

CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

*“With the young girls, you promise them heaven,
they’ll follow you to hell.”*

- A pimp convicted of child sex trafficking

Recruitment occurs at schools, malls, sporting events, concerts, trolley and bus stations, homeless shelters, neighborhood parks and online. It is not specific to any socio-economic group.

WHO IS VULNERABLE? Young girls and boys who have low self-esteem.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE SIGNS?

- Truancy
- Hanging out with friends too often
- Presence of an older boy or girlfriend
- Inexplicable appearance of expensive gifts, clothing, or other costly items
- Withdrawal or lack of interest in previous activities

HOW TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE?

- Open communication is key
- Explain child sex trafficking to them
- Know who your children are with at all times
- Monitor what your children do on the internet
- Establish ongoing dialogue with your children

Pimps prey on victims as young as 12 to 14 years of age.

Hot line for suspected sex trafficking of children (888)843-5678.

A message from the Safe Place Faith Community team at Santa Sophia Church. Santa Sophia’s trained team provides faith-based support to parishioners, family & friends who suspect or know of violence in their relationships. Call (619)663-9785 and leave a message. A team member will call and offer assistance to inquire about child, elder or intimate partner abuse. For more information, please go to www.santasophia.org and click on the “Safe Place Faith Community” logo.