

# RESPONDING

## To Victims of TRAFFICKING

CRIME VICTIMS PROGRAM



Violence has NEVER  
been a Native American  
tradition

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### Victims may be reluctant to disclose to responders that they are trafficked due to:

- ⇒ Fear of harm to themselves, coworkers, friends or family members by trafficker/pimp.
- ⇒ Fear of being released back to the trafficker
- ⇒ Fear of being sent back to a prior abusive environment.
- ⇒ Prior unsuccessful attempts to leave or escape.
- ⇒ Young age, homeless, delinquency concerns, fear of parent’s reactions
- ⇒ Stigma and shame
- ⇒ Uncertainty regarding geographic location
- ⇒ Physical or mental illness or disability
- ⇒ Sexual orientation
- ⇒ Unfamiliarity with criminal justice system and why they are being asked any questions
- ⇒ Distrust of law enforcement
- ⇒ Prior negative experiences when reaching out for help such as judgmental attitudes
- ⇒ Lack of money to pay for medical care or transportation and embarrassment at admitting that
- ⇒ Lack of safe options if discloses
- ⇒ Prior criminal record or possible warrants
- ⇒ Fear of being arrested, going to jail
- ⇒ Fear of losing children if there are children.

EMERGENCY: DIAL 911

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

If you need a protection order you can contact the victims’ advocates or the court clerk’s office.

Port Gamble S’Klallam Police 360-297-6333

S’Klallam Medical center 360-297-2840

S’Klallam Wellness Counselor 360-297-6326

KSAC 24-hour support service 1-866-831-2050

Scarlet Road outreach line 360-362-5143

YWCA 24-hour line 1-800-500-5513

Coffee Oasis Youth Crises texting line

1-360-377-5560

Crisis Clinic 1-800-843-4793

[www.victimsofcrime.org](http://www.victimsofcrime.org)

**Teresa Swope**

VICTIM ADVOCATE

31912 LITTLE BOSTON RD, KINGSTON WA  
1-360-297-6305 OR 1-360-621-0090

CRIME VICTIMS HOTLINE

1-360-536-3085

## HOW IS THE VICTIMS/SURVIVOR DEMEANOR?

- ⇒ INABILITY OR WILLINGNESS TO MAKE EYE CONTACT
- ⇒ RESTRICTED OR SCRIPTED COMMUNICATION
- ⇒ THEY COMMUNICATE THAT THEY ARE NOT IN DANGER, WHEN YOU SENSE THEY MAY BE.
- ⇒ POSSIBLE INDICATORS OF DRUG USE OR ABUSE SUCH AS TRACK MARKS, LETHARGIC, INCOHERENT AND/OR OPEN SORES.
- ⇒ APPEARS FEARFUL, ANXIOUS, TENSION, ANGER.

## WHAT DO YOU NOTICE ABOUT THE VICTIMS APPEARANCE?

- ⇒ SIGNS OF BRANDING (TATOOS)
- ⇒ INJURIES/SIGNS OF PHYSICAL ABUSE OR TORTURE
- ⇒ IS CLOTHING APPROPRIATE FOR CLIMATE
- ⇒ OVERLY SEXUAL OR REVEALING
- ⇒ PERSONAL HYGIENE UNKEMPT

## ADDITIONAL TRAFFICKING RESOURCES

### THE NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING INFORMATION HOTLINE

1-888-373-7888

## Questions that a law enforcement person could ask to identify a sex trafficking victim:

- ⇒ Are you in possession of your identification or does someone else have it?
- ⇒ Where do you work and what are the conditions there?
- ⇒ Can you come and go as you please?
- ⇒ Where do you sleep and eat?
- ⇒ Are there locks on your doors /windows so you cannot get out?
- ⇒ Have you or your family been threatened?

Do not ask “Are you a Trafficking victim?”  
Chances are the answer will be no and the victim will shut down.

## Needs of Victims & Helpful Reminders

- ⇒ For victims of sex trafficking, reaching out for help can be very risky and dangerous. Continue to be mindful of safety needs of the victim.
- ⇒ Check in with the victim about victim’s primary concerns, such as:
  - Do they have children? Are they safe?
  - What are the victim’s basic needs?
  - Do they have a safe place to live?
  - Do they have a support system?
  - Do they have transportation?
  - Do they have healthcare or have emergency medical needs?
  - Do they want a victim advocate?

## IDENTIFYING TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

### Who

Anyone could be a victim/ survivor of trafficking.

- ⇒ Any Gender
- ⇒ Any Race
- ⇒ Any Age
- ⇒ Any Socioeconomic level

### Where

- ⇒ Home
- ⇒ Hotels are the new brothels
- ⇒ Casinos
- ⇒ Truck stops
- ⇒ Bars
- ⇒ Bus terminals
- ⇒ Pow-Wows
- ⇒ Malls
- ⇒ Massage Parlors
- ⇒ Homeless shelters
- ⇒ Internet

### Possible Indicators

- ⇒ What items does the victim/survivor have in their possession?
- ⇒ Little knives, something to use as a weapon.
- ⇒ Excessive amounts of cash