

Human Trafficking

Why Should you Care

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Human Tracking

- Why do you need to be aware of this problem?
- Fire and EMS are one of the very few types of departments that are welcomed into homes, and all types of businesses.



False Promises

- This is very prevalent in areas with national borders *but* is not solely based upon the movement across borders or illegal transportation.
- Many of the victims are lured from their homes with false promises: well being, well paying jobs, and bright new beginning.



False Promises



- Traffickers prey on those who are in need and initially assist those who have fallen through the cracks.
- Know that human trafficking is often “hidden in plain sight.”

Labor Trafficking

- Being paid less than promised or pay withheld.
- Threatened with violence or otherwise demoralized.
- Forced to work more hours than advertised.
- Movements to and from work controlled .
- Forced to live at the work site.



WAIT A MINUTE...





Improve
your
“Spider
Sense”

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- There may be small rooms throughout the residence that have locks on the outside of the doors.
- Locks may be on many/all of the windows that keep people from coming in AND getting out

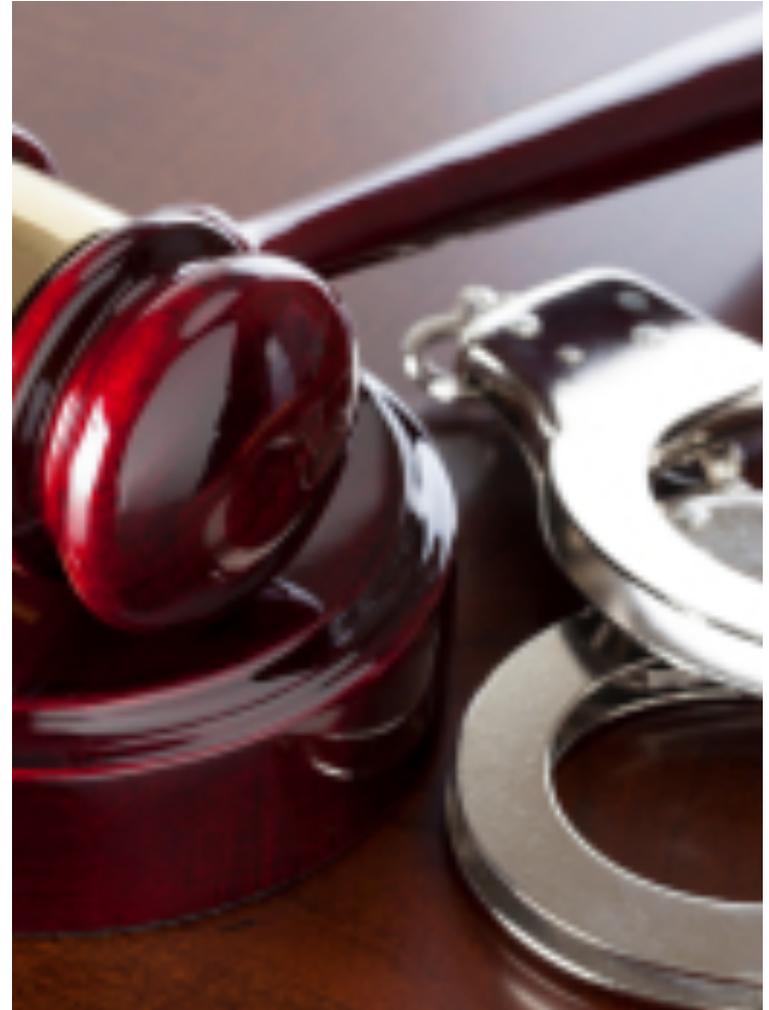


Improve your “Spider Sense”

- Tattoos found on the body may serve as a “brand” that the victim belongs to a certain trafficker
- Drug abuse related health issues such as asthma,
- Skin infections
- Somatic signs such as headaches, back pain, stomach pain
- Malnutrition and poor diet

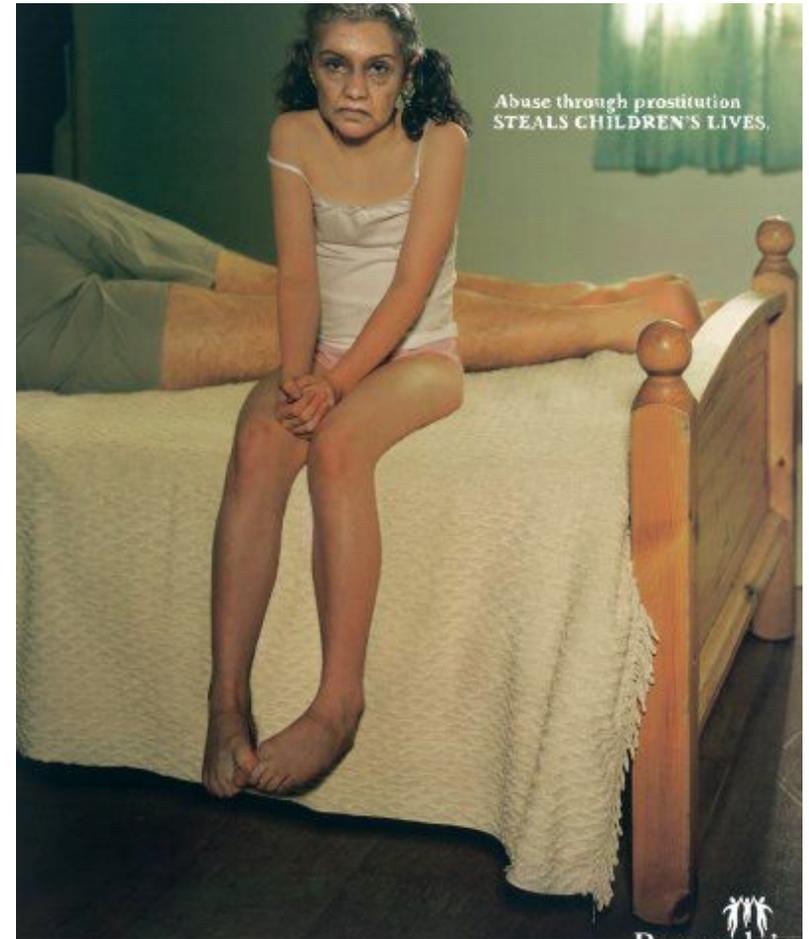
When a Child is Involved

- Child Trafficking can take a variety of forms, including commercial sexual exploitation (prostitution) or forced labor.
- Those who recruit minors for the purpose of commercial sex are violating U.S. anti-trafficking laws, even if no force, fraud, or coercion was involved.



Sex Trafficking

- Each year, as many as 100,000 – 300,000 American children are at risk of being trafficked for commercial sex in the United States?
- The average age a girl enters the commercial sex trade is 12 -14 years old. For boys it is even younger – just 11-13 years old.



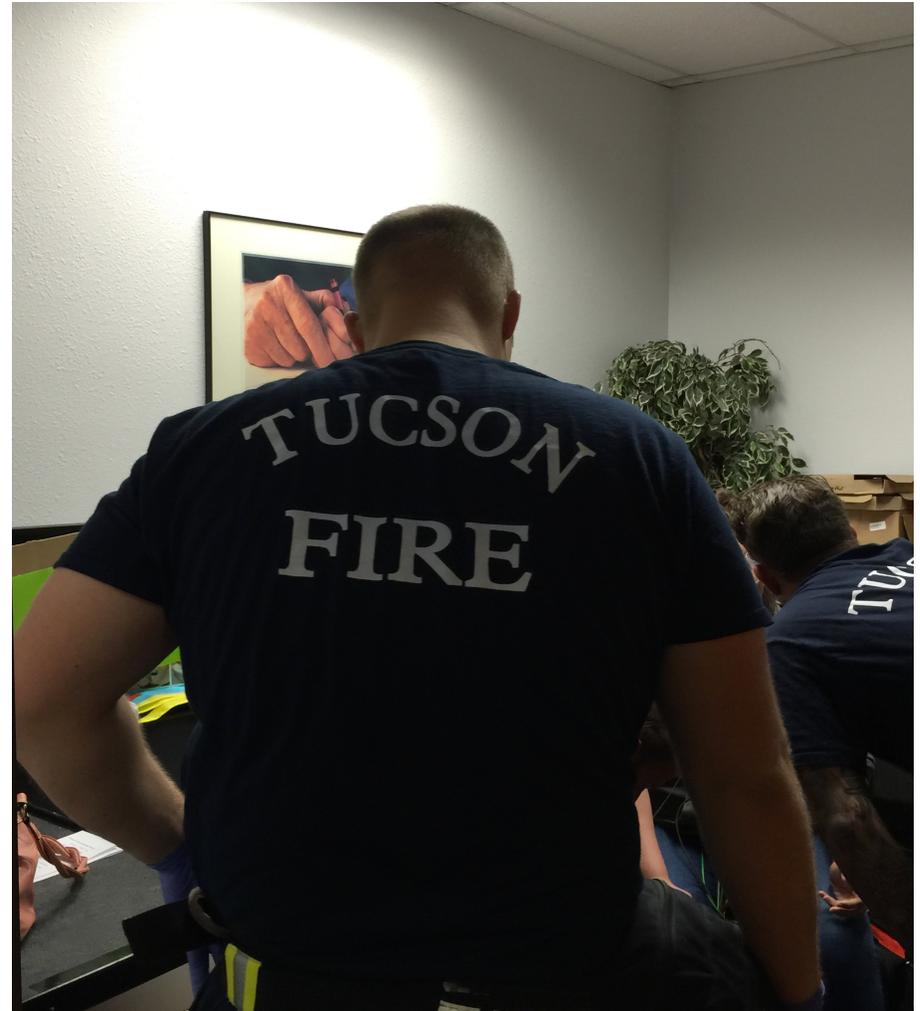
Sources: U.S. Department of Justice, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

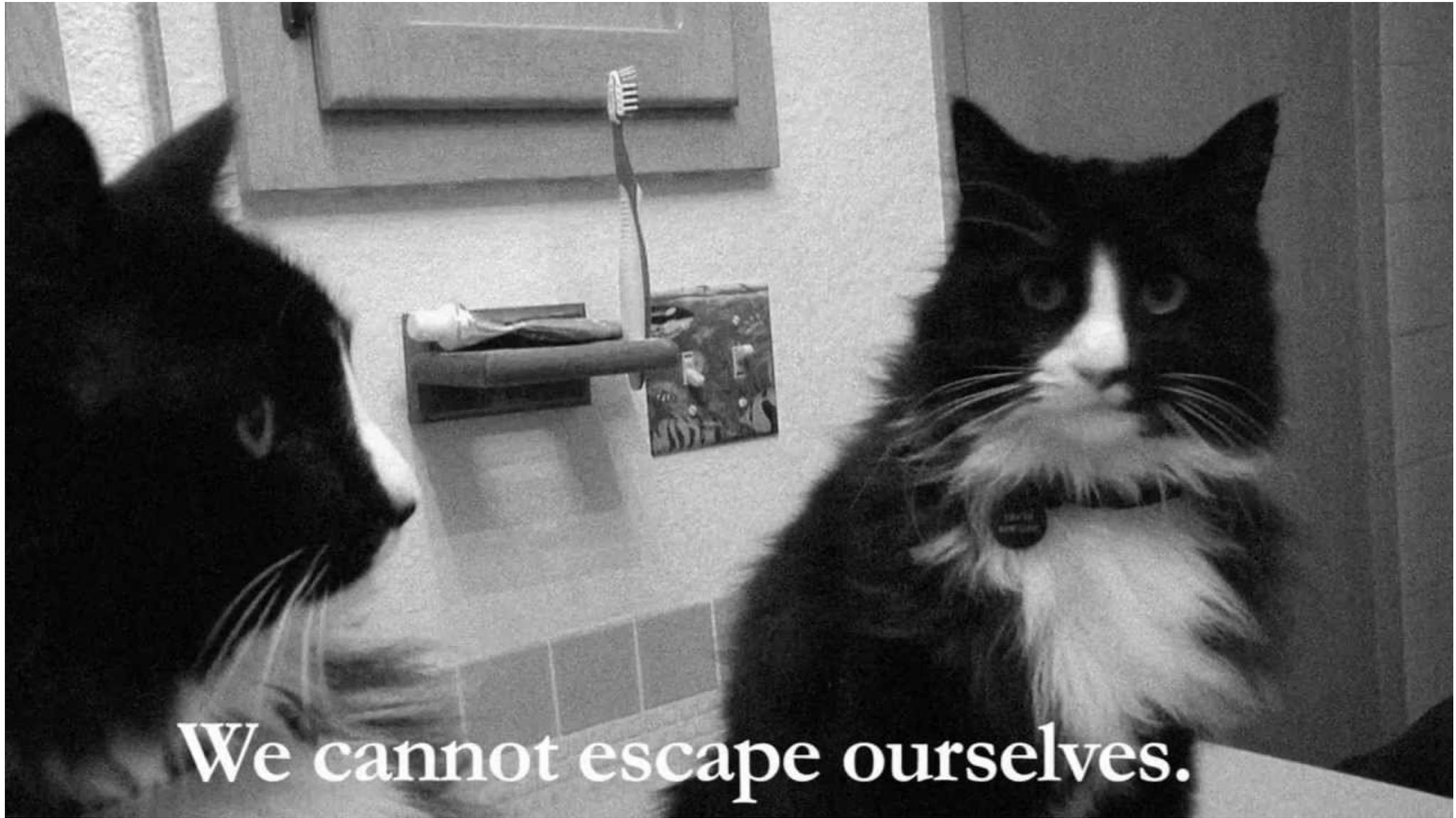
A Plan

- Transport the patient alone, do not allow their companion to come with them.
- Share your concerns privately with other emergency responders and the emergency department staff.
- If the patient is younger than 18, EMS providers are mandated to report any concerns about trafficking to police and Child Protective Services.
- Ask your Medical Director to develop a protocol to respond to suspected

Formulate a Plan

- Remember that YOU are not deemed a threat and YOU see the environment/circumstances that many cannot access or see.
- Your insight into the problem is invaluable!





We cannot escape ourselves.

False Promises

- Despite this media portrayal, human trafficking is a real problem and continues to grow all over the world, including here in the US.

