

School Scenarios

Scenario 1:

Arianna is a low functioning special education student, both her mother and sister are also special education. The family is extremely poor. Arianna started showing up to school looking very nice, nails were done, a new haircut and was carrying new and different (expensive) purses.

School staff was excited to see her taking such good care of herself and asked what changed. She said she had a boyfriend and he was taking care of her. She met him at the bus stop and was so excited to finally have someone who loved her now. While we were talking, her phone rang and she immediately answered it. I reminded her of the cell phone policy in school and was told that she had to answer it, because he bought her the phone and got upset if she didn't answer.

I started to talk to her about healthy and safe relationships and she assured me that this was a safe relationship and that he loved her. Eventually, she said her boyfriend told her that she was able to make him happy because she take such good care of him. He now wants her to take care of his friends and make them feel good, too.

Case Study Questions

1. What are the different indicators this might be a trafficking situation?
2. List the first three steps you would take to address this situation:
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
3. What are resources in your area that could help this client?
4. List one critically important question to ask in this situation:
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5. What are the strengths and threats in this client's environment?

Strengths	Threats

6. How could you use your knowledge of sex trafficking to educate others involved in this case, in order to improve the safety of this client?

Scenario 2

Jose is a 17 year old student who has been missing school lately. When he is at school you notice that he is exhausted. He discloses to you that he is gay and was kicked out of his house by his very religious mother due to his sexual orientation.

He was taken in by an older man that he knew through work. He said it is a safe environment but that weird things sometimes happen there. When pressed for details Jose discloses that he is forced to have sex in order to remain at the house. Over time, Jose is offered to his roommates friends.

When I expressed concern, Jose indicated that it was not "rape", it's just how things happen in the gay community. Jose indicated that he could handle it because he had no place else to go.

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Scenario 3

Maria is a senior. She is hoping to go to college but she is undocumented so finding money has been a challenge. She's spent a great deal of time in the counseling office searching through scholarships that she might be eligible for. Suddenly, she stopped coming. Her counselor tries to call her out of class to check in but she is often absent. Her friends report that she has become extremely secretive and she goes out all of the time but never with them.

Her close friend discloses to the counselor that she has figured out a way to make some quick money to pay for some of the college fees. Unfortunately, once she started "hooking up" with people she wasn't really allowed to stop. She was being told that her family would find out and she didn't want that to happen.

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Scenario 4

A while ago a counselor uncovered a sex trafficking ring. There were a couple of girls involved in the ring. Two students from a sister school had scanned and copied our schools ID's that is how they got onto campus to recruit. They recruited not only girls to work but refugee boys who needed extra money to be the lookouts. The lookouts would intimidate the girls and tell on them if they were seen talking to adults or other boys on campus. One of the students reported that the "pimps" would circle her house and threaten to beat her and her parents if she told or tried to escape. Another counselor who had experience working in jails figured out who the victims were-- both had to change schools to escape.

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Scenario 5

Jaime is a junior in high school. She is a smart, and popular IB student. One day she gets in a fight with her parents and leaves. She goes to Denny's to calm down. While sitting at a table, alone and crying a young man approaches her. He asks if she's OK and sits down to join her. He lets her know that sometimes a short break from your parents makes things easier and says she is welcome to crash with him and his roommates for the night - Jaime agrees.

That night, he drives her to his home in Cave Creek. Jaime had no idea where she was. The next day he said nobody could take her home, it was too far to drive. After a couple of days, Jaime is concerned about what will her parents say or think after she's been gone for a few days. She has no phone and no access to a phone. Soon she is told that she has been there a few days, and she needs to help pay for rent. Jaime did not have any money and was told that they could figure out was to pay. Jaime was forced to start having sex with the guy.

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Scenario 6

Freshman Serena had discipline issues at school from day one. She was always late, falling asleep, or on the phone. When teachers or administrators spoke to her about these issues she was rude and disrespectful. She was new to the school so intervention staff contacted her feeder school and what they were told about Serena was very different than what they had experienced. The feeder school reported that she was quiet and had never missed a day.

A parent meeting was called. Mom was at her wits end. She reported that cabs would come to get Serena at home at 12:00 am. She would leave and come home in the morning. When asked where she went, she said she was with her boyfriend. The taxi was paid for and she never knew exactly where it brought her. She didn't know how old he was or what his last name was but said that she always got money at the end of the night so she wouldn't have to worry about things.

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Scenario 7

A group of girls were asked by another group of girls to dance at a party and were excited to make some extra money. After getting to the party they soon realized that it was going to be more than dancing - the girls had to take their clothing off. They were told that if they didn't keep attending the parties to "dance" then photos of what they were doing would be shown to their parents.

At one point, one of the girls chose not to keep dancing. A photo was shown to her mother and she was sent to Mexico to live with family. Other girls were too afraid to say no after that happened and continued to dance throughout the year.

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