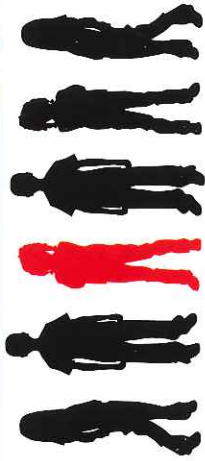


Child sex trafficking is a missing child issue.

At least **100,000 CHILDREN** in the United States are at risk of child sex trafficking according to a recent study.



CRISIS ON THE RISE



1 in 6 endangered runaways reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children in 2014 were likely sex trafficking victims.

PTSD

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder is very common among children exploited through sex trafficking.

81%

of kids reported missing to NCMC are endangered runaways.

68%

of these likely sex trafficking victims were in the care of social services or foster care when they ran.

10,000+

Number of reports of child sex trafficking we received last year to our **CyberTipline**.



Child sex trafficking victims are:

TARGETED

Pimps are predators who seek out vulnerable victims, particularly runaways, homeless youth or children experiencing trouble at home.

They know these **children have emotional and physical needs** they perceive are not being met and use this to their advantage. **Pimps find victims at a variety of venues** such as in social networking websites, shopping malls and schools; on local streets; or at bus stations. While pimps often target children outside of their family, a family member may also exploit a child.

TRICKED

Pimps are willing to invest a great deal of time and effort in their victim to **break down a victim's natural resistance and suspicion**.

Buying them gifts, providing a place to stay, **promising a loving relationship** before revealing their true intent.

Frequently victims do not realize the **deceptive nature of their trafficker's interest in them**, viewing their pimp as a caretaker and/or boyfriend.

TRAUMATIZED

A pimp's use of **psychological manipulation** (causing the child to truly believe the pimp loves and cares for his or her well-being) coupled with physical control (threats, violence or drug addiction) can make a victim feel trapped and powerless. This **"trauma bond"** is difficult to break and long-term treatment and counseling for victims is required.

