

Recognizing and Responding to Human Trafficking

SCENARIO DISCUSSION

Please consider the following scenarios to determine which of the following people may be victims of human trafficking. You may use either federal or state law.

An 18-year-old Minnesota girl is arrested for prostitution after police found her providing sexual services to a man at a local hotel. She claims that her boyfriend told her that she needed to make money for him and then he advertised her services on *backpage.com*.

YES NO WHY?

A 29-year-old woman from Ghana works in the home of a foreign family receiving medical treatment at the Mayo Hospital. The woman has never been hit or sexually abused. She is expected to work 7 days a week for more than 12 hours per day, and is required to live with the family and sleep on the floor of their sick child's room. Her employer has confiscated her passport and visa and locked them up.

YES NO WHY?

Two brothers, ages 16 and 20, were recruited from an Asian country to work in an ethnic restaurant in Brainerd, MN. Upon arrival, they are told that they owe a very large debt and will not receive any pay until the debt is paid in full. They are compelled to work every day in unsanitary conditions and their housing has been arranged by the restaurant owners. The owners threaten to hurt or kill them when they try to leave.

YES NO WHY?

A 15-year-old boy was recently sent by an older man to Minnesota to provide sadomasochistic sexual services in a residential brothel. The owners also make him deliver drugs and drive the delivery car without a license. They are physically violent and threaten him with being thrown out on the streets in a community he does not know. He was just emancipated and released from the foster care system in another state.

YES NO WHY?

A woman's husband, who has been physically and emotionally abusive to her and her children, recently began forcing her to engage in commercial sex acts to pay the bills. He advertised her services on *craigslist.com*, *backpage.com*, and *escortx.com*. He has a reservation at an extended stay hotel in northwest Minnesota, where all sexual services are provided

YES NO WHY?

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RESPONSE DISCUSSION

Please discuss the following questions about how you and your agency might respond to human trafficking if you identified it through your work or community engagement.

1. What do you need, in your current role, to be capable of identifying trafficking victims you may come across?
2. If a trafficking victim is identified, what do you think would be the most important step you could take for her/his safety? How would you report the situation or respond to victim safety concerns?
3. Is there anything that makes you nervous or apprehensive about identifying or responding to human trafficking victims in your current role?
4. What is ONE ACTION STEP you will take to broaden your approach to human trafficking after this breakout session?
5. How was this breakout session helpful for your work or community engagement?
6. How could we improve? Do you have any other comments?