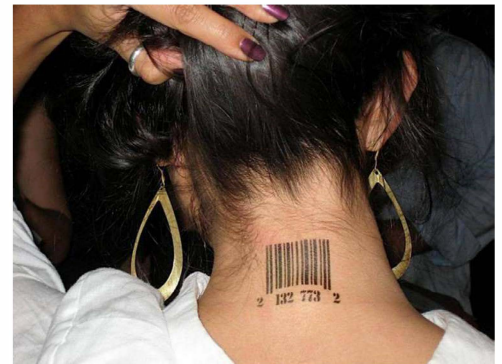
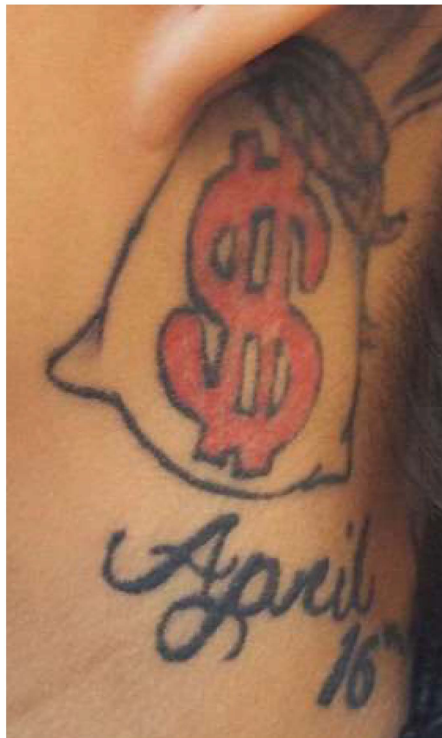


# HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND TATTOOS

Human traffickers and pimps often brand ownership of their 'property' with tattoos on their body. These markings are usually in the form of a pimps' initials, his/her name, the victim's street name, gang member symbols, or a combination of any of these. Common types of gang-related signs portrayed on a victim's body include:

King's crown • Dollar sign • Money bag • Barcode •  
Diamond • Stars • Hearts

Some examples are shown below:



## Common Tattoo Areas

While the victims can have numerous tattoos in various areas, common tattoo locations linked to human trafficking include the **neck, arm and above the groin area.**

Survivor's Ink (<https://www.survivorsink.org/>) is a non-profit organization that helps human trafficking victims by beautifying, removing, or covering their physical scars, markings and brandings.

To request anonymous help or to anonymously report suspected human trafficking, call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (Polaris Project) Hotline at **1-888-373-7888** or text **"HELP"** to BeFree (233733).

# RED FLAGS

The following may be indicators of human trafficking:

## Common Work and Living Conditions

The individual(s) in question

- Is not free to leave or come and go as he/she wishes
- Is under 18 and is providing commercial sex acts
- Is in the commercial sex industry and has a pimp/manager
- Is unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips
- Works excessively long and/or unusual hours
- Is not allowed breaks or suffers under unusual restrictions at work
- Owes a large debt and is unable to pay it off
- Was recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of his/her work
- High security measures exist in the work and/or living locations (e.g. opaque windows, boarded up windows, bars on windows, barbed wire, security cameras, etc.)

## Poor Mental Health or Abnormal Behavior

- Is fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, or nervous/paranoid
- Exhibits unusually fearful or anxious behavior after bringing up law enforcement
- Avoids eye contact

## Poor Physical Health

- Lacks health care
- Appears malnourished
- Shows signs of physical and/or sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, or torture

## Lack of Control

- Has few or no personal possessions
- Is not in control of his/her own money, no financial records or bank account
- Is not in control of his/her own identification documents (ID or passport)
- Is not allowed or able to speak for themselves (a third party may insist on being present and/or translating)

## Other

- Claims of just visiting and inability to clarify where he/she is staying/address
- Lack of knowledge of whereabouts and/or do not know what city he/she is in
- Loss of sense of time

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