



Airline Ambassadors

Flight Attendants Observing Behavior identifying Human Trafficking in the U.S. & around the World





Airline Ambassadors

Background

- 501(C)3 charity in the United States, founded in 1996.
- Began as a group of flight attendants utilizing our travel privileges to assist children.
- Only relief and development organization representing the airline industry.
- NGO affiliated with the UN





Airline Ambassadors

On humanitarian missions each month we saw many children in need



...but we did not know the reality of Human Trafficking.



Cambodia August 2009
We saved "Somnang" and **decided to get involved.**



Humanitarian Mission to the Dominican Republic

Mission 10/2009

Our team correctly identified human trafficking on four airlines!



NO AIRLINE IS EXEMPT

12/17/2020

Asked Congressman Chris Smith for help reaching out to airlines



2000 - Trafficking Victims Protection Act

- **Prevent** human trafficking
- **Protect** victims & help rebuild their lives.
- **Prosecute** traffickers under stiff penalties.
- *Partnership*



***2010 Provided two Congressional Briefings to airlines,
but there was little response***

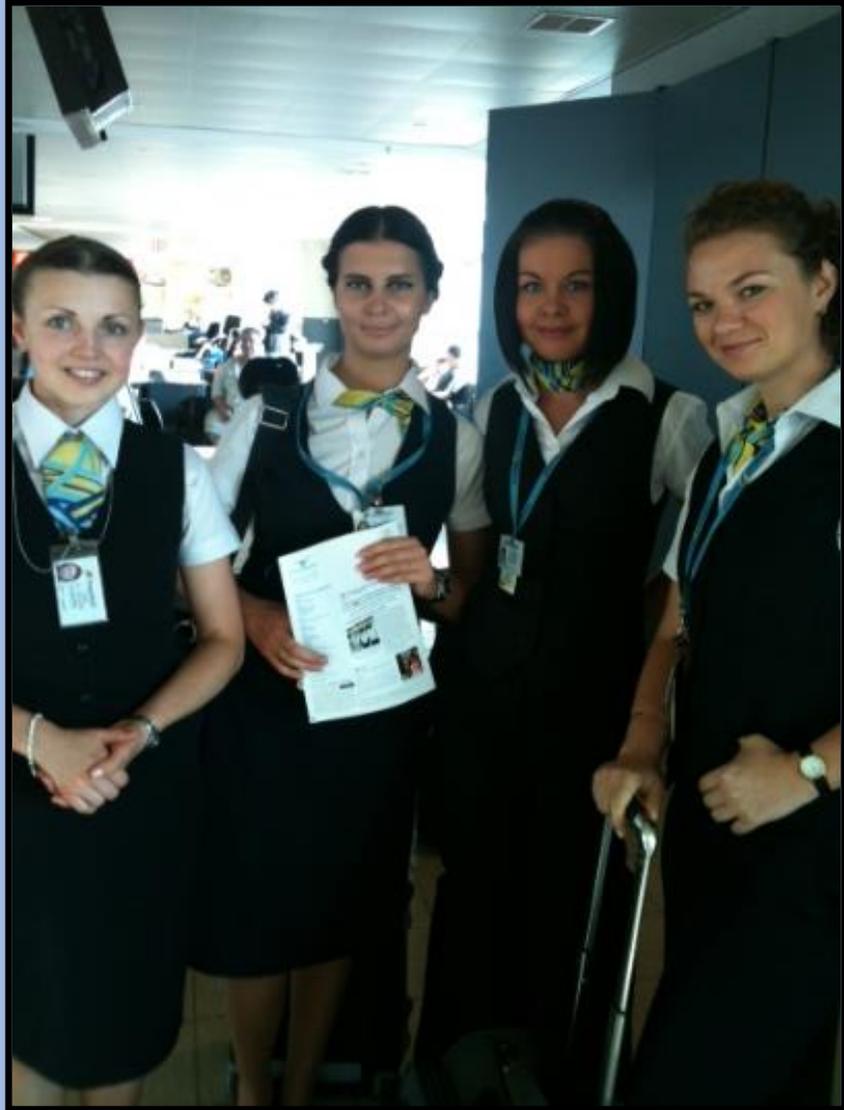


Traffickers Use Commercial Air Travel



Thousands of victims are transported across international borders every year.

The Airline Industry Needs Training



- Airline and airport personnel are in a unique position to detect and discern human trafficking.
- They can provide vital intelligence to law enforcement.
- They are force multipliers

AAI developed the first “industry specific” training Human Trafficking Awareness

AAI’s newest program for Airlines – Airports

Reviewed with:

- The State Dept.
- Homeland Security
- Customs Border Protection
- Department of Transportation



The SuperBowl is a magnet for human traffickers and many of the victims are young American children

Do you know the signs to look for and what to do?

YOU might be the **ONLY** person who has the opportunity to help them.

Join Airline Ambassadors International (AAI) for an important training on human trafficking awareness.

Friday, January 18 at 2:00 pm

Aviation Board Room (above entrance to Concourse C)
Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport

Human Trafficking
Recognize it = Report it!



**Our first
Training -
Pre Superbowl
2011**

**Provided 105
trainings**

Meet leaders in the fight against human trafficking

RSVP: angels@airlineamb.org

Questions? 866-ANGEL-86 or 415-359-8006





Airline Ambassadors

Influenced U.S. National Legislation

July 2016

FAA Reauthorization Act requires Flight Attendants to Recognize and Report suspected Human Trafficking



2017 2018 : ICAO & IATA Circular 352 & Eyes Wide Open Campaign

Government

- 2017 International Civil Aviation Organization launched Circular 352 recommending all airlines globally train staff on human trafficking awareness.



ICAO

Private Sector

- International Air Transport Association launched new video on awareness as a Public Service Announcement.



It's happening in Airports!

Women for Sale at Britain's Gatwick Airport's "Sex Slave Auctions"



Brothel owners bid on women as young as 14 who were promised well paid work in bars or cafes.

One auction took place outside a coffee shop in the arrivals hall; it is believed that others have been staged at Heathrow, Stansted and other UK airports.

Human Trafficking is linked to other crimes- coordination with Law Enforcement is vital



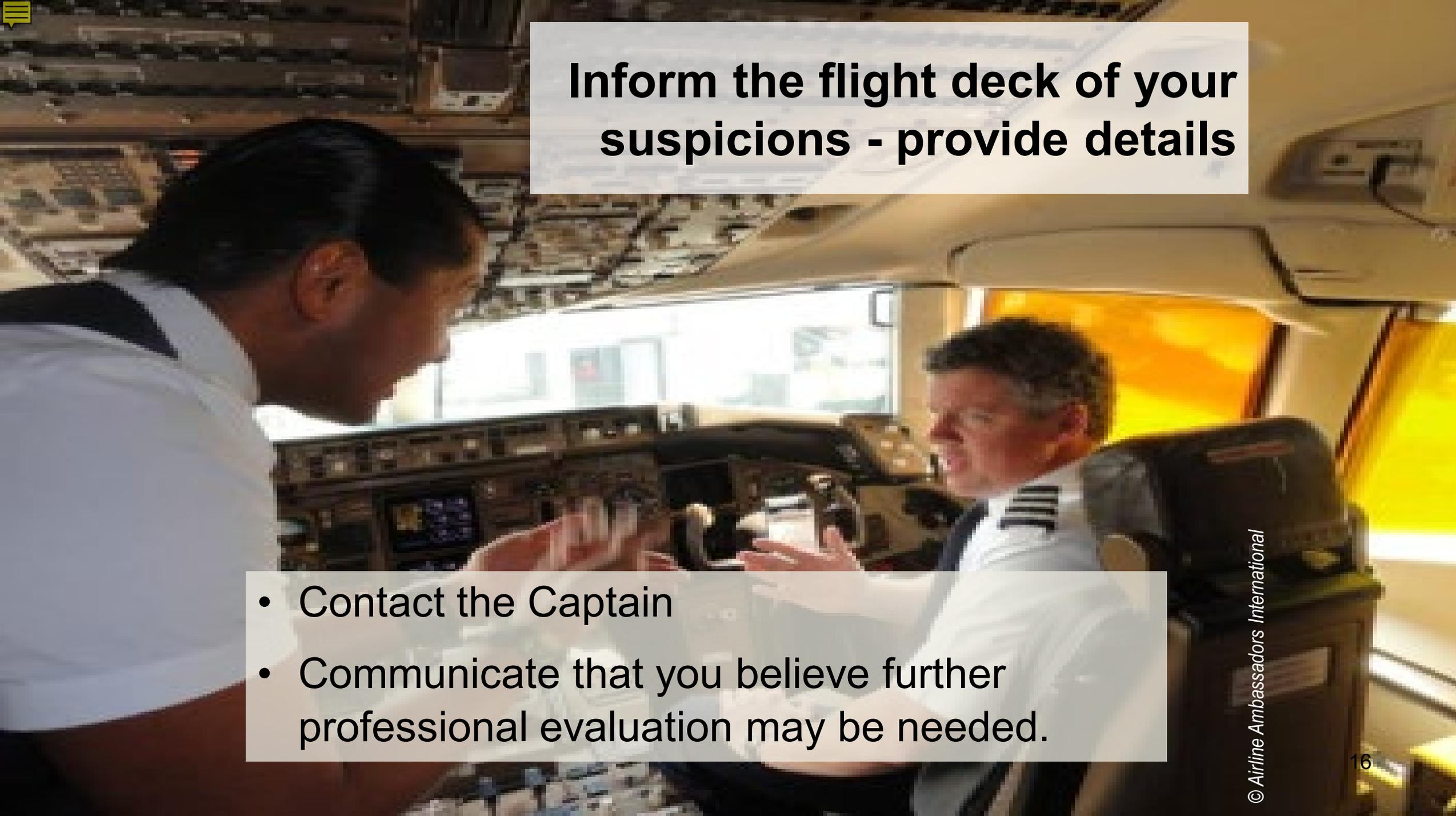
AAI Training unique due to Survivors



After hearing these testimonies,

What we teach frontline personnel

- **Be Observant** –(Trust your instinct)
- Ask friendly questions:
 - *Are you visiting relatives?*
 - *Are you traveling for a job? As a model? Au pair?*
 - *Note seat # and PNR (flight attendants - ask agent to pull PNR upon landing if concerned)*

A photograph of an airplane cockpit. A flight attendant in a white uniform is leaning forward, talking to a pilot in a white uniform with a captain's rank insignia. The pilot is sitting in the left seat, and the flight attendant is standing in the aisle. The cockpit is filled with various instruments and controls. The background shows the airplane's windows and the sky outside.

Inform the flight deck of your suspicions - provide details

- Contact the Captain
- Communicate that you believe further professional evaluation may be needed.



Flight Deck coordinates with local Airport Operations - Dispatch

- Contact upcoming airport via cockpit radio
- Communicate information from flight attendants.



- Operations calls Law Enforcement



Remember to Do No Harm - “CARE”

- **C** -Do **NOT** confront anyone you suspect of engaging in trafficking.
- **A** – Do NOT display of unusual concern or alarm.
- **R** - Do **NOT** try to rescue any possible victim.
- **E** - Do **NOT** endanger yourself or others.

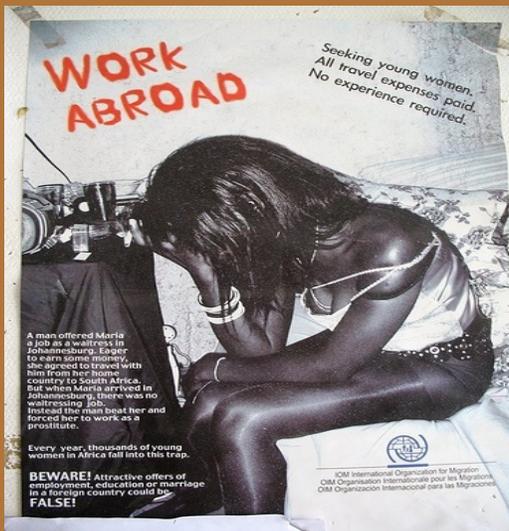




On AA's daily flight
Moscow – Chicago,
there were usually
4-5 teenage girls that had been
told they were coming to the U.S.
to be models or work on TV

but

***The girls did not
speak English.***



PHOTOGRAPHER: VALENTINA BALASHOVA

Travel documents had been arranged and their itinerary stated they would have to ride a bus to New York City.

They were being trafficked into the sex trade.



Flight attendant
Sandi Hodges
called the Hotline
and
an under-cover
Custom's Agent was
assigned to monitor
that flight

***To stop the flow of
trafficking out of
Moscow.***

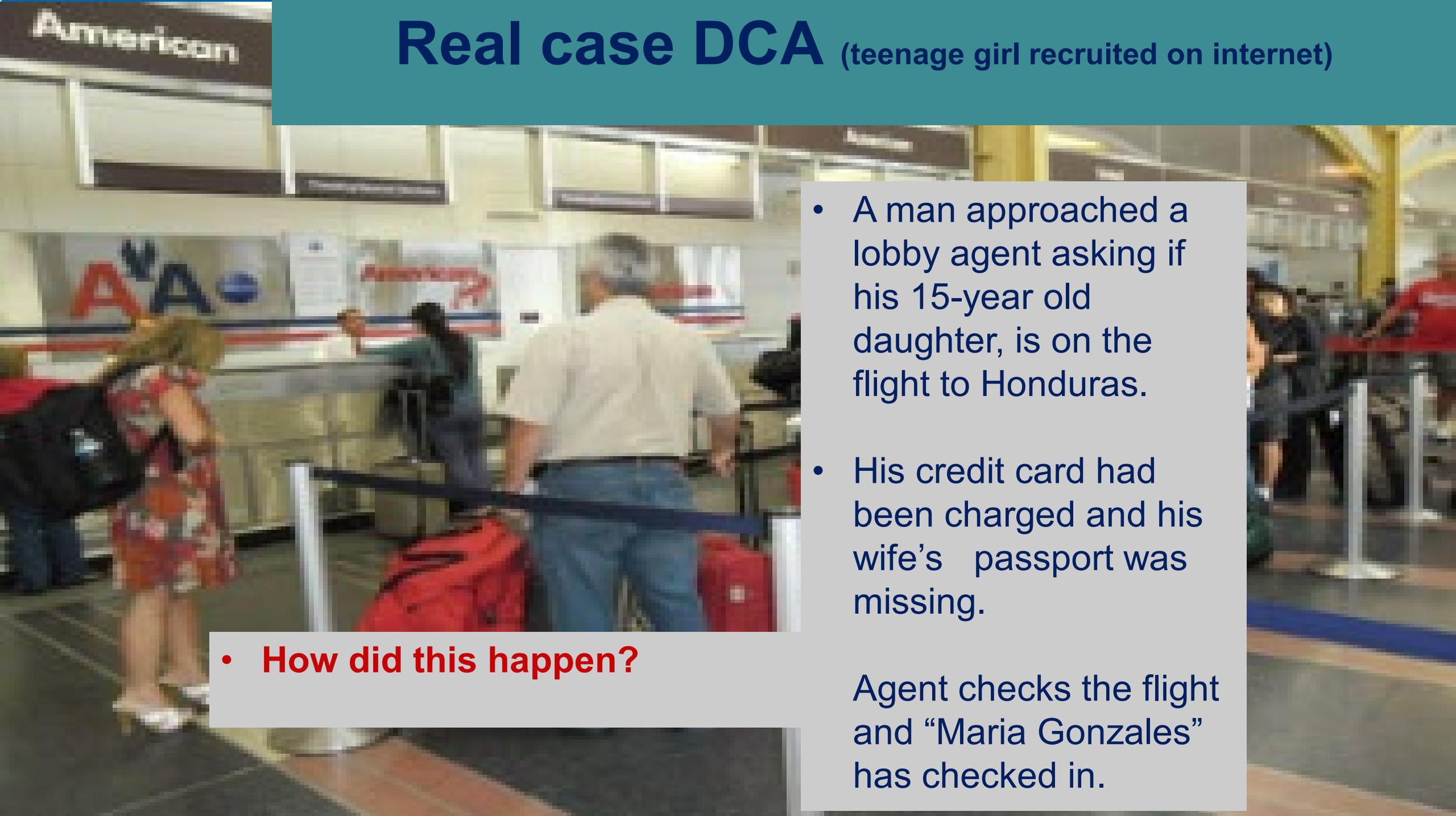
Feb 16, 2018 AA Agent in Sacramento Saves Girls from Sex Trafficking Plot



AA Agent Denice Miracle noticed two teenage girls traveling to New York on a 1 way ticket to visit a man they met on Instagram.

Each of us can make a difference, by being observant in our workplace.

Real case DCA (teenage girl recruited on internet)

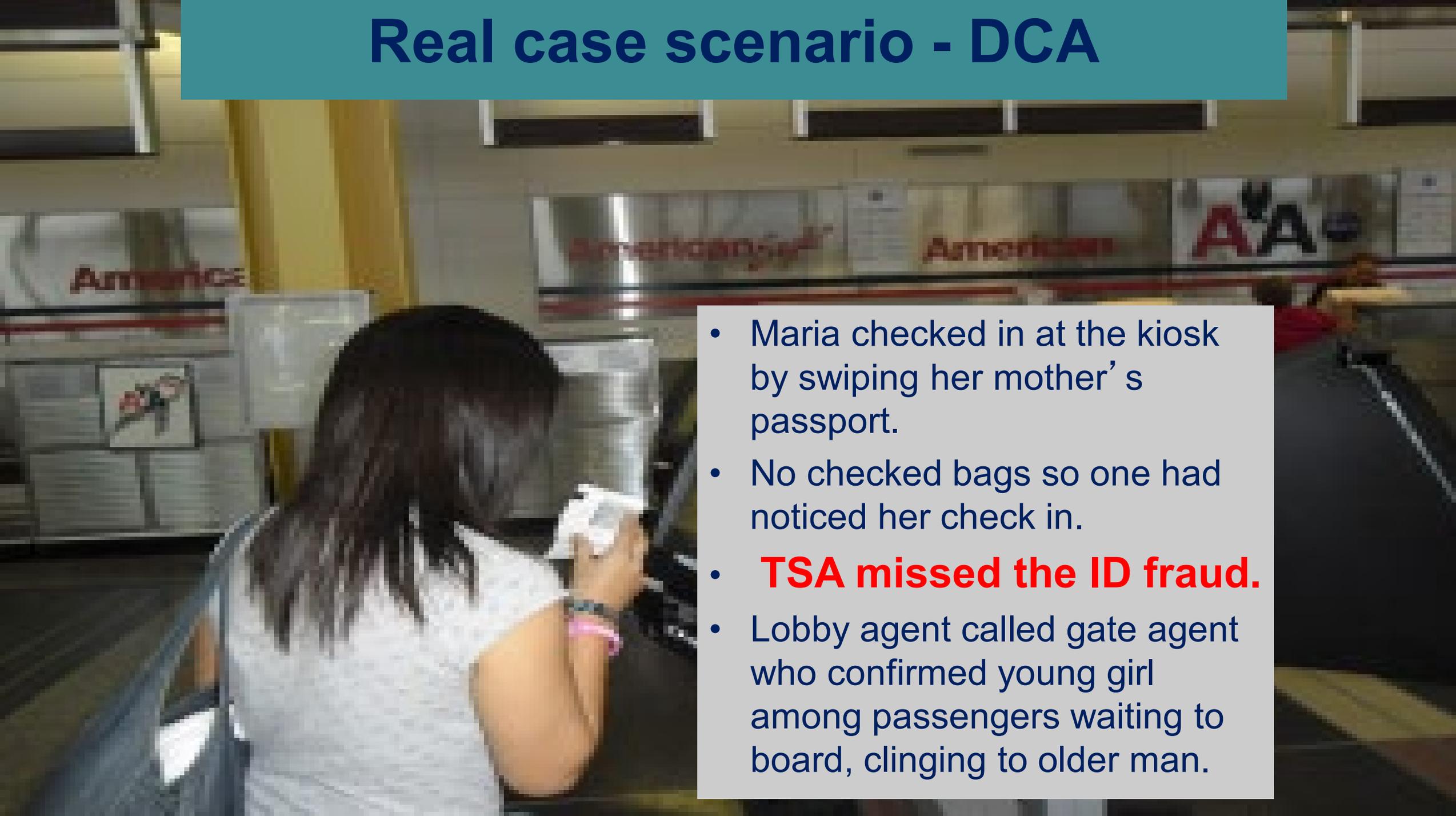


- **How did this happen?**

- A man approached a lobby agent asking if his 15-year old daughter, is on the flight to Honduras.
- His credit card had been charged and his wife's passport was missing.

Agent checks the flight and "Maria Gonzales" has checked in.

Real case scenario - DCA

- 
- Maria checked in at the kiosk by swiping her mother's passport.
 - No checked bags so one had noticed her check in.
 - **TSA missed the ID fraud.**
 - Lobby agent called gate agent who confirmed young girl among passengers waiting to board, clinging to older man.

Real case scenario - DCA

- The gate agent paged her to come to the podium.
- Maria came to the podium (*watched by the older man*) and was told her father was at the airport looking for her.
- When asked who the man was, Jessica said she didn't know him.



The police returned Jessica to her father, the man went on to Honduras.

Real case scenario – MIA

crying girl outside airport bathroom



You notice a crying girl outside the bathroom near a boarding gate.

You stop to ask what is wrong.

She says a man she met at a bar last night bought her a ticket to New York. He is waiting for her now as the flight is about to board. But she does not want to go.

She wants to go to her mother.

What do you do?



Real Success Stories

Uber

An Uber driver in Sacramento reported two women with a 16 year old girl who got out at a Holiday Inn. He just felt something wasn't right. His tip to law enforcement was correct and he saved the young girl.



Hilton

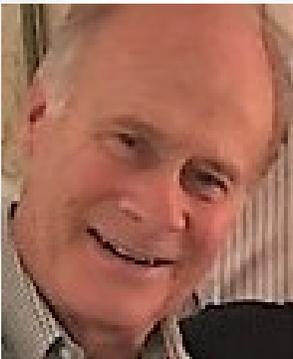
Hilton employee Marie Rivard, noticed a potential trafficking situation when she noticed young girls at the bar under the control of two older men. Her quick action to report saved these girls.



Real Case Scenario

Indicator: Under Control of a Companion

- Girl was ordered to put on her jacket to cover up her bruises and told to board the plane without making a scene.
- Man overheard saying he would be “watching her every move.”

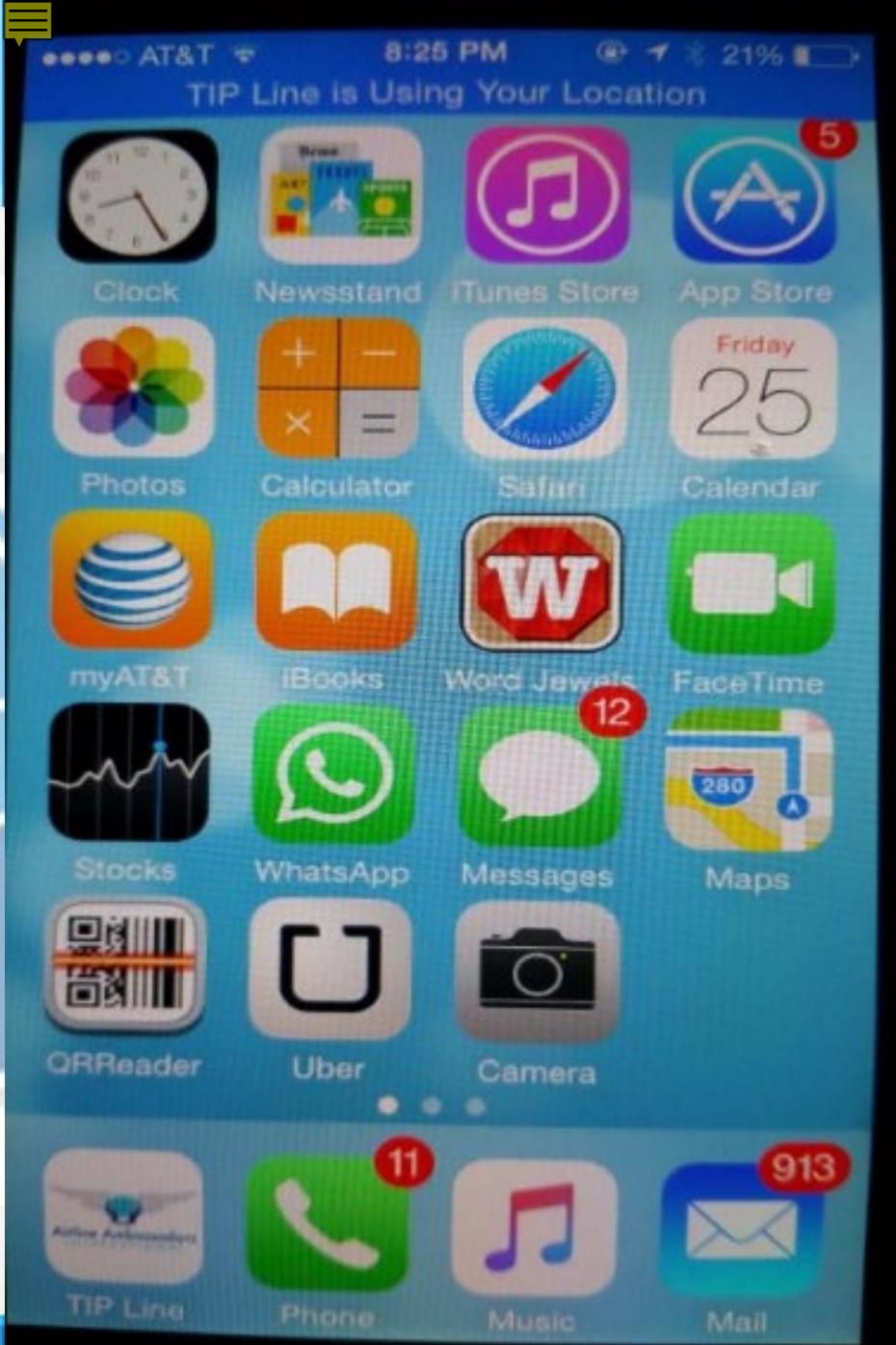


*Girl was visibly
frightened*

What would YOU do?

Departure Gate





ANYONE can report using the

AAI **TIP Line App**

Recognize it! Report it!

FREE on Google/ iTunes

- Anonymously use smart phone to Report suspected trafficking
- Report via voice, text, photo, video
- Connects to resources and Tip Lines in 190 countries the world

All of us can be eyes and ears in an airport environment – or a Mall



Travel industry personnel see at least 500 people per week. Training of 100 employees enables evaluation of 2.4 MILLION passengers!

- Recognizing visible signs of trafficking
- Reporting anonymous “tips”
- Save LIVES!



Often, this is the very last trace
of an abducted child.

Unless we all join together in combating
human trafficking.



Airline Ambassadors
INTERNATIONAL