

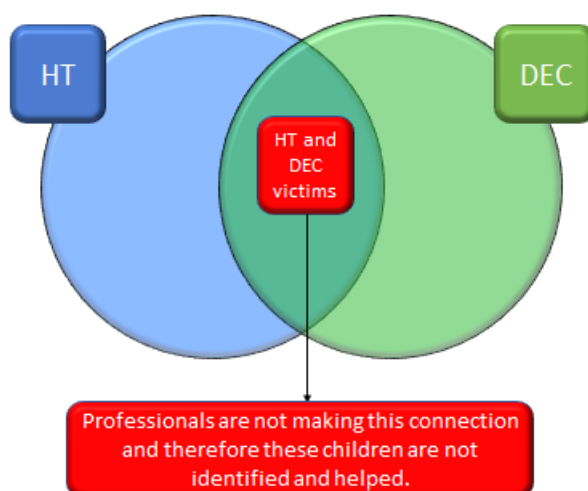
Drug Endangered Children and Human Trafficking

Intersections

Human Trafficking of children

(HT) involves forced labor or forced sexual exploitation if the trafficker recruits, harbors, transports, obtains, patronizes, or solicits a person in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age.

Familial Sex Trafficking is a form of trafficking where a person known to the child gives offenders sexual access to victims or pornography in exchange for drugs, money, or something else of value.



Drug Endangered Children (DEC) are children who are at risk of suffering physical or emotional harm as a result of legal or illegal drug use, possession, manufacturing, cultivation or distribution. They may also be children whose caretaker's legal or illegal substance misuse interferes with the caretaker's ability to parent and provide a safe and nurturing environment.

In 2018, over half of criminal human trafficking cases were sex cases involving children

60% of domestic child trafficking victims have history with the child welfare system

Over half of trafficking cases begin with family members; 65% are trafficked by mothers and 32% by father

82% of familial trafficking is due to substance use

How are DEC and HT victims vulnerable?

- family dysfunction and chaos
- socio-environmental stressors
- lack of supervision
- lack of resources
- lack of supports and services
- homelessness
- isolation
- substance use in the home
- violence in the home

Red flags to look for:

- substance use in the home
- child welfare involvement
- law enforcement or juvenile justice involvement
- excessive absences from school
- abuse or neglect; injuries
- doctor or emergency room visits
- in contact with a shelter
- runs away from home
- change in behavior, energy, mood, performance, attitude, or appearance

What is the impact?

- negative self concept
- lack of trust in others
- disruptions or delays in development
- Post Traumatic Stress
- long-term chronic relational issues
- change in mood and cognition
- increase in suicidality and self harm
- sleep disturbances
- multigeneration cycle of substance use and trafficking



What can you do?

- Know the laws in your state
- Understand the red flags and signs (see page 1)
- Spread awareness of the intersections
- Know the resources in your community to help
- Connect with others on the issue



IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO ARE AT RISK OR HAVE ALREADY BEEN PULLED INTO THE SEX TRADE WOULD FILL 1,300 SCHOOL BUSES



DEC and Human Trafficking Resources:

- **National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (National DEC):** www.nationaldec.org or email at info@nationaldec.org for training, technical assistance, and resources
- **Polaris Project:** <https://polarisproject.org>
data link: <https://polarisproject.org/2019-us-national-human-trafficking-hotline-statistics/>
- **National Human Trafficking Hotline:** 1 (888) 373-7888; SMS: 233733 (Text "HELP" or "INFO"); Hours: 24 hours, 7 days a week; Website: <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/>
Downloadable resources: <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/get-involved/downloadable-resources>
- **Operation Underground Railroad (O.U.R.):** <https://ourrescue.org/>
- **International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP):** <https://www.theiacp.org/resources>
- **Department of Justice OVC Human Trafficking Capacity Building Center:** <https://htcbc.ovc.ojp.gov/>
- **National Trafficking Sheltered Alliance:** A network of service providers committed to enhancing services and increasing access to care for survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation
<https://www.shelteredalliance.org/>