

# VIOLENCE AND HARM IN PROSTITUTION

YOU CAN'T REGULATE OR DEREGULATE TRAUMA AWAY.

## HIGH LEVELS OF VIOLENT ENCOUNTERS

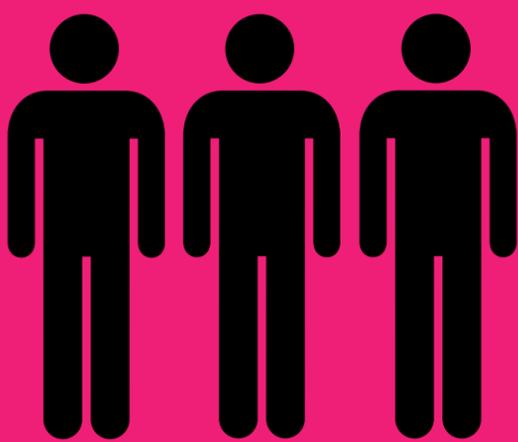


In a study of Prostitution in 9 countries with 854 respondents, 64% had been threatened with a weapon, 73% had been physically assaulted, and 57% had been raped.

Of the 57% (483 people) who had been raped in prostitution, 59% (286 people) had been raped in prostitution 6 or more times.

## PROSTITUTION CREATES LIFELONG PSYCHOLOGICAL SCARS

The psychological and physical trauma that people in prostitution go through has caused many to develop PTSD. 68% of those surveyed met the criteria for such a diagnosis.



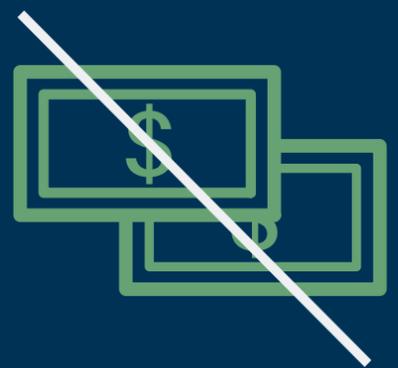
## IMPOSSIBLE TO SCREEN BUYERS

Whether it's indoors in brothels, massage parlors, online or on the streets, the safety of a person in prostitution can't be guaranteed. There is no way to conduct a full background check based on a phone number, a dummy email account, fake name or brief encounter on the curb.

## IT FUELS SEX TRAFFICKING

**WITHOUT DEMAND, THERE CAN BE NO SUPPLY.**

72% of detected trafficking victims worldwide are women and girls, who are primarily trafficked for sexual exploitation. The end point of sex trafficking is the sex trade, especially prostitution. And it is sex buyers' demand for prostitution that drives the sex trade and fuels sex trafficking. No buyer, no business, no trafficking.



## THE MOST VULNERABLE PEOPLE ARE TARGETED

Women and girls, especially of color, members of Black and Brown communities, the LGBTQ+ population, run away and foster youth, individuals experiencing homelessness, and undocumented immigrants are particularly at risk.

The *only* solution that holds perpetrators of this long-term harm and trauma accountable and ensures people in prostitution are decriminalized and given access to much-needed, specialized, comprehensive services is the **Equality Model** – a holistic legal approach that **reduces sex trafficking** and **promotes gender equality**.

   @EqualityModelNY

#EqualityModel 

Sources:

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 2018 Global Trafficking in Persons Report  
Prostitution and Trafficking in Nine Countries: An Update on Violence and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder