

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN ALBERTA

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A person wearing a brown, textured sweater is sitting at a desk, typing on a laptop. The laptop screen shows a document with text and images. The background is a bright window with a dark frame. A dark blue semi-transparent rectangle is overlaid on the lower right portion of the image, containing the word 'HOUSEKEEPING' in white capital letters.

# HOUSEKEEPING



About ACT  
Alberta

# AGENDA

Meet your  
Storyteller & Intake

Trauma-  
Informed Care

Learn their  
Background & do  
Needs Assessment

Understanding  
Trafficking

Barriers &  
Screening

Referral



# About ACT Alberta





# About ACT Alberta

## VISION

An Alberta free of human trafficking

## MISSION

We support and advocate for victims and survivors of human trafficking, increase knowledge and awareness of all forms of human trafficking, and lead and foster collective action through collaboration and respect.

## VALUES

- Person-centered response driven by human rights.
- A commitment to serve and empower all individuals using an anti-oppressive framework.
- Evidence-based and judgment-free services through a lens of intersectionality.
- Collective action through the coordination, collaboration, and respect of stakeholders and allies.

# Our Program Model

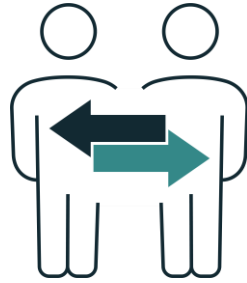
## PREVENTION



### First Defense

Tailored Training  
and Education

## RESPONSE



### Pathways to Safety

Specialized Case  
Management

## MOBILIZATION



### It Takes a Village

Cross-Agency  
Partnerships, Knowledge  
Sharing, and Research



# Using the Websites

## Human Trafficking 101: Service Provider Essentials

*Need help? Call us at **780-474-1104** or contact the Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline at **1-833-900-1010**.*

[Quick exit](#)



# Using the Websites



- Simulate a **real client** experience
- Focus on **client care** rather than industry-specific policy
- Meant to have a bit of **ambiguity** like a real-life scenario



COMMUNITY  
AGENCY



IMMIGRATION



DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE



HOUSING



HEALTH



CHILD/  
YOUTH



LAW  
ENFORCEMENT



# Are they a victim/survivor?



Please put **Yes** or **No** in the chat to definitively say whether your individual is experiencing human trafficking



# Barriers



Now that we've considered Barriers, we can understand some of the factors that go into identifying a victim.

# Assumptions

## KNOWN VICTIMS

Victims with access to services during exploitation:

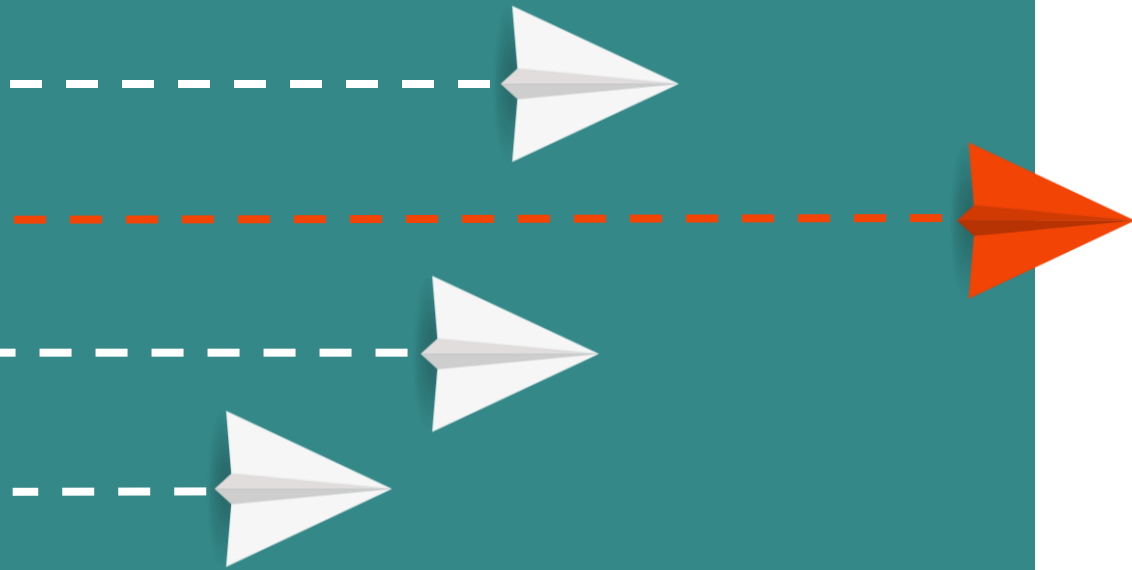
- 40%** Friends/Family
- 23%** Law Enforcement/  
Justice System
- 19%** Health Services
- 13%** General Social Services

## UNKNOWN VICTIMS

?



# Trauma Informed Care



~~What's **wrong** with  
you?~~

What **happened** to  
you?

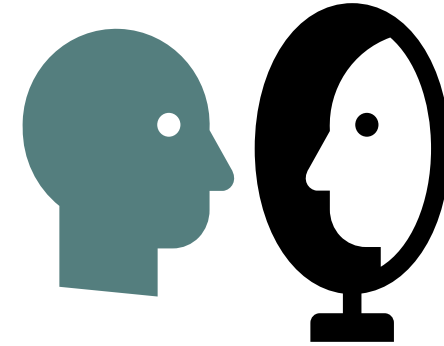
# Considerations for Care



**Safety** first

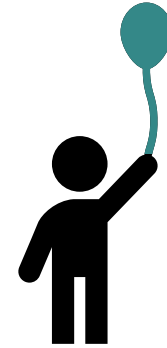


# Considerations for Care



**Mirror** language

# Considerations for Care



**Developmentally** appropriate



# Considerations for Care



**Trauma** reactions



# Considerations for Care



**Non-judgmental** care

# Considerations for Care



**Open-ended** questions



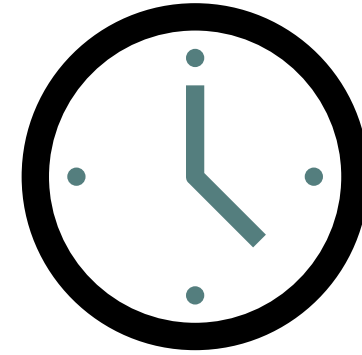
# Considerations for Care



**Empower** participation



# Considerations for Care



**Offer** breaks

# Considerations for Care

Ano ang **iyong mga Karapatan** bilang  
Temporary Foreign Worker sa Alberta?

作为阿尔伯塔省的一名临时  
外籍劳工，您有哪些权利？

¿Cuáles son **sus derechos** como Trabajador  
Extranjero Temporal en Alberta?

ਅਲਬਰਟਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਇੱਕ ਅਸਥਾਈ ਵਿਦੇਸ਼ੀ ਕਾਮੇ ਜਿੰ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਕੀ  
ਅਵਿਕਾਰ ਹਨ?

Connaissez-vous vos **droits** en Alberta?

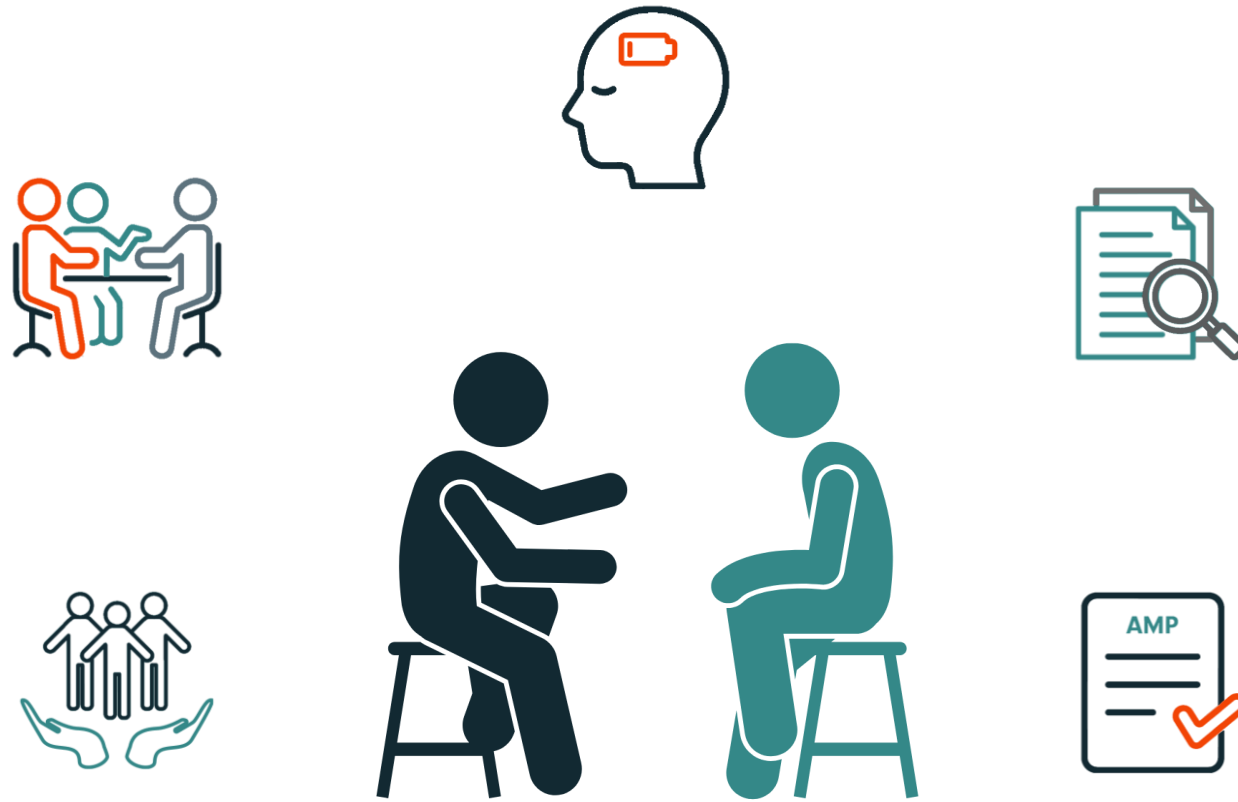
Do you know your  
**rights** in Alberta?



Action  
Coalition  
on Human  
Trafficking



# Disclosures





# What is human trafficking?

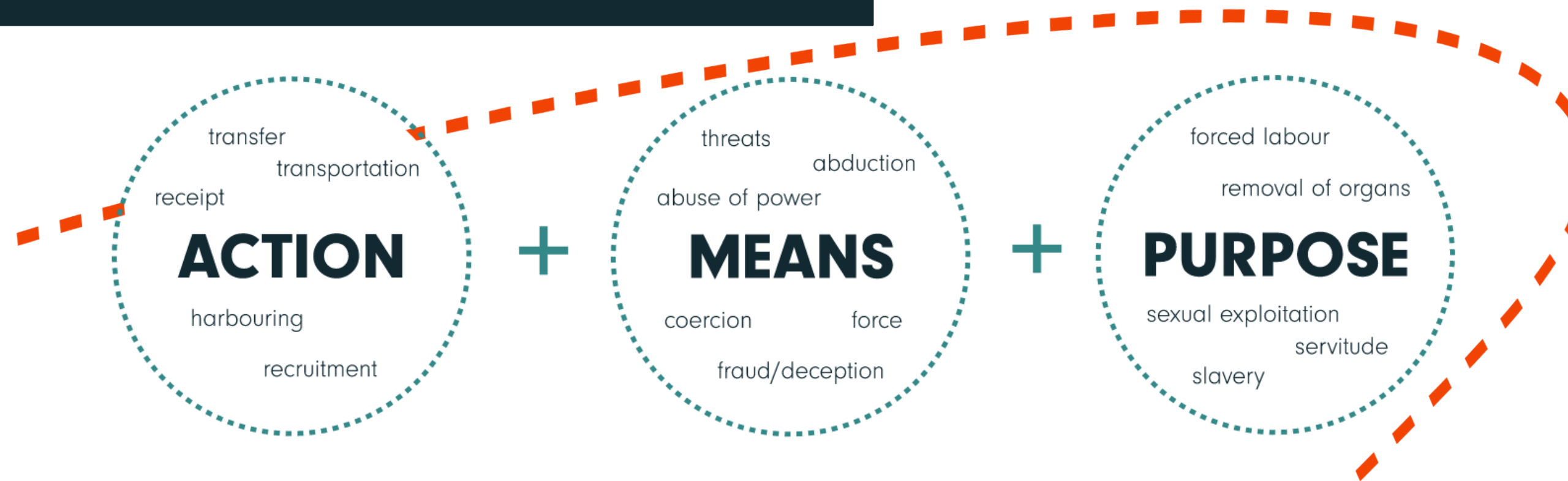
## Palermo Protocol

Act of **forcing, coercing, or deceiving** an individual into selling sex or labour to a **third party's** gain.



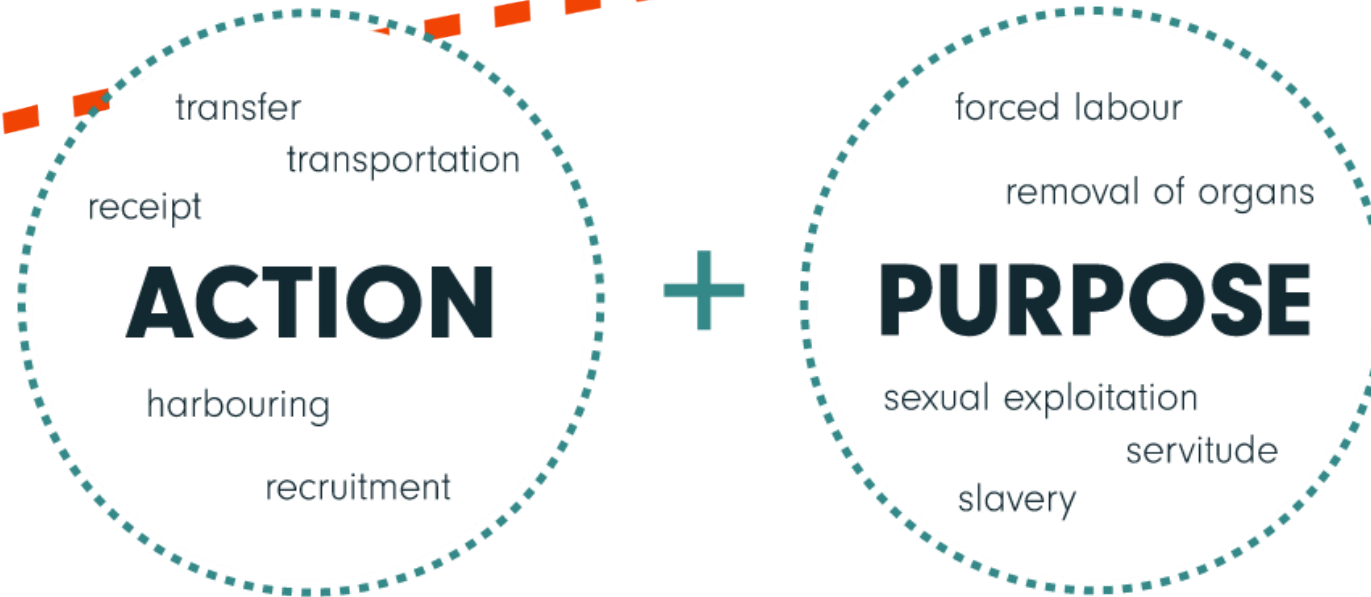
**United  
Nations**

# What is human trafficking?



Traffickers undertake **ACTIONS** using **MEANS** for the **PURPOSE** of exploiting people.

# Child and youth trafficking



Child and youth traffickers undertake **ACTIONS** for the **PURPOSE** of exploiting young people.



# Purpose of trafficking

Forced Labour

Sexual Exploitation

forced labour

removal of organs

**PURPOSE**

sexual exploitation

servitude

slavery

# Labour Trafficking

Overall, the top 3 **risk factors** of labor trafficking are:

- Recent **migration**
- **Economic** hardship
- Unstable **housing**



# Sex Trafficking

Overall, the top 3 **risk factors** of sex trafficking are:

- **Substance use** concern
- Runaway/**Unhoused** youth
- Unstable **housing**





# Mixed Type

## First Type of Trafficking



Illicit Massage, Health,  
and Beauty

## Second Type of Trafficking

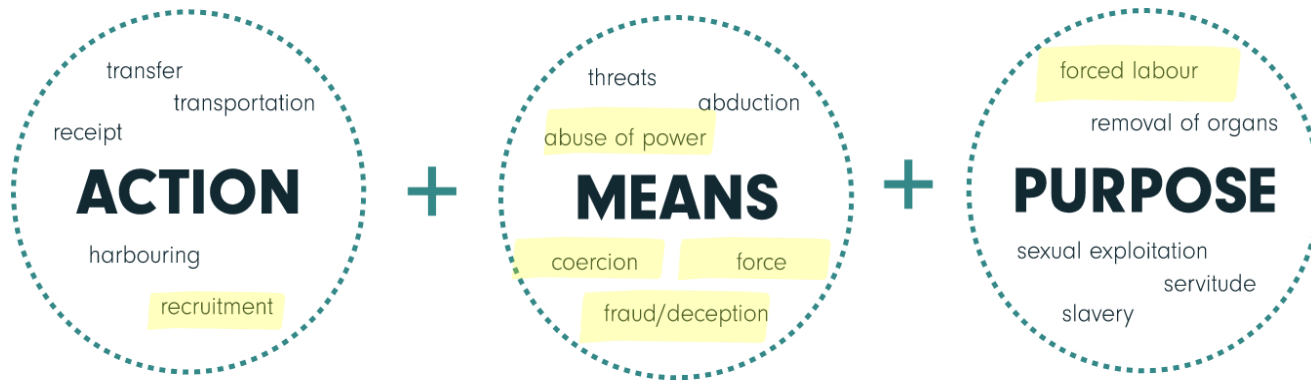


Bars and strip clubs

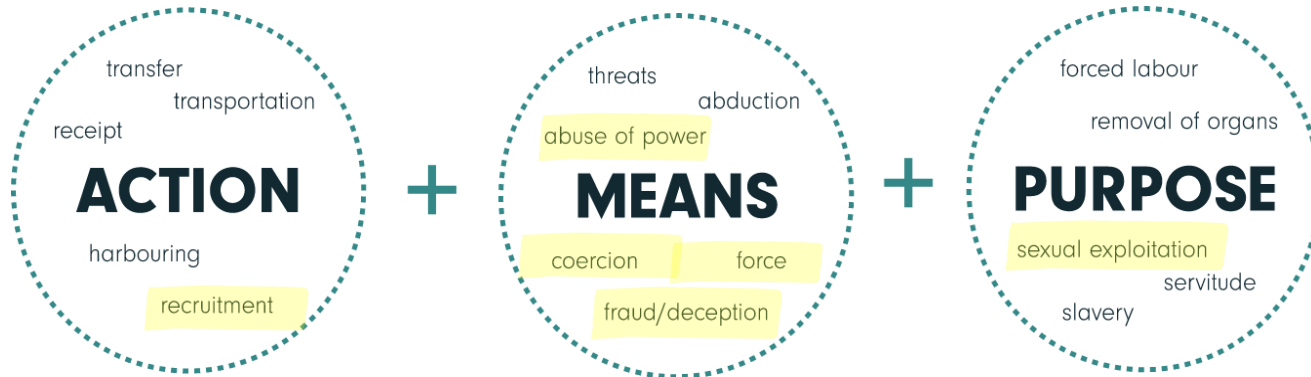
Other illicit activities

# Mixed Type

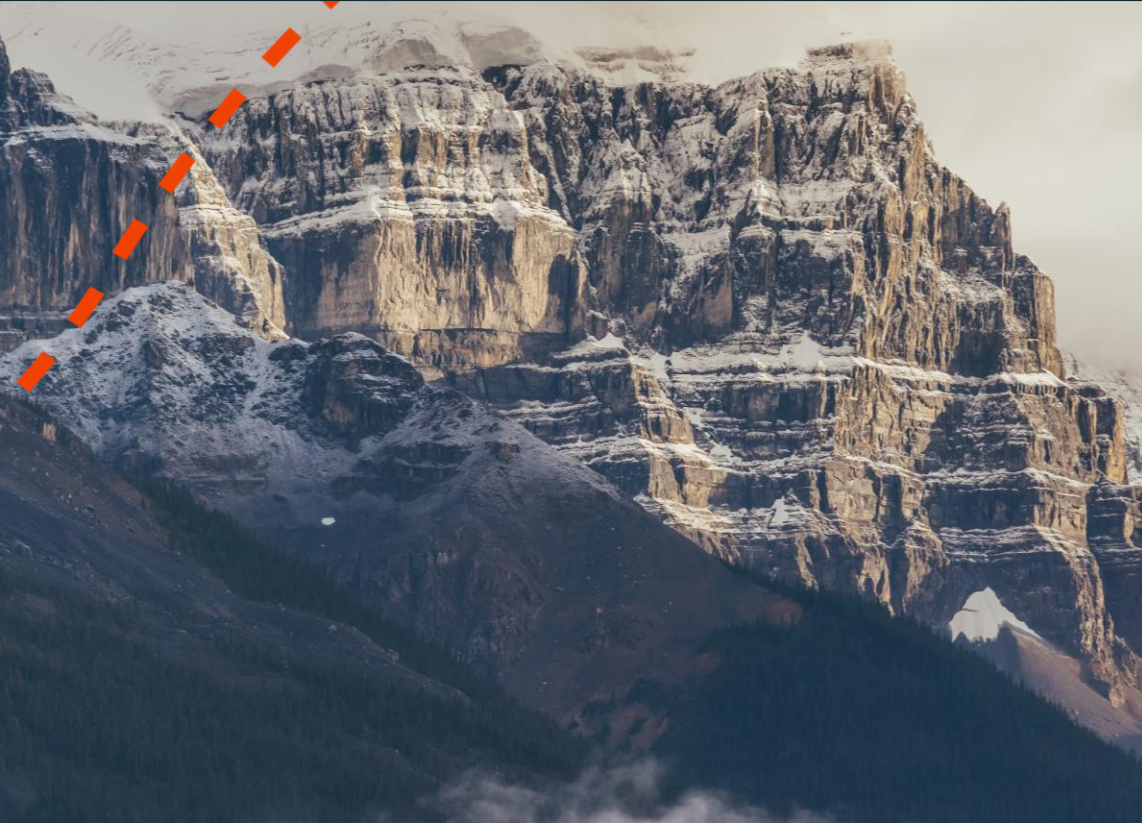
## First Type: Labour Trafficking



## Second Type: Sex Trafficking



# Correcting Myths



## IN FACT:

1 It looks **different** than it does in the media

2

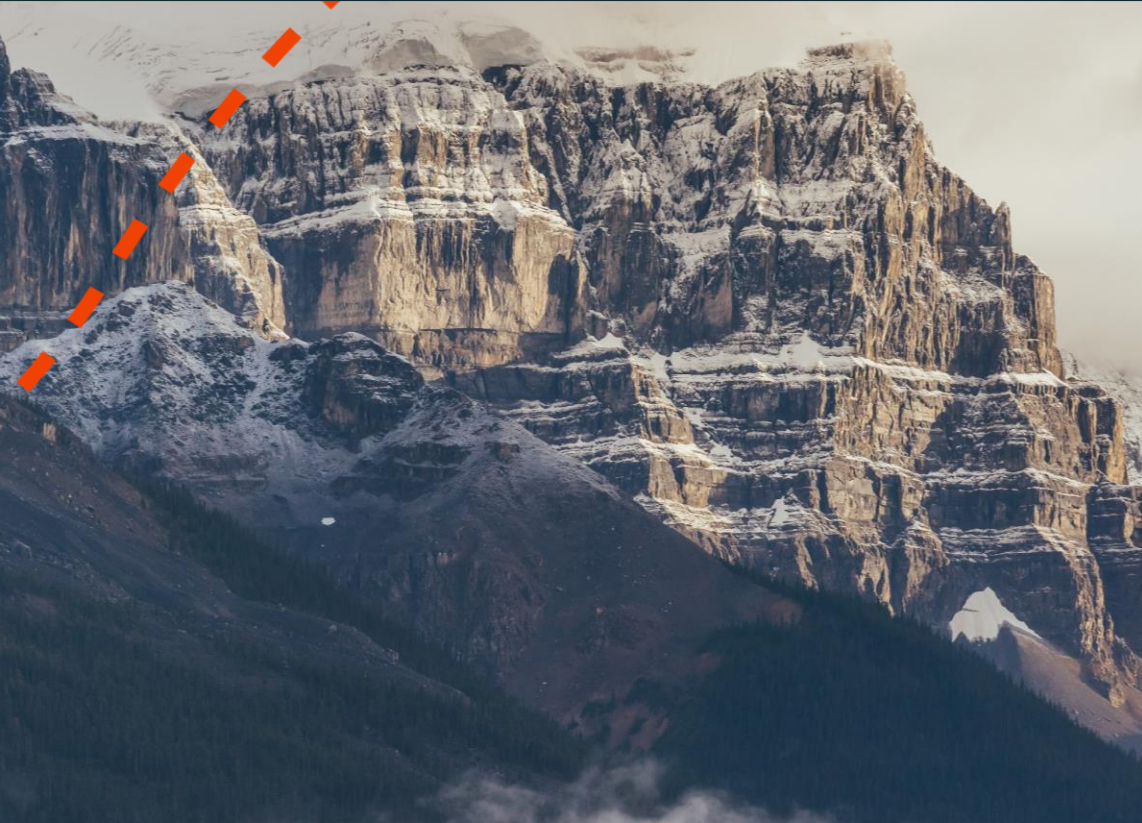
3

4

5



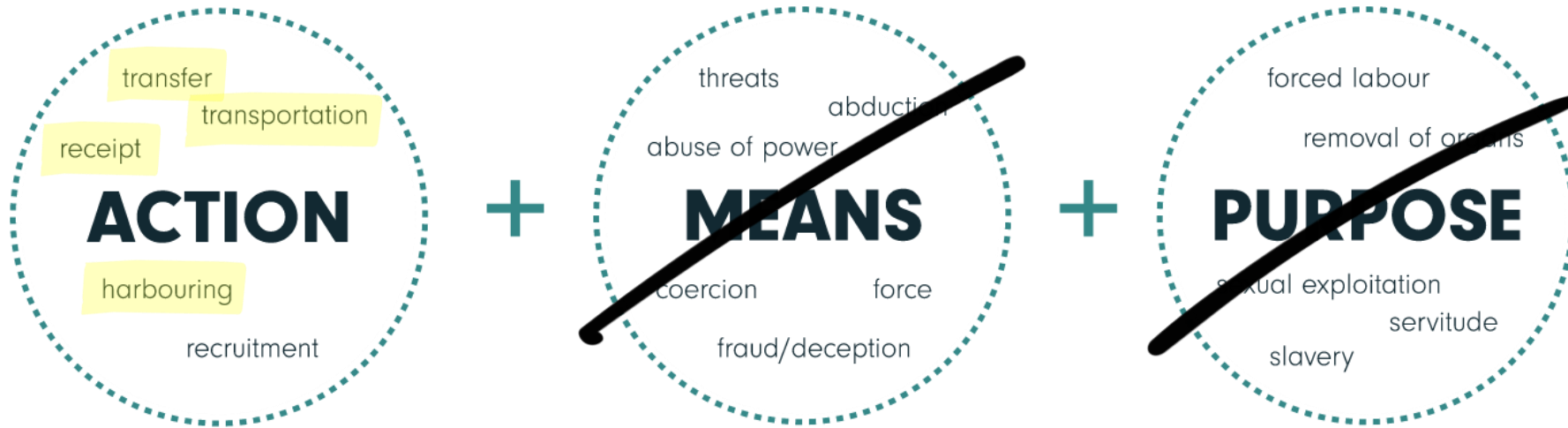
# Correcting Myths



## IN FACT:

- 1 It looks **different** than it does in the media
- 2 Human smuggling is **not** human trafficking
- 3
- 4
- 5

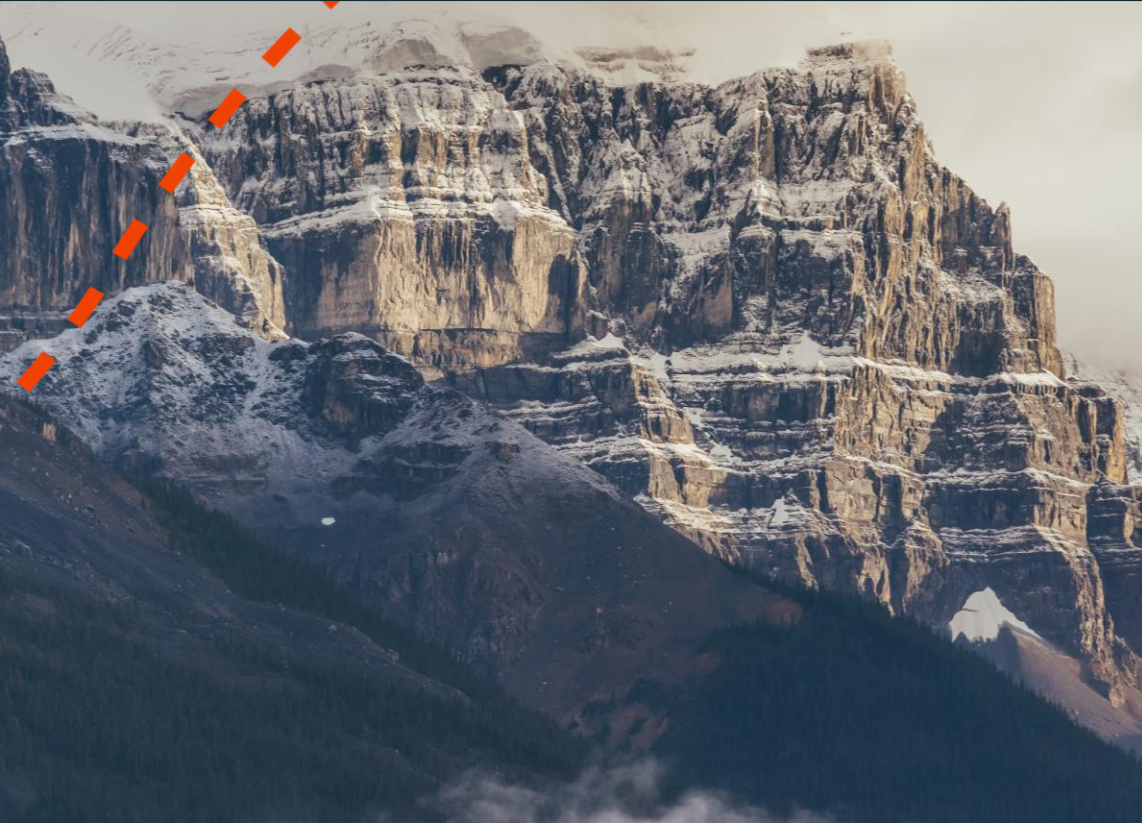
# Human Smuggling



One person pays another to transport them across international borders.  
When the payment is made and the border is crossed, the smuggling relationship **ends**.



# Correcting Myths

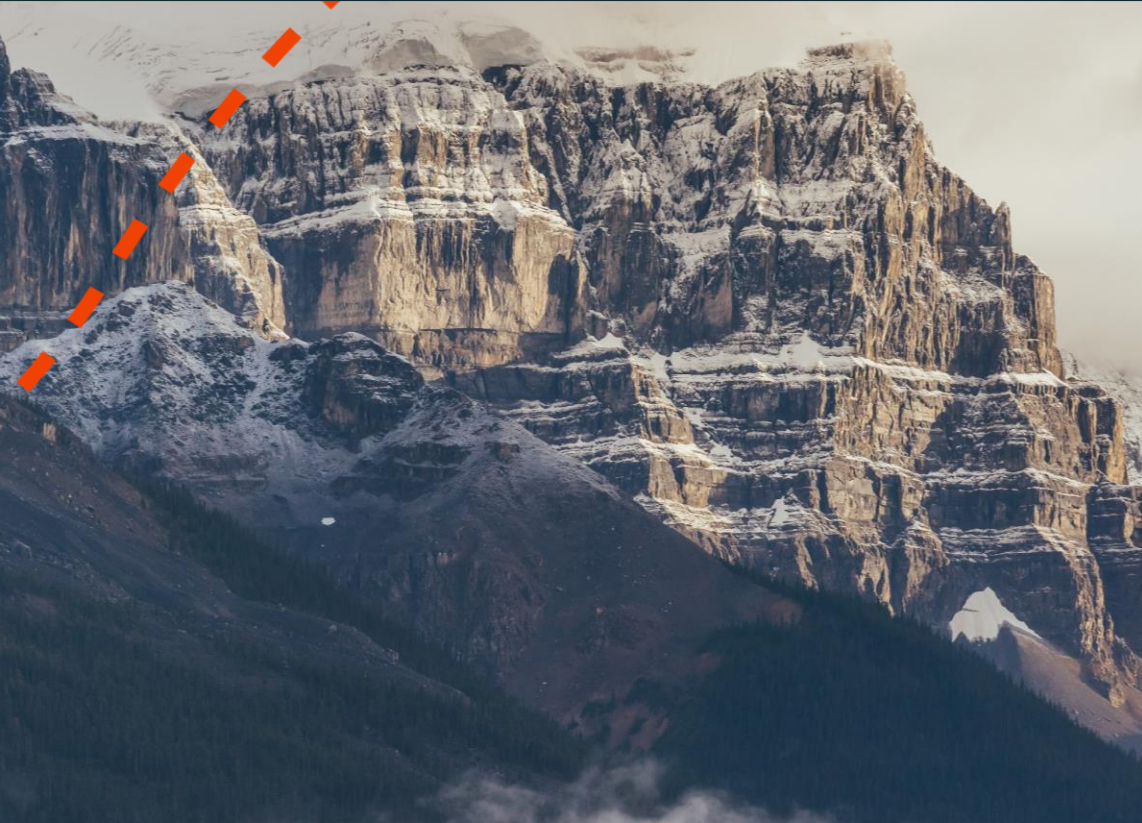


## IN FACT:

- 1 It looks **different** than it does in the media
- 2 Human smuggling is **not** human trafficking
- 3 Labour trafficking can happen in **registered** or **regulated** businesses
- 4
- 5



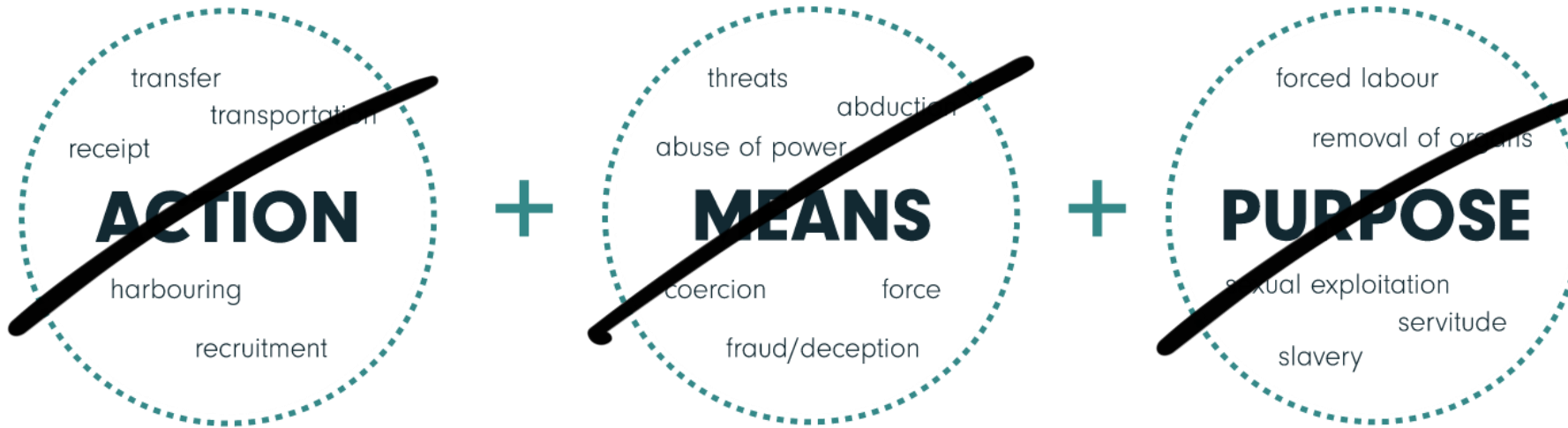
# Correcting Myths



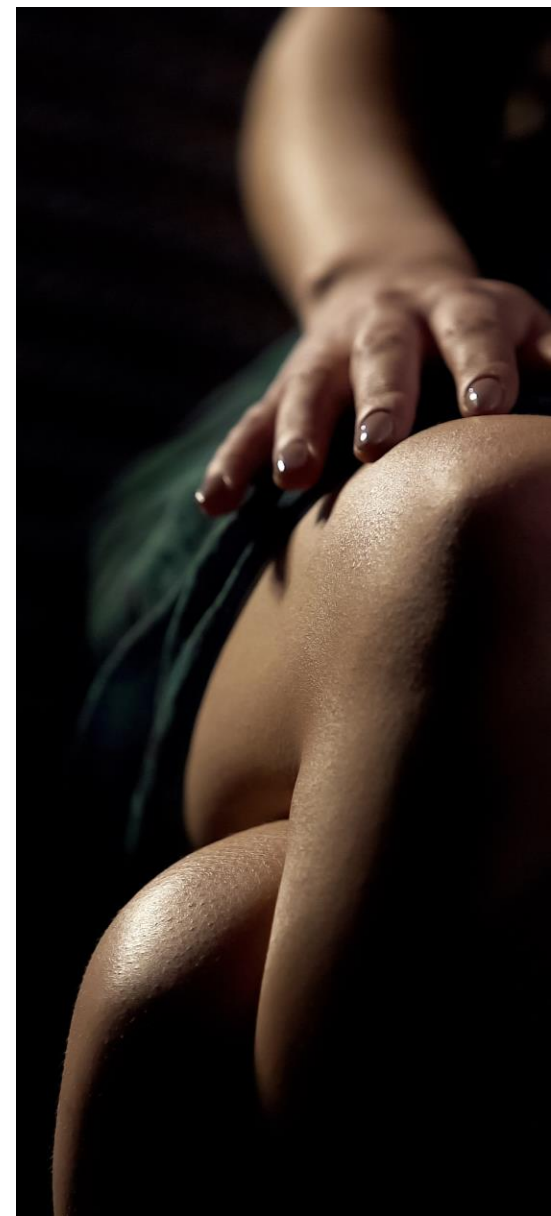
## IN FACT:

- 1 It looks **different** than it does in the media
- 2 Human smuggling is **not** human trafficking
- 3 Labour trafficking can happen in **registered** or **regulated** businesses
- 4 Adult **consensual** sex work is **not** sex trafficking
- 5

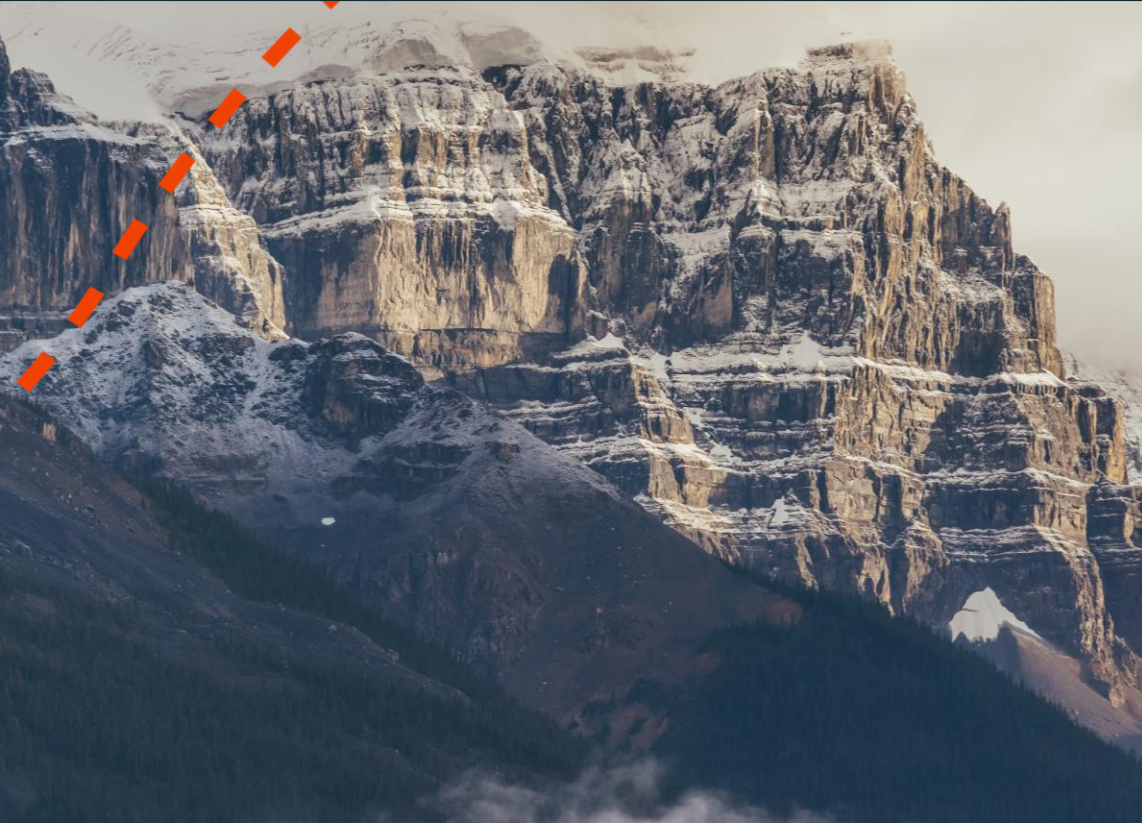
# Sex Work



Sex work entails a **willing** engagement in commercial sex while sex trafficking involves force, coercion, or deceit.



# Correcting Myths



## IN FACT:

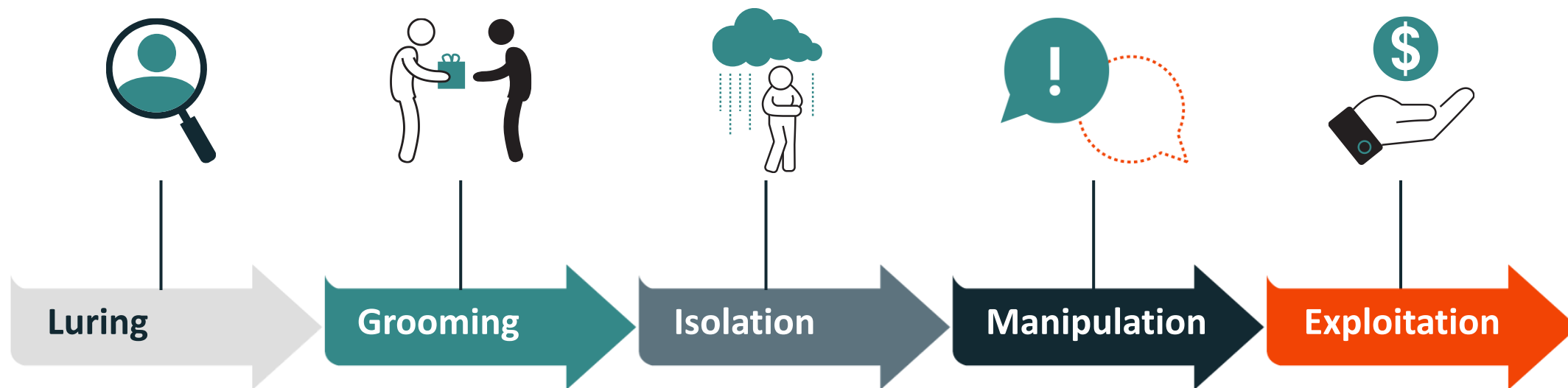
- 1 It looks **different** than it does in the media
- 2 Human smuggling is **not** human trafficking
- 3 Labour trafficking can happen in **registered** or **regulated** businesses
- 4 Adult consensual sex work is **not** sex trafficking
- 5 The trafficker usually **isn't a stranger**



# Indigeneity and Trafficking



# How It Happens



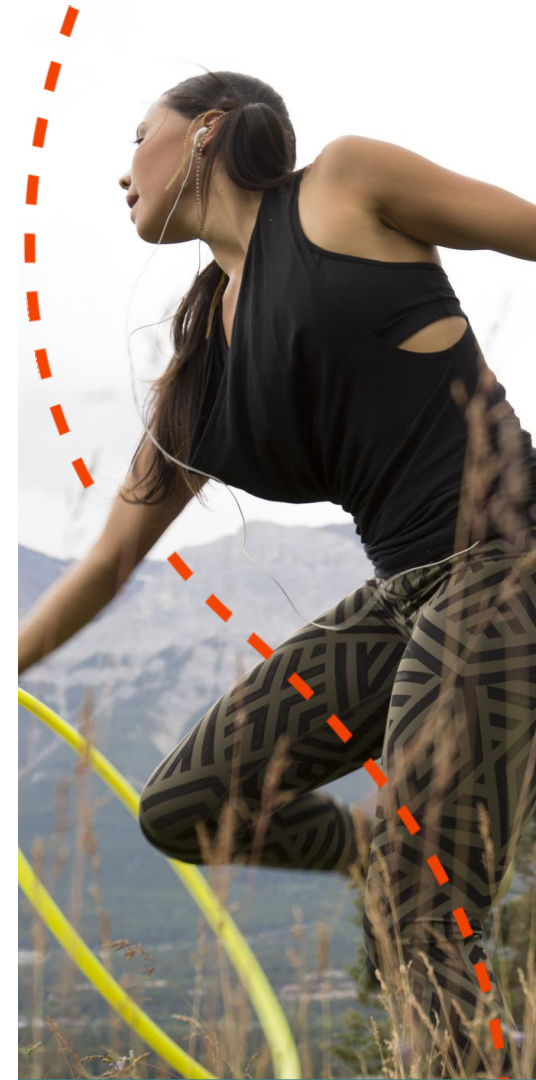
# Disclosures



coach  
husband  
parent  
uncle  
boyfriend  
friend  
boss  
girlfriend  
teacher  
ex



# Needs of Trafficked Persons



# Ways to Respond

**ACT Alberta** (Mon-Fri 8:30-4:30 MST)

780-474-1104

info@actalberta.org

Client characteristics:

- Experience with human trafficking
- Connected to AB
- 18 or older

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**The Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline** (24/7)

1-833-900-1010

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Nearby **authority figure**



# Additional Resources

## Reports

Global Report 2022 (UNDC)

Calgary Community Act Plan (ACT Alberta)

Beyond Trafficking and Slavery (Open Democracy)

Anti-trafficking Review (Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women)

## Books

Responding to Human Trafficking: Dispossession, Colonial Violence, and Resistance (Julie Kaye)

The Seduction of Quantification (Sally Engle Merry)

Sex Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation (Gerassi and Nichols)

Responding to Human Trafficking: Sex, Gender, And Culture in Law (Peters)

Fighting Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (Genevieve LeBaron, Jessica Pliley, David Blight)

Human Trafficking Around the World: Hidden in Plain Sight (Stephanie Hepburn and Rita Simon)

## Podcasts

Human Trafficking: Wayfair and Human Trafficking Statistics (You're Wrong About)

How Human Trafficking Works (Stuff You Should Know)

The Facts of, The Myths About, And the Solutions for Child Trafficking (1A)

Trafficking: Learning from the Grassroots (Alright, Now What?)

Inside a Mysterious Anti-Sex Trafficking Group (Vice News Reports)

Human Trafficking, The Problem We All Need to Care About (Empowered Health)

Emancipation Nation (Celia Williamson, PhD)



# Contact Us

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