

# Human Trafficking Quiz Answers

**1. Human trafficking requires moving foreigners across national borders, or at least involves some form of travel or transportation.**

Hint: See Myth

<http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/overview/myths-and-misconceptions>

Answer: False

Under the federal trafficking statutes, the crime of human trafficking does not require transportation. It can take place in your city or in a home with no movement at all. Human trafficking is more accurately characterized as exploitation, a form of involuntary servitude, or “compelled service” where an individual’s will is overborne through force, fraud, or coercion.

**2. All victims of human trafficking will immediately identify themselves as such to potential rescuers and are desperate to escape.**

Hint: See Myth 5.

<http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/overview/myths-and-misconceptions>

Answer: False

Often victims do not identify themselves as trafficking victims due to a lack of knowledge about it, lack of trust, self-blame, instilled fears of consequences, or specific instructions by the traffickers. Sometimes victims have a traumatic bond with their captors and want to stay. Sometimes it takes years of healing before victims understand that they have been manipulated, that they did not cause it, and that coercion is not the same as consent. Other times it can take years before they see a professional who identifies their past experience as human trafficking.

**3. A woman who agrees to be prostituted can still be a victim of human trafficking.**

Hint: See Myth 9

<http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/overview/myths-and-misconceptions>

Answer: True

Remember, it is impossible to consent to being trafficked. If fraud, coercion or force was used to compel service, evidence of consent is irrelevant and can not be used as a defense.

**4. A woman that goes to a hotel cannot be a victim of human trafficking because she's obviously not being held against her will.**

Hint: See Myth 4

<http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/overview/myths-and-misconceptions>

Answer: False

Being kidnapped, locked up, or chained is not a required element. A person can be a victim of human trafficking even if there are no elements of physical restraint, physical force, or physical bondage. Psychological means of control are sufficient elements of the crime.

**5. If a girl is 17 and she has willingly decided to work for a pimp that does not use force, fraud or coercion in any way, it is not human trafficking.**

Hint: <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2008/105487.htm>

Answer: False

Anyone under 18 is a child. Any child that is being sexually exploited is automatically considered a victim of human trafficking automatically, even if there is no force, fraud or coercion. Consent is irrelevant.

**6. A trafficking victim might be free to go places, smile when she's doing her job, and even advertise for more customers.**

Hint: See Myth 4

<http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/overview/myths-and-misconceptions>

Answer: True

Human trafficking is about exploitation. Not movement. Not restraint. Human trafficking can be compelled by force, fraud, deception, abuse of power, or coercion – which includes psychological coercion. Furthermore, prostituted women are required to appear happy. Sometimes trafficked individuals are compelled to advertise because they are under pressure to bring in money. Sometimes they even advertise that they are independent and have no pimp when the opposite is true.

**7. Human trafficking in the U.S. only happens to young foreign girls.**

Hint: See Myth 1

<http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/overview/myths-and-misconceptions>

Answer: False

It can also happen to boys, men and women, and transgender individuals, young and old. People can be victims of “labor trafficking” as well, where they are compelled to work for little or no money. People can be single or married, impoverished or wealthy, parents or grandparents, handicapped, and from any race. There is no one face of human trafficking.

**8. A person cannot be considered a trafficking victim unless there is evidence of physical violence or kidnapping.**

Hint:

Remember what you learned in Question 4 about physical violence being required to qualify as a victim of human trafficking.

Answer: False

As you know, many victims are controlled by traffickers through psychological means, such as threats of violence, manipulation, and lies. In many cases, traffickers use a combination of direct violence and mental abuse. The federal definition of the crime, as defined in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, was created to address the wider spectrum of methods of control used by traffickers beyond “bodily harm.” This can even include manipulating a person’s religious beliefs or superstitions to compel service. In fact, only a small percentage of trafficking victims are kidnapped.

**9. A person who is paid for his or her work in the commercial sex industry cannot be considered a victim of human trafficking.**

Answer: False

Hint: See Myth 9, last sentence

<http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/overview/myths-and-misconceptions>

Paying a victim does not invalidate the crime of human trafficking if there is evidence of exploitation, force, fraud, deception, abuse of power, or coercion.

**10. Pimp-controlled prostitution can be a form of human trafficking.**

Hint: <http://www.polarisproject.org/human-trafficking/human-trafficking-faqs#How%20is%20pimping%20a%20form%20of%20sex%20trafficking?>

Answer: True

Rarely is there a case where a pimp is nothing more than a kind facilitator. Any woman “controlled” by the pimp can be considered a victim of human trafficking – regardless of whether she received money. *“It is often difficult to identify a pimp who is not using some form of deceit, lies, manipulation, threats, or violence towards the women or girls they are attempting to control.”* - Polaris Project. When the pimp uses force, fraud or coercion, he becomes a trafficker.

**11. A person who agrees to submit to slave-like conditions as part of a religious belief or custom could never qualify for services as a survivor of trafficking.**

Answer: False

Hint: [http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=1021819](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1021819)

Religious coercion is a form of psychological and situational coercion. In fact, it is one of the most powerful ways to compel behavior that exists. Once force, fraud, or coercion can be established, consent is irrelevant. Furthermore, religion cannot be used as a defense against crimes.