



## Instructor Facilitation Guide

Dear Educator,

Welcome to this vital session on human trafficking and internet crimes against children awareness. As an educator, your role in facilitating this discussion is pivotal in creating an impactful and meaningful learning experience for your students. This guide is designed to assist you in navigating this sensitive topic and fostering a supportive environment for open dialogue.

### **What to Expect:**

You will be showing a short educational video to your students, focused on raising awareness about human trafficking and internet crimes against children. Following the video, the session includes individual reflection, small group discussions, and a whole-class conversation. This guide provides scripts and discussion prompts to help facilitate these activities.

### **Goals of the Session:**

**Educate:** Provide students with a clear understanding of what human trafficking and internet crimes against children are and how they manifest, particularly in our local context.

**Empower:** Equip students with the ability to identify signs of trafficking and exploitation.

**Support:** Offer guidance on how students can seek help for themselves or others.

**Engage:** Encourage a community-focused dialogue around creating a supportive and caring environment in our school and community.

### **Guidance on Use of Scripts:**

The scripts provided in this guide are intended to serve as a framework for your discussion. They are not set in stone. You know your students best – their backgrounds, sensitivities, and the dynamics of your classroom. Feel free to adapt the language or approach as you see fit to ensure the content resonates with your students and fosters a safe and engaging learning environment.

Remember, the nature of this topic means some students might find the content distressing. It's important to be attentive to their reactions and provide support as needed. Your role in guiding them through this learning experience is invaluable.

*Thank you for your commitment to educating our young people on this critical issue. Your efforts in leading this session will contribute significantly to our collective goal of creating an informed, caring, and proactive community.*

## **Unchained and MT DOJ**

### **Instructor Script - Introducing the Video**

"Good [morning/afternoon], everyone. Today, we have a crucial session ahead of us, focusing on a topic that is both globally significant and locally relevant – human trafficking and internet crimes against children. We'll begin by watching a short video designed to increase our awareness and understanding of this issue.

Before we start, I want to highlight something that might be surprising: the issues of human trafficking and internet crimes against children are more prevalent than many of us realize, and these are not just global problems. They affect communities all around us, including here in Montana. This is not just about distant places; it's about our neighborhoods, our cities, and it could even impact people we know.

The purpose of today's session is to shed light on the various forms of human trafficking, how to recognize signs of exploitation, and what we can do to help those who might be affected. As we watch the video, I encourage you to think about how this issue might present itself in our own community and why it's important for us to be informed and vigilant.

I want to acknowledge that the topics we will discuss are serious and might evoke strong emotions or reactions. Please remember, it's completely normal to feel this way. If at any point during the video you feel overwhelmed or need to step out, please do so. Your well-being is our top priority. We have support available, including our school counselor, nurse, and trusted teachers, and you can also reach out via text at [NUM], email at [EMAIL], or a call.

Let's approach this session with openness, respect, and empathy. Our goal is not only to learn but also to think critically about how we can contribute to creating a safer and more supportive community right here in Montana. Are there any questions before we start?"

### **Instructor Script - After the Video**

"Thank you all for watching this video and engaging with such an important topic. It's not always easy to confront issues like internet crimes against children - which we'll refer to as online exploitation - and human trafficking, but being informed and aware is a crucial step in making a positive change.

Now, we will move into a reflection and discussion segment. This is a chance for you to process what you've seen, share your thoughts, and listen to the perspectives of your classmates. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers here. This is about sharing, learning, and understanding together.

First, we'll start with some individual reflection. You'll have a few minutes to write down your thoughts and reactions to the video. Consider how the content made you feel, what surprised you, and what questions you might have.

After that, we'll break into small groups to discuss our reflections. It's important to listen to each other with respect and empathy. Everyone's perspective is valuable.

Lastly, we'll come back together as a whole class to share our insights and thoughts. This is a great opportunity to learn from each other and think about how we can apply what we've learned in our own lives and community.

Let's proceed with open minds and hearts. Remember, the goal is not just to learn about human trafficking, but also to consider how we can be a part of the solution in creating a safer and more caring community."

### **Script to Begin Whole Group Discussion:**

"Thank you all for engaging in the small group discussions. It's now time to bring our insights together in a larger group setting. This is a valuable opportunity for us to learn from each other's perspectives and deepen our collective understanding of human trafficking and online exploitation.

As we proceed, I encourage you to listen actively and respect each other's viewpoints. Remember, the goal here is not to find definitive answers but to explore the complexities of the issue and think about how we can make a positive impact in our community. Let's continue to foster a supportive and open-minded environment.

I will pose some questions to guide our discussion. These are drawn from the video and your previous discussions. Feel free to share your thoughts, and let's make this a collaborative and enlightening conversation."

### **Suggested Questions for Large Group Discussion**

1. "What are some common misconceptions about human trafficking that we can address as a community?"
2. "In what ways can young people, like yourselves, play a role in preventing and raising awareness about human trafficking and online exploitation?"
3. "How can we, as a school or community, create a 'community of care' to support those at risk of human trafficking?"
4. "What are the key signs of human trafficking that everyone should be aware of, and how can we responsibly act on this knowledge?"
5. "What resources or support systems are available for someone who might be affected by human trafficking or online exploitation? How can we make these more accessible?"
6. "From today's discussion, what is one new thing you learned or one perspective you hadn't considered before?"

## **Additional Potential Questions for Whole Group Discussion (Include Exemplar Responses)**

### **What is Human Trafficking?**

Human trafficking involves the exploitation of individuals through force, fraud, or coercion for various forms of labor or commercial sex. It's a multifaceted issue where victims are often manipulated or threatened into performing acts against their will. This crime isn't limited to cross-border movements and can occur within a country's borders - it does not require movement out of a particular area such as from one state to another. It's distinguished from smuggling, which involves illegal border crossings and is typically a voluntary action.

### **What are signs or signals of potential trafficking?**

Indicators of human trafficking can be varied and may include physical signs of abuse, evidence of being controlled, inability to move or leave a job, bruises in various stages of healing, fearfulness, or submission. Behavioral signs could include signs of trauma, anxiety, depression, or withdrawal, and social indicators like isolation from family, friends, or community. Victims may work excessively long hours under unusual conditions, or without appropriate pay and benefits. Other indications may include significant changes to a person's appearance such as how they dress, and their access or possession of items that ordinarily may have been unobtainable.

### **What strategies or tactics do criminals use to draw people into trafficking?**

Traffickers often use manipulative tactics such as false job advertisements, promises of a better life, romantic relationships, or offers of shelter and support to lure their victims. The internet and social media platforms are increasingly used to recruit victims, with traffickers posing as potential romantic partners or offering fake job opportunities. They target individuals who appear vulnerable, such as those lacking social support, facing economic hardship, or living in unstable or conflict-affected areas.

### **What are examples of controlling behavior?**

Controlling behaviors in trafficking scenarios can include physical and emotional isolation, constant surveillance, restricting movement, controlling communication with others, and using threats or violence. Financial control, such as withholding earnings, debt bondage, or controlling access to money, is common. Emotional manipulation techniques like gaslighting, verbal abuse, and playing on emotional vulnerabilities are also used to maintain control over victims.

### **What are examples of cyber-crimes related to human trafficking?**

Examples include online recruitment through false job offers or relationships, cyberbullying or harassment to control or intimidate victims, sextortion (blackmailing with intimate images), and the distribution of child sexual abuse materials. Traffickers may use the anonymity of the internet to exploit victims and avoid detection.

### **Who is most at risk for being a victim of human trafficking and cyber-crime?**

While anyone can be a target, those at higher risk include (but aren't limited to): children, teenagers, marginalized groups, migrants, refugees, people in poverty, runaways, those who have a history of child abuse victimization or maltreatment, those with low self-esteem, little or no social support systems, or those in unstable socio-economic conditions. The widespread use of digital technology and social media also exposes a larger population to potential cyber-based trafficking threats.

### **What can you do to help someone you believe may be in danger?**

If you suspect someone is in danger, it's important to be supportive, listen, and believe them. Encourage them to seek help and provide them with information about local resources. It's also crucial to report your concerns to trusted adults, authorities, or specialized organizations without putting yourself or the victim at further risk. If you or someone you know is in imminent danger, or the threat is what you would consider to be extremely high, please call 911 and work with police and paramedics to address the situation.

### **If you are currently being controlled by someone, what can you do to break free?**

Recognizing the situation is a critical first step. Building a support system, whether it's friends, family, teachers, or counselors, can provide emotional and practical assistance. Creating a safety plan, documenting abuses, and seeking professional help from law enforcement or specialized organizations are crucial steps towards escaping the situation.

**Why is human Trafficking such a lucrative business?**

Human trafficking is lucrative due to the high profits and perceived lower risks compared to other crimes. Traffickers often exploit victims repeatedly, generating continuous income from the exploitation of labor or sexual services. The illegal nature of trafficking and the often-hidden exploitation of victims make it challenging for law enforcement to detect and prosecute. This exploitation doesn't always rise to the level of trafficking. Sometimes victims experience what is known as 'sextortion', when a perpetrator convinces a victim to share nude or semi nude photographs, and then forces the victim to pay to prevent their release.

**What does a trafficker or online predator/exploiter look for in a potential victim?**

Traffickers typically target individuals who they perceive as vulnerable or easy to manipulate. This can include factors like socio-economic status, lack of social support, low self-esteem, age, gender, race, and immigration status. Traffickers exploit vulnerabilities like financial hardship, emotional dependency, or social isolation to coerce and control their victims.



## Student Reflection and Discussion Worksheet

*Today, after watching a video on this critical topic, you will participate in individual reflection and group discussions. This worksheet will guide you through these activities*

### **Individual Reflection:**

*After watching the video, please answer the following questions. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers here. This is about sharing, learning, and understanding together. Let's approach this with respect, empathy, and an open mind.*

1. What was your initial reaction after watching the video? Were there any moments that particularly stood out to you? Why?
2. What did you find surprising or unexpected within the video? What are you curious to learn more about?
3. How does this issue of human trafficking resonate with you or your community? Do you see any steps that you or those around you could take to address it?

**Small Group Discussion:**

*Now that you have taken some time to reflect individually on the video, it's time to share your thoughts and listen to the perspectives of your classmates in a small group setting. This part of the session is about understanding different viewpoints, learning from each other, and brainstorming ideas together.*

1. Discuss the signs or signals of potential trafficking mentioned in the video. How can recognizing these signs make a difference?
2. What strategies can young people like us employ to prevent human trafficking in our communities? Share any ideas or actions you think could be effective.
3. The concept of a 'community of care' was highlighted in the video. What does this idea mean to you, and how can we foster such a community in our school or neighborhood?

