

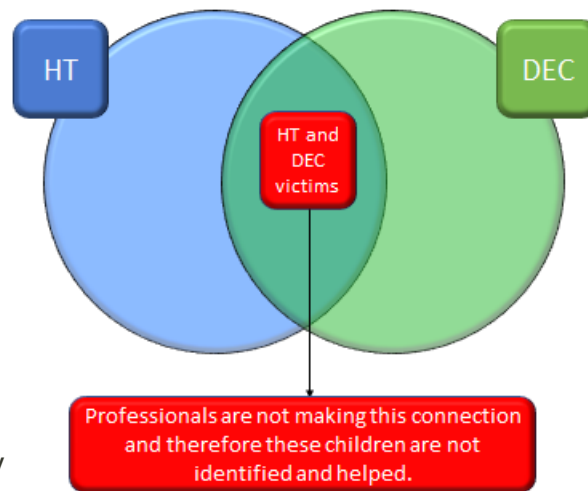
# Drug Endangered Children and Human Trafficking

the same children at risk



## Child Human Trafficking (HT)

involves forced labor or forced sexual exploitation if the actor recruits, harbors, transports, obtains, patronizes, or solicits a person in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age. Familial Sex Trafficking is a form of human trafficking where traffickers give offenders sexual access to victims or pornography in exchange for drugs, money, or something else of value.



## Drug Endangered Children (DEC)

are children who are at risk of suffering physical or emotional harm as a result of legal or illegal drug use, possession, manufacturing, cultivation or distribution. They may also be children whose caretaker's legal or illegal substance misuse interferes with the caretaker's ability to parent and provide a safe and nurturing environment.

**In 2018, over half of criminal human trafficking cases were sex cases involving children**

**60% of domestic child trafficking victims have history with the child welfare system**

**Over half of trafficking cases begin with family members; 65% are trafficked by mothers and 32% by father;**

**82% of familial trafficking is due to drugs.**

## How are they vulnerable?

- substance misuse in the home
- family dysfunction
- lack of social supports
- isolation
- mental illness
- homelessness/running away
- socio-environmental stressors

## Red flags to look for

- child welfare involvement
- law enforcement or juvenile justice involvement
- excessive absences from school
- injuries
- doctor or emergency room visits
- in contact with a shelter
- runs away from home
- change in behavior, energy, mood, performance, attitude, or appearance

## What is the impact?

- disrupts attachments
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- negative self concept
- long-term chronic relational issues
- change in mood and cognition
- increase in suicidality and self harm
- sleep disturbances
- multigeneration cycle of substance abuse and sex trafficking



### What can you do to help?

- Get involved
- Get trained
- Know the signs
- Have a plan
- Get other professionals involved
- Know how to identify
- Know how to report
- Spread awareness



IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO ARE AT RISK OR HAVE ALREADY BEEN PULLED INTO THE SEX TRADE WOULD FILL 1,300 SCHOOL BUSES

## DEC and Human Trafficking Resources:

- **National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (National DEC):** [www.nationaldec.org](http://www.nationaldec.org) or email at [info@nationaldec.org](mailto:info@nationaldec.org) for training, technical assistance, and resources
- **Polaris Project:** <https://polarisproject.org>  
data link: <https://polarisproject.org/2019-us-national-human-trafficking-hotline-statistics/>
- **National Human Trafficking Hotline:** 1 (888) 373-7888; SMS: 233733 (Text "HELP" or "INFO"); Hours: 24 hours, 7 days a week; Website: <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/>  
Downloadable resources: <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/get-involved/downloadable-resources>
- **Operation Underground Railroad (O.U.R.):** <https://ourrescue.org/>
- **International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP):** <https://www.theiacp.org/resources>
- **Department of Justice OVC Human Trafficking Capacity Building Center:** <https://htcbc.ovc.ojp.gov/>
- **National Trafficking Sheltered Alliance:** A network of service providers committed to enhancing services and increasing access to care for survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation  
<https://www.shelteredalliance.org/>