



# Human Trafficking Awareness & Prevention Education

Impact Report 2025-2026

## Program Reach & Student Demographics

Human Trafficking Awareness & Prevention education:

**Total Students Reached: 150**

Students represented 9th–12th grade across diverse backgrounds and learning levels.

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## Topics Covered During the Presentation

Students received survivor-informed education on:

- Human trafficking awareness & prevention
  - Red flags and warning signs
  - Grooming and love bombing
  - Sextortion and online exploitation
  - Labor trafficking & sex trafficking
  - Family trafficking and trafficking by trusted individuals
  - Healthy vs. unhealthy relationships
  - Force, fraud, and coercion
  - Vulnerable populations
  - Survivor healing and resilience
  - Reporting options and available resources
    - NCMEC & CyberTipline
    - Thorn
    - Simply Report
    - National Human Trafficking Hotline
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## **Most Significant Student Takeaways**

### **1. Trafficking Is Not Usually Kidnapping**

- Students were surprised to learn that trafficking often begins with manipulation, trust, and grooming, not abduction.

### **2. Family Members and Trusted Individuals Can Be Traffickers**

- Students were shocked to learn that 44% of victims are trafficked by family members.

### **3. Boys, Men, and LGBTQ+ Youth Can Be Victims**

- Students repeatedly mentioned learning that trafficking affects all genders, not just girls.

### **4. The Average Age of Entry Is 12–14 Years Old**

- Students described this as “shocking,” “sad,” and “eye-opening.”

### **5. Trafficking Happens in Their Own Communities**

- Students referenced California cities, local streets, and familiar environments.

### **6. Grooming, Love Bombing, and Manipulation Are Key Tactics**

**Students retained detailed information about:**

- Grooming
- Love bombing
- Emotional manipulation
- Sextortion

**\* These concepts were the most frequently repeated in student feedback.**



## Awareness Saves Lives

**“Students said knowing warning signs and resources made them feel safer and more empowered. Many expressed that they now know where to seek help.”**

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### **Why Prevention, Awareness & Education Matter**

Human trafficking education:

- Prevents exploitation before it begins
- Helps students recognize manipulation early
- Builds healthy relationship awareness
- Strengthens online safety
- Reduces stigma toward survivors
- Encourages reporting and intervention
- Creates safer school environments
- Saves lives

**\* Students consistently said they felt more prepared, more aware, and more confident in identifying unsafe situations.**



## Overall Program Impact

Student feedback shows a clear and meaningful shift in both understanding and empathy.

Across classrooms, students demonstrated:

- Strong retention of core concepts
- Increased empathy for survivors and lived-experience voices
- Challenged misconceptions and replaced them with accurate knowledge
- Recognition of local trafficking as a real issue in their own communities
- Understanding that traffickers are often known to victims, not strangers
- Greater awareness of online exploitation and digital grooming
- Clear knowledge of reporting options and how to seek help

The survivor-informed, trauma-aware approach made the content feel real, relatable, and memorable. Students consistently shared that hearing the truth from a survivor-centered lens helped break down some of the most common myths they had believed about human trafficking.

Education and awareness doesn't just inform students—it shifts their understanding of risk, safety, and vulnerability. Many students expressed that learning the average age of entry (12–14) underscored the urgency of early prevention. Understanding that California has the highest number of reported calls, and that Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Francisco are on the FBI's top 13 list for trafficking reports, made the issue feel immediate and relevant to their daily lives. Overall, prevention education expanded students' empathy, strengthened their awareness, and empowered them with practical tools to recognize exploitation and respond safely.