

# SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

While no single indicator is necessarily proof of human trafficking, recognizing the signs is the first step in identifying potential victims.

Does the individual...

- Show signs of physical abuse (bruises, broken bones, burns, scarring, etc.)?
- Appear to be deprived of food, water, sleep, medical care, and other necessities?
- Have unexplained absences from worship services?
- Suddenly become quiet, avoid eye contact, and keep their head down?
- Defer to another person to speak for them or appear to be coached on what they say?
- Have a difficult time providing logical answers to basic questions?
- Act fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, nervous, paranoid, or disassociated (“checked out”)?



## PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL RESOURCES

Government of Ontario  
[ontario.ca/page/human-trafficking](https://ontario.ca/page/human-trafficking)

Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking

Ontario Provincial Police  
1-888-310-1122

## JOIN US!

If you are interested in joining Human Trafficking Justice Niagara, please contact Deirdre Pike, Justice and Outreach Program Consultant

**905-527-1316 ext. 470 or**  
[deirdre.pike@niagaraanglican.ca](mailto:deirdre.pike@niagaraanglican.ca)



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# Stop Human Trafficking Where You Live



## Human Trafficking Resources for the Diocese of Niagara



**Human Trafficking Justice**  
Diocese of Niagara



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## WHO ARE TRAFFICKERS?

There is no single face of traffickers. They can be from any background, age, ethnicity, or gender.

To victims, they could be:

- “Pimps” or a romantic partner
- Employers, co-workers, or other professionals
- Individuals in positions of authority or power, community leaders, or other people of prominence and influence
- Family members
- Friends or peers
- Strangers, including people they have met online
- Connections of mutual friends

## HOW TO HELP

If you suspect someone may be a victim of trafficking, there are ways to help:

- In an emergency situation, call **9-1-1**
- Call Canada’s National Human Trafficking Hotline at **1-833-900-1010**
- Anonymously report to the Crime Stoppers Association National Tipline at **1-800-222-TIPS(8477)**



## LOCAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

### Hamilton Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition

humantraffickinghamilton.ca

### Hamilton Police Service - Human Trafficking Unit

905-546-3883

### YMCA of Hamilton-Burlington: CASE

289-659-6290

### Hamilton Sex Workers’ Action Program (SWAP)

905-865-9398

### Guelph Wellington Women in Crisis

519-836-5710

adminrec@gwwomenincrisis.org

### Family Transition Place

1-800-265-9178

### Elora House

519-821-0424

welcome@ercf.ca

### Caledon-Dufferin Victim Services

905-951-3838

### Kristen French Child Advocacy Centre Niagara

905-937-5435

info@kristenfrenchcacn.org

### YWCA Niagara Region

905-988-3528

info@ywcaniagararegion.ca

## What is Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is the exploitation of human beings for gain. Trafficking exploitation can exist in many forms and usually entails victims being caused to provide sexual services or labour through force, coercion, deception and/or abuse of trust, power or authority.

## Who is trafficked?

Women and children represent the majority of known victims in Canada. Most at-risk are Indigenous women and girls, newcomers, migrant workers, 2SLGBTQIA+ persons, children in the child welfare system, and people experiencing poverty.

## Does it happen here?

*“Canada has been identified as a source, destination, and transit country for victims of human trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labour.”*

(Public Safety Canada, 2020)