

# CCDU

## GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

### SERIES 2020



WORLD DAY AGAINST  
TRAFFICKING  
IN PERSONS  
30 JULY



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TRAFFICKING  
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**PROTECTING VICTIMS OF GBV IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY!**

# Trafficking in Persons

**Week 5: Article 5 of 6**

**A PSYCHOEDUCATIONAL AND EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE**

### WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Human trafficking also called “trafficking in persons” is a dynamic phenomenon, a vicious crime against a person's Human Rights and has been denoted as a form of modern-day slavery.

- Trafficking in persons refers to the process through which individuals are placed or maintained in an exploitative situation for economic gain.
- Trafficking can occur within a country or may involve movement across borders.
- Women, men and children are trafficked for a range of purposes, including forced and exploitative labour in factories, farms and private households as well as sexual exploitation and forced marriage. It can be for domestic servitude, illegal adoption, harvesting of body parts and other reasons.
- Trafficking is a global challenge, affecting all regions and most countries of the world.

**The Trafficking Protocol defines the term “trafficking in persons” as follows:**

Trafficking in persons shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

### WHAT CAN I DO:

Changing social views and perceptions take time – don't give up in trying to make society a better place for all.

**Don't be a perpetrator of violence – use better and more effective ways of dealing with conflict.**

If you have experienced violence, get to know your rights, speak to someone who understands, who supports and who is able to direct you to the resources to break from the cycle of violence.

**Don't turn a blind eye – if you see an act of violence, alert the necessary authorities to respond or intervene.**

Champion change, support local rallies, events and social advocacy for change, if it is within your power, initiate this.

### HOW CAN I HELP VICTIMS OF ABUSE:

Believe the person; Listen with compassion and do not judge; Offer practical support, such as accompanying the person to the police station; Share the gender-based violence number (0800 428 428) so that they can call to get help. Government condemns any form of violence and we can work together with police, prosecutors and the courts to ensure that those who hurt and abuse others are arrested and convicted.

**RESOURCES AT WITS:** [WWW.WITS.AC.ZA](http://WWW.WITS.AC.ZA)

**Transformation Office:**

email: Cecilia.smith@wits.ac.za

**Gender Equity Office:**

email: [info.geo@wits.ac.za](mailto:info.geo@wits.ac.za) or 011 717 9790

**CCDU :**

email: [info.ccd@wits.ac.za](mailto:info.ccd@wits.ac.za)

**#WitsAgainstGBV**

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## RESEARCH

- South Africa is seen as a source, transit and destination country for trafficking in persons.
- Victims are mainly recruited from rural areas or informal settlements and transported to urban areas such as Johannesburg, Pretoria, Cape Town, Bloemfontein and Durban etc.
- Employment agencies traffick females/women to work as domestic servants. Adolescent girls and young woman who leave these exploitative situations are vulnerable to be recruited into the sex industry.
- Boys under the age of 18 are increasingly lured into sexual exploitation, the fishing industry, mining industry and farm work and are frequently used in pornography.
- Men and boys are recruited to work on farms under false promises of being paid and suitable accommodation. Those not in school or on school holidays are more frequently targeted.
- Children from child headed households due to HIV and AIDS, unregistered children and impoverished children are most vulnerable to recruitment for trafficking.
- There is an awareness that 'muti'-related crimes (harvesting of body parts) is most prominent in Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Free State and Kwazulu-Natal provinces.

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!

### Is "Ukuthwala" trafficking?

"Ukuthwala" is a form of abduction that involves kidnapping a young girl with the intention of compelling the young girl's family to endorse marriage negotiations.

## ONE OF THE WAYS IN WHICH TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS MAY WORK

- **Human trafficking may manifest in false recruitments; the promise of good work opportunities and financial gain.**
- Recruiters may advertise a wonderful work opportunity to which a person may respond.
- As arrangements progress, the person may discover that they do not need money or documents for travel arrangements. The recruiters may promise that all expenses will be paid for.
- Once the victim reaches the destination they discover that they have been tricked. There may be no evidence of the original promise and the victim is forced into a debt bondage agreement; they would have to repay the recruiter for all expenditure.
- The recruiters may take all travel documents such as ID's, Visas and passports.
- The cellphone is also taken to block contact with anybody important.
- The person is now isolated and somewhat powerless and is a victim of human trafficking.

### HOW YOU CAN IDENTIFY A VICTIM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

**Remember the victim may not be able to identify with the word 'trafficking'**

Some questions and observations to consider are:

- From which province or country is the person?
- When observing a group, does a spokesperson speak on behalf of the group? If there are children in the group, is the behavior different from a group of children that you know? E.g. Silence, noise or restlessness?
- Does the person seem submissive or fearful?
- Can you observe any physical or psychological abuse?
- Does the person have any identification documents?

### WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE A SUSPICION THAT A PERSON IS TRAFFICKED?

- Report the suspicion to the police.
- Government employees are obliged to report the suspicion to the police at all times.
- It is an offence not to report and failure to report can result in prosecution.
- Remember: All victims have the right to be treated with fairness and respect for their dignity and privacy. They have the right to protection, assistance and information. They also have the right to provide information.

**"You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you."  
— John Bunyan**

### Provincial and Regional Department of Social Development

<b>Provincial Head office</b>	69 Commissioner Street, JHB	011 355 7760/ 7929/7766
<b>Johannesburg Region</b>	91 Commissioner Street, JHB	011 355 9200
<b>Tshwane Region</b>	Delta House, Pretorius Street,	012 359 3300
<b>Sedibeng Region</b>	3 Moshoeshoe Street, Sebokeng	016 930 2000
<b>West Rand Region</b>	SA Dutch Centre, Cnr Human & Kobie Str	011 950 7700
<b>Ekurhuleni Region</b>	40 Catlin Street Germiston	011 820 0300

**South African National Trafficking in Persons Hotline - 0800 222 777**