

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

MYTH

VS

FACT

✗ Only women and girls can be victims and survivors of sex trafficking.

✗ Traffickers target victims they don't know.

✗ Labor trafficking is only or primarily a problem in developing countries.

✗ If the trafficked person consented to be in their initial situation, then it cannot be human trafficking or against their will because they "knew better."

✓ Men and boys are also victimized by sex traffickers. LGBTQ boys and young men are seen as particularly vulnerable to trafficking.

✓ Many survivors have been trafficked by romantic partners, including spouses, and by family members, including parents.

✓ Labor trafficking occurs in the United States and in other developed countries but is reported at lower rates than sex trafficking.

✓ Initial consent to commercial sex or a labor setting prior to acts of force, fraud, or coercion (or if the victim is a minor in a sex trafficking situation) is not relevant to the crime, nor is payment.

