

TEEN COURT NEWSLETTER

December 2025

The Value of a Life: The Fight Against Human Trafficking

Written By: Jennifer C. Foxworthy

December is Universal Human Rights Month. While the topic is broad, I want to highlight the modern-day slavery of human trafficking. Many hesitate to acknowledge its reality, but bringing it to light is essential to reducing—and ultimately eliminating—this social ill. Every life is precious, yet in the criminal world of trafficking, offenders exploit human vulnerability for profit.



What is Human Trafficking?

Sex and labor trafficking occur when someone manipulates another person through force, fraud, or coercion. Traffickers exploit vulnerabilities to obtain sex acts or labor in exchange for money, food, shelter, or drugs. For anyone under 18, sexual exploitation is always illegal, even without evidence of force, fraud, or coercion.

Grooming tactics are simple: traffickers look for signs of low self-esteem and build trust and dependence to gain control. Grooming can occur in person or online, and traffickers often target young people they view as vulnerable.

Why Human Trafficking is so lucrative?

Human trafficking is a \$150 billion-dollar global criminal enterprise that affects more than 40 million people across the world. The statistics are slowly being updated, and it's estimated that trafficking is more than \$240 billion dollars annually. Traffickers see their victims as property that can be easily transported and hard to detect. Unlike a drug, a body can be used repeatedly.

- One individual can bring \$200,000 a year.
- The average age is 12–14-year-old children
- Most victims last 7 years, which equate to \$1,400,000
- 42% were brought into trafficking by a member of their own families.
- 39% were recruited via an intimate partner or a marriage proposition.



Want to help? See the Call to Action on Page 2!

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Call to Action!

There is strength in numbers. If we all take a proactive approach to this issue, we can make a difference. By understanding what human trafficking is, the signs, and available resources, we can be better equipped and empowered to use our voice to help others find theirs. Reports of suspected human trafficking may also be made to 911 or to the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888, or text "BeFree" (233733) to make a report.

About Unstoppable You Ministries, Inc.

Jennifer Foxworthy is the Founder and CEO of Unstoppable You Ministries, Inc. They provide services to individuals and families experiencing domestic violence, human trafficking, and homelessness. One person can experience all three. They believe that awareness is key to prevention.

To learn more visit: www.unstoppableyouministriesinc.org

UPCOMING EVENTS



3rd Annual Resource Hour - La Plata

Stop by for valuable resources and information covering a variety of topics including financial health, mental wellness, physical health, and more.

Next Class: Wednesday, December 10, 2025

Location: CCSO Headquarters Building



If you would like to subscribe to the Teen Court Newsletter, use the subject 'Teen Court Newsletter' to one of the contacts below:

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Teen Court Website