

# Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking




## What is Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST)?

- The exploitation of children under 18 for commercial sex acts
- Traffickers use coercion, manipulation, and threats
- Exploitation may occur through sex for money, shelter, drugs, or safety
- Trafficking occurs within the same country (not across borders)



In Canada federal and provincial laws criminalize traffickers and protect child victims for DMST

## Evolution of Trafficking Laws

- 2005  Introduced trafficking offences in the Criminal Code
- 2010  Added mandatory minimums for child trafficking
- 2012  Allowed prosecution of Canadians trafficking abroad
- 2021  Ontario empowered child protection, added restraining orders
- 2025  Safe Streets Act in Ontario:
  - Strengthened provincial enforcement and tracking
  - Added child traffickers to Ontario's sex offender registry
  - Expanded police authority to inspect hotels, motels, and rentals
  - Created new offences for luring, harboring, or advertising