



INFORMATION BOOKLET 2022
BARBADOS

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS A CRIME!

Did you know that?

- Not all forms of human trafficking involve movement from country to country. Persons can be trafficked within the same country.

- Trafficking in Persons **is a crime** in Barbados

- There are **many forms** of trafficking persons:

- Forced labour
- Sex trafficking,
- Child trafficking
- Domestic servitude.

- A person who is guilty of the offence of trafficking in persons is liable on conviction to a fine of \$1 000 000.00 or to imprisonment for 25 years or to both.

- A person who is guilty of the offence of trafficking in children is liable on conviction to a fine of \$2 000 000.00 or to imprisonment for life or to both

- Victims of trafficking are **not only women and girls**, men and boys are also trafficked.

- There is a National Task Force which is responsible for government's efforts to combat human trafficking and in addition to The Barbados Police Service is the only authorised body to receive any information on suspicions of trafficking in persons in Barbados.

- In many instances, victims leave their countries in search of work and better living conditions. Traffickers exploit this and force them into commercial sex work, including in massage parlours, domestic servitude and forced labour.

- **Some international organisations estimate that there are between 30-40 million victims worldwide**
- **Labour trafficking is the most common form of human trafficking**

SOME INDICATORS TO DETERMINE IF A PERSON IS TRAFFICKED:

- Bruises, cuts or other untreated medical ailments
- Emotional numbing or emotional response that does not fit the situation
- Avoidance of eye contact in a manner not related to culture
- Frequent bouts of tearfulness
- Work long hours, lives at a work site, or is picked up and driven to and from work
- The person does not have control over their money
- The person is forced to provide sexual services in a strip club, massage parlour, brothel or other locations
- Confiscation of passports, visas and/or identification documents
- The victim is constantly accompanied and not allowed to answer questions for themselves
- The victim lives and works in the same location
- Forbidding access to appropriate medical care

TRAFFICKED PERSONS MAY BE RELUCTANT TO SEEK HELP BECAUSE THEY:

- Are threatened that if they tell anyone, they or their families will be hurt
- May have complex relationships with their traffickers that involve deep levels of psychological conditioning based on fear or misplaced feelings of love
- Do not see themselves as a trafficked person or victim
- May be unfamiliar with their surrounding and do not know who to trust
- Do not know help exists or where to go for it
- Fear law enforcement and other authorities
- Are embarrassed or humiliated
- May be addicted to drugs
- May be in debt to their traffickers
- May be sending much needed money back 'home' and worry about not being able to do this
- Fear being deported if they are from another country
- May have limited English skills

Who to call?

If you know or have evidence of someone being trafficked, please call the **SEX CRIMES AND TRAFFICKING UNIT (SCTU)** of the **THE BARBADOS POLICE SERVICE** at **430-7332/33** or the **Crisis Hotline** at **435-8222** or **287-9344**.

NATIONAL TASK FORCE FOR THE PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING PERSONS



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