

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN VANCOUVER'S STREET LEVEL SEX TRADE AND THE POLICE RESPONSE

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FOREWORD

PACE Society, since its inception, has driven the movement toward systemic change in social attitudes, treatment, and the condition with which women and children who are trapped in cycles of sexual exchange are forced to live. The ability to involve our client-base has led to success in governance, service provision, research and social empowerment.

The former sex workers that founded PACE Society were committing to eliminating the conditions of rape, mutilation, assault, and death. All those who have taken up this challenge are also faced with political unpopularity, frustration, ridicule, and the realities that the general lack of resources and community support afford them.

We hope that abolitionists will draw from the findings in this report and realize that the war on sex buyers has only added to the disempowerment of sex workers through victimization. Enforcement methodology is extinct, and has **not** solved the problem. In actuality, 'shame the johns' campaigns have been harmful to our population by shifting the focus away from violence and issues of economic security for women.

We hope that this research will give a clearer picture of the rates of violence faced by the sellers of sex, and highlight the lack of coordinated efforts to reduce these numbers.

We hope that the voices of sex workers will not be silenced but included in the agendas of women's equality groups that are directed towards egalitarianism.

We hope for the inclusion of all genders in this plight; we do not believe we must exclude men to include women and the transgendered.

On behalf of PACE Society we would like to honor the over 200 sex workers that were able to give input into this research. Additionally we would like to thank Paige Latin, our founder, for her vision and personal sacrifice, Leonard Cler-Cunningham for his efforts in bringing this project to fruition, and the staff, Board of Directors and volunteers at PACE Society who dedicate their time to the fulfillment of our mandate that calls for "harm reduction and the abolition of conditions that lead to prostitution". We would also like to thank Status of Women for their contribution and support of this project.

Raven R. Bowen
Projects Coordinator

A child with her innocence stolen arrives on the streets of Vancouver alone, frightened and feeling worthless. Having very few options open for survival, she begins selling her body.

Her body is something desired by perverted older men and brought in enough money to have a warm, semi-clean motel room. She earns enough money to eat and clothe herself. Within days, the pain and humiliation of selling her flesh is too much to bear. Getting high helps mask some of the feelings of despair.

So much pain from past association with adults; that the idea of adults helping is a joke to be laughed at. Adults were the ones that had created the gaping holes in her esteem and heart. Having died many times already, there are feelings that physical death will be the only way to stop the hurt, the hurt that is part of every waking moment of life.

A deviant and criminal in the eyes of society because you are a female, teenaged runaway, Authorities take this to mean that you cannot be trusted or be reliable. Many members of society were the criminals in early life, crimes committed for which no one was ever charged, the damage done to these women by sick adults perpetuates the damage they continue to do to themselves. A sick individual takes a life and causes *so* many people to be devastated with the loss **of** another beautiful young women.

A woman stated that the physical pain that she endured at the hand of men was not *so* bad: "that pain heals". I was not able to help this woman but maybe in some way, I will be able to help save another young woman.

These women deserve the same worth afforded to all other people. No woman should be defined as worthy or worthless because of substance use and/or prostitution. Women do not wake up one morning and decide to be a drug-addicted prostitute. They do wake up mornings wanting to have people look at them with empathy, compassion and respect. The same way they look at others.

-Christine Christensen-April 7,2001

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The reality for a woman offering sex for sale on the streets of Vancouver is that she can be murdered and there's little chance that anyone will be prosecuted. She can be raped knowing that the police will likely not protect her. She can be chased from neighborhood to neighborhood as the purveyor of disease, destroyer of families, or a brainwashed victim to be rescued **from** the ravages of patriarchy. Endless reports have found that the non-profit agencies that should be helping her are often too busy squabbling amongst themselves rather than coordinating their efforts.

Residents feeling under siege, a rate of rape and assault that would shame third world nations, an expanding list of murdered and missing women, and an international embarrassment of infectious disease transmission rates are the consequences of misguided laws and ill thought out social policies.

Four years ago the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver was declared a medical health disaster with the highest reported HIV/HEPC infection rates in the Western world and the subsequent \$3 million spent on HIV prevention services is accepted as having had little or no impact.

Over **4700** injection drug users (IDUs) are estimated to live in the area and, until a recent drop, overdose deaths outstripped all other North American cities. Research in Vancouver indicates that **80%** of female IDUs report being active in the sex trade, and this population accounts for one the highest percentage increases of new HIV infections in Canada.

A report released last month by British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS established that Vancouver is the only city in the developed world where the HIV infection rate among female injection drug users far outstrips that of men - a consequence ascribed to our street level sex trade conditions.

The law in Canada was created in **1984**, and it's important to remember that while prostitution is legal in Canada, the bawdy house portion makes it against the law to buy or sell sex in off-street settings and the communicating section does the same for the buying or selling of sex in public.

It is our opinion that this system of quasi-criminalization bears a direct responsibility for the violent conditions suffered by women in Vancouver's street level sex trade.

A Vancouver newspaper has identified that since **1989** at least **35** sex workers have been slain. If one included information from Vice Unit files and RCMP (Canadian police agencies) data the number increases to 60 murdered sex workers since January **1982** - the majority of their murders remain unsolved (Lowman and Fraser).

In **1994** Paige Latin brought together former sex workers and their allies committed to doing something about the lack of relevant services and founded Prostitution Alternatives Counselling and Education (PACE) Society. With a mandatory minimum representation of **1/3** former or current sex workers on their board of directors, PACE presciently recognized the limitations of agencies relying on top-down programs developed by 'experts' opting to embrace innovative bottom-up peer-based programs.

Within 7 years, and no support from the City, PACE began to garner recognition. **An** independent evaluation of the Ministry of Children and Families' Vancouver Action Plan on Sexually Exploited Youth called for immediate expansion of their outreach and advocacy program targeting youth in the survival sex trade.

In a national report on the sex trade their innovative method for working with resident groups and neighborhood police was recognized as model for dealing with the impact of sex workers on residential neighborhoods. The Mount Pleasant community, a residential neighborhood in which they are based, appreciated their contribution enough to give them the service agency of the year award (1998).

In Vancouver violence against street-level sex trade workers has long been accepted as pervasive. We wanted to gain a better understanding of the conditions under which this violence occurs. Who is it committing these violent acts? What is being done about the violence? Why is this level of violence allowed to continue? How was this allowed to happen?

We were looking for a new model of doing research that could respond to the issue of violence – one that was propelled by the needs of the women and not the researchers desire to collect data.

We chose to investigate rates of eight different violent acts, based upon Canadian Criminal Code definitions, and three (for the purposes of this paper) non-violent categories – harassment, robbery, and refusal to wear a condom. In an attempt to gauge the gulf between acts of violence suffered and acts of violence reported we also explored police response from the point of view of the women.

Our sample size was **183** and data collection took place over two years making the information collected fairly reflective of conditions.

Our youngest contributor was **15** and the oldest was **51**. In an industry where youth is a commodity it's not surprising that over half were **24** and under. The average age was **25.9** years old.

Almost a third of our sample has been working in the sex trade for less than **2** years. **13.8%** started in the sex trade before they were even teenagers and a full 70% of our sample began before they were old enough to drink legally. The average age of entry into the sex trade was **16.98**. There is an immense overrepresentation of Aboriginal women in the street level sex trade (**31.1%**). According to the **1996** Census data from Statistics Canada, Aboriginals (North American Indian, Metis, Inuit) constitute only **1.7%** of Greater Vancouver's population.

Almost three quarters of the women had left their parent's or guardian's home permanently at age **16** or younger. **62.4%** don't have a high school diploma and **10.2%** had only a public school education. We found that **58.1%** identified themselves as working to supply a drug habit. When asked if they had to give money to somebody to be able to work either on or off-street, the majority of women, over **80%** of women on the street and over **70%** of the women off-street, replied 'no'. **89%** reported that someone has refused to wear a condom within the past year.

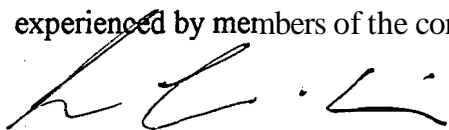
The following table shows a small sample of the data on violence that we collected.

All percentages are expressed as a valid pct (missing responses removed)	Pct responding that this happened to them while working on the street	Pct responding that it has happened more than once in the past year	Pct responding that this has happened to them within the past six months	Pct of Dates/tricks reported as being responsible for these acts	Pct that did not report any of the instances to the bad date sheet	Pct that did not report any of the incidents to the police	Pct reporting that no charges were ever laid in any of the instances	Pct reporting that nobody was ever convicted in any of the instances
Been harassed	83.1%	85.1%	73.2%	96.4%	54.7%	68.3%	83.8%	93.8%
Been robbed	53.7%	53.2%	69.2%	49.25%	56.8%	74.7%	89.8%	93.1%
Been physically threatened	70.5%	73.2%	68.4%	48.1%	63.4%	77.9%	90.1%	93.5%
Been threatened with a weapon	44.5%	60.3%	66.1%	35.4%	59.5%	72.2%	85.9%	88.4%
Been physically assaulted	51.2%	47.3%	72.7%	57.5%	58.0%	75.6%	91.6%	92.9%
Been assaulted with a weapon	30.3%	47.6%	74.4%	49.3%	68.4%	77.6%	89.8%	91.3%
Been forced to have sex against their will	45.8%	56.7%	68.2%		60.5%	77.8%	88.6%	94.3%
Been forced to have sex against their will w/ a weapon involved	40.7%	38.8%	68.1%	72.4%	63.8%	72.1%	85.9%	86.2%
Been kidnapped/confined	41.9%	30.9%	72.0%	67.8%	65.7%	64.8%	82.8%	87.1%
Been a victim of someone trying to kill them	33.1%	35.9%	59.5%	63.8%	56.9%	59.6%	78.9%	88.9%

Ultimately the goal was not to simply study the violence, but to use the information to hasten its end. Throughout this project former and current sex workers used the information to identify, develop and implement a variety of pro-active initiatives:

- On Monday April 26th 1999, over 35 youth from Vancouver who were, or had been, involved in the survival sex trade came together at the Mount Pleasant Neighborhood House. The focus group identified missing necessary services and called for immediate and easy to implement changes in the policy and practices of welfare, the police, and the Ministry of Children and Families' Adolescent Services Unit.
- ◆ *Towards A Common Ground*, is an opinion survey that was completed by over 500 Vancouver residents and business owners that attempted to discover what they agreed should be done in response to the sex trade: who should be allowed, where can it happen, what is acceptable, and what cannot be allowed to happen.
- ◆ The PACE Health Network (PHN) is a two year peer driven demonstration project for women whose involvement in the sex trade is primarily to finance their injection drug habit (SWIDU). The PHN is an attempt to:
 1. Identify and develop messages and strategies for HIV/AIDS/HEPC/STD prevention,
 2. Staff and operate a SWIDU based needle distribution,
 3. Develop and deliver prevention education/resource materials,
 4. Have weekly board meetings & monthly general membership meetings,
 5. Increase condom usage by SWIDUs, their partners and clients and
 6. Assist with the development and implementation of improved reporting/tracking of HIV/AIDS/STDs in order to improve the potential effectiveness of treatments.
- ◆ A Sex Trade Liaison Officer policy proposal presented to the Mayor and the Vancouver Police Board that might help lower the rape and assault rate of street level sex workers by having an officer dedicated to this job.

This research looks at the saddeningly tragic complicity in creating an environment that has unwittingly encouraged this situation. A city that has continually demonstrated its refusal to discuss any substantive response to this issue, the pernicious influence of a small but vocal feminist minority that has suffused the entire debate on the sex trade and a law that even the Department of Justice has deemed "ineffective in terms of the reduction of street prostitution and the aggravation experienced by members of the community".



Leonard Cler-Cunningham, April 30/2001

INTRODUCTION

The reality for a woman offering sex for sale on the streets of Vancouver is that she can be murdered and there's little chance that anyone will be prosecuted. She can be raped knowing that the police will likely not protect her. She can be chased from neighborhood to neighborhood as the purveyor of disease, destroyer of families, or a brainwashed victim to be rescued from the ravages of patriarchy. Endless reports have found that the non-profit agencies that should be helping her are often too busy squabbling amongst themselves rather than coordinating their efforts.

Ultimately you begin to suspect that the law and its practice weren't created to protect you. **"An** evaluation (of the federal communicating law) by the Department of Justice (1989) deemed the law ineffective in terms of the reduction of street prostitution and the aggravation experienced by members of the community." – (Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics)

University researchers, social workers, Ministry staff, consultants, the charity, health and criminal justice industries continue **to** profit with little or **no** measurable impact on the lives of those they are supposed to serve.

In Vancouver for the women in the sex trade and their families it is past time to admit the obvious – how we have been doing what we are doing is not working.

There are at least **31** missing women from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES). Since 1989 The Vancouver Sun has identified at least **35** prostitutes who have been slain. If one includes information from Vice Unit files and RCMP data the number increases to **60** murdered prostitutes since January 1982 - the majority of their murders remain unsolved. Women in the sex trade are murdered at a rate of **60 to 120** times the rate of the general female population (Lowman and Fraser 1996).

Residents feeling under siege, a rate **of** rape and assault that would shame third world nations, an expanding list of murdered and missing women, and an international embarrassment of infectious disease transmission rates are the consequences of misguided laws and ill thought out social policies.

One day the history of prostitution in Vancouver will be written. When the author arrives at the 1990s they will have no choice but to write a tragedy of individuals, governments and organizations making bad or willfully ignorant but ultimately self-serving decisions. We might not know why until a future cottage industry in Royal Commissions examines how we could have sustained such painful incompetence, with such horrific consequences, for *so* long.

This research looks at the saddeningly tragic complicity in creating an environment that has unwittingly encouraged this situation. A city that has continually demonstrated that this issue is “not a high enough priority at this time” for them, the pernicious influence of a small but vocal feminist minority that has suffused the entire debate on the sex trade and a law that the Supreme Court of Canada recognizes as violating the *Canadian Charter of Rights*’.

BACKGROUND

The impetus for this project came from the Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women (GAATW) Conference held in Victoria BC on May 1, 1997. GAATW’s mandate:

"is not to stop the migration of women but to ensure the protection & the human rights of those involved. Our strategy is to promote the involvement of grassroots women in all work against trafficking in women to ensure that any work done addresses the real problems. We work to empower women rather than treat them as victims."

In PACE Society’s first year their founding members made a critical decision to emphasize direct service delivery over political advocacy. They chose as their mandate: *The reduction of harm and the abolition & conditions leading to prostitution, as we know it.* Over the past seven years this choice has continued to inform the development of PACE and guided this study.

Originally the project was to have four sections:

Off-street sex trade outreach program

The off-street sex trade is often estimated to be six to ten times the **size** of that found on the street. Much of it occurring in places where there is little, or no, monitoring or opportunity for individuals to access services. With funding from the City of Vancouver we had hoped to initiate an outreach program for this population. This was to be complemented by:

Offbeat sex work research

In 1998 there had been little research published on the off-street sex trade. We hoped to fill this gap by working with a professor from SFU. The information could have been used by the outreach program and all three levels of government to ensure that equitable regulatory measures were in place to identify and reduce abusive situations.

Community advocacy action plan

Federal, Provincial, and Municipal governments had recognized the difficulty of responding to the sex trade to almost anyone's satisfaction. Greater onus was placed on local communities and individuals affected by this issue to find their own responses. PACE hoped to identify issues of common concern among youth in the survival sex trade, residents, parents, resident groups, business owners, police, Crime Prevention Offices, Municipalities, sex workers and non-governmental organizations.

Research on Violence Against Vancouver Street Level Sex Workers

The bulk of this report is an examination of violence suffered by street level sex workers - how it came about and why it seems to continue unabated.

As you will see, a controversy over research ethics at Simon Fraser University, the Vancouver municipal government's bureaucratic brick wall, and an increasing recognition by PACE's front line staff that conditions in the city served to encourage violence against this population made it difficult to adequately address the off-street issue and led us to focus the majority of our efforts on the *Community advocacy action plan* and *Research on Violence Against Vancouver Street Level Sex Workers*.

We were looking for a new model of doing research – one that was propelled by the needs of the women and not the researchers desire to collect data. Throughout this project former and current sex workers used the information to identify, develop and implement a variety of pro-active initiatives:

- ◆ A focus group for youth in Vancouver's survival sex trade that identified missing necessary services and called for immediate and easy to implement changes in the policy and practices of welfare, the police, and the Ministry of Children and Families Adolescent Services Unit.
- ◆ *Towards A Common Ground*, an attempt to identify principles commonly held by Vancouver residents and business owners about where and under what conditions the sex trade can happen.
- ◆ The PACE Health Network (PHN), a two year peer driven demonstration project to combat HIV/HEPC for SWIDUs (SWIDU is used in place of the clunky 'sex workers that are injection drug users whose involvement in the sex trade is primarily to finance their habit').

- ◆ A Sex Trade Liaison Officer policy proposal presented to the Mayor and the Vancouver Police Services Board that could lower the rape and assault rate of street level sex workers.

Ultimately the goal was not to simply study the violence, but to use the information to hasten its end.

VANCOUVER: SINS OF THE CITY

Given the pivotal role Vancouver played in bringing about the laws of today, their continued refusal to grapple with the issue in any substantive manner is doubly frustrating.

Like most frontier towns Vancouver's history is intertwined with prostitution. One of the earliest residents was Birdie Stewart who opened a brothel at the corner of Water and Cambie around 1880. A veritable head tax on prostitutes, through a system of fines, became a reliable source of revenue for a young town. The first police scandal, and almost every one to follow, has been tied to the sex trade. (On The Shady Side)

A century later, the politically adroit - almost paramilitary exuberant - Concerned Residents of the West End's (CROWE) efforts to rid their neighborhood of sex workers developed into a national political force that was hard to ignore. The Association of Canadian Chiefs of Police and mayors of large Canadian cities were of shared opinion that recent court decisions" on prostitution laws had rendered it impossible to enforce. Added to this mix, in the mid '80s, was an explosion of emphasis on pornography by North American feminists. The combination of these factors nudged the Federal Government to establish that savior of seemingly intractable social problems - a Royal Commission. (McLaren)

On June 23, 1983 the Federal Minister of Justice mandated the Fraser Committee to examine issues related to pornography and prostitution.

The conservative government at that time balked at any of the recommendations that might have been a step towards clearing up the contradictory nature of Canadian prostitution law.

It's legal to sell sex in Canada but if you sell it on the street you can be arrested. If you sell it in your home you can be arrested. If you open a business to sell it, you can be arrested. If you help somebody sell it you can be arrested.

However, this wholly inadequate law can be seen as an unintended consequence of the fact that the welfare of sex workers, mostly women, wasn't the foremost consideration in the development and implementation of Canadian legislative measures responding to the sex trade.

No one can deny that the individuals involved with the Fraser Committee were possessed of anything but the best of intentions and that criticizing their efforts with the benefit of almost 20 years of hindsight is unfair.

But just a few years after the law was enacted former committee member John McLaren reflected on how individual vs. equality rights, time and research constraints inhibited the full potential of their work.

Of their own volition the committee members had already "concluded that it is legitimate in the Canadian context to seek to balance individual and equality rights and, where they conflict, to consider limiting the former in order to protect and sustain the latter." (McLaren)

McLaren states that, "we (the Fraser Committee) had too little input from important players in the world of commercialized sex, *such as prostitutes* (emphasis added)". Thus they relied on researchers. Research into sex work was still in its infancy and working under a six-month timeline they were only able to collect information on the street level sex trade.

He admits that, "This left large gaps in our knowledge about off-street prostitution, whether in the context of residential service, escort agencies, hotels, bars or massage parlors."

Time wasn't the only constraint placed upon the research. They were denied the opportunity of traveling to other countries gaining first hand knowledge of how "operational policies, attitudes and realities" actually worked.

An emphasis on equality over individual rights, little input from sex workers, no information on the off-street sex trade and no direct observation of how legal measures and social policy in other

countries impacted the lives of women in the sex trade. It would be like holding the Walkerton inquiry without talking to anyone who had drunk the water.

McLaren's caveat that "despite the impulse **of** the reformers to see the criminal law used as a weapon against exploiters, the reality has typically been that it is the victims rather than the exploiters who find themselves at the receiving end of the criminal law" has largely rung true for sex workers and youth in the survival sex trade.

In Vancouver, the 'child as victim' rhetoric notwithstanding, an increasing number of young women have recently been charged with pimping. From **1988** through **1994** "there were just six charges for offering to purchase the sexual services of a youth, and only two convictions (Clark, **1996**). Compare this to the enforcement of the communicating law. During its first six years, **7409** charges were laid in Vancouver." (Lowman and Fraser **1996**)

In **1994** Paige Latin had brought together a group of former sex workers and their allies, committed to doing something about the lack of relevant services in Vancouver, and founded Prostitution Alternatives Counselling and Education (PACE) Society. With a minimum of **1/3** representation of former or current sex workers **on** their board of directors, PACE presciently recognized the limitations of agencies relying on top-down programs developed by 'experts', opting to embrace innovative bottom-up peer based programs.

Within 7 years, and no support from the City, PACE began to garner recognition. **An** independent evaluation of the Ministry of Children and Families' Vancouver Action Plan (VAP) on Sexually Exploited Youth, called for immediate expansion of their outreach and advocacy program that targeted youth in the survival sex trade.

"...PACE, is notable within the continuum of VAP component services for its complete focus on youth who are clearly and currently involved in street prostitution. As such it is the only project that has this as its central mandate and sole service mode.. It appears to the evaluators to be quite effective in identifying, contacting, and supporting young people (mostly women, of course) who are engaged in prostitution.

*... we believe that the PACE model seem to be a good one for direct services to this highly specialized and very vulnerable target group. As such we believe that expansion of this type of precisely targeted, **multi-faceted** service... could be of real benefit to youth whose primary source of economic **survival** at this point is prostitution."*

(REPORT OF THE FINDING FROM THE EVALUATION OF THE VANCOUVER ACTION PLAN ON SEXUALLY EXPLOITED YOUTH (VAP), 1996)ⁱⁱⁱ

In a national report on the sex trade their innovative method for working with resident groups and neighborhood police was recognized as a model for responding to the impact of prostitution on residential neighborhoods. (FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL TERRITORIAL WORKING GROUP ON PROSTITUTION)

In 1998, the Mount Pleasant community appreciated their contribution enough to give them the service agency of the year award.

While the need for supplying housing for this vulnerable population was a consistent chorus in city reports, PACE and a group of dedicated volunteers were busy building it themselves (see attachment # 1 ***A Place to Sleep, Something to Eat and Somebody Who Cares***).

In 1998 PACE applied to the City of Vancouver for funding to support an advocacy/outreach worker that would target off-street sex workers – estimated to be 6 to 10 times the number of street level. The belief was that the City would recognize a link between collecting revenue from selling licenses to individual escorts and body rub parlors and the responsibility to fund social programs.

Despite the awards, independent evaluations, and recommendations calling for services to this population Vancouver's Social Planning department's decision was:

“No grant recommended. Objectives and outcome of proposed work are unclear and MCF funding for core services is currently unstable.”

PACE appealed and on April 23, 1998, The Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets agreed with social planning's recommendation and decided not to approve the grant.

However they asked:

“That a strongly worded letter be sent to the Provincial Government regarding the funding of services for sex trade workers.”

Almost four years has gone by and no letter has ever been sent.

The lack of support from the City of Vancouver didn't mean that PACE would have to abandon doing research on the off-street sex trade. Simon Fraser University helped with that.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY AND THE RESEARCH CHILL

Considering the perilous legal nature of much of the off-street sex trade, the conditions of SFU's ethics policy would have made it impossible for researchers to engage in work **of** any value or quality on a topic like this.

Regardless of a vigorous debate on the seeming failure of social science research to have much of an impact on the lives of their subjects, community **groups** and individuals attempting to work outside of academic institutions cannot access peer and ethical review boards for research involving human subjects. This denies them access to the bulwark of funding available and limits their ability to have their work viewed as 'rigorous and valid'.

To overcome these barriers community groups are forced to 'partner' with academic institutions. Status Of Women Canada had committed funding for this project and PACE was fortunate in having established a relationship with Professor John Lowman from Simon Fraser University's Criminology department.

PACE was to assist with supplying access to a hitherto relatively unexplored population (individuals involved in the off-street sex trade) and Dr. Lowman would be able to give the project credibility, **not** only through his involvement but also, by access to peer and ethical review.

Meanwhile, a seemingly unrelated event was unfolding in the British Columbia courts.

SFU Criminology student Russel Ogden had recently published his masters thesis on assisted HIV suicide when he was called in front of the coroner and directed to reveal his sources. He refused and eventually the courts backed down.

Like all graduate students doing research involving human subjects Russel had received **an** ethics certificate from the university. Even though he could have faced imprisonment the university abandoned **him** while he was in front of the courts. He sued SFU for breach of contract in an

attempt to recoup some of his out of pocket expenses for legal fees. To the judge's regret he had no choice but to rule against Ogden but the verdict contained a scathing denunciation of SFU calling their defense of academic freedom "hollow and timid".

Professor Lowman was one of Russel's staunchest defenders and a vehement critic of the administration's behavior during the inquest and trial. That they would acquiesce to any demand by the police and courts for access to a researcher's notes and data without having to demonstrate the need in court was anathema to **him**.

In an interesting parallel this places research in the same legal status as pornography. Courts, customs or police can basically apprehend material and the onus is on the researcher/bookstore/artist to prove that it **is** not necessary/obscene.

With the city refusing to fund **an** off-street outreach worker and SFU's ethics policy potentially placing research subjects at risk of arrest, we were forced **to** abandon the off-street sections.

As a result, efforts were focused on how best **to** work with the youth and communities and finding solutions to the violence.

COMMUNITY ADVOCACY ACTION PLAN:

A FOCUS GROUP FOR YOUTH IN THE SURVIVAL SEX TRADE

The need for doing something different was made clear in *Mean Streets Youth Crime and Homelessness* (1998) by John Hagan and Bill McCarthy. The work clearly identified that Vancouver's reliance on apprehension and/or arrest had the unintended effect of increasing the number of youth in the survival sex trade. Surprisingly, there was little or no attention paid to this important work by either Vancouver's local media¹ or service providers despite it being the largest and most analytically rigorous research ever done on high-risk youth in Vancouver and Toronto.

“When Vancouver street youth are picked up by the police, they cannot be taken to a youth hostel. Rather, they are more likely to face one of several less desirable consequences: They may be returned to their families, who are liable to criminal prosecution if they refuse to accept and promise support for their children; they may be placed in government care and sent to a foster or group home; or they may be jailed. As expected few of these environments offer successful solutions to problems that cause youth to leave home in the first place.”

An impressive group of young women who had left the survival sex trade, with help from PACE, gave up a Saturday each week for a year to meet at the PACE office. Not only did they work together on identifying common themes that served to maintain youth involvement in the survival sex trade - they also served as the advisory board for the violence research.

They wanted to find out what other youth believed could be changed tomorrow rather than coming up with a litany of complaints or unobtainable goals. Four areas of immediate concern that they identified were the practices and policies of:

1. Welfare/assistance
2. Police/enforcement
3. The Adolescent Services Unit (ASU)
4. And a lack of necessary services.

¹ Hagan John, and McCarthy Bill, *Mean Streets* pg. 109

VANCOUVER YOUTH IN THE SURVIVAL SEX TRADE FOCUS GROUP RESULTS

On Monday April 26th 1999, over 35 youth from Vancouver who were, or had been, involved in the survival sex trade came together at the Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House.^v Together they developed simple and easy to implement recommendations necessary for responding to the needs of Vancouver youth in the survival sex trade.

Welfare/Assistance:

The youth identified that the very people who were supposed to help them leave the survival sex-trade were often factors that pushed them further, farther and deeper into sexual exploitation.

Financial Aid Workers, Social Workers and Training Consultants were identified as inconsistent at best or at worst, direct factors in a youth's involvement. The lack of confidentiality, respect and an overwhelming fear of being judged if a youth disclosed their involvement in the survival sex trade were consistently identified as factors keeping children out there on the streets.

Recommendation:

That all professionals, particularly Financial Aid and Social Workers, receive training specific to working with sexually exploited youth.

Police/Enforcement:

The youth felt that police and enforcement services often neither believed, respected nor followed-up on complaints of rape or assault. They also felt that arresting or apprehending youth was not effective in helping them leave the streets.

Recommendation:

That the police receive training on working with sexually exploited youth and that the police emphasize protecting them ~~from~~ rape and assault over arresting/apprehending youth.

Adolescent Services Unit (ASU)

The youth recognized that ASU is a relevant resource for street-kids but felt that it offered little for youth in the survival sex trade. They also felt that being brought in by the police was not only ineffective but created an atmosphere of mistrust. Constant questions about "who is your pimp" and "how long have you been working" made ASU an unsafe place.

Recommendation:

Access to services must be voluntary and focus on helping the youth rather than arresting the pimp. The youth felt that ASU could achieve this through greater co-operation with existing agencies rather than the police. The Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Service., Street Youth Services., PACE, and the Street Nurses were identified as relevant resources that ASU should work closer with.

Necessary Services

Finally, they wanted it known that youth in the survival sex-trade were not necessarily street kids. Therefore services for street kids were not necessarily relevant for them. Counseling, safe houses, training, and more outreach specific to them must be established. All of these things should be integrated in order to ensure a relevant and effective continuum of services.

The input of the young women and results from the forum clearly influenced not only the method and goal of the violence research but impacted the direction of PACE programs.

Fortunately, the Canadian Department of Justice provided detailed comments and suggestions to assist PACE in developing each section of the project. They also encouraged the organization in making an application to the National Crime Prevention Centre program, which is currently funding the Community Based Prevention Program for Young Women at Risk.

This prevention program is developing a 'best practices model' program for young women (12 to 24) that are involved in, or are at risk of entering, the survival sex trade. A peer counselor and volunteers work with incarcerated young women discussing the realities of the sex trade. The peer volunteers and worker assist the young women and their families in making a transition back to the community.

TOWARDS A COMMON GROUND

PACE was not prepared to abandon working with local communities and individuals affected by the sex trade on the identification of shared goals and equitable responses. Their experience with members of the Mount Pleasant community and police^vwere, and continues to be, a positive one. They had learned that supposedly conflicting interests could be overcome if there were clearly articulated common purposes.

The biggest obstacle to identifying what opinions these divergent groups shared was to select a method that would give them fairly reliable data. It was decided that an opinion survey was the simplest and most cost effective tool available.

The purpose of *Towards A Common Ground* (see attachment #2) is an attempt to identify what people in Vancouver agree should be done to respond to the sex trade: who should be allowed, where can it happen, what is acceptable, and what cannot be allowed to happen.

The development of *Towards a Common Ground* is indebted to Valerie Spicer and Eileen Mosca's *The Commercial Drive Community Survey* (1997).

Barbara Waldren, a student from SFU with a demonstrated commitment to the idea of community research, volunteered to help distribute the surveys throughout Vancouver.

Barbara collected 50 surveys from each of the 15 neighborhoods with a Crime Prevention Office (CPO). This would allow us to compare the attitudes of different neighborhoods. In order to get fairly representative data, 10 surveys were left with each of the 15 CPOs, and an additional ten, in each neighborhood, were collected on the spot from randomly selected people. The remaining 30 were left with residents and business owners in each community and, at an agreed upon time in the future, Barbara returned to collect them.

This method was chosen over simply dumping them at community agencies and CPOs for anyone to fill out and return. We wanted to collect input from people that would be more representative of the general population.

We hope to release the results in the near future. Unfortunately, without funding it's difficult to input over 700 surveys and write **up** the results.

Violence and the Outlaw Status of Street

In a forthcoming article, *Violence And The Outlaw Status of Street Prostitution*, Dr. Lowman discusses the history of the missing and murdered sex workers in British Columbia.

In 1991 local activists and relatives began a Valentine's Day vigil in memory of the murdered women in Vancouver's notorious DTES. Seven years later 16 mostly aboriginal women had disappeared, and the idea that a serial killer was active became common currency among the women on that stroll.

Vancouver Police Department spokespersons effectively dismissed the existence of serial killers preying upon this vulnerable population, suggesting instead that many of the women had probably just chosen to go missing. Family, friends and activists heatedly disputed this idea pointing out that the women had close social ties in the community. In many cases money had either been left in their bank accounts or they hadn't picked up their welfare checks, behavior completely at odds with anyone that has a long history of addiction – as many of these women did.

While the community was demanding that something be done and this issue taken seriously, the Vancouver Police Board had authorized a \$100,000 reward for information related to suburban home invasions. Another \$100,000 was offered for information relating to the identification of the garage robber – a group ambushing people as they pulled into their garages.

This was taken as a sign that the Vancouver Police department considered the safety of residents from affluent neighborhoods a higher priority than the increasing numbers of women missing from one of the poorest postal code districts in all of Canada.

In April 1999, the Mayor finally recommended to the Police Board that they support the posting of an equivalent reward.

Professor Lowman wonders, in this paper, how the police could have *so* quickly dismissed that a serial killer was responsible for any of the murdered sex workers from British Columbia with an active investigation into the Green River Killer just across the border?

The 31 missing women aren't included in the more than 60 murdered sex workers in British Columbia between 1982 and 1998. Where the stroll on which the victim met the assailant is known, nearly all came from the Mount Pleasant and DTES areas.

In April 1999 local media devoted attention to a Vancouver psychiatrist's battle in BC Supreme Court to reveal information about one of his patients -Michael Leopold.

Leopold had recently plead guilty to assaulting a sex worker and revealed to the psychiatrist that he'd actively planned to kill her and others, going *so* far as to turn **his** basement into a torture dungeon. He intended to render identification impossible by mutilating their bodies and dumping them in the bush near Hope BC. A site where the bodies of other sex workers have been found in the past.

From September 1996 to Dec 1997 five women went missing. Micheal Leopold was free on bail during that time.

Some of the women have been found, but at the time of this writing 31 women from Vancouver's DTES are still missing and unaccounted for. Meanwhile, a new task force is being assembled but **unless** the police are willing to address their contribution of negligence the conditions will remain unchanged and the numbers will continue to rise. The belated and begrudged recognition of an active serial killer or killers is a farcical victory for families and activists.

Investigators that recognized and demonstrated that it would not be enough to simply investigate the murders, but that conditions contributing to the murders must be changed, were transferred out of the unit.

At the beginning of this year the VPD made an official announcement— they were reducing the staffing commitment of the task force.

Maggie deVries, whose sister is among the 31 missing women, has observed that, "If 20 UBC students went missing over the same period of time there would be mayhem. There would be searches and media interest and rewards."

A small number of offenders are responsible for a large amount of violent sex crimes and murders.

In 1994 Kim Werbecky announced to the media that in April 1981 she had been the victim of a sexual assault while hitchhiking and that the crown decided not to charge the man only after learning that she had been a child prostitute. The individual that she had made the charges against was Clifford Olson. In the following four months - he murdered ten children. (Lowman and Fraser 1996).

In July 1986 11-year-old Alison Parrott's naked body was found in Toronto's Kingsmill Park. She had left her home a day earlier to meet with a 'photographer' who was to take photos of her for an upcoming track meet in New Jersey. Originally a suspect in the slaying, Francis Carl Roy was questioned and released, moving to Vancouver's Mount Pleasant neighborhood two years after the murder.

A decade later two Vancouver police officers caught him in some bushes near where a sex worker had been killed. He had a rape kit - tape, rope and gloves - and although questioned and released he became an immediate suspect in the slaying of two sex workers from the Mount Pleasant area. During their investigation the officers discovered that he had been a suspect in the slaying of Alison Parrott and contacted Toronto's homicide division.

With this new information Roy again became a primary suspect and was eventually convicted for the murder of Alison Parrot.

While Vancouver Police might deny the existence of a serial killer(s) targeting sex workers, their Toronto counterparts contradict them: 'Francis Carl Roy is still being investigated by the RCMP and the Vancouver City Police in regards to the murder of **seven** (emphasis added) women, **three** who are confirmed to be prostitutes between August 1988 and August 1990. All of these women had been strangled.'

Senior Vancouver Police officials"" familiar with the original investigation against Roy for the murder of two sex workers from Mount Pleasant are adamant that the lack of investigation into the homicides was due to the fact that the two victims were sex workers and, not miscommunication between departments as reported in the newspapers.

Violence by serial predators is not the **only** ill that Vancouver street level sex workers can fall victim to:

VANCOUVER: THIRD WORLD CONDITIONS IN A FIRST WORLD CITY

Anyone either working or residing in the DTES feels like the butt of a mirthless prank each time Vancouver is selected as a number one destination or place to live. It's difficult to accept that they could continue receiving this kind of consideration if competing international tourism and business communities were aware of the other areas where Vancouver holds the #1 title.

It was only four years ago that the Downtown Eastside was declared a medical health disaster with the highest reported HIV/HEPC infection rates in the Western world and the subsequent \$3 million spent on HIV prevention services is accepted as having had little or no impact.

Over 4700 injection drug users (IDUs) are estimated to live in the area and, until a recent drop, overdose deaths outstripped all other North American cities. Research in Vancouver indicates that 80% of female IDUs report being active in the sex trade, and this population accounts for one of the highest per-centage increases of new HIV infections in Canada.

A report released earlier this month by BC's Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS established that Vancouver is the only city in the developed world where the HIV infection rate among a group of women far outstrips that of men - a consequence they ascribed to our street level sex trade conditions.

Why this should be a major concern for public health officials is illustrated by a young woman who left the hospital in Vancouver where she had been receiving treatment for MV, Hepatitis C and tuberculosis. Well aware that the inevitable consequence of her decision is that she would

die - health care professionals were concerned that on her way out that she would be taking some others with her and debated issuing a medical warrant.

Tuberculosis had left this woman with fashionably chiseled cheekbones. She didn't have to work as hard to turn tricks with suburban johns who would pay extra not to use a condom.

A recent syphilis outbreak led Vancouver Health authorities to target street level sex workers. They imported a method more common to the Third World than First. Syndromic management is where you treat everyone considered at risk of having the disease regardless if they are symptomatic or not.

In another Third world parallel, the researchers received permission to use a drug not yet approved for release in Canada.

The conditions encouraging the disease transmission rates have not gone unnoticed by the City. On November 21st, 2000 the Mayor Phillip Owen of Vancouver released **A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION -A Four-Pillar Approach to Drug Problems in Vancouver**. To his credit it ranks among the first time a mayor from a major North American City has essentially recognized that the American style war on drugs is not winnable and that we should explore innovative harm reduction initiatives that have demonstrated their success in containing the spread of disease and lowering crime rates in some European Cities. This, for North America, revolutionary approach - safe injection sites, medically prescribed heroin, and low threshold methadone programs - to the issue of drug use, disease and crime went virtually unnoticed in major Canadian media.

A discomfoting gap in the report is the lack of any emphasis on the issue of gender. Women in the sex trade represent a unique population with their own needs requiring specifically tailored and targeted programs.

A sentiment echoed in a recent report by the Vancouver Injection Drug Users Study (VIDUS):

“It is clear that female injection drug users who also sell sex represent a population that should receive intensive STD prevention interventions. The challenges of dealing with this population however will require innovative approaches. Simply having condoms and providing fee diagnostic testing and antimicrobial therapy is not sufficient.”

This same report was concerned that without these 'innovative approaches' SWIDUs could be potential *bridges* to populations outside the DTES through men who visit the area to purchase sex and foreign visitors to the area - tourists or ship workers stopping at Vancouver port. (Doctor Mark Tyndall, September 2000)

International organizations such as UNAIDS, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, and the World Bank have all stated that peer education for sex workers is the best policy and have subsequently recognized it as a 'high priority' in international development.

Health research and service initiatives often perpetuate the isolation of **sex** workers by viewing them solely as vectors of disease transmission. PACE initially chose not to emphasize HIV/AIDS in their mandate and programs although it was a dominant concern and service priority for the organization. PACE believes that it **is** the unsafe conditions and the marginalization of this population, rather than sex work itself, which facilitates the risk of HIV/AIDS/HEPC/STDs.

The women from the DTES that worked on the Sex Trade Liaison Officer Proposal and marched to the police station demanding their right to protection by the police from rape and assault **all** had long histories of addiction and were primarily involved in the sex trade to finance their drug habits.

They were the victims of the failure of agencies in the DTES **to** adequately respond to the issue of HIV/AIDS and wanted to see PACE's peer-driven model applied to their situation. They developed the PACE Health Network (PHN) which is a two-year demonstration model project.

The PHN is effectively a synthesis of PACE and the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users (VANDU). It is a community empowerment initiative that mobilizes the SWIDU community to identify, develop, implement and evaluate peer driven programs.

The objective of the PHN is the empowerment of the **SWIDU** community through:

- **Personal Empowerment:** making members aware of their skills, possibilities and choices and giving them knowledge of and control over ways to change the conditions that cause them problems,
- **Community Empowerment:** strengthening this population as a whole to demand changes in their communities and to call for a supportive environment, and
- **Social Empowerment:** empowering **SWIDUs** to fight for their rights and for acceptance by the larger society.

This will be achieved through the creation of a semi-autonomous membership driven project that utilizes the PHN membership to:

1. Identify and develop messages and strategies for HIV/AIDS/HEPC/STD prevention,
2. Staff and operate a SWIDU based needle distribution,
3. Develop and deliver prevention education resource materials,
4. Have weekly board meetings & monthly general membership meetings,
5. Increase condom usage by SWIDUs, their partners and clients and
6. Assist with the development and implementation of improved reporting/tracking of HIV/AIDS/STDs in order to improve the potential effectiveness of treatments.

Unfortunately any program or debate on the conditions of the sex trade in Vancouver will arrive far too late for the woman who left the hospital. Five months ago she suffered a seizure in one of the local parks in Vancouver's east side - admitted to a local hospital she slipped into a coma and died.

VANCOUVER: A PLIGHT IGNORED

Earlier this year PACE again approached the City of Vancouver requesting support for an outreach program to complement the PHN by targeting adult street level sex workers. Representatives from the Social Planning department, once again, rejected the request deeming the issue as being "*not a high enough priority, at this time*".

Social Planning's Rick Gates defended the decision, assuring the public that they're working with a collection of veteran service agencies in response to the issue.

It's not the lack of support but the seeming lack of interest from the City that is bewildering. Without the application-rejection-appeal process it appears that PACE wouldn't have any dialogue with social planning.

Granted, it isn't fair to hold City politicians and bureaucrats responsible for conditions that began almost twenty, or even five, years ago, but surely they cannot continue to escape some semblance of responsibility for continuing to refuse to address the issue of Vancouver's sex trade.

Given the absence of this issue on the city's agenda over so many years, the question becomes: how many bodies have to be found, how many women have to disappear, how many people have to die of preventable illnesses before this becomes 'a high enough priority' for the City of Vancouver?

VIOLENCE AGAINST STREET LEVEL SEX WORKERS IN VANCOUVER

The goal of social science research shouldn't be to just study an issue but to hopefully reveal or discover an aspect that hasn't hitherto been explored - to add value to the debate. Ultimately good research can alter the very way we look at something by challenging our assumptions.

The same goal applies to good agencies – they must continually challenge their own assumptions in order to avoid becoming part of the geography they are trying to change.

Many sex trade advocates feel that researchers and agencies use sex workers as guinea pigs without any benefit accruing to them as a result of the research. Some of the research findings have even provided ammunition to those who want to suppress the sex industry. (*The Journal for Sex Work Research*)

Long time sex work advocate and writer Priscilla Alexander argues that sex workers must be involved in the design, implementation and evaluation of programs. Ultimately, in order for research and services for sex workers to be successful they have to move past focusing solely on the women themselves to an exploration of the social conditions under which the sex trade occurs.

Violence against street-level sex trade workers has long been accepted as pervasive. We wanted to gain a better understanding of the conditions under which this violence occurs. Who is it committing these violent acts? What is being done about the violence? Why is this level of violence allowed to continue? How was this allowed to happen?

Thus, we chose to investigate rates of eight different violent acts, based upon Canadian Criminal Code definitions, and three (for the purposes of this paper) non-violent categories – harassment, robbery, and refusal to wear a condom. In an attempt to gauge the gulf between acts of violence suffered and acts of violence reported we also explored police response from the point of view of the women.

METHOD

Two advisory boards composed of women were established to identify issues, develop the survey tool and figure out how best to collect the data.

One was a community agency board with representation from PACE, AIDS Vancouver, Sheway, High Risk, Street Youth Job Action, and a Doctoral candidate from SFU.

The second was the group of young women from the survival sex trade that had developed the youth forum.

We were helped in this research by the fact that in 1994 staff from PACE Society assisted Simon Fraser University Professor John Lowman and Laura Fraser in collecting data on violence against sex workers in the Downtown Eastside (DTES) and Richards/Seymour areas of Vancouver.

Lowman and Fraser's *Violence Against Persons Who Prostitute: The Experience in British Columbia* gave us an excellent template to use not only for examining violence but to measure what impact initiatives such as the Vancouver Action Plan on Sexually Exploited Youth and the Provincial Prostitution Unit have had.

In 1994 we became aware that some of the women didn't share the understanding of rape/sexual assault as the researchers had intended. Several respondents answered that they had not been victims of rape/sexual assault when the individuals administering the survey knew otherwise. When asked, after, if "they had ever been forced to have sex against their will", they answered yes.

In order to overcome any potential confusion by sex workers and to avoid possible criticisms that the information we collected is neither relevant nor valid in a legal sense the terms used in this survey were taken from the Canadian Criminal Code where it made sense.

A small sample of other changes to the survey were:

- **An** examination of rates of violent acts suffered by this population (within the past week, month, six months or year),

- Whether to the best of their knowledge anyone had been charged,
- Whether, again as much as they could possibly know, had anyone been convicted,
- Were the violent acts reported to the **DEYAS** bad date sheet, ^{ix}
- How sex workers feel the police viewed them,
- How sex workers view the police and,
- Slightly expanded demographics.

We used PACE's outreach workers to distribute and collect the questionnaires. They had established a high level of trust and comfort with the population so we felt that there was a greater likelihood of unvarnished responses^x. Because of the sensitive nature of the information being collected they could also assist with any issues or requests that might arise once the survey was completed. The survey was also an excellent tool for introducing the agency to women not familiar with us.

The questionnaire went through **15** drafts. It was then field-tested on the stroll and accordingly revised seven more times. Emphasis was placed on getting as reflective a cross-section of women in the street level sex trade as possible. Thus, they varied the times, days and places that the information was collected.

The average time spent responding to a survey was 20 to 40 minutes, and all participants received a small honourarium. When it was explained that sex workers founded PACE almost no one declined an opportunity to participate.

Data collection took place over a longer period of time than previous research on this topic -two years. This was an unintended benefit that allowed us to get a fairly representative snap-shot of Vancouver street level sex workers. The sex trade in Vancouver fluctuates seasonally with a larger number of individuals on the stroll during the summer months, many of them traveling a loosely defined 'circuit' from town to town. The demographics also vary with a higher percentage of youth in the summer months as opposed to the winter.

The PHD criminologist Kim Rossmo, best known for his groundbreaking work on geographic profiling, wrote a paper estimating the size of Vancouver's street level sex trade as between **1300** and 2600. With **183** responses we are somewhat confident that the information collected is fairly representative of violence against street level sex workers in Vancouver.

THE RESPONSE

The report is broken down into sections. Tables 1 to 9 look at the demographics of the women who participated while Tables 10 to 21 examine issues of payment and movement both within the Lower Mainland, on street and off-street, and between cities.

Tables 22 to 106 show responses to the acts of violence explored:

- e Harassment
Tables 22 to 34
- e Robbery
Tables 35 to 37
- e Being physically threatened
Tables 38 to 45
- e Being threatened with a weapon
Tables 46 to 54
- e Being physically assaulted *without* a weapon being involved
Tables 55 to 62
- e Being physically assaulted with a weapon *without* being forced to have sex against their will
Tables 63 to 69
- e Refusal to wear a condom
Tables 70 to 75
- e Forced to have sex against their will *without* a weapon being involved
Tables 76 to 82
- e A weapon was used to force them to have sex against their will
Tables 83 to 90
- e Kidnapped/confined
Tables 91 to 98
- If any one has tried to kill them
Tables 99 to 106

We asked if any of these things had ever happened to them when they were working on the street. We then asked how many times and when in the past year that it occurred. It was important that we found out who **it** was committing these acts of violence and whether the women were reporting any of the instances to either the Bad Date Sheet or the police. Finally, we asked if any charges had been laid, or if anyone had been convicted in any of the instances.

Tables 107 to 110 **ask** whom the women talked to about the violence and if anyone did anything about it. Tables 111 to 119 show what the women think about the police and Vice units. Finally, *Section 6 "In Their Words"* (Tables 120 to 122) asked for comments about what they believed

would make things safer for them and what they would tell a 16 year old thinking about getting into the sex trade.

Section 1: DEMOGRAPHICS

Table 1 shows the ages of the women that participated in the research. The youngest contributor was 15 and the oldest was 51. In an industry where youth is a commodity it's not surprising that over half are 24 and under. The average age was 25.9 years old.

Table 1: How old are you?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct	Cumulative Pct
15 - 16	4	2.2	2.2	2.3
17 - 18	20	10.9	11.5	13.8
19 - 20	22	12.1	12.6	26.4
21 -22	23	12.6	12.9	39.7
23 - 24	20	10.9	11.5	51.1
25- 26	20	10.9	11.5	62.6
27 - 28	11	6.0	6.3	69.0
29 - 30	15	8.2	8.6	77.6
31 - 32	8	4.3	4.6	82.2
33 -35	8	4.4	4.5	86.8
36 - 38	10	5.4	5.7	92.5
39 - 43	9	4.9	5.1	97.7
44 and over	4	2.0	2.4	100.0
Total	174	95.1	100.0	
Missing	9	4.9		
	183	100.0		

The second table shows the length of time the women have been working in the sex trade. Almost a third of our sample has been working for less than 2 years. The average amount of time is 5.45 years. Six of the respondents had been working in the sex trade for 20 or more years.

**Table 2:
How long have you been working in the sex trade?**

	Frequency	Pct of respondents
Less than a year	22	12
1-2 years	33	18.0
3-4 years	31	16.9
5-6 years	29	15.8
7-8 years	16	8.7
9-10 years	14	7.6
More than 10	38	20.8
Total	183	100.0

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct	Cumulative Pct
Never	34	18.6	18.9	18.9
Once	27	14.8	15.0	33.9
Twice	37	20.2	20.6	54.4
3 times	23	12.6	12.8	67.2
4 times	26	14.2	14.4	81.7
5 times	11	6.0	6.1	87.8
More than 5	22	12.0	12.2	100.0
Total	180	98.4	100.0	
Missing	3	1.6		
Total	183	100.0		

Table 4 shows that 40% had quit for a year or more the last time they left the sex trade.

Table 4:
The last time you stopped working in the sex trade, how long did you stay out?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
A day	14	7.7	7.7
A week	16	8.7	10.3
A month	33	18.0	21.3
Six months	31	17.0	20.0
A year	29	15.9	18.7
More than a year	34	18.6	21.9
Missing	28	15.3	
Total	155	100	

National media attention was recently drawn to Vancouver with the discovery of an 11 year old forced out on the stroll. While various spokespeople have been quoted in the media stating that the average age of entry is around 14 years old it's difficult to find any study that **supports** this. The only research that we are aware of that makes this claim relied on collecting their information **from** front line staff that might understandably be motivated by a desire to draw attention to the issue of youth in the survival sex trade.

Table 5 shows that **13.8%** started in the sex trade before they were even teenagers. A full 70% of our sample began before they were old enough to drink legally. The average age was **16.98**.

Table 5: How old were you when you did your first date?

Age	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct	Cumulative Pct
8 -12	24	13.1	13.8	13.8
13-16	66	36.1	37.9	51.7
17-18	32	17.5	18.4	70.1
19-24	40	21.9	23.0	93.1
25 and over	12	6.6	6.9	100.0
Missing	9	4.9		
Total	183	100.0	100.0	

Table 6 shows an immense overrepresentation of Aboriginal women in the street level sex trade (**31.1%**). According to the **1996** Census data from Statistics Canada, Aboriginals (North American Indian, Metis, Inuit) constitute only **1.7%** of Greater Vancouver's population.

Table 6: Are you:

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Cumulative Pct
White	88	48.1	52.1
Aboriginal	57	31.1	85.8
Asian	3	1.6	87.6
East Indian	2	1.1	88.8
Black	9	4.9	94.1
Other	10	5.5	100.0
Total	169	92.3	
Missing	14	7.7	
	183	100.0	

Table 7 shows that almost three quarters of the women had left their parent's or guardian's home for good at age **16 or** younger. It is a compelling argument for the need to concentrate on prevention programs, such as Parents Together, that target the family of origin.

Table 7: At what age did you leave your parents' or guardian's home permanently?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
12 or younger	31	15.8	18.7
13-14	48	26.2	31.0
15-16	37	20.2	23.9
17-18	27	14.8	17.4
19-21	11	6.0	7.1
Still live at home	1	.5	.6
Total	155	84.7	100.0
Missing	28	15.3	
	183	100.0	

Table 8 shows the present level of education, 62.4% don't have a high school diploma and 10.2% had only a public school education.

Table 8: What is your present level of education?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct	Cumulative Pct
Public school	16	8.7	10.2	10.2
Grade 9	21	11.5	13.4	23.6
Grade 10	29	15.8	18.5	42.0
Grade 11	32	17.5	20.4	62.4
Grade 12	43	23.5	27.4	89.8
Univ. BA	5	2.7	3.2	93.0
Some college	11	6.0	7.0	100.0
Total	157	85.8	100.0	
Missing	26	14.2		
	183	100.0		

In table 9 we looked at 3 possible places where involvement could have started. Spotting is the practice of keeping your eye on someone who is working. The spotter is expected to jot down license plate numbers of the cars the women leave in and/or intervene in dangerous situations.

Table 9: Did your involvement in the sex trade begin with working:

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct	Cumulative Pct
On the street	116	63.4	64.1	64.1
Off-street	33	18.0	18.2	82.3
Spotting	32	17.5	17.7	100.0

Section 2: TIMES, LOCATIONS, & LIVE GUYS

In table 10 we looked at how many days a week the women worked, **37.5%** of the women reported 7 days a week with only **23.8%** working 1 to 3 days a week. On average they worked **5** days a week.

Table 10: Days

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
1 day	7	3.8	4.2
Two days	11	6.0	6.5
Three days	22	12.0	13.1
Four days	22	12.0	13.1
Five days	21	11.5	12.5
Six days	22	12.0	13.1
Seven days	63	34.4	37.5
Total	168	91.8	100.0
Missing	15	8.2	
Total:	183	100.0	

Table 11 shows that on average the women worked **4.3** hours a day but **31.8%** reported working 9 or more hours.

Table 11: On an average day how many hours do you work on the street?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Less than an hour	4	2.2	2.4
1-2 hours	15	8.2	8.8
3-4 hours	38	20.8	22.4
5-6 hours	40	21.9	23.5
7-8 hours	19	10.4	11.2
9 or more hours	54	29.5	31.8
Total	170	92.9	100.0
Missing	13	7.1	
	183	100.0	

Table 12 shows that **58.1%** identified themselves as working to supply a drug habit.

Table 12: Working to supply a drug habit

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	100	54.6	58.1
No	72	39.3	41.9
Total	172	94.0	100.0
Missing	11	6.0	
	183	100.0	

Of the women that identified themselves as working to supply a habit, table 13 shows that 79.2% have to make over \$100 a day. The increase in crack cocaine use has driven down what women charge for sex on the Downtown Eastside. A hundred dollar a day habit doesn't mean just one or two dates - it could be as many as 10.

An ethnographer sympathetic to this kind of research method would be a valuable addition to the development and evaluation of peer-based interventions. The BC Centre of Excellence and BC Centre of Disease Control should consider working with community driven initiatives like the PACE Health Network.

Table 13: How much?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Less than \$50	4	2.2	4.0
\$50 to \$100	17	9.3	16.8
\$101 to \$200	44	24.0	43.6
More than \$201	36	19.7	35.6
Sum	101	55.2	100.0
Missing	82	44.8	
Total	183	100.0	

We also felt it was important to look at the issue of the 'pimp' Table 14 shows that when asked if they had to give money to somebody to be able to work either on or off-street the majority of women, over 80% of women on the street and over 70% of the women off-street, replied no.

The pimp is neither as wide spread a phenomenon as most people think nor is it very well understood. It is, however, an area that needs serious and considered investigation. The consequences of designing laws and policy based upon a moral panic is well documented elsewhere. In Vancouver, an increasing number of young women have been caught up in 'pimp' hysteria; charged and convicted with living off the avails (pimping), some appearing in youth court. Two of these young women, upon their release, joined **PACE** to design programs to help other children exit the survival sex trade and assisted with the research.

Table 14: The pimp?

	Frequency		Pct of respondents		Valid Pct	
	Street level	Off-Street	Street level	Off-Street	Street level	Off-Street
Yes	30	27	16.4	14.8	17.3	27.6
No	143	71	78.1	38.8	82.7	72.4
Sum	173	98	94.5	53.6	100.0	100.0
Missing	10	85	5.5	46.4		
Total						

Table 15 shows that exploitation is more widespread on street than off-street. This could be reflective of the city's acceptance of the off-street sex trade.

Table 15: If you made \$100 how much do you keep?

	Frequency		Pct of respondents	
	Street level	Off-Street	Street level	Off-Street
Less than \$10	12	1	6.6	.5
\$11-20	3	4	1.6	2.2
\$21-30	2	1	1.6	.5
\$31-40	3	3	2.1	1.6
\$41-50	2	2	1.1	1.1
\$51-60	3	7	1.1	3.8
\$61-70	0	3	1.6	1.6
\$71-80	1	4	0.0	2.2
More than \$80	8	4	.5	2.2
Total	34	29	19.2	15.8
Missing	149	154	79.8	84.2
Total	183		100.0	

Table 16 shows the Lower Mainland street level strolls the women have worked on in the past year. As occurs in other tables where people were allowed to tick off more than one answer the percentage adds up to more than 100.

Table 16: Strolls

	Frequency	Valid Pct
Hastings/DTES	97	51.9
Franklin	89	48.6
Broadway	59	32.2
Regulars	59	32.2
Richards/Seymour	44	24.0
Surry/NewW/Brnby	41	22.4
Quebec/First	17	8.7
Transgendered stroll	7	3.8
Bovstown	4	2.2
Other	3	.5
	183	226.5

Table 17 examines where else they have worked outside of the Lower Mainland. We were interested in the prevalence of involvement in the 'circuit/pipeline'. Our research seems to indicate that in cases of missing women, contact between police and agencies in Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton should be increased.

Table 17: the 'pipeline'

Outside of Lower Mainland	Frequency		Pct of responses	
	Off-street	Street level	Off-street	Street level
Calgary	18	27	21.4	13.6
Edmonton	10	28	11.9	14.1
Toronto	9	17	10.7	8.5
Kelowna	6	17	7.1	8.5
Victoria	6	15	7.1	7.6
Los Angeles	5	10	5.9	5.0
Montreal	5	9	5.9	4.5
Seattle	5	8	5.9	4.0
Winnipeg	5	11	5.9	5.5
Las Vegas	4	12	4.8	6.0
Hawaii	2	8	2.4	4.0
Kamloops	2	5	2.4	2.5
New York	2	4	2.4	2.0
Miami	1	8	1.2	4.0
Portland	1	6	1.2	3.0
Prince George	1	5	1.2	2.5
Halifax	nil	3	nil	1.5
Other	2	6	2	3
	84	199	100.0	100.0

Table 18 shows the types of locations where our respondents have worked in the off-street sex trade in the past year.

Table 18: Off-street sex trade

	Frequency	Pct of responses*
Regulars	43	28.0
Escort Agency	32	21.0
Ad in Buy & Sell	25	16.0
Bars/Clubs	21	18.0
Ad in West Ender	14	9.0
Body Rub Parlour	12	8.0
Ad in other papers	5	3.0
Health Enhancement	3	2.0
Other	1	Nil
Total:	156	100.0

*Adds up to more than 100 since they could tick off more than one answer

As table 19 shows, 44.3% of the respondents reported involvement with the off-street sex trade.

Table 19: How many days a week do you work off-street on average?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents
One day	18	9.8
Two days	16	8.7
Three days	11	6.0
Four days	11	6.0
Five days	14	7.7
Six days	4	2.2
Seven days	7	3.8
Total	81	44.3
Missing	102	55.7
Total	183	100.0

Table 20 looks at the number of hours per day the women worked off-street.

Table 20: off-street hours

	Frequency	Pct of respondents
Less than an hour	8	4.4
1-2 hours	9	4.9
3-4 hours	18	9.8
5-6 hours	18	9.8
7-8 hours	10	5.5
9 or more hours	17	9.2
Total	80	43.8
Missing	103	56.2
Total	183	100.0

Table 21 looks at just about all the possible locations or places in the Lower Mainland where the women might have worked **prior** to this year.

Table 21: places & locations

	Frequency	Valid Pct
Hastings/DTES	46	13.1
Regulars	43	12.3
Franklin	39	11.1
Surrey/New West/Brnby	29	8.3
Richards/Seymour	26	7.4
Bars & Clubs	25	7.1
Mount Pleasant	22	6.3
Quebec & 1 st	22	6.3
Escort Agency	21	6
No where else	18	5.1
Massage Parlour	15	4.3
Ads in Buy & Sell	14	4
Body Rub Parlour	12	3.4
Ads in West Ender	7	2
Other Place	5	1.4
Ads in other papers	4	1.1
Transgendered Stroll	3	.85
Total	351	

HARASSMENT

Table 22 shows that 83.1% report having been harassed since they've worked in the street level sex trade.

Table 22: harassment

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	147	80.3	83.1
No	30	16.4	16.9
Total	177	96.7	100.0
Missing	6	3.3	
Total	183	100.0	

Table 23 shows how many times within the past year that the respondents were subjects to harassment. Where the individual indicated that there had been more than 10 incidents, but did not put in a number, we created an average based on the number of incidents reported by those who had written one in. We have also done this for all the categories.

Table 23: rates of harassment

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
	21	11.5	14.9
2 times	16	8.7	11.3
3 times	17	9.3	12.1
4 times	13	7.1	9.2
5 times	8	4.4	5.7
6 times	7	3.8	5.0
7 times	3	1.6	2.1
8 times	3	1.6	2.1
9 times	2	1.1	1.4
10 times	5	2.7	3.5
More than 10	46	32.6	32.6
Total	141	77.0	100.0
Missing	42	23.0	
	183	100.0	

Table 24 shows that within the past year over half of the respondents report having been harassed within the last month.

Table 24: Within the last year approximately when did these incidents occur?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
betweenthe past 0-7 days	44	24.0	32.6
Between 8-30 days ago	28	15.3	20.7
31-182 days	27	14.8	20.0
183-365 days	36	19.7	26.7
Total	135	73.8	100.0
Missing	48	26.2	
	183	100.0	

Table 25 shows that the women report dates as ‘others’ committing much of the harassment. ‘Other’ is primarily young men and women who get kicks from driving around the stroll throwing objects or yelling at the women while they work.

Table 25: Who did this to you while you were working on the street

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Date	107	58.5	96.4
Other	3	1.6	2.7
Everyone	1	.5	.9
Total	111	60.7	100.0
Missing	72	39.3	
	183	100.0	

PACE workers have also been subject to harassment by belligerents driving the stroll. Vicious comments are the least of their concern. The outreach workers report having urine, bleach, pennies and beer bottles thrown at them by passing cars.

On two separate occasions, it has crossed the line into situations where the workers have been at risk of their lives. While collecting the property of a young woman, leaving the sex trade, from her home the author and PACE’s first outreach worker were attacked by ‘two pimps. Patrick Healey the outreach worker, was forced to his knees with a gun behind his ear.

On another occasion an outreach worker stepped in to stop the assault of a sex worker and was beaten by three men. When VPD patrol officers came upon the scene they questioned and released the three men telling the outreach worker that he should expect these kinds of things to happen considering the population (sex workers) that he’s working with.

The Vancouver Police Department is currently reconsidering their use of female operatives posing as sex workers due to the high potential for them to be victims of

violence. A female officer posing as a sex worker was off work for a year after a date brutally assaulted her in the ten seconds it took her back-up to arrive on the scene.

Table 26 shows whether they reported any of the incidents to the bad date sheet. This is run by **DEYAS** and takes anonymous information from the women on violent predators and puts it on a monthly handout. (see sample attachment). Over 50% didn't report any of the incidents to the bad date sheet.

Table 26: Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	67	36.6	45.3
No	81	44.3	54.7
Total	148	80.9	100.0
Missing	35	19.1	
	183	100.0	

Table 27 shows that over 68% have never reported any instances of harassment to the police.

Table 27: Did you report any of these incidents to the police?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	46	25.1	31.7
No	99	54.1	68.3
Total	145	79.2	100.0
Missing	38	20.8	
	183	100.0	

Table 28 shows that over 80% answered that charges had never been laid.

Table 28: Were charges ever laid in any of these cases?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	21	11.5	16.2
No	109	59.6	83.8
Total	130	71.0	100.0
Missing	53	29.0	
	183	100.0	

Table 29 shows that in over 90% of the instances the women were not aware of any convictions.

Table 29: Was anyone convicted?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	8	4.4	6.2
No	122	66.7	93.8
Total	130	71.0	100.0
Missing	53	29.0	
	183	100.0	

ROBBED

Table 30 shows that over half of the women report having been robbed since entering the sex trade.

Table30: Since entering the sex trade has anyone robbed you when you were working on the street?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	95	51.9	53.7
No	82	44.8	46.3
Total	177	96.7	100.0
Missing	6	3.3	
	183	100.0	

Table 31 shows that **43.2%** of the women report having been robbed in the last year. 79 people reported **188** instances for an average of 2.38 per person within the last year.

Table 31 Within in the past year how many times has someone tried to rob you?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Once	37	20.2	46.8
2 times	19	10.4	24.1
3 times	9	4.9	11.4
4 times	7	3.8	8.9
5 times	1	.5	1.3
More than 5	6	7.6	7.7
Total	79	43.1	100.0
Missing	104	56.8	
	183	100.0	

Table 32 shows that 35.9% report having been robbed within the past month.

Table 32: Within the past year when did these incidents occur?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
past 0-7 days	16	8.7	20.5
Between 8-30 days ago	12	6.6	15.4
31-182 days	26	14.2	33.3
183-365 days	24	13.1	30.8
Total	78	42.6	100.0
Missing	105	57.4	
	183	100.0	

Table 33 asks who robbed them.

Table 33: Who robbed you?

	Frequency	ValidPct
Date	66	49.25
Prostitute	23	17.2
Your man/pimp	12	9.0
Other	10	7.5
Boyfhend	9	6.7
Uniform police	8	6.0
Vice	3	2.2
Spouse	2	1.5
Girlfriend	1	0.7
Total	134	100.0
Missing	49	

Table 34 shows that 57% did not reported any of the incidents to the bad date sheet.

Table 34: Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	41	22.4	43.2
NO	54	29.5	56.9
Total	94	51.9	100.0
Missing	89	48.1	
	183	100.0	

Table 35 shows that almost 75% have never reported at least one robbery to the police.

Table 35: Have you reported any of these incidents to the police?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	24	13.1	25.3
No	71	38.8	74.7
Total	95	51.9	100.0
Missing	88	48.1	
	183	100.0	

Table 36 shows that almost 90% report that no charges were ever laid in any instance.

Table 36: Were charges ever laid in any of these cases?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	9	4.9	10.2
No	79	43.2	89.8
Total	88	48.1	100.0
Missing	95	51.9	
	183	100.0	

Table 37 shows that 93% weren't aware of any convictions.

Table 37: Was anyone convicted?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	6	3.3	6.9
No	81	44.3	93.1
Total	87	47.5	100.0
Missing	96	52.5	
	183	100.0	

PHYSICALLY THREATENED

In this category we examined the women being subject to threats of physical harm. Table 38 shows that 70.5% report having been physically threatened while working on the street.

Table 38: Since entering the sex trade has anyone physically threatened you?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	122	66.7	70.5
No	51	27.9	29.5
Total	173	94.5	100.0
Missig	10	5.5	
	183	100.0	

Table 39 shows that 73.2% say that they were physically threatened more than once within the past year. 111 individuals reported 760 incidents for an average of 6.85 per person per year.

Table 39: How many times in the last year were you threatened?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Once	30	16.4	26.8
Twice	29	15.8	25.9
3 times	7	3.8	6.3
4 times	9	4.9	8.0
5 times	7	3.8	6.3
6 times	5	2.7	4.5
8 times	1	.5	.9
10 times	4	2.2	3.6
More than 10	19	10.4	17.3
Total	110	61.2	100.0
Missing	73	38.8	
	183	100.0	

Table 40 shows 39.6% report being subjected to a threat of physical harm within the past month.

Table 40: Within the last year when did these incidents occur?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Between the past 0-7 days	22	12.0	19.8
Between 8-30 days ago	22	12.0	19.8
31-182 days	32	17.5	28.8
183-365 days	35	19.1	31.6
Total	111	60.7	100.0
Missing	72	39.3	
	183	100.0	

Table 41 shows who committed these acts within the last year.

Table 41: Who did these things to you while you were working on the street?

	Frequency	Pct of frequency
Date	88	48.1
Sex Worker	32	17.5
Your man/pimp	31	16.9
Other person	15	8.2
Boyfriend	14	7.7
Vice	11	6.0
Spouse	2	1.1
Total	193	

Table 42 shows that 63% have not reported any incidents to the bad date sheet

Table 42: Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	45	24.6	36.3
No	78	42.6	62.9
Total	123	67.8	100.0
Missing	59	32.2	
	183	100.0	

Table 43 shows that over 75% never reported at least one instance of being physically threatened to the police.

Table 43: Did you report any of these incidents to the police?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	27	14.8	22.1
No	95	51.9	77.9
Total	122	66.7	100.0
Missing	61	33.3	
	183	100.0	

Table 44 shows that almost 90% report that no charges were ever laid.

Table 44: Were charges ever laid in these incidents?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	11	6.0	9.9
No	99	54.1	89.2
Total	110	60.7	100.0
Missing	72	39.3	
	183	100.0	

Table 45 shows that over 90% report that no one was ever convicted.

Table 45: Was anyone convicted?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	7	3.8	6.5
No	101	55.2	93.5
Total	108	59.0	100.0
Missing	75	41.0	
	183	100.0	

THREATENED WITH A WEAPON

Table 46 shows that **44.5%** report having been threatened with a weapon since **working** on the street.

Table 46: Since entering the sex trade has anyone threatened you with a weapon when you were working on the street?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	77	42.1	44.5
No	96	52.5	55.5
Total	173	94.5	100.0
Missing	10	5.5	
	183	100.0	

Of these, Table 47 shows that **60.3%** report having been threatened with a weapon more than once in the past year, **63** individuals indicated **159** instances for an average of 2.52 per person per year.

Table 47: Within the past year how many times has someone threatened you with a weapon?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Once	25	13.7	39.7
Twice	16	8.7	25.4
3 times	9	4.9	14.3
4 times	6	3.3	9.5
5 times	2	1.1	3.2
6 times	1	.5	1.6
7 times	2	1.1	3.2
10 times	1	.5	1.6
More than 10	1	.5	1.6
Total	63	34.4	100.0
Missing	120	65.6	
	183	100.0	

Table 48 shows that 41.9% report having been threatened with a weapon within the past month.

Table 48: Within the last year when did these incidents occur?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Between the past 0-7 days	14	7.7	22.6
Between 8-30 days	12	6.6	19.4
31-182 days	15	8.2	24.2
183-365 days	21	11.5	33.9
Total	62	33.9	100.0
Missing	121	66.1	
	183	100.0	

Table 49 shows that dates are responsible for the most threats with a weapon followed by other sex workers and pimps.

Table 49: Who did these things to you while working on the street?

	Frequency	Valid Pct
date	56	35.4
Your man/pimp	19	12.3
Prostitute	16	10.3
Boyfriend	7	4.5
Other person	7	4.5
Uniform police	7	4.5
Vice	3	1.9
Total	115	

Table 50 shows that 60% have never reported at least one instance of being threatened with a weapon to the bad date sheet.

Table 50: Did you report these incidents to the bad date sheet?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	32	17.5	40.5
No	47	25.7	59.5
Total	79	43.2	100.0
Missing	104	56.8	
	183	100.0	

Table 51 shows that over 70% have not reported at least one instance of being physically threatened to police.

Table 51: Did you report any of these incidents to the police?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	22	12.0	27.8
No	57	31.1	72.2
Total	79	43.2	100.0
Missing	104	56.8	
	183	100.0	

Table 52 shows that 86% have reported that no charges were ever laid in any of these instances.

Table 52: Were charges laid?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	10	5.5	14.1
No	61	33.3	85.9
Total	71	38.8	100.0
Missing	112	61.2	
	183	100.0	

Table 53 shows that 10.1% reported being aware of a conviction.

Table 53: Was anyone convicted?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	7	3.8	10.1
No	61	33.3	88.4
Total	70	37.7	100.0
Missing	113	62.3	
	183	100.0	

PHYSICALLY ASSAULTED WITHOUT A WEAPON BEING INVOLVED

Table 54 shows that 51.2% respondents report having been physically assaulted without a weapon having been involved since they have been working on the street.

Table 54: Physically assaulted you without a weapon being involved?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	87	47.5	51.2
No	83	45.4	48.8
Total	170	92.9	100.0
Missing	13	7.1	
	183	100.0	

Table 55 shows that 47.3% report that they have been physically assaulted within the past year more than once. 74 people reported 181 acts of physical assault for an average of 2.45 per year.

Table 55: How many times in the past year?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Once	39	21.3	52.7
Twice	15	8.2	20.3
3 times	5	2.7	6.8
4 times	7	3.8	9.5
5 times	2	1.1	2.7
8 times	1	.5	1.4
9 times	1	.5	1.4
10 times	2	1.1	2.7
More than 10	2	1.1	2.7
Total	74	40.4	100.0
Missing	109	59.6	
	183	100.0	

Table 56 again shows that dates commit the majority of assaults followed by other sex workers.

Table 56: Who did this do you?

	Frequency	Valid Pct
Date	69	57.5
Prostitute	15	12.5
Your man/pimp	13	10.8
Uniform police	7	5.8
Boyfriend	6	5.0
Other person		3.3
Souse		2.5
vice		2.5
Total	120	100.0

Table 57 shows that 41.6% of these assaults have occurred within the past month.

Table 57: When did each of these incidents occur?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Between the past 0-7 days	16	8.7	20.8
Between 8-10 days	16	8.7	20.8
1-182 days			2
183-365 days	21	11.5	27.3
Total	77	42.1	100.0
Missing	106	57.9	
	183	100.0	

Table 58 shows that 58% have not reported any incidents of assault to the bad date sheet

Table 58: Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	37	20.2	42.0
No	51	27.9	58.0
Total	88	48.1	100.0
Missing	95	51.9	
	183	100.0	

Table 59 indicates that three quarters of these women have never reported at least one incident to the police within the last year.

Table 59: Did you report any of these incidents to the police?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	22	12.0	24.4
No	68	37.2	75.6
Total	90	49.2	100.0
Missing	93	50.8	
	183	100.0	

Table 60 shows that over 90% report that no one was charged in any of the incidents.

Table 60: Where charges laid?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	7	3.8	8.4
No	76	41.5	91.6
Total	83	45.4	100.0
Missing	100	54.6	
	183	100.0	

Table 61 shows that over 90% believe that no one was ever convicted.

Table 61: Was anyone convicted?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	5	2.7	6.0
No	78	42.6	92.9
Total	83	45.9	100.0
Missing	100	54.1	
	183	100.0	

PHYSICALLY ASSAULTED WITH A WEAPON WITHOUT BEING FORCED TO HAVE SEX AGAINST THEIR WILL

We used this unwieldy term to differentiate it from rape. Table 62 shows that 30.3% of the respondents report having been assaulted with a weapon since working on the street.

Table 62: Assaulted with a weapon?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	50	27.3	30.3
No	115	62.3	69.7
Total	165	90.2	100.0
Missig	18	9.8	
	183	100.0	

Of these, Table 63 shows that 47.6% report having been physically assaulted with a weapon without anyone forcing them to have sex against their will more than **once** in the last year. 41 individuals reported 86 acts of physical assault with a weapon involved for an average of 2.1 times per person per year.

Table 63: How many times in the last year?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Once	22	12.0	52.4
Twice	10	5.5	23.8
3 times	1	.5	2.4
4 times	5	2.7	11.9
5 times	2	1.1	4.8
More than 10 times	1	.5	2.4
Total	41	23.0	100.0
Missing	142	77.0	
	183	100.0	

Table 64 shows that of those that reported having been assaulted with a weapon **53.8%** were within the past months.

Table 64: When did these incidents occur?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Between the past 0-7 days	10	5.5	25.6
Between 8-30 days	11	6.0	28.2
31-182 days	8	4.4	20.5
183-365 days	10	5.5	25.6
Total	39	21.3	100.0
Missing	144	78.7	
	183	100.0	

Table 65 shows that dates were again the most violent. Police and Vice combined are reported as committing as many acts as pimps.

Table 66: Who did these things to you?

	Frequency	Valid Pct
Date	33	49.3
Your man/pimp	8	11.9
Prostitute	7	10.4
Other person	7	10.5
Boyfriend	5	7.4
Uniform police	4	6.0
Vice	2	3.0
Spouse	1	1.5
	67	100.0

Table 66 shows that over two-thirds did not report at least one instance to the bad date sheet.

Table 66: Did you report to the bad date sheet?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	15	8.2	29.4
No	35	19.7	68.6
Total	50	27.9	100.0
Missing	133	72.1	
	183	100.0	

Table 67 shows that over three-quarters had not reported any of these acts to the police.

Table 67: Did you report any of these incidents to the police?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	11	6.0	22.4
No	38	20.8	77.6
Total	49	26.8	100.0
Missing	134	73.2	
	183	100.0	

Table 68 shows that only almost 9 out of ten of the women report that no charges were laid.

Table 68: Were charges ever laid?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	5	2.7	10.2
No	44	24.0	89.8
Total	49	26.8	100.0
Missing	134	73.2	
	183	100.0	

Table 69 shows that over 90% state that no one was ever convicted

Table 69: Was anyone convicted of these charges?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	4	2.2	8.7
No	42	23.0	91.3
Total	46	25.1	100.0
Missing	137	74.9	
	183	100.0	

REFUSAL TO WEAR A CONDOM

Table 70 shows that 82.9% report that people have refused to wear a condom.

Table 70:
Has anyone refused to wear a condom when you were working on the street?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	145	79.2	82.9
No	30	16.4	17.1
Total	175	95.6	100.0
Missing	8	4.4	
	183	100.0	

Table 71 shows that 89% report that it has happened more than once within the past year. 136 of the women report 1,892 instances of refusal to wear a condom within the past year for an average of 13.91 per person per year. Considering the HIV and HEPC infection rate in Vancouver this statistic raises concern about the impact of safe sex campaigns for men purchasing sex.

Table 71:
Within the past year, how many times has someone refused to wear a condom?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Once	15	8.2	11.0
Twice	17	9.3	12.5
3 times	13	7.1	9.6
4 times	8	4.4	5.9
5 times	10	5.5	7.4
6 times	5	2.7	3.7
7 times	5	2.7	3.7
8 times	7	3.8	5.1
10 times	7	3.8	5.1
More than 10	49	26.9	36.0
Total	136	74.3	100.0
Missing	47	25.7	
	183	100.0	

Table 72 shows that within the past month **58.6%** of 128 women report someone refused to wear a condom.

Table 72: Within the past year, when did these incidents occur?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
0-7 days			
Between 8-30 days	29	15.8	22.7
31-182 days	33	17.6	25.0
183-365 days	20	10.9	15.6
Total	128	69.9	100.0
Missing	55	30.1	
	183	100.0	

Understandably, Table 73 shows that dates are the most likely to refuse to wear a condom.

Table 73: Who refused to wear a condom while your were working on the street?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents
Date	134	85.9
Your man/pimp	7	4.5
Vice	2	1.3
Uniform police	5	3.2
Prostitute	2	1.3
Boyfriend	3	1.9
Spouse	1	.6
Other person	2	1.3
	156	100.0

Table 74 shows that a third of the women report having done a date without a condom. Questions regarding high-risk practices are often under reported in quantitative research.

Table 74: Have you ever done a date without a condom?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	49	26.8	33.8
No	96	52.5	66.2
Total	145	79.2	100.0
Missing	38	20.8	
	183	100.0	

Table 75 shows that money and being drunk or high were the two biggest factors for doing a date without a condom.

Table 75:
What factors most influenced your decision not to use a condom?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Money	19	10.4	38.0
I was drunk/high	14	7.7	28.0
In order to survive/threat of violence	7	3.8	14.0
He was a regular	10	5.5	20.0
Total	50	27.3	100.0
Missing	133	72.7	
	183	100.0	

FORCED TO HAVE SEX AGAINST THEIR WILL WITHOUT A WEAPON BEING INVOLVED

Table 76 shows that 45.8% report having been forced to have sex against their will without a weapon being involved since working on the street.

Table 76:
Has anyone forced you to have sex against your will without a weapon being used?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	81	44.3	45.8
No	96	52.5	54.2
Total	177	96.7	100.0
Missing	6	3.3	
	183	100.0	

Table 77 shows that **56.7%** report that **it** has happened more than once within the past year.

Table 77:
Within the past year how many times has someone tried to force you to have sex against your will without a weapon being involved?

		Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Once	29	15.8	43.3
2 times	20	10.9	29.9
3 times	2	1.1	3.0
4 times	5	3.3	9.0
5 times	2	1.1	3.0
6 times	3	1.6	4.5
10 times	3	1.6	4.5
More than 10	2	1.0	3.0
Total	67	36.6	100.0
Missing	116	63.4	
	183	100.0	

Table 78 shows that 37.9% reported being raped within the last month.

Table 78: Within the last year approximately when did these incidents occur?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Between the past 0-7 days	6	3.3	9.1
Between 8-30 days	19	10.4	28.8
31-182 days	20	10.9	30.3
183-365 days	21	11.5	31.8
Total	66	36.1	100.0
Missing	117	63.9	
	183	100.0	

Unfortunately, in all of the drafts and changes, we missed including the critical question of whom it was doing this. The incident rates are similar to that of sexual assault with a weapon and we are comfortable assuming that it is the same perpetrators.

Table 79 shows that 60% never reported even one of the incidents to the bad date sheet.

Table 79: Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	32	17.5	39.5
No	49	26.8	60.5
Total	81	44.3	100.0
Missing	102	55.7	
	183	100.0	

Table 80 shows that over three-quarter have not reported at least one incident to the police

Table 80: Did you report any of these incidents to the police?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	18	9.8	22.2
No	63	34.4	77.8
Total	81	44.3	100.0
Missing	102	55.7	
	183	100.0	

Table 81 shows that 88.6% reported that no charges had been laid.

Table 81: Were charges ever laid in any of the cases?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	8	4.4	11.4
No	62	33.9	88.6
Total	70	38.3	100.0
Missing;	113	61.7	
	183	100.0	

Of these, Table 82 shows that 94.3% said that no one was convicted

Table 82: Was anyone convicted?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	4	2.2	5.7
No	66	36.1	94.3
Total	70	38.3	100.0
Missing	113	61.7	
	183	100.0	

A WEAPON WAS USED TO FORCE THEM TO HAVE SEX AGAINST THEIR WILL

Table 83 shows that 40.7% of the women reported that a weapon had been used to force them to have sex against their will since working on the street.

Table 83:

Since entering the sex trade has anyone used a weapon to try to force you to have sex against your will when you were working on the street?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	66	36.1	40.7
No	96	52.5	59.3
Total	162	88.5	100.0
Missing	21	11.5	
	183	100.0	

Of these, Table 84 shows that 38.8% report it happening more than once within the past year.

Table 84:

Within the past year how many times has someone used a weapon to try to force you to have sex against your will?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Once	30	16.4	61.2
Twice	6	3.3	12.2
3 times	7	3.8	14.3
4 times	2	1.1	4.1
5 times	2	1.1	4.1
6 times	1	.5	2.0
7 times	1	.5	2.0
Total	49	26.8	100.0
Missing	134	73.2	
	183	100.0	

Table 85 shows that 63.8% report having been raped within the past **six** months.

Table 85: Within the last year when did these incidents occur?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Between the past 0-7 days	3	1.6	6.4
Between 8-30 days	6	3.3	12.8
131-182 days	21	11.5	44.7
183-365 days	15	8.2	31.9
Total	45	24.6	100.0
Missing	138	75.4	
	183	100.0	

Dates are again the highest perpetrators but Table 86 shows that if uniform police and Vice were combined they would have the same reported rate of attempted rape using a weapon as pimps. That some officers are capable of violence against sex workers is documented in *Violence Against Persons Who Prostitute: The Experience in British Columbia (1996)*

“Our records indicate that men are prosecuted for crimes against prostitutes, ...including four police officers in British Columbia over the past six years (one **RCMP**, two **VPD** officers, and a reserve). In 1988 one **VPD** officer was found guilty of extorting sexual favors from a seventeen-year-old prostitute while he was on duty, and was sentenced to six months. In 1991 another Vancouver officer was sentenced **to** five years **for** charges of extortion, sexual assault (two counts) unlawful confinement (two counts), theft, and robbery.”

Table 86: Who did this to you?

	Frequency	Valid Pct
Police	55	72.4
Other person	1	1.3
Your madpimp	6	7.9
Vice	2	2.6
Uniform police	4	5.3
Prostitute	3	4.0
Boyfriend	4	5.3
Spouse	1	1.3
	183	100.0

Table 87 shows that 63.8% never reported any of these incidents to the bad date sheet.

Table 87: Did you report any of these incidents to bad date sheet?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	25	13.7	36.2
No	44	24.0	63.8
Total	69	37.7	100.0
Missing	114	62.3	
	183	100.0	

Table 88 shows that 72% have never reported least one of these incidents to the police.

Table 88: Did you report any of these incidents to the police?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	18	9.8	26.5
No	49	26.8	72.1
Total	67	36.6	100.0
Missing	116	63.4	
	183	100.0	

Table 89 shows that 85.9% were not aware of any charges having been laid.

Table 89: Were charges laid in any of these cases?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	9	4.9	14.1
No	55	30.1	85.9
Total	64	35.0	100.0
Missing	119	65.0	
	183	100.0	

Table 90 shows that 86.2% weren't aware of any convictions.

Table 90: Was anyone convicted?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	6	3.3	9.2
No	56	30.6	86.2
Total	62	33.9	100.0
Missing	121	66.1	
	183	100.0	

KIDNAPPED/CONFINED

Table 91 shows that 41.9% of the respondents report having been kidnapped/confined since working on the streets.

Table 91:
Since entering the sex trade has anyone kidnapped/confined you when you were working the street?

			Pct
Yes	72	39.3	41.9
No	100	54.6	58.1
Total	172	94.0	100.0
Missing	11	6.0	
	183	100.0	

Of these, table 92 shows 30.9% report having been kidnapped/confined more than once. Of the 55 respondents they report 98 incidents for an average of 1.78 per person per year.

Table 92: Within the past year how many times has someone tried to kidnap you?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Once	38	20.8	69.1
Twice	9	4.9	16.4
3 times	4	2.2	7.3
4 times	2	1.1	3.6
More than 10	2	1.1	3.6
Total	55	30.1	100.0
Missing	128	69.9	
	183	100.0	

Table 93 shows that 72% report having been kidnapped/confined within past **six** months.

Table 93 Within the past year when did these incidents occur?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Between past 0-7 days	5	2.7	10.0
Between 8-30 days	7	3.8	14.0
31-182 days	24	13.1	48.0
183-365 days	14	7.7	28.0
Total	50	27.3	100.0
Missing	133	72.7	
	183	100.0	

Table 94 shows that dates commit the majority of kidnappings.

Table 94: Who did these things to you?

	Frequency	Valid Pct
Date	59	67.8
Your man/pimp	11	12.6
Vice	2	2.3
Uniform police	3	3.4
Prostitute	4	4.6
Boyfriend	5	5.8
Spouse	1	1.2
Other person	2	2.3
Total	87	

Table 95 shows that 65.7% have not reported any of these incidents to the bad date sheet.

**Table 95:
Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?**

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	24	13.1	34.3
No	46	25.1	65.7
Total	70	38.3	100.0
Missing	113	61.7	
	1831	100.0	

Table 96 shows that 64.8% have not reported at least one of these incidents to the police within the past year.

Table 96: Did you report any of these incidents to the police?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	25	13.7	35.2
No	46	25.1	64.8
Total	71	38.8	100.0
Missing	112	61.2	
	183	100.0	

Table 97 shows that 82.8% report that to their knowledge no charges were ever laid.

Table 98: Were charges laid in any of the cases?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	11	6.0	17.2
No	53	29.0	82.8
Total	64	35.0	100.0
Missing	119	65.0	
	183	100.0	

Table 98 shows that 87.1% report that there were no convictions.

Table 98: Was anyone convicted?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	8	4.4	12.9
No	54	29.5	87.1
Total	62	33.9	100.0
Missing	121	66.1	
	183	100.0	

ATTEMPTED MURDER

Table 99 shows that 33.1% report that someone has tried to kill them since they worked on the street

Table 99: Has anyone tried to kill you since working on the street?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	58	31.7	33.1
No	117	63.9	66.9
Total	175	95.6	100.0
Missing	8	4.4	
	183	100.0	

Of these, table 100 shows that 35.9% report more than one attempt to kill them in the past year. 39 women report 85 attempts for an average of 2.18 per person per year.

Table 100:
Within the past year how many times has someone tried to kill you?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Once	25	13.7	64.1
Twice	5	2.7	12.8
3 times	3	1.6	7.7
4 times	2	1.1	5.1
6 times	2	1.1	5.1
10 times	1	.5	2.6
More than 10	1	.5	2.6
Total	39	21.3	100.0
Missing	144	78.7	
	183	100.0	

Table 101 shows that **59.5%** reported that someone has attempted to kill them within the past 6 months.

Table 101: Within the past year when did these incidents occur?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Between the past 0-7 days	5	2.7	13.5
Between 8-30 days	8	4.4	21.6
31-182 days	9	4.9	24.3
183-365 days	15	8.2	40.5
Total	37	20.2	100.0
Missing	146	79.8	
	183	100.0	

Table 102 shows that dates are responsible for the majority of attempted murders.

Table 102:
Who did these things to you while you were working on the street?

	Frequency	Valid Pct
Date	44	63.8
Your man/pimp	11	15.9
Boyfriend	6	8.7
Uniform police	2	2.9
Prostitute	2	2.9
Vice		2.9
Other person	2	2.9
	69	100.0

Table 103 shows that 43.1% reported at least one of these instances to the bad date sheet.

Table 103: Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	25	13.7	43.1
No	33	18.0	56.9
Total	58	31.7	100.0
Missing	125	68.3	
	183	100.0	

Table 104 shows that almost 60% never reported even one instance of attempted murder to the police.

Table 104: Did you report these to the police?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	23	12.6	40.4
No	34	18.6	59.6
Total	57	31.1	100.0
Missing	126	68.9	
	183	100.0	

Table 105 shows that almost 80% of the women report that no charges were ever laid in any of the murder attempts.

Table 105: Were charges laid in any of these cases?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	11	6.0	19.3
No	45	24.6	78.9
Total	56	30.6	100.0
Missing	126	69.4	
	183	100.0	

Table 106 shows that 88.9% report that there was no convictions in cases **of** attempted murder.

Table 106: Was anyone convicted?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Yes	6	3.3	11.1
No	48	26.2	88.9
Total	54	29.5	100.0
Missing	129	70.5	

IS ANYBODY OUT THERE?

Table 107 shows that the women rely on their social circle for assistance in almost half of the instances.

Table 107:
While working on the street, when you been assaulted, raped, threatened, robbed, harassed. ...who have you reported incidents to?

	Frequency	Pct of frequency
Friend	83	18.7
Sex trade worker	64	14.5
Your man/pimp	43	9.7
Uniform police	42	9.5
Outreach worker	34	7.7
Street Nurse	30	6.8
Nobody	26	5.9
Doctor	23	5.2
Date/regular	22	5.0
Parent	17	3.8
Vice	16	3.6
Counselor	12	2.7
Other person	10	2.3
Rape relief/battered shelter	10	2.3
Social Worker	7	1.6
Agency Owner	4	.9
Total	443	

Table 108 shows who actually helped them. It's frightening to see that 'nobody' is the most frequent response; pimps and street nurses are tied while social workers were of less assistance than the dates.

Table 108: Which of these people you reported these incidents to actually helped you?

	Frequency	Pct of total frequency
Nobody	48	17.6
Friend	44	16.1
Prostitute	34	12.5
Your man/pimp	24	8.8
Street Nurse	24	8.8
Outreach worker	19	7.0
Uniform police	15	5.5
Parent	11	4.0
Rape relief/battered shelter	11	4.0
Doctor	10	3.7
Some other person	9	3.3
Vice	9	3.3
ate/regular		1.8
Counselor		1.8
Social worker		1.8
gency Owner		.4
otal	273	

Table 109 shows that the most common acts of violence by sex workers are threats and robbery.

Table 109: While working on the street, have you ever.. .

	Frequency	Valid Pct
physically threatened anyone	71	22.3
Robbed someone	70	21.9
Physically assaulted someone without a weapon	67	21.0
Physically assaulted someone with a weapon	42	13.2
Threatened someone with a weapon	40	12.5
Tried to kill someone	13	4.1
Kidnapped/confined someone	12	3.8
Forced someone to have sex against their will	4	1.8
Total	319	

Table 110 shows that the most common victim of violence by sex workers were dates. Considered in the context of the major perpetrators of violent acts against them - much of these acts could be seen as self-defense.

Table 110: Who have you done these things to?

	Frequency	ValidPct
date	78	42.4
Prostitute/Sex Worker	53	28.8
Your man/pimp	21	11.4
Other person	13	7.1
Boyfriend	11	6.0
Spouse	3	1.6
Girlfriend	2	1.1
Uniform police	2	1.1
Vice	1	.5
Total	184	

HOW THE WOMEN FEEL ABOUT THE VPD

We wanted to look at how the women thought uniform police and the vice department viewed them.

Table 111 shows how the women perceive Vancouver's Vice department. Of the 177 women that answered the question over a quarter don't believe that any are concerned.

Table 111: Do you think vice care about your safety?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Most/all of them concerned	29	15.8	16.4
Some of them are concerned	103	56.3	58.2
None of them are concerned	45	24.6	25.4
Total	177	96.7	100.0
Missing	6	3.3	
	183	100.0	

We also wanted to look at how they felt Vice treated them, Table 113 shows that inconsistency and a lack of trust were the most common responses.

Table 112: How do vice treat you?

	Frequency	ValidPct
It varies/it's not consistent	60	16.3
I don't trust most of them	50	13.6
I trust most of them	45	12.2
Most of them are respectful	41	11.1
Most of them take me seriously	33	8.9
Most of them do a good job	30	8.1
Most of them harass me	30	8.1
Most of them are helpful	28	7.6
Most of them are uncooperative	25	6.8
Other	9	3.8
Most of them don't take me seriously	13	3.5
Total		

The need for understanding, education and respect are consistent themes that have been articulated throughout **this** project by the women and the youth in the survival sex trade.

Table 113: How could vice improve their relationship with you?

	Frequency	Valid Pct
Vice should be more Understanding	98	28.9
Vice need to be educated	80	23.6
Vice should be more respectful	73	21.5
More female vice officers	45	13.3
Don't need to improve	17	5.0
Should have more vice	14	4.1
Other	12	3.5
Total	339	

Contrary to Vancouver Police Department spokesperson Anne Drennan's public statement that the VPD investigates all crimes equally, regardless of who the victim is, table 114 is a graphic depiction of the women's belief that the laws are not equally

applied. At the bottom end of the scale almost one out of five of the women believe that not a single police officer out of ten would do anything if a sex trade worker were raped. When asked “Out of ten police officers, how many would do anything if a square woman was raped?” not a single respondent believed that there wasn’t an officer who would turn his back.

The disparity is just as strong at the opposite end of the scale. Less than 5% of the women thought all ten officers would do something if a woman in the sex trade was raped, while an overwhelming majority of the respondents (70%) thought all ten officers would do something if it wasn’t a woman in the sex trade.

Table 114: Sex workers and square women

	Frequency		Valid Pct	
	Sex Worker	Square Woman	Sex Worker	Square Woman
None	30	Nil	18.0	0
One	18	4	10.8	2.4
Two	29	4	17.4	2.4
Three	14	2	8.4	1.2
Four	15	4	9.0	2.4
Five	32	6	19.2	3.6
Six	11	1	6.6	.6
Seven	7	4	4.2	2.4
Eight	0	10	0	6.0
Nine	3	13	9.8	7.7
Ten	8	120	4.8	71.4
Total	167	168	100.0	100.0
Missing	16	15		
	183	183		

Table 115 shows that 39.2% of the women were convicted for communicating for the purposes of prostitution. Vancouver Police Department reports that procuring charges are down by 50% while communicating charges are up by 130% in 2000 compared to 1999.

Table 115:
How many times have you been convicted for communicating?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Never	101	55.2	60.8
Once	19	10.4	11.4
Twice	19	10.4	11.4
3 times	10	5.5	6.0
4 times	1	.5	.6
5 times	4	2.2	2.4
6 times	1	.5	.6
7 times	3	1.6	1.8
8 times	1	.5	.6
10 times	3	1.6	1.8
11 or more	4	2.1	2.4
Total	166	90.7	100.0
Missing	17	9.3	
	183	100.0	

Table 116 shows that over a quarter of the women believe that none of the uniform police actually care about their safety.

Table 116: Do you think the uniform police care about your safety?

	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Most/all of them are concerned	28	15.3	6.0
Some of them are concerned	97	53.0	56.7
None of them are concerned	46	25.1	26.9
Total	171	93.4	100.0
Missing	12	6.6	
	183	100.0	

Table 117 shows that the women simply want understanding and respect and feel that this can be achieved through education.

Table 117: In what ways do you think the uniform police could improve their relationship with you?

	Frequency	Valid Pct
Police should be more understanding	97	25.2
Police need to be educated	90	23.4
Police should be more respectful	87	22.6
Police do not care enough to improve	52	13.5
More female police officers	30	37.8
Should have more police patrols	15	3.9
Don't need to improve	14	3.6
Total	385	

We asked the women to write in the name of an officer that they believe truly cares about their welfare. We included this question hoping that the Vancouver Police Department would go to these officers and inquire how they've gained the women's trust. Out of **155** respondents **29.7%** put in the name of Dave Dixon, a police officer in the DTES. **14.2%** said that there was an officer but they didn't know their name.

We were interested in what the police have ever done for and to the women. Table **118** shows that the women report more officers paying for sex than taking them to shelters or clinics. That some officers are concerned about the women is reflected in their warning and lectures about the dangers. Hopefully in the future this will be balanced by the women reporting that officers have been as diligent in enforcing laws against rape and assault as they are in lecturing them about the dangers of the sex trade.

Table 118: Have the police ever:

	Frequency	ValidPct
Warned you about dangers	105	16.3
Lectured you about danger	97	15.0
Said they were concerned for your safety	86	13.3
Ridiculed you	78	12.1
Taken your picture against your will	56	8.8
Made sexual comments to you	46	7.1
Taken you home	44	6.8
Told your parents/social worker that you were a prostitute	42	6.5
Paid for sex	35	5.4
Wanted free sex	26	4.0
Taken you to a shelter	22	3.4
Taken you to a clinic	9	1.4
Total	646	

Table 119 shows that the women essentially use the same strategies to protect themselves whether working on or off-street – relying upon themselves.

Table 119: What do you do to protect yourself when you are working on/off-street?

	Frequency		Valid Pct	
	Street level	Off-street	Street level	Off-street
Don't work off/on street	50	21	22.0	4.0
Trust my senses	48	131	20.9	24.7
Avoid drunk or stoned tricks	31	93	13.8	17.6
Don't use drugs or drink when working	23	69	10.2	13.0
Carry a weapon	22	61	9.8	11.5
Work with a friend	19	69	8.4	13.0
Spotter	14	45	6.2	8.5
Trick pad	10	24	4.4	4.5
Other protection	7	15	3.1	2.8
Nothing	1	2	Nil	.4
Total	225			

Table 120 asked what services they believe there should be for sex workers. The women overwhelmingly wanted safer working conditions and the laws changed. Respect and education by the community and enforcement agencies far outweighed the least popular option of more police and vice.

Table 120:How could working on the street be safer?

	Frequency	Valid Pct
Safe houses/safe trick pads	107	11.4
Being allowed to work in well lit locations	100	8.5
Change the laws	98	8.4
24hr drop in centers	88	7.5
More outreach services	76	6.4
Better lighting	68	5.8
More mobile outreach vans	65	5.6
Self owned escort services	62	5.3
Better community education	61	5.2
24hr crisis lines	61	5.2
Patrols of ex-prostitutes	60	5.1
Transition houses	59	4.9
More drop in Centres	53	5.5
Better police education	53	4.5
Better education of vice	53	4.5
Don't work on the street	33	2.8
City-run security	31	2.6
Increased police patrols	22	1.9
Increased number of vice	16	1.4
Total	1170	

IN THEIR WORDS

We basically asked the same question **twice** but this time we asked the women to write in comments. The women again overwhelmingly wanted safer working conditions. Among comments were:

"I see plenty of services for those who are on welfare. For those who are not – few of them. No medical insurance or access to legal aid – the money for paying lawyers comes off the street “

“Someone or somewhere to raise the level of self esteem in working girls. Some understanding on behalf of regular people because we are just living our lives. So I’m different doesn’t mean a non-prostitute is any better.”

“Officer in charge of following up rape, assaults and murders of sex workers specifically.”

“Better health and counseling services for rape victims.”

“Places like PACE and better advertising for them so that people know about them. More outreach and resources.”

“Counseling/Safe houses/Police (on our side)”

“Lots of outreach programs...some girls need support they lack from family and friends.”

“The strength to square us.”

“Safetrick pads/life skills training! Options stressed ie how to get out.”

“Safeplace to do dates – monitored. More lighting and police patrols (concerned for the girls safety not busting or moving girls along.)”

“The same as any other workers.”

“24 hour drop-in, less charging of girls, house for prostitutes, counseling for recovery from sex trade, groups in house, resources to leave it, support – Celebrate surviving, no shame.”

“Just people who don’t judge you – talk down to you or make you feel guilty or dirty. More Vice who have been street workers/prostitutes etc.”

“Outreach workers/Red light district.”

This is another section where we let the women write in their answers and comments, and then we created categories that reflected what they said. People have pride and no matter how bad the choices they’ve made or the conditions they find themselves in you can’t expect them to admit to a stranger that they wish they were anywhere else but where they **are** in exchange for a few dollars. Not only ours but prior research has shown that the average age that women **begin** their involvement in Vancouver’s street level sex trade is around **16**, so rather than **ask** how they felt about their life we asked, ‘What would you tell a **16** year old getting into the sex trade?’ Over three-quarters basically said do not do

it. Around 10% made any comment that could be seen as encouraging this as a career choice.

Table 121: What would you tell a 16 year old girl thinking about entering the sex trade.

	Frequency	of respondents	Valid Pct
Don't do it/Don't start	45	24.6	26.7
Try to talk her out of it.	30	16.4	17.8
Think again, this isn't easy	15	8.2	8.9
It's not worth it	13	7.1	7.7
Big mistake	12	6.6	7.1
Go home	12	6.6	7.1
Scare her straight	11	6.0	6.5
Use your brain	10	5.5	5.9
Go home or I'll beat you.	9	4.9	5.3
Be careful	6	3.3	3.6
Don't have a pimp	2	1.1	1.2
None of my business	1	.5	.6
Send her for help	1	.5	.6
Please don't it's dangerous	1	.5	.6
Bump her	1	.5	.6
Total	169	92.3	100.0
Missing	14	7.7	
	183	100.0	

The range of comments ran the gamut from the simple, “Go home” and “If you really want to die why don't you just shoot yourself?” to longer paragraphs:

“You won't make fifty grand and get out, that's what everybody who gets in thinks. – I'm just going to buy a car and pay off my bills – it never happens. In 8 years on the street I've only ever met one sex trade worker who made anything in a financial sense. The drugs, the violence, the absence of a sense of direction drags almost everybody down. Nobody ever decides to become a drug addict – same thing for career sex trade workers – nobody hopes for that and it happens anyway.”

Other comments:

“You are beautiful, you have your whole life ahead of you; nothing is worth selling a little pride every date unless it's all gone already. I would also take her on a tour of her future downtown skid row to scare her away.”

"I tell them, I have lost 14 friends to the sex trade industry, I have been stabbed, robbed and shot at, raped and beaten and just when you think you're over the worst & someone like me will come along and make your life worse because the girls can be worse than the pimps."

"It's like drugs, once you start, reality becomes very distorted and you become hooked. It's not a very glamorous life. I wish I had stayed in school and received my schooling and have a better way & living than laying down with a man for \$60 - \$150, the money really isn't worth it."

"Please don't. It's dangerous. Street = Drugs + Death."

"You're probably cutting back your life expectancy, you'll lose your self respect and esteem. You'll end up probably hating yourself and walking around feeling guilt and shame all the time."

"I would not consider it my problem cause it's none & my business, only if she were a close friend or family."

"Get the fuck home."

We also gave the women an opportunity to write in answers to the question, "What got you into the sex trade?". Table 122 shows their responses broken into reflective categories.

Table 122	Frequency	Pct of respondents	Valid Pct
Needed the money	65	35.5	40.4
Drugs	30	16.4	18.6
Met the wrong man	20	10.9	12.4
Friends	13	7.1	8.0
Boyfriend after hooking me on drugs	9	4.9	5.6
Forced to	5	2.7	3.1
Mother	5	2.7	3.1
Family problems	4	2.2	2.5
Made bad choices	4	2.2	2.5
Sister	2	1.1	1.2
Father	1	.5	.6
Uncle	1	.5	.6
Cousin	1	.5	.6
Sex	1	.5	.6
Total	161	88.0	100.0
Missing	22	12.0	
	183	100.0	

This doesn't reflect the breadth or timbre of their answers. All of the questions were optional and they wrote these comments at the end of filling out a survey that took almost half an hour to complete. It is important that their voice be directly heard. Don't skim through; the women took the extra time out because they wanted their words to be heard.

"Needed money, had no place to live at twelve."

"A guy got me wired to heroin without me realizing it until I was junk sick."

"Money for housing-money for drug addiction-to be complimented valued-to be loved!"

"Ex-boyfriend, beat me up if I didn't work on the street."

"No where to go with no money and responsible to take care of a 16 year old younger sister."

"Movie: Pretty Woman, glorified and glamorized. Peer pressure by so called friends."

"I met a very smoothfast taking pimp, and was lured by the huge money. I was a teacher/administrator at a small private language school at the time. The idea would not have occurred to me on my own."

"I thought it would be lots of money & cool & get me out of the house. Worst mistake of my life. I thought I would be a star."

"I lost my daughter when I was 16 years old & decided that I was going to get even with the government"

"Mother was alcoholic was involved with abusive man, he had put me in hospital at 11 yrs with a 2x4. Mother made blind, so I ran away from home. Been on my own since 13 yrs never went back."

"Easy money and drugs. Now it's because I got a kid to take care of:"

"I have a 13 month old daughter so it was this or welfare."

"I had a sugar daddy who got me hooked on cocaine and the only option for more was the inevitable"

"Mom got me working on street."

"I was forcefully hooked on drugs by being held against my will and drugged Then I was turned out."

"I wanted tickets to go to a Guns n' Roses concert."

"My father used to bring prostitutes home. I wanted to see if it was for me, my mom kicked me out, it was my final choice."

"Looking for love in all the wrong places; became the money; cause my man wanted me to."

"A boyfriend who loved me so much he fed me heroin until he made me work the streets."

"Survival, wanted to eat; safer than home."

"The money, nice clothes thought I'd be a glamour girl with all the most expensive clothes, jewelry, etc. Then 4 years later - I'm an alcoholic Ho! Then 3 years later - I'm a junkie ho!"

"For money and understanding and compassion."

"I was a WOL from group home. Hadn't eaten for long time so I asked one of the girls to show me how"

"My mom sold me to her pimp."

"I ran away and this girl said I could stay at her house then these guys intimidated me to work."

"Dancing and when guys came and offer money. It looked and sounded to good at the time and it paid for college."

"By force boyfriend, held child while I made his drug money."

"Bad things when growing up."

"Very vulnerable, never felt loved, met a man, was my first love, turned out to be a fairy tale, then everything turned sour."

"I got kicked out of my mom's and a friend of mine knew a date who paid to take polaroids of us half dressed and then after that I went directly to standing on the corner"

SOMEBODIES GOT IT WRONG

The question now becomes how ‘reliable or valid’ our data is. One method is to compare it to similar works on the issue. Making a definitive statement based on comparing data from studies done at different times is dangerous. Meshing diverse methods, conflicting term definitions and a tendency to select the bits and pieces that supports your argument are only a few of the pitfalls.

Fortunately, “representatives from PACE helped to design, pretest and circulate” the **1996** Survey of Victimization of Women Who Prostitute, in *Violence Against Persons Who Prostitute: The Experience In British Columbia* (Lowman and Fraser **1996** - herein referred to as *Violence 1994* – the year in which the data was collected). Since we used that survey as a template we’re fairly comfortable in comparing some of the results. The sample size in **1994** was **65**; this sample is considerably larger – **183** (there are an additional **21** surveys to be inputted (final total: **204**) – those results will be published in an academic journal).

Table **123** shows fairly similar results with the 2000 population being slightly older; while Table **124** shows a higher rate of violence in all shared categories – the percentage differences have been highlighted. Where there is not a generally accepted term employed we have shown the results of the individual research. The greatest differences are in the categories of refusal to wear a condom and attempted murder – up **41%** and **23.4%** respectively.

Table 123: Demographics	Violence (1994)	Violence (1999-2000)
	Average age of respondents	24.1
Average years in sex trade	5-6	5.45
Age of first date	16.5	16.98
White	62.5%	48.1%
Aboriginal	10.9%	31.3%

Table 124: Changes in Violence	Frequency		% (Missing values removed)	
	Violence 1994	Violence 1999-2000	Violence 1994	Violence 1999-2000 (Percentage change in brackets)
General harassment	43	147	69.4	83.1 (+ 13.7%)
Threat/intimidation	41	122	66.1	70.5 (+ 4.4 %)
Had use knife	32		51.6	
Dumped	27		43.5	
Refused condom	26	145	41.9	82.9(+ 41%)
Beating*	24	87	38.7	51.2 (+ 12.5%)
Robbery	23	95	37.1	53.7 (+ 16.6%)
Sexual Assault**	23	81*	37.1	45.8*(+ 8.7%)
Had used gun	22		35.5	
Unwanted acts	21		33.9	
Kidnap/Confine	20	72	32.3	41.9 (+ 9.6%)
Strangling	19		30.6	
Other weapon	17		27.4	
Attempted Murder	6	58	9.7	33.1 (+ 23.4 %)
Other	2		3.2	
Threatened with a weapon		77		44.5
Assault with a weapon w/o rape		50		30.3
A weapon was used during rape		66		40.7

* The 2000 survey asked: "Since entering the sex trade has anyone physically assaulted you without a weapon being involved when you were working on the street."

**The 2000 survey asked: "Since entering the sex trade has anyone tried to force you to have sex against your will without a weapon being involved when you were working on the street?"

There are five key factors that could explain the higher rates of violence in our research.

First, our data was collected from women on **all** of the strolls throughout Greater Vancouver whereas *Violence* chose to concentrate on Richards/Seymour and the DTES in order to compare the experiences of the women on those strolls. Therefore, we probably collected information from a higher percentage of women who use **drugs**.

Second, drug use patterns aren't static. There was an observed dramatic increase in crack cocaine in the intervening years by both the women and dates. The prices charged for sex have fallen accordingly, often pitting the women against each other.

Third, the conditions that gave rise to the remarkable explosion of HIV/HEPC/STD infection rates amongst the SWIDU population have largely gone unchanged; obviously there are now even more women that are far more sick than they were then. Surviving in conditions of unremitting disease, addiction and violence functions like a self-fulfilling prophecy – driving the desperate to engage in even riskier behaviours.

Fourth, almost a third of our sample identified themselves as aboriginal. We are talking with several organizations about isolating the data on aboriginal women in order to compare it to the non-aboriginal population and using the information to identify, develop and implement proactive strategies.

Finally, it simply could be worse out there now than it was 7 years ago and without fundamental change we may very well find that it is worse still in another seven years.

Our research, and efforts by others – notably the BC Centre of Excellence in HIV/AIDS – seems to indicate that conditions for Vancouver women in the survival sex trade are worsening. In contrast statistics from the Vancouver Police Department indicate the city is becoming an even safer place to live. Table 125 shows a decline in almost **all** categories of violence in the similar time period (1994 to 2000).

Table 125: Vancouver Police Department Statistics Violent Crimes	Vancouver Police Department Statistics 1994	Vancouver Police Department Statistics 2000 (Percentage change in brackets)
Homicide	25	17 (- 32%)
Attempted Murder	25	26 (+ 4%)
Sexual Offences''	681	488 (- 28.3%)
Assaults - Total'''	4907	3923 (-20%)

Perhaps the chasm is one of selected emphasis. Table 126 shows that during the same period there was an increase in two categories – drug offences and prostitution.

Table 126: Vancouver Police Department Statistics	Vancouver Police Department Statistics 1994	Vancouver Police Department Statistics 2000 (Percentage change in brackets)
Prostitution	125	200 (+60%)
Drugs	2141	3080 (+43.8%)

Obviously the Vancouver Police Department has not been inactive, however they have been selective in what they choose to enforce. In 1997 Vancouver established the Coalition on Drug Treatment and Crime Prevention. Three years later drug related arrests in the Downtown Eastside were up a staggering 80% over the previous year.

This pattern is repeated in the latest statistical report. Drug offenses are up 57.9% from 1999 to 2000, and prostitution charges (Bawdy House, Procuring and Communicating) have increased 122.2%.^{xiii}

It should be noted that successful conclusions to violent crime investigations are hindered anytime where the victim and perpetrator are strangers to each other. This is overwhelmingly the case in acts of violence against women in Vancouver's street level sex trade - where dates are the people responsible for the majority of incidents. Due to the contradictory nature of laws on the sex trade (prostitution is legal but everything and everywhere associated with it is not) the women are engaged in an illegal activity - increasing their reluctance to report incidents.

This in no way dismisses the responsibility of the police to pursue investigations into rape and assault, nor does it justify their demonstrated pick and choose approach to law enforcement.

In the past, domestic assault, rape within marriages, and child sexual abuse did not exist if one relied on police statistics as a reflection of reality. It wasn't until groups worked to

have these things recognized as existing and moved society to express its repugnance that enforcement bodies began to pursue and punish the perpetrators.

Fifty years ago the conditions of marriage were blatantly unfair to women - groups, mostly women, organized and advocated for changes to the institution of marriage, not its abolishment. Today the conditions of prostitution are blatantly unfair and unsafe for a group of women - sex workers - but the efforts of some of the most vocal feminist groups appears to be dedicated to the abolition of the institution and not to changing the conditions.

Violence against women in Vancouver's street level sex trade must receive the same consideration and concerted effort. These women must be brought within the umbrella of fundamental human rights - the right to equal protection by the law.

Is there something *so* heinous about the sight of a woman selling her body that it could outweigh protecting her from rape, assault and murder?

A SEX TRADE LIAISON OFFICER

Recommendations of admirable research is sometimes bogged down by a wish list of special interest groups or make the resolution of an issue dependent upon the abolition of such things as poverty and patriarchy. Although both admirable long-term goals, we were concerned about what could be done to immediately change things. It was incumbent upon us not to simply point fingers at what we perceived to be the failure of others, but to supply or initiate solutions.

A way out of this situation had to be found and the women couldn't wait for the conclusion of the research. With input and direction from the young women on the advisory board and a group of DTES sex workers from the PACE Health Network we developed a policy paper that we felt would contribute to preventing violence.

The provincial government in British Columbia had recently initiated a new policy on domestic assault that gave us a tenable template to mimic.

Dan Moon, the original Crown Counsel with the Provincial Prostitution Unit, took time **out of** his personal life to help in developing a draft outline for the ***Sex Trade Liaison Officer Policy*** that was presented to the Vancouver Police Department Services Board in December of last year.

Sex workers from the **DTES** and staff from women's groups further developed the Sex Trade Liaison Officer policy. Among the women's groups were Justice for Girls, Women Against Violence Against Women (WAVAW), the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre, individuals from the B.C. Sexual Assault Center, and a Youth Worker from the Women's Rehabilitation Centre in Katmandu that works with Nepalese **girls** trafficked into the brothels of India.

We had a private meeting with Mayor Philip Owen and gave him the Liaison Officer Policy first draft. We also made him aware that it appeared that the report would have no choice but to be highly critical of the city of Vancouver.

The Mayor invited us to present the policy at the next meeting of the Vancouver Police Services Board in December, 2000.

Contrary to an earlier stated promise from the Mayor that the Police Services Board meetings were to be open to the general public, this meeting was held on the seventh floor of the Cambie police station. We arrived with a group of what the media reported as 'up to 60 placard waving sex workers' and their allies immediately encountering difficulties.

Officers stipulated that the placards must remain outside and that only 10 of the women would be allowed upstairs, only after presenting photo ID at the front desk.

This demand effectively barred the street level sex workers from the **DTES** who had helped develop the proposal from attending the board meeting. Only through the timely intercession of Vancouver City Councilor Fred Bass was the embargo lifted and ten women were allowed upstairs. Below is the proposal that was submitted for consideration.

THE SEX TRADE LIAISON OFFICER PROPOSAL

The creation of a Sex Trade Liaison Officer position within the VPD would:

- Reduce the murder, rape and assault rates;
- Prevent the recruitment and involvement of children in the **sex** trade;
- Ensure a higher rate of successful pimping investigation and convictions;
- Contribute to a higher homicide clearance rate;
- Assist communities in developing strategies to deal with the impact of prostitution in their neighborhood.

By facilitating investigations related to the physical/sexual assault and homicide of individuals in prostitution a Liaison Officer would **be** able to gain the trust of women and children in the street level **sex** trade. This can be achieved through two-parts:

- Reporting structure
- Responsibilities

SECTION ONE: REPORTING STRUCTURE

C. INTRODUCTION

- Prostitution and prostitution related issues are a concern throughout Vancouver and not simply limited to a single area, although at any given time certain neighborhoods are affected to a greater degree than others. Due to the transitory nature of prostitution, the effect of localized enforcement efforts (displacement), and the fact that prostitution occurs on and off-street, the Liaison Officer's mandate should **be** citywide.
- The effectiveness of the Liaison Officer will be directly related to their ability to gain: the trust of youth in the survival **sex** trade and women in prostitution, the input and support of residents and business owners, and the co-operation of service agencies will **be** required.

B. DIRECT AUTHORITY

- Due to the expertise of the sexual assault unit, it is recommended that the officer be based.
- There must **be** strong accountability to, and support from, the broader community that works with women in the sex trade. This can **be** achieved by having regularly scheduled with the advisory panel.

C. ADVISORY PANEL

- Regular input should **be** solicited from a variety of partners through the creation of an advisory panel. Suggested members are: patrol division representatives, First Nations Women's Health organization, Crime Prevention coordinators, service agencies, BC Womens, Sexual Assault Centre, First Nation and other health care advocates

SECTION TWO: RESPONSIBILITIES

D. POLICE

The Liaison Officer will:

- Encourage patrol division officers to actively pursue reported cases of physical and sexual assault where the victim is an individual known to **be** involved in prostitution;
- Ensure that victims of sexual assault receive appropriate services (ie placement in safe houses & access to agency support)
- Assist in physical/sexual assault and homicide investigations when the victim is a known prostitute. They will provide the victim with the attending officer's name or number, the case number, contact phone number and see that the victim is referred to an appropriate agency or ministry service;
- Be responsible for rapid identification of prostitution-related nuisance areas;
- Develop multi-service responses to concerns from business owners and residents regarding identified prostitution-related nuisance areas;
- Serve as a city-wide resource to CPOs and patrol divisions in order to develop comprehensive strategies to respond to the issue of prostitution. The goal of these strategies would **be** to avoid simply displacing the problem from one residential area to another;
- Help support and develop enforcement investigation regarding men who purchase sex from children and pimping investigations.
- Assist in the development of appropriate medical care for First Nations women in the survival **sex** trade.

B. COURTS

The Liaison Officer will:

- Help ensure witness testimony in sexual/physical assault and homicide cases involving individuals engaged in prostitution;
- Aid in developing and ensuring adequate and sensitive support strategies for youth in the survival **sex** trade;
- Work to ensure witness testimony in 2124 and pimping **cases**;
- Make them available to give opinion/evidence in court regarding the dynamics of prostitution and the effects on youth in the survival **sex** trade. This would free other officers, such as Vice Unit investigators from unnecessary court appearances;

- Assist victims in obtaining criminal compensation.

C. COMMUNITY

The Liaison Officer will:

- Directly work with individuals involved in prostitution in order to establish protocols of behavior which are sensitive to the needs of the communities affected by the issue;
- Help develop more efficient coordination of community **based** initiatives in order to respond to prostitution related issues;
- Aid CPOs in developing responses to the issue of prostitution in their neighborhoods;
- Work directly with service agency front-line workers in order to gain the trust of individuals engaged in prostitution;
- Respond to individual complaints regarding police/courts.

CONCLUSION

Although the Federal Government is responsible for a law recognized as “ineffective in terms of the reduction of street prostitution and aggravation experienced by members of the community” (Canadian Centre For Justice Statistics), it is local law enforcement agencies that bear the brunt of community dissatisfaction.

Short of losing a charter challenge there is little likelihood that the Federal Government will make any substantive changes to the law. Thus, **local** law enforcement agencies must explore new and innovative techniques to respond to the issue of prostitution and its effect on residential areas.

The goal of the Liaison Officer is the reduction of harm. Residents and business owners will have an identifiable individual to respond to their concerns. Crime Prevention Offices will have a much-needed resource in order to develop strategies. The Vice Unit and Patrol Divisions will **be** able to free up much needed resources to pursue priority calls and the Sexual Assault Unit will gain additional manpower to pursue investigations.

More importantly, this would significantly reduce the rape, assault and homicide rates suffered by women in the street level sex trade in Vancouver.

VPD BOARD RESPONSE

Our goal was not the wholesale adoption **of** the Liaison Officer Position within the VPD but to articulate a simple idea, whose time has come - that these women, regardless of what they are engaged **in**, deserve to be protected from rape and assault.

Social change doesn't happen overnight.

In March of this year the Vancouver Police Board agreed with the **VPD** that a Sex Trade Liaison Officer position **not** be created. However, they called upon the police department to utilize:

“the existing mechanisms within the VPD, while advancing positive and progressive change, and that a follow-up report be submitted after the three month trial; AND THAT the VPD explore the inclusion of PACE in education opportunities at the Police Academy.”

The liaison officer policy was developed as a concrete point from which to begin to change things. The responsibility to report on changes within **3** months and the opportunity to help form the attitudes **of** the next generation of officers represents a small but fundamental **shift** and groups like **PACE** must be as vocal in their recognition of efforts as they are in their criticisms.

Unfortunately, it is ‘the existing mechanisms within the VPD’ that have helped create a geography of degeneracy where **some** people are more worthy of protection than others. They were joined by the most unlikely and unwitting of allies in the making of this landscape – a perplexing silence by liberal feminism in the face of such unnecessary tragedy and their seeming abandonment of the political and legal articulation **of** this issue to the radical/abolitionist wing who equate any legal recognition of the sex trade to countenancing slavery.

Feminism & the sex trade – Problematic or just a problem?

*“Now, I say the time has arrived when serious men should give to prostitution serious thought...The field of inquiry may be repulsive, the problems that meet **us** difficult of solution, and my fellow labourers must expect for a season at least to have only their labour for their pains, and for their only reward an approving conscience. But we **may** trust that the time is approaching when the justice of our cause will be acknowledged. It cannot be that the people of this country will for ever ignore the misery to be found in their midst. Nor even to human ears can the crying of the poor and the sighing of the needy, for ever appeal in vain.”*

William Acton *Prostitution (1857)*

No law, neither by volition nor omission can be seen as contributing to rape, assault and murder, but this is what has happened. The contradictory laws governing the sex trade have played a direct role in contributing to the rape, assault and murder of women in the street level sex trade.

Here is an issue where the law has helped to place a vulnerable population in the position of crippling disadvantage - defined by their gender and reduced to a commodity to be bought and sold for the pleasure of men - you'd think that this would be one of the premier rallying points for the feminist community, but it has not been *so*.

That said, neither feminism nor the sex trade is monolithic. **You** can no more credibly point to the street level trade in the DTES and say that is representative of the conditions for the entire sex industry than you could take a single argument from one theorist or camp and declare it *the* feminist position.

But, our interest is not to explore the myriad theoretical perspectives of either, rather it is to speculate on how they have been politically articulated and what the consequences are for women selling sex on the streets of Vancouver.

In 1990 there was an opportunity to force the government to bring these conditions to an end. It was met with a deafening silence from liberal feminist groups, who have appeared willing to leave the political articulation **of** this issue to the radical/abolitionist wing of feminism.

In the compelling and erudite article *Whores and Worthies: Feminism and Prostitution* Janice Dickin McGinnis explores how the abandonment of this issue by Canadian mainstream feminism to anti-pornography forces was used to maintain laws that have made the street level sex trade more dangerous.

“As much as feminists may protest that they are only taking on these types of questions for the good of all women, and particularly the good the women they see as caught in the tentacles of the sex trade, they must confront the fact that their stance and their words are being used to disadvantage other women, no matter what their intent.”
(*McGinnis*)

In May of 1990 two sections of the laws governing the sex trade were brought before the Supreme Court of Canada. While prostitution is legal, the bawdy house portion makes it against the law to buy or sell sex in off-street settings and the communicating section does the same for the buying or selling of sex in public (both sections are reproduced underneath in their entirety).

193(1) Every one who keeps a common bawdy-house is guilty of an indictable offence and is liable to imprisonment for two years.

193(2) Every one who
(a) is an inmate of a common bawdy-house,
(b) is found, without lawful excuse, in a common bawdy-house, or
(c) as owner, landlord, lessor, tenant, occupier, agent or otherwise having charge or control of any place, knowingly permits the place or any part thereof to be let or used for the purposes of a common bawdy-house,
is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction
(*now known as section 210*)

195.1(1) Every person who in a public place or in any place open to public view
(a) stops or attempts to stop any motor vehicle.
(b) impedes the free **flow** of pedestrian or vehicular traffic or ingress to or egress from premises adjacent to that place, or
(c) 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 summary conviction.

195.1(2) In this section, “public place” includes any place to which the public have access as of right **or** by invitation express or implied, and any motor vehicle located in a public place or in any place open to public view.
(*now known as section 213*)

Lawyers argued that each of the sections infringed the guarantee to freedom of expression found in section 2(b) of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom*:

- 2 Everyone has the following fundamental freedoms:
 (b) freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication;

The court was unanimous in their agreement that the laws on communicating were in violation of the *Charter*. This is not some theoretical or abstract legal argument; to deny someone full participation in a free and democratic society, no matter how offensive their activity, by infringing on his or her fundamental freedom is a serious issue.

In order to violate a fundamental freedom the court must be confident that the response is reasonable and justified.

It is interesting to note that the decision split down gender lines with the two female justices arguing against the all male decision that while the communicating section does violate the charter it is warranted in this case. The majority decision was supported and informed by the rhetoric of the abolitionist/radical feminist wing - that the very existence of prostitution is harmful and degrading to all women.

As McGinnis has pointed out, the male justices were able to justify their decision with impeccable feminist credentials quoting from a brief prepared for the Fraser Committee in 1984 by the Ontario Advisory Council on the Status of Women:

“There is a real victim in prostitution – the prostitute herself: All women, children and adolescents are harmed for prostitution...Prostitution functions as a form of violence against women and young persons. It is certainly a blatant form of exploitation and abuse of power... Prostitution is related to the traditional dominance of men over women. The various expressions of this dominance include a concept of women as property and the belief that the sexual needs of men are the only sexual desires to be given serious consideration. Prostitution is a symptom of the victimization and subordination of women and of their economic disadvantage.”

The same analysis was used in the creation of the laws on pornography.

The most well known theorists from the abolitionist camp are Catharine MacKinnon and Andrea Dworkin familiar to Canadians for their influence on the **1992** Canadian Supreme Court decision on obscenity in *R v. Butler*. The court basically agreed with their view equating pornography to hate literature and that its very existence is harmful to all women. The law allows customs to prohibit something before the courts have even ruled on it – turning the principle of innocent until proven **guilty** on its head. Their intentions might have been to save and protect all women but the law has primarily targeted gay and lesbian bookstores leading to lengthy and costly court battles.

Vancouver's Gay and Lesbian bookstore Little Sisters has been in court for **13** years trying to stop the continued detainment and confiscation of books and magazines by Canadian Customs.

This year the Supreme Court attempted to right the abusive procedure. Artists and bookstores like Little Sisters will no longer have to prove the material is not obscene but the premise that lead to the outcome remains. (Crean)

The outcome of the laws on pornography, costly and lengthy court battles for artists and bookstores, pale in comparison to the consequences borne by women in the street level sex trade.

It seems to have finally dawned on some of the prohibitionist groups that their refusal to allow for any legal recognition of the right to **sell** and buy sex **is** not only silly but actually harmful. The new stance argues that any potential legal reforms should criminalize the buying of sex but not the selling.

This emphasis on punishing men rather than freeing women holds little potential for changing the conditions of violence and in no way reflects the position **of** sex workers. Any maintenance of the system of quasi-criminalization will help only to perpetuate violence against sex workers. Given a **choice**, the women selling sex on the streets **of**

Vancouver would prefer the prosecution of the men who rape her rather than the prosecution of the men who pay her.

The argument that any reformation of prostitution law should pursue the punishment of pimps and johns but not the sellers of sex is put forward in a laborious and dense feminist legal theory paper entitled *A Matter of Prostitution Becoming Respectable*. The law professors who wrote the article have helped fashion laws of this nature in the United States and we mention it here because it is one of the few places that addresses that a system of quasi-criminalization will maintain the exclusion of sex workers from being viewed as a regular member of society. They are clear that this is precisely the goal of the abolitionist point of view:

“...women who have not been prostituted, as well as society as a whole, have a stake in perpetuating the taint of degeneracy that is attached to women in prostitution.”

As a society we are not motivated to protect the rights of degenerates nor are the police as quick to respond to their requests for protection. It appears that the abolitionist wing of feminism is prepared to abandon a few women for the good of all women.

Like Janice Dickin McGinnis in *whores and Worthies: Feminism and Prostitution* I attempted to contact LEAF (Legal Education Access Fund). LEAF is a publicly funded body that is mandated to apply for intervenor status in courts cases involving the rights of women and is generally seen as representative of liberal feminism. For over a year and a half I tried to get an answer from West Coast LEAF to the simple question of whether they have ever applied for intervenor status in any case involving the sex trade and/or developed any policy papers on this topic.

After countless phone inquiries the receptionist informed me that she had been instructed not to speak to me. I explained that I was offering them **an** opportunity to explain their position and would be happy to do this over email.

Below is their reply to my emailed request:

“April 12th, 2000

*Dear Mr. Cunningham:
Re: Enquiry of February 3rd, 2000*

I am in receipt of your enquiry regarding LEAF's involvement in prostitution issues. Before responding to your enquiry, we would appreciate it if you could provide some background information regarding your research work i.e. who are you doing research for, your qualifications and expertise, and your interest in this particular area of the law.

I look forward to hearing from you."

I sent them the information they requested and as a reward for my efforts spanning a year and a half received an email response essentially directing me to call the head office.

In 1990 the Supreme Court did not have access to a body of research that raises the question of whether this law is killing women and we must ask what their decision would have been if this information had been available to them at the time. The laws governing the sex trade will again be challenged in the Supreme Court - the question now becomes whether anyone will help these women.

Conclusion

"Instead of the scorn so freely lavished on the poor lost daughters of shame and misery, I plead for a little pity - nay, far more than pity, I plead for justice...I charge those laws with cruelty, and I say further that her blood is on the head of those who know the injustice of such laws yet will not help to alter them..."

- These words were written by William Acton (1857) in one of the first serious works exploring the issue of prostitution and are as relevant today as they were then.

We have neither succeeded in discovering anything new nor uncovered anything shocking. Anyone familiar with the street level sex trade knows that the rates of violence are the highest suffered by any group of women in Canada and that recourse to the

protective potential of the police and courts is practically non-existent. We feel that this indicates an unintended support for violence against street-level sex trade workers.

A flawed law and its practice, the, city of Vancouver's demonstrated resistance to addressing a situation they helped to create, and the saddeningly tragic complicity **of** a wing of feminism that has essentially denied a group of individuals, regardless of what they are doing, inclusion in the protective capacity of the police and courts is a fundamental violation of basic human rights that should not shock but rather sicken.

It is our opinion that the Government of Canada has been complicit in violating the most basic fundamental human rights for a segment of its population.

Our inclination to respond to the social nuisance aspects of the sex trade using repressive mechanisms is a leitmotiv throughout its history resulting in situations where moral or social values have taken precedence over the protection of individual freedoms with unameliorated consequences.

At best, the laws on the sex trade are in violation of the Canadian Charter of Rights - a point that the Supreme Court **of** Canada agrees with; at worst the laws are culpable for the missing women and the rape and assault and murder rates in Vancouver.

Human rights are an abstract idea for most of us. We are comfortable in the knowledge that Canada is known internationally as a sponsor and signatory **of** international covenants and treaties but this has little or no impact on our day-to-day lives. Aside of assuring Canada's reputation as one of the good guys few, if any, of us truly understand what fundamental human rights are and how they work.

International human rights law can be viewed as entirely ineffectual but at the same time utterly persuasive. It is best understood as that pain in the pit of your stomach you feel when you know that something is just simply wrong. It is the articulation of our best principles and standards to which we should aspire.

No amount of rhetoric can disguise the fact that the lack of any substantive response by all three levels of government can be traced to the simple fact that since it is only street level sex workers that are being raped and murdered it does not, and most likely will not, matter.

It is with some sadness and regret that this research project is completed. Any feeling of success is undermined by a sickening conviction that all our efforts were in vain and the situation will essentially remain unchanged. Perhaps this research will spark debate but it is doubtful that it will affect any real change, as we seem to live in a time where process and inclusion appears to hold greater value than effectiveness and outcome. As one of the authors of this study I find it confusing that I'll receive greater attention and reward for talking about the issue than I did for helping fashion responses **to** it.

The last words are those of Sarah DeVries - one of the **31** women who is still missing. The first piece is a terrifyingly prescient poem, she wrote about the discovery of women's body in a dumpster behind one of the DTES hotels, that predicts not only her impending death, but also our indifference to it. The second recounts a bad date and what happened when she reported it to the police.

Leonard Cler-Cunningham
Vancouver, 2001

Women body found beaten beyond
Recognition you sip your coffee
Taking a drag of your smoke
Turning the page
taking a bite of your toast
Just another day
Just another death
Just one more thing you *so* forget
you and your soft, sheltered life
Just go on and on
For Nobody special from your world is gone
Just another day
Just another death
Just another Hastings street whore
Sentenced to death
NO judge
NO jury
NO trial
NO mercy
The Judges gavel,
already fallen
Sentence already passed
But you
You just sip your coffee
Washing down your toast
For you it's just another day
For you it's just another death
For you you've already forgot
It's not just another day
It's not just another death
She was a broken down angel
Just a child lost with no place
a human being in disguise
She touched my life
She was **no** whore
She was somebody special
Who just lost her way
She was somebody fighting for her life
trying to survive
a lonely lost child who died

in the night all alone, scared
 gasping for air.
 -Sarah.

①
 Women barely found beaten beyond
 recognition
 you sip your coffee
 Taking a drag of your smoke
 turning the page
 taking a bite of your toast
 Just another day
 Just another death
 Just one more thing you so forget
 you and your soft, sketched life
 Just go on and on
 For Nobody special from your world is gone
 Just another day
 Just another death
 Just another Hastings who
 sentenced to death.
 No judge
 No jury
 No trial
 No mercy
 The judges gavel,
 already fallen
 Sentence already passed.
 But you
 you just sip your coffee
 washing down your toast
 For you it's just another day
 For you it's just another death
 For you you've already forget
 it's not just another day
 it's not just another death

She was a broken down Angel
Just a child lost with no place
a human being in disguise
She touched my life
She was somebody
She was no where
She was somebody special
who just lost her way
She was somebody fighting for who
tried to survive
a lonely lost child who died
in the night all alone, scared
gawping for air.

Sarah.

Beaten After Robbing A John
-Sarah DeVries

3.

it was just after supper and the traffic was just starting to pick up. I was sick and needed money. I was standing at Banks and Hastings Kiddy corner. From the Astoria Hotel and this blue 528 pulled up. I got in pulled the door shut and agreed on 40 for a B.V. his name I dont remember or maybe I just dont want to. anyway I told him my name Sarah and it all started at that moment. after every thing he said he said my name.

Sarah are you from Vancouver?

Sarah how old are you?

Sarah this Sarah that it ~~got~~ started to scare the hell out of me. it was like he was trying to sic himself up to do ~~from~~ something I couldn't have been any more ~~was~~ right. the fact that I was giving head while he was driving was the reason I didnt see how far we had gone. He had payed and acted like he was one of the nicest people on Earth. He had bobby trapped his car so that I couldn't get out. Some where on a road in port Moody out in the middle of nowhere with no one around for miles. He stopped getting out of the car. I had noticed his wallet in between the seats. so I took the money out and put it back. I asked where's your place. he said right around the corner and stopped he had trouble getting his seat belt undone. I took that chance and to try and slide over the seat and out his door. I tried to run and both my legs felt like they were a thousand pounds each and I was running and going nowhere. I felt his

44

4

Hand on my shoulder pull me back and ~~and~~
 then I felt a blow to the side of my head,
 I saw black dots flashing in front of my eyes,
 as he grabbed a hold of my ponytail lifting
 me off the ground, I felt his trade ~~scold~~
 daytons hit my face over and over again.
 I curled into a fetal position trying to protect
 my chest and face, it didn't help much. I
 heard the ripping of my spandex pants and he
 tore them off. I heard the rip of my shirt he
 tore off. He stopped for a moment and threw
 the shoes I had borrowed from Mary.
 Her words echoed in my head. "don't wreck then
 she made me promise, "only if something
 happens some" like I get murdered or something.
 We both laughed, I was yanked by pain back to
 reality as he was trying sodomizing me. I guess
 I put up to much of a fight for him, he looked
 tired giving me a couple more boots to the face
 he turned and ~~picked up mary~~ told me to
 climb up this little cliff, hill sort of large rock
 covered in blackberry bushes, all I had on were
 my socks and a little blue sailor jacket. I started
 to climb my whole body ached from head to toe
 I could barely see out of my eyes and my
 nose was plugged with blood, my lips felt like
 two hot balls, and the tear that rolled down
 my bruised and swollen cheeks burned
 and I was cold so cold numb to the
 prickle bushes that sliced at my legs arms
 and face, or the thorns that were being
 buried in the soles of my feet.

5.

I reached the top, fell to my knees and wrapped my arms around myself to try and calm my terrified little soul that his yell yanked me right back to crude reality. Sarah waxes my money. I sat up like a bolt of lightning. I had forgot that I had stole all his money plus what he had payed me to begin with. Sarah waxes my fucking money he yelled again. I played the duck. I dont know where it is I thought you took back the 40 bucks, you little where he yelled. I want my \$400 you took from my wallet. I could see his head starting to come towards me up the cliff. I wanted to sit there and cry hoping he would feel sorry for me, yet the fear in my throat just kept rising, my heart starting beating in my throat and with out thinking I just started running and blindly through the bushes, my legs were going, only the earth was gone under them and I was falling and there was nothing, only aching numbness that ran through my veins. I had forgotten I was sick and the pain blasted in, money he took my money I thought as I tried to stand I remembered the \$400 a new found energy zapped through my body and where there is a will there is a way. I realized that I was in a mud pond and I was covered I started to get the high way and I heard a car. my heart stopped. I dove into the tall grass and it kept going I got up and it was him fear struck and I felt tears flowing down my cheeks, I started to walk again I didnt even know if I was going the right way, sickness

6

engulfed me, and I wished I was home. I heard the car again, once more. I was in the ditch and fell grass on my stomach, again it passed. again I was right it was him, for at least 2 hours I walked and while I walked he drove up and down, I guess he gave up, I almost did. and I cried. telling sorry for myself, then I saw the main road, and I got that extra lift from hope the first car to see me stopped and he gave me a hand get. he was in shock. I think maybe more than I was, he drove me to the police station against my will but I had no thought, I had one thing on my mind a fix the pain and the sickness were killing me my eye were almost swollen shut. I didnt want to go to see any pigs, their response was what I expected. I felt like a total cheap junkie whose standing there sick, naked, beaten to a pulp. and thats what they told me they said I got what I deserved and they gave me nothing no clothes no bus fare no help no sympathy, not that I expected it but still it hurt me and deeply the truth hurts. and part of what they said was true. I could feel my face reddem and tears started to flow. Burn my tear ducts... my throat grew a lump and it burned. and I still remember that tone of voice and that look he had on his face. as clear as if it were right now. I walked out trying to keep my head up high But it was hard the fresh air woke me a bit I felt sick heavy geesys were crawling on my stomach and my

7.
 joints were aching and itchy kind of
 tickling at the same time. I had hot and
 cold sweats, and a tickle started in my
 throat, ~~the~~ I knew that the dry heaving
 was soon to start. I turned and stuck
 out my thumb. The first couple cars
 past. I looked away but I still could feel
 their eyes upon my body like darts hitting a
 bar board, the wind cut to the bone, the
 sick feel got stronger, so I cold colder
 sweating bullets, and I was just going to
 sit down and cry when I remembered, now
 just then a ~~car~~ ^{truck} stopped. I got in trying to
 hide my face. He put his hand on my knee
 and asked if I was ok. the kindness in his
 voice made me relax a little the warmth the
 chance to sit down and just rest. I felt his
 hand on my breast. I started screaming and
 he kicked me out and thank God there was a
 taxi then I just couldn't go on any more
 the cabbi gave me a ride to my front
 door. he walked me in and gave me some
 smokes. That fix felt so good. But I've yet
 to ever be the same. Some night I dream and
 I could swear that I'm there I actually feel
 the blow and kicks to the head. I wake in a
 panic and in tears.

...it was just after supper an the traffic was just starting to pick up. I was sick and needed money. I was standing at Hawks and Hastings kiddy corner from the Astoria Hotel and this blue Z28 pulled up. I got in pulled the door shut and agreed on \$40 for a BJ, his name I don't remember or may I just don't want to anyway I told him my name Sarah and it all started at that moment everything he said he said my name.

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 Sarah how old are you?

Sarah this Sarah that it started to scare the hell out of me it was like he was trying to psych himself up to do something I couldn't have been anymore right the fact that I was giving head while he was driving was the reason I didn't see how far we had gone. He had payed and acted like he was one of nicest people on Earth. He had boobytrapped his car *so* that I couldn't get out. Somewhere on a road in Port Moody out in the middle of nowhere with no one around for miles. He stopped, getting out of the car. I had noticed his wallet in between the seats *so* I took the money out and put it back. I asked "Where's your place" he said right around the corner and stopped he had trouble getting his sat belt undone, I took that chance and to try and slide over the seat and out his door. I tried to run and both my legs felt like they were a thousand pounds each and I was running and going nowhere, I felt his hand on my shoulder pull me back and then I felt a blow to the side of my head, I saw black dots flashing in front of my eyes as he grabbed a hold of my ponytail lifting me of the ground, I felt his triple soled daytons hit my face over and over again. I curled into a fetus position trying to protect my chest and face, it didn't help much. I heard the ripping of my spandex pants and he tore them off. I heard the rip of my shirt he tore off He stopped for a moment and throws the shoes I had borrowed from Mary.

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DEFINITIONS/EXPLANATIONS

For this study we used Day's (1988) definition of **sex work**: 'the exchange of sexual services for money or goods between two or more people'.

Funding restrictions and other constraints had us focus on women in the street level sex trade. Accordingly, when the terms **sex worker** or **sex trade** appear they should be understood as referring to the respondents— women in Vancouver's street level **trade**.^{xiv}

The term **survival sex trade** appears in this paper often in reference to the issue of children or youth. It was chosen over the politically popular 'sexually exploited youth' as the latter is linked to governments and agencies justification for enforcement measures such as 'John Schools' and 'Secure Care'.

The acronym **SWIDU** is used in place of the clunky 'sex workers that are injection drug users whose involvement in the sex trade is primarily to finance their habit'.

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To the women who participated in this: Thank you. The courage you've shown in your open, honest involvement was fabulous. Without you this project would just be theory.

-Christine Christenson 2001

The development of *Violence Against Women in Vancouver's Street Level Sex Trade* would not have been possible without earlier assistance from the Law Foundation of British Columbia, financial support from Meghan Worsnop and the patience of Status of Women Canada.

Without the continued input from the young women on the advisory panel this project would not have been worth attempting. Jocie, Joelle, Misha, Crystal, Chris, and Jennifer gave up a Saturday each week for over a year to make this a reality. They deserve every bit of success that comes their way. The greatest debt is owed to all of the women who were involved in this project if they hadn't supported it to the level they did we would have walked away.

Raven, Char and Alex are not only great people but definitely the best staff any agency could ever hope to have - PACE board, staff, volunteers and supporters are too many to name here but there are some that should: Ellen Wiebe, Janet Freeman, Deena, Char LaFontaine, Alex, Raven Bowen, Michael Cooke, Valencia, Nora, Paige, Keith Larkin, Cassandra, Michael Wright, Pat, **John** Lowman, the **girls** at freestyle, Barbara Waldren, Kim K, Annebelle, Christine Christenson, Carmen, **John** Turvey, Gordon Roe, Randy Lee, Suzi Milen at MWE, Vancouver Foundation, David Driscoll, Gerry Adams, Sandy Cooke, Ken, Jamie Lee Hamilton, Fred Bass, Anna Terrana.....anything of value came from them and the mistakes are solely my own.

Lianne Payne deserves a special mention for her work at PACE and many other worthwhile ventures. She is one of those amazing people who never claim the recognition they deserve. A deep thank you to Marie Bohm for her support at a critical time.

To my mother Connie Cunningham who passed away last year and always told me that I wasn't doing a good job unless someone was pissed off at me. Finally, to Hailey Lewis - I never thought a child's pride would be so important to me in the work that I do.

-Leonard Cler-Cunningham, 2001

ENDNOTES

¹ We're not saying that responsibility is limited to these players, simply that an odd historical synchronicity of factors combined to give them prominence. The sex trade is *an inherently complex issue for activists and theorists*. As an idea, concept or category all the *great* issues of

modern thought have come to play: race, gender, class, sexuality, the nature of free will, fundamental justice, deviancy, autonomy, and consciousness. Very few issues lend themselves to abstraction or metaphor such as this one and it is only recently that marginalized populations like this have come to be considered worthy of study. With the wall breached we *can* expect a **flood** of books and articles on this topic in the future.

²Amongst others was the infamous ‘Hutt Decision’ that decided that for soliciting to be proven to have taken place that it must be ‘pressing and persistent’.

³It’s interesting to note that not only did PACE never receive any additional funding from the Ministry of Children and Families; their funding for a single position came under threat.

⁴John Hagan and Bill McCarthy’s work was however reviewed in the Globe and Mail. Vancouver media’s perceived lack of attention to social issues is a source of frustration for front line service providers in Vancouver. In December of 1998 B.C.’s Children’s Commissioner Cynthia Morton reported on the deaths of 24 children in 1997 who were involved with the Ministry of Children and Families. Although her harsh criticisms of the provincial ministry were reported in the Globe and Mail no local paper ‘reported on these serious allegations. The *FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL TERRITORIAL WORKING GROUP ON PROSTITUTION: Report and Recommendations in respect of Legislation, Policy and Practices Concerning Prostitution-Related Activities* released on December 16 1998 also received scant attention in both the local and national media.

⁵Kim Symons a marketing and communications professional volunteered his time to ensure that we adhered to relevant methods in doing the focus group. Too often social science researchers rely solely on this lazy method – either biasing the conclusion through focus group selection or using a biased and biasing methodology. Members of British Columbia’s aboriginal community have leveled this accusation against Save The Children’s Canada recent report on aboriginal youth in the survival sex trade.

⁶We were aided in this by the support and contribution of an amazing representative and example of what policing can achieve – Paul Battershill. In the first year of PACE we worked closely with the police department in Mount Pleasant on a variety of unique initiatives (see endnote below) that should be revisited. The police were as frustrated with the inability of services to adequately respond to the needs of young women in the survival sex trade as we were. So it was decided that rather than having the police drop the young women off at the revolving door of the Ministry of Children and Families they could call the PACE outreach worker to come and intervene. This initiative was a victim of its own success. Officers from other districts began calling PACE’s sole outreach worker at all hours of the day. When PACE approached other agencies about initiating a similar program in their district – they declined. We had no choice but to end this seemingly successful initiative for the reason that it seemed to work so well. I am happy to say that although I have not seen Paul in a long time I still count him among my friends.

⁷The officers requested that they remain anonymous, as they were nervous about political retribution for speaking out of turn.

⁸Any mistakes, glaring errors or oversights are completely the responsibility of the author – anything of value or utility can be traced back to the advisory boards and authors of the original instrument.

⁹We hope that someone with a background in statistical analysis will take the opportunity to investigate the number of bad dates reported in our survey and compare it to bad dates reported to DEYAS in order to come up with a more comprehensive picture of the extent of violence.

“This is an issue that should receive greater attention than it does. Research on marginalized populations often relies on focus groups or a single instrument rather than a blended methodology (quantitative, qualitative and focus groups). By using the outreach workers we incorporated what I call an ‘accidental ethnography’.

¹¹Sexual Offences include: Aggravated Sexual Assault, Sexual Assault with a Weapon, Sexual Assault, & other Sex Offences

¹²Includes Assault Level 1, Assault **with** Weapon Lvl 2, Aggravated **Aslt** Lvl 3, Unlawfully C/B/H, Discharge Firearm, Assault PC, Other Public Officer, Other Assault

¹³ Procuring is down 50% while the category of ‘Other Prostitution’ is up **130.6%**. We are assuming that ‘Other Prostitution’ refers to soliciting since ‘Bawdy House’ has its own heading.

¹⁴**Male** and transgendered sex workers appear to be underrepresented in research literature except in terms of their engagement in high-risk practices. We had hoped to **include** male sex workers **from** the Boystown stroll but encountered difficulty in securing the cooperation of other agencies - primarily **from** researchers that had assumed what could be best termed a ‘proprietary relationship’ to their research subjects.

HAPPY

**A Place to Sleep,
Something to eat,
and
Somebody Who Cares**

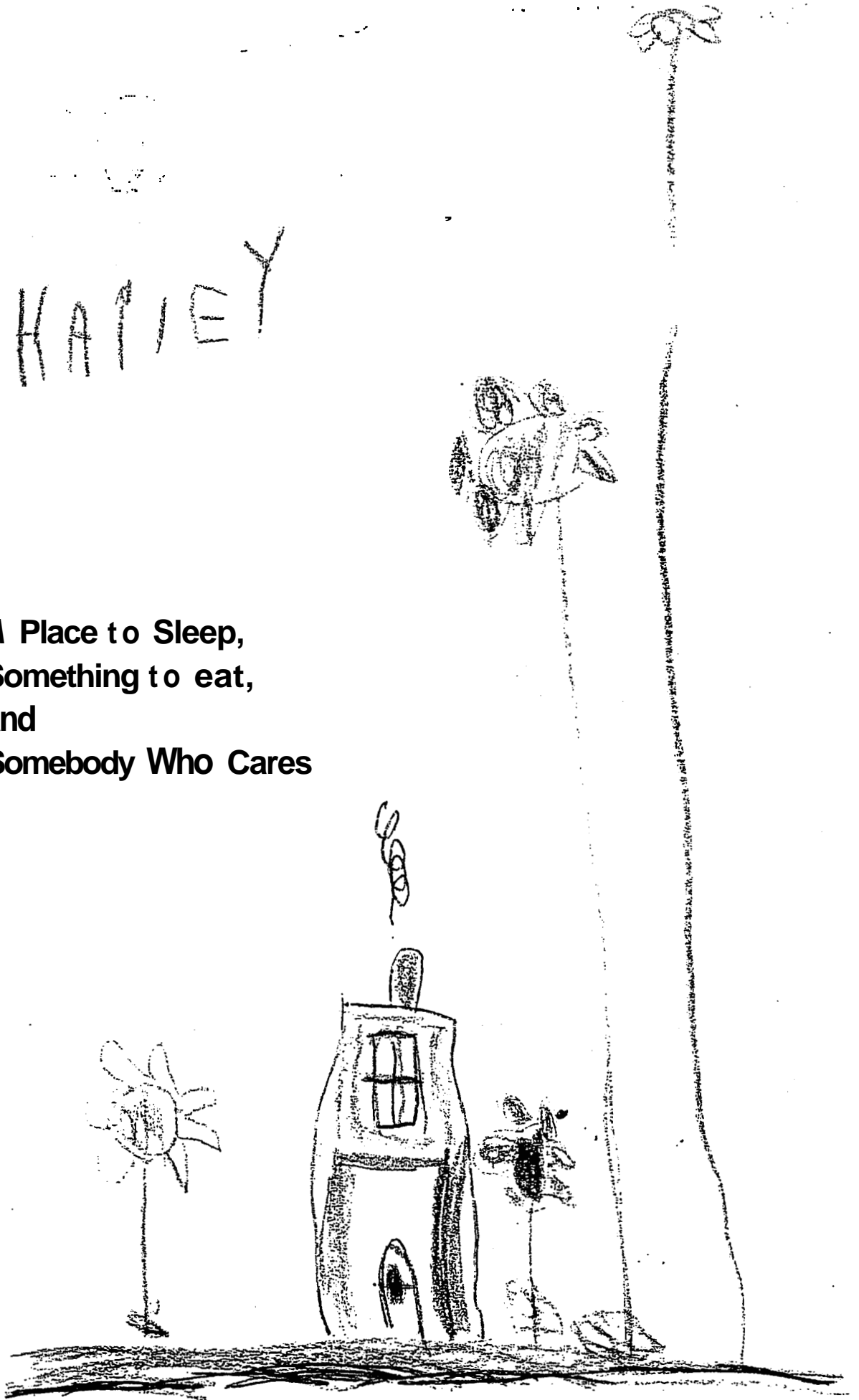


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Supported By:



In Memoriam

A Place To Sleep, Something to Eat and Someone Who Cares is dedicated to Sherry Upright.

On a highway East of Fort Saskatchewan Alberta, around 8:30 a.m. on January 3rd 1999, fumes from a leaking gasoline container on the passenger seat of a 1990 white Ronda Accord were ignited by a cigarette. The resulting explosion caused the driver to lose control of the car and it rolled into the ditch tossing both Richard Benjamin Spencer, 26, and Sherry Upright, 25, from the wreckage.

When the police came across Sherry's body they marked it up to a traffic fatality. Further investigation showed that this was anything but a simple accident. Sherry had been strangled hours before the impact jettisoned her lifeless body from its hiding place in the trunk of Richard Benjamin Spencer's car.

Sherry worked on the Quebec Street track to support herself and her daughter and played an important role in the growth of Prostitution Alternatives Counselling and Education.

Sherry's death had an immense impact on the original PACE Staff group and strengthened our commitment to working towards ensuring that no young women would have to remain on the streets due to a lack of choice.

Her name will not be added to the list of murdered and missing women in Vancouver. As of this date no one actually knows how many of the women and children from Vancouver's sex trade are missing or have been murdered. If the number of women who will die from preventable diseases, such as HIV or Hepatitis C, were added to the list it could easily number in the thousands.

This project is dedicated to their memory and to Sherry.

Executive Summary

The purpose of **A Place To Sleep, Something to Eat and Someone Who Cares** is to:

1. Establish 20 units of safe affordable housing for young women in the survival sex trade
2. Develop a self-sustaining model for creating affordable housing which can be replicated across Canada
3. Develop and demonstrate innovative partnerships between volunteers, non profit agencies, the private sector and government which will provide permanent, supportive and affordable housing for this population.

In order to achieve these goals, Prostitution Alternatives Counselling and Education Society (PACE) will:

- Recruit and train volunteers
- Develop parameters for residents to contribute to their housing through “sweat-equity”, secure partnerships with other agencies, private sector funders and governments, and
- Document the activities leading to the establishment of safe affordable housing.

PACE has already established partnerships with several other agencies, including the **Urban** Native Youth Alliance (UNYA) and Save the Children Canada. **Community** agencies **with** experience **in** working with disadvantaged populations in the establishment **of** affordable housing, such as Habitat for **Humanity**, have offered their assistance. It is intended to obtain seed money from foundations, individuals, the private sector, and the Provincial and Federal Governments. Funding will be obtained from programs to provide housing for the homeless. The lack of **supportive** shelter options is consistently **identified** as one of the greatest barriers to **permanently** leaving the streets.

A Place To Sleep, Something to Eat, and Someone Who Cares will find sub-standard housing units, renovate them with volunteer labour and donations and make them available to young women in the survival sex trade. In the first year we will develop and implement an intensive capital fundraising campaign for the purchase of properties. These housing units can be sustained by applying the shelter allowance for those under **youth** agreements and young people 24 and under who are eligible for income assistance. PACE will be responsible for ensuring that income from shelter allowance is adequate to cover the rental/mortgage costs **of** the units. It is anticipated that lower than market rents can be obtained from landlords who have sub-standard housing units. In return for below market rents, they **will** obtain renovations at no cost, and a guaranteed source of rents from the tenants, who **will** themselves be supported by PACE and its partners. In addition, renovations can be undertaken to other types of buildings that are currently not used for housing.

Residents **will** receive \$50.00 to \$100.0 a month for their **continued** active involvement in the management, maintenance and development of additional housing units for other young women in the survival sex trade. Priority will be given to aboriginal young women in the survival sex trade.

The **existing** PACE office already has the potential for **6** housing units. By **building** on **existing** and **potential** partnerships and developing a process for “sweat **equity**”, **6** units could be operational **within 6 months**.

Our Kids Too: Sexually Exploited Youth in British Columbia: an adolescent Health Survey, The McCreary Centre Society, 1999.

Some key findings from this survey reveal that:

Most sexually exploited youth are female.

80% have been in government care.

90% have been physically and/or sexually abused.

Nearly all smoke cigarettes, and about 4 in 10 began smoking before they were 9 years old.

A majority are frequent users of alcohol, marijuana, and other illegal drugs.

Nearly 8 in 10 were 13 years old or less when they first had sexual intercourse. Two-thirds had 6 or more partners.

The average age of entry into the sex trade was 13 years.

Over half have been pregnant. Nearly half tried to commit suicide in the past year.

When asked to suggest what services they would find helpful, youth in all four communities said:

Safe housing

Education and employment opportunities

Alcohol and drug services

BACKGROUND

The past few years has **witnessed** a rising commitment that long-term solutions to the issue of young women in the survival sex trade must be found. All three levels of government, agencies, forums, university researchers, non-governmental organizations, studies, the private, and most importantly the youth themselves, are in agreement that the establishment of housing for this vulnerable population is a priority.

The commitment to finding new methods of intervention has recently translated into fundamental changes in the direction of service delivery systems in Vancouver. The importation and establishment of Covenant House and Habitat for Humanity's innovative shelter and housing programs demonstrates the sustainability of new models. Save the Children Canada has committed itself to establishing a national profile for the issue of youth **in** the survival sex trade while simultaneously supporting the efforts of local front line agencies.

The growing support for innovative **grass** roots agencies such as PACE Society is part of this natural evolution. We invite you to join PACE, Urban Native Youth Association,

Since 1989, The Vancouver Sun has identified at least 35 prostitutes who have been slain. If one included information from Vice Unit files and RCMP data, the number increases to 60 murdered prostitutes since January 1989. The majority of their murders remain unsolved.

In Vancouver, the average age of entry is 16.5 years. 70% of adult sex-trade workers begin before their 18th birthday and 25% start at age 14 or earlier.

John Lowman, SFU Criminology

Internationally, The average age of entry is 13 years. M.H. Silbert and A.M. Pines, Victimology, An International Journal

No part of the Canadian population suffers as high a rate of murder as women trapped in street prostitution. Women known to have been involved in street prostitution are murdered at a rate somewhere in the region of 500 to one hundred and twenty times the rate at which non-prostitute women are murdered.

John Lowman and Laura Fraser, Violence Against Persons Who Prostitute: The Experience in British Columbia

Save The Children Canada and a growing list of others in the development and establishment of an innovative pilot project that will provide much needed housing for young women in the survival sex trade.

PROJECT GOALS:

1. To establish up to **20** units of cost-effective, long-term, safe, and affordable housing for young women in the survival sex trade over the next three years.
2. To create a new and innovative 'made in Vancouver' solution for opening self-sustaining long-term affordable housing for this population that can serve as a model for communities throughout Canada.
3. To establish and demonstrate the effectiveness of this model for community partnerships between the volunteer sector, non-profit service agencies, foundations, the private sector, Federal, Provincial, and Municipal representatives that are committed to finding long term, cost-effective, solutions to the issue of young women in the survival sex trade.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Over the next three years PACE will recruit and train volunteers (with an emphasis on the involvement of **skilled** tradeswomen) to work with young women in the survival sex trade to establish up **to 20** units of safe affordable housing. The young women (under **24** years of age) **will** invest 'sweat-equity' by renovating their **own** apartments **in** exchange for a 3-year lease. In exchange for continued involvement in the renovation of **units** for other young women they will also receive from **\$50** to \$100 a month. **The** benefits of involvement **in** a peer culture in tandem with **a** below shelter allowance rental rate **will** extend far beyond the creation of affordable housing stock.

Out From the Shadows: the International Summit of Sexually Exploited Youth

DECLARATION

We, the sexually exploited child and youth delegates gathered in Victoria, Canada, for *Out From the Shadows: the International Summit of Sexually Exploited Youth*, declare the following:

We declare that the term child or youth prostitute can no longer be used. These children and youth are sexually exploited and any language or reference to them must reflect this belief.

We declare that the commercial sexual exploitation of children and youth is a form of child abuse and slavery.

We declare that all children and youth have the right to be protected from all forms of abuse, exploitation and the threat of abuse, harm or exploitation.

We declare that the commercial exploitation of children and youth must no longer be financially profitable.

We declare that all children and youth have the right to know their rights.

We declare that the issue of child and youth sexual exploitation must be a global priority and nations must not only hold their neighbors accountable but also themselves.

2. An intensive capital fundraising campaign **will be** initiated in order to purchase the properties. Banks, foundations, and private individuals **will** offer extended mortgages to PACE Society that equal the amount of revenue received from the young women that **will** reside in the housing project thereby creating a revenue neutral project. Over a period of time the invested equity **will** be devoted to establishing additional housing project for other groups in the survival sex trade (boys, transgendered, adult women, women with children,..).
3. To comprehensively document the results and place them on the PACE web site (opening October 1st). There **will** be an emphasis placed **on** gaining input from all partners. Historically the funding recipient reports **on** the outcomes of the project to the funder. We **will** encourage the funders to not only actively involve themselves (**in** the belief that they have more to offer than just money) in establishing the project but to identify what works and to immediately implement it.

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION

PACE Society was founded on March **10,1994** by a group of former prostitutes, led by Paige Latin, who recognized the lack of specific services available to individuals engaged in prostitution. PACE is dedicated to creating a caring and judgement free environment where individuals can make a free choice regarding their lifestyle. Programs, services, and support respect the individuals needs and decisions. PACE is dedicated to reducing harm and abolishing conditions that lead to prostitution.

In **5 years** PACE has grown from a small volunteer-run organization, operating out of Paige Latin's one bedroom apartment, to an award winning and nationally recognized service for individuals in the survival sex-trade.

We declare that governments are obligated to create laws which reflect the principle of zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and exploitation of children and youth.

Convention on the Rights of the Child

Canada formally ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on December 13, 1991. The 3 following articles from the Convention directly address the sexual exploitation of youth.

Article 34

State Parties undertake to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. For these purposes, State Parties shall in particular take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent:

The inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity.

The exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices.

The exploitative use of children in pornographic performances and materials.

Article 35

State Parties shall take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent the abduction or the sale of or traffic in children for any purpose or in any form.

Article 36

State parties shall protect the child against all other forms of exploitation prejudicial to any aspects of the child's welfare.

Ignorance is no defense before the law.

Outreach/Crisis Intervention

PACE operates a comprehensive outreach program designed by a group of youth involved in the survival sex-trade. The goal of the outreach program is to make non-judgmental and significant contact with youth in the survival sex-trade in order to assist them to leave the streets.

Community and client support

- Individual counseling, referrals, and advocacy
- Individual support with **setting** and attaining goals
- Referrals to support groups
- **One-on-one** assistance with education, employment and **skills** training programs
- Emergency **moves** with a police escort when youth are escaping pimps
- Working with neighbourhoods to identify and implement long-term sustainable strategies to address the impact of the sex-trade on their community

Advocacy

- Referrals and support service regarding legal, medical, education and housing
- Assistance with welfare, daycare, family issues
- The paid and volunteer Advocates at PACE are frequently former clients and peers.

Education

- Information seminars and presentations given to service groups, organizations, community groups, students and professionals

Prevention

PACE has established a broad based community partnership and is establishing a best-practices program to prevent the recruitment of high-risk young women who are currently incarcerated,

Research

- Quantitative research that examines violence against young women at risk and women in prostitution and the police response to this violence.
- Qualitative research on young women trapped in the survival sex-trade.

In British Columbia from 1997/98 to 1998/99 there was a 20% increase in youth appearing before the Courts. Nationally trends show that the proportion of female youth appearing before the court has risen slowly from 18% of cases in 1992/93 to 21% in 1997/98. Youth Court Statistics, Statistics Canada 1999.

The reliance of criminal justice and social service agencies in Vancouver on apprehension and/or arrest to respond to youth in the survival sex-trade and addiction encourages the involvement of youth in the survival sex-trade. Vancouver's reliance on a crime-control model and fewer available youth shelters and drop-in centres than Toronto force street youth to spend more time on the street which in turn leads to more exposure to peer tutelage in crime and to encounters with police.

Young women begin exposed to others who work in prostitution increases the likelihood of their involvement. Eighty-six per cent of youth who received frequent offers of assistance did work in the sex-trade, compared to 25% of youth who rarely received offers.

McCarthy, Hagan, Mean Streets, Youth, Crime, and Homelessness, 1995.

- A community standards questionnaire on prostitution; over 300 responses have been collected to date.
- With support from the B.C. Attorney General, PACE held The Vancouver Sexually Exploited Youth **Forum**: a focus group of over **35** sexually exploited youth that collected their input on solutions to problems they identified.

Awards/Evaluations

PACE Society received the Mount Pleasant Agency of the Year Award in 1998. In 1996, the Ministry of Social Services' (now **Ministry** of Children and Family) independent evaluation of the Vancouver Action Plan (VAP) for sexually exploited youth recommended that:

"...PACE, is notable within the continuum of VAP component services for its complete focus on youth who are clearly and currently involved in street prostitution. As such it is the only project that has this as its central mandate and sole service mode. The project has not been evaluated, though it has consistently evaluated itself through systematic written feedback from its clients. It appears to the evaluators to be quite effective in identifying, contacting, and supporting young people (mostly women, of course) who are engaged in prostitution."

...we believe that the PACE model seem to be a good one for direct services to this highly specialized and very vulnerable target group. As such we believe that expansion of this type of precisely targeted multi-faceted service (regardless of who is delivering it) could be of real benefit to youth whose primary source of economic survival at this point is prostitution."

(REPORT OF THE FINDING FROM THE EVALUATION OF THE VANCOUVER ACTION PLAN ON SEXUALLY EXPLOITED YOUTH (VAP), 1996)

PACE was also twice highlighted in the recent **FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL TERRITORIAL WORKING GROUP ON PROSTITUTION** report. However, the most important recognition that we receive is found in the letters and calls from former clients and parents whom we have helped.

RESULTS OF THE VANCOUVER SEXUALLY EXPLOITED YOUTH FORUM

Police/Enforcement

It was felt that police and enforcement services often do not believe, respect or follow up on complaints of rape or assault from sexually exploited youth and that arresting or apprehending youth is not effective in keeping/helping them leave the streets.

Recommendation:

That the police also receive training on working with sexually exploited youth and abandon arresting/apprehending youth in favor of protecting them from rape and assault.

Adolescent Services Unit

While it was recognized that ASU is a relevant resource for street kids, it was felt that it offers little for youth in the survival sex trade. Being brought in by the police is ineffective and creates an atmosphere of mistrust. Constant questioning about who is your pimp and how long have you been working makes ASU an unsafe place.

Recommendation:

Access to services must be voluntary and focus on helping the youth rather than arresting the pimp. ASU could achieve this through greater co-operation with existing agencies rather than the police. D.B.V.A.S., S.W.S., P.A.G.E. and the Street Nurses were identified as relevant resources that ASU should work closer with.

Necessary Services

Youth in the survival sex trade are not necessarily street kids. Services for street kids are not necessarily relevant for sexually exploited youth. Counseling, safe houses, training and more outreach specific to sexually youth must be established. All of these must be integrated to ensure relevant and effective community services.

VOLUNTEERS, PARTNERSHIPS, & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Broad based involvement by volunteers, partnerships with organizations that have expertise or **skills** that PACE does not possess, and the inclusion of the broader community (the private sector, foundations, governments and committed individuals) is the most critical element to ensure the success of this initiative. Supplying housing, no matter how affordable, is not a golden bullet that will magically transform the lives of young women in the survival sex trade. Even if we were able to supply safe and affordable housing to all of the young women in the survival sex trade the wide variety of issues would overwhelm the capacity of any single agency. Above and beyond a lack of safe and affordable housing young women in the survival sex trade face a wide variety of other issues:

- Substance management issues
- Lack of education
- Little or no employable **skills** that can be listed on a resume
- Health **issues** ranging from HIV, HEP C, endocarditis, to pelvic **inflammatory** disease
- Mental health **issues** such as depression and suicide
- Family reunification
- Overcoming barriers to establishing healthy social relationships

In 1994-95, 41% of [youth] cases with a conviction involved repeat offenders. About one-quarter of the repeat offenders were persistent re-offenders with three or more prior convictions. (Statistics Canada, 1996)

In Vancouver six years prior to 1996, only 6 men were charged under Section 212-4 with procuring children for sexual purposes. In the same period, 354 youth were charged with soliciting. In between 1991 and 1995, 60 known female prostitutes were murdered in Canada.

Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics/John Lowman

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Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics/John Lowman

In the first three months we **will** actively solicit the involvement of established agencies with experience in the development and implementation of housing for marginalized populations. We will also work to ensure the continued involvement of groups with experience working on the issues listed above.

VOLUNTEERS

The existence of PACE Society is testament to what a group of volunteers can achieve when offered the opportunity to participate in something where they can have a **meaningful** impact on an individual's life.

We are confident that ***A Place to Sleep, Something to Eat, and Somebody to Care*** can serve as a model for recruiting, training and **recognizing** volunteers **in working** with the most highly marginalized populations. We will be actively recruiting volunteers, with an emphasis on **enlisting skilled** tradeswomen, to work with young women in the survival sex trade on the creation of affordable housing.

It is evident among the incarcerated group of young women (1) that there are 12 year olds on the streets selling their bodies to support heroin and crack cocaine addictions, (2) that the majority of young women receiving a custodial sentence are serving time for minor violations, (3) a substantial number of young women are returning to custody within three months of their release (43%) and (4) that there are very few effective non-custodial policy initiatives that are available for this group of young women.

It appears that there is a consensus among researchers and policy makers that incarceration is morally wrong and not a very effective use of already under-funded resources for young women.

Raymond R. Corrado et al. *The Incarceration of Female Young Offenders: Protection For Whom?* 2000.

PACE has recently joined Volunteer Vancouver and is soliciting support to establish a:

- Volunteer training program
- Database of available volunteers and
- Strategy to attract and maintain an active volunteer base.

PARTNERS

URBAN NATIVE YOUTH ALLIANCE (UNYA)

For the increasing numbers of young aboriginal women on the streets of Vancouver the effects of cultural dislocation, intergenerational welfare dependency, substance abuse and involvement in the sex trade make the implementation of effective and relevant interventions that much more difficult,

UNYA is a society that has served the Greater Vancouver Area for the past **7 years** and has developed an excellent standing within the community. The majority of the services proved are focused on youth between the ages of **11 to 24** years. UNYA began **as a** means of dealing with issues around the need for preemployment training and has expanded **to** meet other needs and concerns within the Aboriginal **Community**. Among the programs that UNYA offers are:

Aries Alternate School

The Aries Alternate School is **a** program for Aboriginal street youth that are not attending regular public school. The youth involved in the Aries project must have

made a conscious decision to **turn** their lives around. Aries **is** open to youth between the ages of 13 to **19** years that have been involved **in** a street lifestyle.

Youth Outreach

The Outreach is prevention and intervention program aimed at helping youth between the ages of **11** to **15** years stay away from, or move away from a street lifestyle. One of the goals of this program **is** to **help** youth become aware of the **risks** and dangers of street life before they become entrenched.

Safe Houses for Street Youth

Two projects provide **a** safe and stable environment for youth **16 – 24**. It is a place of comfort to help them make the first move from the street. Youth are directed to the appropriate agencies to receive the best of the services available **to** them. The Safe Houses provide a place for re-unification of Native youth with their community and tradition where appropriate.

What they bring:

The PACE housing project **will** supply long-term safe and affordable housing for young aboriginal women who have made the first move from the street by accessing **UNYA** safe houses. Staff at **UNYA** would also continue to supply key support and resources for these young women once they have moved into the PACE project.

No matter how good any project is, if no one knows about its existence, it is as if it never happened.

SAVE THE CHILDREN CANADA will not only support the development and implementation of **this** project but upon its completion will support organizations throughout Canada in **adapting** this model **in** their own communities. They are an international organization dedicated **to** improving the lives of the most needy children

in Canada and overseas, regardless of race, sex, colour or religious affiliation. It is committed to achieving the objectives of the United Nations' Declaration of the Rights of the Child and implementing those rights.

What they bring:

With over 80 years of service and an international reputation Save the Children Canada recognizes the need to support implementable strategies to respond to the issue of youth in the survival **sex** trade.

THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Partnerships with the private sector is not so much a question of establishing new models as it is the need for reestablishing or reinvigorating a sense of community. Twenty to thirty years ago unions or service agencies like the Rotary or Kiwanis built the buildings, bought the dialysis machines and donated their personal time and abilities to worthwhile causes. The owner of an hardware store donated materials. A lawyer helped an agency or community group incorporate. The real estate agent helped to buy the property. The salesman helped develop materials for raising funds.

The concept of private and public sectors was neither as well developed nor the lines between the two as sharply drawn as **now**. The 1960's and 70's saw the specialization of social service systems and the rise of a professional class of 'community leaders'; while the '80s and '90s saw an explosive growth in the role and power of non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Service agencies and other 'community leaders' all compete for money and the role of the individual has been diminished, if not extinguished. This project is an answer to the frustration of people who want to help, but don't want their contribution to their community to be reduced to simply **signing a** cheque without directly seeing what

impact their money **will** have. Not only will people be able to donate funding but we **will** also actively encourage them to share their expertise and abilities by volunteering their time in *building/renovating* the housing.

Given the opportunity the private sector and individuals would be excited to be involved with a project that is:

- ◆ A unique program with a demonstrated capacity for flexibility.
- ◆ Willing to make use of the **skills** and abilities of individuals and organizations – not just their dollars.
- ◆ Committed to developing a sustainable project that won't solely rely on ongoing funding.
- ◆ Proactive rather than simply reactive – changes conditions and not simply reacts to them (to solve rather than help).

1 **ITY VEMENT**

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY CANADA (VANCOUVER)

Habitat for Humanity Canada (Vancouver) has agreed to assist this project through allowing us **access** to any of their excess donated building materials and **will** encourage volunteers that they do not have room for. Their model of using volunteers, donated labour and materials and striving to ensure that the projects are as fiscally self-sustaining **as** possible is an overlooked and underutilized model that could be easily adapted to meet the needs of young women in the survival **sex** trade.

Habitat for Humanity Canada works With those in need of adequate shelter. The shelter recipients work side-by-side with volunteers from all walks of life to build simple, decent houses. The houses are built with no profit added and no interest charged, with the money **coming** from the **new** homeowners' house payments, donations and no interest loans provided by supporters, Even with the involvement of volunteers, partners, the private sector and community agencies there is still a **need** for the

involvement of the:

GOVERNMENT

Partnerships are where each side receives benefit through cooperating on an initiative. All three levels of government would reduce or waive taxes, fees, and charges to permit the creation of this project. Indirect savings will accrue to all three levels through reduced hostel use, lower welfare caseloads, lower rates of young women in care, and a reduced demand on the health care system, especially emergency care.

MUNICIPAL: CITY OF VANCOUVER

The City of Vancouver is one of the few municipalities that has consistently supported the development of non-profit housing. In the first year there will be no request for capital assistance although their demonstrated expertise and input **will** be invaluable to the success of this project.

PROVINCIAL: MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: YOUTH AGREEMENTS

Youth agreements are legal contracts between the **ministry** and high-risk youth between the ages of **16** and **19** who can't live at home or have no parent or other person willing to help them. **This** program **is** only open to youth With:

- ◆ Serious behavioural or mental health problems.
- ◆ Severe substance misuse or addictions.
- ◆ Homeless AND not attending school, not working or not participating in a rehab program.
- ◆ ***Involvement in the sex trade.***

The youth **only** receive around \$500.00 a month. Regardless of how much support **is** available the ability **to** not **only** survive but to overcome any one of the above issues **is** severely hindered by the lack of affordable housing. **A Place To Sleep, Something to**

Eat, and Somebody Who Cares could meet the needs of youth agreement

participants throughout the lower mainland who are involved in the survival sex trade.

Attached to the youth agreement program is new staff to deliver services including drug and alcohol counsellors, outreach workers and youth support workers. These support services will co-ordinate a continuum of services to assist young women in making the transition from the sex trade and off the streets.

WORK PLAN/OUTCOME MEASUREMENTS/YEAR ONE

Year one is dedicated to both finalizing a model for recruiting, training and recognizing volunteers, establishing housing for young women leaving the survival sex trade and opening the first site. The PACE office is already located at a site with up to six potential units. Every **two** months a report including the outcome measurements will be submitted to funders, Housing Projects Development Committee members, partners and other interested individuals,

FIRST THREE MONTHS:

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Further develop the vision
 Name the **coordinating** committee
 Identify and recruit additional **skills** needed
 Solicit community support
 Develop capital and program needs
 Project capital and operational **costs**
 Formally recruit development team
 Recruit volunteers (an emphasis will be placed on **recruiting** skilled tradeswomen) and develop a training program
 Enlist the involvement of other established agencies with **skills** not already represented

DEVELOPMENT TEAM*

Coordinating committee
 Housing consultant
 Lawyer
 Architect/designer

Construction trades coordinator

Client reps

Volunteers

Partners**

*not **all** positions represented are necessary

An emphasis **will be placed on development team member partners being represented by both a staff member and **a** young women with relevant experience in the survival sex trade. The young women with receive an honorarium for involvement.

MONTHS FOUR TO FIVE:

Work Plan:

1. Begin negotiations for purchase **of** first site
2. Identify and contact potential partners, funders, additional resources, volunteers and ministries that should be involved **in** this project
3. Identify sources of funding including equity, bank loans, municipal and provincial housing
4. Development of budget including: land costs, construction, legal, architectural, engineering permits, inspections, construction insurance, financing costs, taxes
5. Develop the internal evaluation tools of base line questionnaire, and interview format
6. Look at other models for developing shelter options
7. Advertise for first applicants
8. Initiate programming and standards expected of residents
9. Develop a 'Good-Neighbour' policy

Outcome Measurements:

1. Report on negotiations
2. Report on potential partners, funders, additional resources, volunteers and ministries that should be involved **in** this project
3. Report on identified sources of funding including equity, bank loans, municipal and provincial housing
4. Release budget for input
5. Field test internal evaluation tools of base line questionnaire, and interview format
6. Report on relevance of other models for developing shelter options
7. Select first applicants
8. Release for discussion: programming and standards expected of residents
9. Distribute 'Good Neighbour' policy **to** community agencies and residents

MONTHS SIX TO EIGHT

WORK PLAN

1. Initiate purchase of first site
2. Select and move in first tenants
3. Identify costs not recognized in initial budget
4. Collect evaluation information from young women
5. Identify costs not recognized in initial budget
6. Collect evaluation information from young women
7. Release draft document "A PLACE TO SLEEP, SOMETHING TO EAT AND SOMEBODY WHO CARES" to committee members and on web site

OUTCOME MEASUREMENTS

1. Report on purchase of first site
2. Report on progress of first tenants
3. Integrate costs into year two and three budgets
4. Collate data for incorporation in final report
5. Develop budgets for years two and three
6. Collate data from evaluations and release information, integrate relevant points
7. Collect input from committee and individuals on draft and revise

MONTHS NINE TO ELEVEN:

WORK PLAN

1. Identify properties for years two and three
2. Select and move in next tenants in year one site
3. Release draft budget for years two and three
4. Continue collecting information from first tenants and initiate data collection from second tenants
5. Release second draft of 'A PLACE TO SLEEP, SOMETHING TO EAT AND SOMEBODY WHO CARES' to committee members and on the web site

OUTCOME MEASUREMENTS

1. Begin negotiations for purchasing properties
2. Continue reporting on progress of first and second tenants
3. Finalize budget for years two and three with identified capital and programming costs With attendant identified funders
4. Refmedata
5. Incorporate input

YEAR ONE PROJECT COMPLETION:

A press conference will be held to announce the official opening of the first site and 'A

PLACE TO SLEEP, SOMETHING TO EAT AND SOMEBODY WHO CARES'

will be released. The work plan/outcome measurements for years two and three will also be released.

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

The model for developing housing for this vulnerable population will be published at the completion of the project, for incorporation in programs throughout Canada. The PACE web-site will make the **results** available to international researchers, agencies and policy makers. Save the Children Canada is a national organization that has agreed to make information on this model available to organizations, foundations, business sector participants and governments throughout Canada.

EVALUATION:

The project will identify a 'best practices model' by utilizing evaluative research methods including base line questionnaires, quantitative and qualitative data collection instruments and focus group methodology. The Community Services Fund has supplied us with a format that **will** be used throughout the developmental phase (see attachment). PACE **will** either be applying for funding in order to determine the long-term impact of this project on the participants or will solicit the involvement of qualified research professionals within the University community.

VIOLENCE AGAINST PERSONS IN THE SEX-TRADE

This research was developed with the support of the Law Foundation of British Columbia and is funded by Status of Women Canada. It is being carried out by PACE (Prostitution Alternatives Counseling and Education). No names will be taken and your involvement is absolutely confidential. The final research paper will be made available to Municipal, Provincial, and Federal politicians in the hope that they will develop policy, laws, and regulations designed to place the interests of **YOU** first.

It may take half of an hour of your time to complete this questionnaire. You may take a break or stop at any time. Time will also be made available for you at the completion of the questionnaire if there is anything you want to discuss.

Please be honest, be careful, and take care of yourself. If you would like to talk to anybody regarding this questionnaire, or about anything else ---call PACE---872-765 1.

If you have any problems with any questions, please ask the interviewer to explain.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION	
1(a). How long have you been working in the sex trade? TICK ANSWER	01 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than a year, write in # of months that you have been working: _____ 02 0 1 to 2 years 03 0 3 to 4 years 04 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 to 6 years 05 <input type="checkbox"/> 7 to 8 years 06 0 9 to 10 Years 1 2 0 More than 10 years, write in # of years that you have been working:
1 (b) How many times have you stopped working in the sex trade and then came back to it.	01 0 never 02 0 once 03 <input type="checkbox"/> twice 04 0 three times 05 0 four times 06 0 five times 07 0 More than five times, write in # of times:
The last time you stopped working in the sex trade how long did you stay out:	0 1 0 one day 0 2 0 a week 0 3 0 a month 0 4 0 six months 0 5 0 a year 0 6 0 more than a year, write in length of time:
2. Did your involvement in the sex trade begin with working:	<input type="checkbox"/> on the street <input type="checkbox"/> off-street <input type="checkbox"/> spotting

<p>4. Where else have you worked on the street this year? TICK AS MANY ANSWERS AS YOU NEED</p>	<p>B.C.:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Have not worked anywhere else</p> <p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Kelowna</p> <p>02 <input type="checkbox"/> Kamloops</p> <p>03 <input type="checkbox"/> Prince George</p> <p>04 <input type="checkbox"/> Victoria</p> <p>Other (Write in): _____</p> <p>Canada:</p> <p>05 <input type="checkbox"/> Calgary</p> <p>06 <input type="checkbox"/> Edmonton</p> <p>07 <input type="checkbox"/> Ottawa</p> <p>08 <input type="checkbox"/> Winnipeg</p> <p>09 <input type="checkbox"/> Toronto</p> <p>10 <input type="checkbox"/> Montreal</p> <p>11 <input type="checkbox"/> Halifax</p> <p>Other (Write in): _____</p> <p>United States:</p> <p>12 <input type="checkbox"/> New York</p> <p>13 <input type="checkbox"/> Miami</p> <p>14 <input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles</p> <p>15 <input type="checkbox"/> Las Vegas</p> <p>16 <input type="checkbox"/> Portland</p> <p>17 <input type="checkbox"/> Seattle</p> <p>18 <input type="checkbox"/> San Jose</p> <p>19 <input type="checkbox"/> Hawaii</p> <p>Other (Write in): _____</p> <p>99 <input type="checkbox"/> International (List as many as possible): _____</p>
<p>5. Do you give someone money to be able to work on the street?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>02 <input type="checkbox"/> No (If you answered No go to question</p>
<p>6. If you answered yes. if you made \$100 how much do you keep?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 10\$</p> <p>02 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 to 20\$</p> <p>03 <input type="checkbox"/> 21 to 30\$</p> <p>04 <input type="checkbox"/> 31 to 40\$</p> <p>05 <input type="checkbox"/> 41 to 50\$</p> <p>06 <input type="checkbox"/> 51 to 60\$</p> <p>07 <input type="checkbox"/> 61 to 70\$</p> <p>08 <input type="checkbox"/> 71 to 80\$</p> <p>09 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 80\$</p>
<p>7. Do you have a quota or fee. and if you do. how much money do you have to make when you work:</p>	<p>Fill in average amount you have to make when you work in dollars: \$</p>
<p>Do you work to supply a drug habit?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>02 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>If you answered yes, how much do you have to make each day to supply your habit</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$50</p> <p>02 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 to \$100</p> <p>03 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 to \$200</p> <p>04 <input type="checkbox"/> More than \$200</p>

<p>9. Where else have you worked off-street this year? TICK AS MANY ANSWERS AS YOU NEED</p>	<p>B.C. : <input type="checkbox"/> Have not worked anywhere else 01 <input type="checkbox"/> Kelowna 02 <input type="checkbox"/> Kamloops 03 <input type="checkbox"/> Prince George 04 <input type="checkbox"/> Victoria Other (Write in): _____ Canada: 05 <input type="checkbox"/> Calgary 06 <input type="checkbox"/> Edmonton 07 <input type="checkbox"/> Ottawa 08 <input type="checkbox"/> Winnipeg 09 <input type="checkbox"/> Toronto 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Montreal 11 <input type="checkbox"/> Halifax Other (Write in): _____ United States: 12 <input type="checkbox"/> New York 13 <input type="checkbox"/> Miami 14 <input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles 15 <input type="checkbox"/> Las Vegas 16 <input type="checkbox"/> Portland 17 <input type="checkbox"/> Seattle 18 <input type="checkbox"/> San Jose 19 <input type="checkbox"/> Hawaii Other (Write in): _____ 99 <input type="checkbox"/> International (List as many as possible): _____</p>
<p>10. Do you pay someone to be able to work off-street?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 02 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>11. If you answered yes, if you made \$100 how much do you get to keep?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AND/OR</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> less than \$10 02 <input type="checkbox"/> 11 to 20\$ 03 <input type="checkbox"/> 21 to 30\$ 04 <input type="checkbox"/> 31 to 40\$ 05 <input type="checkbox"/> 41 to 50\$ 06 <input type="checkbox"/> 51 to 60\$ 07 <input type="checkbox"/> 61 to 70\$ 08 <input type="checkbox"/> 71 to 80\$ 09 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 80\$</p>
<p>12. Do you have a quota or fee. and if you do, how much money do you have to make when you work:</p>	<p>Fill in average amount you have to make when you work in dollars: \$</p>
<p>13. Are you paying a fee or percentage to anyone to work inside?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 02 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>14. Do you have a social escort license?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 02 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>15. Have you ever applied to the City of Vancouver in order to work off-street?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 02 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

<p>20. Who did these things to you while you were working on the street?</p> <p>TICK AS MANY ANSWERS AS YOU NEED</p>	<p>310 Date 02 <input type="checkbox"/> Your man 0A pimp 330 Vice 04 <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform police 05 <input type="checkbox"/> Sex-trade worker 06 <input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend/Girlfriend (Circle One) 07 <input type="checkbox"/> Husband/Wife (Circle One) 99 <input type="checkbox"/> Other Person. Who?</p>
<p>21. Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?</p>	<p>310 Yes 320 No</p>
<p>22. Did you report any of these incidents to the police?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 320 No</p>
<p>23. Were charges ever laid in any of these cases?</p>	<p>310 Yes 02 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>21. Was anyone convicted?</p>	<p>310 Yes 020 No</p>
<p>25. Since entering the sex trade has anyone robbed you when you were working on the street?</p>	<p>310 Yes 020 No (if you answered no go to question 32)</p>
<p>26. Within the past year how many times has someone tried to rob you:</p>	<p>01 0 once 020 2 times 03 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 times 04 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 times 05 0 5 times 06 <input type="checkbox"/> 6 times 070 7 times 080 8 times 090 9 times 100 10times 110 More than 10 - Write in number of times:</p>
<p>26. Within the last year approximately when did <u>each</u> of these incidents occur?</p> <p>(If there was more than one incident within a time period write in the appropriate number)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 0 to 7 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 8 to 30 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 31 to 182 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 183 to 365 days</p>
<p>27. Who did these things to you while you were working on the street?</p> <p>TICK AS MANY ANSWERS AS YOU NEED</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Date 02 <input type="checkbox"/> Your man 0A pimp 03 <input type="checkbox"/> Vice 04 <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform police 05 <input type="checkbox"/> Prostitute 06 <input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend/Girlfriend (Circle One) 07 <input type="checkbox"/> Husband/Wife (Circle One) 99 <input type="checkbox"/> Other Person. Who?</p>
<p>28. Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?</p>	<p>010 Yes 020 No</p>

<p>41. Within the past year how many times has someone threatened you with a weapon:</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> once 02 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 times 03 3 times 04 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 times 05 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 times 06 6 times 07 7 times 08 8 times 09 9 times 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 times 11 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 - Write in number of times:</p>
<p>42. Within the last year approximately when did <u>each</u> of these incidents occur? (If there was more than one incident within a time period write in the appropriate number)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 0 to 7 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 8 to 30 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 31 to 182 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 183 to 365 days</p>
<p>43. Who did these things to you while you were working on the street? TICK AS MANY ANSWERS AS YOU NEED</p>	<p>01 ODate 02 <input type="checkbox"/> Your man OA pimp 03 O Vice 04 <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform police 05 <input type="checkbox"/> Prostitute 06 <input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend/Girlfriend (Circle One) 07 <input type="checkbox"/> Husband/Wife (Circle One) 99 <input type="checkbox"/> Other Person. Who?</p>
<p>44. Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 02 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>45. Did you report any of these incidents to the police?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 02 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>46. Were charges laid?</p>	<p>01 0 Yes 02 0 No</p>
<p>47. Was anyone convicted?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 02 0 No</p>
<p>48. Since entering the sex trade has anyone physically assaulted you without a weapon being involved when you were working on the street?</p>	<p>01 0 Yes 02 0 No (if you answered no go to question 56)</p>

<p>56. Within the past year how many times have you been physically assaulted with a weapon without anyone attempting to force you to have sex against your will:</p>	<p>01 0 once 02 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 times 03 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 times 04 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 times 05 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 times 06 0 6 times 07 <input type="checkbox"/> 7 times 08 <input type="checkbox"/> 8 times 09 0 9 times 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 times 11 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 - Write in number of times:</p>
<p>57. Within the last year approximately when did <u>each</u> of these incidents occur? (If there was more than one incident within a time period write in the appropriate number)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 0 to 7 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 8 to 30 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 31 to 182 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 183 to 365 days</p>
<p>58. Who did these things to you while you were working on the street? TICK AS MANY ANSWERS AS YOU NEED</p>	<p>01 0 Date 02 <input type="checkbox"/> Your man <input type="checkbox"/> A pimp 03 <input type="checkbox"/> Vice 04 <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform police 05 <input type="checkbox"/> Prostitute 06 <input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend/Girlfriend (Circle One) 07 <input type="checkbox"/> Husband/Wife (Circle One) 99 <input type="checkbox"/> Other Person. Who?</p>
<p>59. Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?</p>	<p>01 0 Yes 02 0 No</p>
<p>60. Did you report any of these incidents to the police'?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 02 0 No</p>
<p>61. Were charges ever laid ?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 02 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>62. Was anyone convicted?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 02 0 No</p>
<p>63. Since entering the sex trade has anyone refused to wear a condom when you were working on the street?</p>	<p>01 0 Yes 02 <input type="checkbox"/> No (if you answered no go to question 69)</p>

<p>70. Within the past year how many times has someone tried to force you to have sex against your will without a weapon being involved:</p>	<p>31 <input type="radio"/> once 32 <input type="radio"/> 2 times 33 <input type="radio"/> 3 times 34 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 times 35 <input type="radio"/> 5 times 36 <input type="radio"/> 6 times 37 <input type="radio"/> 7 times 38 <input type="checkbox"/> 8 times 39 <input type="radio"/> 9 times 100 <input type="radio"/> 10 times 110 <input type="radio"/> More than 10 - Write in number of times:</p>
<p>71. Within the last year approximately when did <u>each</u> of these incidents occur? (If there was more than one incident within a time period write in the appropriate number)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 0 to 7 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 8 to 30 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 31 to 182 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 183 to 365 days</p>
<p>72. Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?</p>	<p>31 <input type="radio"/> Yes 32 <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p>73. Did you report any of these incidents to the police'?</p>	<p>31 <input type="radio"/> Yes 32 <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p>74. Were charges ever laid in any of the cases?</p>	<p>31 <input type="radio"/> Yes 32 <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p>75. Was anyone convicted?</p>	<p>31 <input type="radio"/> Yes 32 <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p>76. Since entering the sex trade has anyone used a weapon to try to force you to have sex against you will when you were working on the street?</p>	<p>31 <input type="radio"/> Yes 32 <input type="radio"/> No (if you answered no go to question 84)</p>
<p>77. Within the past year how many times has someone used a weapon to try to force you to have sex against you will:</p>	<p>01 <input type="radio"/> once 02 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 times 03 <input type="radio"/> 3 times 04 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 times 05 <input type="radio"/> 5 times 06 <input type="radio"/> 6 times 07 <input type="radio"/> 7 times 08 <input type="radio"/> 8 times 09 <input type="radio"/> 9 times 100 <input type="radio"/> 10 times 110 <input type="radio"/> More than 10 - Write in number of times:</p>

<p>87. Who did these things to you while you were working on the street?</p> <p>TICK AS MANY ANSWERS AS YOU NEED</p>	<p>310 Date 02 <input type="checkbox"/> Your man 03 <input type="checkbox"/> A pimp 330 Vice 04 <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform police 05 <input type="checkbox"/> Prostitute 06 <input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend/Girlfriend (Circle One) 07 <input type="checkbox"/> Husband/Wife (Circle One) 99 <input type="checkbox"/> Other Person. Who?</p>
<p>88. Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?</p>	<p>310 Yes 02 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>89. Did you report any of these incidents to the police?</p>	<p>310 Yes 320 No</p>
<p>90. Were charges laid in any of these cases?</p>	<p>310 Yes 320 No</p>
<p>91. Was anyone convicted?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 320 No</p>
<p>92. Since entering the sex trade has anyone tried to kill you when you were working on the street?</p>	<p>310 Yes 320 No (if you answered no go to question 100)</p>
<p>93. Within the past year how many times has someone tried to kill you:</p>	<p>01 <input type="radio"/> once 320 2 times 03 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 times 04 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 times 05 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 times 060 6 times 070 7 times 08 <input type="checkbox"/> 8 times 090 9 times 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 times 11 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 - Write in number of times:</p>
<p>94. Within the last year approximately when did <u>each</u> of these incidents occur?</p> <p>(If there is more than one incident within a time period write in a number)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 0 to 7 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 8 to 30 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 31 to 182 days <input type="checkbox"/> Between the past 183 to 365 days</p>
<p>95. Who did these things to you while you while you were working on the street?</p> <p>TICK AS MANY ANSWERS AS YOU NEED</p>	<p>010 Date 02 <input type="checkbox"/> Your man 03 <input type="checkbox"/> Vice 04 <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform police 05 <input type="checkbox"/> Sex trade worker 06 <input type="checkbox"/> Boyfriend/Girlfriend (Circle One) 07 <input type="checkbox"/> Husband/Wife (Circle One) 99 <input type="checkbox"/> Other Person. Who?</p>
<p>96. Did you report any of these incidents to the bad date sheet?</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 020 No</p>
<p>97. Did you report any of these incidents to the police?</p>	<p>010 Yes 020 No</p>

103. Who have you done these things to:

TICK **AS MANY ANSWERS AS YOU NEED**

01 ODate

02 Your man

03 O Vice

04 Uniform police

05 Sex-trade worker

06 Boyfriend/Girlfriend (Circle One)

07 Husband/Wife (Circle One)

99 Other Person.

Who?

<p>7. Do you think the uniform police care about your safety?</p> <p>TICK ONE ANSWER ONLY</p>	<p>01 0 Most/all of them are concerned 02 0 Some of them are concerned 03 0 None of them are concerned</p>
<p>8. In what ways do you think the uniform police could improve their relationship with you'?</p> <p>TICK AS <i>MANY</i> ANSWERS AS YOU NEED</p>	<p>01 0 Don't need to improve 02 <input type="checkbox"/> More female police officers 03 0 Police need to be educated 04 0 Police should be more respectful 05 <input type="checkbox"/> Should have more police patrols 06 0 Police should be more understanding 07 0 Police do not care enough to improve 09 0 Other. Write in: _____ _____</p>
<p>9. Have the police ever?</p> <p>TICK AS <i>MANY</i> ANSWERS AS YOU NEED</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Taken you to a clinic 02 <input type="checkbox"/> Taken you to a shelter 03 <input type="checkbox"/> Taken you home 04 <input type="checkbox"/> Warned you about dangers 05 <input type="checkbox"/> Lectured you about danger 06 <input type="checkbox"/> Said they were concerned for your safety 07 <input type="checkbox"/> Advised you to contact an agency/social senice 08 <input type="checkbox"/> Made sexual comments to you 09 <input type="checkbox"/> Ridiculed you 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Told your parents/social worker that you were in prostitution 11 0 Wanted free sex 12 <input type="checkbox"/> Paid for sex 13 <input type="checkbox"/> Taken your picture against your will</p>
<p>9. Name an officer that you believe truly cares about your welfare?</p>	<p>01 0 There is not any 02 <input type="checkbox"/> Name: _____</p>
<p>10. Right now. what do you do to protect yourself when you are working on the street?</p> <p>TICK AS <i>MANY</i> ANSWERS AS YOU NEED</p>	<p>01 0 Don't work on the street 02 0 Trust my senses 03 0 Carry a weapon 04 0 Work with a friend 05 0 Spotter 06 0 Trick pad 07 0 Don't drink/use drugs when working 08 0 Avoid drunk or stoned tricks 09 0 Some other protection. What? _____ _____</p>

15. Are you?	01 0 White 02 <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal 03 0 Asian 04 <input type="checkbox"/> East Indian 05 <input type="checkbox"/> Black 06 0 Other: _____
16. At what age did you leave your parents' or gaurdian's home permanently?	01 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 or younger 02 <input type="checkbox"/> 13-14 03 0 15-16 04 <input type="checkbox"/> 17-18 05 <input type="checkbox"/> 19-21 06 0 Still live at home
17. What is your present level of education?	01 0 public school 02 0 grade 9 03 <input type="checkbox"/> grade 10 04 <input type="checkbox"/> grade 11 05 <input type="checkbox"/> grade 12 06 0 Other: _____
18. Are you?	01 0 Female 02 0 Male 03 <input type="checkbox"/> Transsexual 04 <input type="checkbox"/> Cross dresser
19. What got you into the sex trade?	

20. What services do you think there should be for sex trade workers?	