



**Jelena Vermilion [she/her]  
Executive Director - SWAP Hamilton**

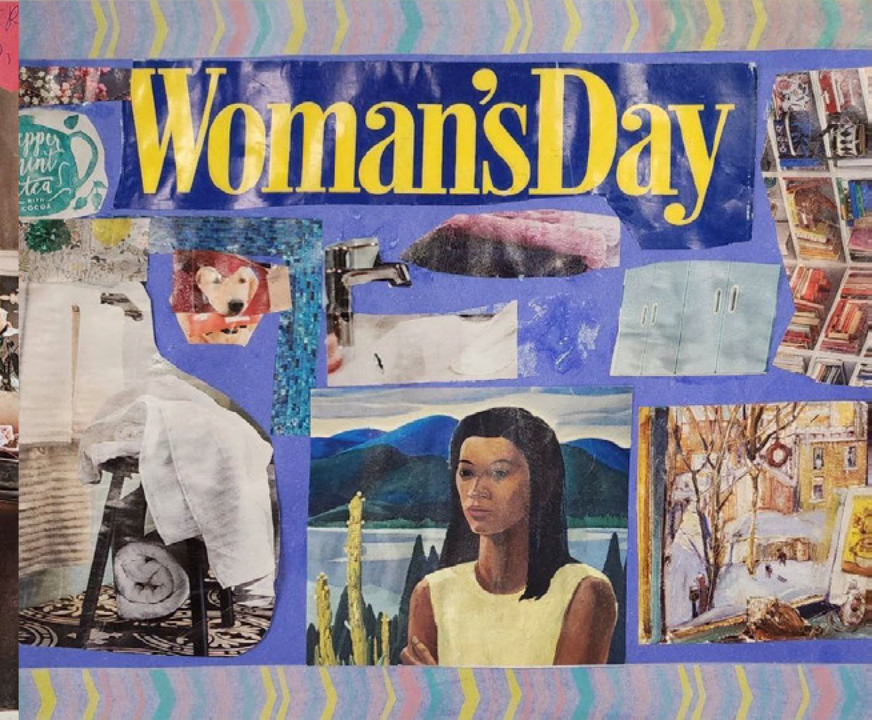
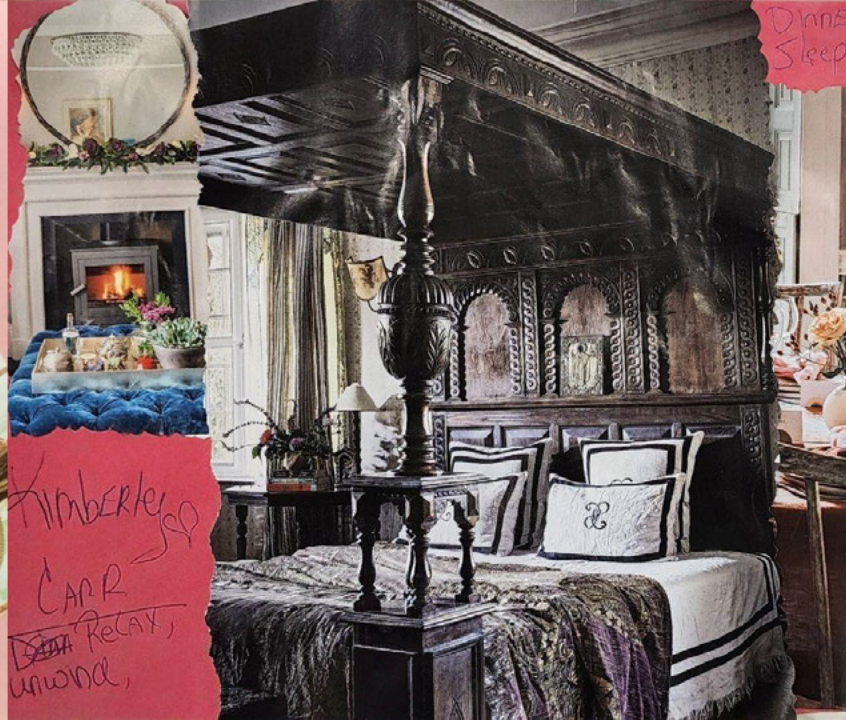
**Our (Curated) Accomplishments**



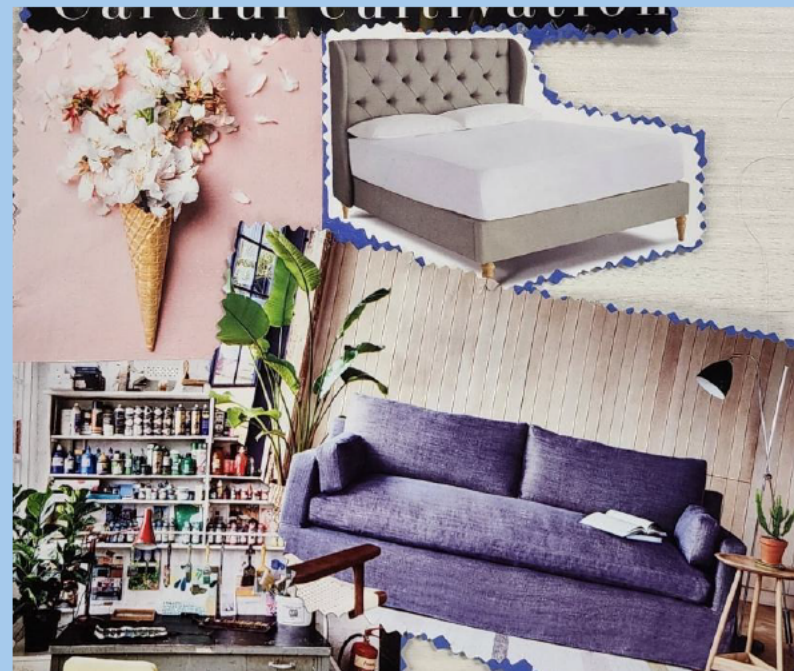
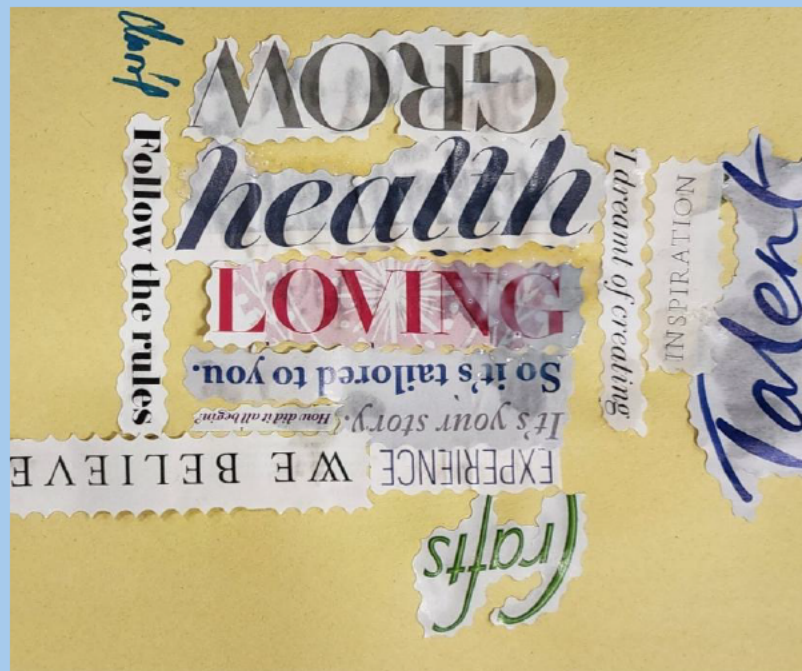
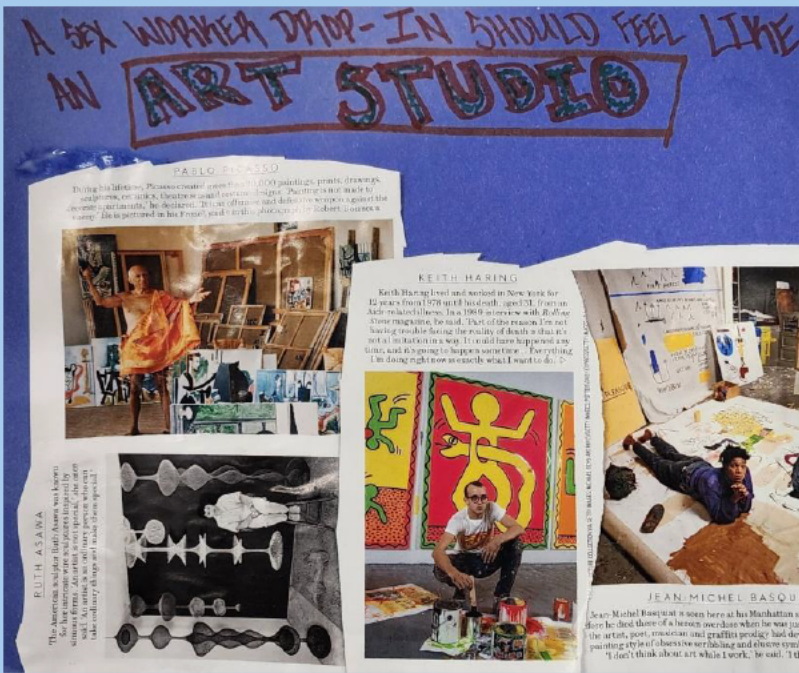




gatherer











TS Jelena Vermilion - FULL ...  
@IsisIntrepid

Heartened and astounded by  
[@SWAPHamilton](#)'s art engagement  
event last night.

Thank you Amy Deschamps of  
[@YWCA\\_Hamilton](#) and Samm Floren of  
[@KeepingSix](#) ❤️

Many participants created collages  
that alluded to an incall space or  
apartment where they could see  
clients. [#HamOnt](#)

10:03 AM · Feb 22, 2024 · **2,551** Views

View post engagements

2 8 25



TS Jelena Vermilion - FULL ...  
@IsisIntrepid

Housing is a must. You want less sex  
workers soliciting on the street!?! Fix  
our housing crisis! [#HamOnt](#)  
[@CityofHamilton](#)

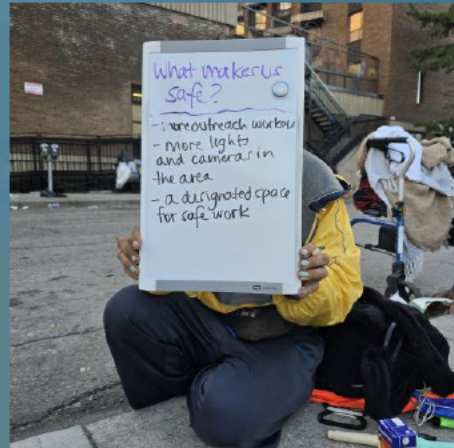
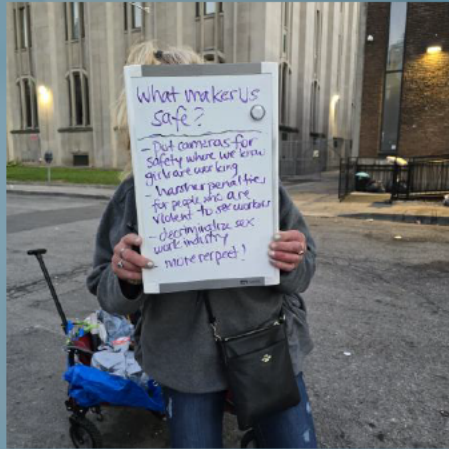
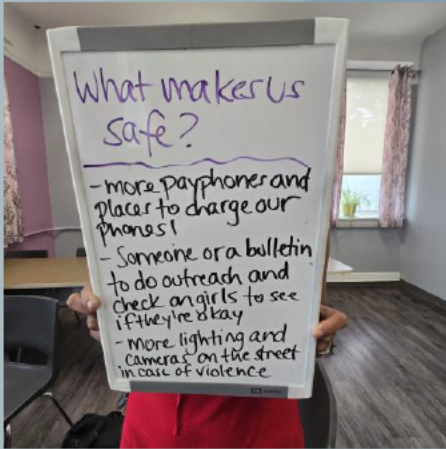
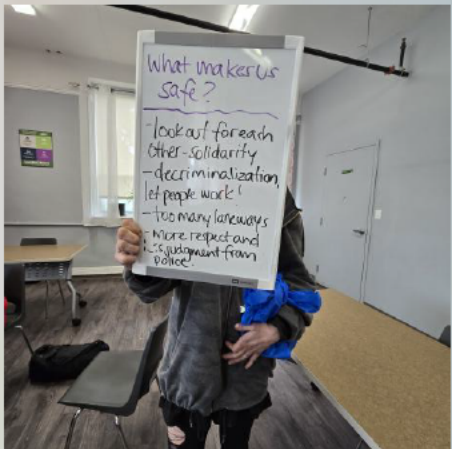
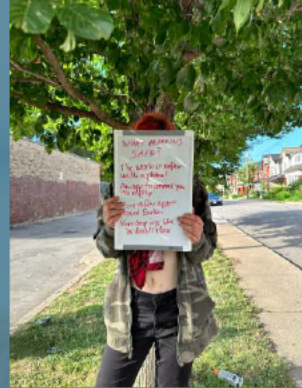
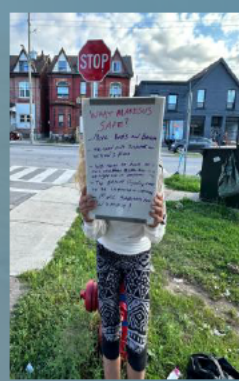
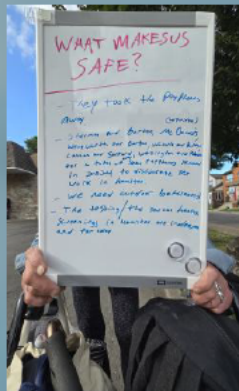
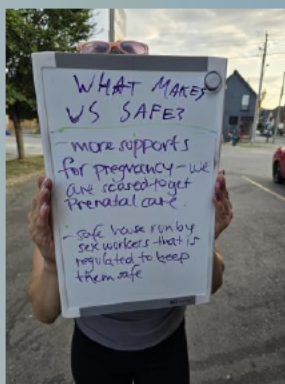
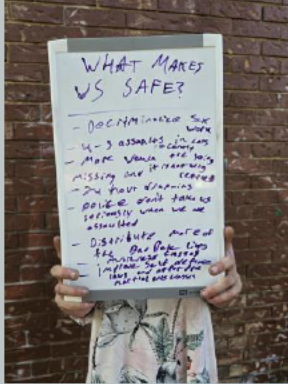
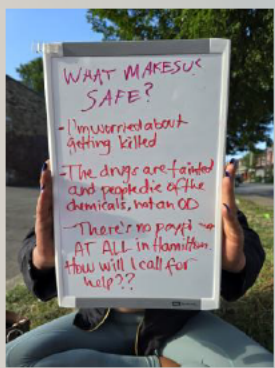
10:03 AM · Feb 22, 2024 · **2,471** Views

View post engagements

5 11

## Takeaways



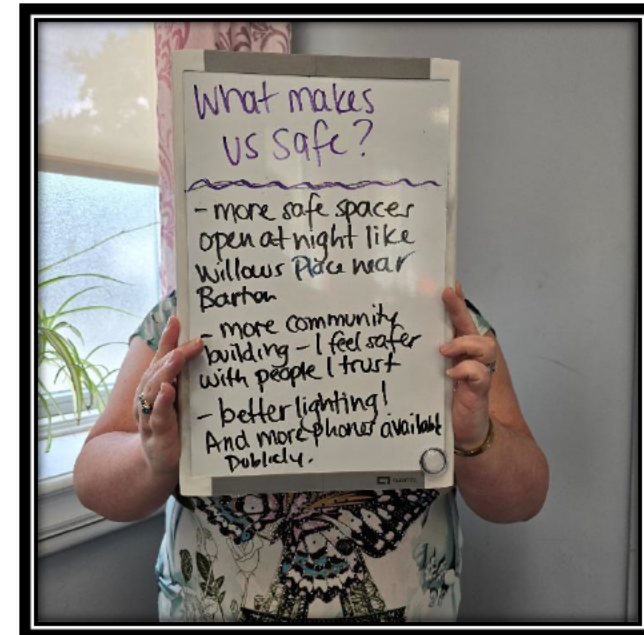
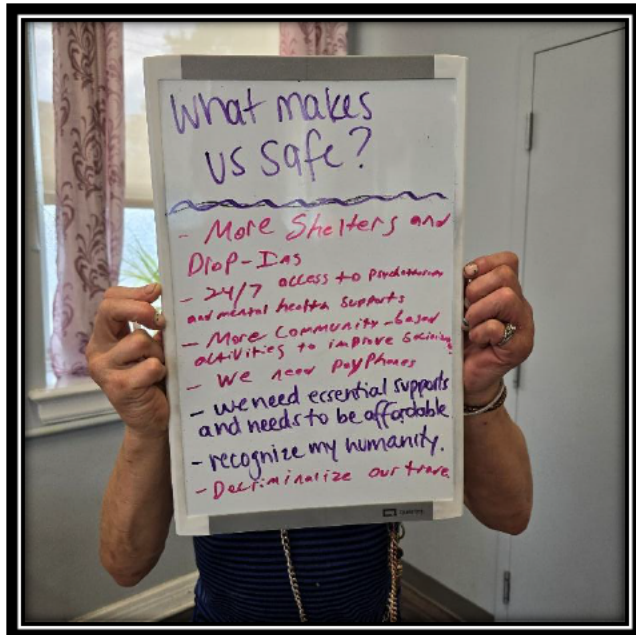
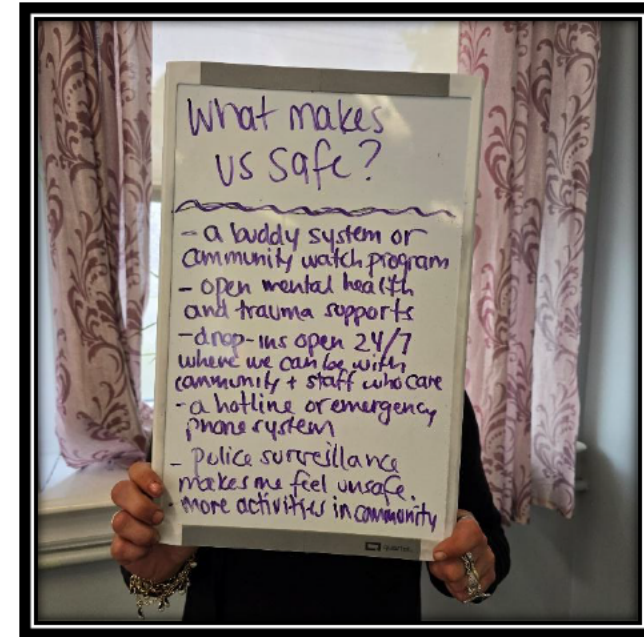
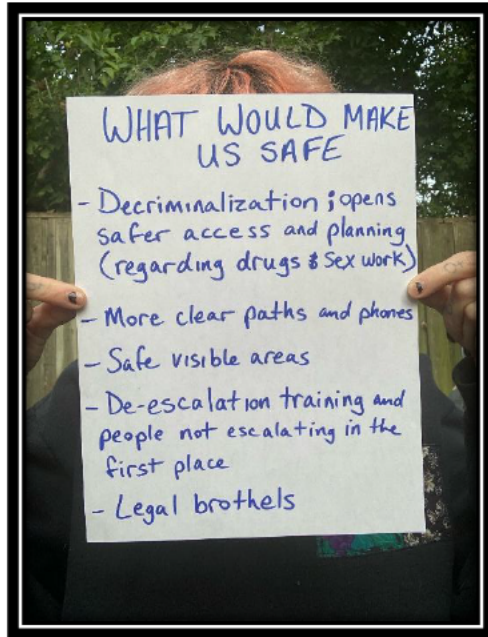


# Photovoice Project

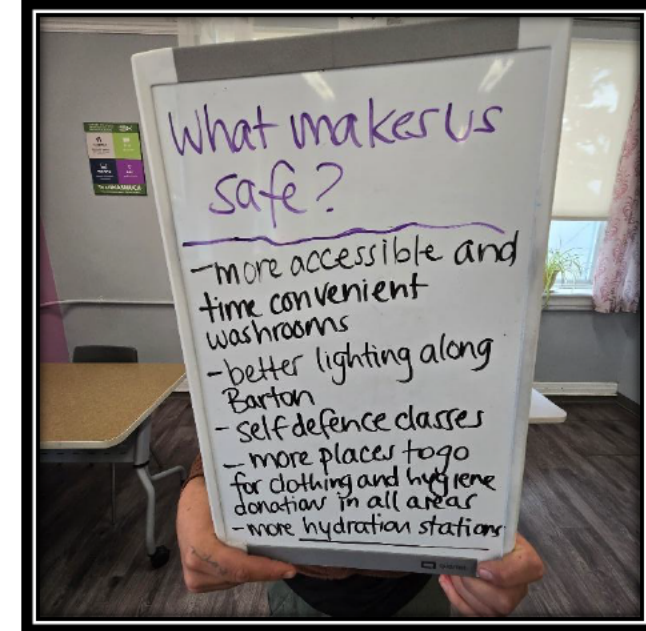
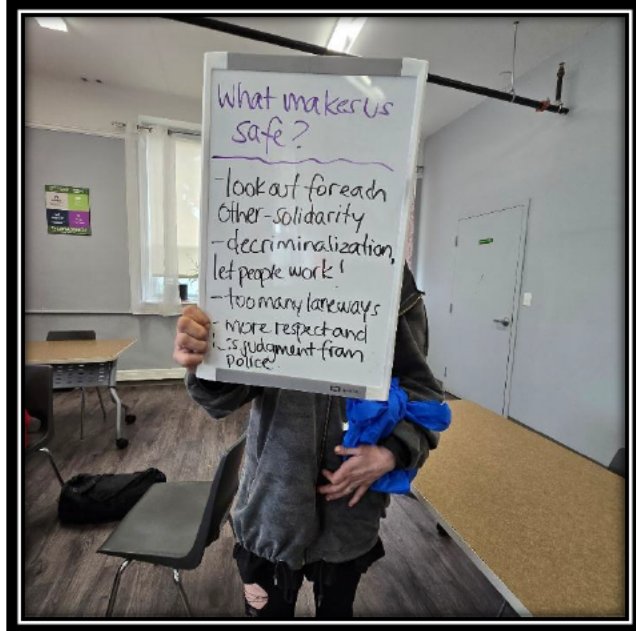
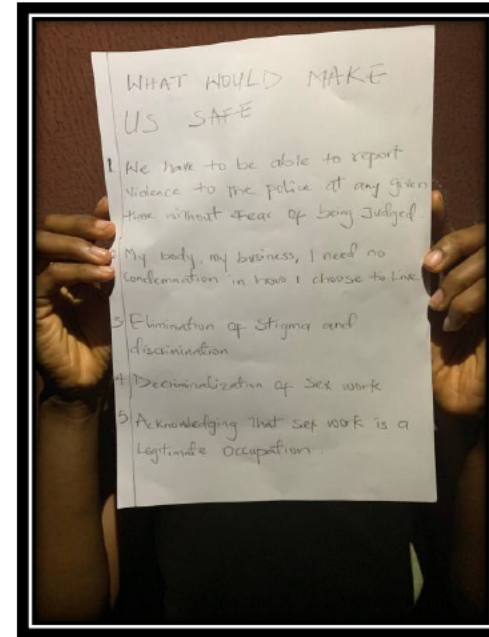
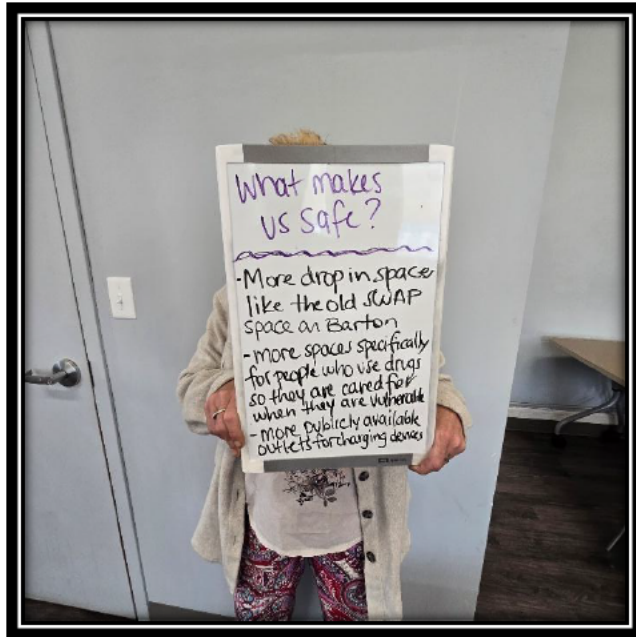


We had a total of 40 participants in our Hamilton photovoice needs assessment project in collaboration with the YWCA as part of the City's Gender-Based Safety Audit. In exchange for their expertise and input, each participant was spoken to like friends & family, received snacks, a juice & a water, \$40 cash honoraria, and most importantly: respect and consideration to their thoughts, feelings, and experiences.

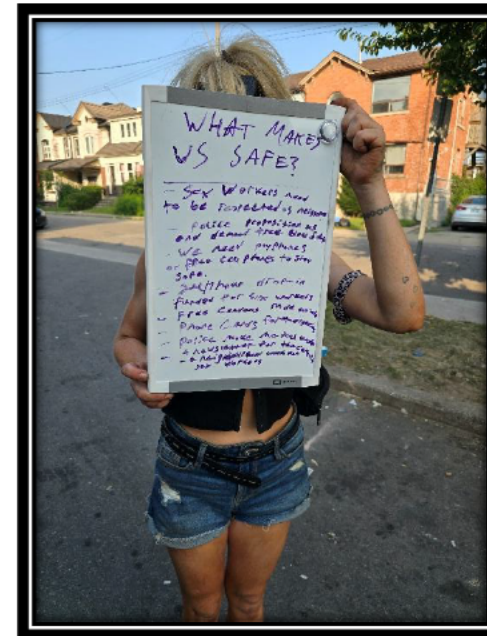
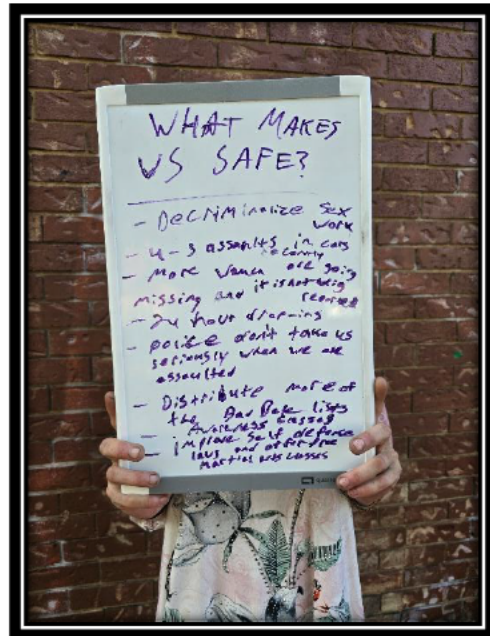
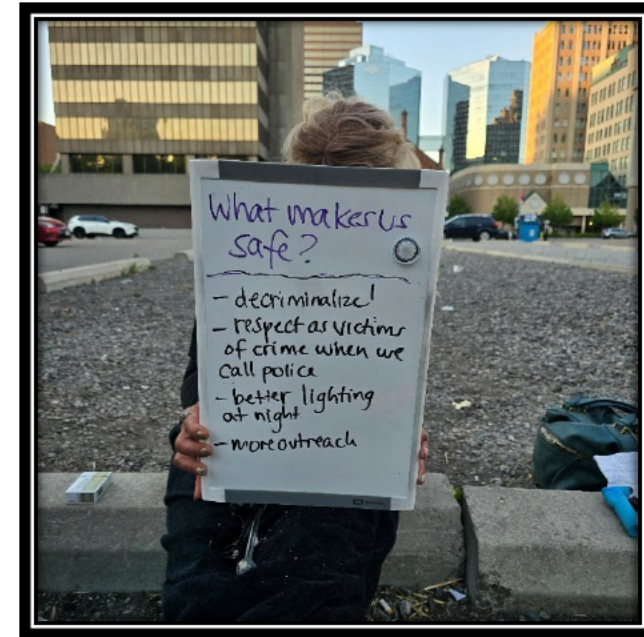
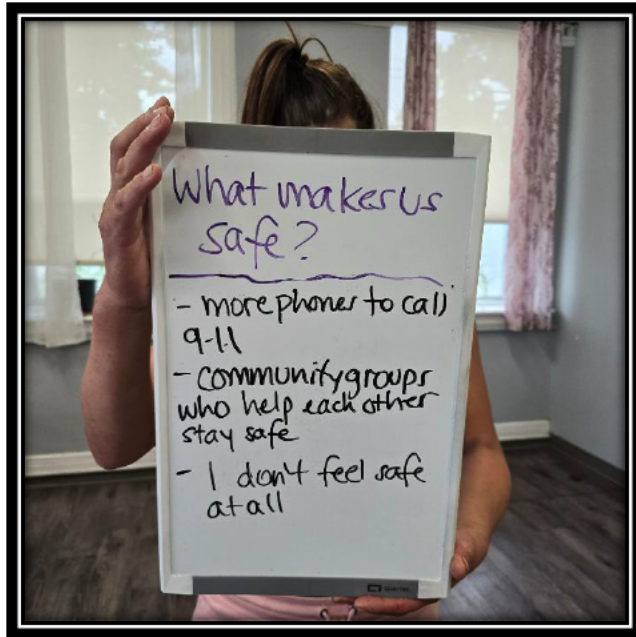




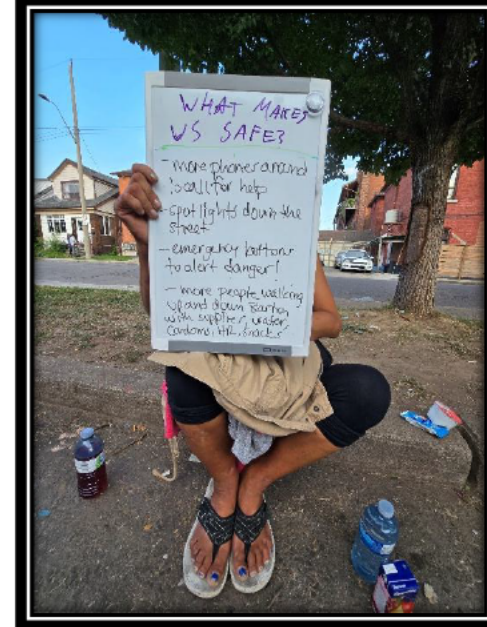
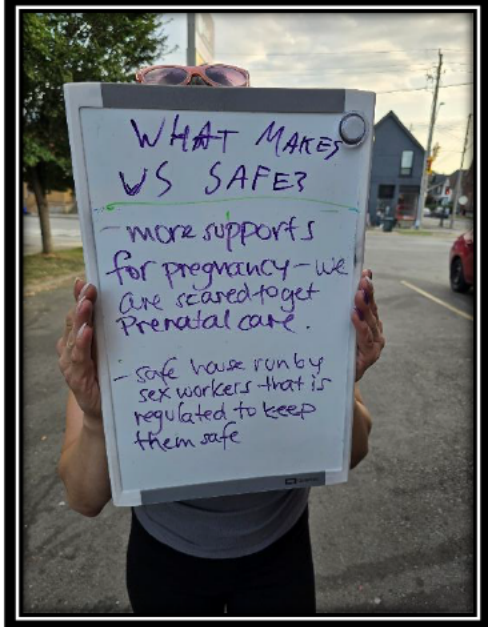
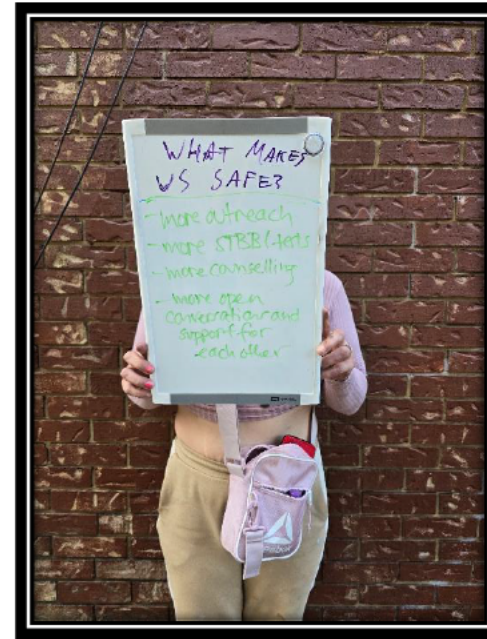
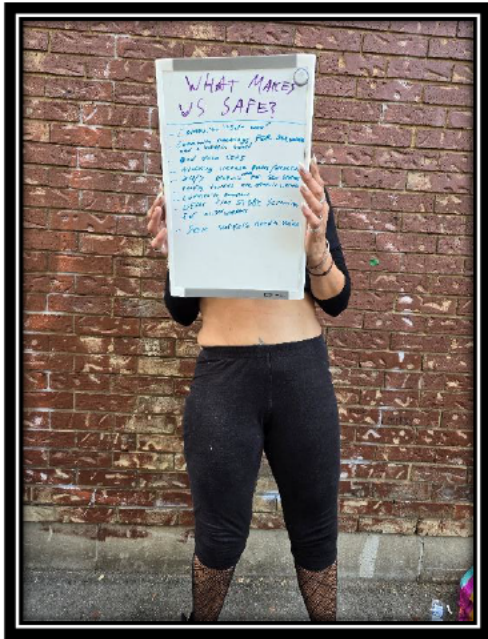




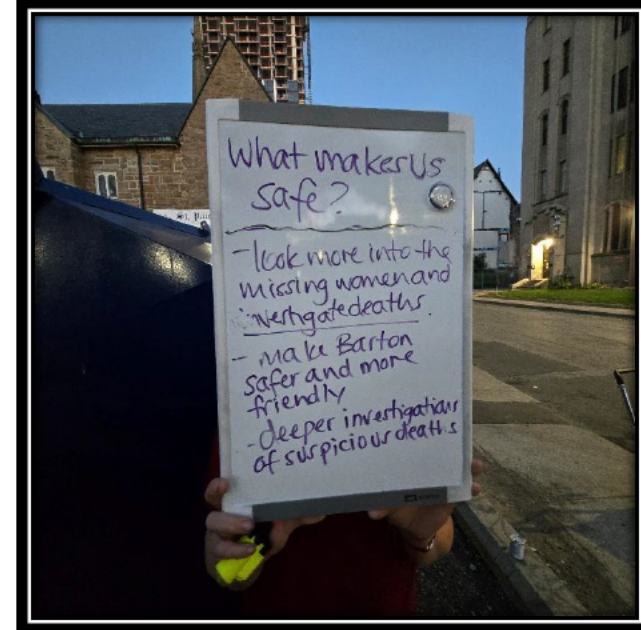
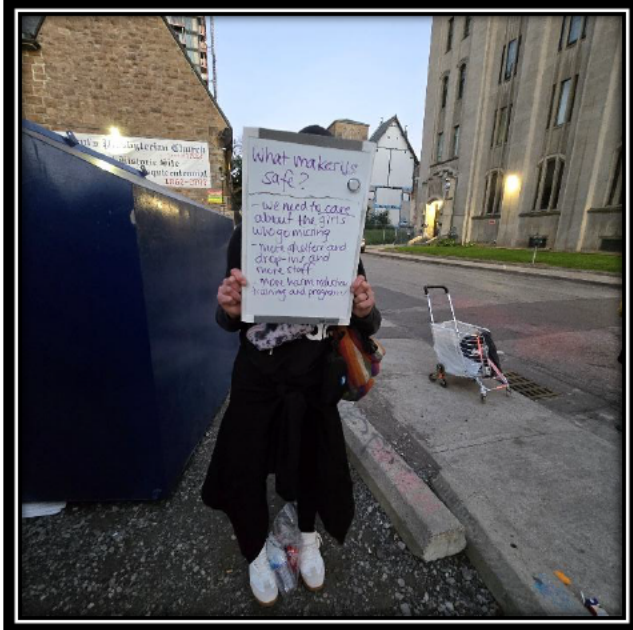
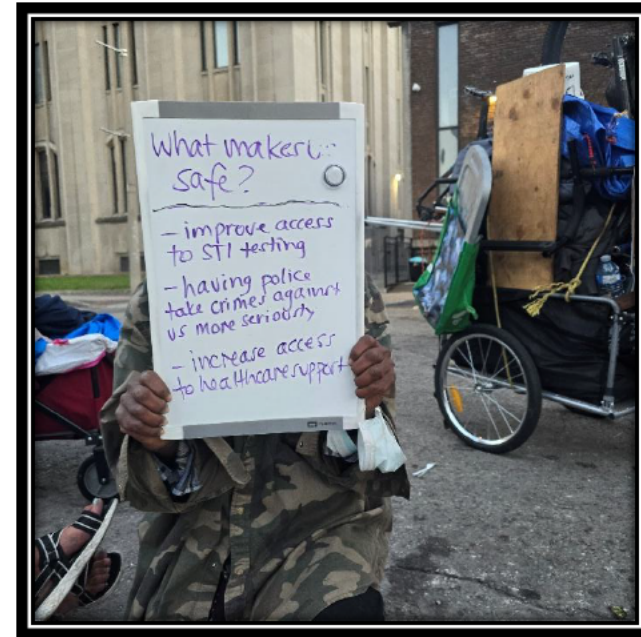
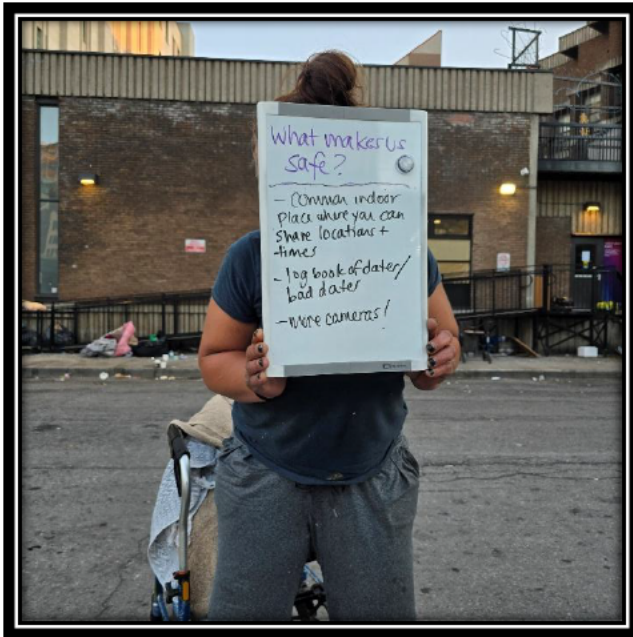




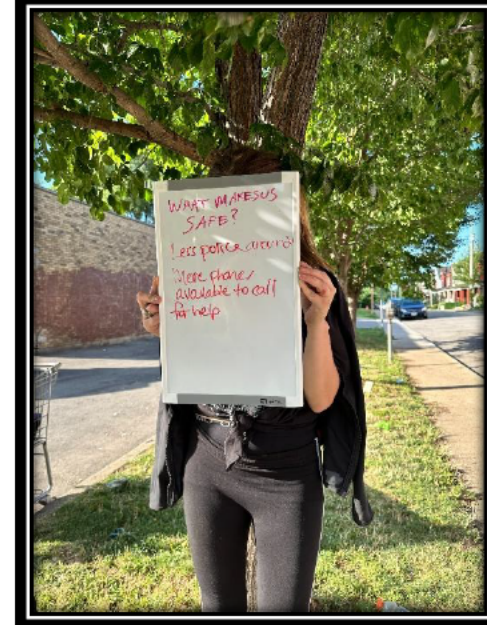
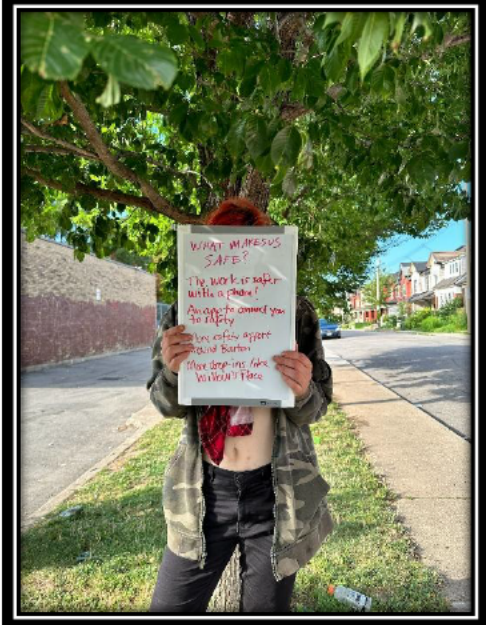
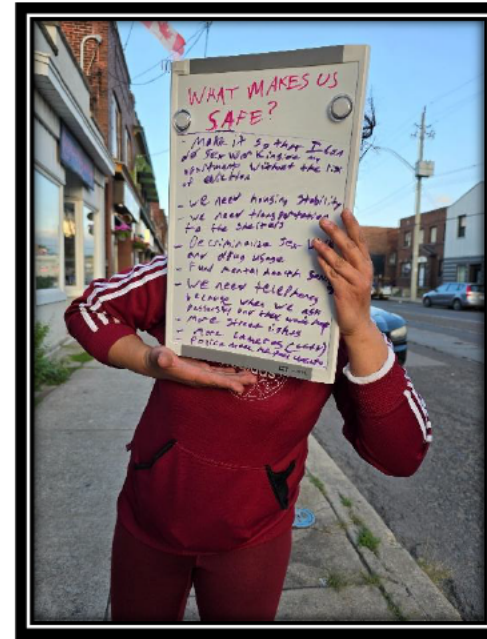
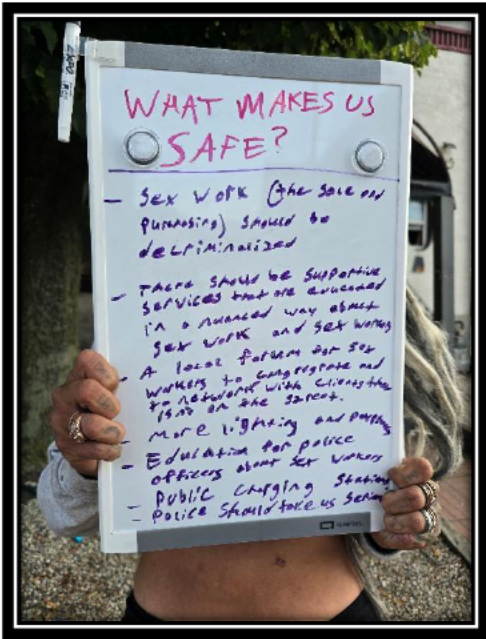




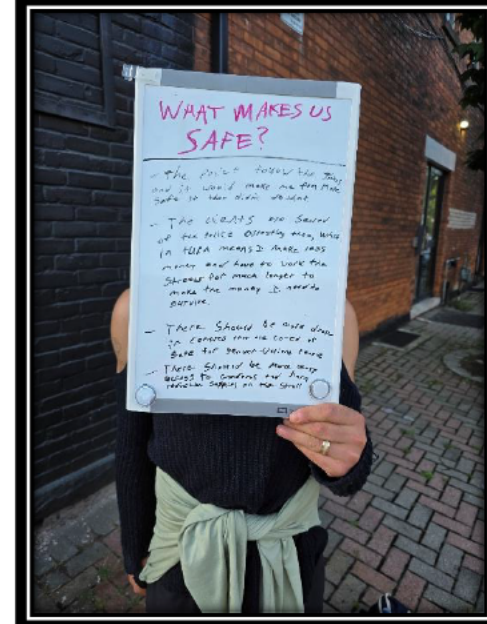
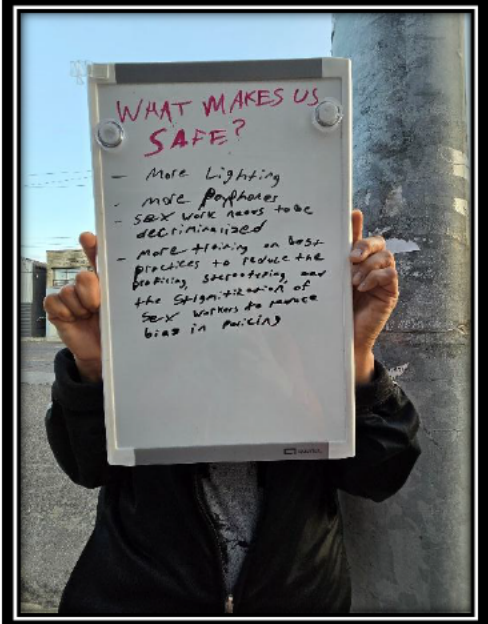
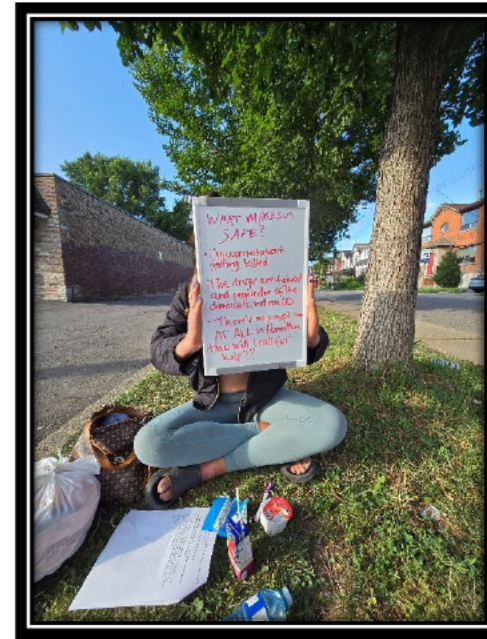














- Jelena was hired as an expert witness in R. v. Boodhoo, a constitutional challenge to sex work laws in Canada.

- Jelena played a central role in developing survey questions for sex workers in this study, designing recruitment strategies, and co-authoring academic articles and research reports for community members and policymakers.

## Expert Witness Testimony, Research, & Policy

The Trans PULSE Canada project collected survey data from 2873 trans and non-binary people in 2019. This report presents results from the first national all-ages data on health and well-being among trans and non-binary people in Canada, as well as the first quantitative data for some provinces. Results highlight that despite high levels of education and access to primary health care providers, participants faced under-employment and unmet healthcare needs.

### HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE ACCESS FOR TRANS & NON-BINARY PEOPLE IN CANADA

National, Provincial, and Territorial Results

#### Background

Despite Canada's universal health care system, transgender (trans) and non-binary people experience challenges in accessing primary, emergency, and gender-affirming health care.<sup>1-6</sup> Earlier research has documented health concerns, as well as clear associations between these health challenges and social marginalization.<sup>7-8</sup> To date, national community survey data have been available only for youth,<sup>9</sup> and all-ages data only in Ontario.<sup>1</sup> Ontario data are now nearly a decade old, leaving all provinces and territories without any recent all-ages community statistics on trans and non-binary health.

Because most health care in Canada is organized through provincial systems and policies, comparisons across provinces and territories are important in identifying variation in health and health care access.

#### Trans PULSE Canada

Over a 10-week period in 2019, the Trans PULSE Canada research team collected survey data from 2873 trans and non-binary people age 14 years or older and living in Canada. Participants were able to complete the full survey, or a 10-minute short form containing key items, in English or French online, on paper, via telephone (with or without a language

Page 1 of 9

### HEALTH AND WELL-BEING AMONG TRANS AND NON-BINARY PEOPLE DOING SEX WORK

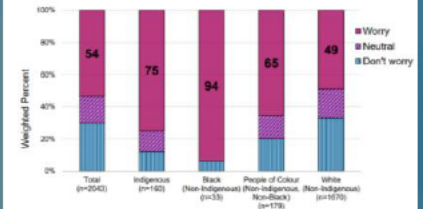
#### Highlights

- Among trans and non-binary participants:
  - 88% of sex workers reported living in low-income households.
  - 72% of sex workers had fair or poor self-rated mental health.
  - Two-thirds of sex workers as young as 18 years reported having experienced physical or sexual assault in the past 5 years.
  - 87% 96% of sex workers did not anticipate fair treatment from police and the legal system if they were to be assaulted.

#### Context

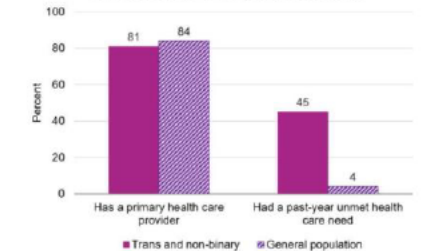
Transgender (trans) and non-binary people appear more likely than cisgender people to do sex work.<sup>11</sup> A previous study estimated that 14% of trans people in Ontario had ever done sex work and 2% were current sex workers.<sup>12</sup> Trans-specific reasons for doing sex work may include employment discrimination, housing insecurity, the need to fund gender-affirming care, and barriers including access to community and affirmation of gender identity.<sup>13</sup> Much existing research on trans sex workers focuses on human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) risk,<sup>14</sup> but has also identified other important health concerns and social determinants of health including high levels of violence, limited access to justice, and stigma in healthcare settings.<sup>15,16</sup>

Proportion of trans and non-binary participants who worry about being harassed or stopped by police or security.



Cite this QuickStat: The Trans PULSE Canada Team. QuickStat #4 – Anticipated discrimination from police among trans and non-binary participants. 2021-02-12. Available from: <https://transpulsecanada.ca/research-type/quickstats/>

How does health care access for trans and non-binary people in Canada compare to the general population?



Cite this QuickStat: The Trans PULSE Canada Team. QuickStat #2 – Primary care and unmet health care needs. 2020-01-31. Available from: <https://transpulsecanada.ca/research-type/quickstats/>

General population data from Canadian Community Health Survey, 2015/2016. Accessed via ODESI.



## Literature Review of Canadian Sex Workers' Experiences with Police Interactions, Healthcare Access, and Social Exclusion

Prepared for  
Sex Workers' Action Program Hamilton  
in  
May 2024

By  
Anushka Rajaram  
Evan Gravely  
Jeanna Pillainayagam  
Fayth Frank  
Darren Sajeevan  
Jovana Paramentic

rshop@mcmaster.ca

researchshop.mcmaster.ca

Office of  
Community Engagement

McMaster  
University

This project was commissioned in May 2024, and the completed 20- page report was delivered us by the McMaster Research Shop in July 2024.

The Sex Workers' Action Program Hamilton (SWAP) advocates for the decriminalization and recognition of sex work, universal health access, and economic empowerment for sex workers, while opposing human rights abuses, violence, and discrimination against them.

Concerned that sex workers' voices are marginalized in public discourse and citywide planning efforts, SWAP collaborated with the McMaster Research Shop to gather research on sex workers' experiences. Specifically, SWAP sought updated research on sex workers' **interactions with the police**, **experiences of social exclusion** (e.g., *stigma*), and **access to healthcare**.

As a grassroots initiative led by individuals with lived experience and a deep understanding of local issues, SWAP identified these topics as most important to their community. Consequently, the McMaster Research Shop partnered with SWAP to conduct a literature review of these issues.

This report summarizes the research methods, findings, and recommendations from the literature review, highlighting the unique issues and needs of Canadian sex workers to support advocacy and policy change initiatives. It also serves as a baseline for potential future empirical research with the local population.

## Executive Summary

The Sex Workers' Action Program Hamilton (SWAP) advocates for the decriminalization and recognition of sex work, universal health access, and economic empowerment for sex workers. To support their advocacy efforts, SWAP commissioned a literature review from the McMaster Research Shop to synthesize recent scholarly research relating to sex workers' experiences with police, healthcare access, and social exclusion. This report details the findings from our review, which focused on studies published after the implementation of 2014 federal end-demand legislation (PCEPA).

Findings indicate that Canadian sex workers remain a marginalized group, facing significant challenges potentially exacerbated by end-demand legislation. Sex workers' interactions with police are marked by significant stigma and discrimination, including condescending attitudes, victim-blaming, and dismissal of abuse reports. Trans and non-binary sex workers, as well as immigrant sex workers, face disproportionate discrimination, including unreasonable stops, searches, and harassment, and heightened surveillance. Consequently, sex workers exhibit widespread mistrust of police, deterring them from seeking their assistance in emergencies.

Healthcare access is hindered by stigma and fear of negative treatment, with nearly two-thirds of sex workers reporting unmet healthcare needs. Barriers include perceived condescending attitudes, judgment, and an unwillingness to take their health concerns seriously. Immigrant sex workers encounter additional barriers such as language difficulties, lack of culturally competent services, and fear of workplace inspections. Despite these challenges, some studies highlight facilitators that improve access, including nonjudgmental staff and the availability of community/sex worker-led services.

Research reveals that stigma exists both externally and within the sex work community, creating complex hierarchies and intersectional challenges. Social exclusion leads to discrimination, economic vulnerability, and mental health issues, contributing to isolation and barriers to support. To navigate these challenges, sex workers employ various strategies such as concealing their occupation, carefully managing disclosure, and engaging in "stealth organizing" to find supportive peers. Despite these individual efforts, the pervasive nature of stigma continues to hinder collective action for social change within the sex work community.

Key recommendations include decriminalizing sex work, improving police and healthcare provider training, establishing sex worker-led health services, and conducting more representative research on sex worker experiences. Overall, the findings suggest Canadian sex workers remain a marginalized group facing significant challenges, despite some community-led efforts to mitigate harms. Further research and policy changes rooted in bodily autonomy and human rights are needed to address ongoing issues.

# Research Review





# SEX WORKERS' EXPERIENCES IN CANADA

A Literature Review by the McMaster Research Shop for SWAP Hamilton.



The Sex Workers' Action Program Hamilton (SWAP) is dedicated to advocating for the decriminalization of sex work, ensuring universal health access, and fostering economic empowerment for sex workers. Their goal is to address the systemic challenges faced by this marginalized group and to support meaningful policy change.

## GOAL:

SYNTHESIZE EXISTING RESEARCH ON THE EXPERIENCES OF CANADIAN SEX WORKERS, FOCUSING ON:



## FOCUS

Studies published after the 2014 **Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act (PCEPA)**, which criminalized the sale/trade of sexual services for the first time in Canada.

## OUR STRATEGY

**REVIEW**  
17 studies published between 2018 and 2023.  
Included **peer-reviewed** articles and **community-based** reports.

## INCLUSION CRITERIA

Studies involving **Canadian** sex workers.  
Published after 2014 (**post-PCEPA** implementation).  
Studies with **diverse demographics** and research designs.

## KEY WORDS

disadvantage  
marginalization  
healthcare  
exclusion political  
access police isolation  
prejudice experiences  
law sex workers  
stigma  
discrimination  
enforcement

## LIMITATIONS

Exclusion of **undocumented** community experiences.  
Limited representation of **rural** and **remote** sex workers.

## OUR RESULTS

### POLICE INTERACTIONS

**Issues:** Stigma, victim-blaming, and dismissal of abuse reports.



**Disproportionate Impact.** Trans and non-binary sex workers face unreasonable stops and harassment.

**Im/migrant** sex workers encounter racial profiling and heightened surveillance.

**Result:** Widespread mistrust of law enforcement, deterring sex workers from seeking help in emergencies.

### HEALTHCARE ACCESS

**Issues:** Stigma, condescension, and judgment from providers; Lack of culturally competent care for im/migrant sex workers.



**Unmet Needs.**

Nearly two-thirds report **unmet healthcare** needs.  
Significant mental and physical health **disparities**.

**What's Working:** Peer support, non-judgemental clinics, and gender affirming care improve experiences.

### SOCIAL EXCLUSION

**Issues:** Stigma within and outside the sex work community.



**Impact.** Economic vulnerability, mental health struggles, and **isolation**.

Barriers to collective action due to **stigma** and hierarchies.

**What's Working:** Peer support networks; safe spaces for sharing resources, advocacy, and mutual support.

## RECOMMENDATIONS



**Decriminalize sex work**

Decriminalize sex work and repeal harmful legislation like PCEPA.

Reform anti-trafficking policies to reflect the voices of sex workers.



**Training**

Police and healthcare provider training on anti-stigma, anti-racism, and cultural competency.

**Future Research**



Conduct representative studies to capture diverse experiences and challenges.

**Meet Community Needs.**



Establish sex worker-led health services and peer support networks.

Provide funding and resources for community advocacy.



## 'Sex workers are human beings': Community rallies in support of woman violently sexually assaulted last month

Friday night vigil sheds light on how the criminalization of sex work puts workers at increased risk of gender-based violence.

July 16, 2022 | 2 min read



Mother (now deceased) of the victim



By Fallon Hewitt Spectator Reporter

"They're our neighbours, they're our peers. Sex workers belong here."

That rallying call rang through Barton Street East on Friday night as dozens of community members marched in a showing of support for a sex worker who was [sexually assaulted](#) and beaten last month.



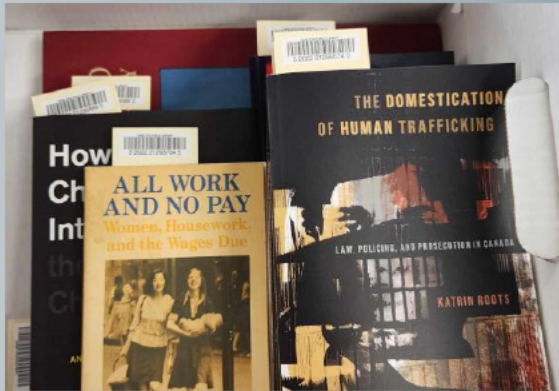
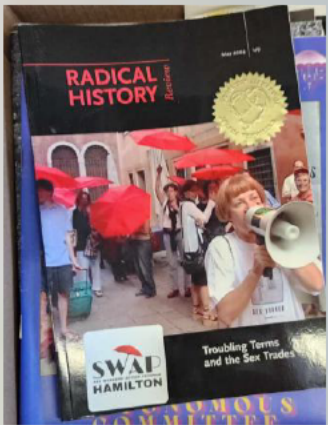
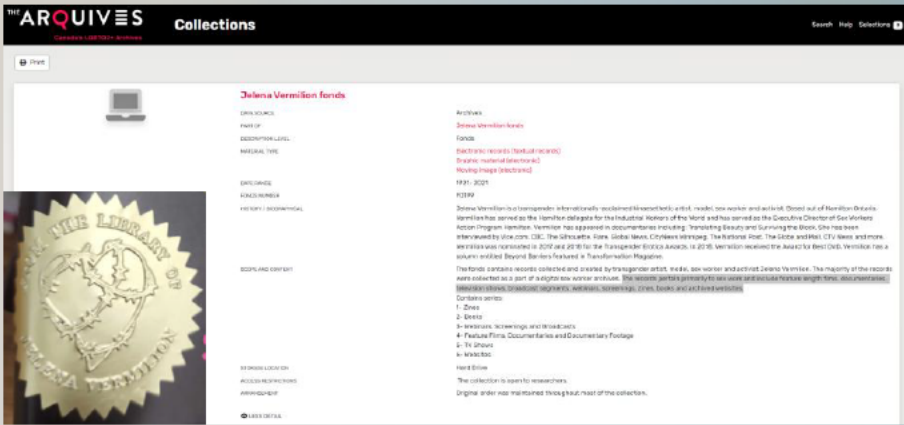
Elder street-based sex worker Kim leading march

# Vigil & March for Maimed Sex Worker

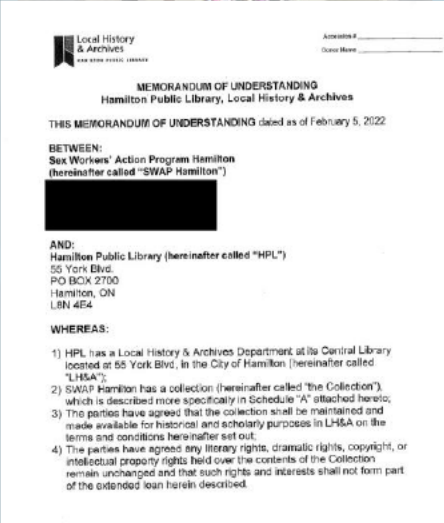
We fundraised just shy of \$10K for the woman's mother (now deceased) to pay for her ongoing care and lodging at the Mark Preece Family House. The Victim lives in an LTC Facility now, permanently neurocognitively impaired and requiring full-time care.

I visited her in the hospital before she came out of her comatose state. I think of her often. I keep their names close to my heart.





During the pandemic, I began archiving rare, out-of-print, and other books which had never been published in digital format before. I consider my archive to be the Library of Alexandria for whores. The value of the archive is currently around \$25 – 30K which I donated everything. I am the first person to digitize the entirety of Spread Magazine, and I mentor others including MLIS students how to document and archive their own communities, knowledges, and oral histories for social preservation.



SWAP Loves Books

# SWAP Hamilton's Media Library Archive

The largest sex work archive in the world. Currently 20 Banker's boxes full, and growing. ~1TB digital size.

AKA The Jelena Vermilion Fonds, part of the National 2S LGBTQ+ archives, the Arquivos.



- 19 Banker's boxes full (and growing)
- -Started in 2020 during the pandemic lockdown after I borrowed books from Amy Lebovitch & Valerie Scott (two of the three plaintiffs from *Canada v. Bedford*)



- Value of ~\$30 K of materials
- Housed at the HPL Local History and Archives (3rd floor) Central Branch
- SWAP Hamilton has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Hamilton Public Library





## Controlled Digital Lending By Libraries

Controlled Digital Lending (CDL) encompasses practices and technologies that allow libraries to loan print books to digital patrons in a “lend like print” fashion. The resources on this site help libraries understand the legal framework of CDL, advocate for it, and build a community of expertise around its practice.





# Transmuting Lost Histories into Action & (the) Media



Search

Cloud drive > SW Archive

Type ▾ Last modified ▾ Date added ▾

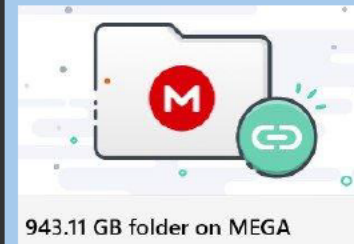
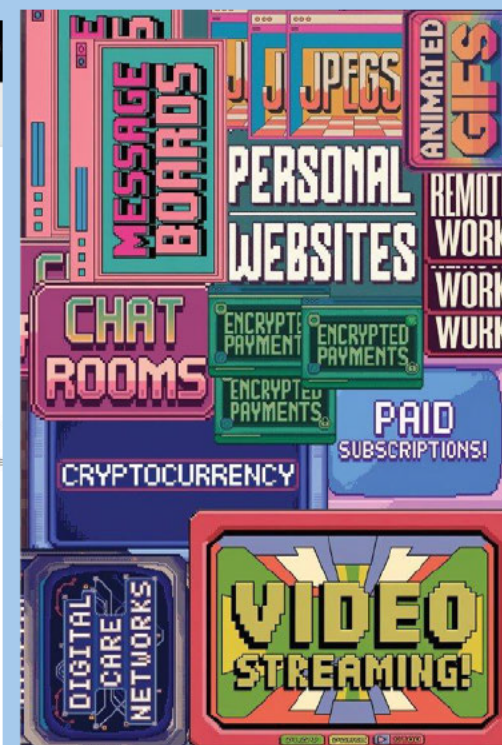
Rawid Share folder Create folder Upload...

Activism Toolkit (By S... Big Susie's Books from Amy CrimeThinc Hamilton Sex Work H... Sex Worker Rights Ph... Sex Workers Welcom... SW Articles SW Audio SW Books

SW Magazines SW Podcast SW Stickers, Posters, ... SW Videos SW Zines Websites

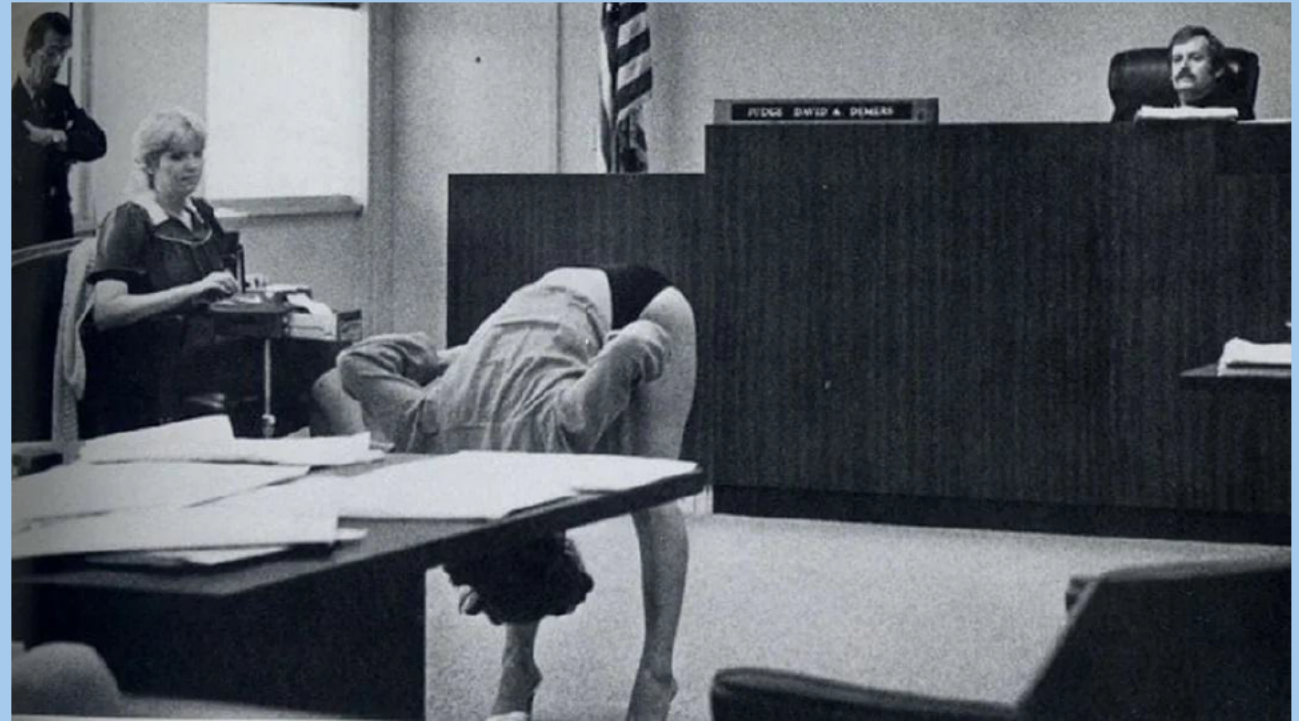
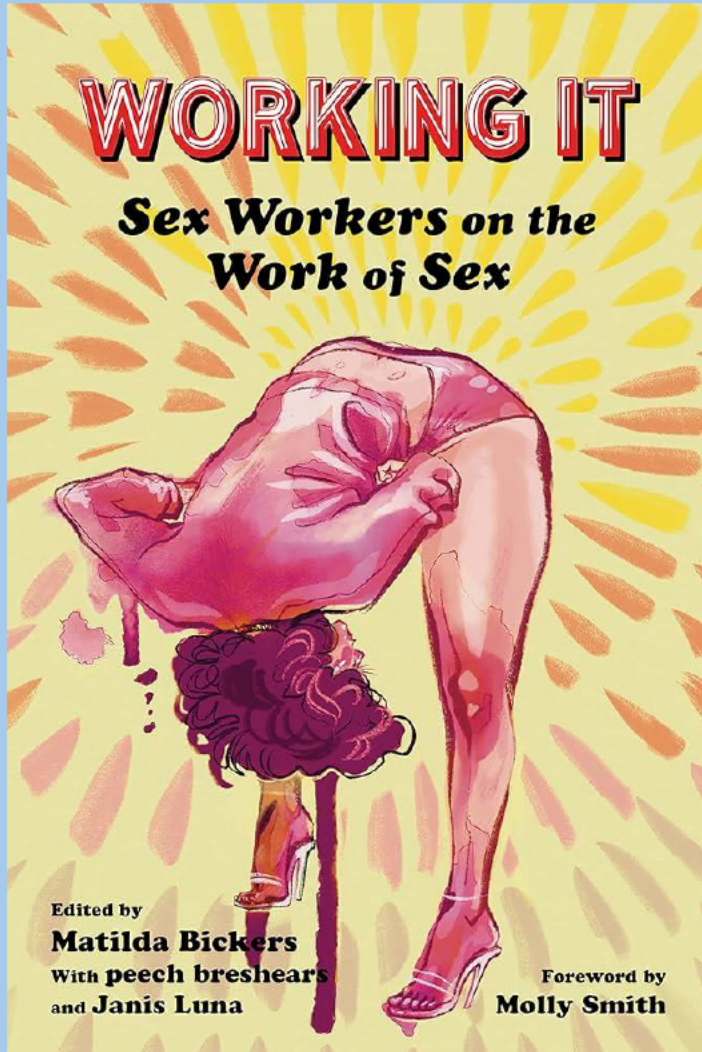
Bimbos in Space Prog... Chevranna Abdi.jpg Love In The Time of F... PICKTON 96191613...

Sex Workers Rights in... Set Derek Mellor.jpg SWAP Accomplishme... SWRights-History.pdf





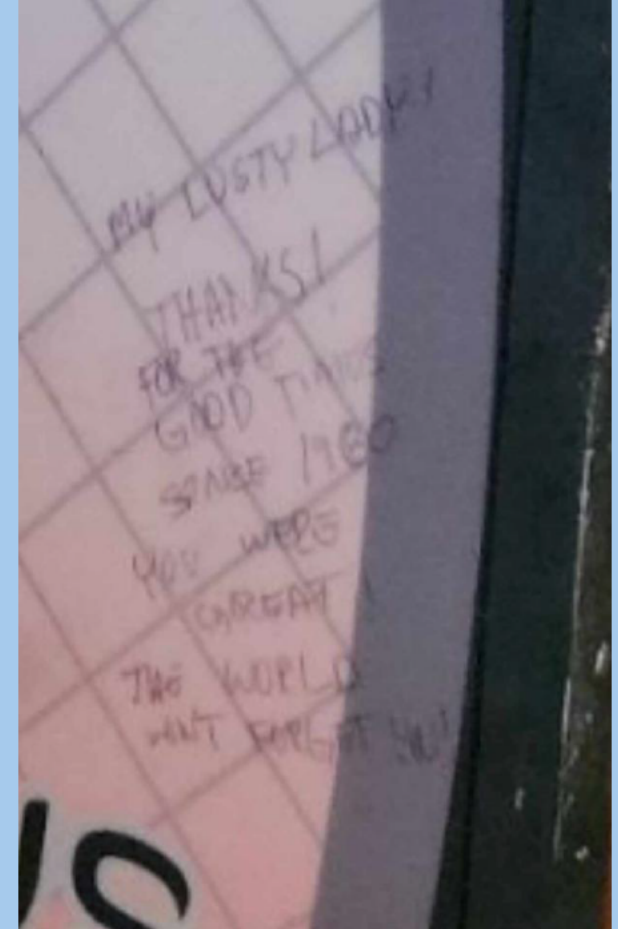
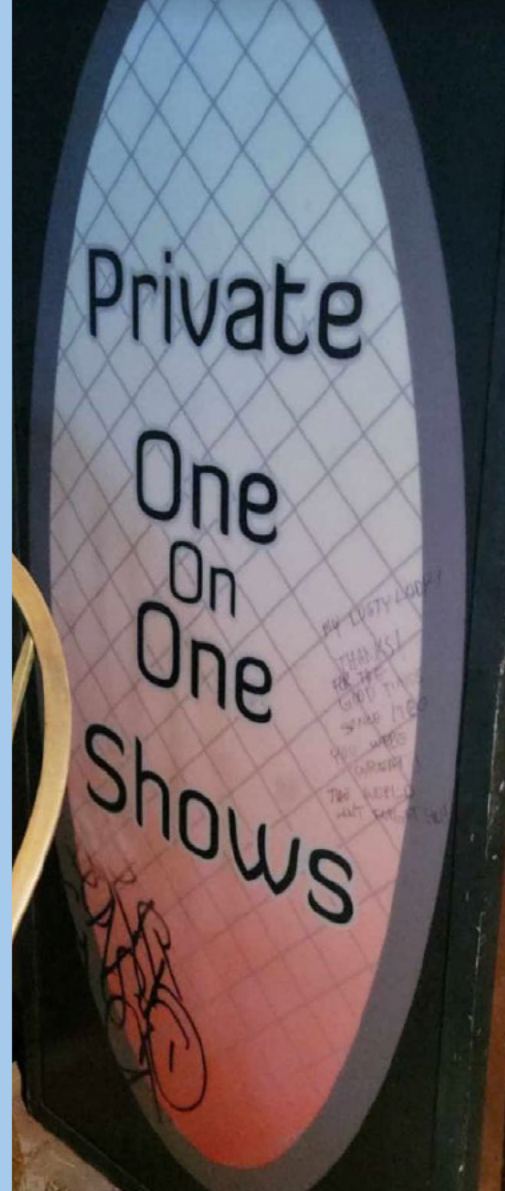
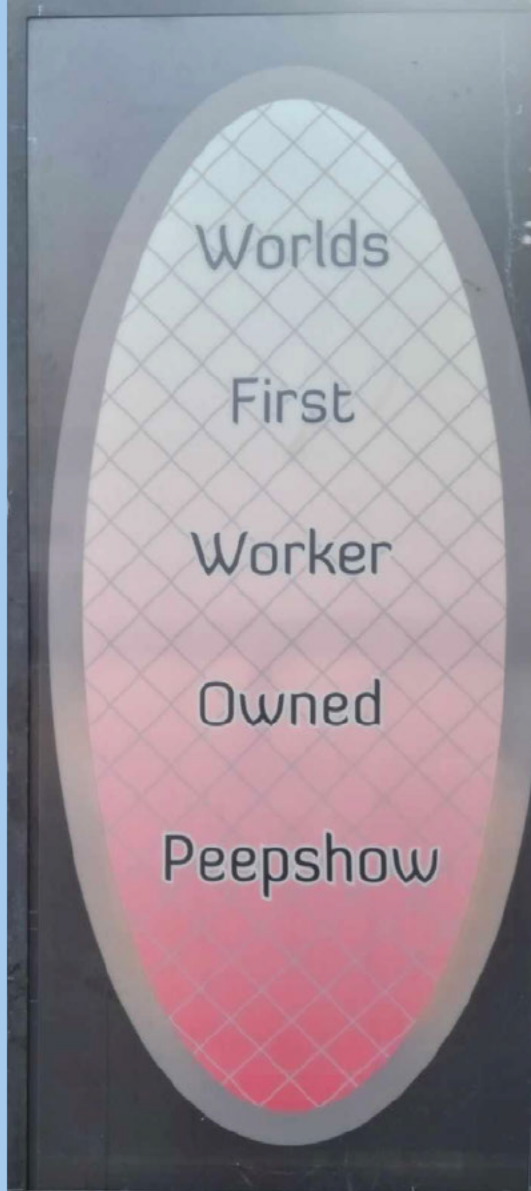
# Publishing Books – Working It: Sex Workers on the Work of Sex



In 1983, in a Pinellas County, Florida courtroom an exotic dancer on trial for allegedly violating an anti-nudity ordinance wore her outfit and bent over for Judge David Demers to determine if he could see anything indecent: she was found not guilty as her *vulva* was not visible; The photo was published in Playboy the following year.



# Original Lusty Lady Marquis Signs: *Essential Labour History Preservation*



"My Lusty Lady!  
Thanks!  
For the good times since 1960  
You were great!  
The world won't forget you!"





# Sex Worker Portrait Series - 14 Thus Far





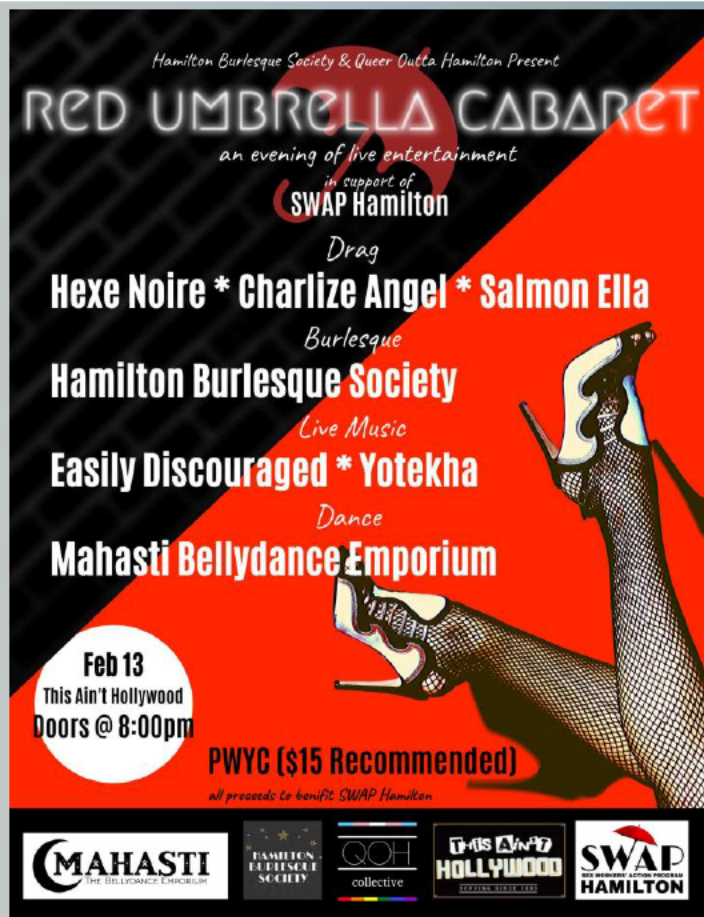
There are so many sex workers that have contributed to the modern sex workers' rights movement over the past 50+ years, and even more who have laid the groundwork for sex workers to organize for our rights since the dawn of time. Many of those heroes cannot be named or showcased here because of lost records, risk to livelihood, risk of losing their families, their homes, and other ways that being out can be harmful for sex workers.

This monument is a tribute to all sex workers' lives. And it is also a special thank you to those who have decided or were forced to be out publicly, and to carry the torch in that way for all of us who cannot.

In Solidarity, Forever.  
Sex Work is Real Work







Feb  
2020



## Red Umbrella Fundraiser Cabaret Event

Held at the former beloved This Ain't Hollywood venue – We raised \$2K

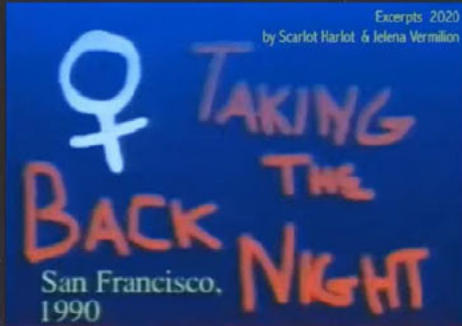


Carol Leigh AKA Scarlot Harlot (<https://nswp.org/.../carol-leigh-coin...>) and Jelena Vermilion collaborated to reproduce her #TakeBackTheNight film with the sex work excerpts from December 1990 San Francisco's Take Back The Night March in September of 2020, two years and two months before her passing (rest in power, mom)



**Presents:**

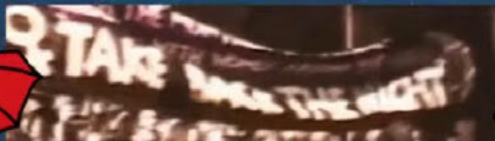
SEPTEMBER 18, 2020, 6PM EST



ONLINE EVENT -  
WILL BE  
STREAMED ON  
FACEBOOK AND  
TWITTER

SEX WORKERS  
TAKE BACK THE NIGHT 2020

EXCERPTS FROM CAROL LEIGH'S 1990 FILM







Hamilton

## Sex Workers' Film Festival – a 1st in Canada – aims to inspire empathy, says Hamilton organizer

The festival takes place Thursday and Friday at 2 local movie theatres



Samantha Beattie • CBC • Posted: Aug 01, 2024 4:00 AM EDT | Last Updated: August 1



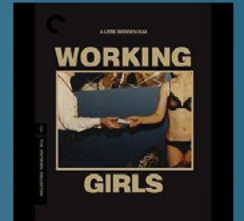
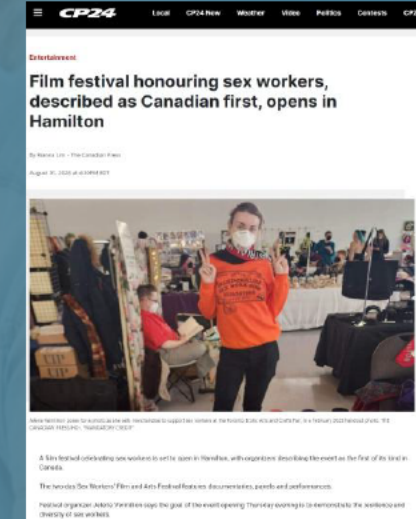
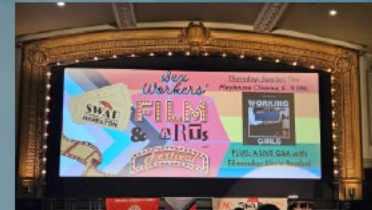
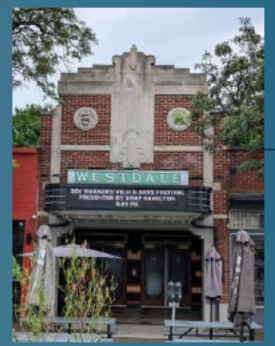
Jelena Vermilion with Sex Workers Action Program Hamilton organized what she says is Canada's first Sex Workers' Film Festival. (Submitted by Jelena Vermilion)

f X e d in

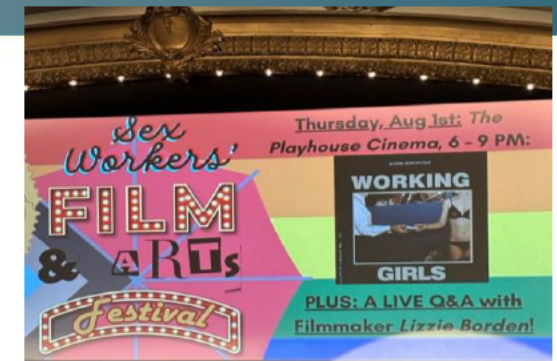
What's being touted as the first film festival in Canada showcasing movies and documentaries exclusively about sex workers is set to kick off in Hamilton.

The goal is to shift the public's perspective about sex work, says film festival organizer and activist Jelena Vermilion.

"When sex workers aren't being displayed as murder victims or as criminals or victims on the screen, it really allows people to engage with their humanity at a deeper level," said Vermilion, who runs the outreach group Sex Workers' Action Program (SWAP) Hamilton.



# Sex Workers' Film & Arts Festival – Canada's First!



ccena  
Centre for Community Engaged Narrative Arts

HAMILTON  
CENTRE  
FOR CIVIC  
INCLUSION

SWAP  
SEX WORKERS' ACTION PROGRAM  
HAMILTON

THE WESTDALE  
COMMUNITY MAGIC


CINEMA • HAMILTON  
PLAYHOUSE

POSITIVE HEALTH  
NETWORK  
Hamilton • Niagara • Mississauga • Toronto • York

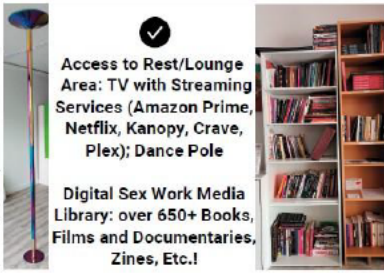




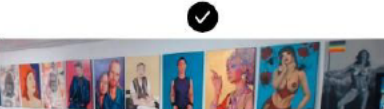
FOR SERVICE-USERS FREE ACCESS	
	<b>FREE Drop-In Counselling with Psychotherapist RSW Arlene Jane-Pitts of Hustle Heal Motivate</b> <u>Saturdays 6PM - 9PM or by Appointment</u>
	<b>Washroom - Hygiene Care (Cloth/Sink Baths), Use of Toiletries, and Hair Washes &amp; Cuts (Limited)</b>
	<b>Harm Reduction Supplies &amp; Wound Care - Personal Support Worker on site; Nurse Practitioner On-Call</b>
	<b>Clothing Room - Free Clothing, Shoes, Accessories, Etc.</b>
	<b>Kitchenette - Meal Preparation/Cooking, and Food Support</b>
	<b>Rest Area - TV with Streaming Services, Free Pinball Access, Dance Pole</b>
	<b>Washer and Dryer - Laundry Service</b>
	<b>Access to the Digital Sex Work Media Library - over 650+ Books, Films and Documentaries, Zines, Etc.!</b>
	<b>Computer, Internet, and Printer - Free Access and Printing</b>



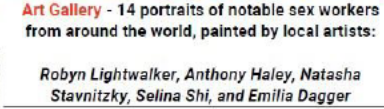
35th Anniversary  
Playboy Pinball  
Machine (1989, Data  
East)  
**Pay to Play - Machine  
accepts Loonies or  
American Quarters**



**Access to Rest/Lounge  
Area: TV with Streaming  
Services (Amazon Prime,  
Netflix, Kanopy, Crave,  
Plex); Dance Pole**



**Digital Sex Work Media  
Library: over 650+ Books,  
Films and Documentaries,  
Zines, Etc.!**



**Art Gallery - 14 portraits of notable sex workers  
from around the world, painted by local artists:**  
  
*Robyn Lightwalker, Anthony Haley, Natasha  
Stavitzky, Selina Shi, and Emilia Dagger*

**Members of the Public (i.e. non-  
sex workers) and Patrons  
accessing our space or services  
will pay a \$5 fee.**

**By Appointment Only.**

### The Red Umbrella

The red umbrella was chosen as a symbol of sex workers' struggle for equality and rights during the street protest that ended the Brussels conference. The parade of red umbrellas carried by marching protesters created a strikingly beautiful visual interruption of the daily bustle in Brussels' public streets.


The red umbrella was first used as symbol by sex workers in Venice, Italy during the 48th International Venice Biennale, June 6-8, 2001. The Red Umbrellas March began at the "Padiglione delle Prostituite" (Prostitute Pavilion) set up in a public space at Giardini, part of the famous international art biennial. Using megaphones, the Red Umbrella Marchers called attention to the struggle for sex workers' civil rights as they paraded across Venice through the city centre, before winding up at the A+ Gallery. Sites important to Venice's social history of sex work were identified along the march—noted were such famous Venetian courtesans as Veronica Franco and Gaspara Stampa, as well as present-day sex-work locations.

Participating activists, individuals, organisations and groups came from Australia, Cambodia, Germany, Italy, Taiwan, Thailand and the USA to take part in this World Congress of Sex Workers, held in conjunction with the Venice Biennale. Using street theatre, performance, video documentaries, exhibitions and media appearances, the Congress presented principles for sex workers' self-help, organisation, education and protection, and emphasized issues facing sex workers in Asia's huge, booming sex industry.

The World Congress of Sex Workers was organised in part by the Comitato per i Diritti Civili delle Prostituite from Pordenone, one of Italy's leading organisations for the protection of sex workers' rights.

The ICORSE has adopted the red umbrella as its symbol to honour all sex workers who have dared to resist discrimination and oppression. ☐

SEX WORKERS' RIGHTS






ILLUSTRATION: Anna Thompson

## SEX WORKERS' RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS!

NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US



NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US

**By Appointment & Saturdays 6-9 PM**  
**(905)-865-9398 / PM Facebook or Instagram Page**  
**771 Barton Street East, L8L 3A9**  
**(Near Intersection of Lottridge Street)**  
**Hamilton, ON - Ward 3**  
**SWAPHamilton@gmail.com - Please Donate!**  
**We Accept E-Transfers at the Above Email**

**ABOUT SWAP:**

We centre the needs and human rights of those who sell or trade sexual services.



We rely on a hybrid fundraising model; Service-Users will always have free access.

We believe in the responsibility of the community to come together to defend, support, and protect those who are incorrectly stigmatized in society and criminalized in Canada.


SWAP Hamilton Is A Member Of:



## WHAT WE OFFER

**"SEX WORK IS REAL WORK!"**



# Our (Former) Drop-In Space

## On The Stroll





Trigger Warning: discussion and images of murdered  
— sex workers (non-graphic)



AI Upscaling of Images of our Stolen Loved Ones and Colleagues – *"Many Humans Involved"*



Alloura Wells (2017)



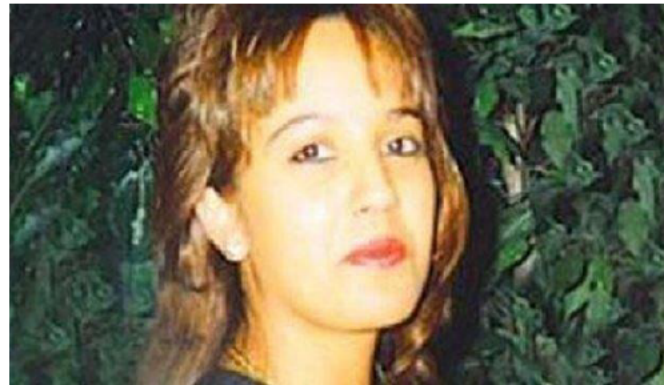
Susan Gourley (2001)



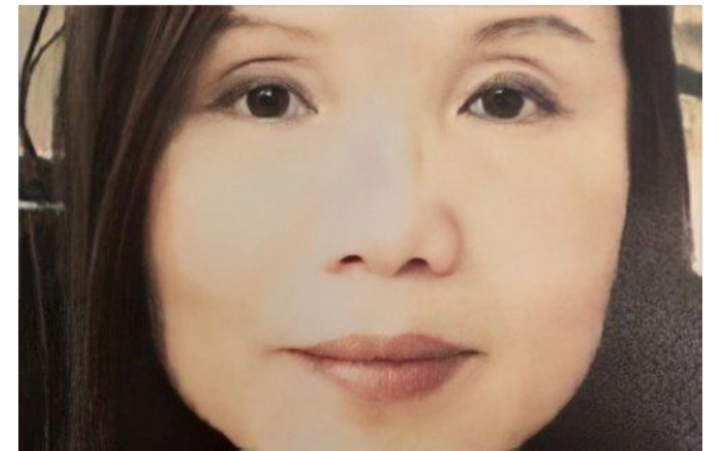
Tammy Le (2016)



Margaret Jeannette Jugaru (2004)



Diane "Chris" Christina Singh Dimitri (2003)



Jiali Zhang (2013)





- Nadine Gurczenski (1999)
- Kimlyn Judy Tolgyes (2002)
- Helen Gillings (1995)
- Dawn Stewart (1996)





Felicia Floriani (2002)



Margaret "Maggie" Karer (1999)

← Post Reply ↗ 📎

TS Jelena Vermilion – FULLY VACCINATED x5 MPx2  
@IsisIntrepid

I think of Chevranna Abdi. And I think of Donna Gentile, who was a sex worker and police informant who was murdered by a former San Diego police officer after she had him fired via her testimony.

She was found dead, with gravel shoved in her mouth. Local artists protested using public art as the police would categorize the deaths of sex workers, homeless people, and people who use drugs as NHI - "No Human Involved." The project was funded in part by the @NEAarts at the time and was so controversial that then-President @GeorgeWBush suspended it temporarily.

I shall never stop speaking about police violence & violence perpetuated against sex workers. I am not afraid.

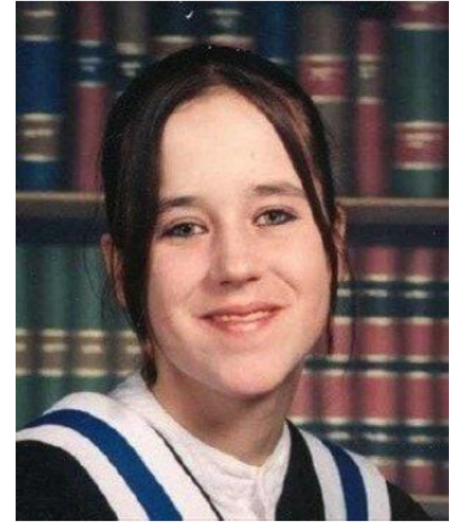
#HamOnt

Read more:  
[mega.nz/file/oDiB2ZyT#...](https://mega.nz/file/oDiB2ZyT#...)



Nat'l Endow f/t Arts

2:53 PM · Apr 4, 2024 · 13.3K Views



Cassey Joyce Cichocki (2005)



Chevranna Abdi (2003)



1. Heart Tender (oxymel)- A flower elixir with plant allies for fierce

Ingredients: apple cider vinegar, honey, Rosa spp. Petal, leaf and hip, pomegranate, hawthorn (Crataegus spp.) leaf and flower, mimosa flower, raw honey & essences of wild rose, hawthorn, bleeding heart



2. Sun Drops (infused oil): A warming and fragrant massage oil for sore muscles and self-care.

Ingredients: sunflower oil, olive oil, poplar buds, arnica, St. John's wort (hypericum spp.), calendula (Calendula officinalis), essential oils

3. Immune Boost Plus (tonic): Plant allies to support immunity at the onset of illness & until you're feeling better.

Ingredients: alcohol, raw honey, elderberry (Sambucus spp.), Echinacea purpurea root, ginger, cayenne, cinnamon

4. Nerve Soother (glycerite): A sweet herbal remedy to aid the nervous system, ease anxiety, and promote rest and relaxation.

Ingredients: organic vegetable glycerin, alcohol, skullcap (Scutellaria lateriflora) leaf, chamomile (Matricaria chamimillia) flower, milky oats (Avena sativa), rose (Rosa multiflora) petal, lavender

5. Respect My Boundaries (herbal spray): A personal protection spray; a face toner/room spray infused for herbs for protection + resilience.

Ingredients: witch hazel, distilled yarrow, mugwort, rose, hibiscus, and essences of pink yarrow, obsidian & hawthorn.



## Herbal Remedies kit

In Collaboration with Eramosa Herbals (Danielle Gehl Hagel)





## Civil Engagement: SWAP Questions MP Candidates at Forum

**Hosted at the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton – Moderated by CBC's Samantha Craggs**





^ Trans 101 Training ^



The Barrett Centre

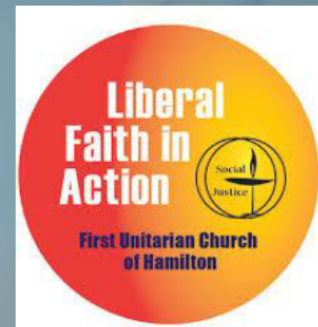


Formerly known as  
*The AIDS Network*



### Staff Teams Trained:

- Sexual Health
- Substance Misuse
- Drug Strategy
- Harm Reduction
- Mental Well-Being



**^ - RECIPIENTS of SWAP Hamilton's Training - ^**

## Best Practices Training Provision

**Intersectional and nuanced certification on how to provide service to sex workers, and trans, non-binary & intersex people.**





Ongoing




## University Lectures


Intersectional and nuanced best practices training certification on how to provide service to sex workers, and trans, non-binary & intersex people.







**THE UGLY  
TRICK LIST**



This is a list of "bad dates".  
Watch out for them and avoid them.

If you've been assaulted, harassed, or ripped off by a date,  
call and let us know. Give info about the incident only,  
anonymously.

**CALL 24/7 TO LEAVE A VM  
905-525-4573 EXT 333**

type of  
incident

area / location

date / time

info to  
share

appearance

vehicle  
description

Lists are published periodically and handed out to sex workers  
on the street. You can ask for a list from the Van or SWAP.

This is a list of reports given anonymously. It is intended to inform sex workers of  
potentially dangerous situations. We cannot guarantee this info is accurate.



2021 –  
Present

## The Ugly Trick/Bad Date list in collaboration with SACHA

**Ongoing since 2021**



**Sex Worker-Centric Art Distro: [www.RightsNotRescue.ca](http://www.RightsNotRescue.ca)**

← → ↻ 🔍 rightsnotrescue.ca















 Relaunch to update 

★ RIGHTS NOT RESCUE ★

[!\[\]\(c3d993ca47bfe2a953c700506ce31fa0\_img.jpg\)](#)
[!\[\]\(c468cde8f04e2e2a6ba3c2a373e05c45\_img.jpg\)](#)
[!\[\]\(bb556800b100164a948e6987b050d670\_img.jpg\)](#)
[!\[\]\(3cc1da747298690f15ddc84b775791a4\_img.jpg\)](#)
[!\[\]\(ffc6f60ce19e61ae0cb642f5a2e44734\_img.jpg\)](#)
[!\[\]\(48995a068f040dce228e3c4d6be8a433\_img.jpg\) English !\[\]\(4766344379a2dafffd4ca9755422c0c7\_img.jpg\)](#)
[!\[\]\(352cf4a3e5bb5290aaa6e4dce44649d7\_img.jpg\) 0](#)

All

## Travel Mugs

Mugs

## Rugs

## Stickers

## Face Masks

## Tote Bags

## Magnets

## Posters

Handmade

## Herbal Remedies

Shorts

## T-Shirts

### Full-Zipper Hoodies

## Crop Hoodies

Hoodies

## Crewneck Sweaters

## Tank Tops

Apparel

Custom

Prints



HERBAL REMEDIES (FIVE-PIECE KIT)  
US\$70.00 ~~US\$80.00~~



SPEAK THE TRUTH PRINT 8X8  
US\$20.00



OUIJA CREWNECK SWEATSHIRT  
US\$60.00



OUIJA TEE  
US\$40.00





# Sex Worker-Centric Art Distro: [www.RightsNotRescue.ca](http://www.RightsNotRescue.ca)



SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL WORKERS ROUND RUG - 60" X 60"

@GladisRevenge  
@SWAPHamilton  
@Rights\_Not\_Rescue (Instagram),  
@Rights\_Not\_Resc (Twitter)  
@IsisIntrepid (Twitter),  
@Isis\_Intrepid (Instagram)



What is positive legislative change for  
sex work(ers)?

**Decriminal-  
IZATION**

@GLADISREVENGE



Why observe 4  
INTERNATIONAL  
sex worker  
rights days?

To raise AWARENESS  
about the  
CHALLENGES,  
EXPLOITATIONS,  
SYSTEMIC BARRIERS,  
and STIGMATIZATION  
faced by the sex  
work community, and  
AMPLIFY the VOICES  
of the global sex  
worker movement!

A History of  
the Internet  
Through Sex  
Work



Volume 1  
SANITIZED NOT SAFE

