

Human Trafficking

RED FLAGS



For Hospitality Professionals

If you come in contact with anyone exhibiting one or more of the following indicators, they may be a victim of human trafficking:

- An individual checks in with multiple young guests, does not have luggage, and leaves the hotel. Most common example is a man who checks in with numerous girls unrelated to him who appear very young, possibly under age.
- The individual might have numerous rooms reserved for one night. Rooms may be paid for with cash.
- Within the group of guests checking in there may be one person who appears very controlling over the rest of the group and will not let the others in the group speak.
- Sometimes, the guest(s) may come on to various men during the check-in process.
- The guest(s) staying in the hotel may not have any luggage or personal items.
- The guest(s) left in the room may seem confused about their own name(s), may appear helpless, ashamed, nervous, or disoriented.
- Conversations with the guest(s) seem very scripted and/or vague.
- The guest(s) might exhibit signs of physical abuse such as: bruises, burns, scars, and/or malnourishment.
- The guest(s) may have tattoos that reflect money or ownership.
- The guest(s) may not have any spending money or identification, may not make eye contact, and may wear clothes printed with slogans such as “Daddy’s Girl” or clothing that is inappropriate for the weather.
- Note: human trafficking victims typically will not admit that they are victims, and may not ask for help.

Sources:

Katia Hetter, *Fighting sex trafficking in hotels, one room at a time*, CNN TRAVEL



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NJ Human Trafficking Task Force

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