Child sex trafficking is a missing child issue.

At least 100,000 CHILDREN in the United States are at risk of child sex trafficking according to a recent study.

PTSD
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder is very common among children exploited through sex trafficking.

CRISIS ON THE RISE
1 in 6 endangered runaways reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children in 2014 were likely sex trafficking victims.

81% of kids reported missing to NCMEC are endangered runaways.

68% of these likely sex trafficking victims were in the care of social services or foster care when they ran.

Child sex trafficking victims are:

TARGETED
Pimps are predators who seek out vulnerable victims, particularly runaways, homeless youth or children experiencing trouble at home.

They know these children have emotional and physical needs they perceive are not being met and use this to their advantage. Pimps find victims at a variety of venues such as in social networking websites, shopping malls and schools; on local streets; or at bus stations. While pimps often target children outside of their family, a family member may also exploit a child.

TRICKED
Pimps are willing to invest a great deal of time and effort in their victim to break down a victim's natural resistance and suspicion.

Buying them gifts, providing a place to stay, promising a loving relationship before revealing their true intent.

Frequently victims do not realize the deceptive nature of their trafficker's interest in them, viewing their pimp as a caretaker and/or boyfriend.

TRAUMATIZED
A pimp's use of psychological manipulation (causing the child to truly believe the pimp loves and cares for his or her well-being) coupled with physical control (threats, violence or drug addiction) can make a victim feel trapped and powerless. This "trauma bond" is difficult to break and long-term treatment and counseling for victims is required.

10,000+
Number of reports of child sex trafficking we received last year to our CyberTipline.

THE PREVENTING SEX TRAFFICKING AND STRENGTHENING FAMILIES ACT WAS SIGNED INTO LAW ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2014. This important new legislation directs state agencies to report immediately information on missing or abducted children to law enforcement authorities and to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.
Child sex trafficking is destroying the lives of American children in every community. They are being sold on the streets, in hotels and in casinos. In the online world, they are being advertised on a variety of websites. Their "pimps" can be perceived friends or boyfriends, or even family members or foster parents.

IT IS A HEINOUS TYPE OF CHILD VICTIMIZATION. And we urgently need your help to stop it.

As the largest nonprofit organization in the country working with law enforcement on the issues of missing and exploited children, we are in a unique position to impact thousands of lives.

BUT WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF OTHERS WITH AN EQUAL PASSION FOR PROTECTING CHILDREN.

To learn more about NCMEC visit www.missingkids.org