

# Jasmine Educator's Guide

[www.IAmJasmineStrong.com](http://www.IAmJasmineStrong.com)

## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for watching Freedom Forward's "I Am Jasmine Strong" movie. This guide was put together with and by survivor leaders and their allies to give your students an opportunity to continue to discuss how trafficking might affect them and their peers. Before you get started please remember that the video or discussions might trigger some students and their trauma, and please be action-oriented and make a point to refer them to the **BEFREE text line (text "Jasmine" to 233733)** as you wrap up.

## BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

To prepare you to use this movie and discussion guide, we've included:

1. Terms for you to know about
2. Risk factors and potential warning signs
3. Debunking common myths
4. Understanding the law

### 1. Terms for you to know about

**Sex Trafficking** is a commercial sex act that is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, OR in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age. For adult men and women, the commercial sex act is considered sex trafficking if it is compelled by force, fraud, or coercion.

- When anyone under the age of 18 engages in sex for anything of value, they are automatically considered a sex trafficking victim under federal law (regardless of the presence of force, fraud, or coercion).
- To be considered a victim of sex trafficking as an adult, they must prove that they were exchanged sex for something of value (money, drugs, place to stay, transportation, food, protection, etc.) through means of FORCE, FRAUD, or COERCION.

- FORCE can include, but is not limited to, kidnapping, drugging, physical assault, assault with a weapon, or sexual assault.
- FRAUD can include, but is not limited to, tricking the victim into believe that the trafficker loves her/him, telling the victim s/he is going to be a model or a star, offering to provide, or basic needs without explaining the true intention or what is required in return.
- COERCION includes (a) threats of serious harm to or physical restraint against any person; (b) any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that failure to perform an act would result in serious harm to or physical restraint against any person; or (c) the abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process.

**Sex trafficker or pimp:** This is the person who recruits victims, through love, force, or event by providing for their basic needs, like food or a place to stay. The sex trafficker or pimp links the sex trafficking victim to sex buyers. This person controls the behavior of the victim and collects the money made from exchanging sex by the victim. Sex traffickers can be extremely violent and will resist the victim's attempt to leave by any means. A sex trafficker can be any gender and can be a mother, friend, boyfriend, or anyone.

**Sex buyers:** These are often cis men (but can be anyone) who shop for people in the sex trade on the street, in strip clubs, in massage parlors, through escort services, and online.

**Sex trafficking victims:** Victims can be male, female, transgender and of any race and sexual orientation, and of any age – including under the age of 18. They are often lured or romanced into sex trafficking by an older person through promises of money, success/fame, a future together, or through threats of exposure (to parents/friends/school/church). *Note: while they are technically the victim of a crime, many people do not like to be referred to as a "victim," and instead prefer to be seen for their strengths.*

**Bottom:** A demeaning term referring to a sex trafficker's "right hand girl" who is most often a female, and is also a sex trafficking victim. The bottom is oftentimes the one who has been with the trafficker the longest, and is in charge of recruiting other victims, supervising victims, and sometimes even inflicting punishments. They often walk a tragic line between victim and perpetrator.

**Branding:** A term referring to a tattoo or carving that the trafficker places on a victim to assert ownership.

**Commercial sex act:** The exchange of a sexual act for an item of value (money, drugs, place to stay, food, protection, clothes, jewelry, etc.).

**Coercion:** Threats or intimidation to make a victim engage in a sex trafficking situation. Can include (a) threats of serious harm to or physical restraint against any person; (b) any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that failure to perform an act would result in serious harm to or physical restraint against any person; or (c) the abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process.

**Daddy:** A term that many sex traffickers require their victims' to use when they refer to them.

**Game/Hustle/Life:** Terms used to refer to a life of sex trafficking or prostitution. Oftentimes victims describe a sex trafficking situation as if it's an entirely different world or "life". Because sex trafficking victims have set rules they must abide by, it is often referred to as "the game".

**Guerrilla Pimp:** A sex trafficker that uses mostly fear and violence to control and force a sex trafficking victim into a sex trafficking situation.

**Romeo Pimp:** A sex trafficker that uses mostly love, romance, trust, and intimacy to trick and coerce a sex trafficking victim into a sex trafficking situation.

**Trick/Date:** A term used to describe a sex act between a sex trafficking victim and a sex buyer.

## **2. Risk factors and potential warning signs**

### **Possible factors making your students vulnerable to exploitation or trafficking:**

- History of abuse in the home (domestic violence, neglect, child abuse)
- Gang-involvement
- Alcohol and drug use
- Child welfare involvement
- Involvement in juvenile justice system
- History of not being at home (leaving home, being "put out")
- Being a gender minority: discrimination
- Previous sexual abuse
- Abusive partners
- Lack of safe housing
- Lack of basic needs met (food, clothing, transportation)
- Lack of employment opportunities

### **Potential warning signs:**

- S/he's dating an older guy
- They are starting to post sexy content on their social media
- More and more new friends are popping up on their social media who look older or very sexual
- They change their name on social media to something that indicates sex or money like, "Miss Getting Dat Money" or "Little Miss Thick", etc.
- S/he's super secretive about their boyfriend or girlfriend and won't let you meet them
- They're always on their phone and seems very upset or nervous when texting

- Someone in their phone who they text a lot is called “daddy” or “wifey” or other terms from “the life.” (see list above)
- Their new boyfriend or girlfriend buys her/him lots of expensive presents and it seems to develop quickly
- Their new boyfriend or girlfriend made them get a weird tattoo (potentially indicative of money, terms associated with the life, or symbols that seem strange)
- Unexplained cash
- Clothing that is either out of season or just really not something that they can afford
- A second cell phone (or more) that really can’t be explained
- They have lots of hotel keys or other indicators they are staying in hotels
- S/he has cuts and bruises that they can’t or won’t explain
- S/he has a fake ID
- S/he has been really depressed, nervous, tense, or afraid or just otherwise acting unlike themselves. This is especially concerning if it is coupled with a new boyfriend or girlfriend.
- S/he misses a lot of school or dropped out of school, especially if they were always into school or doing well
- Grades have dropped out of the blue
- S/he runs away a lot and/or avoids her/his family and friends
- S/he started drinking or doing drugs and seems like they are really getting in deep
- You feel like s/he is brainwashed by their new person in their life and is defensive about it if you ask what is going on

### **3. Debunking common myths**

***MYTH: Girls and boys who are trafficked were often already extremely sexually active, so they aren’t being exploited. They are doing it to themselves.***

FACT: Any girl or boy can be trafficked regardless of their sexual activity or reputation. Sex trafficking involves a trafficker (pimp) who is exploiting someone for profit using force, fraud, or coercion. In the case of commercial sexual exploitation, there is not necessarily a trafficker/pimp involved. What is often referred to as “survival sex” of minors is really commercial sexual exploitation.

***MYTH: Sex Trafficking must involve some form of travel between states or borders.***

FACT: The definition of trafficking does not require transportation, although travel may be involved in the crime. Sex trafficking is more accurately described as “compelled service” where an individual will be induced by force, fraud, or coercion.

***MYTH: Trafficking only happens in foreign countries.***

FACT: Trafficking can happen in any country, including the United States. The federal definition of trafficking includes both U.S citizens and foreign nationals, both of whom are protected under the law. Trafficking happens at the fault lines of vulnerability and profit. It targets those most at risk.

***MYTH: Sex trafficking only happens to girls.***

FACT: Anyone can be a victim of sex trafficking regardless of race, class, gender, ability, or sexual orientation. Traffickers choose their victims based on vulnerability.

***MYTH: If a teen (under 18) says that they wanted to sell their body, it's really on them. They did it.***

FACT: Even if a minor says they wanted or needed to sell sex, it is still not legal. No one under 18 can legally be held responsible for being bought for commercial sex. That is [the law](#). Here is a [state by state guide](#) to know your state's laws. Under federal law, a person under age 18 cannot legally consent to being bought for sex, therefore all minors involved in being bought for sex or traded for sex are considered victims of commercial sexual exploitation or sex trafficking. Even if they do give consent, one's initial consent to provide sex is no longer relevant once force, fraud, or coercion is used.

***MYTH: There must be physical restraint or physical force involved to be considered a trafficking situation.***

FACT: The legal definition of trafficking does not require physical restraint, bodily harm, or physical force. Psychological means of control, such as threats, or abuse of the legal process are sufficient elements of the crime.

***MYTH: Victims of trafficking will immediately ask for help or assistance and will identify as victims of crime.***

FACT: No. Most survivors do not see their situation as exploitation. They often feel to blame or are scared. We must meet them where they are, without judgement. Offer help and time to speak.

#### **4. Understanding the law**

##### **Safe Harbor**

"Safe Harbor," first introduced as state legislation in New York in 2009, protects minors from certain related commercial sex and prostitution-related charges. While many minors are compelled, as a result of their trafficking and other trauma, to engage in illegal activities that range from prostitution

and drug-related offenses to violations of curfew and truancy, treating them as criminals is not aligned with the federal definition of human trafficking (TVPA) stating that minors induced to commercial sexual exploitation are victims of sex trafficking. Safe Harbor laws are designed to bring state laws into harmony with that of the federal law and ensure that child victims are treated as such.

The law, while varying state by state, often is a combination of immunity and compulsion of specialized direct services and support designed by organizations specializing in serving young survivors of human trafficking. Arrest, prosecution and detainment can severely stigmatize and harm the life chances of minor survivors of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking. This includes being unable to complete their education, loss of employment and housing opportunities, and more.

### **“Safe Harbor” in California**

[Senate Bill 1322](#) went into effect January 1, 2017 and focuses on immunity for minors from prostitution and commercial sex-related offenses.

### **Learn more**

To learn more about other states efforts to legally address child sex trafficking, please visit the Shared Hope [“state by state” report cards](#). For more in depth information, please read the [Polaris overview](#) on Safe Harbor (2015).

### **Mandated reporting**

As a mandated reporter, if you suspect a child is being abused or neglected by anyone, or in a situation of trafficking, you need to report it to your local child welfare agency. Your school system may also have a protocol in place for how to handle suspected situations of trafficking. We recommend you also find out what this protocol is and be sure to follow it. [Here is an example of a school protocol guide from the Department of Education](#).

## **5. Prep work**

The following materials are available to be printed at the end of this guide:

### **A. Pre and Post Test**

Print copies of the pre and post tests for each student - one to distribute at the beginning of class before you show the movie and start the lesson, and one to distribute at the end.

### **B. Resource Game**

If you want to complete the Resource Game with your students (Part V of the following Guide), each student will need a copy of:

- **The Resource Guide** - a list of resources they can access in your community for each student. If you are based in San Francisco, use the Resource Guide we’ve listed at the end of this document. If you are in another community, use this page as a model to create your own.
- **The Resource Game**

**Swag**

If you are interested in stickers, notebooks, postcards, or materials for your class with I Am Jasmine Strong information and branding, please contact [Jasmine@IAmJasmineStrong.com](mailto:Jasmine@IAmJasmineStrong.com) and we'll see what's possible.

# GUIDE TO USE WITH STUDENTS

We have prepared a guided set of activities that will assist you in ensuring that students gain knowledge, deconstruct myths, reduce stigma, and understand where to access resources in their local community.

**I. First, pass out the pre survey to your students.**

**II. Watch the Jasmine Movie on [www.IAmJasmineStrong.com](http://www.IAmJasmineStrong.com) (5 minutes)**

**III. Group Discussion (10 minutes)**

1. How are you all feeling after seeing this movie? What was your biggest takeaway?
2. Did you know that sexual exploitation exists and might be happening to you or your peers before seeing the movie?
3. According to the movie, where can you or a friend get help or ask questions?
4. Do you feel that after watching the video you better understand the issue? What else might you want to know?

**IV. Deconstructing Myths and Motives (15 minutes)**

A. Opening group questions:

- What was Jasmine's life like before she met Daniel?
- What were things that Jasmine was missing?

B. Have students break into small groups (no more than four to five students in each). Ask each group to come up with:

Words to:

1. Describe Jasmine (examples: sad, lonely, lost, hurt, child, etc)
2. Describe Daniel (examples: angry, mean, controlling, abusive)



Actions That:

1. Jasmine took (examples: ran away, fell in love, escaped)
2. Daniel took (examples: tricked Jasmine, sold Jasmine, hit Jasmine)

Have the students then read out the words and talk about:

1. Who had control?
2. Who is to blame?
3. What should happen to Daniel if he is caught? Why?
4. Do they think that this happens to a lot of youth? Why?
5. What did Jasmine need that she was not getting? Did Daniel fulfill that need? How?

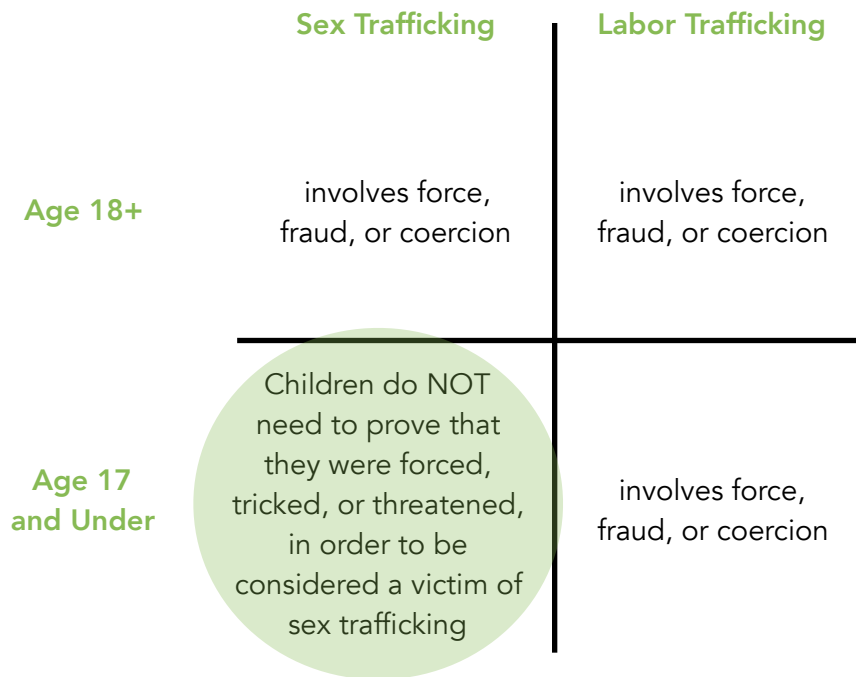
C. Have students come back to a full group. Ask each group to debrief what they discussed for one of the five questions:

1. Who had control?
2. Who is to blame?
3. What should happen to Daniel if he is caught? Why?
4. Do they think that this happens to a lot of youth? Why?
5. What did Jasmine need that she was not getting? Did Daniel fulfill that need? How?

## **V. Defining Human Trafficking** (5 minutes)

A. First, ask if anyone has heard of human trafficking. Was what happened to Jasmine considered human trafficking?

B. Draw a diagram on the board to define human trafficking, and circle the area that focuses on child sex trafficking:



C. Please share that there is a clear legal difference between “commercial sexual exploitation” and “sex trafficking.”

Commercial sexual exploitation is when a child is sexually exploited in the absence of a pimp. Sex trafficking always involves a trafficker or pimp, who can be anyone from a love interest, a kidnapper, another teenager, or even a friend. Traffickers often exploit in the communities they know and thus may be previously known the young person.

**VI. Resource Game** (10 minutes)

In this activity, students will gain an clear understanding of where they can access support and services for themselves or a friend in their community.

Pass out the **Resource Guide** and **Resource Game Questions** to each student (see end of this guide for printable sheets). They will be asked to complete the following scenarios:

1. Your friend says that she is thinking of running away. Where can she go?
2. Your friend says her boyfriend is making her do things she does not want to do, like have sex with other guys. What is a resource she can go to talk?
3. Your friend feels that no one understands them as someone who expresses as non-binary and people keep asking them if they are a girl or boy. Who can they talk to?
4. Your friend says his mom put him out and he is not sure where to go.

5. Your friend says his sister is in an abusive relationship with another girl who hits her. What is a resource for him and his sister?
6. Your friend says she is very depressed and feels like they don't know where to go to get help or relief. What do you recommend?
7. Your friend wants to find out more about shelters because she is worried about her family or herself being homeless. What ideas could you offer her?
8. Your friend is frequently worried about having food at home. Where can he go?
9. Your friend ran away and reached out asking for help getting home from another city. Who can they call?
10. Your friend is falling in love with an older guy and starting to skip school and have expensive things. Who can you call to ask if this might be trafficking?

#### **IV. Have students take the post survey.**

##### **Continuing the conversation:**

If students want to learn more about help, stories, and information, please direct them to [www.IAmJasmineStrong.com](http://www.IAmJasmineStrong.com).

## **PRE AND POST SURVEY INSTRUCTIONS**

These should be handed out to students to take individually with the number of correct answers and incorrect answers tallied for each survey, both pre and post. All students should turn in their surveys to be collected by the teacher. Tallies should be sent to the Jasmine team at [jasmine@iamjasminestrong.com](mailto:jasmine@iamjasminestrong.com).

See pre and post surveys for printing at the end of this guide.

## RESOURCE GAME ANSWERS FOR SAN FRANCISCO

### 1. Your friend says that she is thinking of running away. Where can she go?

- San Francisco: Huckleberry Youth Programs - 415-621-2929
- Nationally: Call the National Runaway Switchboard (help with homelessness, getting home, and finding safety) - 1-800-RUNAWAY

### 2. Your friend says her boyfriend is making her do things she does not want to do, like have sex with other guys. What is a resource she can go to talk to?

- Love Is Respect (a resource empower youth to prevent and end dating abuse) hotline: 1-866-331-8454 or try their chat line on their website (bright orange button on the top right of their website)

### 3. Your friend feels that no one understands them as someone who expresses as non-binary and people keep asking them if they are a girl or boy. Who can they talk to?

- San Francisco: LYRIC or the SF LGBT Center Youth Program

### 4. Your friend says his mom put him out and he is not sure where to go.

- San Francisco: Huckleberry Youth Programs - 415-621-2929
- Nationally: Call the National Runaway Switchboard (help with homelessness, getting home, and finding safety) - 1-800-RUNAWAY

### 5. Your friend says his sister is in an abusive relationship with another girl who hits her. What is a resource for him and his sister?

- San Francisco: Local teen hotline by Casa de Las Madres - 1-877-923-0700
- Nationally: Love Is Respect (a resource empower youth to prevent and end dating abuse) hotline: 1-866-331-8454 or try their chat line on their website (bright orange button on the top right of their website)

### 6. Your friend says she is very depressed and feels like they don't know where to go to get help or relief. What do you recommend?

- San Francisco: Huckleberry Counseling Services - 415-621-2929
- Nationally: Your school health clinic or social worker
- Nationally: The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 (or go to www.https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/ to learn more or chat)

### 7. Your friend wants to find out more about shelters because she is worried about her family or herself being homeless. What ideas could you offer her?

- San Francisco: Huckleberry House - 415-621-2929

- San Francisco: Larkin Street Youth Services (800) 669-6196
- Nationally: The National Runaway Switchboard (help with homelessness, getting home, and finding safety) 1-800-RUNAWAY

**8. Your friend is frequently worried about having food at home. Where can he go?**

- San Francisco: Larkin Street Youth Services (800) 669-6196
- Nationally: The National Runaway Switchboard (help with homelessness, getting home, and finding safety) 1-800-RUNAWAY

**9. Your friend ran away and reached out asking for help getting home from another city. Who can they call?**

- The National Runaway Switchboard (help with homelessness, getting home, and finding safety) 1-800-RUNAWAY

**10. Your friend is falling in love with an older guy and starting to skip school and have expensive things. Who can you call to ask if this might be trafficking?**

- The National Trafficking Hotline: 1-888-3737-888 or text "Jasmine" to 233733 (BeFree)

## PRE AND POST SURVEY ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATION

1. **Even if you are runaway from home or say you are in love with someone who convinces you to have sex for money, you are still a victim of sex trafficking.**

**Yes - This is true.** Your actions (like leaving home) do not give anyone the right to convince you or force you to have sex for money or other things of value. You are legally protected from any form of commercial sex as a minor or sex trafficking. If you are under 18, you never responsible for this situation. If you are over 18 and someone forces you, tricks you, or threatens you than it is also not your fault. You are a victim of trafficking.

2. **Even if you do not have a pimp or trafficker, but you trade sex for money or a place to stay and are under 18 years old, you are still a victim of commercial sexual exploitation.**

**Yes - This is true.** Even if a minor does not have a pimp or trafficker (or anyone who is threatening, tricking, or forcing them into having sex for money or other things of value) they are still victims of commercial sexual exploitation. No one should force a teen to have sex for money or other things like a place to stay. This is a crime against a child, even if the child says they want to do it.

3. **If you have sex for money or something you need or want, even if you are 17 or under, you can still be a criminal.**

**No- This is NOT true.** In states that provide Safe Harbor legislation, youth under 18 who are involved in ANY commercial sex are victims. If the person who had sex with them is an adult, the adult is considered a criminal and can be charged. This is true even if they are their boyfriend or girlfriend or even a friend. Sadly, sometimes when a youth under 18 is found by the police to be involved in commercial sex, they will be charged with other things like truancy or curfew. This is because the police didn't identify the child as a victim who needs help. This is not okay, but it is sometimes the case. (speak to Safe Harbor here)

4. **If you are feeling like you or a friend are in trouble and might be in a sex trafficking situation, there are places you can go or call for help 24/7.**

**Yes - This is TRUE.** There are places you can go for help. First, if you want to talk anonymously or text with a trained advocate, text to "Jasmine" to 233733 or call 1-888-3737-888. Second, your teachers, including me, have a list of resources right here in our local community. Third, you can visit [www.IAmJasmineStrong.com](http://www.IAmJasmineStrong.com) to learn more, get help, or join the effort!

**5. Sometimes, a youth who is under 18 needs to find a place to stay because they can't go home. If they agree to have sex for a place to stay and the other person lets them stay there, does that mean they are being exploited?**

**YES - This is true.** They are being exploited and need help. There is no judgement or shame. They just need support be safe and get what they need to survive.

**6. What number can you text to get help if you or a friend is in Jasmine's shoes?**

Text "Jasmine" to 233733 (BeFree). Alternatively, you could call The National Trafficking Hotline: 1-888-3737-888. *(Either text or hotline is fine answer).*

**Please print a copy of the following pages for each of your students.**



# I AM JASMINE STRONG – PRE SURVEY



Please return to your teacher at the end of class.

1. **Even if you are in love with someone who convinces you to have sex for money, you are still a victim of sex trafficking.**

Yes  No

2. **Even if you do not have a pimp or trafficker, but you trade sex for money or a place to stay and are under 18 years old, you are still a victim of commercial sexual exploitation.**

Yes  No

3. **If you have sex for money or something you need or want, even if you are 17 or under, you can still be a criminal.**

Yes  No

4. **If you are feeling like you or a friend are in trouble and might be in a sex trafficking situation, there are places you can go or call for help 24/7.**

Yes  No

5. **Sometimes, a youth who is under 18 needs to find a place to stay because they can't go home. If they agree to have sex for a place to stay and the other person lets them stay there, does that mean they are being exploited?**

Yes  No

6. **What number can you text to get help if you or a friend is being exploited for sex?**

Write in:

# I AM JASMINE STRONG – POST SURVEY



Please return to your teacher at the end of class.

1. **Even if you are in love with someone who convinces you to have sex for money, you are still a victim of sex trafficking.**

Yes  No

2. **Even if you do not have a pimp or trafficker, but you trade sex for money or a place to stay and are under 18 years old, you are still a victim of commercial sexual exploitation.**

Yes  No

3. **If you have sex for money or something you need or want, even if you are 17 or under, you can still be a criminal.**

Yes  No

4. **If you are feeling like you or a friend are in trouble and might be in a sex trafficking situation, there are places you can go or call for help 24/7.**

Yes  No

5. **Sometimes, a youth who is under 18 needs to find a place to stay because they can't go home. If they agree to have sex for a place to stay and the other person lets them stay there, does that mean they are being exploited?**

Yes  No

6. **What number can you text to get help if you or a friend are in Jasmine's shoes?**

Write in:

## RESOURCE GAME



Please answer the following questions:

1. Your friend says that she is thinking of running away. Where can she go?
2. Your friend says her boyfriend is making her do things she does not want to do, like have sex with other guys. What is a resource she can go to talk?
3. Your friend feels that no one understands them as someone who expresses as non-binary and people keep asking them if they are a girl or boy. Who can they talk to?
4. Your friend says his mom put him out and he is not sure where to go.
5. Your friend says his sister is in an abusive relationship with another girl who hits her. What is a resource for him and his sister?
6. Your friend says she is very depressed and feels like they don't know where to go to get help or relief. What do you recommend?
7. Your friend wants to find out more about shelters because she is worried about her family or herself being homeless. What ideas could you offer her?

8. Your friend is frequently worried about having food at home. Where can he go?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. Your friend ran away and reached out asking for help getting home from another city. Who can they call?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Your friend is falling in love with an older guy and starting to skip school and have expensive things. Who can you call to ask if this might be trafficking?