



# Push Factors for Human Trafficking

To stop human trafficking, we need to spot the 'Push Factors' that make people vulnerable. Teaching about these factors and how to be alert to them is key. By understanding our own weak spots and those of our friends and family, we can help and protect each other. Here are some common Push Factors to watch for as it pertains to labor and sex trafficking.



- migration
- Relocation
- Being apart of a marginalized or disadvantaged community or demographic
- Physical disability
- Nature of employment conditions
- Experience with child protection services
- Limited friends or support groups
- Living in tough financial conditions
- Struggles with learning or developmental hurdles
- Unsettled or troubled family life
- Homeless or has run away
- Associated with, or sought after by, street gangs
- Government Corruption
- Undocumented or unstable immigration status
- Unaccompanied minor
- Experienced physical or emotional harm during childhood
- Challenges with mental well-being
- Difficulties in school
- Low self-worth
- Past instances of leaving home without notice
- Faced family pushback due to LGBTQ identity
- Staying in community housing or group residences
- Involvement with drugs, either personally or through close relations
- Relatives who've been involved in trafficking or related activities.
- Intimate partner relationships
- Some forms of marriage arrangements

Sources:

- 1."Human Trafficking in America's Schools: Risk Factors." Safe Supportive Learning, [safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/human-trafficking-americas-schools/risk-factors](https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/human-trafficking-americas-schools/risk-factors).
- 2.United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. "Toolkit to Combat Trafficking in Persons." UNODC, [www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit\\_files/08\\_58296\\_tool\\_9\\_2.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit_files/08_58296_tool_9_2.pdf).
- 3."Modelling for Determinants of Human Trafficking." Human Trafficking Search, [humantraffickingsearch.org/resource/modelling-for-determinants-of-human-trafficking/](https://humantraffickingsearch.org/resource/modelling-for-determinants-of-human-trafficking/).