

January is National Stalking Awareness, Human Trafficking Prevention Month

Komckud Ki: joins other advocates and organizations around the United States in efforts to raise awareness of and take action to end stalking and human trafficking crimes. American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians experience some of the highest rates of sex trafficking and stalking in the United States.

Indigenous groups in the U.S. - including American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians - are especially at risk for targeting by traffickers. American Indians and Alaska Natives are also disproportionately affected by stalking, where 1 out of 2 Native women and 1 out of 10 Native men are stalked in their lifetime. Native LGBTQ and Two-Spirit people experience higher poverty and homelessness rates, making this community more vulnerable to stalking and trafficking. (NIWRC)

Komckud Ki: would like to bring light to these issues impacting our communities. Stalking sometimes goes undetected because individuals being stalked don't always recognize the signs or are too afraid to report it. Victim/survivors of domestic violence/teen dating violence/family violence can become victims of stalking because of the extreme jealousy, possessiveness and controlling behavior exhibited by an abuser. Power and control is at the core of an abusive relationship, therefore, stalking often presents itself at some point in the relationship. Stalking heightens when a victim/survivor leaves the abusive relationship which is also the most dangerous time. Keep in mind that anyone can fall victim to stalking so providing awareness on its dynamics, as well as the tools and resources available to the community can help keep the community safe.

Human trafficking often gets overlooked and we maybe believe its not happening to tribal members on and/or off the Nation, but unfortunately it does happen, and presents itself in unique ways in Indian Country. We encourage the community to learn the signs, dynamics and resources available such as Komckud Ki:.

Komckud Ki: is a local resource for information, education and most importantly support services on the Nation. Please feel free to reach out to the program for more information. We have included some overview information on Stalking and Human Trafficking and available resources.



24/7. Safe. Confidential.

Tohono O'odham Komckud Ki:

Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention Program

1-866-666-4889

Stalking

What is Stalking?

Stalking is a pattern of unwanted behaviors that violate your privacy, making you feel threatened, in danger, or scared. Stalking behaviors can include, but are not limited to:

Following, watching, or driving by where you are

Making repeated calls, texts, or messages

Sending unwanted gifts or letters

Getting information about you through family, relatives, your garbage

Other intimidating, controlling, or invasive behaviors including Cyberstalking

What is Cyberstalking?

Cyberstalking is the misuse of the Internet or other technology to stalk and harass someone. For stalkers, the Internet can be a prime place for gender-based violence. Cyberstalking behaviors can include, but are not limited to:

- Hacking a camera on your phone or computer to watch you or view your surroundings.
- Monitoring your computer, social media accounts, calls, or texts.
- Using GPS or apps to view your surroundings, track your location, or monitor your actions online.
- Sharing your personal information, images, or videos without consent to hurt or expose you.
- Stalking is often a part of gender-based violence and can cause fear, sleep problems, or depression. Stalking is unpredictable and dangerous because no two stalking situations are alike.

If you're being stalked, there are steps you can take to increase your awareness and safety:

- Know that it's never your fault.
- Never approach or respond to a stalker or attempt to deal with the situation by yourself—get help immediately from law enforcement, a domestic violence program, and/or trusted family and friends.
- Take all threats seriously, especially if there is talk of suicide or murder, or if you're trying to leave or end a relationship.
- If you feel unsafe, stay with family or friends or in a domestic violence shelter.
- Do not travel alone; change your routine and travel routes, if you can.
- Document everything that happens with time and dates, save texts, record phone calls, keep unwanted "gifts," etc.
- Call the police and ask for written reports of all incidents.
- Contact the police to request a protection or restraining order.
- Protect your privacy online by creating strong passwords for all your devices and accounts, including social media, and cover your computer camera with a piece of tape.

For more information and/or support:



**Komckud Ki: Domestic and Sexual Violence
Prevention Program 24/7 Hotline**
1-866-666-4889



StrongHearts Native Hotline
1-844-762-8483
www.strongheartshelpline.org

WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS

Modern day slavery.

Exploiting a person through force, fraud, or coercion.

Sex trafficking, forced labor, and domestic servitude.

Happening everywhere , even in the United States, and victims can be U.S. Citizens or of any nationality, age, socioeconomic status, or gender.

Human Smuggling and Human Trafficking are different crimes. **Human Smuggling** is the illegal movement of someone across a border. **Human Trafficking** is the illegal exploitation of a person.

It can happen anywhere:

Suburbs



Rural towns



Cities



even on Tribal reservations



40% of victims are recruited online, frequently through means such as false job postings and social media. (NIWRC)

There are different types of Human trafficking:

Sex Trafficking— the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of an individual who under force, fraud or coercion is induced to perform a commercial sex act.

Forced Labor— the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud or coercion for the purposes of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.

If you or someone you know may be a victims you can contact the following for more information and/or help:



Tohono O'odham Komckud Ki:
Domestic & Sexual Violence
Prevention Program
24/7 Hotline
1-866-666-4889



National Indigenous
Women's Resource Center
<https://www.niwrc.org>

NATIONAL
HUMAN
TRAFFICKING
HOTLINE

1-888-373-7888
Text 233733
<https://humantraffickinghotline.org>



Homeland
Security

U.S. Department on Homeland Security
<https://www.dhs.gov>