



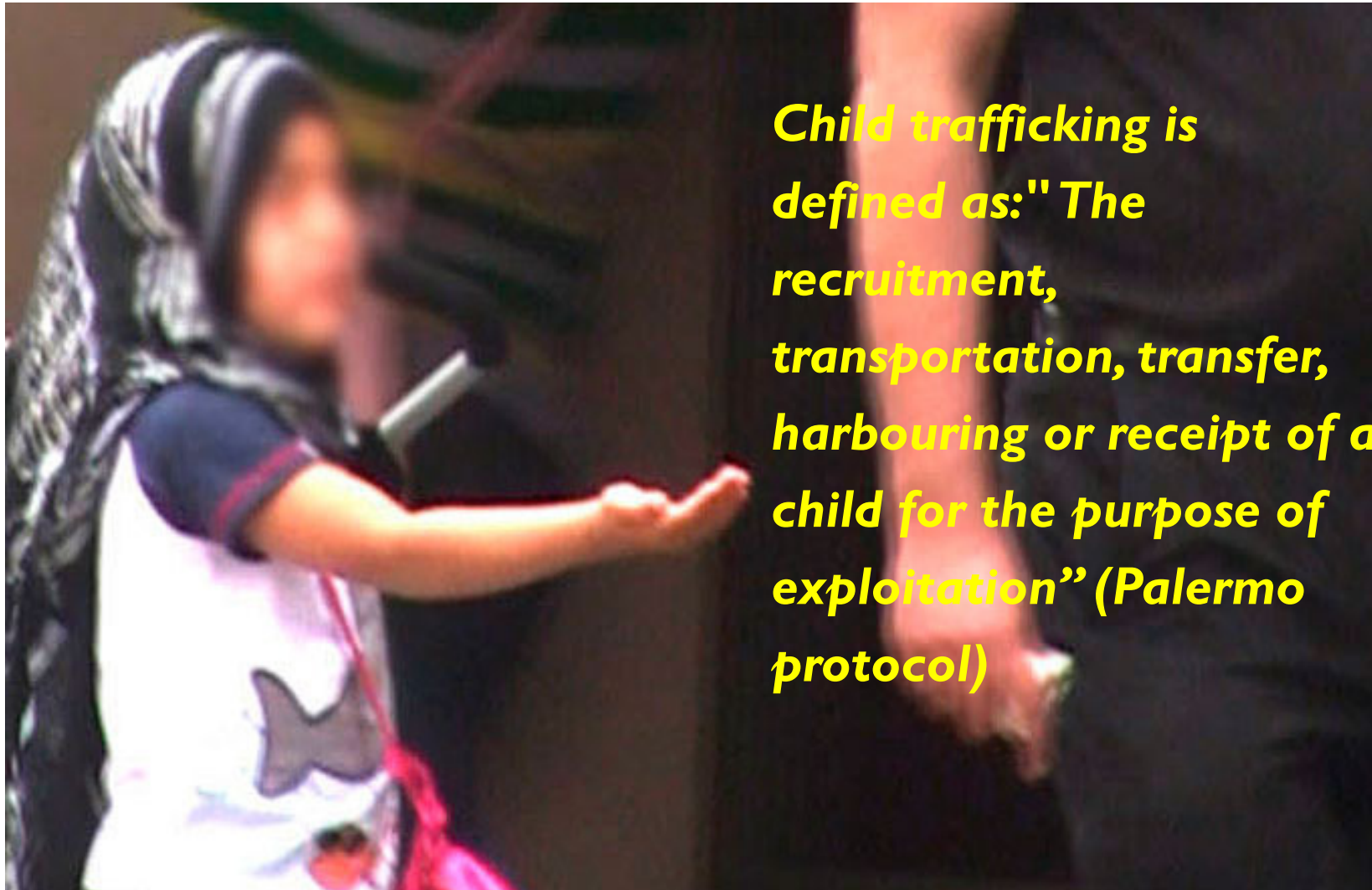
2011-05-11

SIDAN 1



Protection of children in begging and criminality

Trafficking in Children



Child trafficking is defined as: "The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation" (Palermo protocol)

Children who are begging

- How does social service approach the child?
- Identification. Age?
- Social investigation.
- Indicators on trafficking
- Cooperation with the police
– dilemmas?
- The best interest of the child?
- Time aspect?
- Protect short- or long-term?



Signs of Safety

Protection

Risk

identity card/ mobile phone

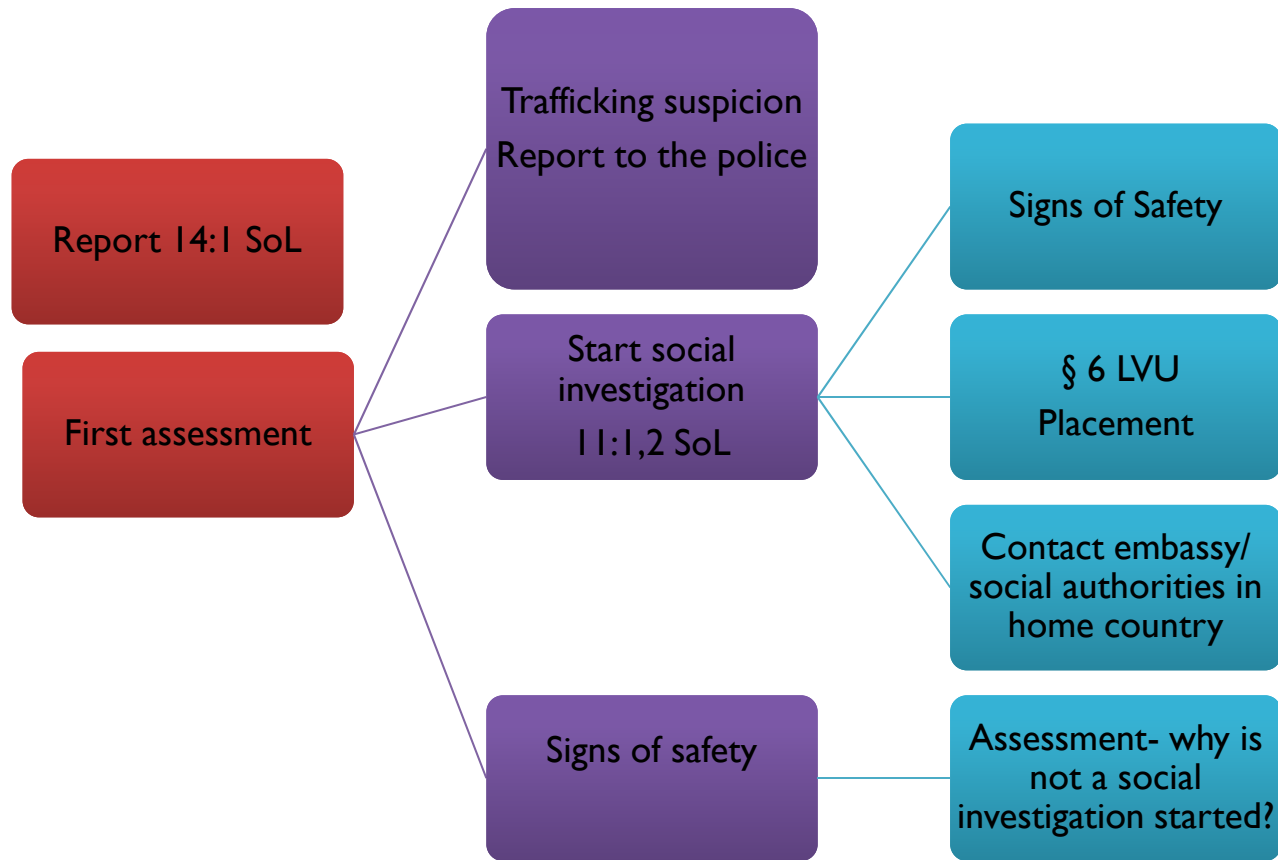
Signs of violence/ different explanations

Very much worse off in two weeks. Malnutrition. Bad condition.

Begging for long hours. Says she sleeps in a car. Does not attend school. Hygiene?

Seems to be controlled by an adult who claims he has papers on that.

Child protection



Criminal and Victim

- Child committing a crime being a possible victim of trafficking
- Identification/ former criminality?
- Quick information regarding this from the police. Effects the protection measures taken by social authorities.

- In the Child's best interest to have the charges dropped and be classified as a victim of trafficking.
- Initially, the child might not agree on this.

Child protection: protecting the best interest of the child

- Placement of a child/ safe place/ Locked up?
- § 6 LVU Care of young persons act / restrictions
- Brussels II regulation – inform social services in country of origin. Cooperation.
- Safe return
- Cooperate with the police/ Quick action !
- Protection? Short or long-term?

Dilemmas

- Difficult for social services to keep a child for police reasons. Best interest of the child.? Is that to go back home? Or to stay for the investigation.
- Cultural relativism can lead to a different rule of law. To avoid this: All professionals around the child need to focus on the best interest of the child.
- It is in the Child's best interest to have charges dropped and be classified as a victim of trafficking/ exploitation instead of being seen as a perpetrator. Even if the child does not think so...
- When a child goes missing. Who is responsible?

How can different authorities cooperate?



Young persons committing crimes?



How can we improve the work against THB in minors?

- Centralisation/ decentralisation?
- Small units cooperating over professional borders
- Flexible teams that can adjust quick to new phenomena's

Swedish national report on trafficked children

- 2009–2011 Social service and NGO's registered 166 Children possible victims of THB.
- 50/50 Boys and Girls. Age 3 to 17 yrs.
- 50 % Sexual- exploitation, 50 % criminality, begging and work.
- Girls are in majority in sexual exploitation.
- Boys in majority in theft.
- Half of the children are temporarily in Sweden.
- One third are asylum-seeking children
- Very few cases to court.

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