

THERE ARE **TEN GUIDING PRINCIPLES** TO THE ETHICAL AND SAFE CONDUCT OF INTERVIEWS WITH WOMEN WHO HAVE BEEN TRAFFICKED.

1. DO NO HARM

Treat each woman and the situation as if the potential for harm is extreme until there is evidence to the contrary. Do not undertake any interview that will make a woman's situation worse in the short term or longer term.

2. KNOW YOUR SUBJECT AND ASSESS THE RISKS

Learn the risks associated with trafficking and each woman's case before undertaking an interview.

3. PREPARE REFERRAL INFORMATION - DO NOT MAKE PROMISES THAT YOU CANNOT FULFILL

Be prepared to provide information in a woman's native language and the local language (if different) about appropriate legal, health, shelter, social support and security services, and to help with referral, if requested.

4. ADEQUATELY SELECT AND PREPARE INTERPRETERS, AND CO-WORKERS

Weigh the risks and benefits associated with employing interpreters, co-workers or others, and develop adequate methods for screening and training.

5. ENSURE ANONYMITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Protect a respondent's identity and confidentiality throughout the entire interview process – from the moment she is contacted through the time that details of her case are made public.

6. GET INFORMED CONSENT

Make certain that each respondent clearly understands the content and purpose of the interview, the intended use of the information, her right not to answer questions, her right to terminate the interview at any time, and her right to put restrictions on how the information is used.

7. LISTEN TO AND RESPECT EACH WOMAN'S ASSESSMENT OF HER SITUATION AND RISKS TO HER SAFETY

Recognize that each woman will have different concerns, and that the way she views her concerns may be different from how others might assess them.

8. DO NOT RE-TRAUMATIZE A WOMAN

Do not ask questions intended to provoke an emotionally charged response. Be prepared to respond to a woman's distress and highlight her strengths.

9. BE PREPARED FOR EMERGENCY INTERVENTION

Be prepared to respond if a woman says she is in imminent danger.

10. PUT INFORMATION COLLECTED TO GOOD USE

Use information in a way that benefits an individual woman or that advances the development of good policies and interventions for trafficked women generally.