



KEEPING KIDS SAFE FROM PREDATORS

In a world where exploiters prey on vulnerable children, **Special Operations | Finding Kids** is the only organization in the region dedicated to hiring boots-on-the-ground retired law enforcement and private investigators — *at no cost to parents* — to find missing and exploited children.

We fill critical gaps in the system, including ensuring youth and families have the support they need, and passing information to law enforcement to hold perpetrators accountable.



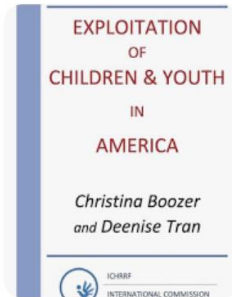




Human Rights Watch
US States Fail to Protect Children's ...



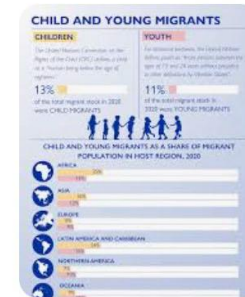
Lauren's Kids
National Statistics - L...



Amazon.com
Amazon.com: Explo...



National Children's Alliance
National Statistics on Child Abuse ...



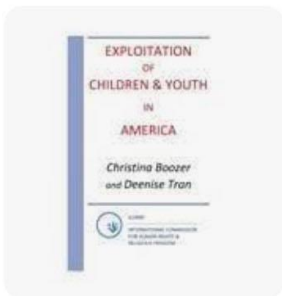
Global Migration Dat...
Child and young mi...



Jane Addams College of Social Work - University...
Sexual Exploitation of Children in ...



Joslyn Law Firm
Which States in the ...



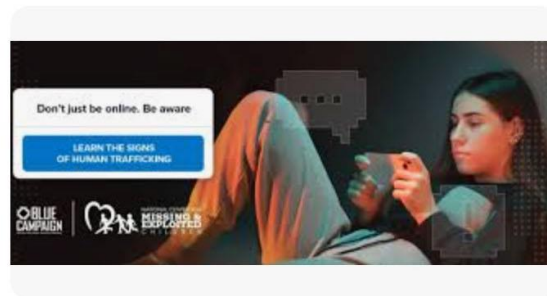
Owens Community Colle...
Exploitation of Children ...



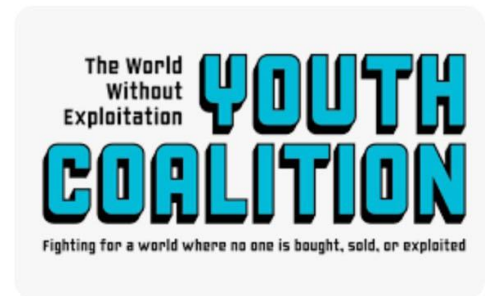
Child USA
Child Protection La...



CDC
Dating Violence, Sexual Violence, and ...



Homeland Security
Youth and Human Trafficking | Homeland ...



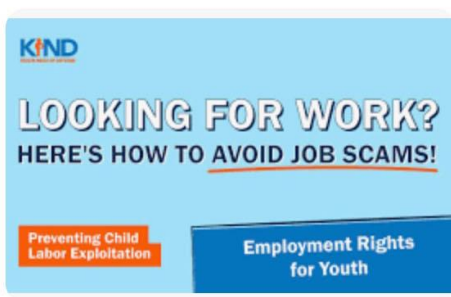
World Without Exploitation
World Without Exploitation | Youth



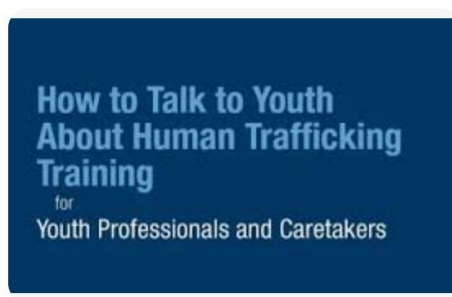
The New York Times
Alone and Exploited...



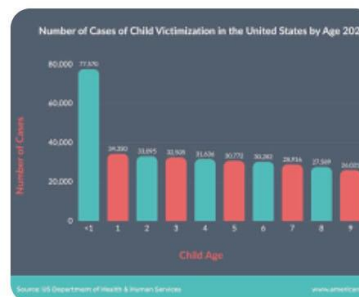
Child USA
Child Protection Laws Around Sex A...



Kids in Need of Defense
Preventing Child Labor Exploitation - KI...



Homeland Security
Understanding Youth Exploitation ...



American SPCC
Child Maltreatment & Neglect St...



Scouting America
Scouting's Barriers to Abus...





United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

<https://www.unodc.org> › unodc › global-report-on-traff... ⋮

Global Report on Trafficking in Persons

A Global Report on **Trafficking** in Persons launched today by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) provides new information on a crime that ... [Read more](#)



The Exodus Road

<https://theexodusroad.com> › where-is-human-traffickin... ⋮

Where is human trafficking most common?

Jan 30, 2023 — According to the ILO's latest data, the Asia and Pacific region has the highest number of victims of forced labor and marriage, accounting for more than half ... [Read more](#)



Homeland Security (.gov)

<https://www.dhs.gov> › human-trafficking-quick-facts ⋮

Human Trafficking Quick Facts

May 22, 2025 — **Human trafficking** is the crime of compelling a person to provide labor or services, or to engage in commercial sex acts. [Read more](#)



United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

<https://www.unodc.org> › UNVTF_fs_HT_EN PDF ⋮

Factsheet on Human Trafficking

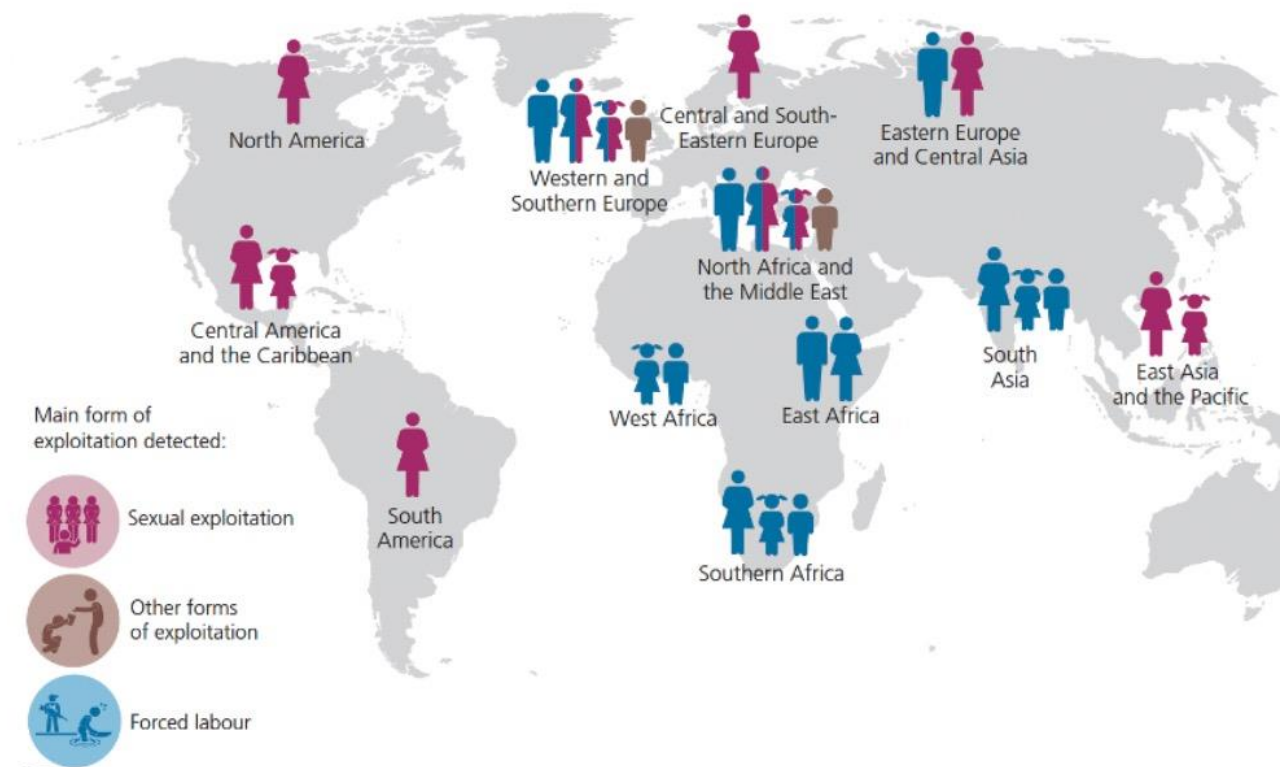
The UNODC report **Trafficking** in persons to Europe for sexual exploitation shows that this is one of the most lucrative illicit businesses in Europe, where ... [Read more](#)



The Exodus Road



MAP. 6 Main forms of exploitation and profiles of detected victims, by subregions, 2018 (or most recent)





The World Economic Forum (WEF) cites data from partners like the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Walk Free, which estimates that **over 50 million people** are affected by modern slavery worldwide.



GLOBAL SLAVERY INDEX / COUNTRY STUDY

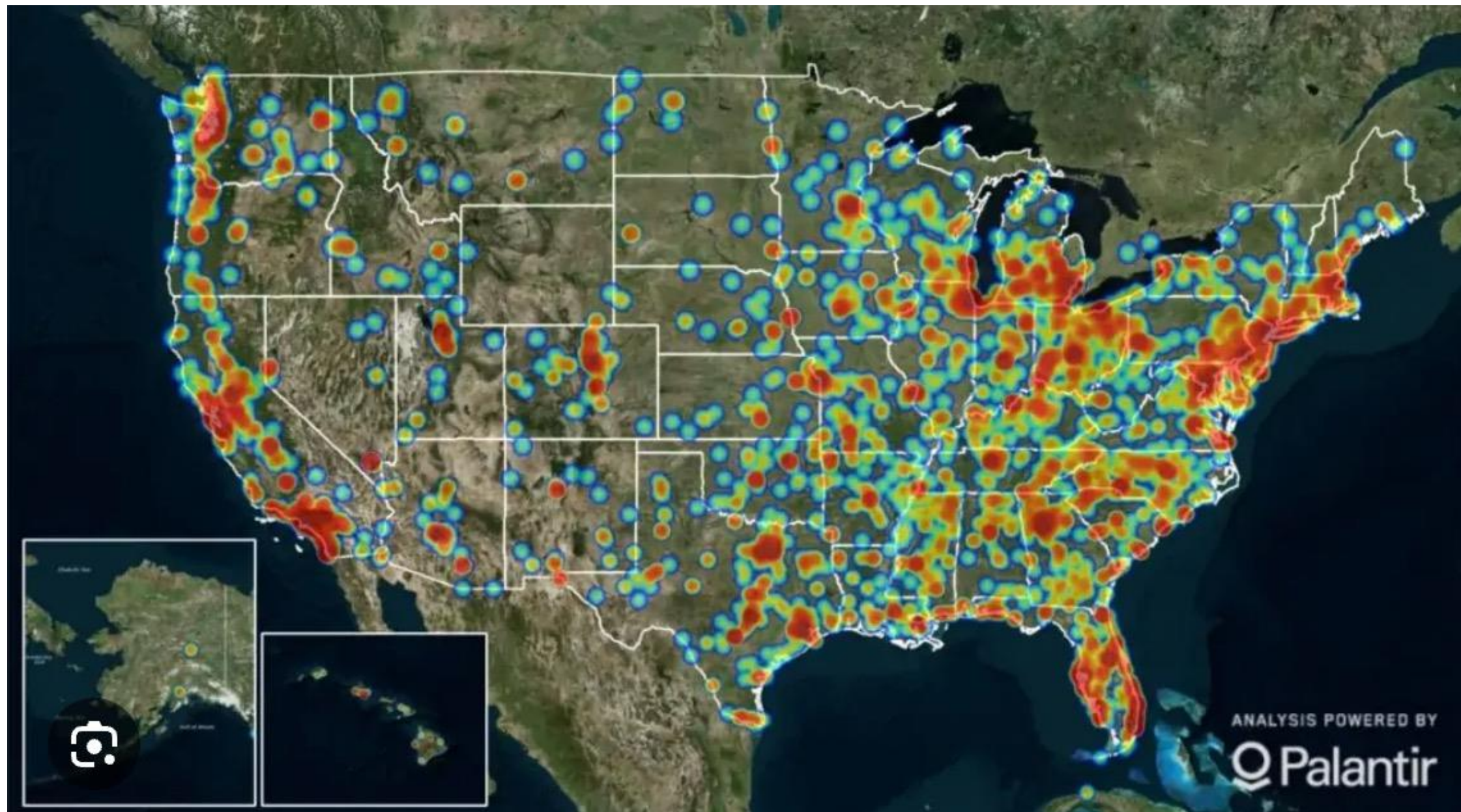
MODERN SLAVERY IN UNITED STATES

Estimated number living in modern slavery:

1,091,000 (3.3 per thousand)

It

United States















FIFTEEN APPS

PARENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

Courtesy of the
Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
UPDATED JULY 2019



MEETME



MEETME is a dating social media app that allows users to connect with people based on geographic proximity. As the app's name suggests, users are encouraged to meet each other in person.

GRINDR



GRINDR is a dating app geared towards gay, bi and transgender people. The app gives users options to chat, share photos and meet up based on a smart phone's GPS location.

SKOUT



SKOUT is a location-based dating app and website. While users under 17 years old are unable to share private photos, kids can easily create an account using a different age.

WHATSAPP



WHATSAPP is a popular messaging app that allows users to send texts, photos, voicemails, make calls and video chats worldwide. WHATSAPP uses an internet connection on smart phones and computers.

TIKTOK



TIKTOK is a new mobile device app popular with kids used for creating and sharing short videos. With very limited privacy controls, users are vulnerable to cyber bullying and explicit content.

BADOO



BADDOO is a dating and social networking app where users can chat, share photos and videos and connect based on location. While the app is intended for adults only, teens are known to create profiles.

BUMBLE



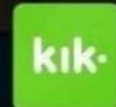
BUMBLE is similar to the popular dating app "Tinder" however, it requires women to make the first contact. Kids have been known to use BUMBLE to create fake accounts and falsify their age.

SNAPCHAT



SNAPCHAT is one of the most popular apps in recent years. While the app promises users can take a photo/video and it will disappear, new features including "stories" allows users to view content for up to 24 hours. Snapchat also allows users to see your location.

KIK



KIK allows anyone to contact and direct message your child. Kids can bypass traditional text messaging features. KIK gives users unlimited access to anyone, anywhere, anytime.

LIVEME



LIVE.ME is a live-streaming video app that uses geolocation to share videos so users can find out a broadcaster's exact location. Users can earn "coins" as a way to "pay" minors for photos.

HOLLA



HOLLA is a self-proclaimed "addicting" video chat app that allows users to meet people all over the world in just seconds. Reviewers say they have been confronted with racial slurs, explicit content, and more.

WHISPER



WHISPER is an anonymous social network that promotes sharing secrets with strangers. It also reveals a user's location so people can meet up.

ASK.FM



ASK.FM is known for cyber bullying. The app encourages users to allow anonymous people to ask them questions.

CALCULATOR%



CALCULATOR% is only one of SEVERAL secret apps used to hide photos, videos, files, and browser history.

HOT OR NOT



HOT OR NOT encourages users to rate your profile, check out people in their area, and chat with strangers. The goal of this app is to hook up.

For more information, contact Sarasota County Sheriff's Office Community Affairs at 941.861.4005







2024 – 8,362 Missing children's reports.

2024 – 7,991 Missing children's reports cleared.

That's 371 Missing children from those nine counties who have never been found.

Or an average of over over one every single day.





FOX 13

Two arrested in human trafficking bust ...



KSAT

11 suspects arrested in connection wit...



4 WWL-TV

4 alleged human traffickers arrested in ...



WLBT

6 men arrested following undercover ...



WCIA.com

Eight arrested



YouTube

6 Arrested in Human Trafficking Sting ...



SAFETY ISN'T SEASONAL

Neither Is **Our Commitment.**