Here's why —

Today's **victims** come in all colors, income brackets, and segments of society.

So do their **predators** and **buyers.** They have NO scruples, NO morals. They're interested only in their profit.

Trafficking reportedly generates \$32 billion per year, more than Nike, Google, and Starbucks combined!

Traffickers target the young (as young as a preteen) and those with vulnerabilities such as past trauma, physical needs and neglect, so they can more easily manipulate and deceive.

They do this by befriending and gaining trust from their victim before exploiting them, often with *threats*.

Every 30 seconds a human is sold into slavery.

Definition: Child sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting a child under 18 years of age for the purpose of a commercial sex act through force, fraud and coercion.

A Note from Exploit No More:

Over 10 years in the anti-trafficking fight has helped me realize that parenting plays a vital role in keeping children safe. Thank you for taking prayerful, thoughtful action to keep your precious loved ones and others safe!

Help us help more. Visit <u>exploitnomore.org</u> today for more information and to donate.

Jarrett Luckett Executive Director | Exploit No More Milwaukee, WI

http://www.exploitnomore.org/education.html

http://www.exploitnomore.org/blog/out-of-school-on-the-internet-how-to-keep-your-children-safe-from-predators



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Here's how you can be the parent of a predator-prepared kid.



increases your child's self worth and reduces the risk of sex trafficking.



Here's how —

Instead of working on your child, work with them and become a team!

Talk with your child(ren) to explain —awkward as it may feel at the time— how valuable they are, and how much you love them. Describe how you will celebrate the day they become a confident, sexually safe adult, ready for life's next chapter.

Warn them, age-appropriately, that there are predators with bad intentions. While you have worked to keep them safe, and perhaps sheltered, from the reality of our world, knowledge is power. If they know there is a threat, they can be vigilant and mindful of who they interact with.

You want to win. Not some creep.

Olympic athletes train and practice long before they win gold.

Musicians, dancers and actors rehearse for hours before a stellar performance.

A prosecuting attorney who has everything needed to win at trial did their homework.

The training & practice, the drills & rehearsal, the research & investigation happen **before** the win!

Will that annoy them? Frustrate? Embarrass? Possibly. But they are too valuable to lose!

Teach them:

While you may not want to have a full-blown conversation about sex trafficking with your preteen, talking with them about real dangers in this world can empower them to make sound decisions.

Remember:

- Caution is the parent of safety.
- Knowledge leads to prevention!

Engage them:

Quality time comes wrapped in quantity time. One-on-one parent/child time helps children feel valued, loved, and prevent vulnerabilities. Traffickers work by trying to have your child turn on you, claiming you don't care or love them. Hopefully your child is never contacted by a trafficker, but if they are, the memories you created with them will help your child combat those lies.

Inform them:

I'm going to be nosey!

Reserve the right to check their internet history, who they subscribe to on YouTube, and check inboxes from gaming to social media.

I'll know or know about your friends.

- Who they are
- Where they're from
- How old they are

I use parental controls.

You control what they can see on the internet. Offer to block sites or domains for them guilt-free, but you may also block sites without telling them.

I'm in your corner. Always!

Assure them that they can always come to you with dilemmas and whenever they feel threatened. You've got their back. Show them by spending time with them so they feel valuable, not vulnerable.

Look for —

Signs that a child is being groomed for future trafficking:

- · Has new, older friends.
- Talks about friends who seem too good to be true.
- Spends an increasing amount of time online or on their phone.
- Has suddenly changed their appearance, how she dresses, or grooming habits.
- Suddenly has items they wouldn't be able to afford, like a cell phone, new clothes, etc.
- Has become withdrawn from the family and more secretive.

Signs a child is possibly being trafficked:

- · Change in hygiene
- · Works excessively long hours
- · Exhibits fear and anxious behavior
- Was hired with false promises
- Has inconsistencies in his or her story
- · Knows little about his or her whereabouts
- · Runs away
- Misses class
- · Increased risk taking
- Increased promiscuity

Adapted from: http://www.pollyklaas.org/safe/a-parents-guide-to-human-trafficking.pdf

Parental Controls:

https://www.pandasecurity.com/mediacenter/panda-security/parental-control/