



SAFEGUARDING CHILD VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING WITHIN HEALTH CARE

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Definition of Child Trafficking

- The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of
- a child for the purpose of exploitation is child trafficking.
- **Child trafficking is child abuse.**
- Under UK law, a child is anyone under the age of 18.
- **Exploitation may include:** Forced labour, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, benefit fraud, organ removal, illegal adoptions.

Child Labour

- **ILO Convention No. 182 Worst Forms of Child Labour:** ‘The term “child labour” is often defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. It refers to work that:
 - Is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children; and
 - Interferes with their schooling by:
 - Depriving them of the opportunity to attend school;
 - Obliging them to leave school prematurely; or
 - Requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work.’
- NB: UK has domestic child labour laws also

What is Modern Slavery?

Human Trafficking

- An **ACTION** (recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of persons, which can be internal movement or cross-border) .
- **MEANS** (threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability) *There does not need to be a means used for children as they are not able to give informed consent.*
- **PURPOSE** to exploit an individual for benefit, e.g. sexual exploitation, forced labour or domestic servitude, slavery, financial exploitation, illegal adoption, removal of organs.

Slavery, servitude forced or compulsory labour

- **Not required for action to have been taken to bring person into the situation.**
- **MEANS** (threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, through which a person is held in a situation) *There does not need to be a means used for children as they are not able to give informed consent.*
- **PURPOSE** to compel another to act in a way that amounts to slavery, servitude or forced / compulsory labour.

Trafficking or Smuggling

- **Smuggling** is always illegal. It is when a person pays another to transport them illegally from one country to another. The service ends when they are dropped off.
- **Trafficking** is when a person is tricked or deceived. They may think they are being smuggled for work but are in fact exploited when they enter the country. Trafficked victims enter either with legal documents or illegally.

Exploitation Types

- Forced labour including in the agricultural, construction, food processing, hospitality industries and in factories
- • Forced Labour
- • Forced Criminality including cannabis cultivation, street crime, forced begging and benefit fraud
- • Domestic servitude
- • Forced Marriage
- • Organ harvesting

Exploitation Types for Child Victims 2016

- Domestic servitude 7%
- Labour exploitation 34%
- Sexual exploitation 27%
- Unknown 25%

Key Influences of Health

- Exposure to infectious diseases
- Repetitive physical, sexual and/or psychological abuse
- Chronic deprivation – e.g. food, sleep, shelter
- Occupational hazards –e.g. poor ventilation, sanitation, exposure to chemicals, bacterial /airborne contaminants; dangerous machinery, lack of protective equipment etc.
- Unwanted Pregnancy
- Pre-existing health condition

Pregnancy

- **Victims of Trafficking who are pregnant represent a significant portion of those trafficked to the UK**
- Child victims of trafficking who are pregnant or have children may struggle to be recognized as children when this is used to support a decision that they are adults
- Be mindful of the impact that trafficking may have on a parent and their interactions with their child
- Be mindful of the impact on the child who may have witnessed a parent's exploitation

ECPAT UK is a children's rights charity campaigning for the protection of child victims of trafficking and the victims of transnational sexual abuse by British citizens through:

- Research / campaigning / training / project work / youth programme & youth groups
- Network in more than 85 countries
- Chair of Home Office Child Trafficking Sub-Group

Additional Organisations

- Refugee Council Children's Panel- Trafficked Boys and Girls Project 0207 346 1134
- Children's Society- RISE project: young men 11- 25
- AFRUCA : promoting the rights & welfare of African children in the UK
www.afruca.org.uk
- CTAC: NSPCC Child Trafficking Advice and Information Centre 0800 107 7057
- www.ecpat.org.uk 0207 6072 136