Red Flags that May Indicate that a Child, Teen, or Adult Is or Has Already Been a Victim of Trafficking

If they become secretive or tell you that anyone has asked them to keep a secret

If they decrease or change their communication habits

If they act as if they are being controlled

If they indicate they are not free to come and go as they wish

If they respond to you with seemingly rehearsed answers

If they lack control of earned money (teen or adult)

If they do not have control over their own identification documents (teen or adult)

If they avoid eye contact

If they become unusually defensive or argumentative

If they seem to mistrust individuals displaying compassion

If they have tattoos or scarring of trafficker's name and/or symbols

If they have visible signs of sexual violence, physical restraint, or confinement

If they seem malnourished, exhausted, or sleep deprived

If they begin dressing inappropriately

Trust your gut. When your gut is saying something feels wrong, it is wrong. You don't need to ask others. If it looks wrong, it is wrong. If you're feeling those butterflies or uneasiness inside of you, that's another red flag!

Taken from *A Survivor's Secret: Once Trafficked, Now Free from Feelings of Worthlessness, Fear, and Shame*. by Gina Cavallo with Cindy Lambert. Copyright © 2023. Used by permission of Focus On the Family. All rights reserved. Represented by Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.



