TEXAS

Total Score: **4.5 Points** of 8 Total Available

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<th>TASK FORCE:</th>
<th>1 of 1.5 total points</th>
<th>PREVENTION EDUCATION:</th>
<th>4 of 4.5 total points</th>
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<tr>
<td>DEFINITION OF ABUSE:</td>
<td>.5 of 1 total points</td>
<td>STAFF TRAINING:</td>
<td>0 of 1 total points</td>
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**Why did my state receive this rating?** Texas has elements that are friendly to prevention but should take further action to make prevention education viably accessible to youth.

**Who does exploitation and trafficking impact?** Each year millions of children are victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, affecting communities small and large. This happens all over the world, including in your own community.

**How does this happen?** Children are most often exploited by an acquaintance (significant other, friend, family member, etc.). They are targeted, groomed, tricked, and manipulated.

**TEXAS BY NUMBERS¹**

- **2048** calls to the human trafficking hotline.
- **792** human trafficking cases reported.
- **244** cases concerned a minor.
- **661** cases involved females, **120** involved males, **7** involved gender minorities.

**TEXAS LAWS AND PROVISIONS**

| Terms included in Texas' Definition of Abuse: | Trafficking only (exploitation not included) |
| Prevention Education Law, Scope, and Grade Levels | • Tex. Educ. Code § 38.0041
• Topics: Sexual abuse; sex trafficking; and other child maltreatment
• Mandated for K-12 |
| Staff Training Requirements | Neither mandated nor recommended |
EXPLOITATION BY NUMBERS

• Approximately 1.6 million children run away every year in the United States.\(^2\)

• Of the nearly 27,000 runaways reported to NCMEC in 2017, one in 7 were likely victims of child sex trafficking.\(^3\)

• There were 8,524 human trafficking cases reported in the United States in 2017 and 32% of those cases involved a minor.\(^4\)

• In 2017, 88% of trafficked children were in the care of social services at the time the exploitation began.\(^5\)

WHAT CAN I DO?

Contact your child’s school administrator about adding prevention education at your child’s school.

Contact your local representative to ask them to get involved in prevention education legislation.

Be a mentor to youth in your community.

Sponsor prevention education for schools and other youth-serving organizations. Visit donate.iempathize.org.

MISSION: We equip adults to empower youth to eradicate exploitation.
For more info visit: http://iempathize.org/educators/the-prevention-priority/