SEX WORK
AFTER SESTA

MAGGIE MAYHEM
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DEFCON 26
2018
WHEN SEX WORKER RIGHTS ARE UNDER ATTACK, WHAT DO WE DO?
GET DRESSED, FIGHT BACK!

Sex Worker Rights Labor Chant
SEX WORK AFTER SESTA

ABOUT ME

- Sex Worker, Birth Worker, Death Worker
- Based in San Francisco, CA
- Founder of Harm Redux SF
  Crack Pipe & Safer Smoking Supplies
- Former Sex Worker Outreach Project- USA
  Board of Directors 2015-2017
- Full Spectrum Doula
- Former HIV Senior Specialist
  Larkin Street Youth Services
- Feminist Porn Award Winner
SESTA/FOSTA

STOP ENABLING SEX TRAFFICKERS ACT/
FIGHT ONLINE SEX TRAFFICKING ACT
The Nordic Model:
Criminalizes the buying, rather than the selling, of sexual services.
“End Demand”

The belief that commercial sex and trafficking is underpinned by principles of supply and demand and that without the current demand to pay for sex, there would be no ‘supply’ of people to exploit.
“We are trying to eliminate the demand with these stings,” McLennan County Sheriff Parnell McNamara said. “It is kind of like the drug business, because as long as you have people on drugs, wanting it and paying for it, we are going to have drug dealers. We are trying to diminish this demand, but whether or not we will stop it, that may be impossible. If we can diminish the demand, it will cut down on human tracking.”
FROM BAD GIRLS, TO SAD GIRLS

Moral Failures to Human Trafficking Victims
ASYMMETRIC ENFORCEMENT OF A LAW WILL ALWAYS INFRINGE ON THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF THE NON-CRIMINAL PARTY
Escort Services Are Using Counter-Surveillance To Evade The Cops

Harrison Jacobs  Mar. 14, 2014, 2:08 PM

A new government-sponsored report on America’s sex industry has revealed how pimps and escorts avoid detection by cops these days.

The report by the Urban Institute analyzes information on the trade in eight cities: Miami, Dallas, Washington, Denver, San Diego, Seattle, Atlanta, and Kansas City, Mo.
First street based buyer sting
1964, Nashville, TN

First internet based buyer sting
1995, Everett, WA

Names and/or photos publicized
1975, Eugene, OR

First “Dear John” letters
1982, Aberdeen, MD

Surveillance cameras targeting prostitution
1989, Horry County, SC

Neighborhood Action Targeting Johns
1975, Knoxville, TN

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Sex Worker Advocates Say Oakland's ReportJohn.org Prostitution Snitch Web Site Does More Harm Than Good
By Darwin BondGraham
Darwin BondGraham

Last week, the Alameda County District Attorney's office and the City of Oakland unveiled ReportJohn.org, a web site for ratting on suspected sex-worker clients to the Oakland police. Users can snap photographs of people or vehicles suspected of solicitation and send them instantly from their cell phones. The police then use this information to generate and mail a "Dear John" letter to the home addresses of people accused of seeking out a sex worker.
"THIS TURNS NEIGHBORS AGAINST NEIGHBORS AND RECRUITS PEOPLE TO BECOME SPIES FOR THE POLICE. IT’S NOT HEALTHY FOR THESE COMMUNITIES."

Cynthia Chandler, human-rights attorney, San Leandro
Human Trafficking and the Hospitality Industry

Traffickers often take advantage of the privacy and anonymity accessible through the hospitality industry. Hotels and motels can be especially attractive locations for all forms of trafficking; however, human trafficking also occurs at sporting events, theme parks, cruise ships, and many other areas in the tourism industry. Staff are not necessarily educated on how to recognize and report signs of trafficking.

Our Hospitality Toolkit offers tips and resources that can help you inform and educate hospitality employees about human trafficking. It includes posters of human trafficking warning signs for hotel and motel staff; housekeeping, maintenance, and room service staff; concierge, bellman, front desk, security, and valet staff; and food and beverage staff.
HOUSEKEEPING, MAINTENANCE, AND ROOM SERVICE STAFF

Requests room or housekeeping services (additional towels, new linens, etc.), but denies hotel/motel staff entry into room.

Presence of multiple computers, cell phones, pagers, credit card swipers, or other technology.

Extended stay with few or no personal possessions.

Excessive amounts of sex paraphernalia in rooms (condoms, lubricant, lotion, etc.)

FOOD & BEVERAGE STAFF

Individuals loitering and soliciting male patrons.

Individuals waiting at a table or bar and picked up by a male (trafficker or customer).

Individuals asking staff or patrons for food or money.

Individuals taking cash or receipts left on tables.
SIGN OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

For Housekeeping, Maintenance, and Room Service Staff

GENERAL INDICATORS

- "No Data Display" sign used in hotel lobbies.
- Requests for housekeeping services (additional towels, new linens, etc.) but demands that hotel staff enter guest rooms.
- Refusal of cleaning services for multiple days.
- Excessive amounts of cash in a room.
- Smell of body fluids and musk.
- Presence of multiple computers, cell phones, papers, credit card swipers, or other technology.
- The same person cleaning multiple rooms.
- Individuals leaving room infrequently, not at all, or at odd hours.
- Children's items or clothing are present but no child registered with the room.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- Do not attempt to confront a suspected trafficker directly or alert a victim to your suspicions.
- Call 9-1-1 for emergency situations—threats of violence, physical assault, emergency medical needs, etc.
- Follow your corporate protocol, such as by notifying management and security.
- Call 1-888-DHS-2-ICE (1-888-347-2432) to report suspicious criminal activity to federal law enforcement. Highly trained specialists take reports from both the public and law enforcement agencies. Submit a tip at www.ice.gov/tips.
- To get help from the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC), call 1-888-373-7888 or text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733).

I avoid eye contact and interaction with others.

I exhibit evidence of verbal threats, emotional abuse, and/or being treated in a demeaning way.

I have a new interest in a person who lavishes me with gifts.

I show signs of malnourishment, poor hygiene, fatigue, sleep deprivation, untreated illness, injuries, and/or unusual behavior.

I have no control over or possession of money or ID.

I show signs of physical abuse, restraint, and/or confinement.

I lack freedom of movement or am constantly monitored.

Each indicator alone may not necessarily mean a person is being trafficked. For more information, visit www.dhs.gov/bluecampaign.
“While it is necessary and just to assist survivors, and expansion of those services is acutely needed, the interventions are not designed to prevent or reduce the occurrence of exploitation.”

A National Overview of Prostitution and Sex Trafficking Demand Reduction Efforts, Final Report 2012
Reverse Stings: Replacing prostituted women with police decoys.

- In web-based reverse stings, the basic model involves police posting a bogus advertisement on websites used to transact prostitution, and to place a female police decoy and support team in a hotel room or apartment for appointments with johns. This requires substantial planning, obtaining a phone for police to use that is not detectable as a police phone, constructing a realistic ad, and can pose challenges in getting hotel or apartment space. A variation used that is designed to solve some of these challenges is to have police search real web ads for prostitution; they respond to the ad, remove the survivor, and install a police decoy who continues making appointments with johns on the survivor’s hotel or cell phone. A similar concept is used in storefront brothels, where the staff and survivors are removed and replaced with police officers who continue to make appointments and arrest johns.
Most law enforcement response to commercial sex is driven by complaints from local residents and business. (At least 71% and more likely driving 90% of actions)

Public shaming tactics drastically reduce complaint calls regardless of whether or not actual activity is reduced

Individual victims/survivors are collateral damage in the larger war to “end demand” for commercial sex services

No punitive response, up to and including a death penalty, has effectively halted commercial sex at any time in history
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Craigslist erotic services reduced the female homicide rate by 17.4%

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Craigslist’s Effect on Violence Against Women*

Scott Cunningham  Gregory DeAngelo  John Tripp
Baylor University  West Virginia University  Baylor University

November 2017
IN SAN FRANCISCO THE AVERAGE YIELD OF ARRESTS PER STREET-LEVEL STING FELL BY HALF BETWEEN 2004 AND 2007
SEX WORK AFTER SESTA

- Workplace homicide rate for female prostitutes is 204 per 100,000.
- Women represent 22% of all homicide victims but 70% of serial killer victims.
- Sex workers represent 78% of all female serial killer victims.
- Sex workers are 18x more likely to be a victim of homicide than other women.
- 50% of sex worker homicides go unsolved.
Letter from Escambia County Sheriff to a “John”. Published in, An Overview of Sending Letters To Homes of Sex Buyers in the United States, from the Study, “A National Assessment of Prostitution and Sex Trafficking Demand Reduction Efforts” (2012)


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