

HANDOUT 4

FLIGHT ATTENDANT PROCEDURES

Victims of human trafficking are in an extremely vulnerable position and have the right to be protected. As citizens of civil society we all have a responsibility to speak out and act where there is a threat to another person. Trust your instincts; if something doesn't feel right, take time to explore the situation further and contact the authorities, if appropriate. If you suspect that a passenger might be a victim of trafficking you could:

- Initiate pleasant, non-threatening conversation.
- Ask questions such as: whether or not the person is on holiday, where are they staying, etc. In the case of an unaccompanied child ask who will be meeting them. Gauge their reaction as they respond – do their answers seem rehearsed? Are they being watched by someone as they answer? Do they seem anxious? Try to assess their body language and demeanour.
- Inform other flight attendants of your concerns, asking them to interact with the passenger.
- Advise the Captain/Pilot of your concerns and tell them if you feel An Garda Síochána/local Police need to be notified in advance of landing at the destination.
- If you are at the airport and see any suspicious activity call the Airport Police or Crimestoppers 1800 25 00 25. Your information may be invaluable and could save someone from a life of exploitation.
- Remember, both your own safety and that of the victim is paramount. A potential victim may be travelling alone or they may be accompanied. As a responsible citizen you are asked to be alert, gather information and inform the relevant authorities. Never directly confront a suspected trafficker or victim yourself as this may harm you or the victim.

Thank you for your vigilance

