



# HOW TRAFFICKERS USE INSTAGRAM & DMS

IT DOESN'T START WITH CHAINS. IT STARTS WITH A MESSAGE.

## 1. FLATTERY & ATTENTION BOMBING

They start with compliments and likes to build trust. “You’re so beautiful.”

“You should model.”

“You don’t belong in a place like this.”

🧠 This builds emotional dependency — especially in teens craving validation.

## 2. PROMISES OF MONEY OR FAME

They offer “opportunities”:

Modeling gigs

Music video appearances

Quick cash through vague jobs

🚫 These “offers” lead to coercion, debt, or forced sexual exploitation.

## 3. ISOLATION & CONTROL

They convince the person to:

Keep the relationship secret

Leave home or meet alone

Stop talking to friends/family

▶ This is grooming — breaking down outside support.



**THE INNOCENT™**

PROTECT TODAY. PRESERVE TOMORROW.

## 4. EMOTIONAL MANIPULATION

They say things like:

“You’re the only one I can trust.”

“If you loved me, you’d do this.”

“No one else understands you.”

♥ They create false intimacy to gain control.

## 5. THREATS OR BLACKMAIL

After gaining compromising content (like nudes), they threaten to:

Leak photos

Hurt loved ones

Ruin reputations

🔒 Victims often feel too scared or ashamed to tell anyone.

🔴 \* How to Stay Safe:

Never meet a stranger from Instagram alone

Don’t share private images — even with “trusted” people

Block/report anyone who pressures you or makes you uncomfortable

Trust your gut. If something feels off, it probably is.

📞 **NEED HELP OR SEE SOMETHING WRONG?**

**NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE**

📞 **1-888-373-7888 | TEXT “BEFREE” TO 233733**

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