

# INTERNATIONALLY TRAFFICKED PERSONS IN CANADA

**FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE**

*International Women's Day  
March 8th 2022*



# Land Acknowledgement for Toronto

We recognize how we have profited from Canada's colonialism, and we at the FCJ Refugee Centre would like to acknowledge the land on which its establishment is housed, and where staff, volunteers and members alike gather.

We acknowledge the land we are meeting on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

We at FCJ continue to advocate for social justice, social change and action with Indigenous communities. We commit ourselves to participate in active reflection, and reconciliation of the true and terrible foundation upon which Canada was built.

On stolen land.

With stolen sons and daughters.

We honour the victims, survivors, and all families impacted by the trauma inflicted upon generations of Indigenous communities through action, not simply words.

# Our Story

Founded in 1991 by late Co-Director Francisco Rico and current Executive Director Loly Rico.

Started initially as a safe haven for precarious migrant women and their children.

## ***The mission of the FCJ Refugee Centre:***

FCJ Refugee Centre helps up-rooted people overcome the challenges of rebuilding their lives in Canadian society. With an open door approach, the Centre offers an integrated model of refugee protection, settlement services and education, including shelter for women and their children.

FCJ  
REFUGEE CENTRE

# FCJ Refugee Centre



A non-profit organizations which serves uprooted people

Case centered, collaborative and holistic approach with applied gendered and anti-oppressive framework

## Our Programs

- Refugee Claimant Settlement
- Refugee Protection
- Popular Education
- Primary Health Clinic
- Anti-Human Trafficking Program
- Youth Network

# Our Work in Anti-Human Trafficking



- Founded the Toronto Counter Human Trafficking Network (TCHTN)
- Member of the Canadian Council for Refugees' (CCR) Steering Committee Against Human Trafficking
- **Youth Alliance Against Human Trafficking**
- **Migrant Women's Counter Human Trafficking Alliance**
- **Migrant Workers Mobile Program**

Who do we work with?

- Survivors of sex and labour trafficking
- Survivors of labour abuse and exploitation
- Women at-risk of trafficking (survivors of domestic violence & precarious status migrants)



# INTRODUCTIONS & DEFINITIONS - PT I

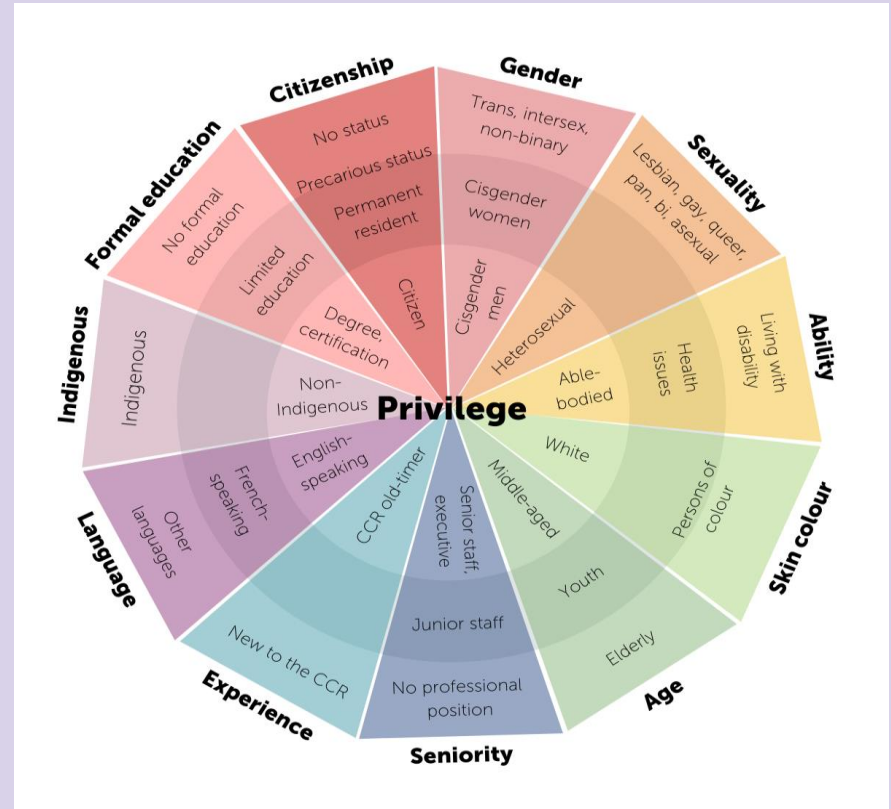
# CCR (Canadian Council for Refugees) Power Wheel

The closer to the centre the more privilege you have

*Privilege = An advantage that only one person or group of people has usually because of their position*



Canadian Council for Refugees  
Conseil canadien pour les réfugiés



# United Nations Definition of Human Trafficking: *“The Palermo Protocol”*

In 2000, the UN’s Palermo Protocol defined Human Trafficking as:

"...as 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**"





# HUMAN TRAFFICKING vs. PEOPLE SMUGGLING

Factors	People Smuggling	Human Trafficking
Transnational crime	✓	✗
Consent of participant	✓	✗
Freedom and autonomy	✓	✗
Source of profit from one act	✓	✗

The U.N. Protocol against Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air defines human smuggling as:

the "facilitation, transportation, or procurement of the illegal [entry of a person or persons across an international border.](#)"

# Who is at Risk of Trafficking?

**Anyone can be at risk of Human Trafficking**

These factors increases someone's risk



Being a woman or a girl	Poverty	Low Self-Esteem
2SLGBTQ+	Discrimination (Racism, Sexism, Ableism)	Isolation
Involvement in the child welfare system	Homeless or precarious housing	A history of abuse
Mental illness	Struggles with Addiction	Precarious Immigration Status



# INTERNATIONAL CASES - SEX TRAFFICKING PT.II

# Human Trafficking for the purpose of Sexual Exploitation

**Sexual exploitation** is when someone is **deceived, coerced** or **forced** to take part in sexual activity.

- Actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another (World Health Organization, 2020)



# Recruitment

- **Force** - use of Isolation, abuse, and emotional/physical torture
- **Coercion** - Use of Blackmail, false information, can be gradual
- **Befriending** - Girls recruit girls through friendship, glamourising their own lives and giving a person a sense of belonging
- **Boyfriend/seduction** - the pimp uses charm to make the person feel special, the person believes the pimp is either their boyfriend and develops a strong loyalty

*Recruitment happens online, in schools, malls/group homes, shelters and on the street*

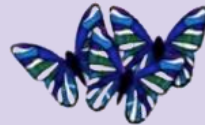


# Sex Work vs. Sex Trafficking

	SEX WORK	SEX TRAFFICKING
Entering voluntarily (choice or circumstance)	✓	✗
Control over working conditions	✓	✗
Control over profits	✓	✗
Control by a third party	✗	✓
Option to exit	✓	✗

# Indicators of Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation

- Trafficker first builds trusting and dependent relationship with person
- Trafficker forces the person to do compromising sexual acts with them or other people → there is a lack of consent
- Trafficker is controlling (using many tools such as cellphones and social media, and violence)
  - Trafficked person may show signs of physical abuse
- May use slang language popular with sex industry sub-culture (ex: pimp, daddy)
- Trafficked persons' grades at school drop or they stop attending school altogether





# INTERNATIONAL CASES - LABOUR TRAFFICKING PT.III

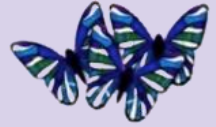


# Human Trafficking for the purpose of Labour Exploitation

Refers to situations in which persons are **coerced** to work using **violence or intimidation**, or by more subtle means such as **manipulated debt, retention of identity papers or threats** of denunciation to immigration authorities.



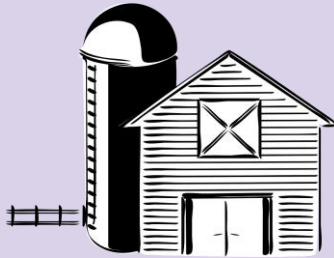
# How does it happen?



- **Coercion** = getting someone to do something through force or threats
- **Deception - False Promises**
  - New life in Canada
  - Documents
  - Good pay & shelter
  - Education
  - Family Reunification
- **Recruiters can be involved**- a company or persons who specializes in finding people to work for other companies
- Exploitation through federal programs that brings temporary migrant workers - SAWP (Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program), TFWP (Temporary Foreign Workers Program), Caregiver Program
- **Debt bondage** = falling into debt to get the job opportunity in Canada
- **Isolation** - confined to remote areas
- Withholding pay, documents or making illegal deductions

# Exploitation and Labour Trafficking Conditions can occur in (but not limited to):

- Domestic Work
- Hospitality
- Construction
- Factories
- Sex Work
- Agriculture & Food Industry



# Potential Mindset of a Trafficked Persons

- May feel loyalty towards trafficker
- May fear for one's safety, fear of trafficker
- Fear of criminalization
- May not identify as "victim" or "trafficked person"
- May not know who to trust or who to ask for help
- Feelings of isolation and lack of understanding about their rights





# Migrant Woman's Success Story

# Resources & Supports

- **FCJ Refugee Centre:** <https://www.fcjrefugeecentre.org/our-programs/human-trafficking/>
- **Aura Freedom:** <https://aurafreedom.org/>
- **The Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking:**  
<https://www.canadiancentretoendhumantrafficking.ca/>
  - Toll free line for victims seeking help: 1-833-900-1010
- **Anti Human Trafficking Services & Supports (Ontario)**
  - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/anti-human-trafficking-services-and-supports>



# Connect with our AHT Team at FCJ!



**(416) 469 9754**



**(647) 971 2153**



**[www.fcjrefugeecentre.org](http://www.fcjrefugeecentre.org)**

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# FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE



## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

