

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

MYTHS VS. FACTS

MYTH

Human trafficking involves moving, traveling or transporting a person across state or national borders



FACT

Human trafficking is often confused with human smuggling, which involves illegal border crossings. The crime of human trafficking does not require any movement whatsoever. Survivors can be recruited and trafficked even in their own homes.

Human trafficking is always or usually a violent crime



Most human traffickers use psychological means such as tricking, manipulating or threatening victims into providing commercial sex or exploitative labor.

All human trafficking involves commercial sex



Human trafficking is the use of force, fraud or coercion to get another person to provide LABOR or commercial sex. Worldwide, experts believe there are more situations of labor trafficking than of sex trafficking.

Only women and girls can be victims and survivors of sex trafficking



One study estimates that as many as half of sex trafficking victims and survivors are male. Male victims are far less likely to be identified. LGBTQ boys and young men are seen as particularly vulnerable to trafficking.

Traffickers target victims they don't know



Many survivors have been trafficked by romantic partners, including spouses, and by family members, including parents.

