



ALLIANCE FOR FREEDOM, RESTORATION,  
AND JUSTICE®

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**STUDENT COUNCIL  
TOOLKIT**



AFRJ® Student Council Toolkit

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# WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS TOOLKIT?

This Toolkit was created to **mobilize students** across the globe to **raise awareness** about human trafficking and **take action**. This Toolkit will:

**Educate** students on what human trafficking is and how it impacts students

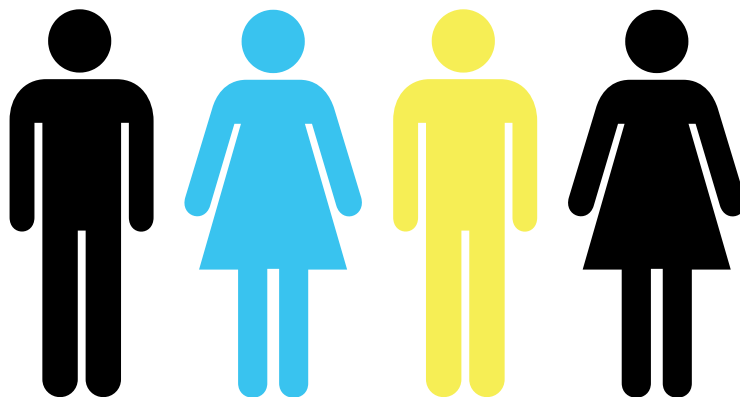
Help students know how to **identify** it and keep themselves, and their friends and family safe

**Connect** students with helpful resources

Give **ideas** to students who want to engage in their local community

# WHAT IS THE AFRJ<sup>®</sup> STUDENT COUNCIL?

The Student Council is made up of high school students from across the country who are passionate about ending human trafficking in the United States and all around the world. The Student Council empowers student advocates by teaching them leadership qualities, mobilizing students across the globe to help raise awareness to end human trafficking, and providing meaningful opportunities to take action now and become **lifelong justice advocates**.



# WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

**Human trafficking is the sale of human beings** – for purposes of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, or organ trafficking. It is an evil trade that profits billions of dollars by enslaving and exploiting **millions of souls**. It is happening all around the globe and in communities throughout the United States.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The average age a child first becomes a sex trafficking victim is between **14-16 years old**.

There are **25 types** of human trafficking present in the United States, in such industries as restaurants and food service, hotels and hospitality, commercial cleaning services, construction, health and beauty services, and more. Victims include men, women, youth, children, and whole families.

Traffickers profit over **\$150 billion per year**. In other words, in 2018, human traffickers made more money than Apple, JP Morgan, Berkshire Hathaway, Wells Fargo, and Google - combined.

Human trafficking is present in nearly **every nation** on this earth, and in nearly **every community** in the United States.

Many child victims of human trafficking are **students** in the American school system.

# SIGNS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

A person may be a victim of sex and/or of labor trafficking if they:

## Working & Living Conditions

- Are not paid, paid very little, or paid only through tips
- Work excessively long/unusual hours
- Do not receive breaks or have unusual restrictions
- Owe a large debt and can't pay it off
- Have high security measures (security cameras, barbed wire, opaque windows with bars) at their place of work or place where they live
- Experience verbal/emotional abuse by supervisor
- Cannot come and go to places at will

## Mental Health

- Are constantly fearful, anxious, depressed, tense, or paranoid
- Become anxious or fearful after immigration or law enforcement is brought up

## Physical Health

- Struggle with drug and alcohol addiction
- Have STIs and other diseases
- Have serious brain trauma
- Are treated for miscarriages or forced abortions
- Present other indicators, such as poor hygiene, malnourishment, fatigue, physical/sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture

## Major Changes

- Suddenly start wearing expensive clothes/accessories/shoes
- Get a new tattoo
- Have a sudden/dramatic change in behavior
- Have a new older boyfriend/friends with a different lifestyle

## Other

- Have few or no personal possessions
- Are frequently monitored
- Are not in control of their own money, financial records, or bank account
- Are not in control of their own identification documents (ID or passport)
- Are not allowed or able to speak for themselves (a third party may insist on being present and/or translating)
- Claim to be just visiting and/or are unable to clarify where they are staying/address
- Lack knowledge of whereabouts and/or do not know what city he/she is in
- Appear to have lost sense of time
- Share scripted, confusing, or inconsistent stories
- Protect the person who may be hurting them or minimize abuse

**National Human Trafficking Hotline: (888) 373-7888**

This list only consists of a small selection of possible signs. While one indicator is not proof that human trafficking is occurring, always reach out and report if you have concerns.

Learn more at [humantraffickinghotline.org](http://humantraffickinghotline.org).

**NEXT STEPS**

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**YOUR JOURNEY  
TO IMPACT**

# 1) AWARENESS

**Goal:** To spread knowledge about what the issue of human trafficking is and how to prevent it.

## The Importance of Awareness

Awareness increases knowledge in your community. Without knowing about human trafficking, there is no way to prevent it. Awareness brings light to the issue to those who are unaware, and the more people learn about the issue, the more change is possible.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

There are lots of possibilities. Here are a few examples:

- Get educated on human trafficking by earning your Human Trafficking Awareness badge from Justice U ([bit.ly/htacourse](http://bit.ly/htacourse)) or reading the Human Trafficking 101 blog ([engagetgether.com/blog](http://engagetgether.com/blog)).
- Post on social media through your personal or school account. Posts are available to share on our social media on Instagram @studentcouncil.afrj.
- Work with your school administration to add human trafficking education to your classroom curriculum. This is a great way to reach all the students in your school with critical knowledge about human trafficking.
- Host school assemblies or other events to raise awareness.

## Student Council's Initiatives

You can find social media posts and resources for your school on our website at [afrj.com/students](http://afrj.com/students).



## 2) ACTION

**Goal:** To take action in our **local communities** by supporting anti-trafficking efforts and serving vulnerable populations.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

There are lots of possibilities. Here are a few examples:

- Educate yourself and your peers on how to stay safe online, at social events, and in relationships (*see page 12 - Additional Resources - for more information*).
- Talk to your school resource officers about whether your school has a human trafficking protocol in place.
- Post information on school websites, social media, and in cafeterias and bathrooms.
- Hand out flyers with indicators and hotline numbers at school events.
- Work with your school administrators to make sure students know how to access needed services and supports, including mental health, housing, counseling, food, and other needs that traffickers often exploit.
- Include human trafficking topics in your mock trial and debate clubs.
- Promote fair trade products or freedom businesses.
- Collect tangible items for shelters.
- Take on a service project for a local anti-trafficking nonprofit.
- Fundraise for nonprofits and organizations serving vulnerable populations.
- As a class or club project, research all the anti-trafficking efforts in your community.
- Contact community leaders and urge them to take action also.

### Student Council Initiatives:

Each member of the Student Council works with each other and in their individual schools to take action locally, nationally, and globally.

# 3) ADVOCACY

**Goal:** To develop student leaders with the skills and experience to be effective **justice advocates** now and in their future endeavors.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

There are lots of possibilities. Here are a few examples:

- Serve as a volunteer or intern with a local nonprofit or government agency.
- Include anti-trafficking leaders (government, nonprofit, business, law enforcement, direct service providers, etc.) in your school's job shadowing opportunities.
- Join or start a student advisory group with your local anti-trafficking coalition.

## Student Council Initiatives:

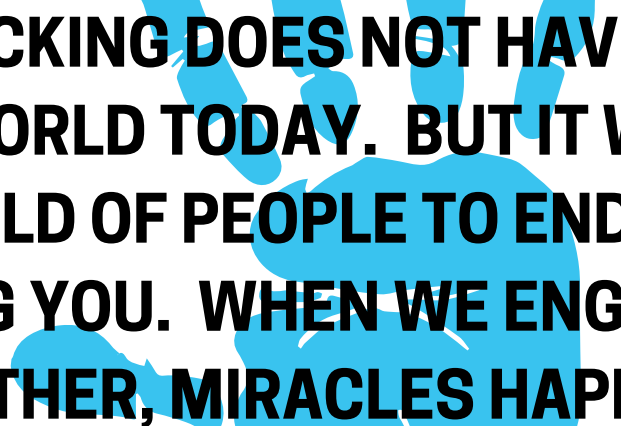
**Internship Opportunities:** The Council creates tailored internship opportunities for its members based on interests and how those interests relate to human trafficking. Opportunities include working with AFRJ Freedom Council business leaders and global network partners of the AFRJ.

**Project Collaboration:** Members of the Council get unique mentoring and advice from Freedom Council members while also working side by side with AFRJ leadership on specific initiatives. This gives members real world collaborative experiences and insight on the ins-and-outs of large scale projects.

**Professional Development:** The Council's bi-monthly calls give members of the council insight and hands on experience with managing meetings, brainstorming solutions, creating project outlines, and gaining broader workplace and organizational skills.

# WHAT'S NEXT?

- Earn your Human Trafficking Awareness Badge at [learnwithjusticeu.com/awareness](https://learnwithjusticeu.com/awareness).
- Visit [afrj.com/students](https://afrj.com/students) for additional resources and information.
- Follow the Student Council on Instagram @studentcouncil.afrj.
- Start the conversation at your school about how to begin your anti-trafficking efforts.



**HUMAN TRAFFICKING DOES NOT HAVE TO EXIST IN OUR WORLD TODAY. BUT IT WILL TAKE A WORLD OF PEOPLE TO END IT – INCLUDING YOU. WHEN WE ENGAGE TOGETHER, MIRACLES HAPPEN.**

# AFRJ® VISION & MISSION

The Student Council is an initiative of the Alliance for Freedom, Restoration, and Justice (AFRJ). The AFRJ is a global humanitarian aid 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

The AFRJ® exists to end human trafficking and protect the vulnerable.

For more information, visit:  
[afrj.com](http://afrj.com)

**THIS STUDENT TOOLKIT WAS PRODUCED WITH** 

by the founding members of the AFRJ Student Council

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**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A  
STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBER?**

Contact us at [contact@afrj.com](mailto:contact@afrj.com)



# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Our Website - [afrij.com/students](http://afrij.com/students)

Dept of Education - Human Trafficking in Schools

Dept of State - Trafficking in Persons Report

DHS Blue Campaign

[Humantraffickinghotline.org](http://Humantraffickinghotline.org)

\*[iEmpathize.org/eyyp](http://iEmpathize.org/eyyp)

[Missingkids.com](http://Missingkids.com)

\*[NSteens.org](http://NSteens.org)

[Polarisproject.org](http://Polarisproject.org)

[Sharedhope.org](http://Sharedhope.org)

United Nations Office on Drugs & Crime - Human Trafficking

*\*These two resources are especially helpful in knowing how to be safe online, at social events, and in your relationships.*



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