

A WORD TO THE WISE

**Sexual exploitation often begins
without warning. People from all walks
of life can become victims.**

Sexual exploitation is when one person takes advantage of another person's body for sexual purposes in order to gain a profit. There are many forms of sexual exploitation, but pimping (forcing a victim into prostitution to receive the proceeds) is one of the most common.

**The average age of entry into
prostitution in Canada is between
14 and 15 years old.**

LEARN
TO RECOGNIZE
THE TRAPS.



Quebec.ca/**sexualexploitation**

TRAPS (RECRUITMENT STRATEGIES OF THE EXPLOITER)

- Approaching the victim through friends, mutual acquaintances (bar, shopping mall, school outing, youth centre) or social media
- Seducing the victim and making that person feel as if the exploiter is entering into a loving relationship with him/her
- Promising a life of dreams and luxury by offering gifts or rewards to the victim
- Manipulating the victim by presenting sexual services as an opportunity to repay a debt

RISK FACTORS

- Having experienced stressful events, such as a difficult breakup
- Been physically, psychologically, or sexually abused
- Being in conflict with parents or running away from home
- Using drugs or alcohol
- Living in social isolation or exclusion
- Coming from an unhealthy background, whether disadvantaged or otherwise
- Looking for adventure or thrills

Some people believe that they can temporarily offer their sexual services. **However, the reality is quite different. It is very difficult to get out of this situation, and the physical, psychological, and financial consequences are very serious indeed.**

Sexual Violence Helpline
1-888-933-9007