

Survivor Leader and Director Courtney Litvak Bio



Courtney Litvak is a Survivor Leader and recently served 3 years as a Honorable Member of the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking and was appointed by former President Donald Trump. She is a subject matter expert, an advocate, a public speaker, a passionate activist and lobbyist, and is a part of the Survivor Consultant Network for Department of Homeland Security/ Blue Campaign. She is also the Director of Survivor Leaders for the incredible Houston based organization No Trafficking Zone.

Courtney was born in Houston, Texas in 1998. She attended school in KatyISD where she excelled as a varsity swimmer on the top-ranking swim team in the district. During her lifelong career as a competitive swimmer and athlete, she accumulated numerous accolades and recognition for her achievements. Her beloved swim coaches and the remarkable sport of competitive swimming fostered her unwavering strength and determination for success.

Before devoting herself to full-time advocacy, she was methodically lured into The Life, also known as sex trafficking. After years of being off the grid, and under the emotional and physical control of networks of extremely heinous exploiters, Courtney escaped and entered a recovery program for survivors. She underwent an intensive, faith-based program where she received the tools to overcome her trauma. She credits Jesus Christ and is thankful to The Refuge for Women for enabling her to reconnect with her faith that empowered her to begin dreaming again.

Her work as an activist and consultant include speaking in to and inspiring the development of legislation to protect youth and students in every school district in the state of Texas. Courtney, the remarkable NTZ team, and their great allies testified and fought at the Texas Capitol and by the grace of Jesus, successfully passed SB1831 in 2021 and two more No Trafficking Zones bills HB 3553 and HB 3554 in 2023! Courtney and the NTZ team travel to DC often to meet with national allies and to testify to Congress. They are currently also leading the charge on Capitol Hill with powerful bipartisan leaders to pass their federal No Trafficking Zones in Schools Law, HR 30.

Other passions of Courtney's include national public speaking, education, and trainings of professionals and students in schools. She has actively met with federal agencies that are apart of the President's Interagency Task Force to combat human trafficking, and she has helped develop best practices and recommendations to Congress and the federal Government with her beloved Honorable Council members and wonderful allies. She partners with local and nationally renowned anti trafficking organizations and agencies. Other ways she serves in a survivor leader capacity are peer-to-peer interventions, mentoring, and supporting local, state and national leaders to improve policy and protect victims from being criminalized and re-exploited.

Courtney proactively meets with and advises leading champions on this issue across the nation, including top leaders in Washington DC and Texas. Some of these passionate bipartisan leaders include but are not limited to: members of Congress, State Senators, Honorable Judges, the TIP Office/ DOS, Texas Governor Greg Abbott, and former Senior Advisor to the President, Ivanka Trump. In early 2020, Courtney was recognized alongside other survivor leaders, by President Donald Trump at the Executive White House Summit

for Combating Human Trafficking.

"I want all individuals impacted by the devastation of human trafficking to know that you are made for so much more than all of this. I am a walking miracle of perseverance and living proof of God's faithfulness and unconditional love. God is never blind to our tears. He is never deaf to our prayers. He will not remain silent to the injustices of our true enemy. Jeremiah 29:11. My brokenness and lived experiences led me to my true calling, to use what the enemy intended for evil for God's glory; to help save the lives of many while carrying out God's grace and mercy. Genesis 50:20! I forever choose to live by faith and no longer by fear. My drive and passion are fueled in knowing that God will give us justice."