



# Stay Safe & Stay Aware In Leon County and Online



## What is human trafficking?

Generally, it is when someone is being taken advantage of and forced to work (labor trafficking) or do things of a sexual nature (sex trafficking) that they do not want to do. Traffickers target people of all ages, races, religions and genders – it can happen to anybody.

## Where does human trafficking happen?

Human trafficking can take place at everyday public places such as the mall, on the street, at bus stops, and even in neighborhoods. Traffickers also target and recruit people online on social media and gaming sites.

## Who are human traffickers?

Human traffickers can be almost anyone, including family members or friends. They can pretend to be someone who wants to help you and can act very caring and respectful. Sometimes it can be a stranger, but usually it's someone you or a friend knows or someone who takes the time to get to know you through grooming.

How can I stay safe from traffickers online?

You should not share your personal information online. Traffickers can use this to harm you and force you to do things that you don't want to do.

Should I meet up with people that I met online?

This can be very risky and dangerous. Ask yourself: Can a friend come with me? Can a trusted adult come with me? Can I tell a friend or trusted adult? It's always best to meet in a public place and to tell someone your plans if you decide to meet someone.

What should I do if I think someone is being trafficked?

If you think you or someone you know are a victim of human trafficking, there are several ways to get help. If there is a current danger, call 911. You can reach out to a trusted adult (family, friend, teacher, coach, counselor) right away.

You can also contact:

Survive and Thrive Advocacy Center  
850-597-2080 (Talk or Text)  
[stac@surviveandthriveadvocacy.org](mailto:stac@surviveandthriveadvocacy.org)  
[www.surviveandthriveadvocacy.org](http://www.surviveandthriveadvocacy.org)



National Human Trafficking Hotline  
1-888-373-7888 (Talk, Text or Live Chat 24/7)  
[www.humantraffickinghotline.org](http://www.humantraffickinghotline.org)