep. He rapes and tortures them if they mess up. This is nothing like The Bachelor. Yet, when there is a big police bust, the girls will be arrested for prostitution and will be taken to jail. If they don't tell the police how they got involved (which they won't, because then he will either kill them or kill her family), they will serve time in jail, and he is going to a different city to start the process all over again. In the event that she is brave enough to come forward and tell the police what she is involved in, charges are laid against him. They go to court. In court there is no evidence to prove that she is a victim of sex trafficking. So far all they know is that she went with him, there was no gun to her head, she paid for her hotel, she bought her ad online, she followed him and she was in love with him.

Last time we were in court, the woman told the court in front of this Trafficker how she was beaten, set on fire, escaped naked in a middle of winter, how she was brainwashed, kept under horrible conditions, and forced into the sex industry. The judge ruled that there is not enough evidence to prove any of this, that she was in love, and that next time she should choose her boyfriend more wisely. Then the judge excused the trafficker and apologized to him for any inconvenience. After that she couldn't go home; her family couldn't provide her the support she really needed. Her life was in actual danger for giving him up to the police, but because there was no conviction, she couldn't access victim care. The girl disappeared and went into hiding. That was in 2014. No one has heard from her since.

This is just one example.

So basically when these girls escape or get rescued or go home, they face shame, and no one really understands what happened to them. It is exactly like Bachelor, and when it is on television, we support it with millions of dollars.

But when it happens in our courtrooms, the victims get punished for being naïve and vulnerable. Unlike the woman on The Bachelor, these girls don't go home to a supportive family or community. Most often they lose their child for good, or their job, or any stability they ever had.

Our biggest failure is not being able to prove Human Trafficking as often as we should.

What does this have to do with Banks?

■ Financial transactions are the key!

Financial transactions can show very clear signs and evidence that would be extremely important to provide for court. Through these transactions you can prove her lifestyle, and you can prove where she has been. With his transactions you can normally put them into the same town, same area, same hotel, you can prove that she is buying adult ads online, you can find her pictures once you find their ads online, you can prove that she is working 24-7, she doesn't eat, or rarely eats, but most importantly you can prove that she is not keeping the money for herself.



The biggest give away on transactions is that she usually has no money left by the end of the day.

Financial transactions can provide a clear picture of their life style, their route, and their trends; sometimes you can even connect them to other victims. Transactions are like a map of their operation.

How to detect domestic sex trafficking within your transactions?

The combination of these four factors will help you to detect sex trafficking in your transactions:

1. Understanding the crime
2. Understanding the difference between prostitution and sex trafficking
3. Understanding the victim's and the trafficker's mindsets
4. Extensive knowledge on their lifestyle

Understand that one red flag cannot be looked at individually. You must understand and see the entire picture. You may end up looking at an account where 99% of the flags point to the possibility of a new Human Trafficking case, but the most important part is still missing.

The following questions are thought to frontline police officers to detect and differentiate victims of sex trafficking from prostitutes during a traffic stop.

1. **What is their address history?** Many traffickers will transport their victims to various cities for isolation (i.e., girls from relationships, pimps from law enforcement). Victims may have a long, extended address history or may not be able to recall their last address.
2. **Do they know the area?** Find out if they know the location of the nearest grocery store, doctor's office/walk-in clinic, etc. If she is a victim of domestic violence she will know where these places are because she will not likely be restricted to her home like a victim of Human Trafficking.
3. **Who has their ID?** Traffickers will usually keep their victims' identifications and the individual being questioned will say that her "boyfriend" (i.e., pimp) or "girlfriend" (i.e. Bottom girl) keeps it in a safe place.
4. **What is their immigration status?** Victims of international Human Trafficking will not necessarily know these answers or their visas may have expired. Double check answers with immigration.
5. **How are they making a living/where do they work?** Remember they usually work illegally, so they may say they are a student or just visiting a "friend." Dig deeper to catch her in a lie.
6. **How much are they making?** How much money do they have? Victims working in the business will make a significant amount of money but will not have access to it. Remember they will most likely have little or no money on them. If she has indicated that she is just visiting, how is she traveling without money? How are they paying for expenses?

- 7. What is their "friend" or "boyfriend" or "cousin" doing in this city?** This is where you can likely catch them in a lie.
- 8. What is their "boyfriend's" or "cousin's" exact name and address?** They usually never know their trafficker's real name or where they really from (unless they are the bottom girl).
- 9. Do they have a cell phone?** Trafficked girls usually have at least 2-3 phones. She will not know her phone numbers because they are mainly for clients. If you check her phones, there will be a lot of calls from the same number (the pimp) or calls from "Daddy."
- 10. How do they get around?** What kind of transportation do they use? Victims rarely use public transportation. They will be driven from home to work or they will take a cab. We have encountered victims whose pimps have allowed them to go and work alone, as long as she sends her earnings through Money Mart (or similar business) at the end of every working day.

Typically police have about five minutes to observe the victim, run her history in the system, and make a decision if she is or isn't a victim of sex trafficking. Once the officer believes that the victim is indeed involved in a Human Trafficking ring, he will try to talk to the victim alone if it's possible and if it's safe. The officer will explain to her that he believes she is in trouble and he believes that she is in danger. He will tell her that there is help out there, when she is ready to leave.

You just never know which stage she is in, and she might tell the officer to help. But that happens once in a million cases. Normally the victim will tell or yell at the officer to show her loyalty to the group, and to make sure that no one will tell the trafficker later that she is a snitch. If she gives the impression in front of the group that she might want to talk to the officer, she will be beaten terribly later. So she will probably tell him off, or push him away, but she may take a phone number if no one else sees it.

Then the officer will make a note in his system and highlight the fact that she is a possible victim and he will probably send it off to the appropriate Human Trafficking investigation unit in the area. At that point, the unit will start monitoring her.



No one should step in too soon. It is actually more harmful to step in too soon, than helpful.

If she is not ready to leave, if she is so brainwashed and threatened every day, she will not leave until she thinks she has a good and safe plan. Therefore we never try to take the victims out of the situation by force. We reach out to them if it is safe. We offer them a support line, possibly a 1-800 number and offer them help. We plant the seed. We contact

the police and if the police are already aware, we just hope for the best and wait until it is the right time to approach her again.

If we know that the police are about to make an arrest then we will try to be there to offer our support to the victim again. In your case you will also have about five minutes with the victim, if she interacts with you at your banks.



If you are a teller at a financial institution and you believe that the person is a victim of Sex Trafficking, you should probably bring it to your supervisor and they will take the next steps.



A person with no training or background on how to approach a sex trafficked victim should never initiate or open a conversation with the victim about her situation. It is extremely dangerous for her and for the bank teller as well. Police involvement is our strongest advice.

Follow the money!

Like other investigations such as money laundry, terrorism, drug or gun trafficking, you always follow the money. Human Trafficking is no different. You follow where the profit comes from; you find the victim or the trade.

For example, if the victim works in a nail salon during the day, but also works in the nail salon at night, according to overnight transactions, you know that the nail salon is operating at night (highly unusual for the type of business they are in). It means that chances are they have a "side operation" in the basement of the store and the victims are working during the day, as a nail salon employee, and as a sex slave during the night.



When you find out where the money comes from, you find your victim. When you find out where the money goes, you find your trafficker.

DETECTION PART 1

The Big Picture

As we mentioned earlier, to detect this crime you have to see the entire picture and to be able to detect it properly.



Human Trafficking is the fastest growing crime in the world.

Next to drug trafficking, it is the up-and-coming new crime.

Why? When someone is involved with drug/gun trafficking, they have to buy the supply and sell it. Buying it and selling it is a constant hassle, especially for small time players on the streets. In Canada, when law enforcement makes an arrest for a drug-related offence, what happens? The evidence is put in storage and not needed again until court. The evidence sits in a locker room for a year and the effort to make sure that the “evidence” shows up in court is minimal. In comparison, Human Trafficking victims require a lot of attention, resources and energy. If you don’t provide ongoing face-to-face time and emotional support for your victim, s/he will not be an effective witness.

In Human Trafficking investigations, your victim is your key piece of evidence.

If you don’t have a victim/witness, you don’t have a case. Right now Canada gives less jail time for trafficking and torturing a human being than they do for trafficking drugs or guns. In 2012, a former baggage handler with Air Canada was convicted of trying to smuggle cocaine and was sentenced to 10 years in prison, whereas traffickers of human beings have been sentenced to mere months or years. In the United States, sentences are much stricter and some have even received life sentences.

Where Do Victims Work? — International Trafficking

The truth is that victims can be anywhere. But let's break it down. International victims are trafficked for many different purposes.

They can be trafficked for:

- ▶ Forced Labour
- ▶ Forced Marriage
- ▶ Sex Trade Work
- ▶ Domestic Servitude
- ▶ Child Care
- ▶ Other fields of work that exploits labour or earns traffickers significant profit

International Victims can be found in (but are not limited to):

- ▶ Migrant Farms
- ▶ Factories
- ▶ Restaurants
- ▶ Nail Salons, Beauty Spas
- ▶ Construction Sites
- ▶ Houses (household worker, nanny, etc.)
- ▶ Factories

Internationally trafficked victims for the purpose of sexual exploitation can be found in, but not limited to:

- ▶ Brothels
- ▶ Hotels/Motels/Condos
- ▶ Massage Places
- ▶ Strip Joints
- ▶ Hidden Apartments
- ▶ Basements

■ Where Do Victims Work? — Domestic Sex Trafficking

We say this next statement carefully, based on our experiences with our cases and information we received from our survivors: Every single Canadian-born survivor we have come across was trafficked and forced into the sex trade. This is not to say that domestic trafficking does not include forced labour or other types of trafficking; however, domestic victims we have supported have been exclusively exploited sexually.

Most of the domestically trafficked victims can be found in your local:

- ▶ Strip Joints
- ▶ Massage Places
- ▶ Condominiums
- ▶ Upscale Apartment Buildings
- ▶ Above Stores
- ▶ Motels and Hotels

DETECTION PART 2

Early Detection: International Human Trafficking — Forced Labor

■ Human Trafficking and Human Smuggling

People are often mistaking Human Smuggling with Human Trafficking. Human Smuggling however can lead to Human Trafficking.

Human Smugglers will collect money from the individuals in other countries and overseas, who are willingly paying to be brought into to North America illegally. The individual will pay a fee anywhere between \$2,000–\$10,000 dollars to be smuggled into the country under false documents and false work permits or contracts. Unfortunately once they get here, they become extremely vulnerable to the smugglers. Smugglers can run a side business and sell the individuals to Human Traffickers. At that point, the victim has a very small chance of ever being able to come forward, because the victim has broken the law by coming to the country illegally and the victim could possibly face jail time if law enforcement gets involved, which is why the trafficker has ultimate power over the victim in these cases.

It is possible to detect this crime before the victims get exploited. Financial institutions have a lot of power and opportunity to interrupt or prevent exploitation.

Forced labor cases can be detected as early as during account opening. The following story will give you a good idea on what could go wrong. After the story, we will summarize our early detection points.

■ Project Opapa, 2009-2012, Ontario, Canada,

In early 2004, a man named Frank Domotor came to Canada from Papa, Hungary. He brought his family shortly after. He came to Canada and claimed refugee status and

started a stucco business. In the next four years, he bought 28 individuals over from Hungary to work. All individuals, but one was male, were female between the ages of 18–62. They all came as visitors. The minute they arrived, Domotor and his handlers took their passports and documents and told them that there is nowhere for them to go. They must do exactly what they are told, otherwise their families will be harmed in Hungary by the mafia. Domotor and his family lived in seven different houses in Hamilton, Ontario. The victims were locked in the basements. They didn't speak English, they didn't know where they were, and the only person who spoke their mother tongue was the trafficker ring. Upon arrival, the Domotor crew members took the victims to Immigration and translated for them. They all claimed refugee status one by one. Then they took them all to the Social Service offices (Ontario Works), and all individuals were put on social assistance (\$580/month plus medical).

Once they had their refugee papers and social insurance numbers, every single person was taken to several major banks to open several accounts. Domotor and his family were the translators. The victims came from small towns and villages, some of them couldn't even properly read or write Hungarian, and some victims have never even seen the inside of a bank before. They had absolutely no idea what was happening.

The traffickers opened accounts for each victim. Each victim had an account with all the five major banks in Canada. Then the traffickers took them to work from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., at construction sites. During the night, they had to go and shoplift in malls. On weekends, they had to go and participate in mail theft stealing cheques from small businesses. The victims each made about \$4000/month as a stucco worker, collected \$580/month in social assistance, and stole cheques for the Traffickers. When they get paid for their stucco work from legitimate Canadian contractors, the cheque was made out in their name, but the Traffickers had their bank cards and because they were the "translators", they had the pin codes as well. The cheques would go into the victim's account but he would never see that money, because he never had the card in his possession, in the first place.



If you combine the victims earned income, and income from fraud and money laundering, the traffickers made about \$6000 at a very minimum, per victim, per month. They operated for about four years and all together they had 28 victims. Near the end, they had 13 for over two years.

After RCMP made the arrest, the victims and Walk With Me Canada victim services front line workers were trying to straighten out their credit and social assistance histories.

It turned out that victims apparently had already applied for loans, credit cards, bought a truck, had a Home Depot credit card that they have already used up. One victim couldn't get Cable TV because apparently she already had owed all major cable TV services in Canada and she was blacklisted.

Human Trafficking can very quickly become identity theft, fraud, and money laundering as you can see. The victims were all rescued. The Traffickers went to jail.

This was Canada's largest Human Trafficking investigation to date. The case created case law and changed many immigration laws and laws on Social Assistance care.

[2009-2012, Hamilton, Ontario, RCMP, Niagara Detachment, Project OPAPA, lead investigator: Lepa Jankovic, and Hussam Farrah]

■ Immigration and Early Detection

In most International Human Trafficking cases, the victims will be bought over from a foreign country under false pretenses, meaning that some agency, business, or individual will promise them a job or school opportunity, or a contract to come to North America. They will probably pay for the flight ticket and offer "accommodations."

Depending on which country they are from, they must comply with Immigration laws. Each country has specific requirements on what type of documents they need to enter the country (America or Canada).

For example, Hungarian citizens did not need a visa to come to Canada at the time. The only thing they needed is an invitation letter from a Canadian or permanent resident. Domotor was a Canadian Citizen at the time. His citizenship has been stripped away and he has been deported back to Hungary.

But as another example, in Canada we used to have a Live-in Caregiver visa. Until November 30, 2004, you could apply for that visa from Philippines as long as you had a Canadian agency that can prove that you will have a job offer. The visa strictly said that you must live in the same house and work for the only one agency that bought you here. That program has changed after a couple of cases broke out, where a woman from Africa was held and enslaved and forced to work for 20 hours a day for five cents a day. She wasn't allowed to leave her employer, and she couldn't fly home because they took her ticket and passport away.

PREVENTION

New Policies

New policies at your institution can save time, money and help you detect early signs of possible Human Trafficking.

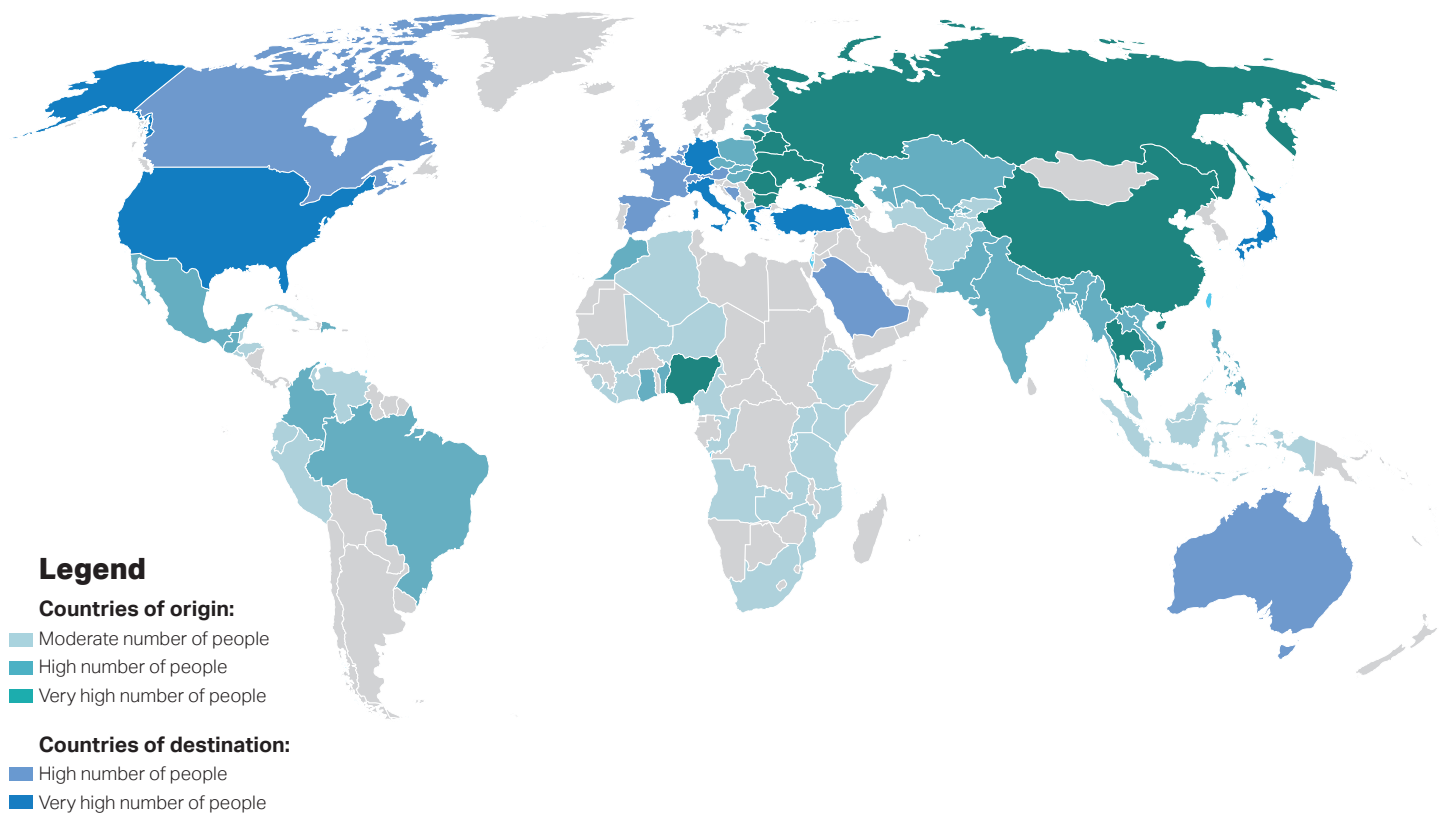
■ Early detection Red Flags (during account opening)

The first and most important step is to find out the immigration status of the individual. When did s/he come to North America, and under what type of permit?

- 1. Immigration status:** If the individual came to North America as a visitor, and provides a visitor permit it is a red flag because legitimate visitors don't need a bank account. They already have their own and they can use their own debit cards from back home.
- 2. Background:** Which country is the client from? Individuals from countries that are high risk of economic collapse are always at high risk of being trafficked for forced labour.
- 3. Translator:** Who is the translator? What is the relationship between the translator and the individual who is opening a bank account?
- 4. Employer:** If the individual is here to work and is able to provide a work permit, you must ask which company s/he will work for and approximately how much money she will be expecting to make a month. If the individual says, for example, that she will be a caregiver and will work five days a week, and she was told that she can make \$500 a month, that is a huge red flag. We all know that a live-in caregiver makes a lot more than that, but for young women from foreign countries, \$500 is a lot of money. If they don't have a real concept of North American payment standards, most likely they will not have an understanding of our labour laws or human rights. Therefore, they are possibly been recruited by an illegal agency for exploitation.

5. Address: It is very important to know exactly where this person will be living. If the person gives you a business address as an address, and it is the same as a restaurant for example, there is a chance that they are housing her above the restaurant. There is also a good chance that she will be sleeping in the restaurant basement, or even worse, in the restaurant on the kitchen floor on a yoga mat, which has happened in the past.

Map of country of origin



[Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Trafficking_of_women,_children_and_men.png]

Early Detection — Account Opening

The following graphic will provide you a new set of questions you can add to your existing policies for opening a new account and monitoring the account. This set of questions are for a foreign individual that is coming to open an account with a translator.

QUESTIONS FOR ACCOUNT OPENING	ACTION/SIGNS	INVESTIGATING
<p>Address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Where will the person stay? ▶ How many people currently live there? 	<p>Can you cross reference the address and see if any other past clients stayed there before?</p>	<p>If you find that more than one person stayed there before from a similar background, work permit, circumstances, then further investigation is needed.</p>
<p>Employer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Who is the employer? ▶ What type of business? ▶ What type of work? ▶ How many other employees? ▶ How much money will s/he plan on making? The type of business can be an indicator! 	<p>The type of business can be an indicator!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Restaurant ▶ Nanny ▶ Construction ▶ Agriculture ▶ Nail Salon ▶ Massage Place ▶ Dry Cleaner ▶ Hotel/Hospitality ▶ Model Agency ▶ Cleaning Company ▶ and more... 	<p>Businesses that need many employees to provide services that do not require high level education or English language are always suspicious. Such a business' biggest overhead is the manpower—the employees.</p> <p>If they can get away with not paying for labour, they could actually make a fortune.</p> <p>Keep that in mind.</p>

Other indicators to look for during the interview with the individual:

- ▶ Does she or he make eye contact?
- ▶ Does she seem nervous?
- ▶ Can she or he write or read (even in their own language)?
- ▶ Does she or he seem confident, even though they don't speak the language?
- ▶ Is she or he allowed to communicate with you without the translator?
- ▶ Who held the individual's ID during the interview?
- ▶ Who put away the individual's ID after the interview?

Human Traffickers most of the time do not let the individual have their own ID. Withholding their documents is one of the first steps they do to have control over their movements.

Transaction Detection — Based on the type of business

How do we detect Human Trafficking on existing accounts? What are the red flags on transactions? The following graphic will give you a list of indicators to determine if you are indeed looking at a victim or a trafficker's account.

There are specific businesses that are perfect covers for Sex Trafficking.

Some businesses actually have all the legal documents, bank information, transactions, but the actually income comes from sexual exploitation.

The businesses that can be perfect covers are but not limited to the following examples:

Type of Business	WHY?
Limo companies	Businessmen can purchase limo rides that could come with "extra services." For the client, it's perfect because he can write it off. For the business, it is perfect because if the wife looks at his credit card statement, it will come up as limo service. For the "business owner," as long as he advertises as a luxury limo service that operates 24/7, he can set his own prices, own hours and the transaction amount would never raise a red flag. Everyone wins.
Model agencies	Agencies that claim to be providing modeling contracts are also a perfect business to hide behind. The hours of operation, the amount of money that can be charged, the business expenses (beauty supply, advertising, traveling etc.) are also very similar to the needs of someone who works in a sex industry.
Cleaning companies	Cleaning companies can work day or night. They can be hired by anyone and paid by cash, credit card, or cheque. If a businessman wants his house cleaned with a little "extra" on the side, he can also order a "cleaning girl," pay a very similar amount that a call girl would make or charge. It can also be charged to a credit card, and again, if the wife looks at the credit card statement, he paid for his office to be cleaned.

What would the trafficker's account look like?

Based on everything you read so far, you understand that traffickers are mainly in this business for the money and greed. Therefore the evidence you are looking for is any unusual activity. For example, if they own a nail salon and have eight employees, why don't you see payroll expenses on the business account? Why do you see an unusual amount of cash deposit? Why is there any activity on their visa machine over night?

TRAFFICKERS ACCOUNT/ TRANSACTION RED FLAGS	WHY?
No payroll	Has a business with employees but there is no trace of paying any employees.
Cheques or "payments" from employees to the employer	Employees paying back to the employers for "accommodations," food, agency fee, etc.
Incoming money at odd hours	If the owner is operating a nail salon, but receives money overnight through a POS terminal for credit or debit transactions.
The origin of the income	Large amount of cash deposits are always red flags. In a sex industry, cash payments are the usual method of payment. There are new method of payments that have been used, but the majority of the clients still only pay for sex with cash.
The amount of the income or transactions	If this is a nail salon, and the POS terminal received larger amounts of payments than an average nail salon, that could mean the salon has a side business over night. This has also happened in Toronto, Ontario.
The time of the transactions	If this is a daytime operating nail salon, but the transactions happen at night time, that is a very obvious sign of a side operation.

Transaction Flags — Detecting Domestic Sex Trafficking

■ “Big picture”

Domestic sex trafficking is the fastest growing crime in North America and Europe. We have explained how the victims get lured, relocated and then forced into the sex trade. We have talked about the victims and traffickers and we have touched on the demand side a little. There is a lot of confusion about this topic and we will clear up all of them step by step. It is very important that you have a very clear understanding on the difference between forced sex work and independent sex work. It is also important for you to know the categories within the domestic sex trafficking, so that you can read the transactions properly.

Domestic sex trafficking is when a Canadian or American girl is being lured from their home or surroundings, or away from their support system. The girls are between the age of 12-21 years old and they speak English fluently. They have two or three cell phones and sometimes left alone by the traffickers. The victims are embedded in the prostitution world, which is why it is extremely hard to detect them. Depending on her age, look, and background, the trafficker will determine which “department” she will work in.

For example, if she is under the age of 14 years old, the trafficker can’t put her online with her naked pictures because he could bring heat from the police. Instead he will sell her into a local massage salon, where he will make a deal with the owner, and they will split her profit. This way, the owner of the massage place can let his regular clients know about the “fresh meat” without being worried about the police. Some traffickers do advertise the underage girls online regardless, but they don’t put her picture up and use code words that would indicate that she is underage. There are different levels of “prostitution” and different price tags of the services based on the girl’s age, look, or location.

The most “popular” form of sex trafficking is the “gypsy” type.

The traffickers will travel with their girls city to city, day after day. They never stay in the same place. They stay in hotels and work out of their hotel rooms. The hotels are normally easily located, just off the highway. As soon as they get in town, they will post on Backpage.com under escorts. Their ad may say: “New in town”, or “Last day in town.” The “gypsy” sex trafficking is the easiest to detect because the transactions will give you a clear map of their whereabouts, operations, how much they make, and so on.



However, it is important to have a solid knowledge of the sex industry, the type of services and business that are operating, how the customers are paying, and for you to understand when you read a transaction and the meaning of it. It is like learning the “ABCs,” so that you can put a sentence together later.

Prostitution vs. Sex Trafficking

Even those who mean well sometimes confuse the human rights abuse of trafficking in persons with the human occupation of prostitution, or sex work. It’s understandable because of the history of the two fields, but it creates rather than solves problems. Unfortunately, the facts are that 97% of the women, who are in the sex industry right now in North America, are victims of sex trafficking, and 3% of the women are working as a sex worker independently. The only reason why you don’t hear from the 97% is because they are controlled and being victimized as we speak and don’t have the opportunity to advocate for themselves. Anytime prostitution laws get challenged in any country, pro-prostitution groups come forward and make a really loud noise and want to lobby the government for legalizing the trade.

That could be actually the worst thing in the Human Trafficking movement.

Sex Trafficking is actually embedded within the sex trade industry for a good reason.



Victims of sex trafficking look a lot like independent sex workers, working in the same areas, under similar circumstances, using the same method of advertising and such. It takes deep knowledge and understanding to differentiate an independent sex worker from a Sex Trafficking victim.

To be able to make a clear distinction between a victim and an independent sex worker, you have to understand how the business works, you have to understand the prices and rates, and the amount of money that can be made as an independent worker and as a trafficked person.

The following graphic will help you to have a better understanding of the sex trade.

After this graphic we will show you the difference between an independent sex worker and a sex trafficked victim.

Sex industry categories

TYPE	LOCATION	PAYMENT METHODS?	ADVERTISING
Escorts "In call"	House/condo/apartment/ hotel/motel <i>(ie., the client comes to the sex worker's location)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Cash ▶ "Square" ▶ Credit/Debit machine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Online adult sites ▶ Backpage.com <p>Paying with: Credit card, Paypal, Bitcoin</p>
Escorts "Out call"	The escort goes to the location of the sex buyer. House/Condo/office/ business/ apartment/ car/parking lot/truck stop etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Cash ▶ "Square" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Online adult sites ▶ Backpage.com <p>Paying with: Credit card, Paypal, Bitcoin</p>
Massage parlours	Fixed location, business establishment in local communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Cash ▶ Credit/Debit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Local newspapers ▶ Backpage.com/massage <p>Paying with: Visa, Debit, Bitcoin</p>
Strip joints	Fixed location, local establishment, in smaller or larger communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Cash ▶ Credit/Debit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Local newspapers ▶ Word of a mouth ▶ Backpage.com <p>Paying with: Credit card, Debit, Bitcoin</p>
Online web-porn	Could operate from anywhere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Paypal ▶ Online Payment Methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Online Adult advertising sites, <p>Paying with: Credit card, Debit, Bitcoin</p>
Truck stop girls	Along all major highways and truck stops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Cash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Online ▶ Backpage.com ▶ Word of mouth <p>Paying with: Credit card, Debit, Bitcoin</p>
Street Level Sex work "Tracks"	The "tracks" are usually located at the outskirts of the major cities or in downtown areas that are known to have "girls" working the streets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Cash 	None

It is also very important to know how much sex workers charge for their services typically. It is important because if you can calculate how much she is making a day, and multiply that by seven days (i.e., no days off), you know approximately how much money he is making. If you are lucky, you might be able to see her sending or wiring money to him. That money is proceeds of crime. In the United States, prostitution is illegal, so he is benefiting from a criminal activity. In Canada, the woman who sells her body for sex and does not keep her earnings is called a victim of sex trafficking. The individual who keeps her earnings is called a sex trafficker, which can lead to criminal charges. He is also benefiting from proceeds of crime. The income she makes often gets laundered through the banks and in some cases it is invested into drugs and guns. None of which is legal obviously.

So let me show you how much the girls make approximately in each category.

The biggest question is, how do we know if she is an independent prostitute, working for herself, or she is a victim of sex trafficking?

TYPE	HOURLY PRICE (Approximate)	DAILY INCOME (Approximate)
Escort "In call"	Half-hour rates are also common Anywhere from: \$60-\$300/hour Depending on the girl/looks/services	\$600-\$1500/day
Escort "Out call"	Anywhere from: \$60-\$300/hour. Depending on the girl/looks/services	\$600-\$1500/day
Massage places	\$30-\$200/hour	\$300-\$500
Strip Joint	\$20/song \$40/Extras \$60/Extras	\$150-\$800
Street work	\$20-\$40/service	\$200-\$300

How long has she been in this industry? A girl who have never had any previous experience with this lifestyle, and didn't know anyone else who was "doing it", would never in a million years think about getting involved, let alone knowing how to navigate through the system. Working in a sex industry comes with a lot of roles, you need to know a lot. You need to know the prices, location, how to advertise, what to advertise, what not to say, you need to know the laws, you need to know the locations where it can and cannot be done, how to get around, how to stay safe and not get killed by clients. You can't just wake up one day and decide to do it. But basically the biggest give away is this;



At the end of the day, the independent sex worker will have money in her account, or at least you can see that she is spending it on herself (e.g., expensive purchases, purses, cars, furniture etc.)

A sex trafficked victim will only leave or keep enough in her account that will pay for her hotel room, if she is an "In call" Escort.

Transaction Flags – Domestic Sex Trafficking

- ▶ Travels city to city
- ▶ Hotel purchases between \$65–\$180
- ▶ Hotels are off of, or close to highways
- ▶ Fast food purchases
- ▶ Gas stations/Flights/train tickets—a lot of them!
- ▶ Drug store—supplies such as condoms
- ▶ Victoria Secret purchases—small amounts
- ▶ Various cell phone carriers
- ▶ Hundreds of dollars at convenient store/ 7'11/Max or Gas station charges—purchasing Visa Vanilla cards that they use for buying ads online
- ▶ Car rentals
- ▶ Collect calls to prisons — sometimes their trafficker is in jail and is ordering her remotely
- ▶ Animal hospital bills — Some victims are allowed to have a small pet. As a matter of fact, the trafficker gave it to them as a gift, so that later on he can use the animal as a scaring tactic by beating or torturing the pet in front of the victim to force her to make more money.

- ▶ Medical Bills — victims are beaten almost everyday. Sometimes the beating and torture goes too far, so far that she needs medical attention, which she has to pay for herself.
- ▶ Abortion clinic charges— Sometimes the victims get pregnant from clients because they are sometimes forced to sell services without protection. Clients pay more.

Transactions you will most likely NOT see on her account:

She is not going to have any indication that she is living a “normal life”.

- ▶ Entertainment/movies/restaurant/concert/dance lessons etc.
- ▶ Hobby related purchases
- ▶ Student loans
- ▶ Mortgage payments
- ▶ Rent payment
- ▶ Consistent Visa/Mastercard payments
- ▶ Child support
- ▶ Dentist
- ▶ Car payments
- ▶ Home décor stores, furniture purchase
- ▶ House ware purchases
- ▶ Consistent hair appointments
- ▶ Consistent nail appointments
- ▶ Local shopping / regular stores

Transaction/behavior changes:

Transaction history can also tell you the story line of when she was trafficked.

- ▶ All of the sudden becomes “irresponsible”
- ▶ Stop making important payments
- ▶ Starts spending at night time as well

Usually if you can find the person on social media, the photos on Facebook and Instagram can give you a lot of information. You can actually see how an innocent high school student can turn into a sex trafficked victim, but to the public she would be just deemed as a prostitute.

Obvious difference between an independent sex worker and a sex trafficked victim:

Independent Sex Worker	Sex Trafficked Victim
Travels city to city alone	She can also travel alone, but you will see that she is sending money to someone or wires money out almost every day (Stockholm Syndrome prevents her from going to the police)
Spends money on hotels	She also spends money on hotels
Eats out in fancy restaurants	Only eats fast food
Expensive hair and beauty transactions	Bare minimum hair and beauty transactions (In some cases, the trafficker gets hair colour and colours their hair in the hotels.)
Looks well fed and healthy on the pictures	Looks very skinny, dark circles under her eyes, maybe visible bruises
Owns a vehicle	Very rare that they own a vehicle

CLOSING THOUGHTS

■ Always “Follow the Money!”

When investigating crimes such as money laundering, terrorism, drug trafficking or gun trafficking, you always follow the money. Human Trafficking is no different. You follow where the profit comes from to find the victim or the trade.

When you find out where the money comes from, you find your victim. When you find out where the money goes, you find your trafficker.

As a financial investigator, you have a lot of power to save a life. If you feel compelled to do more but don't know where to start, please start by educating your co-workers!

Human trafficking is a crime that we have to take seriously, When every single sector does their part, we can eradicate Human Trafficking in our lifetime.



Thank you for your time,

Timea E. Nagy

Survivor, Trainer

