



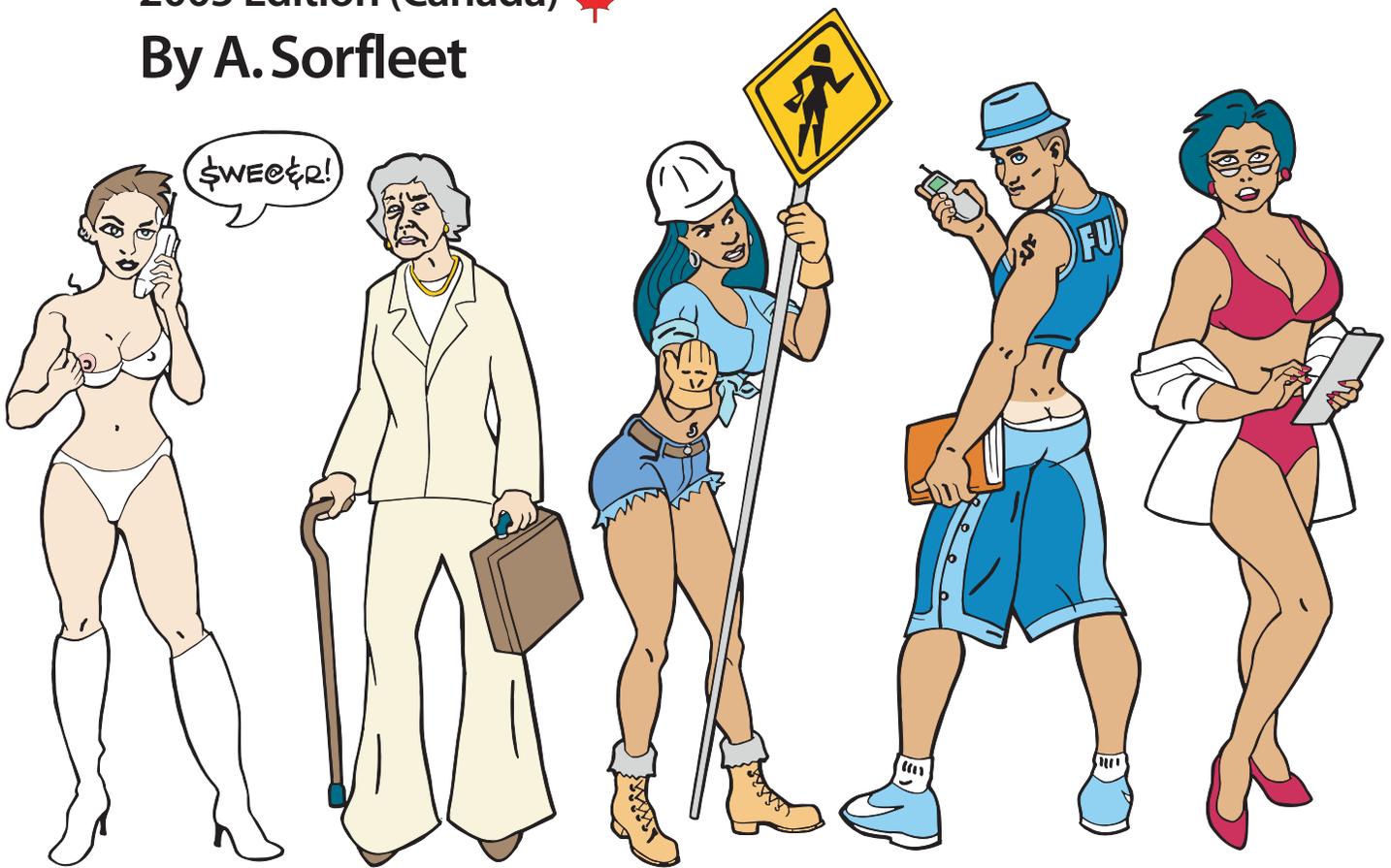
\$ex, Work, Education, Advocacy & Research!

Sex Workers' Workbook

Where YOU regulate the sex industry

2005 Edition (Canada) 

By A. Sorfleet





About the author

Andrew Sorfleet is 40 years old and still an outspoken and dedicated activist. He has worked as a prostitute since 1989 — on the street, for escort services, in a massage parlour and as an independent advertiser. He was a founding member of the Sex Workers Alliance of Toronto; educational director for the Toronto Prostitutes' Community Service Project (Maggie's); member and webmaster of the international Network of Sex Work Projects since 1992; and, for the past ten years, coordinator for the Sex Workers Alliance of Vancouver.

Sorfleet is a graduate of the Ontario College of Art.

PHOTO: Bill Powers, 2003

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Additional copies available from: <http://www.swear.ca>.

This book is dedicated to all of the sex workers who engaged in the struggle for human rights and dignity: Danny Cockerline, Penny Hoar, Paulo Longo, Elizabeth Spedding, Fiona Stewart, and so many others.

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\$WE@&R!

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CANADA

Made in Canada



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Welcome to \$WE@&R!

Where YOU regulate the sex industry

\$ex, Work, Education, Advocacy & Research! (\$WE@&R!) is all about the sex industry in Canada and how it should — or could — be regulated. \$WE@&R! is a fun way to learn about laws and regulations that affect the sex industry. The \$WE@&R! workbooks will present you with various scenarios, and then ask you for your opinions about related laws and regulations. Once you have gone through the workbooks and answered all the questions, you can send us your completed survey and we will forward it to the Canadian government.

About \$WE@&R!

\$WE@&R! began with an idea to create a fun and easy-to-use way to gather opinions from workers in the sex industry about laws, policies, regulations and benefits. We wanted to create an alternative to academic research — something that encouraged community development and greater worker involvement in legal reforms that affect work life.

\$WE@&R! started as a proposal to the Law Commission of Canada, and was inspired by YouthSpeak, a manual for foster kids on how to run their own forums and gather feedback about the quality of their foster care. Without the generous support of the Law Commission of Canada, and our many other supporters, this project could never have happened.

About the Law Commission

The Law Commission of Canada is an independent federal agency established by an Act of Parliament in 1997. Its mandate is to advise Parliament on improvements to, and modernization and reform of, Canadian law. The Commission reports directly to the Minister of Justice. The following principles guide its work:

- its process must be open, inclusive, and accessible to all Canadians
- it must view the law and the legal system in a broad social and economic context
- it must strive to be responsive and accountable, by working in partnership with a wide range of interested groups and individuals
- it must be innovative in its research methods
- it must take account of the impact of the law on different groups and individuals when making its recommendations

For more information, see <http://www.lcc.gc.ca>.



How to \$WE@&R!

The \$WE@&R! *Sex Workers' Workbook* is made up of five individual workbooks: *Sex, Work, Education, Advocacy* and *Research!*. You can complete these workbooks in any order you like. Throughout the workbooks you will find questions asking you for your opinions about particular laws, regulations or by-laws that affect the sex industry workplace.

Questions in the \$WE@&R! workbooks ask for nothing but your opinions. You are never asked to disclose any personal information about yourself. There are no incriminating questions about your occupation, your experiences, or your activities.

- **Education** is a great place to begin. It describes and explains some of the history of the social attitudes and regulations that have been imposed on prostitutes. You will find information on Canada's laws, the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, law reform in other countries, and the various levels of competing legal jurisdictions in Canada.
- **Work** describes and explains workplace laws. It also discusses wages, health and safety, employee benefits, professional associations and trade unions.
- **Sex** describes and explains in detail public health laws related to contagious diseases and sexually transmitted infections. It contains nitty-gritty details and photos of these diseases.
- **Advocacy** describes and explains how to be an advocate for yourself and for others. It includes user-friendly instructions for starting sex worker groups, networking, public education and other political activities.
- **Research!** compiles in a single survey all of the questions contained in the other \$WE@&R! workbooks. Once you've completed the other workbooks, you have the opportunity to answer all the questions a second time, in light of new information you may have acquired. Send us your completed Research survey, and we'll forward it to the Canadian government. You have the option to include your name and address with your opinions, if you wish. (Legal petitions require names and addresses, as well as signatures.) Another option is to answer all of the questions in Research first. Then, after completing the other workbooks, you could compare your answers. It's up to you. Additional copies of the Research survey are available at <http://www.swear.ca>.

Available in PDF: The *Sex Workers' Workbook* is 174 pages. It can be printed in black and white, or in full colour; front and back, then hole-punched and put in a 1/2-inch three-ring binder. You can print your own tab dividers on Avery five-tab index maker labels (11436).

We hope you'll find the \$WE@&R! *Sex Workers' Workbook* an educational, entertaining and valuable resource. If you have any questions, please visit the \$WE@&R! website at <http://www.swear.ca>, or send us an e-mail at swear@walnet.org.

Bon appétit!



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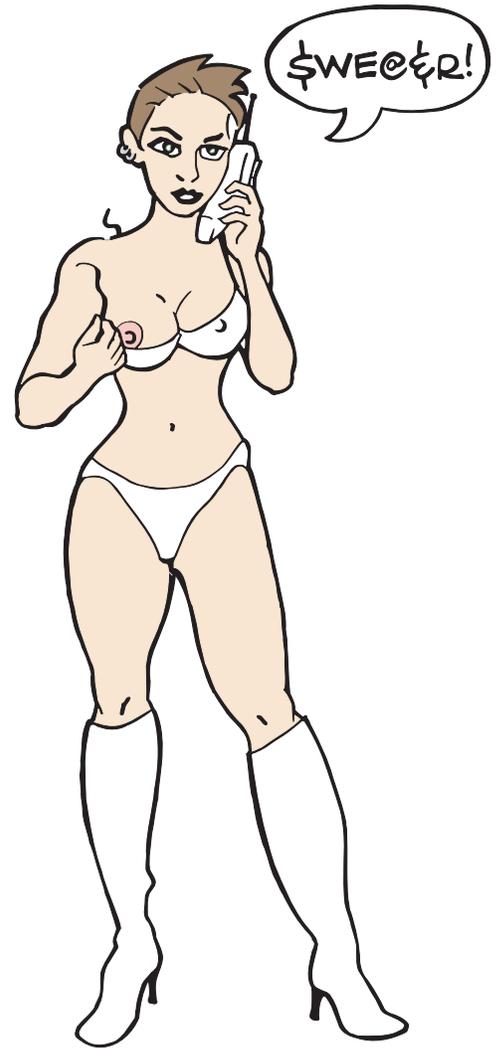
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The Medical Inspection, Rue des Moulins (1894)

The Rue des Moulins in the Montmartre quarter of Paris was artist Henri Toulouse-Lautrec's favourite brothel. The basic French regulation system for prostitution had been in place since Napoleon's Consulate. Prostitution by-laws imposed a system of registration, and emphasized *maisons de tolérance* (brothels) as the easiest way to keep women off the streets. Regulations required brothel workers to undergo routine medical inspections.

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, 1894. National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. (Mark Harden's Artchive: <http://www.artchive.com>)

Sex diseases in history

Throughout history, sailors, soldiers and prostitutes have been implicated in the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. There are descriptions of a disease which may have been syphilis in ancient Chinese, Indian, Hebrew and Greek writings. It has been speculated that syphilis was brought to Europe in 1493 by Christopher Columbus and his crew of 44 men. Syphilis is part of a group of diseases that include yaws, pinta and endemic syphilis. All are caused by the same microscopic organism.

In 1495, King Charles VIII of France besieged the city of Naples. Both the French and the Neapolitan armies, made up of mercenaries, were struck by a new disease, said to have been spread by prostitutes between both camps. By the early 1500s, Europe had been struck by an epidemic called "the great pox" — which, from historical descriptions, we can be sure was syphilis. The disease had spread from Europe as far as Canton, China, by 1505.

The earliest European public health initiatives regulated brothels (and their workers) in order to control the spread of disease. As far back as 1161, brothels in London were forbidden by law to house prostitutes "suffering from the perilous infirmity of burning" — gonorrhoea. From the Napoleonic Wars to World War II, both national and municipal governments examined, licensed and monitored prostitutes for contamination, and quarantined carriers of disease.

In England, the *Contagious Diseases Acts* (1864-1869) mandated the identification, registration and speculum examination of prostitutes in military depots. They also gave police broad powers to arrest women suspected of prostitution.

The germ theory of disease proliferated through the late 1800s. In 1882 Robert Koch finally identified *M. tuberculosis* as the agent that caused "the consumption." By the turn of the century, acceptance of the germ theory had sparked a militant and moralistic public health crusade.



Early feminists and moral reformers, in an effort to end this exploitation of women, waged campaigns to abolish state-sponsored bordellos and prostitution.

In 1885 in England, the abolitionist/social-purity movement to end “white slavery” exploded into public outrage after newspapers published a series of articles describing the sale of young virgins into foreign brothels. The moral panic that followed resulted in a petition bearing more than 393,000 signatures, which demanded that the British government pass the *Bill to Amend the Criminal Law* (1885). Meant to protect young girls, this legislation raised the age of consent and extended police powers.

In 1904, the League of Nations passed the *Suppression of the White Slave Traffic Treaty*. By 1921, the *International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children* had dropped the term “white slavery” in favour of the new term “traffic in women.”

Meanwhile, the abolitionist campaign had spread throughout America, where the “white slavery” panic resulted in the passage of the *Mann Act*, in 1911.

Eventually, the United Nations combined the two earlier League of Nations treaties into one, called *Suppression of the Traffic of Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others* (1949).

Treatments and cures

The “rest cure” for consumption led to a proliferation of sanatoria. For the wealthy, the sanatorium was a combination luxury hotel and hospital. As germ theory gained acceptance, however, tuberculosis became the “White Plague” and the sanitarium became a place where patients — virtually all of them poor — suffered isolation, boredom and frightening medical procedures (such as the removal of ribs and surgery to force the collapse of an infected lung). Until the industrial production of penicillin was invented in the 1940s, patients were relegated to spend the rest of their lives (after

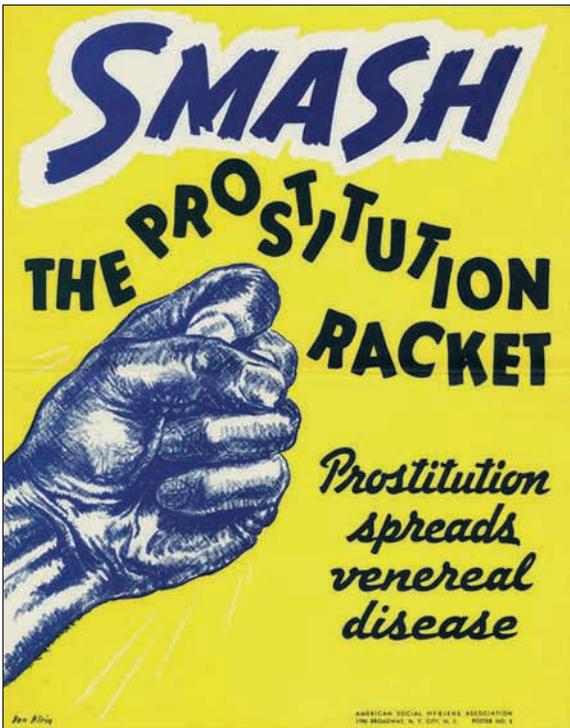


“Warning: These Enemies Are Still Lurking Around” (1940)

This poster was part of a campaign aimed at U.S. troops during WWII using depictions of prostitutes to warn about venereal diseases. It was issued by the American Social Health Association in 1940.

Social Welfare History Archives (<http://special.lib.umn.edu/swaha>)





“Smash The Prostitution Racket” (c. 1940s)

Anti-prostitution message on a poster from the American Social Hygiene Association, New York City. Prostitution has long been blamed for the spread of venereal disease.

Social Welfare History Archives (<http://special.lib.umn.edu/swaha>)

diagnosis in pre-war sanatoria for infectious diseases like diphtheria, cholera, typhoid fever, typhus, malaria, leprosy, tuberculosis, smallpox — and syphilis.

Alexander Fleming had discovered the antibiotic nature of penicillium mould in 1928, but it took 11 more years to isolate penicillin in its pure form. The obvious benefits that industrial production of antibiotics could provide for soldiers wounded in World War II led to international cooperation. Andrew Moyer discovered a process for growing penicillin in corn liquor and lactose. This revolutionized the medical approach to disease, resulting in the treatment and cure of many infectious bacterial diseases. By the 1970s, the sanitarium had disappeared.

\$-01: Let’s say you are a sex worker. Should the choice be yours to use a condom or not when having sex (intercourse) for free, perhaps with your lover or spouse?

- yes
- no
- don’t know

Public health today

Today in Canada, the provinces and territories are responsible for all matters concerning public health, and for the administration of health care. Provincial/territorial laws regarding the protection of public health are included in each province/territory’s Public Health Act. These Acts also set out provincial/territorial regulations governing the operation of businesses where the protection of public health is of concern. For example, if a restaurant is found, upon inspection, to be in violation of some provision of the restaurant section of a Public Health Act, it can lose its licence to serve food. In addition, each Act contains a section on dangerous infectious and contagious diseases, outlining protocol for dealing with reportable diseases, such as sexually transmitted infections.



\$-02: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should the choice be yours to use a condom or not when you perform oral sex (blow job) for free, perhaps with your lover or spouse?

- yes
 no
 don't know
-

In British Columbia, public health legislation (B.C.'s *Health Act* – Part 5: "Dangerous Infectious or Contagious Diseases") allows Medical Health Officers of a municipality or regional health district to isolate (keep detained in isolation) any person found to be infected with any disease dangerous to public health — and place her or him under quarantine (ordered to stay at home, with a notice posted warning visitors not to enter), if necessary. If a Medical Health Officer has grounds to believe that you are infected with a reportable communicable disease — and that you are likely to willfully, carelessly or because of mental incompetence expose others to the disease — that Officer can order you to comply with set conditions to prevent the exposure of other people to the disease. As well, she or he can order medical tests or treatment in order to identify or control the disease.

\$-03: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should the choice be yours to use a condom or not when you have sex (intercourse) with a client?

- yes
 no
 don't know
-

If you do not obey the Medical Health Officer's orders, you can be charged in provincial court. The court can order you to comply, or else you can be detained (up to a year) until the Officer is satisfied that you are no longer infectious. The Officer can also apply to the provincial court for a one-year extension of the period of detention, testing, treatment, isolation or quarantine.

GERMS & HISTORY

→ *Plagues and Peoples*

William H. McNeill. New York: Anchor Books, 1976. Disease in world history.

→ *No Magic Bullet: A Social History of Venereal Disease in the United States Since 1880*

Allan M. Brandt. New York: Oxford University Press, 1987.

→ *Viruses, Plagues, & History*

Michael B.A. Oldstone. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998.

Details viral and prion diseases.

→ *A Field Guide to Germs*

W. Biddle. New York: Second Anchor Books, 2002. Paperback; very readable!

→ *Pox: Genius, Madness and the Mystery of Syphilis*

Deborah Hayden. New York: Basic Books, 2003. (<http://poxhistory.com>)



Public health today



Primary Syphilis (*Treponema pallidum*)

Most often found on genitals, a primary syphilis lesion (painless ulcer) can occur anywhere you have been touched by a moist syphilis sore. Typically, only one lesion will erupt, within 10-90 days after contact. Skin on the surface of the lesion dies back and scabs, resulting in a well-rounded chancre with a hard base. Primary lesions are usually painless and often accompanied with swollen, but not tender, lymph glands. Symptoms clear up in a few weeks. If untreated, you remain infected, and eventually you have a secondary syphilis outbreak. Syphilis is usually treated with penicillin, and is curable.

Self-Learning Module on Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Public Health Agency of Canada (<http://www.phac.aspc.gc.ca/slm-maa>)
PHOTO: Boehringer-Ingelheim

In B.C., separate rules specifically dealing with sexually transmitted diseases are outlined in the *Venereal Diseases Act*. Every case of a venereal disease must be reported, along with the patient's name, to the Medical Health Officer. If you suspect that you may have a venereal disease, you are required to immediately seek medical treatment and to take necessary precautions against exposing others. Your doctor is required to report you to the medical health officer if you refuse or neglect to take adequate treatment.

\$-04: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should the choice be yours to use a condom or not when you perform oral sex (blow job) with a client?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

If a Medical Health Officer believes that you have been exposed to a venereal disease, you can be asked to report to a doctor or clinic for a test. The test results must be reported to the Officer, and you are to be given directions to prevent you from exposing others to the infection. You must provide proof to the Medical Health Officer that you are receiving adequate treatment, and that you are following those directions, so as not to expose others. You may also be required to undergo more than one examination, in order to determine that the treatment was effective and that you are no longer infected.

\$-05: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to always use condoms when having sex (intercourse) with clients?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



If a Medical Health Officer has reason to believe that you have a venereal disease (whether laboratory tests confirm the infection or not), and you refuse treatment or behave in a way that could expose others to the disease, the Officer can make a complaint against you to a Justice of the Peace. The Justice has the power to issue a summons that would require you to appear before a hearing into the truth and matter of the complaint. If you fail to appear, the Justice can issue a warrant and have you brought in.

If the Justice finds that you are unwilling to undergo adequate treatment, or finds that you have failed to take precautions to prevent exposing others, you can be detained (for up to a year) and treated until necessary examinations can ascertain that you no longer pose a risk to the public.

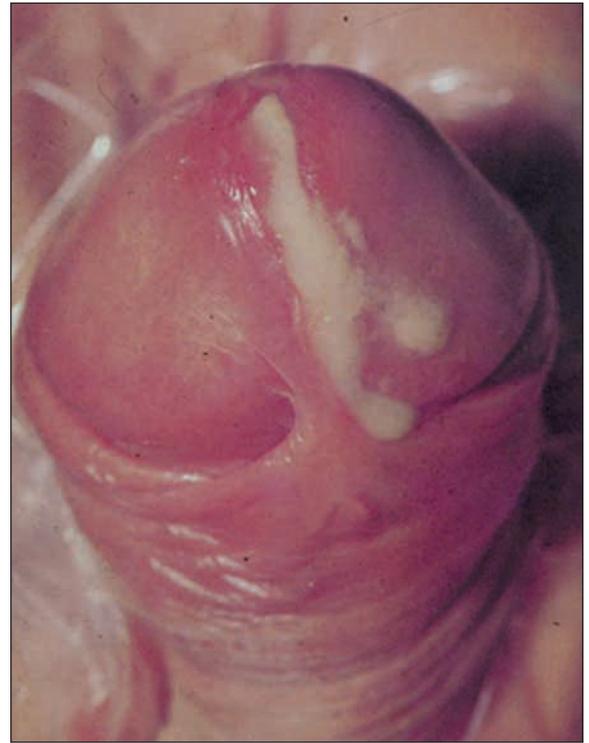
\$-06: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required by law to always use condoms for all sexual contact at work?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

Reportable diseases

A reportable disease is one that is so significant to public health that its occurrence must, by law, be reported to public health authorities. Provincial public health laws (such as the B.C. *Venereal Disease Act* and the Communicable Disease Regulation under the B.C. *Health Act*), require that doctors and nurses disclose to the Medical Health Officer personal health information about testing and treatment for reportable communicable diseases. They can do this without your consent.

Throughout Canada there is a list of more than 50 reportable diseases, including leprosy (Hansen's Disease), malaria, measles, mumps, Hantavirus Pulmonary



Gonorrhea (a.k.a. "The Clap")

Gonorrhea can infect your throat, anus, cervix, vagina, penis, urethra, or testes. It's transmitted during unprotected oral, anal and vaginal sex. Thick, profuse discharge from your urethra (shown above) is typical of gonorrhea. For women, symptoms include vaginal discharge, painful urination, abnormal vaginal bleeding and lower abdominal pain. For men they include urethral discharge and itch, and painful urination. More than half of people with gonorrhea show no symptoms. If left untreated gonorrhea can lead to Pelvic Inflammatory Disease, infertility, pelvic pain or (if conception takes place) ectopic pregnancy in women, and inflammation of the testicles and infertility in men. Treatment is usually a single oral dose of antibiotics.

In the 1960s, the only treatment for gonorrhea available to prostitutes in U.S.-occupied parts of Southeast Asia was a black-market, low-grade penicillin. Self-treatment with such penicillin led to a penicillin-resistant strain of gonorrhea the so-called "Vietnam Rose." This strain was imported to North America by U.S. soldiers returning from Vietnam.

Self-Learning Module on Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Public Health Agency of Canada (<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/slm-maa>)
PHOTO: Dr. Marc Steben



Reportable diseases



Primary Genital Herpes (HSV-1)

Genital herpes (also known as plain herpes) is caused by the Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV). There are two types: HSV-1 and HSV-2. HSV-1 is usually responsible for childhood infections of the face and fingers. HSV-2 is almost always the cause of adult genital herpes infections. Genital herpes is usually transmitted sexually — through oral, vaginal or anal sex — although you can infect yourself or someone else after touching a herpes sore. You can transmit herpes from the time the sores first appear until they are completely healed.

Treatment for the sores is available, but the virus remains dormant; there is currently no cure. Infections can be painful. Pain relief medicine may be required, and sedatives can be used to reduce stress. Salt baths or washes can help dry out sores. Relapses can occur when you get run down. Herpes outbreaks can be triggered by lack of sleep, physical and emotional stress, trauma, menstruation, hormonal changes, too much sunlight, and drinking alcohol. Good nutrition and a healthy lifestyle can help prevent outbreaks.

Self-Learning Module on Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Public Health Agency of Canada (<http://www.phac.aspc.gc.ca/slm-maa>)
PHOTO: Dr. Marc Steben

Syndrome (HPS), hepatitis A, hepatitis C, cholera, typhoid, yellow fever and AIDS/HIV. (In 2003, B.C. became the last province to classify HIV as reportable.)

Most lists include the following sexually transmitted infections: hepatitis B (HBV), chlamydia, genital warts (Human Papilloma Virus or HPV), syphilis and gonorrhea. Hepatitis C is transmitted through blood and is no longer considered a sexually transmitted disease by health authorities. Genital herpes (HSV) is not classified as reportable (except in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia).

\$-07: *Let's say you are a sex worker. If you have herpes, should you be required to inform clients prior to sexual contact?*

- yes
- no
- don't know

In Ontario, the *Public Health Act* obliges a doctor to fill out a detailed information report form when reporting to the Medical Officer of Health or the Health Unit on a person who has or may have a "notifiable" (reportable) disease. The form lists full name and date of birth, sex, date of onset or symptoms and date of testing (when the specimen was taken that yielded the positive finding).

\$-08: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to leave the sex industry if you catch herpes?*

- yes
- no
- don't know

Other reportable information required under the Ontario *Public Health Act* is listed for each specific disease. For example, for syphilis, the form lists specific symptoms, as well as information about the date of diagnosis, the name and address of the attending



physician, name of hospital and date of admission (if applicable), duration and stage of the infection, current treatment, drugs and dosage used, lab findings and, finally, the name of the person responsible for contact tracing (a list of your sexual partners is given to a public health nurse to follow up).

\$-09: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you get tested regularly for reportable STIs such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis and hepatitis B?*

- yes*
- no*
- don't know*

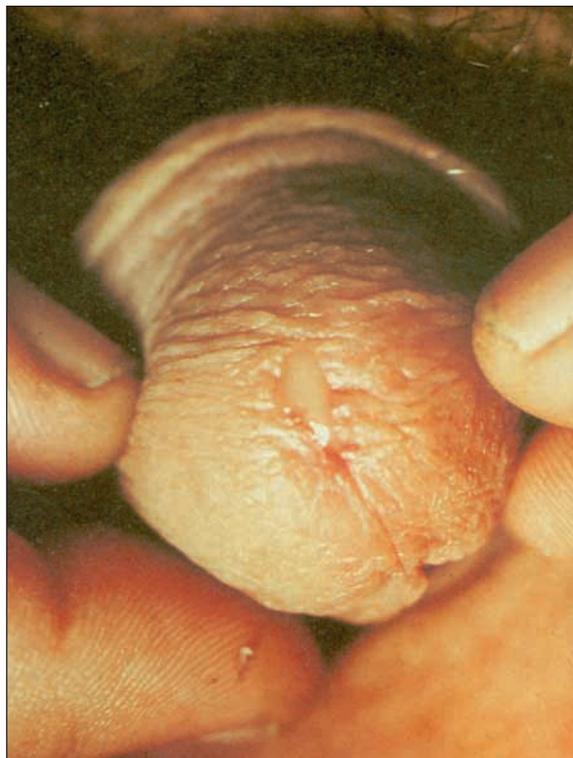
Drug-resistant-gonorrhea and AIDS reports both require additional data. An AIDS report must include your country of birth; your race; and an indication of whether you have had sex with an intravenous drug-user, a bisexual man, a hemophiliac, someone living with AIDS, or a blood transfusion recipient.

Chlamydia trachomatis, genital herpes and gonorrhea (other than drug-resistant strains) are notifiable sexually transmitted infections (STIs) that can be reported anonymously (without your name being used).

\$-10: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to have regular blood and urine tests for such reportable STIs as chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis and hepatitis B in order to be allowed to work?*

- yes*
- no*
- don't know*

Each province/territory has its own laws outlining different conditions and procedures for reporting infectious diseases. Make sure you understand the specific rules for reporting STIs where you live. You can



Chlamydia Trachomatis

Chlamydia is the most frequently reported of all communicable diseases in North America. A chlamydia infection in your penis can cause discharge and burning during urination. Discharge can be cloudy or clear, runny or minimal. Chlamydia infections of the penis are not always obvious and, if left untreated, can cause sterility. Women diagnosed with chlamydia should avoid sexual penetration and get plenty of rest, to allow the infected area to heal. Untreated vaginal chlamydia infections can cause Pelvic Inflammatory Disease, which can result in infertility. Chlamydia is usually treated with a course of oral antibiotics.

PHOTO: *The Workers Handbook*. Darlington: Sex Workers Outreach Project, 1992.



THE ABCs OF HEPATITIS

Hepatitis means that your liver is sick because you've caught a virus. You can have a mild case of hep and think you just have the flu. You could have hep if you have diarrhea, fevers, headaches, nausea, no appetite or no energy. Your piss may turn dark and your skin and eyes may turn yellow. You may not realize you have hep if you don't go to a doctor. There are several kinds of hepatitis viruses.

Hep A is easy to get.

Hep A is a virus that lives in shit, even tiny amounts of shit that are too small to see. Hep A goes away. Once you've had hep A, you can't catch it again. You can catch hep A from contaminated water or even sharing a glass. A hep A vaccine is available but it lasts only three months.

You can carry hep B for life.

Hep B (HBV) is in blood, cum, vaginal fluid and spit. For most people hep B will go away. Once you've had HBV, you can't catch it again. But some people carry HBV and can spread it for the rest of their lives. There is a hep B vaccine which consists of three shots over six months.

Hep C is spread through blood.

The easiest way to catch hep C (HCV) is to puncture your skin with infected blood (as in sharing needles). HCV is not considered a sexually transmitted disease. But you should still inform your sex partners and use condoms if you have HCV, and never share toothbrushes or personal hygiene items. Some people with HCV develop severe liver disease or liver cancer.

find the relevant public health legislation on provincial/territorial government websites.

\$-11: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to inform your clients if you test positive for a reportable STI such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis or hep B?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

How about free vaccines?

Attempts in the 1970s to develop vaccines for gonorrhea and syphilis failed. There are currently no vaccines available for most STIs. The exception is hepatitis B (which can be transmitted during sex, and for which a vaccine is available).

\$-12: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you get regular vaccinations for hepatitis B?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

Clinics — including STI clinics — often offer free vaccinations for such diseases as hepatitis B and meningococcal C to particular groups at higher statistical risk, such as sexually active gay men or those whose work involves public service (e.g., food handlers).

HIV vaccine research has been conducted using sex workers in Thailand and gay men in Vancouver, but no effective vaccine has been patented. Vaccination can be imposed by public health authorities. (For instance, authorities require the vaccination of school children. Parents who refuse to comply can have their children removed.)



\$-13: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to get regular vaccinations for hepatitis B in order to be allowed to work?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

Sexual health exams

Terms for germs

Sometimes called "the love diseases," **Venereal Disease (VD)** is defined in the *Oxford Concise Dictionary* as, "any of a variety of diseases contracted chiefly by sexual intercourse with a person already infected; a sexually transmitted disease."

Derived from "Venus" (the Goddess of Love), "venereal" is defined as "of or relating to sexual desire or intercourse." [Middle English from Latin *venereus*, from *venus veneris* 'sexual love'] Historically syphilis and gonorrhea (and a few others more common in tropical climates) have been the principal diseases transmitted exclusively by genital contact.

In the 1970s, a movement grew to change the term "VD" to **Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)** in order to include the broader variety of diseases such as trichomonis, thrush and other urinary infections ("non-specific urethritis" or "NSUs") in the field of Genito-Urinary Medicine.

GOVERNMENT STI RESOURCES ON-LINE

Including provincial/territorial public health laws.

→ **B.C.'s Health Act (Section 5)**

http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/H/96179_01.htm

→ **B.C.'s Venereal Diseases Act**

http://www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/reg/V/VenerealDisease/64_84.htm

→ **Ontario Health Protection and Promotion Act (HPPA)**

<http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca>

→ **Self-Learning Module on Sexually Transmitted Diseases**

(Public Health Agency of Canada) Includes a great slide gallery!

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/slm-maa>



Sexual health exams



Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV)

Genital Herpes is usually transmitted sexually, through oral, vaginal, or anal sex — although you can infect yourself or someone else after touching a herpes sore. Herpes can be transmitted from the time the sores first appear until they are completely healed. Condoms do offer some protection if the lesions are on the penis area, but don't protect you from lesions in other places, such as cold sores on the lips. Check clients carefully and avoid kissing. Don't let them go down on you without a condom or dental dam.

PHOTO: *The Workers Handbook*, Darlinghurst: Sex Workers Outreach Project, 1992.

Today, **Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI)** is the term commonly used in place of "STD," because it encompasses all the diseases that can be transmitted sexually, including infections that may not produce symptoms.

Medical exams for women

For women, full medical sexual health exams at an STI clinic or doctor's office should include a Pap smear and a cervical examination for signs of infection (such as HPV warts or syphilis chancres), as well as for tumours in your uterus or ovaries.

If you are experiencing any pain in your lower abdomen or pelvis, you should get a bimanual exam. This requires the nurse or doctor, wearing a latex glove, to insert one or two lubricated fingers into your vagina. With the other hand, he or she presses down on your lower abdomen and checks the internal organs (uterus, ovaries, and fallopian tubes) of your pelvis. This often causes an uncomfortable sensation of pressure. If it actually hurts, tell the nurse or doctor.

A health practitioner may also conduct a recto-vaginal exam, by inserting a gloved finger into your rectum to check the condition of the muscles separating your rectum and vagina, and look for possible lumps or tumours behind your uterus. You should have this examination done at least once a year. If you have pelvic pain, get a pelvic exam, even if you are menstruating.

Medical exams for men

For men, a sexual health exam should include an examination of your genitals for any signs of an STI (such as sores, warts or discharge), as well as for lumps or tumours in your testicles. Routine prostate exams, checking for lumps or enlargement (which may indicate cancer) are also recommended.

Your balls (testicles and scrotal sack) are examined for pain or swelling and consistency. Testicular pain may indicate infection (orchitis), or that the tubes connecting your testes have twisted (torsion).



If you engage in anal sexual play (including anal contact with fingers or tongue), you should be examined for possible warts or lesions inside your anus. Urine samples and/or swab samples should be collected to test for chlamydia and gonorrhea, as part of your full STI check-up.

Testing for STIs

For both sexes, to be thorough, you can request that swab samples also be collected from your throat and anus, as well as from your vagina (women) or urethra.

You should also consider getting a blood test for syphilis (which also detects secondary syphilis) every three to six months. Sometimes STIs such as syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia can cause only mild or unnoticeable symptoms. If left untreated, STIs can gradually progress until severe organ and tissue damage eventually lead to serious health problems.

Self-examination

Regular self-examination for any sign of a possible STI increase your chances for early diagnosis and treatment. The longer a sexually transmitted infection goes untreated, the greater the risk of serious organ and tissue damage and strain on your health. Some, such as syphilis, become more difficult to treat and cure the longer you have been infected.

Self-examinations are not a replacement for routine STI testing. Sometimes an STI can be almost impossible to detect because you have no obvious symptoms. STI laboratory tests on swab, urine and blood samples provide the most accurate screening. No test is accurate 100 per cent of the time, but regularly scheduled STI tests increase your chances of detecting any infection you might have.

A few tools can make it easier to fully inspect your own genitals, ass and mouth: a well-lit mirror you can



Genital Warts (*Condylomata acuminata*)

All genital warts (venereal warts) are caused by the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV), also called the wart virus. There are many varieties of HPV — more than 50 types have been identified to date. Genital warts can be removed using a variety of methods, including chemical burning, freezing using liquid gas (CO₂), and laser surgery. Warts can also be cauterized. In some cases, minor surgery may be required.

In a small percentage of cases, HPV is associated with the development of cervical cancer, many years after infection.

Condylomata acuminata (shown above) is characterized by skin projections in areas subject to friction. Unlike some other kinds of warts, these usually clear up on their own, so aggressive removal is unwarranted.

You can be exposed to HPV and not develop any symptoms.

Self-Learning Module on Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Public Health Agency of Canada (<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/slm-maa>)
PHOTO: Dr. Marc Steben



Sexual health exams



Anonymous "Sporting Girl" (c. 1900)

"There were 22 establishments, 22 land ladies, 308 white girls, 231 coloured girls and seven octoroons. Also there were also nine cabarets, seven of them white with 71 girls, and two coloured with 16 girls..." ~ Blue Book, New Orleans, 1911.

Following an outbreak of venereal disease during WW I, the famous brothel district was shut down in 1917 by the U.S. Navy, despite protests from New Orleans City Government.

"You can make it illegal, but you can't make it unpopular."
~ Martin Behrman, New Orleans Mayor, 1917

Whores in History: Prostitution in Western Society, Nickie Roberts. London: HarperCollins, 1993

PHOTO: Ernest J Bellocq (Courtesy of Lee Friedlander)

get comfortably close to, a hand-held mirror (preferably one that magnifies) and a small flashlight. Sterile tongue depressors can be used to ensure that you don't spread germs from one place to another with your fingers.

How to examine yourself:

- wash your hands before you touch each body area
- in front of a mirror, carefully look and feel over each area for any new or abnormal lumps, bumps, discolouration, sores, pus, discharge, or itch
- back up to a mirror and use another, hand-held, mirror to see your behind in the reflection
- shine your flashlight on your cracks and crevices to ensure that nothing gets missed
- if you find something that might be nothing, check it every day
- go to a clinic if it grows or worsens

For women, a hand-held mirror allows you to view your own cervix during an examination with a speculum.

Get a good sexual health book and learn about your body parts and organs, germs and infections, and symptoms and signs that may indicate poor health or the presence of a disease.

What makes a test anonymous?

In a truly anonymous test, the only link between you and your test result is a code known only to you. Nobody — not even the doctor who ordered the test — knows your identity. Officially, anonymous testing is available in Ontario, Québec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and Newfoundland. In the Northwest Territories, the Yukon, Manitoba and Alberta, anonymous testing is prohibited by law. Nevertheless STI clinics may offer anonymous tests.

Some anonymous STI testing sites do question you about your age, sex, ethnicity and risk factors (even though they shouldn't). But if you get an anonymous



test, you and only you will know your results. In Ontario, the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* exempts anonymous testing clinics from the obligation to report. Otherwise, all HIV test results in Ontario are reported to the public health authority, together with your name and other information.

\$-14: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you get tested regularly for HIV?*

- yes*
 no
 don't know
-

Nominal testing

Your doctor, or a nurse, can order a nominal (name-based) test for you. So can most medical clinics. The practitioner ordering the test knows who you are. And your name — along with your provincial health card number — is included with the order for the test. Other information about you — such as your age and sex, what city you live in, and the name of the doctor ordering the test — may also be recorded. It depends on what criteria your province/territory requires for the reportable STI you're getting tested for. Also, your doctor may question you in order to assess such "risk factors" as sexual preference, recent sexual activities, overall sexual history, and/or history of injection-drug use. All of this information is recorded with your name attached.

If the test comes back positive, information from your file is forwarded to the provincial/territorial or regional Medical Health Officer. For some reportable diseases, just the positive test result — with your name removed — is sufficient. For others, a positive test result means that all your personal information must be included in the report to the Medical Health Officer. Any results from STI tests ordered by your physician are added to your personal patient file. A Medical Health Officer can track your test results using your provincial health card number.



Masked Storyville "Sporting Girl" (c. 1900)

Many of the unknown women who posed for late 19th- and early 20th-century erotica were prostitutes. The most famous were the women from Storyville, New Orleans, who posed for photographer Ernest J. Bellocq.

Bellocq's private and secretive photography project remained unknown until after his death, when his glass negative plates were found in a junk shop. Bellocq's Storyville Portraits series were exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in 1970.

PHOTO: Ernest J. Bellocq (Courtesy of Lee Friedlander)
(http://www.corpse.org/issue_10/gallery/bellocq)



Sexual health exams

SEX & HEALTH MANUALS

→ ***VD Handbook/Birth Control Handbook***

Donna Cherniak, Allan Feingold.
Montreal: The Handbook Collective,
1972. Still relevant; nice illustration.

→ ***Our Bodies, Ourselves***

Boston Women's Health Book Collec-
tive. New York: Simon & Shuster, 1973.
Definitive women's health resource.

→ ***Woman's Body: An Owner's Manual***

The Diagram Group. London: Padding-
ton Press, 1977. Densely illustrated.

→ ***Man's Body: An Owner's Manual***

The Diagram Group. London: Padding-
ton Press, 1976.

→ ***The Love Diseases: Complications of Love and Sex***

Paul Redfern. London: MacMillan
Press Ltd., 1979. Great glossary.

→ ***Anal Pleasure and Health: A Guide for Men and Women***

Jack Morin. San Francisco: Down
There Press, 1998. Comprehensive.

Non-nominal testing

Rather than recording your name on the test order, non-nominal testing uses a code, usually made up from your initials and your date of birth. The doctor or nurse ordering the test knows who you are, but laboratory technicians and others involved with your test can't identify you. Some demographic information is still collected, and you are still questioned about risk factors and your sexual practices. But the information is recorded in a file identified by your code, not by your name. Note that this is *not* an anonymous test. The practitioner who ordered your test knows both your code and your identity.

For some reportable STIs, your name must be reported to the provincial Medical Health Officer, along with the positive test result (and maybe other information). Non-nominal testing is sometimes referred to as "confidential testing," because health practitioners are obliged to keep all patient information strictly confidential — except when otherwise required by law (for example, reporting a contagious disease listed in the *Public Health Act*), or by a court order.

\$-15: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to regularly take an HIV test in order to be allowed to work?*

- yes
- no
- don't know

British Columbia, rather than offering anonymous testing, provides non-nominal testing — but with some degree of flexibility. You are still assigned a code made up of your initials and date of birth. However, you are permitted to select an alias (false name) and a made-up date of birth for the purposes of the code. If the practitioner who orders the



Secondary Syphilis

This psoriaform rash on the back of the head and neck is from secondary syphilis. Secondary syphilis typically shows itself with a general rash that starts on your trunk and torso, and eventually spreads to your palms and the soles of your feet. Called the “great mimic” (because its many possible symptoms look like those of other diseases) syphilis too often gets misdiagnosed.

Self-Learning Module on Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Public Health Agency of Canada (<http://www.phac.aspc.gc.ca/slm-maa>)



test does not know you (for example, if you get tested at a city STI clinic), you can make use of this option to conceal your identity. STI clinics do not require you to present your B.C. health care card.

What about mandatory STI tests?

If someone you had sex with has tested positive for a reportable STI and listed you as a sexual contact, the Medical Health Officer can apply for a court order that authorizes the collection of a blood sample for testing, and possibly treatment. The Officer can use force if need be.

Provincial court judges in B.C. and Saskatchewan have occasionally required convicted prostitutes to submit to HIV tests as one of the conditions for probation set during sentencing. So far, these legal precedents have not been found to be in violation of your right to be free from unreasonable search and seizure (s. 8 of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*). In 1987 (*R. v. GDM, 877*), as a condition of probation, a young offender was required by a B.C. Provincial Court to be examined monthly for HIV and other venereal diseases, and provide medical certificates. The court held that this was a “reasonable and ancillary condition.”

\$-16: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should clients be required to test for STIs before using your services?

- yes
- no
- don't know



Sexual health exams

In 1991 (*R. v. Cornier*) a B.C. sex worker was convicted and sentenced to monthly mandatory HIV and other STI testing. On appeal, the B.C. Court of Appeal held that, although monthly examinations were excessive, one examination was reasonable, and would promote “good conduct.” In 1994 a sex worker who pleaded guilty to theft and communicating for the purpose of prostitution was sentenced by the Saskatchewan Provincial Court to probation, with a condition requiring her to submit to HIV testing.

If mandatory STI testing were to become a condition imposed on the sex industry workforce, sex workers would be denied the privacy anonymous testing provides.

\$-17: *Let’s say you are a sex worker. Do you think clients should be required to test regularly for HIV in order to be allowed to receive your services?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don’t know*
-

What does “informed consent” mean?

Unless it’s a medical emergency, a doctor must get your informed consent before performing any medical procedure, including an STI test. The informed-consent requirement is meant to provide you with adequate information about any procedure your doctor might perform on you. After providing such information, she or he must ensure that you voluntarily consent to the procedure. (She or he must also determine that you are mentally competent to do so, and legally capable of doing so.)

By rights, if you are about to be tested for a reportable STI, you should be informed that the doctor is required to forward positive test results to the provincial/territorial Medical Health Officer — in some cases, along with your name and other personal information.

Provinces and territories also report all occurrences of reportable diseases to the national Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control, to be calculated into national statistics. All identifying patient information is removed beforehand.

How does “contact tracing” work?

If you test positive for a reportable sexually transmitted disease, you will be asked to name all your sex partners over the past weeks or months. That way, they can all be informed that they may have come in contact with an STI, and asked to come in for a test. Usually, you are given the option to contact them yourself, and most people do. If you want to remain anonymous, you can have your contact list (with your name and personal information removed) forwarded to a public health nurse. The nurse then



contacts the people on the list to inform them that they may have come into contact with an STI, and asks them to come in for a test.

Contact tracing evolved from public health efforts in the 1940s to control sexually transmitted diseases. It was a cornerstone of programs intended to eradicate syphilis, gonorrhoea and chlamydia. Occasionally, accurate contact tracing does locate people with undetected infections. The case of a California prostitute with secondary syphilis (nicknamed “Syphilis Mary”) is often used to illustrate how well contact tracing can work. Her diary helped identify 168 long-distance truck drivers — from her 310 regulars — located in 34 U.S. states, Canada, and Mexico.

\$-18: *Let’s say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should sex businesses be required to keep logs of all clients, including client contact information?*

- yes*
 no
 don’t know
-

For specific information about contact tracing in Canada with respect to HIV, see *Guidelines for Practice for Partner Notification in HIV/AIDS*, published by the Canadian Public Health Association (<http://www.cpha.ca>).

What if you test HIV-positive?

In Ontario, the *Health Protection and Promotion Act (HPPA)* designates AIDS as both a reportable and a communicable disease. HIV is considered an “agent” of the communicable disease AIDS. Positive test results are forwarded to the regional Medical Officer of Health. Doctors are permitted to call health authorities and report your “high-risk behaviour,” but are not obliged to do so. The *HPPA* does, however, require them to report to the Ministry of Health (MOH) “the name and residence address of any person who is under the care and

STI/HIV RESOURCES ON-LINE

Including info for sex workers!

- **Canadian AIDS Society**
Safer Sex Guidelines
<http://www.aidssida.cpha.ca>
- **Adult Industry Medical Healthcare Foundation**
<http://www.aim-med.org>
- **Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network**
<http://www.aidslaw.ca>
- **European Network for HIV-STI Prevention in Prostitution**
(Membership includes 400 health projects in 18 countries.)
<http://www.europap.net>
- **Transnational AIDS/STI Prevention Among Migrant Prostitutes in Europe**
<http://www.tampep.com>



Sexual health exams

treatment of the physician in respect of a communicable disease and who refuses or neglects to continue the treatment." And police sometimes notify health authorities in response to complaints from members of the public.

\$-19: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you continue to work in the sex industry if you test positive for HIV?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

If you are suspected of being HIV-positive and of engaging in "high-risk activity," a "Section 22" [of the *HPPA*] order can be issued by the MOH even if there has been no transmission of disease. The MOH must have "reasonable grounds" that this is necessary for decreasing or eliminating the risk of transmission. You can appeal a Section 22 order at the Health Services Appeal and Review Board. The decision of the Board can then be appealed in court.

In B.C., when a "reactive" (positive) test is received by the laboratory, a public health nurse calls the doctor or clinic that ordered the test (for follow-up), and collects testing and contact-tracing information. (The nurse does not need to know your identity.) She or he then forwards the case report to the Medical Health Officer. The B.C. Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) also receives testing information — with all personal identifiers (names and initials) removed — for the purpose of reporting the total number of HIV cases in B.C. However, the BCCDC has access to all information attached to tests including all HIV and STI tests performed in Vancouver, the Lower Mainland and most of B.C. The federal Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control also receives a report, with all identifying information removed.

When you get an HIV-antibody test, the doctor or clinic ordering the test makes an appointment for you to pick up your results in person. (HIV is unique among STIs in that you cannot be given your results over the phone or in writing.)

If you test positive for HIV, your test report is assigned a case number. The report will include patient information and laboratory data (test and confirmation test results), as well as a list of the activities that put you at risk for contracting HIV. Sharing HIV case information beyond the health-care team is strictly prohibited.

If your test result is positive and you don't show up to receive results, or if the doctor or clinic is unable to reach you, your contact information is eventually forwarded to the Medical Health Officer. You will be mailed a letter on plain paper, in a plain envelope, with no return address. The letter will request that you contact the public health nurse who



signed it, regarding an “urgent health matter.” The nurse has three duties: to inform you that you have tested positive; to advise you of the medical options available and ensure that you seek treatment; and to gather information for partner notification.

\$-20: *Let’s say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to stop working in the sex industry if you test positive for HIV?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don’t know*
-

What about privacy?

There are laws that ensure the protection of your privacy with regard to personal health-care information. In B.C., the *Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA)* governs the provincial government’s use, collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. As well, professional practice standards guidelines set out for medical practitioners (such as registered nurses) concerning confidentiality. The Canadian Medical Association *Code of Ethics*, for example, clearly states that confidentiality of all forms of patient information must be very strictly maintained.

Although medical practitioners are required to safeguard all personal health information learned during the course of their work, there are sometimes legal imperatives — such as communicable disease regulations, court orders, subpoenas, or warrants — that require them to breach confidentiality. In such cases, they are expected to restrict the amount of information disclosed, and the number of people informed, to the minimum necessary.

As well, practitioners may be forced to make an ethical decision about disclosing patient information in situations involving a substantial risk of significant harm. (For example, it is the duty of a medical practitioner to report abuse or neglect of a child who needs protection under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act*.)

\$-21: *Let’s say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should your employer be informed if you test positive for a reportable sexually transmitted infection?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don’t know*
-



You need to know about these limits on confidentiality before you get medical services. You should also know who (e.g., other health care providers) will have access to the information you give over the course of your treatment and care.

Each province/territory is responsible for its own legislation regarding protection of privacy and access to information. Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta, Ontario, and British Columbia each have a *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Provincial/territorial laws and other regulations designed to protect privacy can be found in such documents as

- The *Personal Health Information Protection Act*, 1997 Ontario
- *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, 1987 Ontario
- The *Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA)*, B.C.
- The Canadian Medical Association *Code of Ethics*

and many others. (See your provincial/territorial government website.)

STIs and criminal law

For many years the *Criminal Code of Canada* made it a criminal offence to knowingly transmit a venereal disease. In 1985 this law was repealed, on the grounds that public health intervention was a more appropriate way to deal with the transmission of disease. No one had actually been prosecuted under this law since 1922. Since 1985, however, criminal charges (for offences such as criminal negligence causing bodily harm, aggravated assault, aggravated sexual assault, administering a noxious substance, or “being a common nuisance”) have been laid in cases where the accused allegedly neglected to inform sexual partners of his or her HIV-positive diagnosis.

\$-22: *Let’s say you are a sex worker and you always follow the Canadian AIDS Society’s Safer Sex Guidelines. Should you be required to tell clients if you test HIV-positive?*

- yes*
- no*
- don’t know*

In 1998, in a ruling known as the *Cuerrier* decision, the Supreme Court of Canada deemed that not telling a potential sexual partner that you are HIV-positive could constitute fraud. The Court created a new approach for deciding what would invalidate consent to physical contact (including sex).



To establish fraud and invalidate consent, the prosecution must prove the following:

- an act by the accused that a reasonable person would see as dishonest
- a significant risk of serious bodily harm to the complainant as a result of that dishonesty
- consent was based on the dishonesty of the accused

The Court ruled that you must disclose (reveal) your HIV-positive status before engaging in sexual activity that poses a “significant risk” of transmitting HIV. If you have HIV/AIDS and are the active partner in unprotected vaginal or anal intercourse — and if you have not told your partner that you are HIV-positive — you can be convicted of aggravated assault, if charged. This is true even if your partner does not test positive for HIV.

At least one case has occurred in which an HIV-positive mother was prosecuted for refusing to give AZT to her newborn child. It is possible that an HIV-positive mother who insisted on breast-feeding her baby might also be regarded as putting the child in need of protection.

Any information gathered in a public health investigation can be released in a court of law, if the prosecutor knows the information exists, and obtains a “subpoena” — a court order to provide evidence for a trial. This means that confidential information about your HIV status or behaviour can be revealed by a search warrant or subpoena if you are prosecuted. Service organizations and other community groups must be aware of this when keeping records, and warn members not to disclose personal information about their health or involvement in illegal activities. Groups should obtain legal advice to ensure that only the minimum confidential information required by any court order is provided.

In May 2004 in Port Coquitlam, B.C., Adrien Nduwayo was charged with five counts of aggravated assault and two counts of criminal negligence causing bodily harm. His alleged crime was infecting at least two women with HIV and neglecting to inform them of his HIV status before having unprotected sex with them.

In February 2005 a Hamilton, Ontario, man (Johnson Aziga) was charged with first-degree murder after two of his 12 alleged victims died from HIV/AIDS-related illnesses. He was originally charged in August 2003 for endangering the lives of the women who had been his partners.

For in-depth information about this ruling, see *After Cuerrier: Canadian Criminal Law and the Non-Disclosure of HIV-Positive Status* (1999), by Richard Elliott, Director, Policy and Research, Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network. You can find this document on the website of the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network (at <http://www.aidslaw.ca>) or order it from the Canadian HIV/AIDS Clearinghouse (tel.: 613-725-3434; fax: 613-725-9826; e-mail: aids/sida@cpha.ca).



What about self-regulation?

In California, the Adult Industry Medical Health Care Foundation (AIM) certifies adult film performers. Those who meet AIM's testing requirements are not required to wear condoms on the set. These requirements include

- blood tests for HIV (by PCR); syphilis (an RPR test); and hepatitis A, B and C
- urine tests for gonorrhea and for chlamydia (both by ultra-sensitive DNA amplification)
- a skin test for tuberculosis

AIM requires monthly re-testing for gonorrhea, chlamydia and HIV, and highly recommends vaccinations against hepatitis A and B. Women must have genital exams every six months, including an evaluation for herpes and genital warts; a PAP smear (thin-prep with reflex HPV); and vaginal cultures for bacterial vaginosis and trichomonas. For men, the six-month exam includes an evaluation for herpes and genital warts. Testing for syphilis every six months is also recommended. (For information about AIM, see <http://www.aim-med.org>.)

In April 2004, AIM — although it had no legal authority to do so — “quarantined” members who had had sex on the set with an adult film actor who tested HIV-positive. AIM traced sexual contacts on the set to compile a list of more than 50 actors who had to remain off-set until they tested negative for HIV after 60 days. By May, five porn performers had tested HIV positive, including three actresses from Québec. Finally, the state of California threatened to impose legislation requiring frequent STI exams, as well as the use of condoms on adult film sets. However, this law has not yet been enacted.

\$-23: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Do you think sex businesses should be required to carry liability insurance in case an infection or disease is transmitted to a client?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

Sex, drugs and research

Sex workers are routinely recruited by medical studies to test contraceptive devices, spermicidal and anti-viral lubricants, female condoms, and HIV vaccines and treatments.

In August 2004, Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen intervened to stop a drug trial following protests by sex worker organizations — and the international Network of Sex Work Projects — at the XIV International AIDS Conference in Bangkok. The drug trial in



question was to test Tenofovir — an anti-retroviral used to treat HIV-positive patients since 2001 — as a “pre-exposure prophylaxis” (a treatment to prevent transmission of HIV, taken prior to exposure). Tenofovir studies were to take place in Botswana, Cambodia, Cameroon, Ghana, Malawi, Nigeria, Thailand and the United States.

“There is plenty of science suggesting you can prevent diseases with agents used to treat diseases,” says Dr. Mike Youle, director of HIV research at London's Royal Free Hospital. “We do it with malaria and we do it with other branches of medicine.”

The three trials were expected to involve 8,000 people — including 1,000 sex workers in Cambodia — to determine whether it was safe for healthy people to take a daily dose of Tenofovir over a long period. The trial was funded by Family Health International (FHI), the U.S. National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, for a total of \$12.1 million (U.S.).

These were all “phase-two” trials, which test for safety. Participants in a “control group” (a group remaining drug-free, to compare with those taking the drug) were to be given a placebo (a pill replica that does not contain the drug in question). “Phase-three” trials testing whether the drug was effective would still be needed afterwards.

Local sex workers’ unions in Cambodia refused to participate unless members were given full medical insurance. Dr. Ward Cates of FHI told the British Broadcasting Corp., “The type of care being offered to any of the study participants was well beyond the standard of care offered in Cambodia and in other HIV-prevention trials.”

\$-24: Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Would you be willing to participate in medical research in exchange for medical insurance?

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

In February 2005, the government of Cameroon halted the Tenofovir trial in that country. There, the drug was being tested on 400 sex workers in the port city of Douala. The trial was stopped as the result of allegations that the participants were not receiving enough condoms, and not getting adequate counselling or medical care.

There are similarities between the Tenofovir trials and the large phase-three HIV vaccine trials conducted by the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), which also recruited large numbers of sex workers in Asia. A major vaccine trial ended in failure last year when scientists found no evidence to suggest the drug worked. In order to prove the drugs are effective, vaccine and pharmaceutical prophylaxis studies require participants who are at high risk of HIV exposure.



Sex, drugs and research

In March 2005, the clinical trial testing Tenofovir in Nigeria was cancelled by FHI because the research did not comply with internationally accepted standards that ensure the safety of participants and the quality of the data.

\$-25: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should you be required to take part in medical research as part of your job?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

Canadian laws impose an ethical standard that all medical research in Canada must meet. The federal Tri-Council Policy Statement sets out an ethics review system designed to ensure that medical experiments and drug trials are scientifically and ethically sound. It also requires that people volunteering are informed of all the potential risks involved in a drug trial. Pharmaceutical companies are not allowed to pay sick people to test or try their experimental medicines. But they *are* permitted to pay doctors to test new drugs and treatments on patients, as part of the clinical trial procedure.

Before you sign a consent form, you must be warned of all the dangers associated with any medical experiment or drug trial. University research ethics boards must review detailed project protocols (often 100 pages or longer) outlining study methods and listing all potential risks. The most common problem is missed risks. If risks are discovered later, volunteers must once again be given the opportunity to consent or refuse to participate.

\$-26: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should there be laws to ensure that sex businesses can't require employees to participate in medical research?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

In September 2004, the University of British Columbia finally released a heavily censored report regarding a bad breach of federal ethics rules, which took place in both the U.S.A. and Canada. This happened after the CanWest news service filed a complaint with the B.C. Information and Privacy Commissioner's Office. The breach involved more than 500 clinical research projects conducted before mid-2001 — including many medical trials for cancer drugs. It was so serious that federal officials threatened to cut off funding for the research. The report stated that UBC's Ethics Board had cut corners for years. The



Board had been reviewing brief project summaries, rather than proper project protocols, which have to reveal all risks to patients.

If sex work became legal in Canada, there could be incentives for sex work employers to pressure employees to enrol in drug trials and other medical research. Most research projects involving new drugs are funded by the pharmaceutical industry. Some receive a certain amount of public funding, through agencies such as the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council. Workers employed in legal sex businesses might also be expected to participate in epidemiological research so that sexually transmitted infection rates could be monitored.

\$-27: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should you be required to take part in research to monitor sexually transmitted infection rates among sex workers?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

Sex, assault and the law

Assault is defined as a crime in section 265, *Criminal Code of Canada*. You have been criminally assaulted

- if force is applied on you without your consent
- if you are threatened with the use of force
- if you are threatened with the use of force on someone else

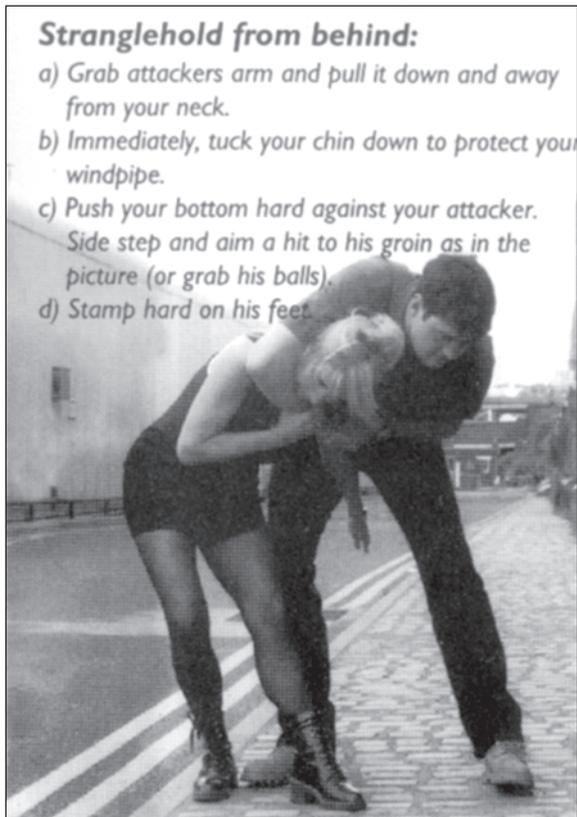
Sexual assault (s. 271) is an assault that is sexual in nature, "such that the sexual integrity of the victim is violated." In other words, it's the use of force or threats on you without your consent for a sexual purpose. The maximum sentence for this offence is ten years in prison; the minimum sentence is a fine.

Aggravated sexual assault (s. 273) is sexual assault that results in wounding or disfiguring the victim. The crime carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment. If a firearm was used the minimum sentence is four years.

Sexual assault with a weapon, threats to a third party, causing bodily harm, (s. 272) are also against the law. In addition section 272 prohibits accompanying someone who is committing a sexual assault. The maximum sentence for this offence is 14 years. If the weapon used is a gun, there is a minimum four-year sentence.



Sex, assault and the law



Self-Defence Poster, Praed St. Project, U.K.

Making Sex Work Safe, Paulo Longo, Cheryl Overs. Rio de Janeiro: Network of Sex Work Projects, 1997 (<http://www.nswp.org/safety/msws>)

What does “consent” mean?

Defined in section 273.1, “consent” means “voluntary agreement to engage in the sexual activity in question.” According to the law, you have not given your consent

- if you were not capable of giving consent
- if someone else agreed to a sexual activity on your behalf
- if the accused abused their position of trust, power or authority in order to obtain your consent
- if you expressed — either in words or through your actions — that you did not want to engage in the sexual activity, or that you no longer wanted to continue the activity
- if the accused mistakenly believed that you had consented, either out of “willful blindness” or because the accused was intoxicated.
- if the accused mistakenly believed that you had consented, but did not take reasonable steps at the time to make sure you wanted to engage in the sexual activity

In the case of assault (s. 265), you have not given consent

- if you did not resist because you were being forced physically, threatened, or because someone else was being threatened
- if you did not resist because your assailant had authority over you
- if your assailant lied to you (fraud) to get your consent

If someone who you have accused of assault believes that you did consent, the judge can instruct the jury to consider that possibility when they review the evidence.

What about pressing charges?

Victims of violent physical or sexual assaults are most often in a state of shock following the attack. You may require immediate medical attention because of bleeding from tears and cuts. You are not required to

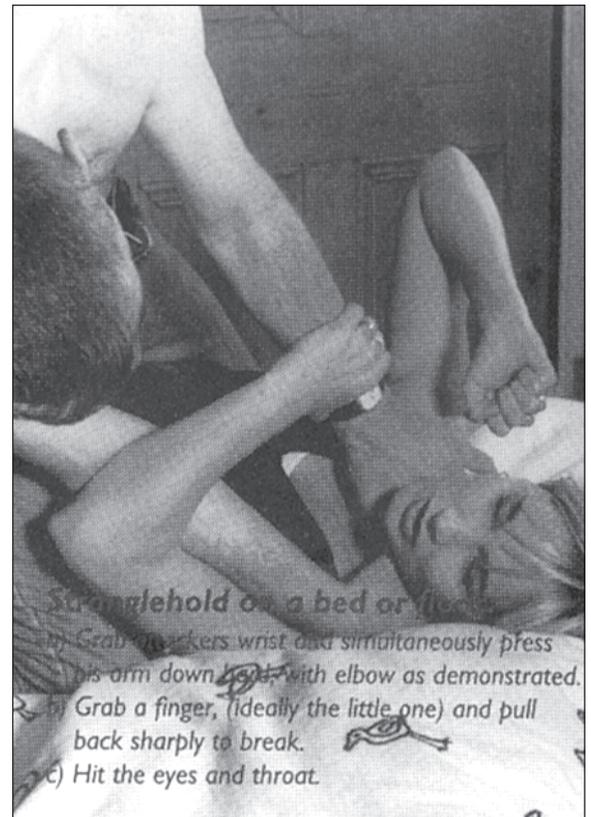


undergo a forensic evidence exam in order to receive the medical attention you need. However, if you are suffering from a gun shot wound, a stab wound or if you have been rendered unconscious, the police will be called immediately. You should be offered treatments and tests for STIs such as syphilis, gonorrhoea and chlamydia. If your attacker did not wear a condom you may want to take HIV prevention treatment or the “morning-after pill” to prevent an unwanted pregnancy. Discovering that you’re pregnant six weeks after the attack can cause additional traumatic, emotional and physical distress.

Pressing charges means that you will have to testify in court against your attacker. It is up to the police and the crown prosecutor (the lawyer employed by the government to represent the side of police) whether or not charges will be laid. This is decided often by the strength of their case — physical evidence, witness testimony and the defendant’s “alibi” (proof of his whereabouts other than the scene of the crime) etc.

You don’t need to decide about proceeding with charges right away. With serious crimes such as violent physical or sexual assaults, charges can be laid long after the crime was committed. If there is any chance that you might decide in future to proceed with charges, it is important to your case that you undergo a forensic evidence exam as soon as possible. The completed forensic evidence kits are kept in storage for a year or more in case you decide later to proceed with charges.

Usually there are designated regional hospitals that have a sexual assault care clinic which specializes in helping victims of sexual assault and collecting forensic evidence. The local hospital can direct you to the nearest sexual assault care clinic. Most clinics are open 24 hours, seven days a week. In the greater Toronto area, for example, there are four hospitals that have a sexual assault care clinic you can go to directly (Women’s College Hospital, Scarborough Grace Hospital, Sunnybrook Science Centre and Mississauga Valley



Self-Defence Poster, Praed St. Project, U.K.

Stranglehold on bed or floor:

- a) *Grab attacker's wrist and simultaneously press his arm down hard, with elbow as demonstrated.*
- b) *Grab a finger (ideally the little one) and pull back sharply to break.*
- c) *Hit the eyes and throat.*

Making Sex Work Safe, Paulo Longo, Cheryl Overs. Rio de Janeiro: Network of Sex Work Projects, 1997 (<http://www.nswp.org/safety/msws>)



Sex, assault and the law

VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICES

For medical care & forensic exams

→ **Calgary Sexual Assault Response Team**

Available at Rockyview General Hospital Emergency, if you've been assaulted within the past 72 hours

Location: 7007 14th St. SW

24-hour crisis line: 403-237-5888

→ **Edmonton Sexual Assault Response Team**

Available at emergency wards of all Edmonton hospitals, 24 hours a day

24-hour crisis line: 780-423-4121

→ **Halifax Sexual Assault Service**

Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre Emergency (24 hours)

Location: 1796 Summer St.

Tel.: 902-496-2781/902-473-3383

→ **Montreal General Hospital Sexual Assault Centre**

Open 5 p.m. - 8 a.m. Mon. - Fri.

Open 24 hours on weekends

Location: 1650 Cedar Ave.

Tel.: 514-934-4504

→ **Ottawa Sexual Assault Care**

Ottawa Hospital, Civic Campus

Location: 1053 Carling Ave.

Tel.: 613-738-3762 (24-hours)

→ **Regina Sexual Assault Services**

Regina General Hospital Emergency

Location: 1440 14th Ave.

24-hour crisis line: 306-352-0434

Trillium Hospital). Sexual assault care clinics are staffed by specially-trained nurses who are on call. If it's the middle of the night, the nurse may have to come from home and you may have to wait. Sexual assault care clinics also offer follow-up medical treatment and psychological counselling.

Victims of sexual assault often feel compelled to shower or bathe immediately. If at all possible do not shower before the forensic evidence exam. There are shower facilities at the sexual assault care clinic you can use afterward. Do not brush your teeth or change your clothes. If you must urinate, bring it with you to the hospital. Victims of sexual assaults will often not want to be touched by strangers so nurses sometimes offer a teddy bear to hold for security. If you want, you can bring someone to stay with you while you go through the exam. The exam and evidence collection can take between one-and-a-half to three hours to complete. It can take longer depending on the emotional state of the victim.

The nurse searches your body for forensic evidence left behind by your attacker such as hairs, semen, blood, skin under your fingernails etc. The nurse also photographs and documents your bruises, cuts, swelling and any other wounds from the assault. The evidence collected is most reliable if you have not had sex 24 hours prior to the assault. Obviously this is less likely for sex workers.

You can go for the forensic evidence exam and have evidence collected and still ask the nurses not to call the police. Or you can request that a police officer come and take a statement at the sexual assault care clinic when you are there to have evidence collected. Police can take a statement and you can still ask them not to lay charges. The majority of forensic evidence kits collected don't get used.



In Toronto, Women's College Hospital Sexual Assault Care Centre offers victims the option of having a Victim Assistance Program worker accompany you through the evidence collection process. The Victim Assistance Program — sponsored by the Toronto Police Service — is a non-profit registered charity that helps victims of sexual assault, violent crimes or domestic assault deal with the aftermath of the crime. The program offers crisis intervention at the scene — an officer is dispatched to your location — as well as on the phone. The program also provides basic support such as help cleaning up blood in your house or assisting an out-of-town victim return home. Remember that staff of the Victim Assistance Program work with the police and often will represent police interests.

If you're not up to the ordeal of going to court to testify against your assailant, you can still have police take an anonymous third-party report. In Toronto, violent sexual assaults involving weapons, kidnapping and confinement should be reported to sex crimes unit of the Toronto Police Service. Information from the report can be entered in the Violent Criminal Linkage Program — Canada's national database of violent crimes. (Violent Criminal Apprehension Program is the parallel system in the U.S.)

In the past, police in Toronto have routinely informed sex workers that if you proceed with laying charges, you can be charged with mischief if you fail to show up to testify in court. Police can also apply to a judge for a Material Witness Warrant that allows them to pick you up and detain you until you testify. If you have trouble getting the police to take your report, bring an advocate with you — someone well-respected or well-known — and talk to the desk sergeant of the local division.

Your past sexual conduct, either with the accused or with another person, cannot be used as evidence in court unless it relates to a specific aspect of the case. Your sexual history cannot be raised to question your

VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICES

For medical care & forensic exams

→ **Toronto Women's College Hospital Sexual Assault Care Centre**

Open 24 hours, Mon. through Sun.

Location: 76 Grenville St. (near Bay St.)

Tel.: 416-323-6040

→ **Toronto Victims & Witnesses Assistance Program**

Location: Old City Hall Courts

60 Queen St. (near Bay St.)

Tel.: 416-327-5959

→ **Toronto Victims Assistance Program, Toronto Police Headquarters**

Location: 40 College St. (at Bay St.)

Tel.: 416-808-7066

→ **Vancouver General Hospital Sexual Assault Service**

Open 24 hours (Emergency Ward)

Location: 920 West 10th Ave.

Tel.: 604-875-4111

→ **Winnipeg Sexual Assault Response Team**

Available through Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre Emergency Ward

Location: 820 Sherbrook St.

24-hour crisis line: 204-786-8631



Sex, assault and the law

moral character, or to imply that your testimony is less credible/believable; or to suggest that you were more likely to have consented to the sexual activity that forms the subject-matter of the charge. That means that the accused cannot use the fact that you are a sex worker to prejudice the court against you.

In Toronto, the Victims and Witnesses Assistance Program provides justice process information about the accused (whether the accused has been released, bail conditions, and court dates etc.) for victims and witnesses of sexual assault, domestic violence, violent crimes or homicides. Located in Old City Hall Courts, this program is funded by the Ontario government.

\$-28: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should police departments establish official "Sex-Worker Liaison Officers" — specially-trained police personnel dedicated to assisting sex workers who have been victims of violent crimes?

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-



Work.

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New Orleans "Sporting Girl" (c. 1900)

New Orleans's once-infamous red-light district, Storyville, was also an entertainment mecca, known as much for its musicians, jazz clubs, cabarets and gambling dens as for its bordellos and beautiful "sporting girls."

"The Last Days of Ernest J. Bellocq," Rex Rose (<http://www.corpse.org>)
PHOTO: Ernest J. Bellocq (courtesy of Lee Friedlander)

Who's hiring?

In Canada there is no place where sex workers can work without breaking the law. It is illegal for sex workers to use their homes to entertain clients, or to rent or share a separate apartment or office for the purpose of providing sexual services. And bawdy-house laws make it illegal for sex or sexual touching to occur in business establishments such as massage parlours or exotic dance clubs that offer lap-dancing.

W-01: *Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. What kind of establishment would you prefer to work in? (Please mark all that apply.)*

- a traditional brothel (house with a madam)*
- an office or home (with you working independently as a self-employed person)*
- a hotel or motel that offers hourly rates, maid service and security*
- an exotic dance bar with private rooms*
- a small co-operative business premises (say, up to four partners)*
- a mega-brothel (large corporate business, possibly franchised or traded on a stock exchange)*
- a room with a window in a red-light district*
- don't know*
- other (please specify)*

Getting paid

As in other areas in the job market, there are several different ways you can be paid for your work. Each has advantages and disadvantages.

If you get an **hourly wage**, you are paid for each hour that you work. Employees who are paid an hourly wage are usually protected by provincial employment



standards laws, which guarantee such things as a minimum wage, statutory holidays, overtime (a higher rate of pay) for extra hours worked over the legal weekly limit (usually 44 hours per week), and holiday pay (4 per cent).

If you get a **salary**, you are paid a set amount weekly or monthly, regardless of the actual number of hours worked. A salaried employee is guaranteed to get the same set amount every pay cheque, but can end up working more — or fewer — hours; whatever it takes to accomplish the tasks and responsibilities of the job. Salaried positions often come with extra benefits, such as full health and dental benefits and life insurance, as well as other incentives (such as stock options).

Piece work means that you are paid for each individual piece you produce, regardless of the time it takes you to produce it. Many factory jobs — for example, jobs in the textiles and garment industries — pay by the piece. The faster you can work, the more money you can make in a set time.

“Freelance contractors” are usually charged a fee to work in an establishment where they are paid directly by the clientele for providing a service. Contractors are not employees. As a contractor, you are a self-employed worker who must carry all the responsibilities that come with operating your own business.

W-02: *Let’s say sex work is legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. How would you like to get paid? (Please pick only one.)*

- per hour*
 - per sex act*
 - directly by the client*
 - by salary*
 - don’t know*
-



German Prostitution (1925)

“An unambiguous offer to the man in the car. This photograph seems to anticipate the marketing techniques of the 1960s where women were draped over cars in sexually alluring poses.”

*Sex: Portraits of Passion, John Williams. New York: The Ivy Press Ltd., 1999
PHOTO: AKG, London*





Julia Bulette (1832-1867)

Julia Bulette was born in England and emigrated to the U.S.A. with her family as a child. When she arrived in Virginia City, Nevada, in 1863, she was the only unattached woman who was not Native. The nearby Comstock lode provided miners with more than \$300 million in gold and silver. Bulette commanded exceedingly high prices; reputedly as much as \$1,000 per evening. Very soon she collected a considerable fortune. With it she built a great Rococco house known as Julia's Palace, which she staffed with pleasant young girls from San Francisco. Bulette imported fine wines, served delightful French cuisine, dressed herself and her girls in the latest Parisian styles, and almost daily decked her palace with fresh-cut flowers rushed by Wells Fargo, express from San Francisco.

Julia was made an honorary member of the Virginia City Fire Company. On the Fourth of July, 1861, she led a parade through the city, riding on a fire truck and carrying a fireman's trumpet filled with fresh roses.

On a winter night in 1867, three thugs crept into Julia's palace in search of her jewellery collection and strangled her in her bed. Her funeral was the most impressive Nevada has ever seen: thousands of men, led by the fire brigade and the state militia band, mournfully followed her body to its grave in unconsecrated ground — while the respectable element of Virginia City remained indoors behind drawn shutters.

"The Frontier's Fabulous Women," *LIFE* Magazine, May 11, 1959

What's a fair wage?

W-03: Let's say sex work is legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. What would be a fair income for a week's work, after taxes and deductions? (Please pick only one.)

- less than \$500
 - \$500-\$999
 - \$1,000-\$1,499
 - \$1,000-\$1,999
 - \$2,000-\$2,499
 - \$2,500 or more
 - don't know
-

Types of employment

Most workers in exotic dance clubs, massage parlours and escort services — as well as hair salons — are contract workers and considered to be self-employed. In some exotic dance clubs and massage parlours, you must pay a fee in order to work — much like hair stylists renting their chairs from a salon.

W-04: Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Given a choice, which would you prefer to be?

- a temporary contract worker
 - a non-unionized permanent employee with benefits
 - a unionized permanent employee with full benefits and seniority rights
 - self-employed
 - don't know
-



Employment benefits

Self-employed workers are responsible for their own taxes and are often not eligible for such government benefits as Employment Insurance, Workers Compensation and the Canada Pension Plan. They can't take advantage of group insurance plans like extra health benefits, dental plans, retirement plans, or life insurance.

W-05: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Which employment benefit programs would you be willing to pay for? (Please mark all that apply.)*

- Employment Insurance
- Workers Compensation
- Canada Pension Plan
- group insurance and retirement plans
- no benefit programs
- don't know
- other (please specify)



Working Woman in Ghana (c. 1990s)

Up to 50 women can work in a house in Ghana. One of the women — usually the eldest — maintains order, acts as a caretaker and is head of the tenants. She pays the bills, oversees tenants' relationships and enforces house rules. Women pay into a fund — an informal credit union called a "susu" — which is used to support members in sickness and bereavement.

Making Sex Work Safe, Paulo Longo, Cheryl Overs. Rio de Janeiro: Network of Sex Work Projects, 1997 (<http://www.nswp.org/safety/msws>)
PHOTO: Peter Barker/Panos

Safety at work

Provinces/territories are responsible for workplace health and safety regulations. Provincial/territorial Workers Compensation Boards (WCBs) have the power to make regulations to prevent injuries and occupational diseases. Laws vary from province to province. Regulations can specify things like procedures for reporting work injuries, or first-aid equipment provision. WCBs may inspect workplaces and provide education and training. They have the authority to close a dangerous operation. Their officers can (during regular working hours) inspect a factory, office, or shop to investigate matters concerning the health, safety and comfort of workers.

Workplace health and safety regulations (governed by provincial/territorial Workplace Acts) include standards for such things as working alone, workplace conduct,

NON-UNIONIZED WORKERS HAVE RIGHTS TOO!

Now there is an on-line tool to help non-unionized workers know, understand and assert their rights, anywhere in Canada. Rights include vacation entitlement and higher rates for overtime. Brought to you by the Canadian Labour Congress.

→ <http://www.workrights.ca>



Safety at work

violence in the workplace, storing and handling materials, ergonomic requirements and washroom provisions. They also specify such work area requirements as guardrails, illumination, indoor air quality, extreme temperatures and hazard-free openings and exits. Regulations can differ depending on the size of an operation (as determined by number of employees) and the types of hazards within a given industry.

Workplace regulations require the involvement of workers. According to British Columbia's 1998 *Workplace Act*, an employer with fewer than 20 employees must provide an occupational health and safety program based on regular monthly meetings with workers. At these meetings, health and safety matters are discussed, a cooperative interest in health and safety is fostered and directives are adopted to correct any unsafe conditions or practices.

Occupational health and safety programs must address injury prevention and occupational diseases and must include regular inspection of premises, equipment, work methods and practices; appropriate written safety instructions; and provisions for the prompt investigation of accidents (to prevent recurrence). Records of meetings, investigations and inspections must be kept, and made available to workers.

W-06: *Let's say you are on the health and safety committee for a sex business with 20 employees. Which of the following requirements would you recommend? (Please mark all that apply.)*

- bright lighting for the inspection of genital areas for signs of diseases*
- laundry facilities for towels and sheets*
- showers and bathing areas*
- adequate hot water*
- antibacterial cleansers*
- de-lousing lotion/shampoo*
- properly trained security personnel*
- security devices such as cameras, remote-locking doors, and panic alarms*
- rubber gloves and instructions for cleaning up blood and other body fluids*
- an unlimited supply of condoms and water-based lubricant*
- rubbing alcohol for cleaning your hands before handling condoms, if massage oil is involved*
- no requirements*
- don't know*
- other (please specify)*



Who's responsible?

Workplace regulations impose certain requirements on workers. For example, in some industries workers must wear protective clothing, such as approved safety footwear (with steel toes or acid-resistant soles), safety helmets (to prevent head injuries), safety belts and lines (to prevent falls), and/or reflective safety vests (to ensure worker visibility). There may be regulations to ensure that workers always wear approved filter masks to protect them from breathing toxic fumes or dust. In many industries workers are required to equip themselves with tools and safety gear.

W-07: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. What safety equipment should you be required to provide for yourself? (Please mark all that apply.)*

- condoms and water-based lubricant
- latex gloves
- cellular phone
- antiseptic cleanser
- self-defence device, such as pepper spray
- no safety equipment
- don't know
- other (please specify)

How I can refuse?

B.C.'s workplace regulations require that you refuse unsafe work. This means that you, as a worker, must not carry out any work, or operate any tool or machinery, if you have reasonable cause to believe that to do so would create an undue hazard to the health and safety of any person. As a worker refusing to carry out an unsafe process, you must immediately report the unsafe condition to your supervisor or employer. You cannot be subjected to any disciplinary action for



This establishment provides safe services only

Our ladies are experts in these matters – so relax and enjoy your visit knowing your pleasure and your health are being taken care of.

当店は、セーフ・セックスのみ行ないます。

当店のレディースはこれらについての専門家。ですから、あなたのお楽しみと健康はこころから任せて、リラックスして当店の訪問をお楽しみ下さい。

Bu müessesenin hizmetleri daima güvenlidir

Bizim hanımlarımız bu konularda uzman oldukları için zevkinizin ve sağlığınızın güvenliğine önem verdiğimiz bilincinde ve endişe etmeden ziyaretlerinizi tadim çkârınız.

تقدم هذه المؤسسة خدمات سليمة فقط

ان السيدات العاملات هنا خبيرات في هذه الأمور - لذلك ما عليك إلا الاسترخاء والانتعاش بزيارتك إذ أن صحتك وسمتك في أيدي سليمة.

本館はセーフ・セックス専門サービス

本館の女性スタッフは全てこの分野の専門家。—— 所以、您可以尽情享受，在您享受女伴时，您的健康和健康都會得到照顧。

Cơ sở này chỉ cung cấp những dịch vụ an toàn mà thôi

Các thiếu nữ của chúng tôi là những người rất thông thạo về các vấn đề này - vậy xin hãy yên tâm để hưởng những cuộc vui của bạn khi bất động mà không lo về sức khoẻ của bạn được chăm sóc tận tâm.

This Establishment Provides Safe Services Only
Published by the Scarlet Alliance, this multilingual erotic booklet was distributed in the waiting rooms of brothels and escort agencies in Australia for clients to read.

Making Sex Work Safe, Paulo Longo, Cheryl Overs. Rio de Janeiro: Network of Sex Work Projects, 1997 (<http://www.nswp.org/safety/mswp>)



Safety at work



The Most Famous “Sporting Houses” in Birmingham, Alabama (c. 1900)

“This photograph made in 1957 shows the two most famous ‘sporting houses’ ever in Birmingham. The ‘White House’ (to the right) was owned and operated by Madame Barfield. The house to the left was operated by Blanche Bernard, who was ‘always a lady.’ By 1920, the houses still stood. However, the red-light district had been abolished and the two famous madams no longer lived there. These houses were on 1st Avenue S. between 22nd and 23rd Streets.” ~ William H. Brantley

PHOTO: William H. Brantley Collection, Samford University Library, Birmingham, Alabama (<http://alabamamosaic.org>)

refusing to carry out unsafe work, and your employer must investigate and correct the unsafe condition.

W-08: *Let’s say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should workplace regulations include limits on number of clients a sex worker should service per shift?*

- yes
- no
- don’t know

In most jobs, you get paid for your labour either by the hour or by the piece (see Page 14). Like hair salons and other cosmetic services, adult entertainment businesses — such as massage parlours, escort services and exotic dance clubs — employ freelance workers who are paid directly by the client. If the bawdy-house and procuring laws were repealed, sex workers could legally work for an hourly wage or salary. However, they would have little control over number or choice of clients.

Enough is enough!

Too many clients could make occupational repetitive stress a workplace hazard for sex workers.

W-09: *Let’s say you are on the health and safety committee for a sex business. What should be the maximum number of clients that a sex worker can service during a day’s shift?*

- 1-3
- 4-6
- 7-9
- 10-15
- more than 15
- no limit on number of clients
- don’t know



Sex Workers' Hunger Strike, Seoul, Korea (2004)

Twenty sex workers in Seoul's Yeoui-do red-light district went on a hunger strike November 2, 2004, demanding that the government suspend repressive new laws concerning the sex industry. More than 120,000 sex workers faced unemployment as a result of anti-prostitution laws passed in September 2004.

PHOTO:Yonhap (<http://www.asiansexgazette.com>)



Just say, "No way!"

W-10: Let's say you are on a health and safety committee for a sex business. On what grounds should a sex worker refuse to see a client? (Please mark all that apply.)

- client appears to have signs or symptoms of a sexually transmitted infection
- client refuses to bathe or shower
- client shows signs of aggression
- client smells bad
- client is not compliant with sex worker's instructions
- client is argumentative when negotiating fees for specific services
- client has a physical handicap which the worker feels untrained or unequipped to deal with
- client demands services the worker does not provide
- client interferes with the use of condoms or other protective equipment
- client is too old
- client is too young
- client is unattractive
- client can be refused without grounds
- client cannot be refused for any reason
- don't know
- other (please specify)





Working Girls Hold a “Drinking Bee” (c. 1890s)

This photograph was taken at Whitechapel in Dawson City’s red-light district during the Klondike gold rush. The women’s names are lost to history, except for Madame Brunell on the left.

Sobering Dilemma: A History of Prohibition in British Columbia, Douglas Hamilton. Vancouver: Ronsdale Press Ltd., 2004

PHOTO: Lars and Duclos. MacBride Collection, Yukon Archives

How about a drink?

Prostitution and the sale of alcohol have a long history together. In B.C. from the 1880s through the early 1900s, saloons and bordellos could be found in most towns. and constables routinely collected money of five to eight dollars a month from the ladies of the evening. In 1906 in Vancouver, the red-light district on Dupont Street had 41 houses employing 153 girls. Authorities openly tolerated a level of public drunkenness and prostitution that was not acceptable in the East.

In 1878, after much lobbying from the nation-wide Dominion Alliance for the Total Suppression of Liquor Traffic, the federal government enacted the *Canada Temperance Act* which gave municipalities greater control over liquor sales. A majority vote of the electorate could ban liquor sales within the city limits.

The federal Act soon ran into jurisdictional troubles in the courts, however. The *British North America Act (BNA Act)* gave provinces control of the licensing of saloons and taverns, but neglected to outline who regulated and taxed the manufacture, transportation and sale of liquor. Provincial governments quickly enacted their own regulations, fees and taxes which brought in enormous revenues.

W-11: Let’s say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should sex businesses be permitted to sell alcohol?

- yes
- no
- don’t know

The federal government moved to take liquor control away from the provinces resulting in a lengthy court battle over provincial/federal liquor jurisdiction. Finally, Ottawa turned the question over to the highest court in the land at the time, Judicial Committee to Privy Council. The court carefully divided jurisdiction:



provinces/territories were given control over liquor sales within their own borders; Ottawa had control over liquor manufacturing and inter-provincial distribution. In doing so, however, the court had legitimized alcohol which offended the prohibitionists.

The prohibitionist movement grew strong, in particular, the Women's Christian Temperance Union (a U.S.A.-based organization that had branched out into Europe and Canada), which also lobbied for women's suffrage and the suppression of "white slave trafficking" (the sale of women and girls into prostitution). The *Prohibition Act* was passed in British Columbia in 1918. Other provinces also passed Prohibition Acts around that time. Prohibition remained in place in B.C. until it was replaced in 1921 by the *Government Liquor Act* which instituted the Liquor Control Board, a government monopoly on restricted alcohol sales.

In 1925, licences to sell beer by the glass were granted to "standard hotels only." In 1927, women with escorts were permitted in these establishments in a separate area with its own entrance, so there would be no opportunity for single men and women to conspire to commit immoral acts together.

Cocktail lounges were not permitted at all until the early 1950s. (First Nations people were prohibited from consuming alcohol by the federal *Indian Act* until 1951.)

W-12: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Would you want to work for a sex business that served alcoholic beverages?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

In Vancouver in 1945, Joe Philliponi opened a supper club at 1019 Seymour St., where customers could drink and enjoy burlesque entertainers who performed to



"Hetaera" (c. 450 B.C.)

Detail from a Greek vase shows a "hetaera" (i.e., courtesan) with dildoes. (The most popular models back then were made of leather.)

Typically lacking Athenian citizenship, these women were essentially sexual entertainers who openly enjoyed public life — a liberty forbidden to Athenian women. *Hetaerae* not only possessed physical beauty, but also had intellectual training and remarkable artistic talents — attributes that made them entertaining companions for Athenian men at drinking parties.

Rich and well-educated, these influential women were often accomplished musicians and philosophers — some even provided funds for civic improvements.

An Underground Education, Richard Zacks. New York: Doubleday, 1997



How about a drink?



Whorehouse Parlour, Cheyenne (c. 1900)

For parlour entertainment, “sporting houses” would typically employ a solo piano player, to whom the girls referred as “The Professor.”

“A madam’s girls generally worked on commission, splitting their fees evenly with the house. In Denver the charge was commonly five dollars for a ‘quick date’ and up to \$30 for the entire night. Any tips belonged to the employee. In some houses, to keep the madam and the girls from cheating each other, the customer purchased a ‘brass check,’ a metal token passed to the prostitute in exchange for her services; the girls kept the tokens and settled up with the madam the next morning. The girls also received a cut on the drinks they promoted downstairs.

“From their earnings the girls had to pay the madam rent for their rooms, ranging upward from about five dollars a week. And they were expected to dress fashionably. ... Kickbacks to madams from dressmakers were common. For her part, the madam paid the expenses of running the house — salaries for domestics, bouncers, the piano player and a kitchen staff, payoffs to the police and fees for licences.”

The Women, The Old West, vol. 23. Alexandria: Time-Life Books, Inc., 1978
PHOTO: Mazzulla Collection, Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas

live music. Vancouver was famous for such nightclubs — The Cave, Isy’s Supper Club, the Kobenhavn and the Zanzibar — where such world-renowned entertainers as Lili St. Cyr, Gypsy Rose Lee, Sally Rand, Josephine Baker and Tempest Storm regularly performed.

W-13: *Let’s say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Would you want to work for a sex business that could serve alcoholic beverages with meals?*

- yes
 - no
 - don’t know
-

Even though The Penthouse had been granted liquor club licence in 1947 (allowing the club to serve customers who supply their own alcohol), the police “dry squad” raided the club so often that a buzzer was installed that alerted patrons to stash bottles in hiding spots built inside the tables.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the Penthouse billed such big names as Harry Belafonte, Ella Fitzgerald and Sammy Davis Jr. It’s said that, on any given night, as many as 100 hookers patronized the jazz club, in hopes of meeting prospective customers.

W-14: *Let’s say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should there be special liquor-licence regulations for sex businesses? (For example, a limit on the number of drinks that can be served to a customer.)*

- yes
 - no
 - don’t know
-

In 1975, after a five-month investigation, police shut down the Penthouse Cabaret (along with one other club), charging the owners with keeping a common bawdy house. The sensational trial — which featured



stories of liquor inspectors taking bribes and undercover tape-recordings — packed the courtroom for months.

In the years that followed, prostitutes began to work outdoors on the street in unprecedented numbers. All of the club owners appealed and their convictions were overturned. The Penthouse reopened with a new liquor licence in 1979. Today, the club operates as an exotic show lounge featuring nude dancers.

W-15: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Would you want to be able to sell alcoholic drinks to customers?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

In Toronto in the 1960s, burlesque entertainment was restricted to theatres. Total nudity was forbidden in bars by the Liquor Control Board of Ontario. It was believed that alcohol was a personality altering substance that reduced one's inhibitions. Only non-alcoholic venues — such as Starvin' Marvin's and Le Strip on Yonge Street — could offer totally bare entertainment.

In 1973, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that dancing in the nude did not constitute an immoral, indecent, or obscene performance, and the Liquor Control Board of Ontario could no longer prohibit nude entertainment in licensed bars.

In 1978, Metropolitan Toronto City Council took matters into their own hands and passed a by-law requiring dancers to cover their pubic regions with an opaque G-string. In 1985, the G-string by-law was finally struck down, and replaced by a new Toronto by-law requiring bars to obtain a city licence before featuring strippers. This by-law also required strippers to obtain a licence in order to work in the city. Toronto clubs featuring exotic dancers are still subject to these by-law requirements today.



Go-Go Bar, Thailand (1990s)

Even though prostitution is illegal in Thailand, “go-go bars” — night clubs that sell beer and feature table dancers — are plentiful in Pattaya, Jomtien, and Naklua. Bar girls work selling drinks and must meet sales quotas dictated by the club. If they don't, they are charged fines subtracted from their wages. Bar girls can leave with customers, but the time spent away from the club is deducted from their pay.

(Making Sex Work Safe, Paulo Longo, Cheryl Overs. Rio de Janeiro: Network of Sex Work Projects, 1997 (<http://www.nswp.org/safety/msws>)
PHOTO: Zatar/World Health Organization



How about a drink?



Mae Field, Dance Hall Girl, Dawson (c. 1890)

In 1862, a newspaper correspondent reported that there were nine prostitutes in Williams Creek:

"They dress in male attire and swagger through the saloons and mining camps with cigars or huge quids of tobacco in their mouths, cursing and swearing and look like anything but the angels in petticoats heaven intended they should be."

"Each has a revolver or bowie knife attached to her waist, and it is quite a common occurrence to see one or more women dressed in male attire playing poker in the saloons, or drinking whiskey at the bars. They are a degraded set, and all good men in the vicinity wish them hundreds of miles away."

~ Victoria Daily Colonist, September 10, 1862

Lilies & Fireweed: Frontier Women of British Columbia, Stephen Hume. Vancouver: Harbour Publishing, 2004

PHOTO: Canadian Museum of Civilization

In other parts of the world, there are businesses that offer sexual services as well as alcoholic beverages. In Bangkok there are go-go bars. In Amsterdam, brothels often have a lounge where you can have a drink and meet the attendants.

W-16: Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. If a sex business has a licensed lounge, should the job of selling alcohol and job of providing sexual services be two separate jobs? (An employee can only do one, or the other, not both.)

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

Wanna smoke?

Concern about the health risks associated with tobacco smoke has spurred municipal and provincial governments across Canada to enact legislation to protect workers from second-hand smoke in the workplace and to protect the public from tobacco smoke in public areas. Employers are required to prohibit smoking in the workplace and to provide designated smoking areas for workers. Indoor smoking areas must have adequate ventilation. Many provinces and cities have passed laws prohibiting smoking in some or all public buildings, including bars, restaurants, retail shops and government offices.

W-17: Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should sex businesses be permitted to offer designated smoking rooms (as hotels do) for those clients who may wish to smoke during private sessions with sex workers?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



Professional associations

Professional associations assure clients that services provided by members will be up to professional standards. Voluntary professional associations are able to offer this assurance because they require members to have certain qualifications in order to join; offer members training courses and workshops to update their skills; and publish industry newsletters to inform members of current developments in their field.

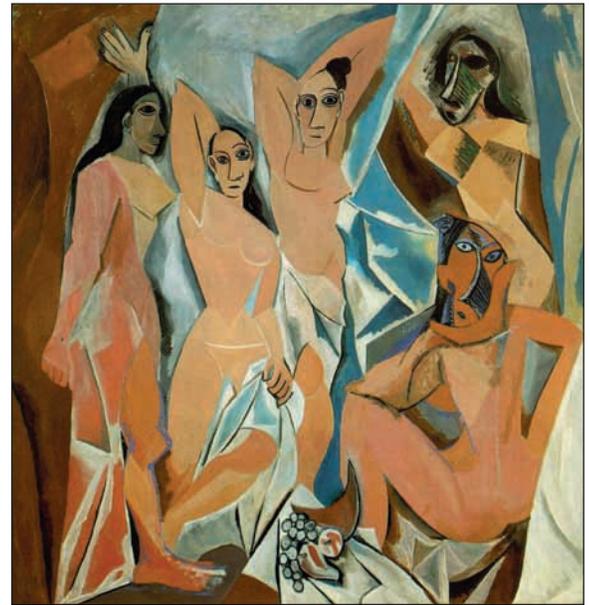
W-18: *Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Would you be willing to pay membership fees to a voluntary professional association?*

- yes
- no
- don't know

Mandatory professional associations certify members who have completed the minimum training requirements in order to be able to give this assurance of professionalism.

W-19: *Let's say you're a member of a voluntary Sex Professionals' Association. Which of the following possible member services would you want? (Please mark all that apply.)*

- certificate/membership card
- newsletter
- courses and training programs
- trade fairs and conferences
- member rates on professional supplies
- advertising in a membership directory
- association website
- none of the above
- don't know
- other (please specify)



Les Demoiselles d'Avignon (1907)

A radical departure from traditional modes of representation, Pablo Picasso's first cubist painting portrays five naked prostitutes in a brothel. Named after "Calle Avignon," a street known for its brothels (near where Picasso once lived in Barcelona) this modern masterpiece was not publicly exhibited until nine years after it had been painted, because of taunts and other negative reactions from Picasso's peers.

Pablo Picasso, 1907. Museum of Modern Art, New York
(Mark Harden's Artchive: <http://www.artchive.com>)





Penny Hoar (1952-1997)

A stripper and performance artist in Montreal during the 1970s, Penny Hoar later made a business of transforming men into voluptuous women. Actress, dancer, model, comedienne and condom activist, Hoar also ran for the Rhinoceros Party in two federal elections. Her slogan?

“Politicians Screw You; Protect Yourself!”

An accomplished globetrotter, Hoar travelled through 18 countries across four continents. She claims to have run a “gigolo school” south of Acapulco. In 1994, she became vice-chair of the Toronto Prostitutes’ Safe Sex Project and was featured in *Toronto Life Magazine*, where she appeared as the centrefold.

PHOTO: *Toronto Life Magazine*, August 1994

Trained and certified

Provinces/territories can grant training and certification powers for a particular industry to a self-governing body. Such a professional association can set training requirements. Certification requires that your training be recognized by the professional association.

W-20: *Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should you be required to hold a certificate from a professional sex workers association before you are permitted to work?*

- yes*
- no*
- don't know*

Province/territories and cities can require that you be certified by a professional association in order to operate a business in your profession. For example, the cosmetology industry in B.C. (which governs hairdressing, facials, manicures, etc.) was, until 2003, governed by the *Cosmetology Act*. This act empowered the Cosmetologists Association of British Columbia (CABC) to train — and grant mandatory certificates for — hairdressers, nail technologists and estheticians working in B.C. Before the *Cosmetology Act* was repealed, a city licence for a cosmetology business in Vancouver required the owner to be certified by the CABC. Now that membership in the Cosmetology Industry Association of B.C. (CIABC) is voluntary, the City of Vancouver will grant a cosmetology business licence



to anyone who has comparable training and certification from anywhere in the world. The CIABC is a voluntary association responsible for maintaining the professionalism of the cosmetology industry through training, education and certification. This group inherited the assets of the old CABC when the *Cosmetology Act* was repealed.

W-21: *Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Would you want job-training that is certified by a professional sex workers' association?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

Training can include successful completion of community college (or university) programs, apprenticeship programs, and provincial examinations. Some of the workers requiring provincial certification are electricians, plumbers, construction workers, auto-body workers, mechanics, dental hygienists and registered massage therapists.

W-22: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should you be required to complete training programs and/or an apprenticeship in order to be allowed to work?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

National vs provincial

Canada has national professional associations (such as the Canadian Bar Association, the Canadian Dental Association, etc.) as well as provincial ones. Usually, national associations provide guidelines so that provincial associations can have training and certification requirements that are consistent across Canada. This allows workers to travel and work in different provinces.

The Interprovincial Standards (Red Seal) Program (<http://www.red-seal.ca>) was started more than 45 years ago to facilitate mobility for skilled workers throughout Canada. It is administered by the Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship. A worker can get an interprovincial "Red Seal" in one of the listed trades by:

- a) graduating from a provincial/territorial apprenticeship training program or obtaining a journey-person-level Certificate of Qualification from a province/territory; and
- b) passing the Red Seal Examination for that trade.



Trained and certified

Listed trades include: appliance service technician, painter and decorator, steamfitter/pipefitter, partsperson, hair stylist, cook and baker. There are 45 in all. Some require Red Seal certification; for others, it's voluntary. The program is funded through Human Resources and Skills Development Canada.

A national sex workers association could ensure consistent training requirements and resources that would make it easier for sex workers to travel and work anywhere in Canada, regardless of where (in Canada) they were certified.

W-23: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. If you are required to be certified by a sex workers' association before being allowed to work, who should determine the training requirements you need in order to get your certificate?*

- a single national association that sets national standards*
 - provincial associations that set standards for each province*
 - no certification requirements*
 - don't know*
-

What training?

W-24: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. If sex workers are required to successfully complete a training program before they are permitted to work, which of the following training should the program include? (Please mark all that apply.)*

- sexual health (self-examination, examining clients, sexually-transmitted-infection recognition and prevention methods)*
 - erotic arts: seduction, erogenous zones, massage, dirty talk, erotic dancing, sex toys and aids*
 - fetishes and scenerios: clothing fetishes (e.g., shoes or underwear; cross-dressing), role-playing (teacher, nurse, babysitter, mommy, etc.), tickling, infantilism, urination, pubic/body shaving etc.*
 - sado/masochism, dungeon and bondage*
 - social skills (e.g., assertiveness; how to deal with difficult, argumentative, aggressive or intoxicated clients; negotiation)*
 - self-defence*
 - first aid*
 - no training required*
 - don't know*
 - other (please specify)*
-



What about a trade union?

Sex industry trade unions give workers the power to bargain collectively with brothel owners. Unions, on behalf of their members, negotiate collective agreements with industry employers that stipulate workplace standards, hiring and promotion practices, wages, and benefits for the unionized workforce. Employers are required by law to uphold their obligations, set out in the collective agreement.

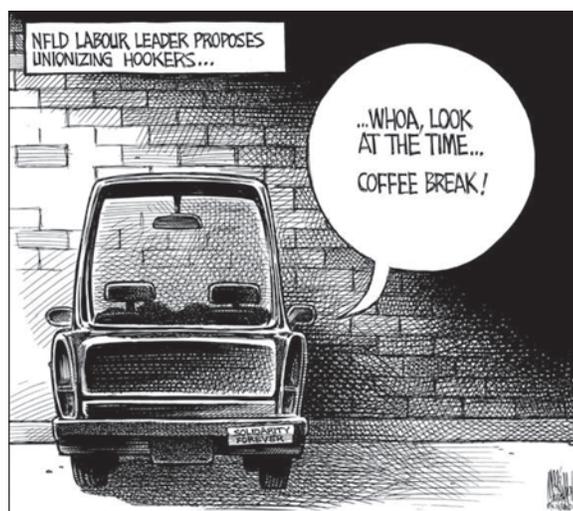
In 1979, Toronto strippers founded Canada's first strippers' union — the Canadian Association of Burlesque Entertainers — officially recognized by the Canadian Labour Congress (as Local 1689) until it disbanded in 1982.

January 1996 saw the formation of the world's first sex workers' trade union. The union registered with the Australian Council of Trade Unions, and began operating under the umbrella of the Australian Liquor, Hospitality and Miscellaneous Workers' Union. It can only represent prostitutes who work in legal brothels in the Australian Capital Territory, Victoria, and New South Wales. The Prostitutes' Collective of Victoria was instrumental in the lengthy negotiations that finally enabled sex workers to affiliate with the union in August 1995.

In The Netherlands, De Rode Draad (The Red Thread), an association founded in 1984, became the country's official prostitutes' union when it affiliated with the Dutch trade union confederation, Federatie Nederlandse Vakbeweginga, a year after brothels became legal in 2000.

W-25: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Would you join a sex industry trade union?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-



Labour Leader Proposes Unionizing Hookers

In September 2004, Wayne Lucas, the Newfoundland president of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) urged that prostitutes should belong to unions and enjoy the same benefits as any other workers. "Work is work... These people are working...." Prostitutes should have access to benefits such as health care and pensions, he said. CUPE is Canada's largest union, with more than half a million members across the country, including workers in health care, education, social services, public utilities, transportation and emergency services.

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, September 8, 2004

ILLUSTRATION: *Halifax Herald*, © 2004



What about a trade union?

A model union

Film and television performance offers a useful example of a unionized profession. Like sex workers, actors and performers require a significant degree of independence and flexibility from their union. In Canada, film, television and radio performers must belong to the Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists (ACTRA) Performers Guild in order to be eligible to work on any unionized production.

ACTRA negotiates and enforces collective agreements with film and TV producers, and also with advertisers and ad agencies. ACTRA fights for improved workplace standards and services for all performers. An ACTRA member is paid not only for their current work, but also for later use of his or her image for which she or he receives royalties and residuals. ACTRA administers an excellent insurance and retirement plan, provides training and professional development opportunities, and ensures that performers behave professionally.

There are three levels of membership: "Professional," "Apprentice" and "Extra." Members may be radio announcers, television actors, singers, dancers, stunt people, movie extras, magicians, jugglers, circus performers, or ventriloquists.

In addition to its National Council, ACTRA has local union branches for various cities and regions across Canada. Members pay annual fees to their local union branch offices. They also pay working dues of two per cent of their gross earnings, to a maximum of \$3,000 per year.

Performers who are not ACTRA members must pay a permit fee in order to work on any union production. They may only do so if no suitable ACTRA performers are available. Members are not permitted to work on non-union productions or with anyone who is not an ACTRA member in good standing (unless that person obtained a work permit).



IMPORTANT CONTACTS:

Name:

Address:

Phone No.:

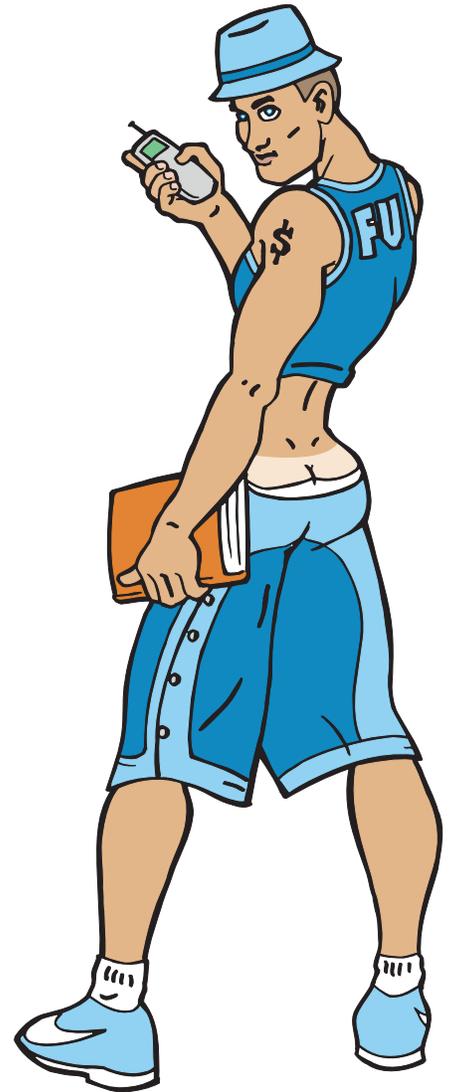
E-mail/Web:

Other info:



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Aspasia of Miletus (c. 470-410 B.C.)

Renowned for her beauty, genius, and political influence, this well-educated courtesan from Melitus (Asia Minor) was the consort of the Greek general Pericles. Because Aspasia was not Athenian, she enjoyed public life — extremely rare for women in Athens at the time. Highly respected within Athens's intellectual circles, she associated with Plato, Xenophon, Athenaeus, Plutarch, Anaxagoras, Sophocles and Phidias. Socrates once called her his rhetorics teacher. Cicero's chapter on argumentation was based on Aspasia's lesson on induction. Aspasia eventually opened her own courtesan salon, an academy for girls from wealthy families.

"100 Important Women in History," Shelby Ellery.
(<http://www.angelfire.com/anime2/100import/aspasia.html>)

The oldest profession

Defined as "promiscuous unchastity for gain," prostitution has always been distinguished from concubinage (an inferior state of marriage), adultery, and other sexual relations motivated by passion. Prostitution has existed in all civilized countries from the earliest times, and has always been subject to regulation, whether by law or by custom.

In Egypt, Phoenicia, Assyria, Chaldea, Canaan and Persia, the worship of Isis, Moloch, Baal, Astarte, Mylitta and other deities included extravagant temple orgies. In Babylon, prostitution was actually compulsory! All women were required to honour the goddess Mylitta in this way. The Old Testament refers extensively to prostitution in Palestine. (Prostitutes were forbidden to enter Jerusalem and places of worship and were required to wear distinctive dress.)

In Athens, Governor Solon (638-559 B.C.) established a state monopoly on brothels (*dicteriades*), which were kept under police control and excluded from finer areas of the city. The Greek *hetaerae* were powerful, gifted, brilliant members of their class, who openly wielded great influence. At Corinth, a famous temple in honour of Aphrodite employed a huge staff of prostitutes to service sailors who came to port.

Prostitution was severely regulated in ancient Rome, with a system of police registration. Citizens were banned from marrying the descendants or relatives of prostitutes.

The early Christian church adopted a more charitable attitude toward prostitutes. Around 1200 A.D., Pope Innocent III praised the practice of marrying prostitutes. Bawdy-houses ("stews") near London Bridge were licensed by the bishops of Winchester. In France there were large-scale public brothels at Toulouse, Avignon and Montpellier. In Germany, anyone convicted of assaulting a prostitute was beheaded.

Due to outbreaks of venereal disease, brothels were abolished in London in the 1500s. In Paris, all prostitutes were once required to leave the city within 24 hours.



What did you call me?

Today, “sex worker” is the term most often used by rights groups, community agencies, labour organizers, governments and even the World Bank to conveniently describe all the people who earn their living in any of the variety of jobs that make up the modern sex industry. Street prostitutes, exotic dancers, phone sex workers, social escorts, adult film actors and massage parlour workers are all considered sex workers. Worldwide, however, prostitution is by far the most common form of sex work.

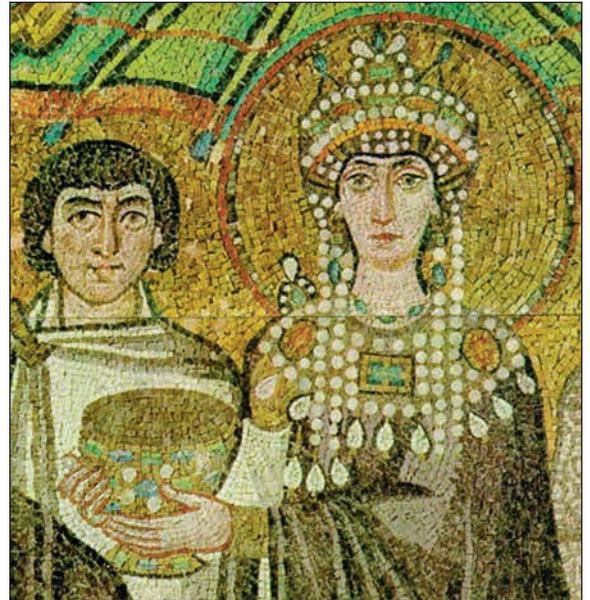
In Canada, prostitution usually takes place in private between consenting adults. Businesses that offer opportunities for sex work to occur — such as massage parlours, exotic dance clubs with private booths, and escort services — cannot explicitly offer sexual services. These are legal businesses, and many people who work for them do not appreciate the sex-worker label.

Throughout SWE&R!, the term “sex worker” refers specifically to anyone who a) regularly offers and provides sexual services in exchange for money or goods, and b) feels that she or he works in the sex industry.

E-01a: *If you worked in the sex industry, perhaps for a massage parlour, an exotic dance club, or an escort service — or on the street — how would you feel about being referred to as a sex worker?*

- I would happily call myself a sex worker
- I would prefer “sex worker” to other popular terms
- I would feel indifferent about being called a sex worker
- I would prefer not to be called a sex worker
- I would strongly oppose being called a sex worker
- don't know

E-01b: *If you would prefer not to be called a sex worker, what would you rather be called? (please specify)*



Empress Theodora (c. 497-548 A.D.)

An illegitimate child born in Syria, Theodora was raised in the Hippodrome in Constantinople, a huge circus stadium, where her parents worked as bear-trainers. A talented and lascivious mime, the circus actress/prostitute was famous for her animal acts, until she had an illegitimate child of her own. She was a penniless weaver when she first met Justinian. They fell in love and were married in 525.

Justinian was made Emperor in 527. He and his Empress ruled hand in hand. Theodora passed laws giving women property rights, divorce rights, and the right of guardianship over their children. She banned infanticide, the sale of daughters into prostitution, and the killing of adulterous wives. She imposed the death penalty for rape. Known for her patronage, Theodora commissioned churches, hospices and convents, and paid for the release of women from brothels. She inspired fear, as well as awe, for she cruelly punished those who offended her.

In 532, a revolt (the Nika Riots) swept Constantinople, threatening to dethrone Justinian. His generals were ready to flee to the ships when Theodora brandished a sword and declared to her Emperor, “I’d rather die in purple than yield the throne.” The generals defended the palace and defeated the revolt. Empress Theodora died of cancer at the age of 51.

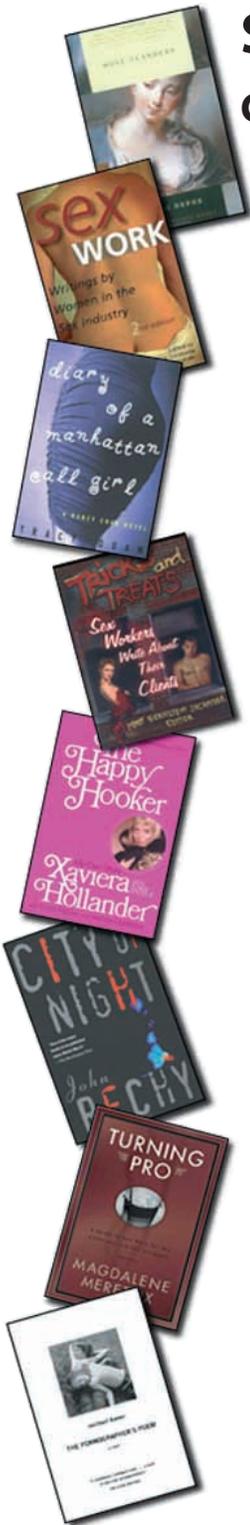
Court historian Prokopius wrote all we know about the Empress in *Historia Arcana*. A perfect 6th-century mosaic of Theodora (shown above) exists in San Vitale, Ravenna.



Sex work reading list

Classic literature and other all-time favourites!

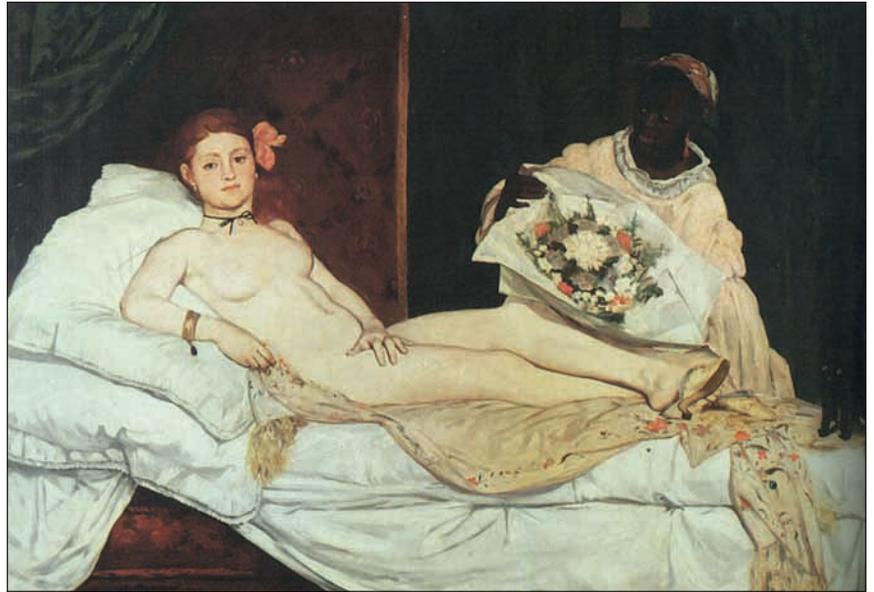
- *Moll Flanders*, by Daniel Defoe (1660-1731). One of the first novels to emerge in England. A good, funny read, it details the life of Moll and her struggles through poverty and sin in search of property and power. London: Penguin Books Ltd., 1994
- *Roxana: The Fortunate Mistress*, by Daniel Defoe. Roxana might be dubbed “The Unhappy Hooker”; this is an entirely different sort of tale. London: Everymans Library, 1999
- *Fanny Hill, Or Memoirs Of A Woman Of Pleasure*, by John Cleland (c. 1749). Earned its author a jail sentence for obscenity. Banned in the U.S.A. until 1966. This eighteenth-century tale about a naïve young prostitute in London who slowly rises to respectability was considered immoral and without literary merit. Today, the novel is important for its political parody and sexual philosophy. London: Penguin Books Ltd., 1986
- *Nana*, by Emile Zola. Published in French in 1880, this novel attempts to portray the reality behind the glamorous career of the high-class courtesan. London: Penguin Books Ltd., 1972
- *The Blackmailers*, a play by John Gray and Marc-André Raffalovich. A social melodrama published in 1894. At that time, blackmail was a major threat to homosexuals in search of respectability. Republished in *Lovesick: Modernist Plays of Same-Sex Love, 1894-1925*, Laurence Senelick. London: Routledge, 1999
- *Decline and Fall*, by Evelyn Waugh. 1928 novel about a prep school master — gigolo/husband to a millionairess — features prostitution and a convicted white-slaver. New York: Back Bay Books, 1999
- *The White Book (Le Livre Blanc)*, by Jean Cocteau. Anonymously published in French in 1928, this collection of *memoires* describes Cocteau’s encounters with sailors when he lived in the Vieux Porte dockside slums of Marseilles as a down-and-out adolescent on the make. Translated by Margaret Crosland; San Francisco: City Lights Books, 1989.
- *Murphy*, by Samuel Beckett. Published in 1938, Beckett’s first novel depicts Murphy’s inner struggle between his desire for his paid mistress and his craving for total escape into the darkness of his mind. New York: Grove Press, 1957
- *Flight Into Egypt: A Fantasy (La Fuite en Egypte)*, by Philippe Jullian. Translated from French. Describes an imaginary court in the Sahara Desert where a Grand Duchess and her crew of tranvestites supply drugs, boys and kinkiness to visiting millionaires. New York: Viking Press, 1970.



Manet's *Olympia* (1863)

Inspired by a 16th-century painting by Titian, Édouard Manet's brazen portrait of prostitute Victorine Meurent as *Venus of Urbino* scandalized 19th-century French society. It wasn't that bourgeois men were offended by the portrayal of a prostitute, but rather that the painting was on public exhibit, where their virtuous wives could be exposed to its immoral influence. Meurent posed for several of Manet's famous paintings, including *Luncheon on the Grass* (1863).

Édouard Manet, 1863. Musée d'Orsay, Paris
(Carol Gerten's Fine Art: <http://cga.sunsite.dk>)



- *Rubyfruit Jungle: A Book About Being Different and Loving It*, by Rita Mae Brown. Penniless Molly Bolt goes to New York and sends women's hearts aflutter with her startling beauty and fierce wit. New York: Daughters, Inc., 1973
- *Storyville, New Orleans: Being an Authentic, Illustrated Account of the Notorious Red-Light District*, by Al Rose. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1974
- *Southern Discomfort*, by Rita Mae Brown. Historical novel about the grand bordellos in the southern USA. New York: Bantam Books, 1982
- *79 Park Ave. S.*, by Harold Robbins. Classic trash. Made him rich! New York: Pocket Books, 1985
- *A Particular Class of Women*, by Janet Feindel. A provocative play named after a Canadian court case in which a judge argued that an exotic dancer was raped because "she's from a particular class of women whose profession it is to promote lust." Women with a variety of experiences and social backgrounds tell their stories. Published in *Singular Voices* — an anthology of six one-person shows edited by Tony Hamill. Vancouver: Playwrights Canada Press, 1994 🍁
- *Pornographer's Poem*, by Michael Turner. Novel dealing with child pornography, bestiality, bisexuality and voyeurism. Toronto: Doubleday Canada, 1999 🍁
- *The Man Who Fell In Love With The Moon*, by Tom Spanbauer. A riveting 1880s tale about Shed, a half-breed bisexual native boy who is raised by the madam of a whorehouse after the murder of his mother. A beautifully written novel full of heartbreak, joy and mystery with a serious investigation of racism. New York: Atlantic Monthly Press, 2001.



Sex work reading list



La Goulue Arriving at the Moulin Rouge (1892)

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec lived in the Montmartre quarter in Paris. With its racetracks, taverns, cabarets and brothels, this district was the centre of bohemian life. Here, Toulouse-Lautrec would often sit at a crowded nightclub table and drink while making quick sketches for his colourful paintings. Many brothel prostitutes have been memorialized in his masterpieces.

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, 1892. Museum of Modern Art, New York (Mark Harden's Artchive: <http://www.artchive.com>)

- *Orientalia: Sex in Asia. Photographs by Reagan Louie.* For six years, Louie journeyed through Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Vietnam, Tibet, Thailand and Japan, photographing the day-to-day lives of women who, either by choice or by necessity, sell their bodies for money. Alluring and unsettling, intimate and acute. "If you cannot see the humanity of prostitutes in these pictures, you might want to re-examine your own feeling about sex workers." Introduction by sex worker Tracy Quan. New York: PowerHouse Books, 2003
- *Wayward*, by Ali Riley. Début collection of poetry. "A haunting excursion into the dark, transcendent territory of the 'lost girls.'" Calgary: Frontenac House, 2003 🍁

From the horse's mouth

Many of these books by sex workers are available at Amazon.com

- *City of Night*, by John Rechy. Classic glimpse into the world of hustling. Ground-breaking for its time. New York: Grove Weidenfeld, 1963
- *The Happy Hooker: My Own Story*, by Xaviera Hollander. Hollander chronicles her life as a "high-class New York madam" in the 1970s. Frank discussions of lesbianism, bondage, voyeurism, and run-ins with lawyers and the FBI. New York: Dell Publishing, 1972
- *Mayflower Madam: The Secret Life of Sydney Biddle Barrows*, by Sydney Biddle Barrows. Autobiography telling the story of Cachet, a top call-girl agency in New York. New York: William Novak, 1986
- *The Front Line: Women in the Sex Industry Speak*, by Nickie Roberts. Interviews with sex workers in Britain. London: Grafton Books, 1986
- *Good Girls/Bad Girls: Feminists and Sex Trade Workers, Face to Face*, edited by Laurie Bell, Toronto: The Women's Press, 1987 🍁



- *Sex Work: Writings by Women in the Sex Industry*, edited by Frederique Delacoste and Priscilla Alexander. San Francisco: Cleis Press, 1987
- *Working: My Life as a Prostitute*, by Dolores French, with Linda Lee. New York: Dutton, 1988
- *Runaway: Diary of a Street Kid*, by Evelyn Lau. True story by a Vancouver teen, made into a CBC television movie. Toronto: HarperCollins, 1989 🍁
- *Mayflower Manners: Etiquette for Consenting Adults*, by Sydney Biddle Barrows. New York: Doubleday, 1990
- *Annie Sprinkle: Post Porn Modernist: My 25 years as a multimedia whore*, by Annie Sprinkle. Porn-star-turned-performance-artist Annie Sprinkle presents an illustrated history of her 25-year career. Great photos document Sprinkle's transformation from ugly duckling to prostitute, to porn queen, to sexual healer, activist, and educator. Amsterdam: Art Unlimited, 1991
- *Whores in History: Prostitution in Western Society*, by Nickie Roberts. "A veteran of the Soho sex trade," Roberts treats prostitutes as unsung heroines. London: HarperCollins, 1992
- *Cop to Call Girl: Why I Left the LAPD to Make an Honest Living as a Beverly Hills Prostitute*, by Norma Jean Almodovar. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1993
- *Whore Carnival*, by Shannon Bell. Interviews with Toronto sex workers and activists. Toronto: Autonomedia, 1996 🍁
- *Whores and Other Feminists*, edited by Jill Nagle. This collection of essays on the topic of feminism offers first-hand perspectives from such famous sex workers as Nina Hartley, Tracy Quan, and Annie Sprinkle. Frank, serious and insightful. New York: Routledge, 1997



Room in a Brothel (1879)

Edgar Degas (1834-1917) once said, "I want to look through the keyhole." Degas's models seem to be unaware of the artist's presence. His sometimes clinical portrayals of women provoked a debate in the art world that shifted the conventions for the ideal nude. Because prostitutes regularly had to bathe, many critics assumed that Degas's bathers were, in fact, prostitutes.

Edgar Degas, 1879. Stanford University Museum of Art, Stanford, California (Mark Harden's Artchive: <http://www.artchive.com>)



Sex work reading list

- *Real Live Nude Girl: Chronicles of Sex-Positive Culture*, by Carol Queen. A candid, intelligent collection of essays on such topics as gynecological exams, the pro-pornography lobby, performing in peep shows, and the erotic pleasures of being spanked. San Francisco: Cleis Press, Inc., 1997
- *Madam: Chronicles of a Nevada Cathouse*, by Lora Shaner. Poignant sketches of day-to-day life in a legal brothel strip, written by a former madam. Las Vegas: Huntington Press, 1999
- *Tricks and Treats: Sex Workers Write About Their Clients*, edited by Matt Bernstein Sycamore. Binghamton: Haworth Press, 2000
- *Turning Pro: A Guide to Sex Work for the Ambitious and the Intrigued*, by Magdalene Meretrix. Oakland: Greenery Press, 2001
- *Diary of a Manhattan Call Girl*, by Tracy Quan. Nancy Chan is a turn-of-the-millennium call girl who works in Manhattan's Upper East Side and frequently has to choose between making love and making money. A rollicking, X-rated soap opera. New York: Three Rivers Press, 2001

BIBLIOGRAPHIES ON THE WORLD-WIDE WEB

A variety of recommended reading about sex work. Includes sociology and criminology studies and other academic research

- **Sex Professional Madeleine Meretrix Books Section**
<http://www.realm-of-shade.com/meretrix/books>
- **HIV/AIDS Legal Network Top 25 Sex Work Resources**
<http://www.aidslaw.ca/Maincontent/issues/prostitution/e-info-0a1.htm>
- **HIV/AIDS Legal Network Complete Sex Work Resources**
<http://www.aidslaw.ca/Maincontent/otherdocs/biblio/c-21.htm>
- **Commercial Sex Information Service Bibliographies**
<http://www.walnet.org/csis/biblios>
- **Commercial Sex Information Service Papers**
<http://www.walnet.org/csis/papers>
- **Society for Human Sexuality: Bibliography by P. Alexander**
<http://www.sexuality.org/l/workers/sexwork.html>

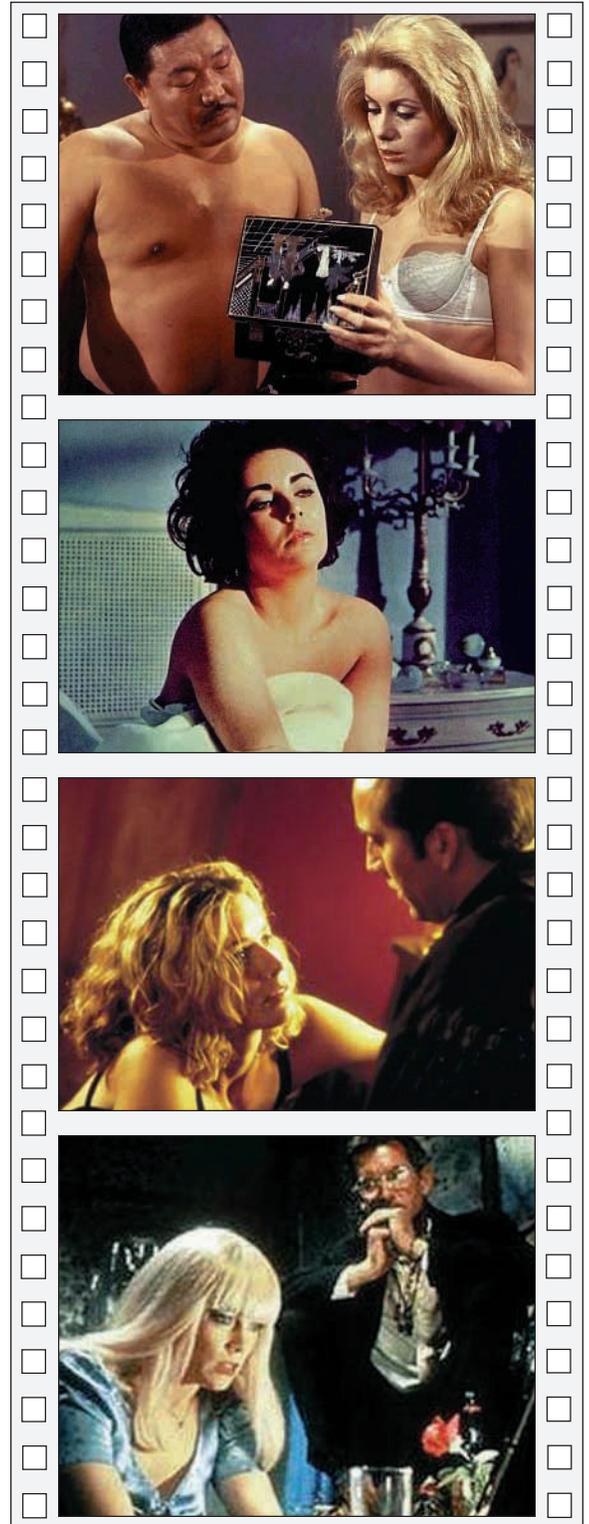


Prostitutes in the movies

Film stars shine in these hooker classics

- *Belle de Jour* (1967), France. Director: Luis Buñuel. Starring: Catherine Deneuve, Jean Sorel, Michel Piccoli. Severine (Deneuve) is a beautiful young woman who cannot bring herself to make love with her husband because she is in love with him. She secretly starts working afternoons in a high-class Paris brothel but still remains chaste in her marriage. A strange, metaphoric and erotic masterpiece.
- *Butterfield 8* (1960), U.S.A. Director: Daniel Mann. Starring: Elizabeth Taylor, Laurence Harvey, Eddie Fisher. Gloria (Taylor) is a sophisticated New York call-girl searching for lasting love. She meets Weston (Harvey), a charming lawyer unhappily married into a wealthy family. Gloria is willing to change her life but, just when she needs him most, he turns on her. Taylor's first Academy Award. Based on a novel by John O'Hara.
- *Crimes of Passion* (1984), U.S.A. Director: Ken Russell. Starring: Kathleen Turner, John Laughlin, Anthony Perkins. Bobby Grady (Laughlin) is a private investigator hired to follow Joanna Crane (Turner), a sportswear designer suspected of stealing designs. Instead he discovers that she secretly works nights as the street hooker China Blue. Perkins plays a psycho priest out to free China Blue from her life of sin. A shocking and brutal erotic thriller. Turner's performance is outstanding.
- *Klute* (1971), U.S.A. Director: Alan Pakula. Starring: Jane Fonda, Donald Sutherland, Charles Cioffi. Klute (Sutherland) is a small-town private eye searching for his missing friend. His only lead points him to a Manhattan call girl named Bree Daniels (Fonda), who is being stalked by an obsessed john. Fonda's performance earned her an Academy Award for Best Actress. An intelligent and intriguing suspense thriller.

FROM THE TOP: Catherine Deneuve in *Belle de Jour*, Elizabeth Taylor in *Butterfield 8*, Elisabeth Shue in *Leaving Las Vegas*, Kathleen Turner in *Crimes of Passion*



Prostitutes in the movies

- *Leaving Las Vegas* (1995), U.S.A. Director: Mike Figgis. Starring: Nicholas Cage, Elizabeth Shue, Julian Sands. Ben (Cage), is an alcoholic who plans to drink himself to death after being fired from his job. In Las Vegas Ben meets Sera (Shue), a street-wise hooker with a heart of gold. Overlooking each other's faults, the two unexpectedly fall in love. An emotional and spectacular portrayal of some of the realities of prostitution. Cage won an Academy Award for his performance.
- *Never on a Sunday* (1960), Greece. Director: Jules Dassin. Starring: Melina Mercouri, Jules Dassin, George Foundas. Ilya (Mercouri) is a very honest, happy, and selective prostitute. Homer (Dassin), a romantic and naive American tourist, tries to show her "the error of her ways." The local crime boss would like Ilya to be less independent — and under his control, like the rest of the town's prostitutes. Ilya, however, likes her life as it is, and resists. This charming and joyous comedy provides a delightful lesson in humanity. Mercouri eventually became a Minister in the Greek government.
- *Nuts* (1987), U.S.A. Director: Martin Ritt. Starring: Barbara Streisand, Richard Dreyfus, Maureen Stapleton. Claudia (Streisand), a high-class prostitute, is charged with manslaughter for killing a client in self-defence. In an effort to avoid a public trial, her parents try to make her plead guilty by reason of insanity and have her committed. But the strong-willed Claudia resists, so that the truth may surface during the trial. Startling new evidence is revealed about her parents, her psychiatrist, and the public defender assigned to her. Streisand delivers a touching performance in this courtroom thriller, adapted from a 1980 Broadway production.
- *Pretty Baby* (1978), U.S.A. Director: Louis Malle. Starring: Brooke Shields, Keith Carradine, Susan Sarandon. This film — whose release scandalized the respectable — is set in a Storyville, New Orleans bordello in 1917. Raised in a brothel, Violet (Shields) is 12 years old when her virginity is auctioned off. Violet's painful transition from childhood innocence to adult sexuality becomes clearest when she marries the photographer with whom she has been infatuated. An incredibly artful, beautiful and slow film. Both Shields and Sarandon are superb.
- *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (1982), U.S.A. Director: Colin Higgins. Starring Dolly Parton, Burt Reynolds, Dom DeLuise. Miss Mona (Parton) is the madam of the Chicken Ranch, a 100-year-old Texas brothel that subsidizes the town's hospital and Little League team. Through her innate charm and goodness, Miss Mona makes her profession look like a respectable community service. The local sheriff, Ed (Reynolds), who is romantically involved with Miss Mona, is pressured to shut her house down. This raucous and silly musical comedy was adapted from a popular 1978 Broadway production. Based on a true story by Larry Hill about the 1973 closing of a real-life bordello in LaGrange, Texas, published in *Playboy*.



- *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* (1964), Italy. Dubbed in English. Director: Vittorio De Sica. Starring: Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni. Loren plays a different character in each of three short, unrelated tales, always using sex to get what she wants. In the final vignette, she portrays a beautiful high-class prostitute, and performs a breathtaking striptease. Bothered by her conscience when a young seminary student falls in love with her, she is determined to set the young man back on the road to God. Won the Academy Award for Best Foreign Film.

Film favourites featuring hustlers

- *Alexander: The Other Side of Dawn* (1977), U.S.A. Director: John Erman. Starring: Leigh J. McCloskey, Eve Plumb. Alexander (McCloskey) is an Oklahoma farm boy who takes to the streets of L.A., where he works as a prostitute. After falling in love with Dawn (Plumb), Alexander strives to escape his dead-end world and begin life anew. A made-for-TV movie devoted to the exploits of a teenaged boy, *Alexander* is a follow-up to *Dawn: Portrait of a Teenage Runaway* (1976), which focused on the sordid descent of a young girl into crime and prostitution.
- *My Own Private Idaho* (1991), U.S.A. Director: Gus Van Sant Jr. Starring: River Phoenix, Keanu Reeves, James Russo. The mayor's rebellious son Scott (Reeves) goes slumming with Mike (Phoenix), a down-and-out hustler whose narcoleptic attacks during times of stress keep him from holding down a job. At an early age Mike was separated from his prostitute mother when she was placed in a mental hospital. Whenever Mike falls unconscious he is transported to his childhood, where he has vague memories of a comforting mother. But each time when he wakes, he keeps finding himself on the same stretch of highway near his boyhood home in Idaho. Very loosely adapted from Shakespeare's *Henry IV*.

FROM THE TOP: River Phoenix in *My Own Private Idaho*, Tygh Runyan and Nick Stahl in *Twist*, Brendan Fehr and Andre Noble in *Sugar*, Dustin Hoffman and Jon Voight in *Midnight Cowboy*



Prostitutes in the movies

- *Midnight Cowboy* (1969), U.S.A. Director: John Schlesinger. Starring: Jon Voight, Dustin Hoffman, Sylvia Miles. Joe Buck (Voight) is a good looking Texas cowboy who naively believes he will make his fortune as a high-paid street gigolo in New York. But Buck never finds his well-to-do female clientele. Instead, he becomes a down-and-out drifter. He is befriended by Ratso Rizzo (Hoffman) — a sleazy, small-time con man with big dreams — and the two are bonded in a powerful friendship. The first and only X-rated film to win an Academy Award for Best Picture, it also won awards for Best Director and Best Adapted Screenplay. In addition, both Voight and Hoffman won Academy Awards for Best Actor, and Miles won one for Best Supporting Actress. A poignant and ultra-realistic tragic drama, adapted from a novel by James Herlihy.
- *Twist* (2003), Canada. Director: Jacob Tierney. Starring: Joshua Close, Nick Stahl, Gary Farmer. Dickens's classic *Oliver Twist* is retold by Dodge (Stahl), a veteran street hustler living in a dilapidated rooming house in Toronto. Upon meeting young Oliver (Close), the otherwise misanthropic Dodge takes pity on him and guides him through the underworld of male prostitution, recruiting the beautiful blond boy on the one hand and trying to protect him on the other. Haunted by his traumatic past, Dodge turns violent whenever anyone tries to show him affection, while Oliver is clearly falling for him. A rather grim, gloomy film. 🍁
- *Sugar* (2004), Canada. Director: John Palmer. Starring: Andre Noble, Brendan Fehr, Haylee Wanstall. Cliff (Noble) receives a bottle of booze and a joint for his 18th birthday from his 12-year-old sister (Wanstall), who tells him to go out and lose his virginity. He heads to downtown Toronto, where he finds Butch (Fehr), a sexy and sympathetic hustler. Cliff falls in love. But Butch turns out to be emotionally unstable and addicted to crack, and never loves Nick back. Nick discovers that life on the street is not as alluring as he thought. Noble delivers a heartbreaking performance in this bittersweet coming-of-age story. Adapted from a series of short stories by Bruce La Bruce. 🍁
- *Bad Education* (2004), Spain. Director: Pedro Almodóvar. Starring: Daniel Giménez Cacho, Fele Martínez, Gael García Bernal. Enrique (Martínez) is a successful filmmaker desperate for a story. A grade-school friend, Ignacio (Bernal), shows up with a manuscript recounting the story of their relationship and Ignacio's sexual abuse by Father Manolo (Cacho). Enrique is enthralled, seeing the scenes in his imagination. Ignacio demands to play the role of Zahara, a transsexual prostitute who poses as Ignacio's sister to blackmail Father Manolo with her brother's story. A sinister and ruthless example of *film noir*.



Canada's anti-prostitution laws: 1839-2005

1839

Lower Canada allows police to arrest prostitutes

In Lower Canada (now the province of Quebec) the police are authorized to arrest "all common prostitutes or night-walkers wandering in the fields, public streets or highways, not giving a satisfactory account of themselves." This law is aimed solely at women. No specific offensive act or behaviour is required in order for a woman to be detained. Persons in the habit of "frequenting houses of ill-fame" can also be arrested.

1851-1881

Cities pass by-laws to control prostitutes, clients

Many Canadian municipalities pass new by-laws to suppress houses of prostitution, prostitutes, inmates (brothel workers) and frequenters (brothel users).

1858

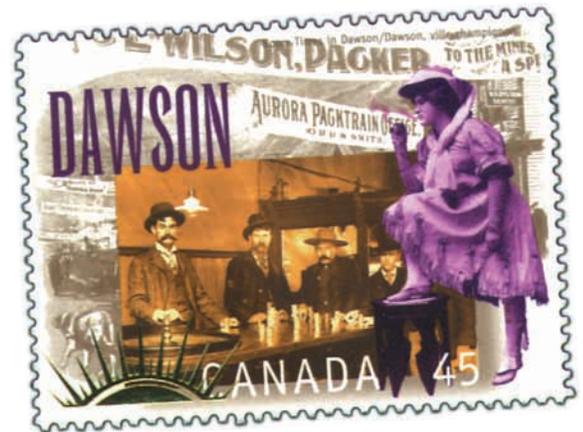
Lower Canada and Upper Canada are united. Legislation authorizing the arrest of inmates of bawdy houses is extended throughout this new Province of Canada.

1865

New law says detain diseased prostitutes

The *Contagious Diseases Act* is designed to protect military men from venereal diseases. The statute authorizes the detention of diseased prostitutes at certified hospitals for up to three months.

[This Act may never have been enforced, since no hospitals were ever certified to detain diseased prostitutes. It expired in 1870.]



Good-Time Girls of Dawson City (c.1890)

In 1997, Canada Post issued a series of stamps depicting Canada's gold rush. This one features a Dawson saloon and a "good-time girl." This stamp appears as a book illustration with the caption "Dawson, City of Gold! Meeting place of the Klondike. It supplied provisions and plenty of entertainment."

PHOTO: *The Klondike Official Guide*, William Ogilvie. Toronto: Hunter, 1898



Canada's anti-prostitution laws: 1839-2005

WOMEN OF THE WILD WEST

Books about the frontier's pioneers

- **Good Time Girls of the Alaska-Yukon Goldrush**
Lael Morgan. Vancouver: UBC Press, 1998
- **Wild West Women: Travellers, Adventurers and Rebels**
Rosemary Neering. Vancouver: Whitecap Books, 2000
- **Lilies & Fireweed: Frontier Women of British Columbia**
Stephen Hume. Vancouver: Raincoast Chronicles, 2004
- **Soiled Doves: Prostitution in the Early West**
Anne Seagraves. Hayden, Idaho: Wesanne Pub., Inc., 1994

1867

New federal laws target pimps, vagrants

The newly created federal government passes an act prohibiting "all persons from procuring the defilement of women under the age of 21..." The *Vagrancy Act* is also passed. It makes the following liable to arrest: "common prostitutes"; keepers of bawdy houses and houses of ill-fame; frequenters of such houses; and all persons who support themselves in whole or in part by the avails of prostitution.

1871

An act is passed requiring women convicted more than once under the *Vagrancy Act* to serve their sentences in the Quebec Female Reformatory. Minimum sentence is five years (in contrast to the maximum penalty under the *Vagrancy Act*: two months).

1874

The *Vagrancy Act* is amended to increase penalties to a maximum of six months of hard labour.

1880

Feds ban Native prostitutes

The federal government decides to regulate against the prostitution of Native women and *An Act to Amend and Consolidate the Laws Respecting Indians* is introduced. This Act prohibits the keepers of bawdy houses from allowing Native prostitutes on the premises.

1879-1899

New provincial institutions for girls "at risk"

Legislators begin to enact a rash of provincial statutes to remove young girls from the custody of parents who live in a socially unacceptable manner and to transfer them to newly established provincial institutions for girls.



1882

An Ontario Grand Jury recommends that imprisonment, as well as a fine, should be inflicted on keepers of bawdy houses; that present laws should be strictly enforced; and that "every publicity be given to those who frequent brothels."

1884

Bawdy-house ban now includes "tents, wigwams"

To ensure that Native Canadians can be convicted of being brothel keepers, the *Indian Act* (see 1880) is amended to state specifically that keepers of "tents and wigwams," as well as houses, fall within the bawdy-house provisions.

1886

An amendment to the *Indian Act* provides that every Indian who frequents a "disorderly house" — or tent or wigwam used for the purpose of prostitution — is liable. [*The federal government repeals this provision in 1887 and adds a new one meant to apply only to native women prostituting themselves.*]

An *Act Respecting Offences Against Public Morals and Public Convenience* is created, making it an offence to entice a woman into a brothel, or to knowingly conceal her. This Act also forbids men to seduce or have illicit connections with any woman of previously chaste character. Bawdy-house provisions are re-enacted, with additional prohibitions against being an inmate.

1892

New *Criminal Code* adds laws against "procuring"

The *Criminal Code of Canada* is enacted. The federal government adopts a statute against "procuring women for unlawful carnal connection" and makes it unlawful for parents or guardians to encourage the "defilement" of their daughters or wards. "Conspiracy to defile" is also prohibited. Provisions under the *Indian Act* are inserted into the *Criminal Code*, but restricted to unenfranchised Native women.



"Soiled Doves," 19th-Century American West

"Soiled doves," "sporting girls," "painted and bedizened women" and "women of the unfortunate class" were some of the terms used to refer to prostitutes. Brothels were known as "finishing schools," "sporting houses," or "houses of uneasy virtue," and were located on the outskirts of town.

Making Sex Work Safe, Paulo Longo, Cheryl Overs. Rio de Janeiro: Network of Sex Work Projects, 1997 (<http://www.nswp.org/safety/msws>)
PHOTO: Timothy Gordon Collection, Montana



Canada's anti-prostitution laws: 1839-2005



Mata Hari (1876-1917)

Born Margaretha Geertruida Zelle in Holland, Mata Hari (Malayan for "Dawn") claimed she was raised in Java by temple priests and taught to dance naked before being rescued by an English officer. Mata Hari's dancing (described as "hypnotic" and "charming") earned her rave reviews as she delighted audiences across Europe — including German officers during WWI.

Without a shred of evidence, the infamous courtesan was convicted of spying in France. Dressed in a long, grey dress and gloves, Mata Hari refused to be bound and blindfolded before being executed at dawn by firing squad.

An Underground Education, Richard Zacks. New York: Doubleday, 1997

1907

Bawdy-house ban expands definition

The definition of a bawdy house is amended to include "a house, set of rooms or place of any kind kept for the purposes of prostitution or occupied or resorted to by one or more persons for such purpose."

1909

'Procuring' laws expand, penalty increases

The maximum penalty for procuring women increases from two to five years.

1913

The procuring provisions are extended to include everyone who "on the arrival of any woman or girl in Canada, directs her to any common bawdy house," or who, "for the purposes of gain, exercises control, direction or influence over the movements of any woman or girl in such a manner as to show that he is aiding, abetting or compelling her prostitution with any person or generally." The procuring penalty is increased to include whipping on second and subsequent convictions.

A man who lives off the avails of the prostitution of another person is subjected to a reverse-onus clause: "Where a male person is proved to live with or to be habitually in the company of a prostitute . . . and has no visible means of support, or to live in a house of prostitution, he shall, unless he can satisfy the court to the contrary, be deemed to be living on the earnings of prostitution."

"Everyone found in any disorderly house" is now subject to conviction. Proof is no longer required that the accused has "habitually frequented" a bawdy house.



1915

The maximum penalty for being an inmate of a common bawdy house is increased from six months to a year; keepers and inmates of bawdy houses convicted three or more times are required to serve a term of three months to two years.

1918

New law makes "corrupting children" a crime

The *Criminal Code* is amended to create a new federal offence of "corrupting children through such behaviour as indulging in 'sexual immorality' in the home."

1920

"Procuring" penalty increases

Penalty for procuring is increased to a maximum of ten years.

1931

Canada's laws now independent of U.K.

The *Statute of Westminster* gives Canada the power to enact its own laws, independent of Britain. The laws of Britain no longer apply to Canada unless adopted by Canada's Parliament.

1939

Homes can be bawdy houses

The Supreme Court of Canada (*The King v. Betty Cohen*) finds that the habitual use by one woman of her own premises for prostitution is sufficient grounds to convict for the offence of keeping a common bawdy house.

1947

New law bans "transporting"

The maximum sentence for keepers and inmates of bawdy houses is increased to three years. Another offence is added: "Everyone who knowingly takes or transports ... any other person to any common bawdy house is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction."



Prostitutes Perform at Paris Brothel (c. 1930)

Born Gyula Halász in Hungary in 1899, Brassai was once called the "Eye of Paris." Capturing Parisian night life with his photographs, he led the modern school of photography in France. Never before seen, Brassai's "secret photographs" were finally published in 1976. Over 150 photographs show the brothels, madams, pimps and opium dens where high society of the 1930s mingled with the underworld. The photos are accompanied by Brassai's own descriptions of the often extraordinary circumstances under which he took his photographs. (*Brassai, The Secret Paris of the Thirties*, Pantheon Books, 1976) He died in 1984.

Gentlemen's Quarterly, October 1976



Canada's anti-prostitution laws: 1839-2005



Gerda Munsinger (1926-1998)

A sensational sex-and-spy scandal broke in 1966, when it was revealed that several cabinet ministers had had affairs with Gerda Munsinger, an East German prostitute whom U.S. sources claimed was a spy. The scandal escalated when Munsinger was found alive in Germany, after the government had said she died of leukemia years before.

To draw attention away from the scandal, Prime Minister Pearson opened a debate on capital punishment while two terrorist bombers — members of the Québec Liberation Front — waited on death row. After riotous debate an initial vote retained the death penalty. However, the ensuing national debate led the government to abolish capital punishment in 1967.

PHOTO: *Vancouver Sun*, February 28, 1997

1968

The Supreme Court of Canada (*Patterson v. the Queen*) rules that isolated instances of prostitution do not make a place a common bawdy house. There must be evidence of habitual use.

1972

New law makes "soliciting" a crime

In force since 1867, "Vag-C" — the *Criminal Code* section used to arrest a "prostitute or night-walker who ... fails to give a good account of herself" — is repealed. It is replaced by a law stating that "Every person who solicits any person in a public place for the purpose of prostitution is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction."

An Ontario County Court (*R. v. Patterson*) rules that only females can be prostitutes.

1973

The B.C. Supreme Court (*R. v. Obey*) rules that males can be prostitutes after all.

1978

Supreme Court ruling defines "soliciting"

The Supreme Court of Canada (*R. v. Hutt*) rules that the term "soliciting" refers to "pressing or persistent" conduct. Furthermore, a car is deemed not to be a public place. However, this is not binding, because it was not one of the grounds of the appeal brought before the court.

The B.C. Court of Appeal (*R. v. Dudak*) rules that a customer cannot be convicted of soliciting, and gives approval to the earlier Obey decision (1973) that a prostitute can be either female or male. The Ontario Court of Appeal (*R. v. DiPaola* and *R. v. Palatics*) rules that both customer and prostitute can be convicted of soliciting for the purpose of prostitution.



Regarding the use of premises, the Ontario Court of Appeal (*R. v. Ikeda and Widjaja*) rules that use of the same room twice in one night for the purpose of prostitution is not sufficient to brand a place as a common bawdy house.

1980-1982

Cities pass by-laws banning prostitution

Montreal, Calgary, Vancouver, Niagara Falls and Halifax enact by-laws dealing with street prostitution. The content of all five by-laws is quite similar. The first, enacted in the City of Montreal in 1980, forbids remaining in a public place (any place to which the public has access, by right or explicit or implicit invitation) for the purpose of prostitution, or approaching others for the same purpose in such a place. The Calgary by-law enacted in 1981 forbids being, remaining or approaching another on a street for the purpose of prostitution. Punishment consists of substantial fines, increased for subsequent offences. This by-law becomes the model for subsequent ones. Vancouver, Niagara Falls and Halifax enact their by-laws in the spring of 1982.

1981

The Montreal by-law is declared "*ultra vires*" — beyond {Montreal's} jurisdiction — by the Superior Court of Québec. The Supreme Court of Canada rules in *R. v. Whitter* and *R. v. Galjot* that the term "pressing or persistent" refers to the practice of repeatedly soliciting the same person.

1982

The B.C. County Court of Cariboo (*R. v. Wise*) finds a motor vehicle to be a public place. The Alberta Court of Appeal (*R. v. Cline*) holds that a person who is already a prostitute cannot be procured (lured into prostitution). The Ontario Court of Appeal (*R. v. Pierce and Gollaher*) holds that a parking space habitually resorted to by a prostitute in various motor vehicles belonging to her customers can be deemed a bawdy house.



The Penthouse Dinner Club (1941)

Formerly the home of Diamond Cabs (1019 Seymour St.), Joe Philliponi opened a club to teach boys how to box — the Eagle Time Athletics Club — in 1945. Upstairs they opened a dinner club, where customers could drink and enjoy burlesque entertainers and live music. Vancouver was famous for such nightclubs: The Cave, Isy's Supper Club, the Kobenhavn and the Zanzibar. Police raids in search of liquor and vice were so routine that clubs had buzzers to alert customers to hide their bottles.

In the 1950s and 1960s, The Penthouse featured such famous acts as Harry Belafonte, Ella Fitzgerald and Sammy Davis Jr. On any given night, as many as 100 hookers frequented the club, in search of clients.

In 1975, undercover police closed The Penthouse (and one other club), and charged the owners with keeping a bawdy house. All of the owners appealed, and their convictions were overturned. The Penthouse reopened in 1979 and still operates today, featuring exotic dancers.

PHOTO: Heritage Vancouver Society
(<http://www.vcn.bc.ca/hrtgvanc/social.htm>)



Canada's anti-prostitution laws: 1839-2005



Julia Soaemias Bassiana (180-222 A.D.)

In 218, Rome's Emperor Macriims was killed in a battle that delivered the throne to Julia's 13-year-old son, Elagabalus, in a victory engineered by Julia. Upon his first audience with the senate, the young emperor gave orders inviting his mother into the senate-chamber, where women had never been allowed. Elagabalus was wholly under his mother's control and Julia, a notorious harlot, became *de facto* ruler of Rome. She took a place in the senate, making herself president of a female parliament which regulated the morals, dress, and etiquette of matrons. Julia's lewd manner quickly made her unpopular. She and her son were killed by the Praetorian Guard, March 11, 222, and her body was thrown into a sewer. She was later declared a public enemy, and her name was erased from all records.

ILLUSTRATION: Miniature showing Julia Soaemias murdered from an illuminated manuscript by Giovanni Boccaccio, 1313-1375.

(New York Public Library: <http://digitalgallery.nypl.org>)

1983

Men can be prostitutes under new law

Bill C-127, proclaimed January 4, 1983, makes several changes to the *Criminal Code*:

- "prostitute" now means "a person of either sex engaging in prostitution"
- any person (regardless of gender) who is not a common prostitute or a person of "known immoral character" is protected under the procuring section
- any person (regardless of gender) living on the avails of prostitution is liable
- a person can be convicted of procuring upon the evidence of only one witness

The Supreme Court of Canada (*Westendorp v. the Queen*) finds the Calgary by-law to be invalid and *ultra vires* of the power of the City of Calgary.

The Justice Minister tables in the House of Commons proposals to amend the soliciting section of the *Criminal Code*. The Proposed amendments would make prospective customers liable to soliciting charges, and would include within the definition of a "public place" a motor vehicle "in or on a public place." The Minister also announces the creation of a special committee to make further recommendations on both prostitution and pornography. The committee is to report its findings no later than December 31, 1984.

1984

B.C. Justice McEachern grants the city a "Quiet Zone" injunction, to prohibit prostitution in Vancouver's West End, in response to complaints about nuisance and traffic congestion (*A.G.B.C. v. Couillard*).



1985

New law makes “communicating” a crime

Bill C-49 (see Page 29) replaces Section 195.1 of the *Code*. C-49 states that “Every person who, in a public place or open to public view, stops or attempts to stop any motor vehicle, blocks any pedestrian traffic going into or out of any building, stops or attempts to stop any person or in any manner communicates or attempts to communicate with any person for the purpose of engaging in prostitution or of obtaining the sexual services of a prostitute, is guilty of an offence punishable on a summary conviction.” “Public places” include any place to which the public has a right of access by invitation (such as clubs, hotels, apartment lobbies and motor vehicles).

1986-1988

Arrests spark national protests

On January 18, 1986, a nationwide street demonstration calling for the review and repeal of Bill C-49 brings out 100 prostitutes and their supporters in Vancouver, 50 in Toronto, 30 in Calgary, 60 in Montreal, and 25 in Ottawa. By February 19, 1986, 117 women and 57 men have been arrested in Vancouver; 180 women and 53 men in Toronto; and 22 women in Calgary. Several lower provincial courts rule that C-49 infringes on freedom of association and freedom of expression and therefore is of no force (because it violates the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*). These rulings are later overturned at appeal. Decisions rule that any *Charter* infringements are “reasonable limits demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.” *R. v. Cunningham* (1986) (Manitoba Provincial Court), *R. v. Skinner* (1987) (Nova Scotia Court of Appeal), *R. v. Jahelka*; *R. v. Stagnitta* (1987) (Alberta Court of Appeal), *R. v. Smith* (1988) (Ontario Provincial Court).

1989

New law targets “proceeds of crime”

Parliament enacts Bill C-61, the *Proceeds of Crime Act*. For the first time in Canada it is an offence for anyone, including bank officials, to participate or knowingly assist in the laundering of proceeds obtained from criminal activity.

1990

Supreme Court upholds new laws

The Supreme Court of Canada upholds the bawdy-house and communicating sections of the *Criminal Code*, overturning the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal decision in *R. v. Skinner*.



Canada's anti-prostitution laws: 1839-2005

1993

New law outlaws child porn

Parliament passes Bill C-128, a new child pornography law, which police immediately use to arrest and detain dozens of male sex workers in Toronto and London, Ontario — including youths under 18 years of age.

1997

Parliament passes Bill C-27, *An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (Child Prostitution, Child Sex Tourism, Criminal Harassment and Female Genital Mutilation)*.

1998

Manitoba amends its *Highway Traffic Act* to give police the power to seize the cars of drivers found communicating in known prostitution areas.

1999

“Secure care” law upheld by Alberta court

Alberta passes the *Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution Act*. An Alberta Provincial Court rules that the law violates the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. The case goes to appeal, and the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta overturns the lower court ruling.

2000

Alberta passes a second act to amend the 1999 legislation. Ontario passes the *Protecting Children from Sexual Exploitation Act*, which gives police and child welfare workers the power to detain anyone under 18 considered to be at risk for prostitution. B.C. passes similar legislation: the *Secure Care Act*. Nova Scotia amends its *Motor Vehicles Act* to allow the seizure of vehicles used for prostitution-related offences. Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia each pass a *Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution Act*. Ontario passes the *Remedies for Organized Crime and Other Unlawful Activities Act*, giving courts the power to seize property deemed to be an instrument in, or proceeds of, unlawful activity.

2001

New anti-trafficking law complies with U.N. protocol

Parliament passes Bill C-11, the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, which replaces the former *Immigration Act* and creates a new offence to deal with trafficking in persons (in compliance with the United Nations *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*).



2002

Parliament passes Bill C-20, *An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (Protection of Children and Other Vulnerable Persons) and Canada Evidence Act*, which changes the rules for cross-examining under-age prostitutes and victims of child abuse, allowing for video testimony.

2004

Parliament introduces Bill C-42, *The Public Safety Act*, which includes a new offence — trafficking in persons — with very high maximum penalties (again, in keeping with the United Nations protocol).

2005

In April the first charges under the 2001 *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* are laid — against the manager of King City Massage Parlour, southeast of Vancouver. Maximum penalties include life imprisonment and \$1 million in fines.

REFERENCE: *Pornography & Prostitution*, Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women, 1985

CANADIAN LEGAL RESOURCES ON-LINE

Including court rulings, trial transcripts and criminal laws.

→ **Canadian Legal Information Institute**

Published judgments from federal and provincial courts

<http://www.canlii.org>

→ **Department of Justice Canada**

Search all major federal laws, or access such educational booklets as

The Legislative Process, Canada's Court System, Canada's System of Justice and Guide to Making Federal Acts and Regulations

<http://canada.justice.gc.ca>

→ **Supreme Court of Canada Reports of Published Judgments**

From 1983 up; provided by the University of Montreal

<http://www.lexum.umontreal.ca/csc-scc/en>

→ ***Trials of the Sex Trade: A Survival Guide to Canada's Legal Jungle***

Six easy-to-read booklets, fun illustrations; published in 1994

http://www.walnet.org/csis/legal_tips/trials



Simply put: some basic legal rights and freedoms in Canada

On April 17, 1982 Canada's *Constitution Act* was signed by Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and it became the highest law in the country. All government services, departments and agencies in Canada — whether federal, provincial, territorial, regional or municipal — must respect the rights and freedoms guaranteed in the Constitution's *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. Under it, laws that are inconsistent with the *Charter* can be declared unconstitutional and struck down by a court of law.

In addition, each province and territory also has its own *Human Rights Code*, which guarantees that businesses providing services to the public, as well as employers and landlords, cannot discriminate against you. These are some of your guaranteed rights and freedoms:

Fundamental freedoms

- Everyone has the right to worship, or not, as she or he wishes, in the place of worship of her or his choice.
- Everyone has the right to have her or his own thoughts, beliefs and opinions, and the right to communicate, publish and broadcast them.
- Everyone has the right to gather in peaceful groups, and to associate with whom she or he chooses.

Democratic rights

- Every citizen of Canada has the right to vote and to be qualified to run in a federal election.

Mobility rights

- Every citizen of Canada has the right to enter, remain in, and leave Canada, and to live and seek work in any province.

Legal rights

- Everyone has the right not to have her or his life, freedom, or security taken from her or him — except in accordance to the principles of fundamental justice.

Search or seizure

- Everyone has the right not to be searched and not to have her or his property taken away without good reason.



Simply put: some basic legal rights and freedoms in Canada

Canada's New *Constitution Act* Becomes Law (April 17, 1982)

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II signs the official proclamation of the *Constitution Act* on Parliament Hill, together with then Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. The official ceremony marked Canada's final step to full independence, when the *Constitution Act* replaced the *British North America Act* (passed by British Parliament in 1867) as the highest law in all of Canada. The new *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* replaced the old Canadian *Bill of Rights*, which had been enacted in 1960.

PHOTO: National Archives of Canada
(<http://www.canadianheritage.org>)



Detention or imprisonment

- Everyone has the right not to be arbitrarily detained or imprisoned.

Arrest or detention

If you are arrested, you have the following rights:

- to be promptly told why you have been arrested
- to contact a lawyer as soon as possible
- to have the validity of the detention determined by way of "*habeas corpus*" (you appear before a judge who decides whether the charges are lawful), and to be released if the detention is unlawful

Court

If you are charged, you have the following rights:

- to know the charge as soon as possible
- to be considered innocent until proven guilty
- not to be denied bail without just cause
- to have a public and impartial trial within a reasonable amount of time
- if finally acquitted of a criminal offence, or if finally found guilty and punished for a criminal offence, not to be tried for it again
- to have assistance from an interpreter during any court proceedings conducted in a language you don't understand or speak, or if you are deaf



Simply put: some basic legal rights and freedoms in Canada

Punishment/fair treatment

- Everyone has the right not to be punished, and not to be treated cruelly or unnaturally.

Self-incrimination

- Everyone has the right not to testify against her- or himself, as long as she or he doesn't give false or contradictory testimony.

Equality

- Everyone is equal under the law and has the right to equal protection under the law, free of discrimination based on race, ethnic origin or nationality, colour, religion, sex, age, or mental or physical disability.

Enforcement

- Anyone whose rights or freedoms are denied has the right to seek justice in court.
- Everyone has the right not to be detained illegally and to apply to have the legality of her or his detention reviewed by a judge.

Limits on rights and freedoms

- Any of the rights and freedoms guaranteed in Canada's *Charter* can be limited by laws, if the limitation is justified in a free and democratic society, as determined by the Supreme Court of Canada. For instance, the *Criminal Code* limits free speech in cases where opinions are considered to incite hatred.

MORE ON CANADA'S CHARTER OF RIGHTS & FREEDOMS

Resources about constitutional law and how it works in court

→ **See Canada's Official *Charter of Rights and Freedoms***

<http://www.walnet.org/csis/reports/charterrights.html>

→ ***Constitutional Law (3rd Edition)***

By The Constitutional Law Group. Toronto: Edmond Montgomery Pub., 2003

<http://www.emp.on.ca/books/85-3.html>

→ **Canadian Civil Liberties Association**

<http://www.ccla.org>



Who's in charge of what?

If sex businesses were legal in Canada, they would be subject to all the rules and regulations governing other businesses, as well as any additional specific laws that any level of government — within its powers — might pass to further regulate sex businesses. It's not always clear which legal areas fall under which government jurisdiction. Often there are layers of laws (such as labour codes and building codes) whereby national and provincial/territorial — and sometimes municipal — rules and standards that must be followed.

Federal and provincial/territorial powers are outlined in the *Constitution Act, 1867*. The federal government is empowered to deal with matters of national importance that transcend provincial/territorial borders, such as “peace, order and good government of Canada.” These matters include national defence, foreign affairs, immigration, banking and the national currency, international trade, intellectual property and criminal law. Provincial governments are empowered to deal with regional matters such as provincial taxation, natural resources, education, social programs (such as welfare and health care) and rights related to private property and commerce. There are also many areas of joint federal/provincial responsibility. For example, the federal government has jurisdiction over transportation matters that involve movement across provincial/territorial or national borders (aviation, marine transport, rail), but provinces control vehicle registration and licensing.

- **The Constitution Act, 1982** is the highest law in all of Canada. All government services, departments and agencies in Canada — whether federal, provincial/territorial, regional, or municipal — must respect the rights and freedoms guaranteed in the Constitution's *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.
- **Canada's federal laws**, in force throughout the country, include the *Criminal Code of Canada*, the *Narcotics Control Act*, the *Food and Drugs Act*, the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*, the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, the *Competition Act*, the *Bank Act*, the *Patent Act* and the *Trademarks Act*.
- **Provincial laws** govern public health (Public Health Acts) and the administration of health care (such as hospital management), traffic and highways, (Motor Vehicles Acts), policing (Police Acts), primary and secondary education (Education Acts), social and family services, liquor control and licensing, and motion picture classification. Municipal powers allowing cities and towns to pass by-laws are also dictated by provincial laws (Municipalities Acts).
- **Municipal (city) by-laws** deal with such matters as business licences, business and building zoning, fire regulations, municipal land use, water use, property taxes, waste collection and disposal, and nuisances (i.e., dog and pet control, noise).



Law reform elsewhere

In Greece, Hungary and Turkey, state-licensed brothels are the only venues for legal prostitution. Since 2002, payment for legal brothel work in Germany's "eros centres" has included health insurance and a pension plan. For years, licensed brothels have been legal in several Australian states, as well as in Nevada, U.S.A. The Netherlands (in 2000) and New Zealand (in 2003) both changed their laws to permit the legal operation of sex businesses.

In 1999, Sweden changed its laws to make it a crime for customers to purchase sex. However, selling sexual services is not against the law. In September 2003, South Korea enacted and enforced new laws outlawing brothels (which were previously allowed in designated areas). In one month, police arrested a total of 4,365 people, including 660 sex workers, 849 managers and 2,352 clients.

Law reform in The Netherlands

Amsterdam has long been famous for its red-light district — streets lined with shop windows, a prostitute on display in every one — even though brothels were against the law. In October 2000, The Netherlands lifted its century-old ban on brothels and allowed sex businesses with official permits to operate legally. Under the new law, local authorities can limit the number of sex businesses in the municipality and dictate the hours of operation. They also enforce standards for safety, sanitation and bookkeeping. Sex businesses are forbidden to employ minors, to force workers to perform sexual acts to which they don't consent, and to employ sex workers who do not have work permits (so as to prevent illegal immigrants from working in the sex industry).

Law reform in New Zealand

In 2003 the British Commonwealth nation of New Zealand replaced all its old laws prohibiting prostitution with a single *Prostitution Reform Act*. Before, New Zealand — like Canada — did not outlaw prostitution, but instead outlawed actions associated with prostitution, such as soliciting, procuring and brothel-keeping. Now sex workers can request employment contracts and are protected by labour and health and safety laws. Each municipality must provide zoning for sex businesses. The *Prostitution Reform Act* allows sex workers to work without a licence, and requires employers be government-certified and ensure that sex workers and clients use condoms. The act permits "small owner-operated brothels" that employ no more than four sex workers. Workers must be at least 18 years, and each retains control over her or his individual earnings. As well, standards for safety, sanitation and bookkeeping must be met. Actively involved throughout the law reform process, the New Zealand Prostitutes' Collective now holds three of 11 seats on the Prostitution Law Review Committee. In 2008, the Committee will report on the law's effectiveness. For more information about New Zealand's *Prostitution Reform Act*, see: <http://www.legislation.govt.nz>.



Law reform in Canada

The *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*

In 1978, the Supreme Court of Canada determined that soliciting must be “pressing and persistent” to be illegal (*Hutt v. the Queen*). The Court’s narrow definition of soliciting made the law difficult to enforce. Major Canadian cities — including Vancouver, Calgary, Ottawa and Halifax — then passed their own municipal by-laws banning prostitutes from soliciting on the street. In 1983 the Supreme Court determined that such city by-laws were an unconstitutional invasion of federal authority in relation to the criminal law (*Westendorp v. the Queen*, 1983).

In 1985, the Special Committee on Pornography and Prostitution (the Fraser Committee) published a two-volume report listing 15 recommendations, including changes to the *Criminal Code*. However, few of the Committee’s recommendations have ever been implemented. For example, the report recommended that the bawdy-house section of the *Code* be amended to allow for “a prostitution establishment licensed and operated in accordance with a regulatory scheme established by the provincial or territorial legislature in that jurisdiction.” This, of course, never happened.

In December 1985, Canada enacted Bill C-49 (criminalizing “communicating for the purpose of prostitution”), following a campaign by police-led residents’ associations for a new, enforceable law. Several provincial courts ruled that the new law violated the *Charter*. But in 1990, the Supreme Court ruled that the law was warranted, because prostitution was a “social” or “public” nuisance. The two dissenting justices argued that disruption — even when it is more than an individual problem and has assumed the proportions of a “social” nuisance — is not necessarily a criminal harm. They said the law was “not a proportionate way of dealing with the public or social nuisance.” Ottawa Mayor Marion Dewar — the only mayor to oppose the law — argued before the court that “the results of street



Fiona Stewart (1962-1996)

Fiona Stewart’s troubles began when she was picked up off the street by an off-duty cop who — Sgt. Brian Whitehead — who coerced her into sex by threatening to arrest her. He then kept phoning her, demanding sex, until she reported him to police.

With Stewart’s cooperation, Internal Affairs set a trap in her home and arrested him. But he was released without criminal charges ever being filed. He pleaded guilty to *Police Act* charges, and was demoted. Stewart pursued the matter until, finally, she testified before the *Inquiry into Administration of Internal Investigations*, as “Jane Doe.”

Stewart was forced into the Witness Protection Program following a late-night beating, in a dark parking lot near her home, by two men claiming to be police officers. In court, “Jane Doe” faced personal attacks on her character. At home, she lived in constant fear.

Fiona Stewart was a respected housing activist who founded a non-profit housing project for battered women and served on a number non-profit boards of directors. She died at home, unexpectedly, at the age of 34.

PHOTO: Konnie Reich (http://www.walnet.org/jane_doe)



Law reform in Canada



Pattaya Nightclub District, Thailand (2003)

Brothel districts flourish in Thailand, even though prostitution has been illegal since 1928. In 2003, the Thai government proposed legalizing the profession, to stem corruption and create new revenues from collecting taxes. Because prostitution is illegal, brothel owners and sex workers don't pay taxes. However, they do pay staggering amounts in bribes to police and officials. It's estimated that massage parlour owners alone pay a whopping \$114 million (U.S.) in bribes annually.

National Post, November 28, 2003

PHOTO: Nik Wheeler/CORBIS

soliciting are of a nuisance nature and relate to the enjoyment of public streets and private property, which can be addressed by municipal regulation.”

Canada's federal prostitution laws have changed little since 1990. Meanwhile, public debate over the effectiveness of anti-prostitution laws continues. There is growing concern about whether the enforcement tactics used by police result in more harm than good.

Who needs law reform?

Law reform means that a law (or group of laws) is (or are) examined and updated to reflect the reality and values of contemporary society. Laws can be repealed (removed completely from the *Criminal Code*) or amended (sections deleted and/or added), and new laws can be written.

E-02: Should Canada's prostitution laws be reformed?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

You talkin' to me?

In Canada anyone in a public place or in public view who communicates or tries to communicate in order to have sex for money is breaking the law. Section 213 of the *Criminal Code* (the “communicating law”) makes it a crime to impede traffic or stop pedestrians in order to offer or request sexual services. In order to enforce Section 213, police officers have little option but to dress as prostitutes or potential clients and attempt to entice people into communicating about sexual services. The communicating law makes it a crime to negotiate for sexual services in any public area, including the street, a car on a public road or parking lot, a bar, a hotel lobby or a restaurant.



Jumbo Club Dance Hall (c. 1905)

“Dance hall girls, all elegantly dressed, line up decorously for a picture outside their place of business in the boom mining town of Goldfield, Nevada. Gold was discovered near the town in 1902, creating a rush in 1903-1910.”

“The Frontier’s Fabulous Women,” LIFE Magazine, May 11, 1959



In Sweden, selling sexual services is not against the law, however, laws passed in 1999 does make it a crime for customers to purchase sex. Canada’s parliamentary Subcommittee on Solicitation Law Reform has been asked to consider this option when making its recommendations regarding possible changes to Section 213. However, such a discriminatory law could be a violation of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

In April 2005, Hungary announced it was considering special shopping malls where sex workers can pick up clients. In some Asian countries, such as Thailand, brothels and bars hire people to solicit customers on the streets and lead them inside. In Canada, many retail businesses (such as fast food outlets) solicit shoppers and hand out coupons. If the bawdy-house laws were repealed, legal sex businesses would still be prohibited from soliciting, even though other types of businesses can legally employ this form of public advertising.

E-03: *If you could change Section 213 of the Criminal Code (the communicating law), which one of the following options would you choose?*

- repeal it (remove it from the Criminal Code)*
 - keep it, but change the law so that aggressive soliciting and impeding traffic are prohibited for all types of businesses*
 - change the law, so that only prospective customers can be charged (but sex workers cannot be charged)*
 - leave it unchanged*
 - none of the above*
 - don't know*
-



Law reform in Canada



Elizabeth Spedding (1915-1995)

Canada's most famous madam, Elizabeth Spedding, started work at the age of 17, with modelling gigs and "personal favours" for extra cash. Soon after, she moved from Regina to New York, to work as a high-class call girl. There, she met movie stars and even a U.S. president.

In 1951, Spedding married a Romanian Count and became "the Contessa." In 1979, the Contessa was busted and convicted in Toronto, for running a successful escort service. Well-liked by all her girls, she continued to work as a madam well into her 70s. Proud of her profession to the last, she died of cancer at the age of 80.

PHOTO: *Globe and Mail*, December 23, 1995

Off to work

Section 210 of the *Criminal Code* makes it illegal to own, operate, or be found in a "common bawdy-house." Section 211 makes it a crime to transport anyone to a "bawdy-house." A "bawdy-house" is any premises used regularly for the purpose of prostitution or indecent acts (such as group sex). For sex workers to have a legal place to work, the bawdy-house laws would have to be repealed or amended.

E-04: If you could change Sections 210 and 211 of the *Criminal Code* (the bawdy-house laws), which one of the following options would you choose?

- repeal them
 - keep them but alter them so as to permit some form of legal workplace for sex workers
 - strengthen them, so as to ensure that sex businesses are strictly prohibited in Canada
 - leave them unchanged
 - none of the above
 - don't know
-

Who's the boss?

In Canada, the management of a sex business that employs anyone but the worker her- or himself is against the law. Section 212 of the *Criminal Code* (the "procuring law") makes it a crime to enable, facilitate or employ someone to work as a prostitute. It's also illegal to be paid or accept money for assisting someone to work as a prostitute. As well, the procuring laws make it illegal to live with, or be "habitually in the company of" a prostitute — unless you can prove you gain no financial reward for doing so.

The procuring law outlaws managers (or madams) of sex businesses, as well as any business partnerships or co-operative ventures that involve the operation of a sex business. In order for someone to perform managerial



tasks for a sex business — such as placing advertising, answering phone calls, ordering supplies or specialized work gear, recruiting and hiring, or administering payroll — Section 212 would need to either be repealed or radically amended.

E-05: *If you could change Section 212 of the Criminal Code (the procuring law), which one of the following options would you choose?*

- repeal it*
 - keep it, but alter it to permit some legal form of sex business management*
 - strengthen it, so as to ensure that no one in Canada can be forced or coerced into prostitution*
 - leave it unchanged*
 - none of the above*
 - don't know*
-

How old are you?

Section 212 also makes it a crime to pay someone under the age of 18 for sex. Other laws make it illegal to sell sexually explicit materials to anyone under the age of 18. In Canada, the age of consent for sex is 14. In most provinces, the legal working age is 15.

E-06: *Let's say the procuring law has been repealed. At what age should you be allowed to work as a sex worker?*

- never*
 - 14*
 - 15*
 - 16*
 - 17*
 - other (please specify)*
 - 18*
 - 19*
 - 20*
 - 21*
 - don't know*
-



British Soldier Prostitute (c. 1930s)

“By the 19th century the tradition of the soldier prostitute had become widespread.... On any evening, the street corners, or the promenades of the Music Halls and cheap theatres of London and other cities, showed the fine flower of the British Soldier prostitute, dressed in his best uniform, clean shaven, well groomed and handsome... Soldiers were found to have been working along with Post Office messenger boys in the homosexual brothel in Cleveland Street, which became notorious when exposed in 1889.”

A Class Apart: The Private Pictures of Montague Glover, James Gardiner. London: Serpents Tail, 1992





Mug Shots of Victoria Prostitutes (1909)

“The four women in these photographs, smiling and well-dressed, were arrested in Victoria in the same week of June 1909, probably charged in a politically motivated clean-up. Interestingly, though one was charged with being an inmate of a house of prostitution, the keeper of the house was not arrested. From left, Nellie Anderson, age 30, was fined \$20; 20-year-old Mrs. Louis Cutter, a.k.a. Sadie Vernon or Sinclair, was fined \$25; 19-year-old Beatrice Ferguson was handed over to her mother; and 17-year-old Margaret Walker was sent home to New Westminster.”

Wild West Women: Travellers, Adventurers and Rebels, Rosemary Neering. Vancouver: Whitecap Books, 2000

PHOTO: Police Department Archives, City of Victoria

Other federal matters

What about criminal records?

Many sex workers end up with criminal records for prostitution-related offences at some point in their careers. In some Canadian cities, sex workers with criminal records are denied escort licences. As a result, sex workers with criminal records cannot work for licensed escort services or advertise in some daily newspapers.

E-07: *Let’s say sex work has become a legal profession in Canada. Should sex workers with prostitution-related criminal records receive pardons for those records?*

- yes
 - no
 - don’t know
-

Who pays income tax?

In Canada, it is against the law to fail to declare all of your total annual income for tax purposes, even if your earnings were from an illegal business. Some sex workers may not declare prostitution as their occupation to the government because they are afraid they will face criminal charges if they do.

E-08: *Let’s say sex work has become a legal profession in Canada. Now that sex workers can declare their earnings without fear of prosecution, should they be immune from income tax audits for years prior to legalization?*

- yes
 - no
 - don’t know
-



“Sin tax” on sex work?

Canada has “sin taxes” hidden in the retail prices of such controlled substances as alcohol and tobacco. Marketed as an economic deterrent for consumers, these extra taxes are also justified as a source of revenue needed to offset the additional costs of treating health problems attributed to these substances.

In Belgium, Germany and The Netherlands, sex workers are expected to charge a Value Added Tax, similar to Canada’s Goods and Services Tax (GST). In some cities in countries where sex work is legal, sex workers are required to pay special taxes in addition to regular income tax. For example, in Cologne, Germany, sex workers are taxed at a flat rate per month, regardless of how much or how little they actually make. Elsewhere in Germany, sex workers pay a higher rate than people working in other professions.

If sex work became legal in Canada, sex businesses — like all other businesses — would be required to charge and collect the GST. It could be argued that an additional special tax scheme for sex businesses is also necessary, to pay for badly needed services for workers and cover the costs associated with controlling and regulating the sex industry.

E-09: Let’s say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should sex businesses be subject to a special tax scheme that covers the cost of regulating the sex industry and pays for special services and programs for sex workers?

- yes*
 - no*
 - don’t know*
-

Citizenship, immigration and work permits

Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) and Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) oversee the foreign workforce in Canada. Every year more than 90,000 foreign workers enter Canada and work temporarily. In almost all cases, you must have a valid work permit in order to work in Canada. An employer must first offer you a job. Then, the HRDC must confirm that a foreign national is allowed to fill the job, before you apply to CIC for a work permit. You cannot immigrate with a work permit. If you want to come and live in Canada as a permanent resident, you can see if you qualify for the Skilled Worker Program. There are 20 jobs exempt from the work permit requirement. Foreign workers do not need permits if they are visiting to do business, or if they are military personnel, performing artists, athletes, coaches, clergy persons, or news reporters. For more information about Citizenship and Immigration Canada, see <http://www.cic.gc.ca>.



In late 2003 the “StripperGate” scandal broke after it was revealed that strip club owners were using Ottawa’s temporary work visa program to bring in exotic dancers from impoverished countries, in order to fill the labour demand. The HRDC announced that it would scale back the program, and that employers would be required to prove the existence of a labour shortage. Six hundred and sixty-one strippers took advantage of the temporary work permit program during 2004, almost all of them from Romania.

Club owners threatened to launch a class action suit against the government for arbitrarily stopping the flow of international labour. “This is purely a political decision and not driven by economics. The market demand for exotic dancers is still there,” said Vancouver immigration lawyer Richard Kurland.

Two subsections of Section 212 of the *Criminal Code* (the procuring law) make it a crime to hire or assist someone from outside Canada to work in a sex business. Subsection “f” states that no one shall, on the arrival of a person in Canada, direct or take or cause that person to be taken to a common bawdy house. Subsection “g” prohibits anyone from procuring a person to enter or leave Canada for the purpose of prostitution.

Municipal by-laws

Got a licence for that?

In cities and most towns, any business is required to have a business licence permit. Municipalities have business by-laws regulating the operation of all businesses. These by-laws must abide by Canada’s *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. They are used to determine hours of operation; where certain kinds of businesses can exist (zoning); and even the prohibition of specific businesses. A business must comply with all of a city’s by-laws in order to hold a licence. Business by-laws include zoning, building, fire, health, and business regulations. Many Canadian cities also have special licensing requirements for businesses involving sex or nudity, such as exotic dance clubs, massage parlours, porn and adult entertainment stores, and arcades.

Zoning restrictions

Cities license certain kinds of businesses to operate only in certain areas. In Vancouver for example, a particular street or neighbourhood may be zoned for office, retail and other commercial ventures. Before a new business licence is granted, the application must be approved for the particular location in question by the City’s Planning Department.

The City of Vancouver is divided into districts, each of which is subdivided into sections, areas and “sub-areas.” Vancouver’s zoning by-laws outline what kinds of land and building usage are permitted in each particular area of each district. Each district has an



official development plan. Districts have zoning for residential, commercial, industrial, and mixed land use. The downtown area has its own commercial development plan, which allows for body-rub parlours.

In order to approve a business application for zoning, the Planning Department looks to see how many businesses of a particular type already exist in an area, and how many businesses of that type the area can support. A particular area may have zoning rules that set distances between businesses of the same type. Areas can be zoned commercial, residential or mixed. All new business permits must conform to the Official Development Plan. Any zoning permit can be rejected at the discretion of the Development Permit Board.

Even if sex businesses were legalized, city governments would still have the power to set specific zoning restrictions banning them from operating in or near residential neighbourhoods, or within set distances from schools or religious institutions.

E-10: *Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should there be special zoning restrictions for sex businesses?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

If the business application is approved by the Planning Department, the business licence department forwards it to various other departments for approval. Food-related business applications, for example, must be approved by the Environmental Health Department. The Building Department reviews the property to determine the legal use of the business space. Some businesses require Fire Department certificates. All require a criminal record check, conducted by the Police Department.



“Performance Boxes,” Cologne (2002)

In Cologne, Germany, street prostitution has been moved from the downtown to an industrial zone about the size of a football field, ringed by a small, one-way street where the prostitutes stand. Clients drive through an iron gate and can cruise in their cars between 2 p.m. and 2 a.m. in search of sexual services before pulling into a “Verrichtungsbox” (“performance box”).

These parking slots are equipped with safety features. For example, the box is so narrow that the driver's door can't be opened, but the passenger door can be, so that the prostitute may flee. There is also an emergency button that the woman can push to call for help. A social work group operates a small bus where some 100 prostitutes can get warm drinks, hygiene supplies, and personal consulting. Police officers are present and visible at the entry gate, and are stationed in plain clothes elsewhere in the facility. The facility is based on a similar model in the Dutch city of Utrecht.

Digital Journal, May 17, 2002 (Deutsche Press Agentur)
(<http://www.digitaljournal.com/news>)



Municipal by-laws



Storyville, New Orleans (c. 1900)

In 1897, the City Council of New Orleans passed an ordinance that confined and regulated prostitution within a specified district of the city. Storyville was one of the world's largest red-light districts, stretching over 38 blocks. Nicknamed after the alderman who proposed the idea — Sidney Story — it was home to "sporting houses," jazz clubs and gambling dens from 1898 until 1917, when it was finally shut down by the U.S. Navy.

Whores in History: Prostitution in Western Society, Nickie Roberts. London: HarperCollins, 1993

PHOTO: E.J. Bellocq (Courtesy of Lee Friedlander)

Residential areas often include some commercial zoning to allow for businesses such as convenience stores. Certain streets in residential areas can be designated "other commercial." This allows for such businesses as barber and beauty shops, photography and artist studios, and bakeries with retail sales on the premises. However, it does not allow for hotels, licensed restaurants, cabarets or public houses — businesses that might encourage unwanted noise, traffic or other nuisances to neighbourhood residents.

E-11: *Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should small sex businesses be allowed in areas zoned for "other commercial," just like barber shops, beauty shops, and other neighbourhood services?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

What about "red-light" districts?

Since ancient times in Athens, many cities have confined sex businesses to specific neighbourhoods designated as sex districts. In Vancouver in 1906, city officials convinced the city's madams to move their "disorderly houses" — from Gore St., Water St., and Shanghai Alley — to a single, restricted district on Dupont St. (where Pender St. now is), between Main and Cambie. This new red-light district became the location of 41 brothels, employing 153 ladies.

Up until the 1940s, Montreal had a red-light district surrounding rue DeBullion, north and south of Dorchester, featuring rows of shabby, budget-priced "lunapars." Designated brothel or "red-light" districts still exist in such cities as Bangkok, Seoul, Bangladesh, Calcutta and Amsterdam.



Other businesses are subject to restrictive zoning — for example, “light industrial” — because they produce noise, odour, vibration, and/or traffic. However, most sex businesses today are discreet, and rarely cause public disturbance or noise.

E-12: *Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should sex businesses only be allowed to operate within specially-designated areas?*

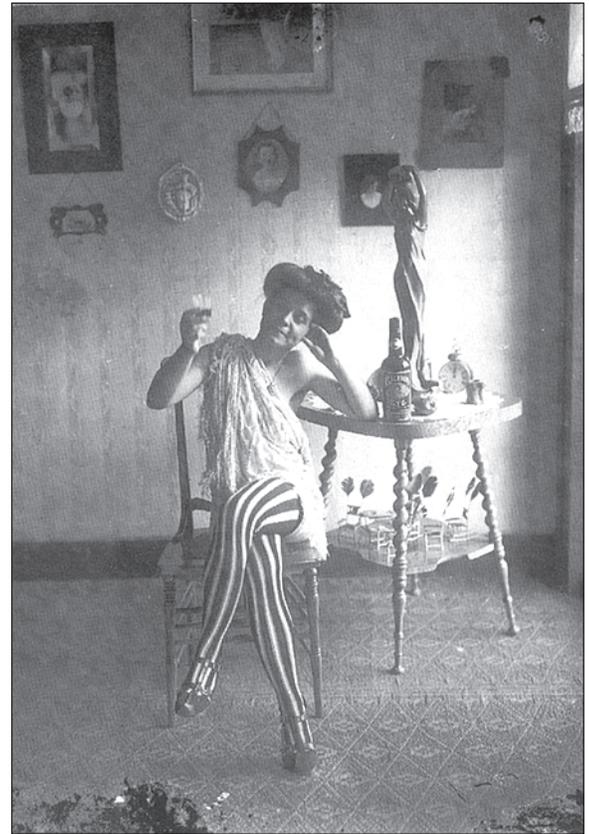
- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

Additional licensing requirements

Vancouver's business by-law sets out specific requirements for businesses offering various forms of adult entertainment. For example, entertainment that involves a person stripping off all or most of her or his clothing is only permitted in premises licensed under B.C.'s *Liquor Control and Licensing Act*. And the business by-law prohibits physical contact between an entertainer and any person who is not an entertainer. All persons viewing the entertainment must be 19 years of age or older. Performances that involve animals, reptiles or birds are prohibited. In other Canadian cities, such as Toronto, exotic dancers are required to hold a municipal licence in order to work in a strip club.

Escort licences

“Social escort services” in Vancouver may only hire escorts who hold a Social Escort Licence. (In comparison, hairstylists are not required to have a city business licence in order to rent a chair and work in a salon, but may do so if they wish.) A “social escort” is a person who, for a fee, escorts or accompanies another person. The category does not include anyone providing assistance to another person based on age or disability. A Social Escort Licence application, along with a photo of the



“Fille Publique,” Paris (1921)

In France, “*fille publique*” (public girl) was a slang term for prostitute. Other expressions include “*fille de joie*” (girl of joy), “*fille de mauvaise vie*” (girl of bad life) and “*cocotte*” (hen).

Whores in History: Prostitution in Western Society, Nickie Roberts. London: HarperCollins, 1993

PHOTO: Eugene Atget, 1921. Abbott-Levy Collection, Museum of Modern Art, New York



Municipal by-laws

applicant, is submitted to the police department for approval. You don't have to have a criminal record to be denied a licence; any information police may have gathered about you that suggests involvement in prostitution-related activity is reason enough.

E-13: *Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should you be required to provide your photo and obtain a special, individual licence from the city before you can work for a sex business?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

"Members-only" clubs

Gay bath houses (and sometimes swingers' clubs) operate as "members-only" clubs, so that their business premises are legally considered to be private. Private members' clubs in Vancouver require a licence in order to operate. Club managers are required to keep a register containing the name and address of every member, which must be made available to the Licence Inspector — or any police constable. Managers must also keep a record of every guest who enters the club that includes the name of the member who brought them. Managers are expected to maintain and preserve the law on club premises, and it is unlawful for a manager to knowingly permit a prostitute to enter or remain in the club. Club premises are to be open to inspection by the Licence Inspector, or any police constable, at all reasonable times. Clubs are required to provide each member with a membership card featuring her or his name and identity. Applications for a members-only club licence must be approved by the Chief of Police.

E-14: *Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should a sex business be required to keep a register containing the name and address of every client?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

Residential businesses

In Vancouver, business by-laws govern "Residential Business Licences," which allow you to operate a business from home. Only one resident of a given home can be engaged in the business, and the residence may only be used as a mailing address, and/or a place to retain business records, and/or to place and receive telephone calls. Manufacturing is



restricted, and no products or materials can be sold from, or stored outside of, the residence. No signs are to be displayed on the residence or property. "No offensive noise, odour, vibration, smoke, heat or other objectional effect shall be produced."

In September 2003, Vancouver City Council passed a motion that allowed sex-based businesses to operate in "work/live" spaces downtown. "Work/live" zones were created to allow artists and craftspeople to live in loft workspaces and operate residential businesses. An amendment that would have allowed escort services and massage parlours in work/live zones was rescinded after a public outcry; City Councillors concluded that it was a matter for the *Criminal Code*. However, according to the *Code* and the provisions of the Vancouver by-law, you may legally operate an escort service from your home as long as clients don't come to the house and you are the sole worker.

E-15: Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should you be allowed to operate a residential business, where you can provide services to clients in your home?

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

For Vancouver's business by-laws, see <http://www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/bylaws>. For Toronto information, see <http://www.city.toronto.on.ca/licensing>.

Provincial licensing

Some businesses need a special licence from the province, in addition to a municipal business licence, in order to operate. Liquor licensing (governed in B.C. by the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act*) is an obvious example of provincial licensing.

Provinces also regulate and license businesses involving the exhibition, distribution and retail sales of motion picture products (movies, videotapes, DVDs). Most provinces have film review and classification boards, which rate films and determine that certain ones may not be viewed by persons under 18 years of age, or must be banned from viewing altogether.

In May 2004, the Ontario Superior Court declared that Ontario's *Theatre Act* requirement for the approval of films by the Ontario Film Review Board violates a freedom of expression under the *Charter*. The Board had been in the business of censoring moving pictures since 1911. In Manitoba, films have been subject to classification — but not censorship — since 1972.



Provincial licensing

In B.C., adult motion picture products must be submitted to the B.C. Film Classification Office for classification, and must bear the "B.C. Approved" decal, before being distributed. The B.C. *Motion Picture Act* sets the requirements for the licensing, distribution and classification of films. Those involved with the distribution of adult products (including all sales personnel) must consent to criminal record checks. As with retailers, no person under the age of 18 is allowed on the premises of any distributor of adult materials. Vancouver has had a total of four adult film theatres holding provincial permits to operate. No new licences will be issued for adult film cinemas, as the existing businesses all will eventually close down.

E-16: *Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should a sex business require a special licence from the province, in addition to a city business licence, in order to operate?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-



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“Calamity Jane” (1852-1903)

Martha Jane Cannary Burke acquired the nickname “Calamity Jane” when she rescued her superior, Captain Egan, from an ambush near Sheridan, Wyoming. Besides working as an army scout, she laid claim to having been a wagon freighter and an Indian fighter. She was known for her drinking and her rough lifestyle, and sometimes she worked as a prostitute.

In 1896, Burke began touring with Wild West shows, and continued to do so all her life. Calling herself Wild Bill Hickok’s widow, she asked to be buried beside him — and, in 1903, dying of pneumonia, she was. (She is pictured above, visiting his grave, around 1900.)

“[Women like] Calamity insisted on living as they wished. And in doing so, they helped win new freedom and greater opportunities for all women.”

Above: Calamity Jane visits the Deadwood Grave of Wild Bill Hickok, around 1900.

The Women, The Old West, vol. 23. Alexandria: Time-Life Books, Inc., 1978
PHOTO: Courtesy Library of Congress

The first protest letter?

In the late 1800s, Carrie Walker ran “sporting houses” in Atlin Lake and Discovery, B.C. In December 21, 1903, Walker wrote to then B.C. premier Richard McBride what may have been the first letter of protest from a Canadian prostitute.

“I have a grievance to lay before you — which I know you are in the situation to rectify. I regret very much that I have to trouble you in this manner — but really I can not get any justice here from officials. My complaints are the following, I have been summons & I had to appear in Atlin on charges which I were not guilty — for instance giving Miss Ward liquor — I had to employ atty. — & was at expense of two days in Atlin. Charge was dismissed by judge — yet at the same time Chief of Police Mr. Owens arose in court & said it only means to bring her back or do it all over. My house has been closed ever since & I am prevented from opening the same — as Heals orders are to arrest me when I do open House. Yet all other Sporting Houses are allowed to run & make all the noise they wish.

“My house cost me two thousand dollars in Discovery & was the first to build in the lower end of town & then my place was supposed to be the dead line — which since they allowed two other House to go up & run beyond my place & the town. I never kept a noisy place. I can not account for it — except I do not attempt to bribe — which has been reported from some of the others.”

Wild West Women: Travellers, Adventurers and Rebels, Rosemary Neering. Vancouver: Whitecap Books, 2000



Protesting prostitutes!

In 1982, Peggy Miller, a veteran Toronto streetwalker, picked up a date on the street and took him back to her place. He turned out to be an undercover officer, and Miller was busted for keeping a common bawdy house, as well as for soliciting. Her lawyer told her there wasn't much point in appealing the case; the problem was the law.

Miller concluded that if she wanted justice, the law would have to change first. She met with a group of gay activists fighting to repeal the bawdy-house laws, which police had just used to raid all the gay bath houses in the city. She recruited Danny Cockerline, Chris Bearchell and Gwendolyn. Gwendo had been involved in the short-lived Toronto group Better End All Viscious Erotic Repression (BEAVER), and was organizing a support group for strippers. The four co-founded the Canadian Organization for the Rights of Prostitutes (CORP).

Also in 1982, the Alliance for the Safety of Prostitutes (ASP) was founded in Vancouver by Sally deQuadros and Marie Arrington. ASP staged Canada's first prostitutes' rights protest on April 20, 1983, outside Vancouver's City Hall. On July 20, 1984, a dozen ASP members occupied Vancouver's Christ Church Cathedral. ASP went on to publish Canada's first Bad Trick Sheet (see Page 17) in 1985.

CORP participated in the Fraser Committee on Pornography and Prostitution; went to Ottawa to protest Bill C-49, which criminalized communicating for the purpose of prostitution; got the National Action Committee on the Status of Women to support the decriminalization of prostitution; and challenged the media's negative depiction of prostitutes.

In 1986, CORP fostered the formation of the Toronto Prostitutes Community Service Project (also known as "Maggie's"). Maggie's, in turn, sponsored the Prostitutes' Safe Sex Project (PSSP) and, in 1988, became the first prostitute-run organization in Canada to receive government funding and the only one to be registered with Revenue Canada for charitable donation status.



CORP at International Women's Day (1985)
Members of the Canadian Organization for the Rights of Prostitutes head up Toronto's Yonge St. as part of the International Women's Day March, March 8, 1985.

PHOTO: Konnie Reich





Danny Cockerline (1960-1995)

Born in North Bay, Ontario, Cockerline was 21 when he joined the collective responsible for *The Body Politic*, Toronto's infamous gay newspaper (1971-1987). He started turning tricks after writing about prostitution in 1984, and never looked back. Already a member of the Canadian Organization for the Rights of Prostitutes, he founded the Prostitutes' Safe Sex Project in 1986. There he created Toronto's earliest safe sex education materials. Globetrotter and porn star, Cockerline was well loved by sex worker activists from all over the world. Danny Cockerline was only 35 when he passed away in 1995.

(http://www.walnet.org/97_walnut/danny_cockerline)

PHOTO: Konnie Reich

CORP, Maggie's and PSSP were unique among Canadian sex-worker organizations in their insistence that only sex workers could speak publicly on behalf of the groups.

In early 1986, Québec's first prostitutes' group — *l'Alliance pour la Sécurité des Prostituées* (Alliance for the Safety of Prostitutes) — was formed, following the passage of Bill C-49 into law. But *l'Alliance* dissolved after only a few months. Not until 1992 was Québec's next prostitutes' group founded: *l'Association Québécoise des Travailleuses et Travailleurs du Sexe* (Québec Association of Sex Workers).

These early calls for decriminalization in Canada were a direct response to lobbying by police and residents' associations for more restrictive laws and broader powers. (The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police employs a permanent lobbyist in Ottawa.) Early sex worker activists demanded full decriminalization. They were adamant that sex workers would not tolerate legalization of the sex industry, which would involve government licensing and regulation.

Advocate, or activist?

The dictionary defines an advocate as one who acts on behalf of another, or one who argues for a cause. When you go beyond merely arguing for a cause and actually take action, you become an activist. Protests, petitions, letters to government officials and media interviews are all good ways for activists to lobby for changes to laws and policies. (For instructions on how to write a petition to parliament, see <http://www.walnet.org/csis/reports/howtowrite.html>.)

If you become known for organizing for the cause of sex workers, you will also likely be called upon to provide advocacy for individual workers. Many will need knowledgeable and sympathetic help with dealing with doctors or with social services; choosing lawyers and going to court; reporting crimes to the police, etc. Some people make a living providing such advocacy.



At first glance, it may seem that law reform could eliminate most of the problems sex workers face, by extending them the same rights and protections enjoyed by those employed in legal professions.

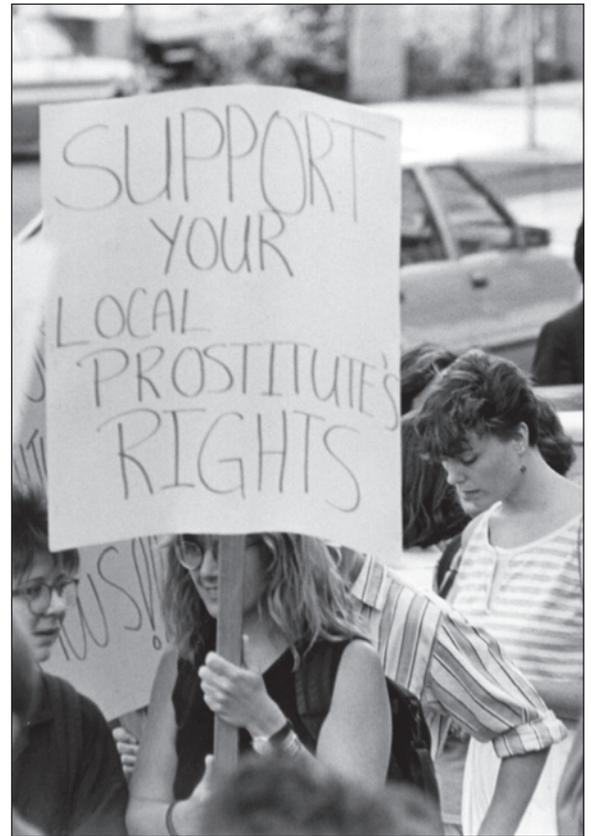
Since the 1980s, academics, community groups and service agencies in Canada have united in a growing campaign to decriminalize prostitution. Only a few sex workers in Canada have ever supported this campaign, however. Many fear reprisal and prosecution as a result of public exposure. And prostitution law reform could — and likely would — negatively upset the status quo for a majority of sex workers. Before lobbying for changes to prostitution-related laws, remember that sex workers are their own best activists!

When someone is advocating on your behalf, she or he should help you say what you need, and ensure that your voice is heard and considered. When sex workers are absent or excluded from decisions that affect them — or when advocates present their own opinions — sex workers' interests are not served.

If you are part of a group that argues for the cause of sex workers, focus on increasing their involvement, rather than speaking for them.

As a person outside the profession who wants to support the cause of sex workers, you can write letters to editors; write to MPs, MLAs or City Councillors; sign and circulate petitions; get endorsements from your union, church, women's group, etc., make donations or help raise money; attend fundraising and other public events; sit on advisory boards; stuff envelopes for mailings, etc.; and/or share skills such as design, computer, legal or other professional expertise.

Whether you are a sex worker or a supporter, it's important to remember that the use of government funds for political lobbying is not permitted. This prohibition ensures that governments don't use public money to fund groups that promote their own party agendas.



Campaign to Decriminalize Prostitution (1988)

The Campaign to Decriminalize Prostitution (CDP) joins the "Take the Streets, Stop the Sweeps" demonstration in Toronto on June 16, 1988; the police have announced that they will be "cleaning up" the city by sweeping the streets and arresting prostitutes to prepare for the Economic Summit. Originally the Citizen's Organization for the Repeal of Prostitution-Related Laws, the CDP was an organization of people who supported prostitutes' rights, but were not themselves prostitutes.

PHOTO: Konnie Reich





Emma Goldman (1869-1940)

Born in Lithuania, Emma Goldman moved to New York in 1889. An outspoken radical, she lectured and wrote on anarchism and women's rights. At 23, she once tried to earn \$15 for a pistol as a prostitute on Manhattan's 14th St. Finally, an older gentleman gave her \$10 and suggested she was in the wrong trade.

Goldman lived in a house on 3rd St. otherwise exclusively occupied by prostitutes, and soon became a prostitutes' advocate. She accused the women's movement of supporting laws that directly hurt working-class women, and claimed that a prostitute may be at an advantage over a wife because she can "retain her freedom and personal rights."

"Why waste your life working for a few shillings a week in a scullery, 18 hours a day, when a woman could earn a decent wage by selling her body instead?"

Goldman served jail terms for advising the unemployed to steal bread, lecturing on birth control, and opposing the draft. In 1908, she was deprived of her U.S. citizenship. She died in Toronto, of a stroke, at the age of 71.

Anarchism and Other Essays, Emma Goldman. New York: Mother Earth Publishing, 1911

If you work for a government-funded agency, be careful to keep your political activities separate from your agency work — or you may jeopardize the agency's funding.

Advocacy in action

Regardless of who you are, you should always have the right to say what you want and need when important decisions affecting your life are being made by others. There are times, however, when one might find it difficult to express one's views or make choices. Sometimes others just don't listen to you, or don't believe that what you say is important. If you find yourself in a situation where you can't understand what's being said, or you can't make others understand you, it helps to have an advocate. An advocate will speak up on your behalf, or stand by you when you speak for yourself. This ensures that people will listen and take notice of your needs and views.

Some advocates are officials appointed by the government (for example, provincial or municipal ombudspersons). There are also citizen advocates, and peer advocates, as well as self-advocacy groups.

Government-appointed advocates

Besides employing ombudspersons, governments may appoint official advocates to provide advocacy services for groups who may have trouble getting what they need from a given government service or department. In some provinces, for instance, a Child, Youth and Family Advocate tries to help kids get their foster care concerns addressed by social services. To avoid bias, a provincial/territorial government can appoint an advocate, ombudsperson, or commissioner as an officer of the legislature for a fixed term extending beyond its current term of office.



Certainly government-appointed advocates must appear to be fair and unbiased. But don't assume that the role of a government advocate is to represent your needs or interests. These advocates are appointed to represent the government's interests and facilitate their idea of a reasonable compromise.

Such appointments are often the result of government inquiries. For example, the appointment of a Child, Youth and Family Advocate of B.C. was recommended by the *Gove Inquiry into Child Protection* — an investigation into the tragic death of five-year-old Matthew Vaudreuil — following more than 60 reports to the Ministry for Children and Families about Vaudreuil's precarious situation.

In February 2005, Vancouver City Council requested a report on the feasibility of a "Homeless and Sex-Trade Worker" Advocate. (The precedent was the appointment of a municipal Child and Youth Advocate in 1989.)

A-01: *Let's say Canada has just legalized prostitution. Should there be a government-appointed Sex Industry Advocate to address complaints from sex workers about new government regulations?*

- yes
- no
- don't know

Citizen advocates

These days, it's commonly assumed that it takes a paid professional to address the special needs of people with an impairment or disability. The proponents of citizen advocacy, however, encourage ordinary citizens to become involved in the lives of people who have such needs.

Citizen advocacy organizations recruit volunteers from the community. Each is matched with someone who needs practical help and support to enhance her or his

FOUR PARTS OF ADVOCACY:

- **RIGHTS** — Rights are owned, not earned.
- **INFORMATION** — Information in people's hands is power.
- **VOICE** — People are their own best advocates.
- **INCLUSION** — All voices should be heard and considered.

Make sure you have your say, or get help saying what you need.



Become an advoCAT!

- * Be a trustworthy friend.
- * Be a good listener.
- * Respect the decisions of those you are helping, whether you agree or not.
- * Don't be distracted by your own problems.
- * Stay calm even when you're upset.

ILLUSTRATION: G. Willickers, 2000. Office of the Child, Youth & Family Advocate of B.C. (<http://www.advokids.org>)



Advocacy in action

CITIZEN ADVOCACY ON-LINE

Throughout Canada and abroad

- **Citizen Advocacy of Ottawa**
<http://www.citizenadvocacy.org>
- **Greater Victoria Citizen Advocacy Society**
<http://www.islandnet.com/~citizen>
- **Citizen Advocacy Windsor-Essex**
<http://www.mnsi.net/~advocacy>
- **John McKnight**
<http://www.nwu.edu/IPR/people/mcknight.html>
- **Citizen Advocacy Center**
<http://www.citizenadvocacycenter.org>
- **Advocacy Resource Exchange**
<http://www.citizenadvocacy.org.uk>
- **Citizen Advocacy Information and Training (CAIT) UK**
<http://www.hants.gov.uk/istcclr/cch33039.html>

quality of life. Most citizen advocacy organizations are dedicated to helping people with disabilities participate fully in community life. And most are registered charities.

A "citizen advocate" is an unpaid, ordinary person who is prepared to commit to a long-term, one-to-one advocacy relationship, and speak up for and represent the interests of an advocacy partner. An "advocacy partner" is a person in danger of having her or his choices, wishes and decisions ignored, and therefore needs help making these known and put into effect.

Being a citizen advocate can involve difficult challenges. For example, you might be called upon to negotiate your advocacy partner's release from a psychiatric ward, or to participate in a supportive network that helps keep her or him out of jail. Much of the time, though, it's a question of something simpler, like regularly sharing meals with someone who is living in poverty, or helping someone get much-needed dental work.

Citizen advocates are independent agents. Neither the citizen advocacy organization nor the human services system controls their actions. Citizen advocacy organizations provide training sessions, workshops and ongoing support and advice for volunteer citizen advocates, but coordinators do not act as advocates.

Some citizen advocacy organizations exist to help citizens exercise their democratic rights, by providing free education about the laws that govern such things as elections, access to information, protection of privacy and patient rights.

Citizen advocacy organizations have been promoting social inclusion, equality and social justice in Canada, the U.S.A., the U.K. and Australia since the 1970s.

Peer advocates

A "peer advocate" is much like a citizen advocate except that a "peer" is someone who is equal to her or his advocacy partner in some specific way. They may share



a similar disability or impairment, or similar experiences, or both. Informal peer advocacy relationships are common among groups of people who are marginalized (cut off from the rest of the community) because of who they are (for example, people who have learning disabilities, who have been diagnosed with a mental illness, who have severe drug addictions — who are sex workers).

Self-advocacy groups

“Self-advocacy” involves speaking for yourself and representing your own needs and interests. The “advocacy” component comes in when you need some support and education in order to succeed in having your concerns fairly addressed. A “self-advocacy group” offers individual assistance and support, so that you can better advocate on your own behalf. Such groups can also work collectively to address issues affecting their members (such as a shared disability). Self-advocacy groups are run and staffed by members of the marginalized group.

First things first

Let’s say you want to start a self-advocacy group. How do you begin?

First, you’ll need a name, if you haven’t already got one. Acronyms (like SWAV — the Sex Workers Alliance of Vancouver) are a common way to keep the name snappy and still provide a clear description of the group. It helps to be clear about your group’s goals before choosing a suitable name. Clever turns of phrase, puns, humour, sexy slang — there are many ways to make a name easy to remember. You want something that’s easy to say and pleasant to hear (like household brand names!). You might want to register your name, but this is likely an unnecessary expense. Make sure you haven’t come up with a name that is already in use! You can try looking it up on the Internet, to start.



Greek Prostitutes Protest (Dec. 8, 2003)

Covering their faces with black scarves, 50 sex workers from the Movement of Greek Prostitutes march to parliament in Athens, to protest government restrictions on the location of bordellos. Prostitution is legal and highly regulated in Greece, but only in state-licensed brothels. Prostitutes have staged dozens of protests demanding that authorities back off enforcement of a repressive law passed in 1999.

“More than 7,000 women who are licensed to work are being hassled and abused daily.”

New legislation, which would have allowed bordellos to operate closer to such public buildings as schools, churches, and daycare centres, was withdrawn in November 2003.

Associated Press, December 9, 2003

PHOTO: Petros Giannakouris





Network of Sex Work Projects Sex Worker Booth, Berlin (1993)

Sex workers from self-advocacy projects around the world come together to display their safe sex wares at the international Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP) booth at the IX International AIDS Conference in Berlin.

Making Sex Work Safe, Paulo Longo, Cheryl Overs.
Rio de Janeiro: Network of Sex Work Projects, 1997
(<http://www.nswp.org/safety/msws>)

Once you decide on a name, you'll need a phone number that you can publicize and advertise, along with an answering machine or voice mail. Try to check your phone messages regularly. Most companies offer residential phone packages that include the option of more than one phone number, each with a different ring. A business phone requires a registered business name and is considerably more expensive.

Don't feel that you have to respond to every student and media request for information and interviews. Students are not the people you are trying to reach. It's easy to become overwhelmed, so focus your volunteer time on the things that best further your group's goals. There will be times when you simply have no time to spare. Don't fret. Nobody's paying you, so any amount of time you give is appreciated. It could be ten years before you see the fruits of your efforts. Political change rarely happens overnight.

A post office box is a must. It means that you can have a mailing address you can publicize, without telling the whole world your home address.

Any cook can govern

You know the old saying, "the way to people's hearts is through their stomachs." Well, it's true! The best political discussions often occur around the kitchen table. If you don't know how to cook, it's time you learned. Dinner parties for four to six usually work well. Keep it simple, but don't ever forget dessert! Invite people who share interests or who you think will be delighted to meet each other. It's easy to entice friends and acquaintances to casual, social get-togethers that include food and a relaxing atmosphere.



**Hookers Occupy Church,
Lyon, France (1975)**

A church in Lyon is the site of a sit-in. Prostitutes — protesting laws under which they were repeatedly jailed, fined and taxed — staged similar protests in other cities throughout France in 1975.

Funk & Wagnalls New Encyclopedia 1976 Yearbook, Albert Bennett, Ed. New York: Funk & Wagnalls, Inc., 1976

PHOTO: Alain Nogues-Sygma



Trying to recruit participants for a meeting with a political agenda at some outside venue is much harder. If you don't know a lot of sex workers, invite people who do. Every hairstylist knows at least one hooker.

Regularly scheduled dinner parties create convenient opportunities for your company to invite new guests. The more entertaining you do, the more chances there are for people to broaden their social circles. Sex workers often don't get many opportunities to associate with sex professionals other than their colleagues from work. Over the course of time, your dinner parties will cultivate a larger social circle, where guests become more familiar with each other and new friendships develop. And so, your community grows.

Still don't know how to cook? Well, start with something simple, cheap and cheerful. How about cookies? Fresh, homemade cookies are always a hit with guests. And the house smells great! Don't have a cookbook? Try looking up recipes on the Internet. The allrecipes.com website, for example, features more than 26,000 "real recipes from real people." Other great recipe websites include foodnetwork.com and recipesource.com. For some crowd-pleasing favourites submitted by sex workers, see Page 34.

Be phone friendly

Keeping in touch is important. And a friendly phone call to check in regularly both keeps you up to date and fosters good relationships. Setting aside some yak time every couple of weeks makes for a good routine.



Any cook can govern



Tanzabar Eviction Protest, Bangladesh (1999)

Prostitutes at Tanbazar brothel in the town of Narayanganj in Bangladesh — near the capital, Dhaka — chant while protesting a move to evict them the day before. About 3,500 Bangladeshi prostitutes dug in their heels and defied eviction from one of the country's oldest and largest brothels.

National Post, July 12, 1999

PHOTO: Rafiqur Rahman, Reuters

Long distance relationships don't have to be expensive. E-mail is the cheapest, but phone calls are more personal. It's nice for people to hear your voice on occasion. You can keep your long-distance rates down by using the YAK Line (for more information about rates, call toll-free: 10-10-925-0). Long-distance phone cards are a good way to keep track of your spending, and can be used from pay phones. But read the fine print— some companies charge extra for pay-phone calls.

Get an e-mail address

If you don't have your own computer or Internet service, you can go to a web café and sign up for a free e-mail account at hotmail.com or yahoo.ca. E-mail account information can be fairly anonymous. However, you mustn't be fooled into thinking that your e-mail discussions are secure. The routes e-mail travels can be traced, so be careful not to incriminate yourself by discussing illegal activities.

Sign up for sex work discussion groups to get a sense of current issues. The international Network of Sex Work Projects has discussion lists for Africa, Asia Pacific, Latin America, in addition to a main e-mail list with members from all over the globe. List members refer new people for membership. E-mail secretariat@nswp.org. Press clipping services, and mailing lists from government offices (like that of your MP), can also be useful. The international Sex-Work eForum, co-ordinated by the Health and Development



Networks Resource Team (<http://www.hdnet.org>), is a great source of information about sex work and AIDS. To join, send a blank message to: join-sex-work@eforums.healthdev.org.

Search the World-Wide Web

The Internet is a powerful research tool. Search for sex worker advocacy groups as well as social programs for sex workers near where you live. There can be huge differences between one group and another, in terms of issues and politics. Canada has many social service programs for sex workers, but there are only a few actual sex worker groups. Network with allies in your community, despite differences in opinion. You can find friends in the strangest places.

Start a group on-line

Yahoo.ca discussion groups are free and easy to set up (<http://ca.groups.yahoo.com>). Free membership services include live chat and a member e-mail account. There are many words you can't use when naming your discussion group; for instance, the word "sex." One way you can get around this is by using underscores or hyphens between letters (for example, "S_E_X"). All groups dealing with sexual content must be placed under the "Adult" category (under "Romance and Relationships"). There you will find a category for "Professionals." Search for other possible discussion groups by location, to meet other people in your area. Remember that you can use an alias when you sign up for memberships.

Build a website

A website is the cheapest and most accessible way to get your message out to a broad audience. Starting and managing a website doesn't have to be expensive or difficult. Many cable packages offer Internet connections as part of a package that includes webspace and e-mail addresses. Shaw, for example, allows you up to one gigabyte of disk space for a website hosting. Phone companies such as Bell and Telus also offer high-speed packages.

SEX WORKERS ON-LINE

From all over the world

- **Commercial Sex Information Service — Rights Groups**
<http://www.walnet.org/csis/groups>
- **Network of Sex Work Projects**
<http://www.nswp.org>
- **Prostitutes' Education Network, San Francisco**
<http://www.bayswan.org/penet.html>
- **Scarlet Alliance, Australia**
<http://www.scarletalliance.org.au/who/members>
- **Sex Workers Alliance of Vancouver**
<http://www.walnet.org/swav>

WEB TOOLS ON-LINE

Free software, tutorials & scripts

- **Acehtml5 code editor**
<http://software.visicommedia.com>
- **Code Walkers**
<http://www.Codewalkers.com/tutorials>
- **Javascript Source**
<http://javascript.internet.com>
- **Matt's Script Archive**
<http://www.scriptarchive.com>
- **Web Developers Virtual Library**
<http://www.wdvl.com>
- **Web Monkey**
<http://hotwired.lycos.com/webmonkey>



Any cook can govern

Start by registering a domain name for your group. Short domain names using either the name or initials of your group are best. If you register directly with Network Solutions, you can register a “.org” name if your group does advocacy and is not for profit. If you register your domain through a second party, be sure you own your domain (as opposed to just renting it). Webnames.ca is a reputable registrar of “.ca” domain names and offers domain renewals and transfers, as well as municipal domains and free e-mail. You need a credit card to purchase on-line services. Geocities at Yahoo! also offers free webpage hosting (with advertising), for those who need to start small (see <http://geocities.yahoo.com>).

If you're building your own website, you'll find lots of free stuff on-line to help you get started. The Web Developers Virtual Library (<http://www.wdvl.com>) offers a massive reference library, as well as newsletters and discussion forums. Bravenet.com offers a large selection of free tools and templates, including page templates for building websites and “blogs” (from “web logs” — personal on-line journals). Membership is free.

It's best if you know HTML, the coding language used to format and create webpages. It's an easy language to learn. In order to read and write HTML code easily, you will need an HTML editor. Acehtml5 is a good editor and it's free! You can download it from: <http://software.visicommedia.com/en/products/acehtmlfreeware>. Get familiar with style sheets. “Cascading Style Sheet” (a feature of HTML 5) allows you to make changes one style sheet (code template) that will make the changes to all your webpages. A good reference book comes in handy (for example, *Webmaster in a Nutshell: A Desktop Quick Reference*, Stephen Spainhour, Valerie Quercia. Sebastol, California: O'Reilly & Associates, Inc., 1996)

You can find free trial downloads for other web design software as well (for example, Xara Menumaker (xara.com), a tool for making graphic menu bars. When you're ready for those extra bells and whistles, you'll find lots of free javascripts (Javascript Source: javascript.internet.com), as well as PERL scripts on the web (Matt's Script Archive: scriptarchive.com). Other useful free downloads include software that removes the W32 virus. SpywareRemoversReview.com, for example, offers up to four top W32 removal tools so you can compare.

Develop your look

It all comes down to marketing. Brand name recognition within the target audience is crucial to the success of any venture. First you need a logo. Start with something black and white for your letterhead — line art that that looks good photocopied and faxed. If you need help, maybe you know of an artist or designer you could ask to donate a design. Or you can go to a college that offers a graphic design program, and see if a student will create a logo as part of her or his course work. Once you have your logo, you're ready for business cards, letterhead and envelopes. If you have a computer and printer, you can print out your stationery yourself.



Follow a consistent style. Use the same colours (if any), formats and typefaces on all of your materials. In the business world, “corporate identity packages” include lots of strict rules about logo placement, typography and colours, as well as editorial style guides. It’s important to involve professionals and encourage them to volunteer their services to your good cause. Lawyers, health nurses, fundraisers, graphic designers, illustrators, photographers, writers and editors can provide the expertise needed to produce accurate, attractive, professional-looking materials.

Safe sex supplies

If you’re trying to meet people, it’s nice to have something to offer. Let’s face it — condoms aren’t cheap! Sex workers do a great public service by educating clients on how to use rubbers, so giving them free condoms is good for public health. Every municipality has a public health department. Usually there is an STI/AIDS unit, and that’s who you can hit up for free supplies. Public health nurses are often very supportive of sex worker advocacy, so if you don’t get a warm reception when you first try, don’t give up.

It’s not necessary that your group be a non-profit society to access resources. In Toronto, the Sex Workers Alliance of Toronto (SWAT) receives an average of 300 gross (a gross is a dozen dozens, or 144) of condoms, as well as 3,000 samples of personal lubricant, annually, from the Toronto Board of Health. And it all gets out to sex workers. Don’t settle for cheap or second-rate condoms. Sex workers are picky. A variety is best: extra large, extra strong, some smaller ones — and flavoured and non-lubricated for blow jobs. Develop a good relationship with your contact, and the public health department should be willing to get you whatever you want.



Health Promotion Cards, Sex Workers Alliance of Vancouver, c. 1997
(<http://www.walnet.org/swav>)



Educational materials

Booklets, leaflets, stickers, posters, buttons and T-shirts are all great ways to get your message out there.

The public health department is a good place to start for pamphlets and other hand-outs about sexually transmitted infections. Such information is aimed at the broadest audience possible, though, so you'll likely find it a bit dull. AIDS agencies and other community health organizations may have a better selection. Having a collection of relevant educational materials in a file folder is the place to start, once you are ready to create reading materials of your own.

The first safer-sex pamphlets made by prostitutes for prostitutes in Canada were produced in 1987 by Danny Cockerline (see Page 4) and the Canadian Organization for the Rights of Prostitutes, with assistance from the AIDS Committee of Toronto. *How to Have Safer Sex* was distributed by the Prostitutes Safe Sex Project and other community groups in Toronto for almost ten years. Still a good read, it's available on the web at: <http://www.walnet.org/csis/groups/maggies/safersex.html>.

Information about disease is only one of the things sex workers need. Probably the most popular educational materials are about the laws. Most large cities have legal advocacy agencies. Civil liberties associations have good pamphlets on arrest and detention rights. Law schools at universities often have student advocacy groups. Published by the Sex Workers Alliance of Vancouver in 1995, *Trials of the Sex Trade: A Survival Guide to Canada's Legal Jungle* is still probably the most immediately useful legal resource for sex workers (see http://www.walnet.org/csis/legal_tips/trials).

Sex worker groups and advocacy agencies from around the world are the best source for materials. You can find groups on-line. All list contact information, and they may send you materials at your request. And it's inspiring to see what sex workers have accomplished in other places!



Cheap and cheerful

Your educational materials don't require expensive production values. You do not need to produce a large quantity to start. Photocopying, colour photocopying and digital printing allow you to print only what you need, without breaking the bank. Desktop publishing and the photocopier have revolutionized the printing industry. Today, anyone who really wants to can be her or his own publisher. The need for good illustrations can't be stressed enough. Black-and-white line-art photocopies beautifully. You can dress up any card or pamphlet by choosing different papers — it comes in an endless assortment of colours.

You can make your paper materials available on-line as Portable Document Format (PDF) files by converting your desktop files using Adobe Acrobat software. Be sure to choose a format that is easily laser-printed on standard letter- or legal-size paper, so that people can download and print your educational materials themselves.

Start a Bad Trick Sheet

A Bad Trick Sheet is a list of descriptions of clients (or people posing as clients) who have threatened, assaulted, harassed or ripped off prostitutes. Lists are published periodically and handed out to sex workers on the street. Reports are usually collected by the outreach workers distributing the list. Sometimes information comes from the police or the media, complete with composite drawings or photos. Bad Trick Sheets can serve as a warning system, so that sex workers can avoid clients (and cars) who (or which) fit descriptions on the list. Bad Call Lists have also been made available to sex workers who advertise and work over the phone, and reports are often collected over the phone.

The first Bad Trick Sheet in Canada was published in Vancouver in 1985 by the Alliance for the Safety of Prostitutes. In August 1990, the Prostitutes' Safe Sex



Sex Workers Alliance of Vancouver, 1997 (<http://www.walnet.org/swav>)



BAD TRICK INFO? — CALL 964-0150

TYPE OF INCIDENT: (rape, assault, threats, etc)

year: **month:** **day:** **time:**

place: (where pro was picked up)

DESCRIPTION:

race: **age:**

height: **weight:**

hair: (colour, length, style, facial hair)

clothes:

anything else:

TRANSPORTATION:

foot taxi car van truck other

description of vehicle: (colour, make, year, size, no. of doors etc.)

anything else about car: (dents, interior, anything unusual etc.)

licence plate no.: (include province/state)

WHAT HAPPENED:

report taken from:

victim witness friend other pro other

Project created the first Bad Trick Sheet using a database, in Toronto. Within two years, the Toronto Bad Trick Sheet had collected over 100 reports of serious physical assaults, sexual assaults and robberies. Bad Trick Sheets have also been produced in Toronto by the Sex Workers Alliance of Toronto, Maggie's, and Street Health; in Vancouver by the Sex Workers Alliance of Vancouver, Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society, and Street Youth Services; and in Montreal by Stella. Bad Trick Sheets ("Ugly Mugs") have also been produced in major cities in Australia since the mid-1980s. (For more information about starting a Bad Trick Sheet, see <http://www.walnet.org/csis/groups/swav/baddates.html>.)

Most other Canadian cities have no bad date warning service. But that may soon change. As of early 2005, a beta version of a national on-line Bad Date Sheet was in development. A national web-based warning system would be extremely valuable in cities that have no sex worker advocacy services. It could provide sex workers with a tool to promote local, regional and national networking. You can look at the report forms and read about the project at: <http://www.baddates.ca>.

A sex work library

How about starting your own private collection of sex work memorabilia? Building a library of information about sex work and prostitution provides a great learning project. And before long, your collection will evolve into an ever-growing educational resource that will entice other sex-work enthusiasts to visit, browse and borrow. Try for a broad range of genres and formats: pulp fiction and literature; music with hooker lyrics; popular movies and videos that feature prostitutes; educational brochures and newsletters from sex worker organizations; and some of the many works of research on prostitution — from the laudable to the infuriating. Before you know it, your comrades are making delightful contributions to your bookshelf.

Bad Trick Sheet Report Form, Toronto Prostitutes' Community Service Project, 1994



Outreach

Grassroots outreach occurs when people make connections with others at work and elsewhere. It's a lot easier to talk to people who run adult classified ads when you can point out your own ad. Working in a massage parlour, you will be introduced to people who have circulated through several local establishments. And you can seek out places where sex workers hang out during their time off.

Be where the action is. It's hard to get people to travel very far, so a central location near the workplace is best. Meet people through other people. The best introductions come from friends. Be respectful of people's time; don't waste it. If you are going out on the street and it's not your territory, remember to dress down. Don't carry cash or valuables. Be visible, and always follow the same route, so that you become a familiar sight to others out on the street.

Media

The Sex Workers Alliance of Vancouver had a one-line media policy: "Don't call us, we'll call you." When the media comes calling for a statement about the latest sensational prostitution news, remember this: they already know what they want to write. All sex worker activists have been repeatedly misquoted, censored and verbally attacked. Many are now justifiably fussy about who in the press they will talk to. Look at it this way: when you really need to get an issue in the news, you can bet that the media will respond to a press release issued by a group of prostitutes!

Fun(d)raising

Cultural events — such as burlesque shows, trade fairs, performance nights, movie nights and group art shows — are just some of the ways you can try to raise a little cash while promoting public education and support. Typically events require a *lot* of prior planning. Your group will need to make (or get someone to make) posters, and put them up; print and sell tickets; advertise in the free event listings in local newspapers; and recruit enough volunteers to run the door, serve beverages, usher, decorate, act as security, provide entertainment, and clean up afterwards. Booking your venue crucial; lots of places are all booked up a long time in advance.

Press clipping

Local newspapers offer reliable information about relevant news, local events (such as community meetings, police sweeps and raids) and new legislation and other changes in government policy, as well as national and international affairs. Clipping articles is, among other things, is a good way to follow court cases, which can take months and, sometimes, years before they are resolved. File all your clippings promptly (to avoid backlog and be able to find them easily).



FREE NEWSPAPERS ON-LINE

News from all over the world

→ **Asian Sex Gazette**

<http://www.asiansexgazette.com>

→ **Bangkok Post**

<http://www.bangkokpost.com>

→ **British Broadcasting Corp.**

<http://news.bbc.co.uk>

→ **Cable News Network (CNN)**

<http://www.cnn.com>

→ **Canadian Broadcasting Corp.**

<http://www.cbc.ca/news>

→ **Haaretz (English edition)**

<http://www.haaretzdaily.com>

→ **S. African Broadcasting Corp.**

<http://www.sabcnews.com>

→ **The Australian**

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au>

→ **The Guardian Unlimited**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk>

Smaller community weeklies are the greatest source of local news around the city's patchwork of neighbourhoods. Keep your eyes peeled for useful Bad Trick Sheet information from police reports of assaults on sex workers.

Share your clippings with others. Keep your colleagues up to date on local affairs, and encourage them to contribute to the gathering and sharing of information.

Press clippings make great content for e-mail listserves. You can access many international news services on-line. You can then copy and paste news articles from your browser window into your e-mail with relative ease. E-mail listserves can be a great source for receiving news reports, and an easy way to keep up with issues facing sex workers in other parts of the world. A glimpse into the plight — and strengths — of sex workers engaged in struggles far away can teach us the value of solidarity here at home.

Advocacy at work

Law reform — New Zealand

In June 2003, after three years of scrutiny, 415 hours of debate and 222 public submissions, New Zealand's parliament passed the *Prostitution Reform Act*, by a single vote (60 to 59).

The purpose of the *Act* is to decriminalize prostitution (without endorsing or morally sanctioning it) and to create a framework that

- safeguards the human rights of sex workers and protects them from exploitation;
- promotes the welfare and occupational health and safety of sex workers;
- is conducive to public health;
- prohibits the use in prostitution of persons under 18 years of age; and
- implements certain other related reforms.



The *Act* established a Prostitution Law Review Committee (PLRC) to assess the number of sex workers in New Zealand, and, after three years, to

- review the operation of the *Act*;
- assess its impact on the number of sex workers;
- assess the adequacy of the means available for sex workers to leave the industry; and
- consider whether any amendments to this *Act*, any other law, or the system of certification are necessary or desirable.

The PLRC has 11 members, who are appointed by the Minister of Justice. Three members represent the interests of sex workers (nominated by the New Zealand Prostitutes' Collective); two members represent operators of prostitution businesses (nominated by the Minister of Commerce). The rest are nominated by the Minister of Women's Affairs, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Police and the Minister of Local Government.

A-02: *Let's say that Canada's parliament has decided to establish a Prostitution Law Reform Committee. Should the committee composition include members representing the interests of sex workers, nominated by a sex worker organization?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

Peer regulation — India

There are an estimated 28,000 sex workers in Calcutta and its suburbs. In February 1992, a small health-care project was launched in the 100-year-old designated brothel district known as Sonagachi (where 371 brothels employ roughly 6,000 sex workers). The new clinics provided free medical care for all sex workers and their children. The project also established a peer education program: sex workers were provided with uniforms and



Paulo Henrique Longo (1964-2004)

Born in Rio de Janeiro, Paulo Longo was a rent boy before becoming a clinical psychologist. In 1988, he got involved in HIV research on rent boys in Rio. Later, when the researchers erroneously reported high HIV infection rates among such boys, Longo was horrified. Throughout his career, he denounced all unethical research.

By 1989, Paulo was employed as an outreach worker for Programa Pegação, a project for male sex workers, which he later coordinated. In 1991, Paulo co-founded the Network of Sex Work Projects, an influential global coalition of sex workers and advocates.

In 1997, Paulo co-authored *Making Sex Work Safe*, a guide to offering services for sex workers. Over the years, he gave eloquent speeches about sex workers' rights at countless AIDS conferences, U.N. public health meetings and international forums. In 2003, Rio de Janeiro City Council honoured him for his work defending human rights for gay, bisexual and transgendered people — and sex workers.

Paulo Longo died of a heart attack at the age of 40.

PHOTO: Paulo Longo Trust (<http://www.webzip.com.br/longo>)



Advocacy at work



Durbar Mahila Samanaya Samiti, Calcutta

Torchlight march celebrates a local sex workers' cultural festival. The Durbar Mahila Samanaya Samiti (The Women's Collaborative Collective) is an organization of sex workers with 40,000 members through West Bengal.

PHOTO: Suvnedu Chatterjee

name tags and paid to distribute condoms in brothels. A meeting hall was rented to provide a place for sex workers to meet and to hold social and cultural events, as well as literacy classes.

"Our first demand is: recognize us as workers. This minimum recognition of marginalized sex workers, will bestow upon us a recognition as human beings."

The Sonagachi Project's work provides prevention education and treatment for tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections. In the course of this work, the project recognized the need for sex-worker community empowerment. So an organization of sex workers was formed: Durbar Mahila Samanaya Samiti (DMSS). (This translates as "The Women's Collaborative Committee.") Members paid small monthly dues dedicated to advocacy, social activism, political lobbying and using the media to bring attention to their needs at a national level. They rejected the label of "prostitute" and instead chose to be called "sex workers." They picketed brothels where owners forbade sex workers to use condoms, as well as police stations (when police harassed sex workers or abused their authority).

The DMSS also established the Usha Multi-Purpose Co-operative Society, which provides low-interest loans to members and opened a store that sold crafts made by local women. Proceeds went to sex workers. The store also sold daily necessities to co-op members at subsidized costs. The DMSS built two local schools that provide education for members' children, as well as vocational training. It now has branch offices in each of Calcutta's 12 brothel districts, and a membership of 40,000.



Sex Workers' Demonstration, Bangkok (2004)

The Asia-Pacific Network of Sex Work Projects marches in a demonstration at the XV International Conference on HIV/AIDS.

The slogan on the banner

"Don't talk to me about sewing machines. Talk to me about workers' rights."

is a response to foreign-aid "rescue" schemes designed to get sex workers to change their line of work.

PHOTO: Jenni Gamble, Sex Industry Network



In Calcutta, police use laws against the trafficking and the prostitution of minors to raid legal brothels, often subjecting legitimate prostitutes to illegal abuses — including extortion, theft, violence and sexual harassment. To deal with these abuses, the DMSS set up a 12-person committee. Six of the members are sex workers, the rest are politicians and representatives from various organizations. The committee negotiates directly with police and government. A non-judicial system for self-regulation using peer-surveillance was established. Officially-recognized local boards of sex workers assist minors and adults under duress found working in brothels. Such people are taken to a residence outside the red-light district and supported for a short time while they decide what to do next. Youths are accompanied back to their families, if and when they choose to return.

Input on law reform in Canada

In 1983, the federal government established the "Special Committee on Pornography and Prostitution" to "ascertain public views on ways and means to deal with these problems by inviting written submissions from concerned groups of citizens, and by conducting meetings in major centres across the country." The Fraser Committee published its two-volume report in 1985; it included 68 recommendations on prostitution alone.

In 1995, the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group on Prostitution (established in 1992 by the Deputy Ministers Responsible for Justice) published its report: *Dealing with Prostitution in Canada*. The report proposed a number of options for dealing with "the problem of prostitution in Canada" after having "preliminary discussions with municipalities, community groups, police, and people involved in the sex trade, among others."



Advocacy at work

In February 2003, the House of Commons established a new parliamentary committee to review the prostitution laws. The Subcommittee on Solicitation Law Reform (SSLR) heard submissions in Ottawa from special interest groups, before being shut down prior to the upcoming federal election. The SSLR was later revived. In March 2005, the Subcommittee travelled across Canada to hold public hearings in such major cities as Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, Edmonton, Regina and Winnipeg. Funding has since been requested for Subcommittee members to travel to several countries around the world in order to examine various legal frameworks for controlling prostitution, before completing its report.

In 2004, the Vancouver Sex Trade Steering Committee was established. Its purpose is to develop "a multi-pronged approach" to address the impact of the sex trade in Vancouver on the health and safety of both sex workers and other community members. The project received two years' funding through the *Vancouver Agreement* — a tri-level government partnership between Ottawa, B.C. and City Hall. Participants include several business improvement associations; neighbourhood safety offices; community agencies that offer services to sex workers; and the Vancouver police.

All of these government committees have welcomed individual testimonies from sex workers about the harms they've faced. However, not one government committee reviewing the prostitution laws has ever included even a single sex-worker representative. Sex workers still need to collectively determine what concerns and interests they have in common before legitimate sex-worker representation can be achieved.

A-03: *Let's say Canada has just legalized prostitution. Could sex workers in Canada establish local organizations capable of developing and enforcing regulations for sex businesses?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

Recipes for advocacy

Next time you host a group get-together, try making one of the half-dozen snack recipes, located at the end of this workbook (pages 25-30). These crowd favourites were solicited from sex workers who love to cook. The recipes are printed on cards (5 1/2" x 3 3/4") that you can cut out, so that they fit in a recipe box. On Page 31, you'll find two blank recipe cards (which you can photocopy), for writing down other great recipes.

Bon appétit!





PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

(Preheat oven to 375°F. Makes about two dozen.)

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup granulated white sugar
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 cup shortening
- 1 cup soft butter (room temp.)
- 1 large egg
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt

Over →

OATMEAL & RAISIN COOKIES

(Preheat oven to 375°F. Makes about two dozen.)

INGREDIENTS:

- 2/3 cup granulated white sugar
- 2/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 cup shortening
- 1 cup soft butter (room temp.)
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 3 cups rolled oats
- 1 cup raisins

Over →





PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large bowl, beat white sugar, brown sugar, peanut butter, shortening, butter and egg.
2. In a separate bowl, mix together the remaining ingredients with a wire whisk. Once combined, add to the wet mixture. Mix well.
3. Scoop tablespoons of dough, and place about 3" apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. Flatten in criss-cross pattern with a fork.
4. Bake at 375° F for 9 to 10 minutes, or until light brown. Cool 5 minutes, remove and place on a wire rack to fully cool. If they last that long!

OATMEAL & RAISIN COOKIES

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large bowl, beat together all ingredients except for oats, flour and raisins.
2. Add remaining ingredients. Mix well.
3. Drop tablespoons of dough onto an ungreased cookie sheet, about 2" apart.
4. Bake at 375° F for 9 to 11 minutes, or until light brown. Remove immediately and place on a wire rack to fully cool.

Oatmeal Raisin Squares: Use this recipe and pour the batter into an 8" x 8" square pan. Bake about 25 minutes or until light brown. Cool in pan on wire rack. Cut 4 rows by 4 rows to make 16 squares.





YUMMY SPINACH DIP

(Serve with fresh-cut raw vegetables.)

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 (10 ounce) pkg. frozen chopped spinach (thawed and drained)
- 1 (16 ounce) container sour cream
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 3 green onions, chopped
- 1 (1 ounce) package dry vegetable dip mix (optional)
- 1 (8 ounce) can water chestnuts, drained and chopped (optional)
- 2 teaspoons prepared Dijon-style mustard (or more if desired)

FRESH-CUT RAW VEGETABLES:

baby carrots; celery sticks; cauliflower and broccoli florets; sliced red, yellow and green sweet peppers; whole cherry tomatoes, etc.

HOLY GUACAMOLE

(Serve as dip with toasted tortilla triangles or corn chips.)

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 ripe avocados (indents when pressed firmly with finger)
- 1/2 cup lightly packed, finely chopped cilantro leaves (stems removed)
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice (freshly squeezed)
- 4 finely chopped scallions (green onions)
- 1/2 teaspoon fresh ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 ground chipotle pepper (or cayenne pepper)
- 8 flour tortillas

Over →



Recipes for advocacy



YUMMY SPINACH DIP

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a medium bowl, mix all ingredients together.
2. Chill 8 hours (or overnight) before serving.
3. Can be served in a dish or in a “bread bowl”: a hard-crust round loaf hollowed out from the top.
4. Vegetables should be washed, and cut into finger-sized sticks and pieces as close to serving as possible, or kept chilled in a tightly sealed container. Cuts on vegetables like cauliflower turn black with exposure to air.
5. Arrange vegetables attractively on party trays. Great for large functions.

HOLY GUACAMOLE

DIRECTIONS:

1. Halve avocados length-wise, remove pits and scoop the flesh out of the skins.
2. Blend all ingredients (except tortillas) with a fork, until mixture is slightly lumpy.
3. Cut tortillas into triangles and toast lightly in oven on racks. Serve warm.

NOTE: The tastiest varieties of avocados include Hass, Bacon, Zutano, and Gwen.





CREAMY ISLAND POTATO SALAD

INGREDIENTS:

- 5 lbs. potatoes (P.E.I. Netted Gems are best)
- 12 hard-boiled eggs
- 2 cups real mayonnaise (or more, or less as desired)
- 1/2 cup home-made dressing (see reverse) (optional)
- 1 cup diced celery, green onions or fresh chives (optional)
- 2 ripe tomatoes (sliced) (optional)
- paprika

DIRECTIONS:

Peel and halve potatoes and boil until tender. Cut into bite-size pieces, once cool. (Left too long, cooked potatoes turn black.) Finely mash 7 or 8 boiled eggs. Carefully slice remaining eggs and set aside. In a large bowl, combine potatoes, mashed eggs and mayonnaise (or use home-made dressing — see reverse).

VEGETARIAN BEET LOAF (WITH CARROT SAUCE)

(This recipe is dedicated to Brian: "I love you more than words can say. Love Raigen.")

(Preheat oven to 350 °F. Makes 1 loaf.)

Grate and mix together:

- 1 large carrot, 1 medium turnip, 1 medium zucchini,
- 1 large potato, 2 medium beets

Sauté until limp with:

- 1 large onion (diced)
- 2 cloves of garlic (minced)
- 1/3 cup olive oil

Add:

- 1 cup unsalted raw sunflower seeds
- 1 teaspoon each of: ground cumin, dried dill, dried tarragon, sea salt, black pepper
- 1 cup cooked brown rice





CREAMY ISLAND POTATO SALAD (continued)

Add celery, green onion or chives, if desired. Mix well, then press firmly into bowl. Add a layer of sliced tomato (optional). Top with layer of sliced eggs. Sprinkle with paprika. Cover and chill.

HOME-MADE DRESSING:

- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard powder
- 2 teaspoons white flour (or more to make dressing thicker)
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 cup white vinegar
- 1 teaspoon butter

In a saucepan, beat together ingredients, except for vinegar and butter. Cook lightly and, while beating, slowly add vinegar, a bit at a time. When thick, remove from heat. Stir in butter.

VEGETARIAN BEET LOAF (continued)

Mix ingredients well. Press evenly into loaf pan. Cover with aluminum foil and bake 1 hour. Uncover and bake another 30 to 45 minutes, or until done (toothpick stuck in the centre of loaf comes out clean). Serve sliced; smothered with carrot sauce.

CARROT SAUCE:

In a saucepan, sauté until golden brown:

- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 2 cups onions (coarsely chopped)

Add:

- 2 cups carrots (coarsely chopped)
- 2 cups vegetable stock

Simmer on low heat until carrots are tender and stock is reduced somewhat. Blend in a blender until smooth. Add salt, pepper, nutmeg to taste. Pour over beet loaf slices.





RECIPE:

Makes /serves:

INGREDIENTS:

Over →

RECIPE:

Makes /serves:

INGREDIENTS:

Over →



Recipes for advocacy



RECIPE:
DIRECTIONS:

RECIPE:
DIRECTIONS:



IMPORTANT CONTACTS:

Name:

Address:

Phone No.:

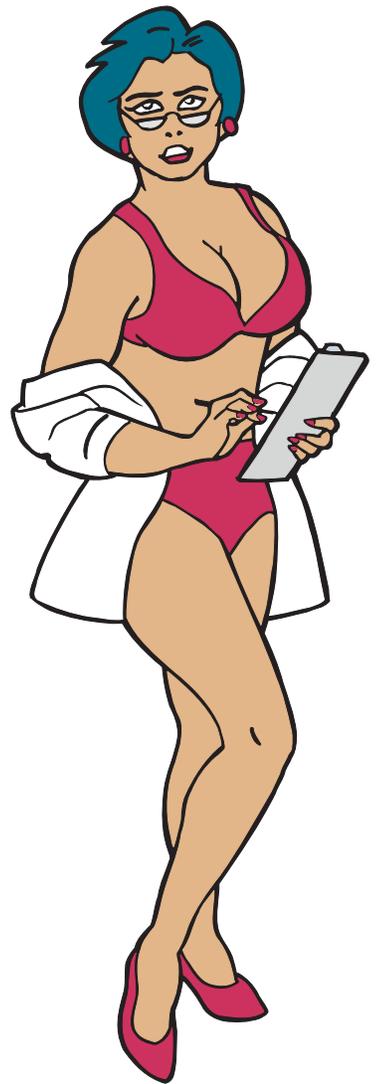
E-mail/Web:

Other info:



Research!

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• It's up to you!	



What about research?

Research is:

- the quest for knowledge or truth
- the collection of information or data
- a systematic process of discovery or investigation
- analysis of a particular issue, matter or idea
- study leading to scientific knowledge or understanding

Research can:

- explore the natural or social world
- develop or contribute to shared or general knowledge
- reveal, or help interpret or revise facts, theories, laws
- lead to new knowledge or help revise existing understanding

Medical research is the formal, experimental study of human health and disease processes. Medical research generally involves:

- testing a hypothesis to permit conclusions
- experimentation aimed at discovery, interpretations, and application of scientific data
- control over the research process and all participants
- maintaining objectivity through detachment and neutrality

Social research is the branch of sociology that carries out research. Social research explores social worlds as they exist and evolve within the natural world. One form of social research is community-based research.

Community-based research applies principles of community involvement and collaboration, using scientifically accepted research methods. Such research actively involves members of a community in a research process that is directly useful to the community.

Community-based research is called “participatory” when it involves an equitable, collaborative approach between those doing the research and those being researched. However, equitable participation between those researching and those researched virtually always involves an element of representation on the part of those being researched. Authentic community-based participatory research would only be possible in a democratic “town hall” type of situation, where all were involved in both questioning and answering, free from any element of representation, democratic or otherwise.



Community-based research is all about a philosophical approach to inquiry, and does not use any one particular research method. \$WE@&R! is a community-based research project because it combines the search for social knowledge with the goal of action for social change and social justice.

Submit your opinions

What follows is a complete list of all the questions in the other \$WE@&R! workbooks. If you have finished answering all the questions in the rest of the series, this is your chance to change your mind. You can also take this opportunity to submit your opinions, by filling out the card on the back and mailing it in.

The opinions collected by this project will be forwarded to the Law Commission of Canada. The Law Commission is an independent federal agency whose mandate is to provide advice on improvements to, and modernization and reform of, federal law. The preamble to its legislation includes important principles that guide its functioning:

- its work must be open, inclusive, and accessible to all Canadians
- it must view the law and the legal system in a broad social and economic context
- it must be responsive and accountable by working in partnership with a wide range of interested groups and individuals
- it must be innovative in its research methods
- it must take account of the impact of the law on different groups and individuals when making its recommendations

The \$WE@&R! *Sex Workers' Workbook* was conceived in response to a call for proposals from the Commission which stated:

"The Commission would like to explore the ways in which the law may be inadequate to protect basic concerns of working life — for example with respect to fair wages, occupational health and safety, and freedom from harassment or exploitation — in the case of workers who are not in a position to effectively assert their rights, or who fall through the cracks of legal protection altogether."



Sex questions

Sex diseases in history

\$-01: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should the choice be yours to use a condom or not when having sex (intercourse) for free, perhaps with your lover or spouse?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

Public health today

\$-02: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should the choice be yours to use a condom or not when you perform oral sex (blow job) for free, perhaps with your lover or spouse?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

\$-03: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should the choice be yours to use a condom or not when you have sex (intercourse) with a client?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

\$-04: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should the choice be yours to use a condom or not when you perform oral sex (blow job) with a client?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

\$-05: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to always use condoms when having sex (intercourse) with clients?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



Sex questions

\$-06: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required by law to always use condoms for all sexual contact at work?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

Reportable diseases

\$-07: *Let's say you are a sex worker. If you have herpes, should you be required to inform clients prior to sexual contact?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

\$-08: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to leave the sex industry if you catch herpes?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

\$-09: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you get tested regularly for reportable STIs such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis and hepatitis B?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

\$-10: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to have regular blood and urine tests for such reportable STIs as chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis and hepatitis B in order to be allowed to work?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



\$-11: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to inform your clients if you test positive for a reportable STI such as chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis or hep B?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

How about free vaccines?

\$-12: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you get regular vaccinations for hepatitis B?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

\$-13: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to get regular vaccinations for hepatitis B in order to be allowed to work?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

Sexual health exams

What makes a test anonymous?

\$-14: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you get tested regularly for HIV?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



Non-nominal testing

\$-15: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to regularly take an HIV test in order to be allowed to work?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

What about mandatory STI tests?

\$-16: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should clients be required to test for STIs before using your services?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

\$-17: Let's say you are a sex worker. Do you think clients should be required to test regularly for HIV in order to be allowed to receive your services?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

How does "contact tracing" work?

\$-18: Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should sex businesses be required to keep logs of all clients, including client contact information?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



What if you test HIV-positive?

\$-19: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you continue to work in the sex industry if you test positive for HIV?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

\$-20: Let's say you are a sex worker. Should you be required to stop working in the sex industry if you test positive for HIV?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

What about privacy?

\$-21: Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should your employer be informed if you test positive for a reportable sexually transmitted infection?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

STIs and criminal law

\$-22: Let's say you are a sex worker and you always follow the Canadian AIDS Society's Safer Sex Guidelines. Should you be required to tell clients if you test HIV-positive?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



What about self-regulation?

\$-23: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Do you think sex businesses should be required to carry liability insurance in case an infection or disease is transmitted to a client?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

Sex, drugs and research

\$-24: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Would you be willing to participate in medical research in exchange for medical insurance?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

\$-25: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should you be required to take part in medical research as part of your job?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

\$-26: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should there be laws to ensure that sex businesses can't require employees to participate in medical research?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

\$-27: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should you be required to take part in research to monitor sexually transmitted infection rates among sex workers?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



Sex, assault and the law

What about pressing charges?

\$-28: *Let's say you are a sex worker. Should police departments establish official "Sex-Worker Liaison Officers" — specially-trained police personnel dedicated to assisting sex workers who have been victims of violent crimes?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-



Work questions

Who's hiring?

W-01: Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. What kind of establishment would you prefer to work in? (Please mark all that apply.)

- a traditional brothel (house with a madam)
 - an office or home (with you working independently as a self-employed person)
 - a hotel or motel that offers hourly rates, maid service and security
 - an exotic dance bar with private rooms
 - a small co-operative business premises (say, up to four partners)
 - a mega-brothel (large corporate business, possibly franchised or traded on a stock exchange)
 - a room with a window in a red-light district
 - don't know
 - other (please specify)
-

Getting paid

W-02: Let's say sex work is legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. How would you like to get paid? (Please pick only one.)

- per hour
 - per sex act
 - directly by the client
 - by salary
 - don't know
-



What's a fair wage?

W-03: Let's say sex work is legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. What would be a fair income for a week's work, after taxes and deductions? (Please pick only one.)

- less than \$500
 - \$500-\$999
 - \$1,000-\$1,499
 - \$1,000-\$1,999
 - \$2,000-\$2,499
 - \$2,500 or more
 - don't know
-

Types of employment

W-04: Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Given a choice, which would you prefer to be?

- a temporary contract worker
 - a non-unionized permanent employee with benefits
 - a unionized permanent employee with full benefits and seniority rights
 - self-employed
 - don't know
-

Employment benefits

W-05: Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Which employment benefit programs would you be willing to pay for? (Please mark all that apply.)

- Employment Insurance
 - Workers Compensation
 - Canada Pension Plan
 - group insurance and retirement plans
 - no benefit programs
 - don't know
 - other (please specify)
-



Safety at work

W-06: Let's say you are on the health and safety committee for a sex business with 20 employees. Which of the following requirements would you recommend? (Please mark all that apply.)

- bright lighting for the inspection of genital areas for signs of diseases
 - laundry facilities for towels and sheets
 - showers and bathing areas
 - adequate hot water
 - antibacterial cleansers
 - de-lousing lotion/shampoo
 - properly trained security personnel
 - security devices such as cameras, remote-locking doors, and panic alarms
 - rubber gloves and instructions for cleaning up blood and other body fluids
 - an unlimited supply of condoms and water-based lubricant
 - rubbing alcohol for cleaning your hands before handling condoms, if massage oil is involved
 - no requirements
 - don't know
 - other (please specify)
-

Who is responsible?

W-07: Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. What safety equipment should you be required to provide for yourself? (Please mark all that apply.)

- condoms and water-based lubricant
 - latex gloves
 - cellular phone
 - antiseptic cleanser
 - self-defence device, such as pepper spray
 - no safety equipment
 - don't know
 - other (please specify)
-



Work questions

How can I refuse?

W-08: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should workplace regulations include limits on number of clients a sex worker should service per shift?*

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-

Enough is enough!

W-09: *Let's say you are on the health and safety committee for a sex business. What should be the maximum number of clients that a sex worker can service during a day's shift?*

- 1-3*
 - 4-6*
 - 7-9*
 - 10-15*
 - more than 15*
 - no limit on number of clients*
 - don't know*
-



Just say, "No way!"

W-10: Let's say you are on a health and safety committee for a sex business. On what grounds should a sex worker refuse to see a client? (Please mark all that apply.)

- client appears to have signs or symptoms of a sexually transmitted infection
 - client refuses to bathe or shower
 - client shows signs of aggression
 - client smells bad
 - client is not compliant with sex worker's instructions
 - client is argumentative when negotiating fees for specific services
 - client has a physical handicap which the worker feels untrained or unequipped to deal with
 - client demands services the worker does not provide
 - client interferes with the use of condoms or other protective equipment
 - client is too old
 - client is too young
 - client is unattractive
 - client can be refused without grounds
 - client cannot be refused for any reason
 - don't know
 - other (please specify)
-

How about a drink?

W-11: Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should sex businesses be permitted to sell alcohol?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



Work questions

W-12: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Would you want to work for a sex business that served alcoholic beverages?*

- yes
- no
- don't know

W-13: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Would you want to work for a sex business that could serve alcoholic beverages with meals?*

- yes
- no
- don't know

W-14: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should there be special liquor-licence regulations for sex businesses? (For example, a limit on the number of drinks that can be served to a customer.)*

- yes
- no
- don't know

W-15: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Would you want to be able to sell alcoholic drinks to customers?*

- yes
- no
- don't know

W-16: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. If a sex business can have a licensed lounge, should the job of selling alcohol and job of providing sexual services be two separate jobs? (An employee can only do one, or the other, not both.)*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



Wanna smoke?

W-17: Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should sex businesses be permitted to offer designated smoking rooms (as hotels do) for those clients who may wish to smoke during private sessions with sex workers?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

Professional associations

W-18: Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Would you be willing to pay membership fees to a voluntary professional association?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

W-19: Let's say you're a member of a voluntary Sex Professionals' Association. Which of the following possible member services would you want? (Please mark all that apply.)

- certificate/membership card
 - newsletter
 - courses and training programs
 - trade fairs and conferences
 - member rates on professional supplies
 - advertising in a membership directory
 - association website
 - none of the above
 - don't know
 - other (please specify)
-



Trained and certified

W-20: *Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should you be required to hold a certificate from a professional sex workers' association before you are permitted to work?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

W-21: *Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Would you want job-training that is certified by a professional sex workers association?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

W-22: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Should you be required to complete training programs and/or an apprenticeship in order to be allowed to work?*

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

National vs provincial

W-23: *Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. If you are required to be certified by a sex workers' association before being allowed to work, who should determine the training requirements you need in order to get your certificate?*

- a single national association that sets national standards
 - provincial associations that set standards for each province
 - no certification requirements
 - don't know
-



What training?

W-24: Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. If sex workers are required to successfully complete a training program before they are permitted to work, which of the following training should the program include? (Please mark all that apply.)

- sexual health (self-examination, examining clients, sexually-transmitted-infection recognition and prevention methods)
 - erotic arts: seduction, erogenous zones, massage, dirty talk, erotic dancing, sex toys and aids
 - fetishes and scenerios: clothing fetishes (e.g., shoes or underwear; cross-dressing), role-playing (teacher, nurse, babysitter, mommy, etc.), tickling, infantilism, urination, pubic/body shaving etc.
 - sado/masochism, dungeon and bondage
 - social skills (e.g., assertiveness; how to deal with difficult, argumentative, aggressive or intoxicated clients; negotiation)
 - self-defence
 - first aid
 - no training required
 - don't know
 - other (please specify)
-

What about a trade union?

W-25: Let's say sex businesses are legal and that you are a sex worker. Would you join a sex industry trade union?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



Education questions

What did you call me?

E-01a: If you worked in the sex industry, perhaps for a massage parlour, an exotic dance club, or an escort service — or on the street — how would you feel about being referred to as a sex worker?

- I would happily call myself a sex worker*
- I would prefer “sex worker” to other popular terms*
- I would feel indifferent about being called a sex worker*
- I would prefer not to be called a sex worker*
- I would strongly oppose being called a sex worker*
- don't know*

E-01b: If you would prefer not to be called a sex worker, what would you rather be called? (please specify)

Law reform in Canada

Who needs law reform?

E-02: Should Canada's prostitution laws be reformed?

- yes*
 - no*
 - don't know*
-



You talkin' to me?

E-03: If you could change Section 213 of the Criminal Code (the communicating law), which one of the following options would you choose?

- repeal it (remove it from the Criminal Code)*
 - keep it, but change the law so that aggressive soliciting and impeding traffic are prohibited for all types of businesses*
 - change the law so that only prospective customers can be charged (but sex workers cannot be charged)*
 - leave it unchanged*
 - none of the above*
 - don't know*
-

Off to work

E-04: If you could change Sections 210 and 211 of the Criminal Code (the bawdy-house laws), which one of the following options would you choose?

- repeal them*
 - keep them but alter them so as to permit some form of legal workplace for sex workers*
 - strengthen them so as to ensure that sex businesses are strictly prohibited in Canada*
 - leave them unchanged*
 - none of the above*
 - don't know*
-

Who's the boss?

E-05: If you could change Section 212 of the Criminal Code (the procuring law), which one of the following options would you choose?

- repeal it*
 - keep it, but alter it to permit some legal form of sex business management*
 - strengthen it, so as to ensure that no one in Canada can be forced or coerced into prostitution*
 - leave it unchanged*
 - none of the above*
 - don't know*
-



How old are you?

E-06: Let's say the procuring law has been repealed. At what age should you be allowed to work as a sex worker?

- never
 - 14
 - 15
 - 16
 - 17
 - 18
 - 19
 - 20
 - 21
 - don't know
 - other (please specify)
-

Other federal matters

What about criminal records?

E-07: Let's say sex work has become a legal profession in Canada. Should sex workers with prostitution-related criminal records receive pardons for those records?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

Who pays income tax?

E-08: Let's say sex work has become a legal profession in Canada. Now that sex workers can declare their earnings without fear of prosecution, should they be immune from income tax audits for years prior to legalization?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



“Sin tax” on sex work?

E-09: Let’s say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should sex businesses be subject to a special tax scheme that covers the cost of regulating the sex industry and pays for special services and programs for sex workers?

- yes
 - no
 - don’t know
-

Municipal by-laws

Zoning restrictions

E-10: Let’s say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should there be special zoning restrictions for sex businesses?

- yes
 - no
 - don’t know
-

E-11: Let’s say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should small sex businesses be allowed in areas zoned for “other commercial,” just like barber shops, beauty shops, and other neighbourhood services?

- yes
 - no
 - don’t know
-

What about “red-light” districts?

E-12: Let’s say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should sex businesses only be allowed to operate within specially-designated areas?

- yes
 - no
 - don’t know
-



Additional licensing requirements

E-13: Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should you be required to provide your photo and obtain a special, individual licence from the city before you can work for a sex business?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

E-14: Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should a sex business be required to keep a register containing the names and addresses of every client?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

Residential businesses

E-15: Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should you be allowed to operate a residential business, where you can provide services to clients in your home?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

Provincial licensing

E-16: Let's say sex businesses are legal in Canada and that you are a sex worker. Should a sex business require a special licence from the province, in addition to a city business licence, in order to operate?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



Advocacy questions

Advocacy in action

Government-appointed advocates

A-01: Let's say Canada has just legalized prostitution. Should there be a government-appointed Sex Industry Advocate to address complaints from sex workers about new government regulations?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

Advocacy initiatives

Law reform — New Zealand

A-02: Let's say that Canada's parliament has decided to establish a Prostitution Law Reform Committee. Should the committee composition include members representing the interests of sex workers, nominated by a sex worker organization?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-

Input on law reform in Canada

A-03: Let's say that Canada has just legalized prostitution. Could sex workers in Canada establish local organizations capable of developing and enforcing regulations for sex businesses?

- yes
 - no
 - don't know
-



Research! questions

Who you talkin' to?

The following questions are included in order to collect some basic (demographic) information about the people \$WE@&R! has heard from. More importantly, the answers to these questions may indicate that there are groups of people whose opinions are missing. This will help \$WE@&R! determine if there are people from a particular age group, gender, or region of the country who we still need to hear from.

It's up to you!

It's not necessary that you answer these questions. Your opinions are most important, so, please, send us your answers to the \$WE@&R! Research survey, regardless of whether or not you've answered the following questions.

R-01: *Are you living in Canada?*

- yes*
- no*
- prefer not to say*

R-02: *If you live in Canada, what province or territory do you reside in?*

- Alberta*
 - British Columbia*
 - Manitoba*
 - New Brunswick*
 - Newfoundland & Labrador*
 - North West Territories*
 - Nova Scotia*
 - Nunavut Territory*
 - Ontario*
 - Prince Edward Island*
 - Québec*
 - Saskatchewan*
 - Yukon Territory*
 - prefer not to say*
-



Research! questions

R-03: What city or town do you presently live in, or nearest to? (Please specify only one.)

R-04: How old are you? (Please mark only one.)

- under 14
 - 14-19
 - 20-24
 - 25-34
 - 35-44
 - 45-54
 - 55-64
 - 65-74
 - 75-84
 - 85, or older
 - prefer not to say
-

R-05: What's your sex? (Please mark only one.) Do you consider yourself to be

- female
 - male
 - transgender female
 - transgender male
 - prefer not to say
-



MAIL TO:

\$WE@&R!

c/o Walnut Institute

P.O. Box 3075, Main Post Office

Vancouver, B.C.

V6B 3X6

FROM:

(All information is required for a legal petition.)

Please print your first and last name:

Street Address:

City:

Province:

Signature:

