

Source: 2012 Domestic Sex Trafficking in Ohio Report  
(<http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov>)

## Immediate Assessment and Intervention for First Responders

In efforts to educate first responders and lay persons, researchers developed an acronym to assist would-be interveners to recognize child sex trafficking or high-risk experiences of teens and intervene by reporting it.  
(See next page for detailed explanations.)

### **RESCUE**

**R:** Runaway

**E:** Education

**S:** Sexual assault

**C:** Court appearances

**U:** Using drugs/alcohol

**E:** Emotional abuse

### **CHILD**

**C:** Child abuse/neglect

**H:** Homelessness

**I:** Influential others

**L:** Loving someone much older

**D:** Difficulty making friends

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|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Runaway</b>                   | Runaway behavior was statistically significant factor for vulnerable youth to come into contact with buyers, sellers, recruiters and traffickers.   |
| <b>Education</b>                 | Victims and those at high risk for sex trafficking may have difficulty in school with some eventually dropping out.   |
| <b>Sexual assault</b>            | A statistically significant factor, rape was highly correlated with eventually becoming a victim of child sex trafficking.  |
| <b>Court appearances</b>         | Court appearances, the intersection between being arrested (a statistically significant risk factor) and spending time in a juvenile detention facility (another significant risk factor and indicator that youth are at high risk for trafficking).  |
| <b>Using drugs/alcohol</b>       | Although few youth reported to being addicted to drugs and/or alcohol, the use of alcohol/drugs may place youth in proximity of buyers, sellers, and traffickers and may contribute to impaired reasoning thereby increasing the vulnerability of already high-risk youth.  |
| <b>Emotional abuse</b>           | This indicator was a statistically significant factor. This type of abuse may stem from parental figures or other adults who degrade, minimize feelings, criticize, verbally abuse, and/or repeatedly disapprove resulting in a lack of youth self esteem, self confidence, and self worth, and even more risky, impaired ability to trust their own perceptions. |
| <b>Child abuse/neglect</b>       | Abuse may appear in the form of sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse or neglect.   |
| <b>Homelessness</b>              | Youth may or may not present themselves as homeless. They may have a home, but because of neglect or family problems they are still worried about where they will sleep or what they will eat on a daily basis.   |
| <b>Influential others</b>        | New or old friends or family members engaged in selling themselves, selling others, or in buying sex are in proximity of potential victims.   |
| <b>Loving someone much older</b> | Youth at risk of trafficking may be “dating” much older men who first present themselves as caring and loving partners but who manipulate or force victims into selling sex.  |
| <b>Difficulty making friends</b> | Youth at risk of child sex trafficking may have difficult time developing pro-social friendships.   |

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