

Collecting Criminal Justice Data on Human Trafficking: A Practice Guide for Law Enforcement (Laura Story Johnson, The Warnath Group, 2020)

This practice guide was created for counter-trafficking law enforcement practitioners and criminal justice professionals to support decision-making on data collection objectives and procedures. However, it may also be insightful to those working alongside or in collaboration with law enforcement bodies.

The resource introduces key issues connected to collecting criminal justice data on victims and perpetrators of human trafficking to support the development of standardized data collection tools and procedures to acquire, record, track, and report information on human trafficking.

It has 3 main sections, providing relevant key terms, definitions, and guidance.

- 1) **Determining Data to be Collected** (Page 4): This is the most substantial section and provides guidance on how to decide what data should be collected (i.e., quantitative versus qualitative data) and beginning the process of deciding who and how data should be collected. In making these decisions there are several key considerations detailed to be prioritised. These include:
 - Transparency in foundational assumptions
 - Opportunities for training law enforcement
 - Clarifying the purpose
 - Judging what data is needed and appropriate
 - Tools to collect data
 - Assigning responsibility for data
- 2) **Ensuring Quality Data** (Page 12): This provides guidance on ensuring data is
 - Reliable
 - Valid
 - Accurate
 - Precise

It also defines what these qualities are and provides key questions related to these issues to ask before collecting data.

- 3) **Ensuring Data is Protected** (Page 14): This provides guidance on setting up relevant protocol for data protection and security.