

For Youth:

Vulnerable means “susceptible to being hurt or harmed physically or emotionally.”

Ask yourself:

“What are my vulnerabilities?”

Some of those vulnerabilities may include:

Youth, inexperience, abandonment issues, isolation, lack of love and support, neglect, abuse, drug or alcohol abuse, money issues, stress, insecurity, lack of positive friendships, lies, fake love, separation from family (such as foster care, incarcerated family members)

The Grooming Process is “the process by which someone builds an emotional connection with a victim to gain their trust for the purposes of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or human trafficking.”

Ask yourself:

“What were some red flags in DJ’s life that she was being groomed?”

Exploitation means “taking advantage of someone’s vulnerability to achieve personal gain.”

Ask yourself:

“If I or a friend was in this situation, what could I do to get help?”

- Talk to an adult you trust like a parent, doctor, teacher, or counselor.
- Go with your gut— if you suspect human trafficking or need help call the Human Trafficking Hotline (1-888-373-7888) or local law enforcement.
- Resource Fierce Freedom—If you would like to speak to a member of our staff, contact our offices at 715-514-2890.

