

Prostitution “has this way of stealing all the dreams, goals and beautiful essence out of a woman. During my years in it, I didn’t meet one woman who enjoyed what she was doing. Everyone was trying to get out.” – Survivor

**NORDIC
MODEL NOW!**



What is the Nordic Model?

1. Decriminalise all those who are prostituted
2. Provide services to help them leave
3. Prostitution buying becomes a criminal offence

Survivor

She kept thinking, "*It's legal so it can't be that bad.*" So she told herself to handle it and kept on, "*despite that it was a life of utter misery.*"

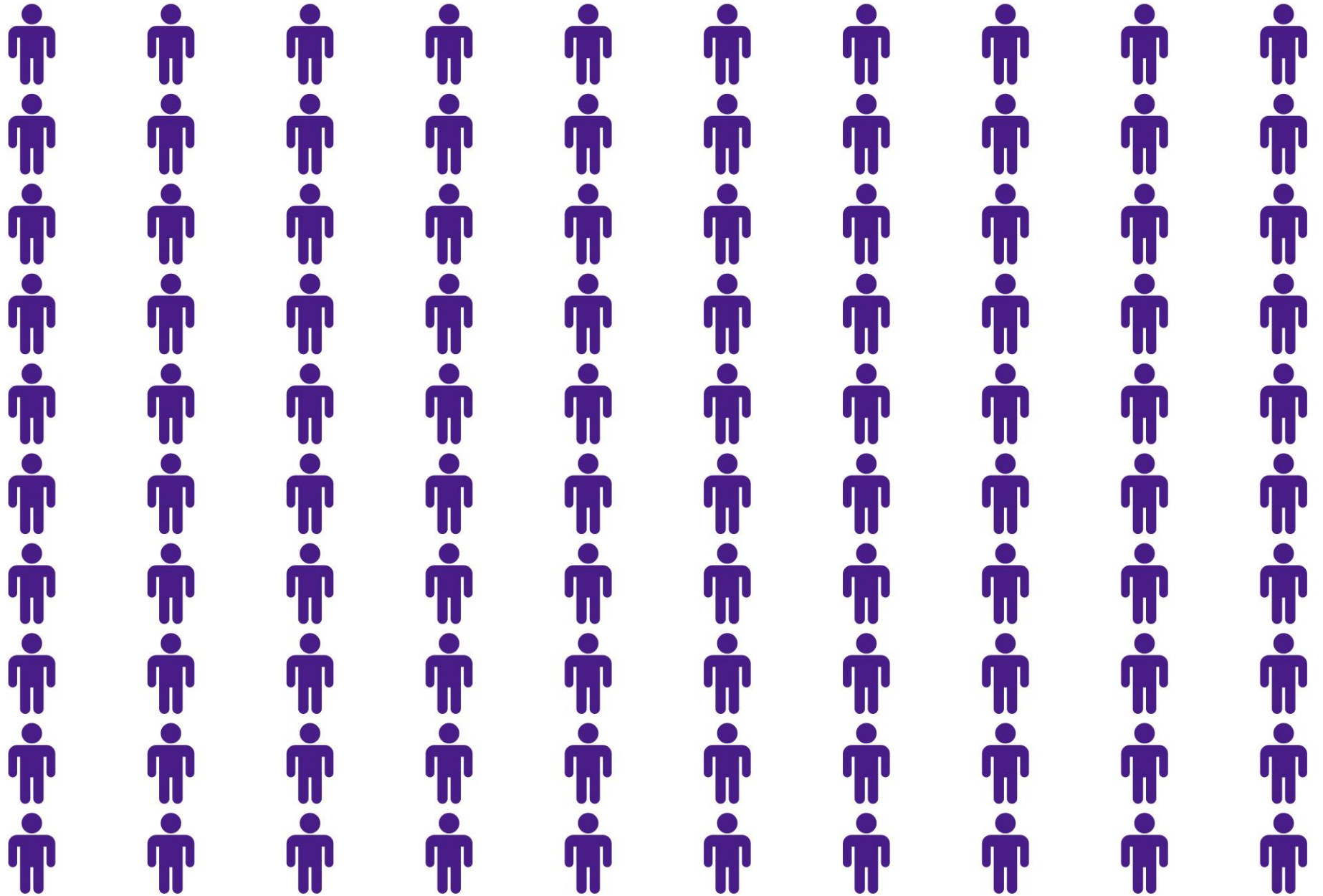
No one told
her how
damaging
prostitution
would be



No one told
these women
how damaging
working with
asbestos would
be either



Almost all
prostitution
buyers are
male



At least 85%
of those
bought and
sold in
prostitution
are female



Who are the women in
prostitution?



Typical results from studies of women in prostitution

33%

Were “looked after” children

50%

Started before they were 18

50%

Were homeless

50%

Were coerced by someone

72%

Were abused as a child

Benefit cuts are
driving many
women,
especially single
mothers, into
desperate
poverty



Profitability of pimping

Approximate hourly earnings





Groom (into prostitution)

/gru:m

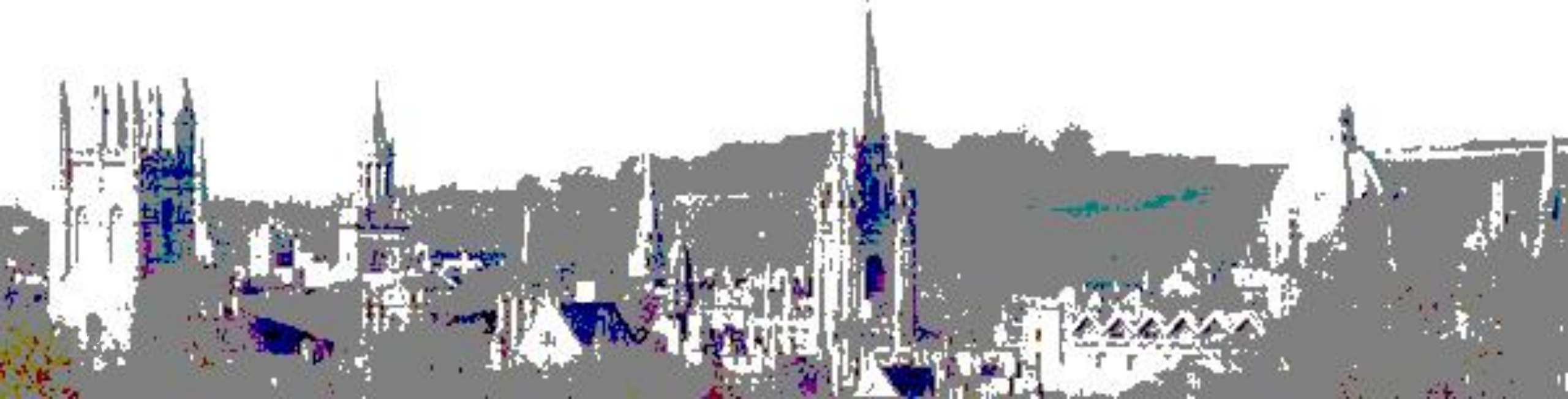
verb

gerund or present participle: grooming

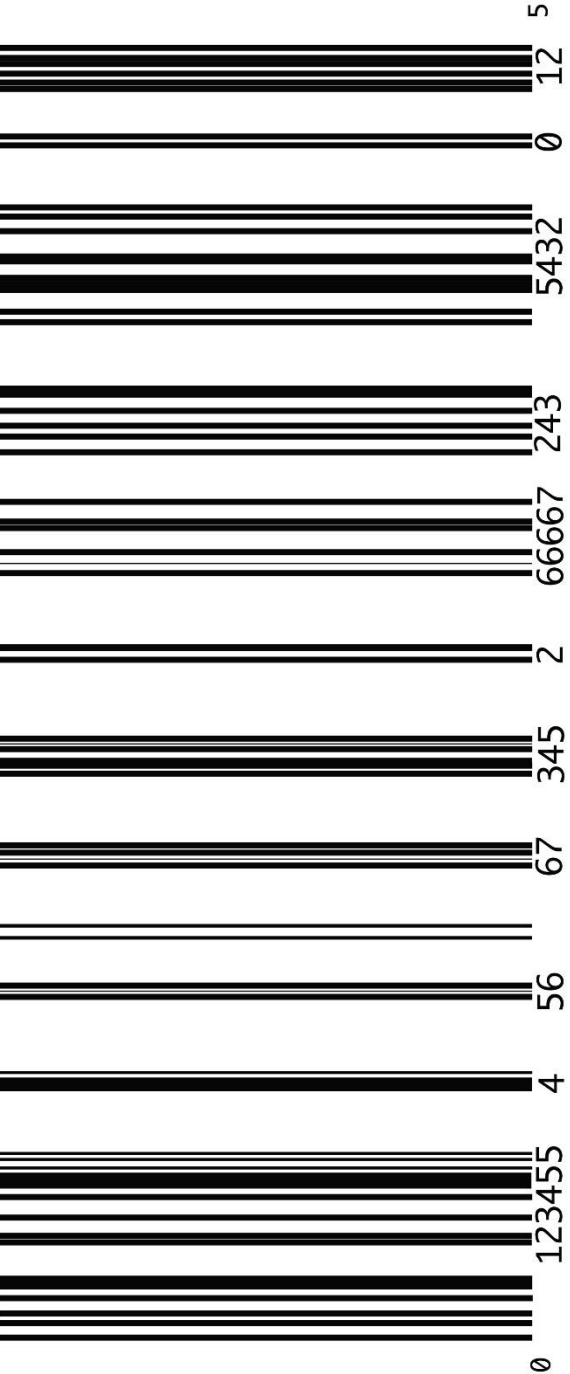
The process by which someone with more power manipulates a child or young adult to participate in prostitution.

Oxford child sexual exploitation case

- Men drugged, raped and pimped 100s of girls, some as young as 11.
- The girls were sold to men for up to £600 an hour.



SEX TRAFFICKING



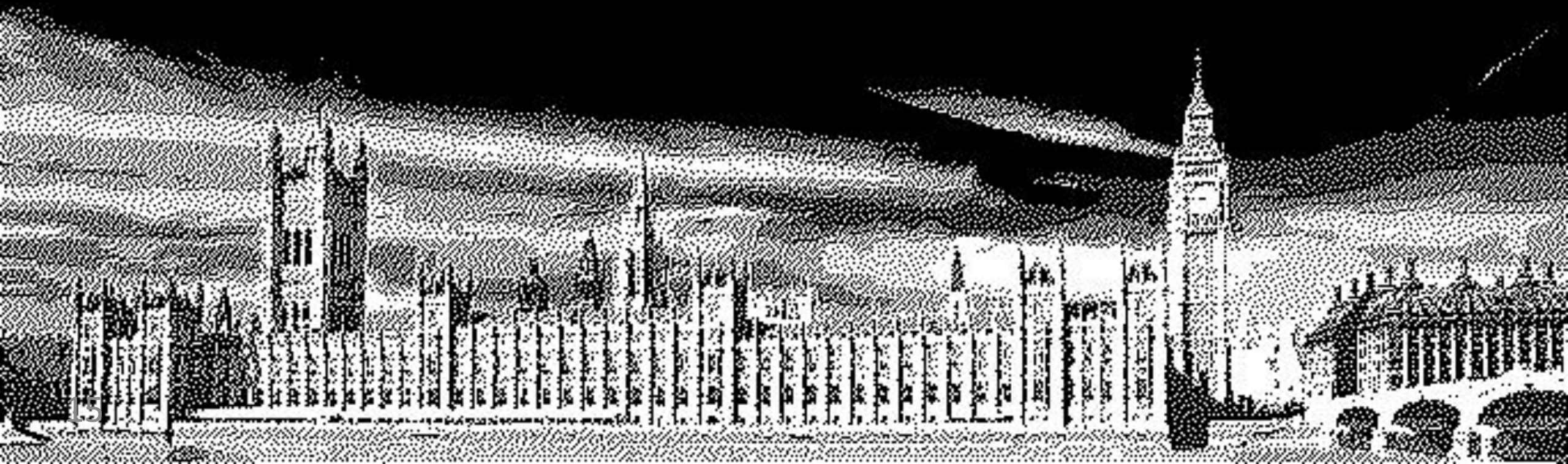
Key features

- ✓ Force, coercion or taking advantage of someone's vulnerability
- ✓ Exploiting/profiting from the person's prostitution
- ✓ Consent is irrelevant

– *Palermo Protocol definition*

Modern Slavery Act 2015

Doesn't use the Palermo Protocol definition



*“Sex trafficking is
straight-up
pimping.”*

– Catharine MacKinnon



Photo: Katherine Wolkoff for the New York Times

Main international sex trafficking routes



The racism of prostitution



冷氣開放	
大波北姑	
CHINA GIRL	250
青春院地	
HONG KONG GIRL	250
白淨馬拉	
MALAY GIRL	180
熱情賓妹	
PHILIPPINE GIRL	200
狂野鬼妹	
RUSSIAN GIRL	500

Pornography and prostitution

“Some of the most traumatised people I’ve met are prostituted women whose customers have insisted on replicating acts from porn.”

– Ann Olivarius

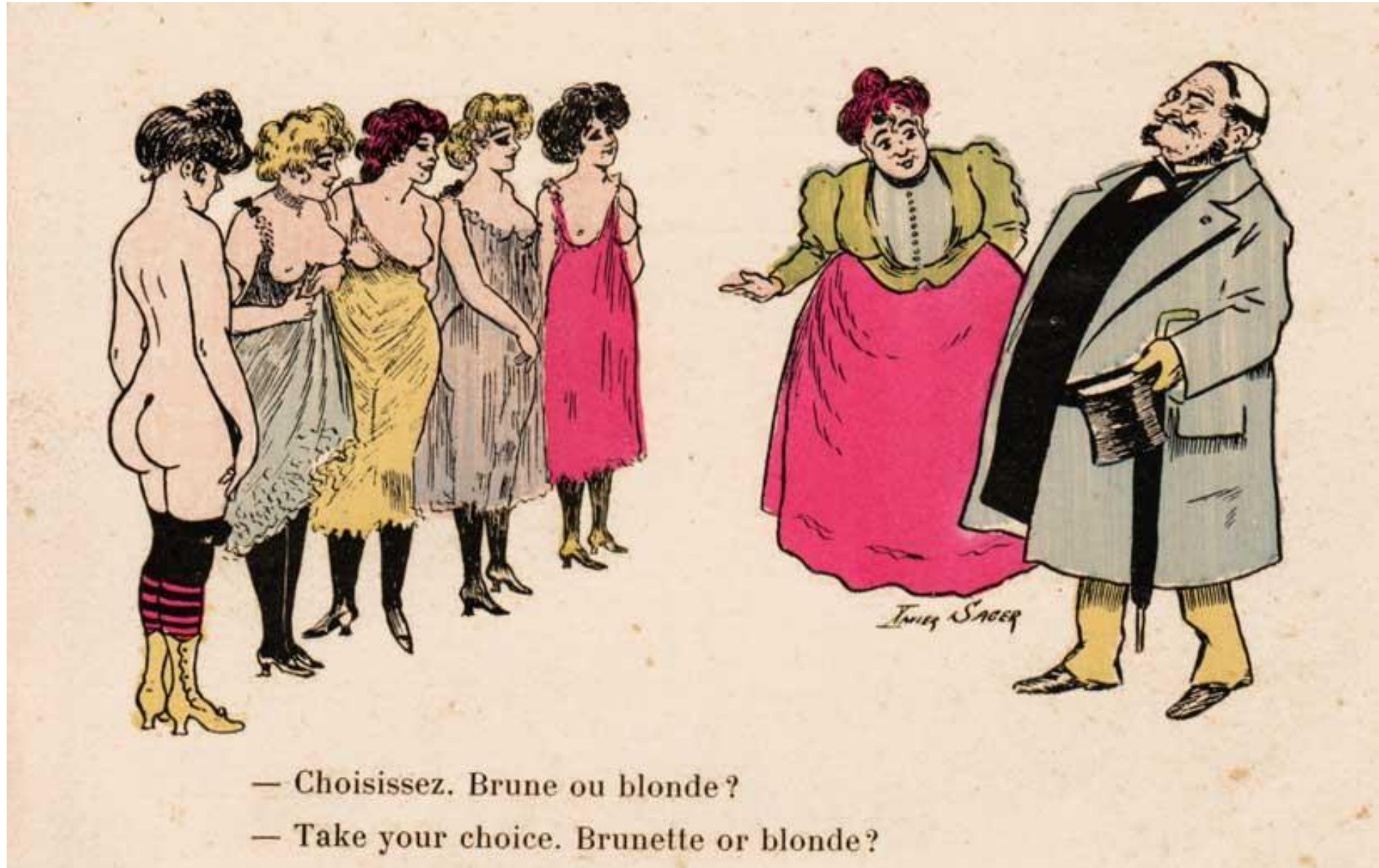


The reality of prostitution



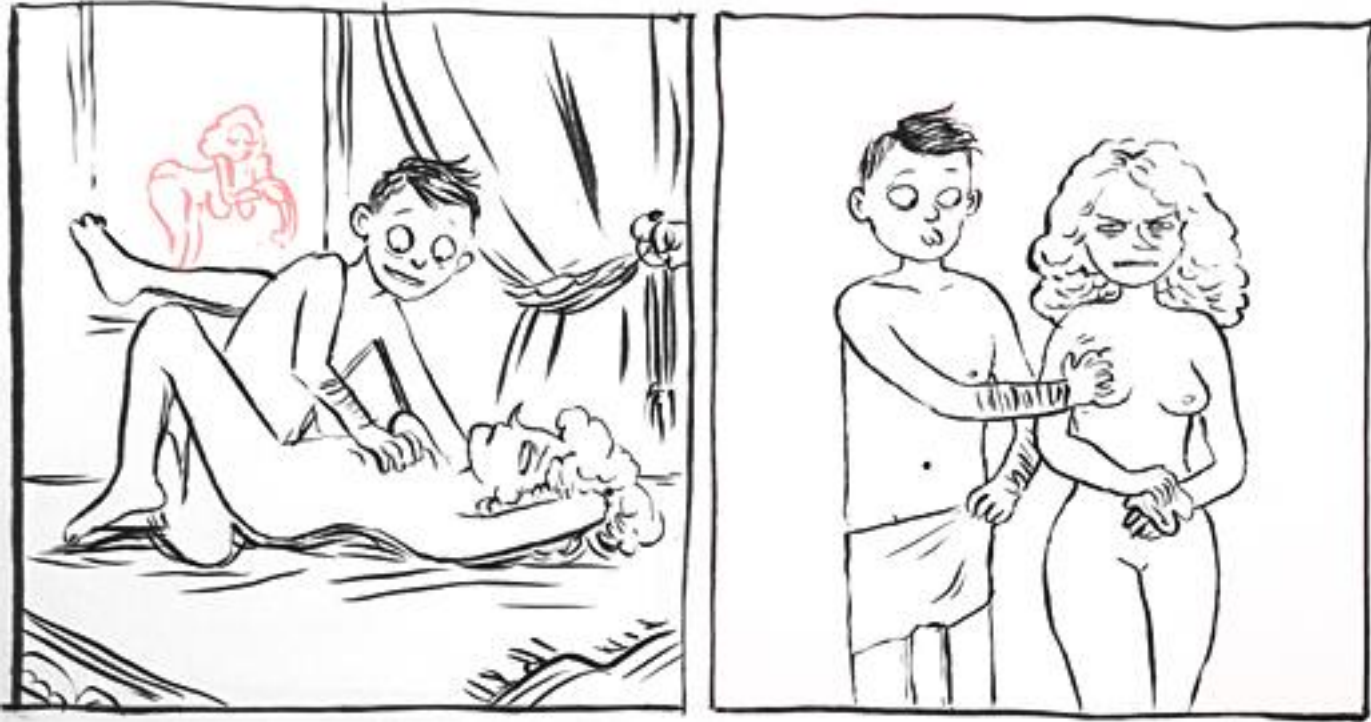
Waiting





Late 19th Century postcard
by Xavier Sager

What does he buy?



<http://brothelgirl.tumblr.com/>







“I was used like a public toilet.”



What does it mean for society
if we can treat some people
as if they are not human
beings?

What does it mean for her?

Consequences #1

- Dissociation
- Numbing herself with drugs

“I’d numb my feelings... I’d actually leave my body and go somewhere else with my thoughts and feelings until he got off me and it was over with. I don’t know how else to explain it except it felt like rape. It was rape to me.”



Alice Glass

“All of the women I met carried with them the same bundles of neurosis, addiction and melancholy. Without exception.”

Consequences #2

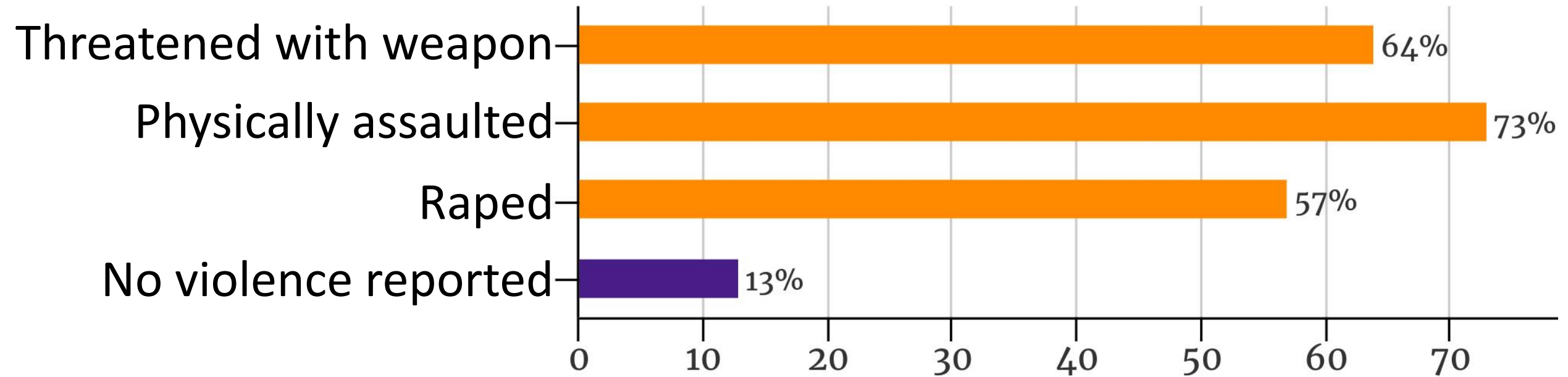


Post-Traumatic
Stress Disorder
(PTSD)

Consequences #3

- Chronic abdominal pain due to inflammation and mechanical trauma
- Premature ageing – a symptom of persistent stress
- Injuries caused by overuse of delicate sexual organs and orifices
- Injuries deliberately inflicted by punters

Punter violence



Percentage of 854 people in 9 countries

Brenda Myers-Powell

*“I was shot five times,
stabbed more than 13
times, beaten unconscious
several times, had my arm
and nose broken, had two
teeth knocked out...”*



Known
murders of
prostituted
women in
4 EU
countries
as at
January
2019



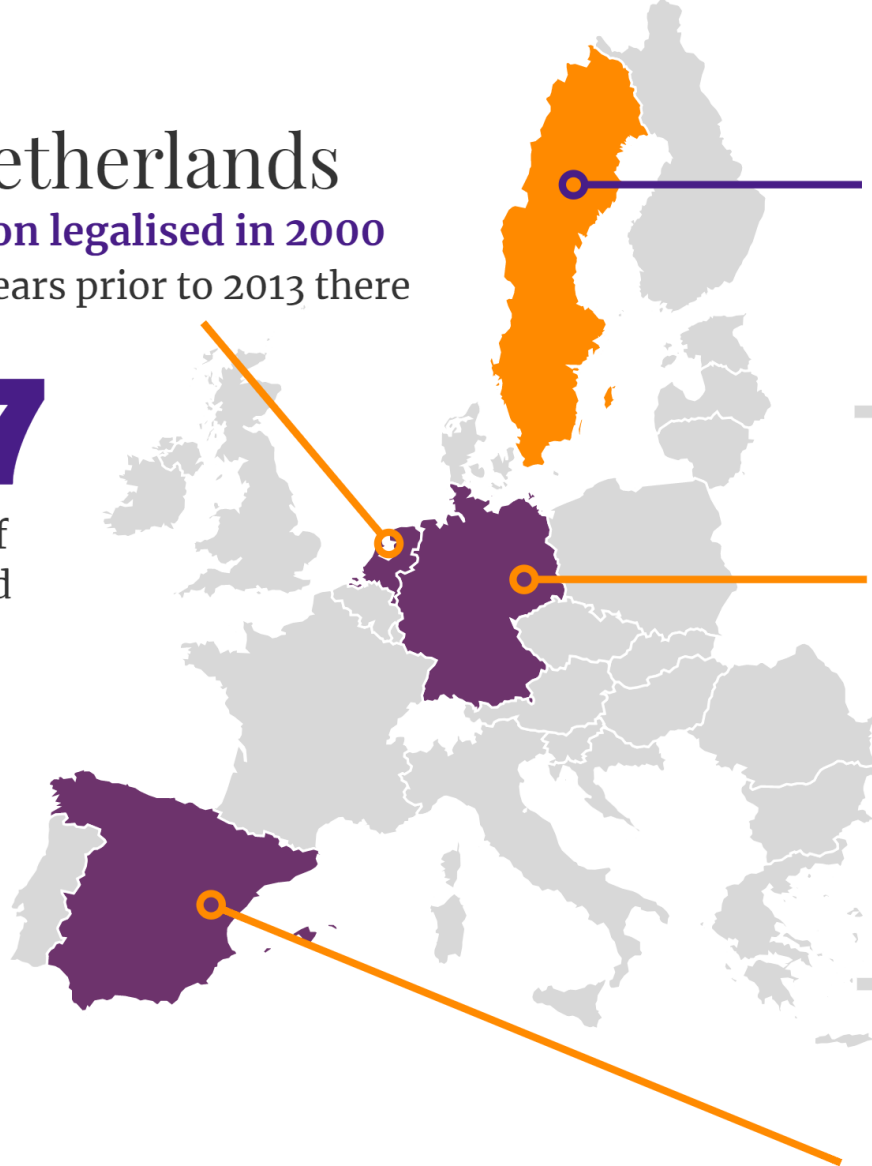
The Netherlands

Prostitution legalised in 2000

In the 30 years prior to 2013 there were:

127

Murders of
prostituted
women



Sweden



Nordic Model since 1999

1

Murder of a prostituted woman
(by her ex-partner, not a
punter) 1999-2018

Germany



Legal prostitution liberalised in 2002

2002-2018 there were at least:

91

Murders of prostituted
women by pimps & punters

48

Attempted murders of
prostituted women by pimps
& punters

Spain



Prostitution decriminalised in 1995

2010-2018 there were at least:

43

Murders of prostituted
women, most by pimps &
punters



Rebecca Mott

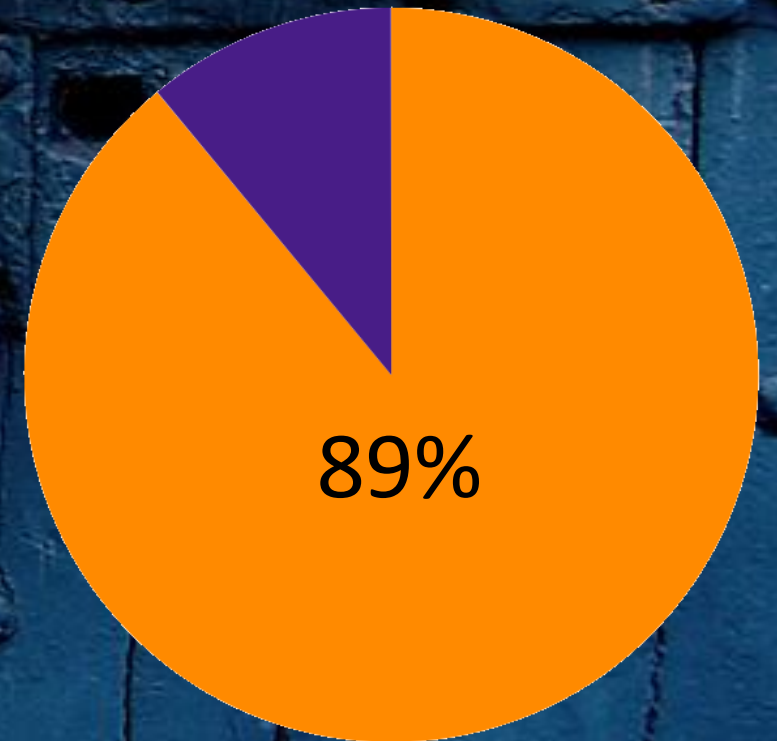
“It’s normal that the bodies of prostituted women and girls are made to disappear by the sex trade profiteers.”

Mortality

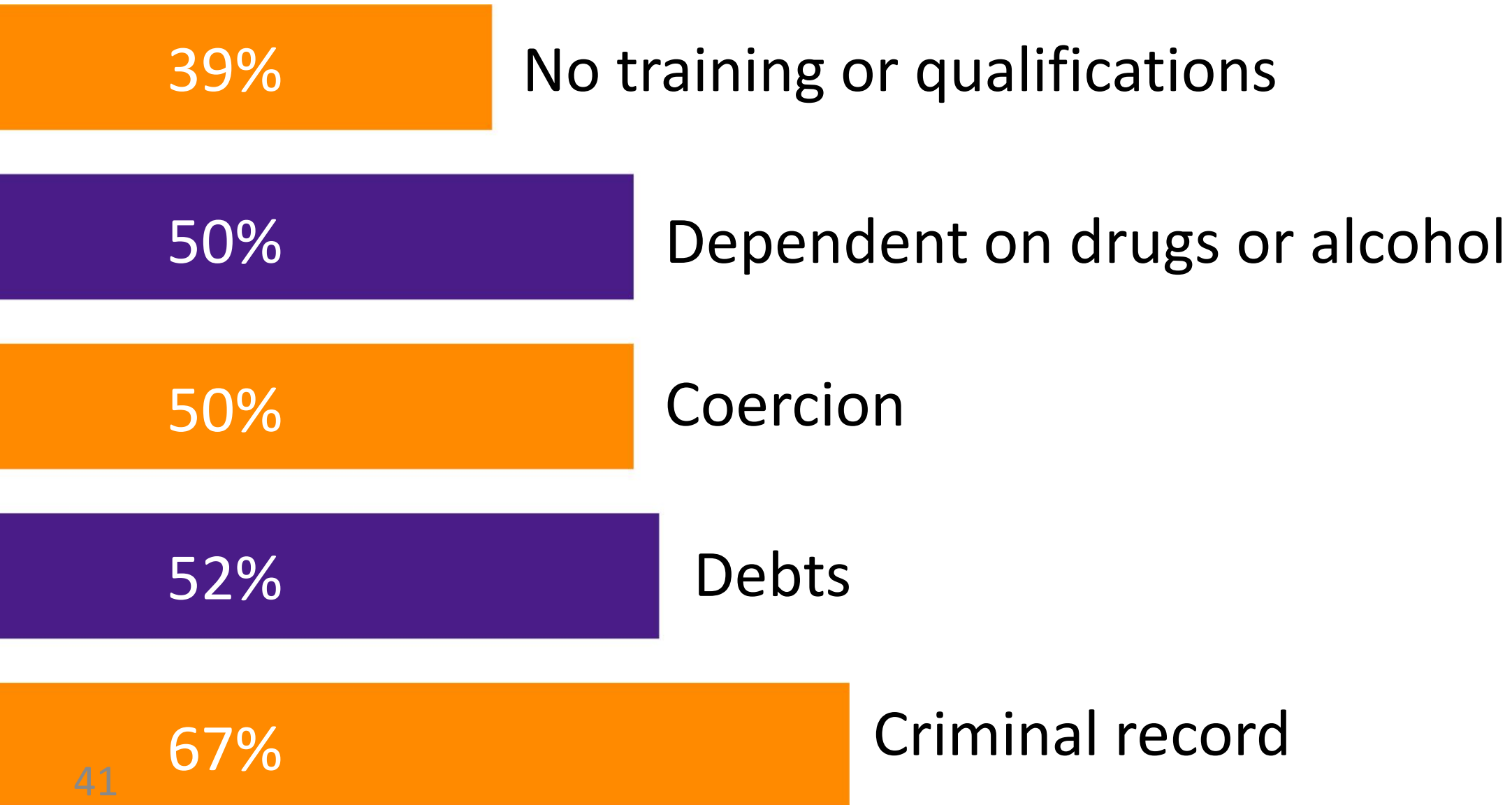
A study in Canada estimated that women in prostitution have a mortality rate 40 times higher than women in the general population.



In study after study, most women in prostitution say they want to leave but don't have other options for survival.



Factors that make it hard to leave



“I’m still dealing with the aftermath of being in prostitution. I suffer nightmares, flashbacks and am triggered by numerous things.”





accountability

/uh-koun-tuh-bil-i-tee

noun

The state of being accountable, liable, or answerable.

Who are the punters?



*“She was just like a
piece of meat... I
thought I’ve paid so I
better fuck her hard!
I decided to put the
legs on my shoulders
and I was pumping
hard!”*



*“When I asked about anal
I was told not available on
first meeting! Well I ain’t
starting a relationship
with you, love. I just
want to fuck you up the
arse!”*



Punters

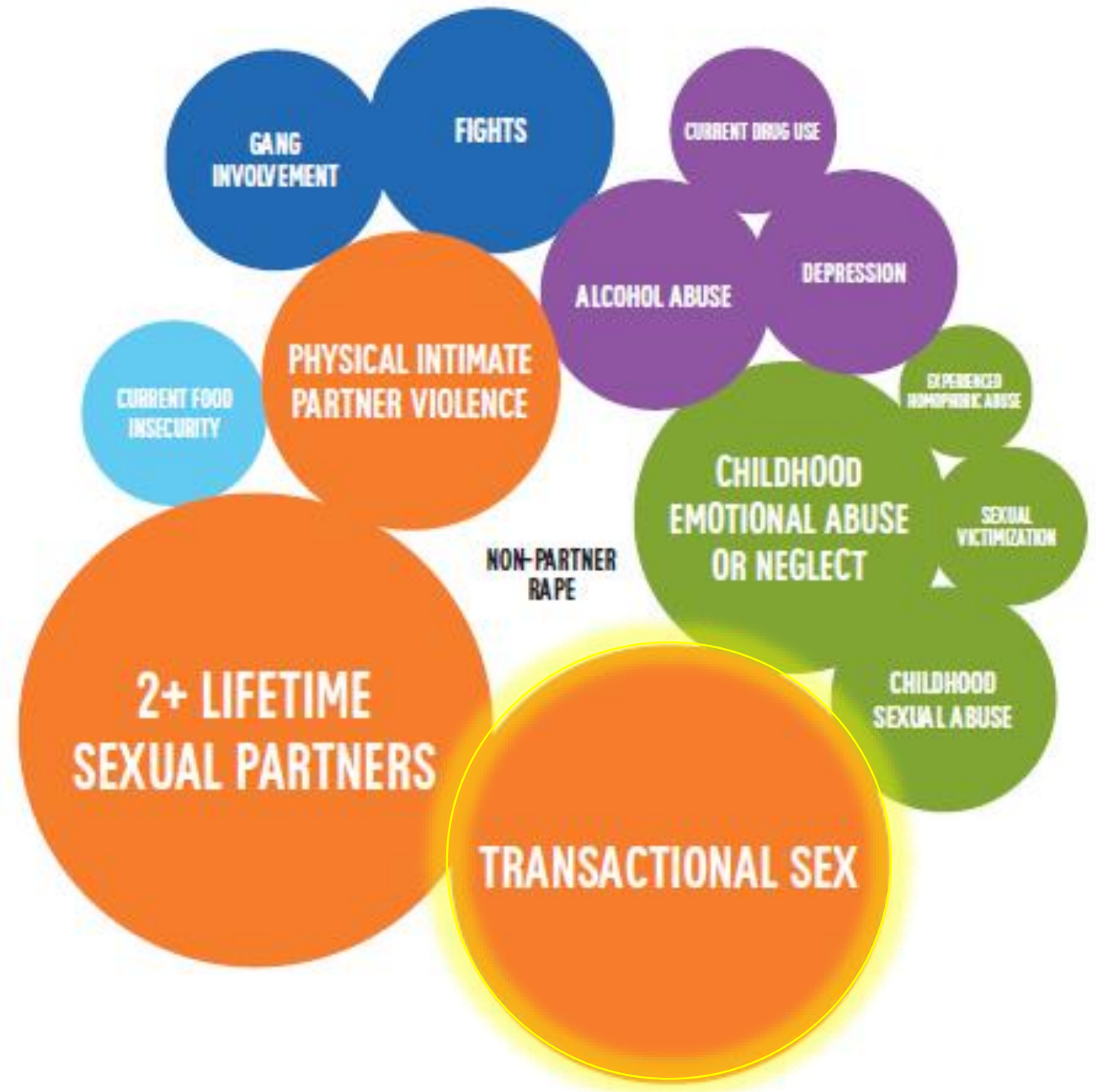
More likely to commit
rape and sexual
violence

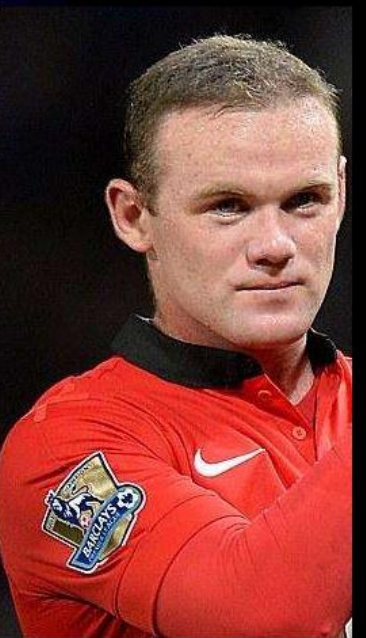
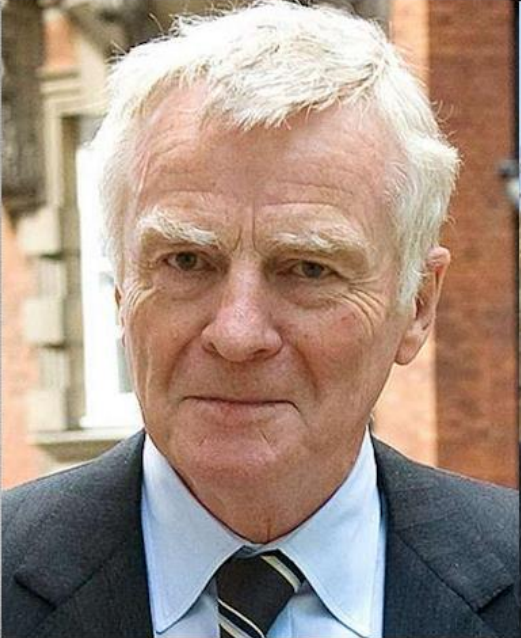
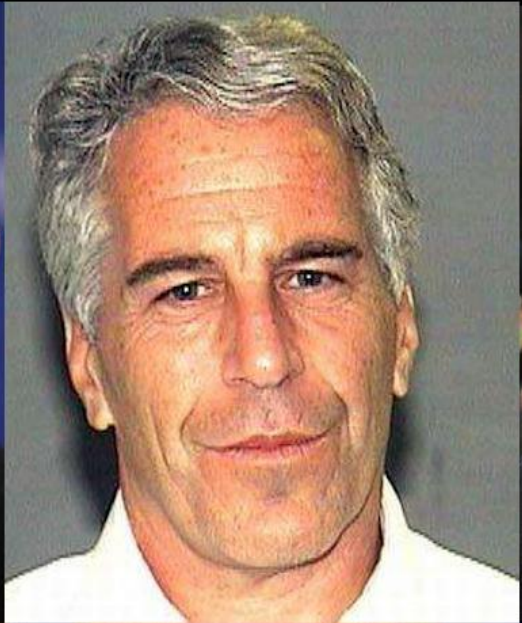
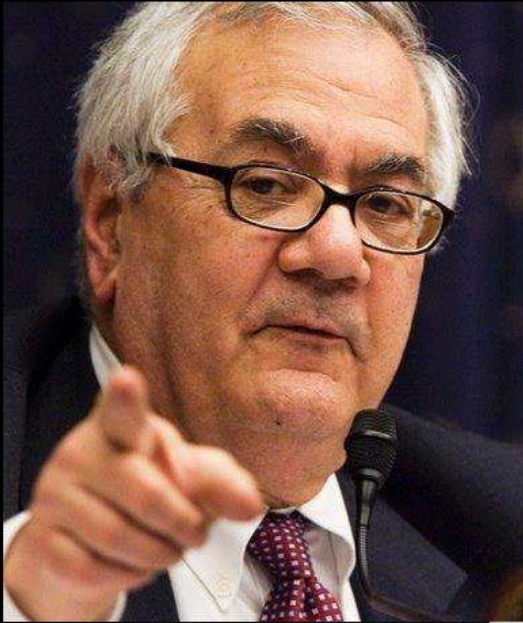
Non-punters

More likely to have
empathy for women in
prostitution

UN Study

Relative importance of factors in the lives of rapists.





Pause

Solutions?

Health & Safety

Policy approach

Legalisation

Legal model

Full Decriminalisation

Legal model

Harm Reduction

Policy approach

Nordic Model

Legal model

Health & Safety?



The Health & Safety approach



Do not cross



Legalisation?



Germany:
Legalisation since
2002



Profitability

Total annual revenue (declared): €14.6 billion

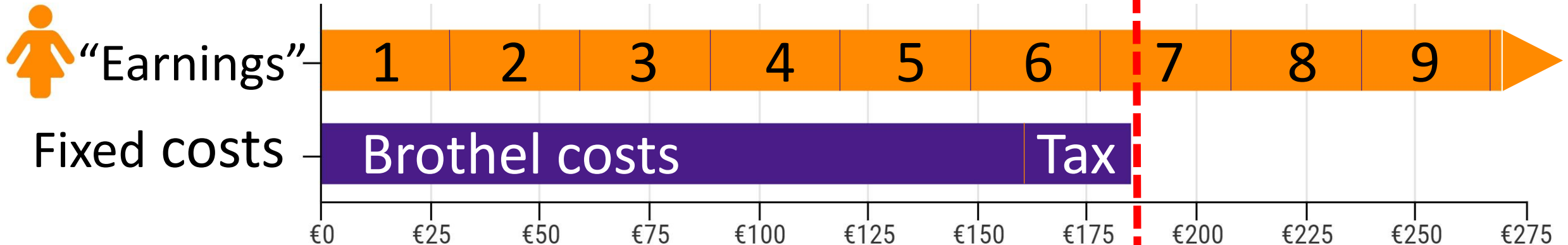
Number of registered brothels: 3,500

Number of unregistered brothels: Not known



Prices have dropped:

Now it takes six punters to break even



“Menus”

AFF = Analer Faustfick

GS = Gruppensex

Kvp = Kaviar Passiv

SW = Sandwich, eine Frau zwischen zwei Männern

tbl = tabulos, ALLES ist erlaubt

Whose Paradise?

Mega-brothels cater for up to 1,000 men at a time





“Since the reform, adverts are more uninhibited, buyers more brutal. If you say, ‘I don’t do that,’ they say, ‘Come on; don’t be so difficult, it’s your job.’”

Before, unprotected sex was forbidden. Now, they want to piss on your face, do it without protection, do it anally or orally. Before, buyers still had a guilty conscience. That doesn’t exist anymore.”



Results of legalisation in Germany

*“The German model is
producing hell on earth.”*

– Dr Ingeborg Kraus

Full decriminalisation?

This means the decriminalisation of the entire sex trade, including pimps, brothel owners and punters



New Zealand:
Full decriminalisation
since 2003



Before

Women negotiated their own deals

Men accepted no anal, no kissing, and using condoms

Men paid the women for the act

After

Brothels set the price and prices fell

Men demand anal, kissing, no condoms

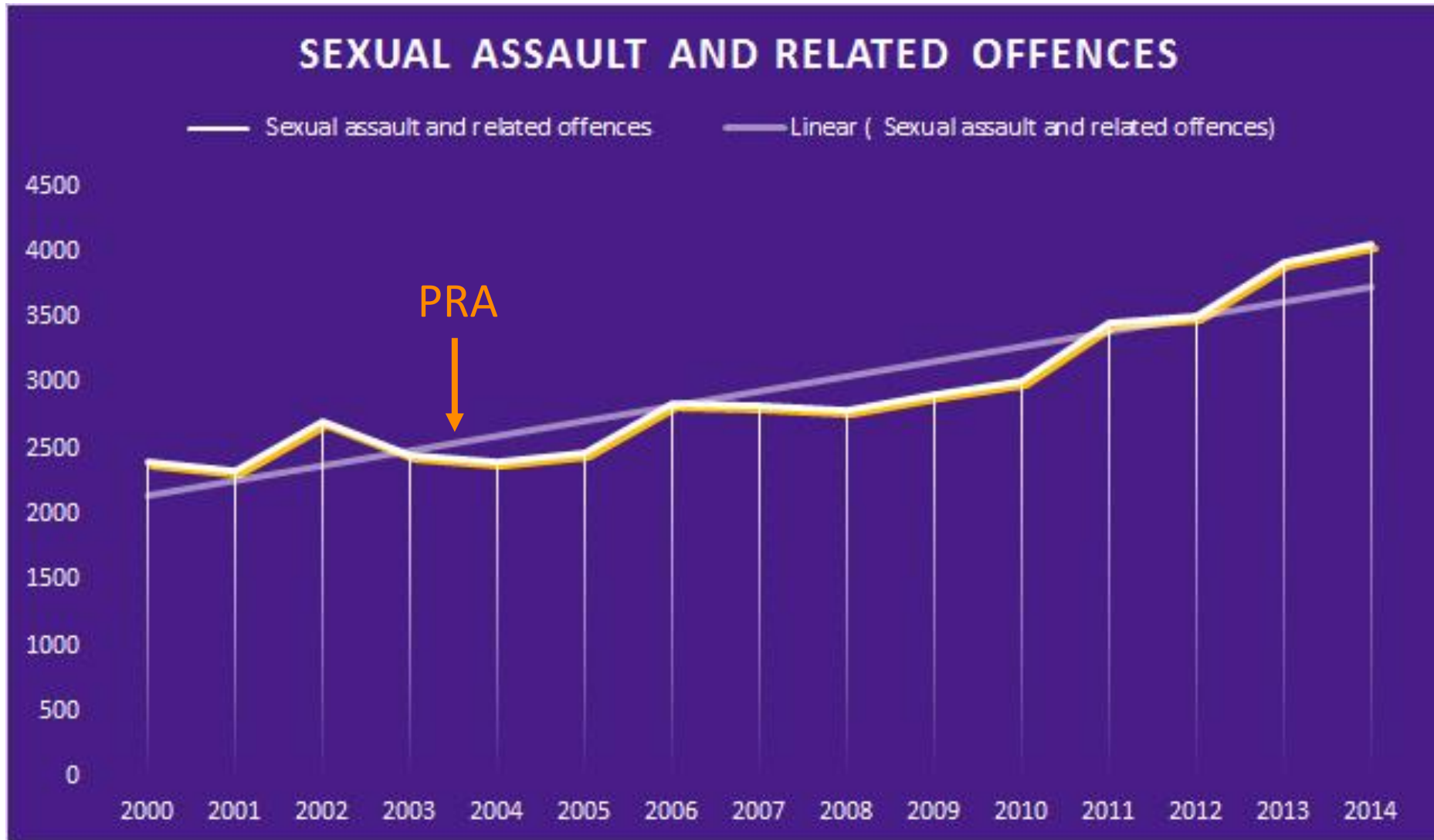
Men pay the brothel by the hour or half hour

PRA = New Zealand Prostitution Reform Act 2003

Small Owner Operated Brothels (SOOBs)

- Local authorities have no power to stop SOOBs or restrict where they are located
- Many SOOBs are run by pimps
- Rapid increase in SOOBs since the PRA
- SOOBs are not included in New Zealand's official "brothel" data

Increase in rape and domestic violence



Colonial connections



Prostitution was introduced in New Zealand by white men

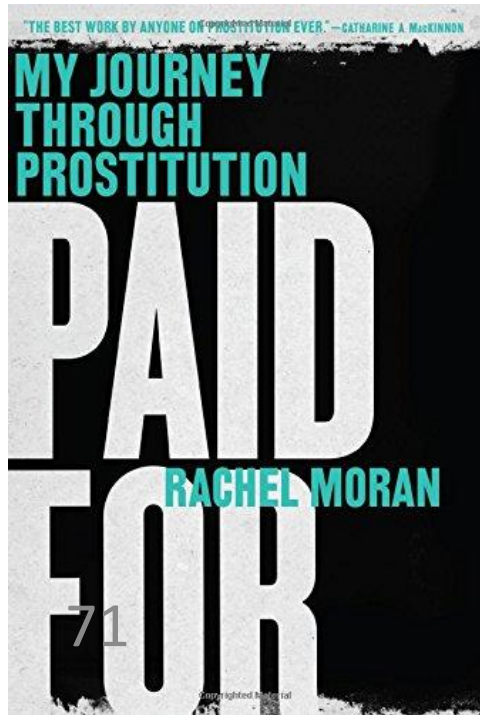
Children

“At least the old law kept a lid on the numbers, but with no law on the streets, pimps and gangs have moved in.”

– Mama Tere Strickland,
NZ community worker



“One of the commonest questions that comes through on a brothel’s phone line is ‘What age is the youngest girl you’ve got?’”



– Rachel Moran, author of bestselling memoir *Paid For: My Journey Through Prostitution*





Child sexual abuse as training ground for prostitution

Sex buying as training
ground for sexually
abusing children



Impact of legalisation/full decriminalisation

- Prostitution increases
- Sex trafficking increases to fill the extra demand
- Less overview from the police means more illegal activity
- Pay and conditions for the women deteriorate
- Impact on the status of all women

Harm Reduction?

Home

Join

Alerts

Report

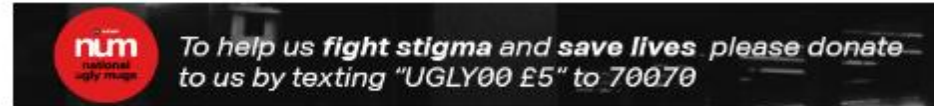
About

Safety

Donate

Login

Get Involved



National Ugly Mugs (NUM)

Fighting Stigma, Saving Lives

Sign up to NUM for free to report incidents and receive warnings about dangerous individuals. If you report to National Ugly Mugs we will use the information to warn other sex workers and potentially save their lives.

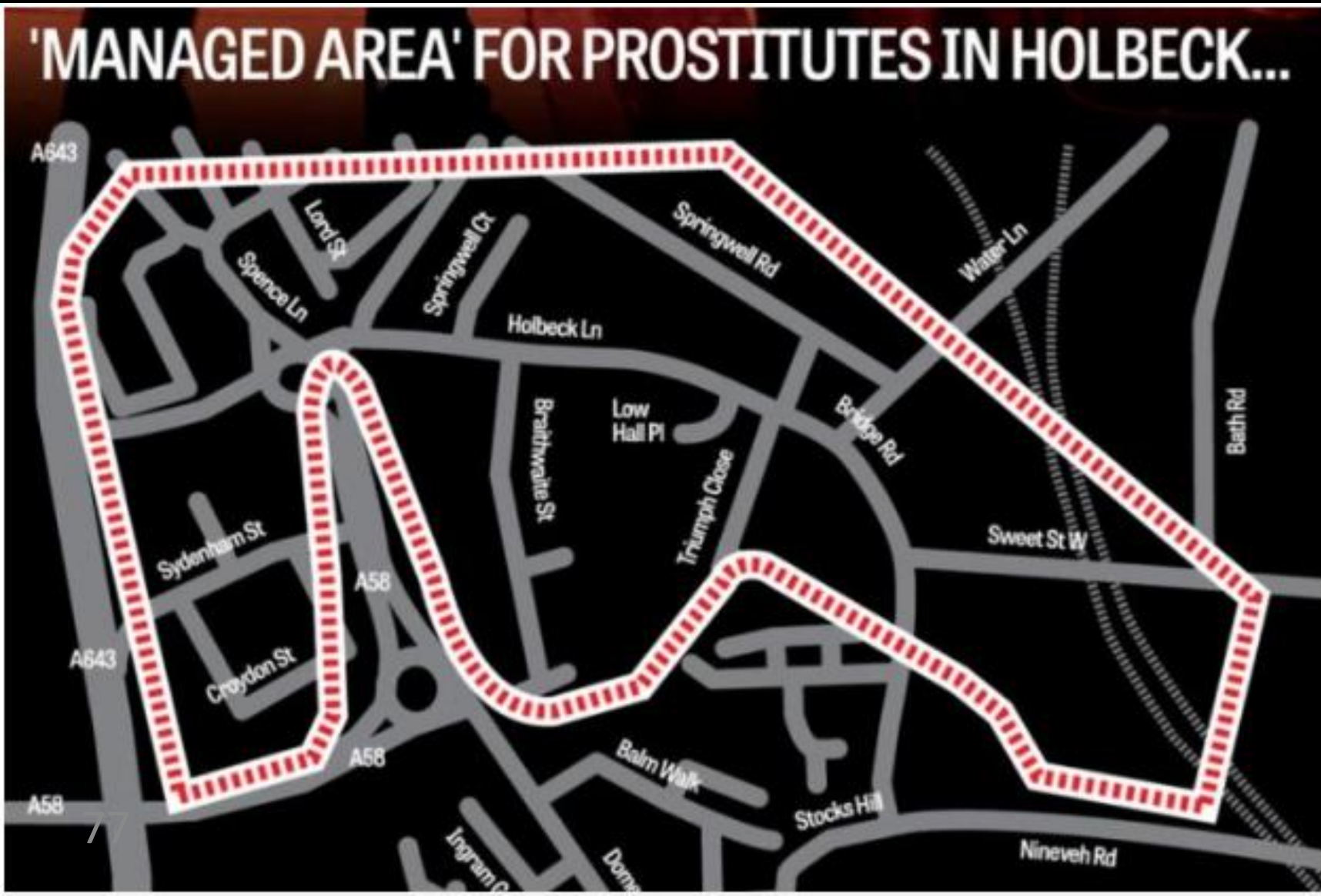
Our Mission: Ending Violence Against Sex Workers

[More info about NUM »](#)

Safety Tips

- Trust your instincts and be willing to say no
- Try to take in as much information about a client as possible
- Do not carry a weapon as this can be used against you
- Tie up long hair
- Wear shoes that you can take off or run in

“Managed Zones”



Daria Pionko

Campaign against the asbestos industry



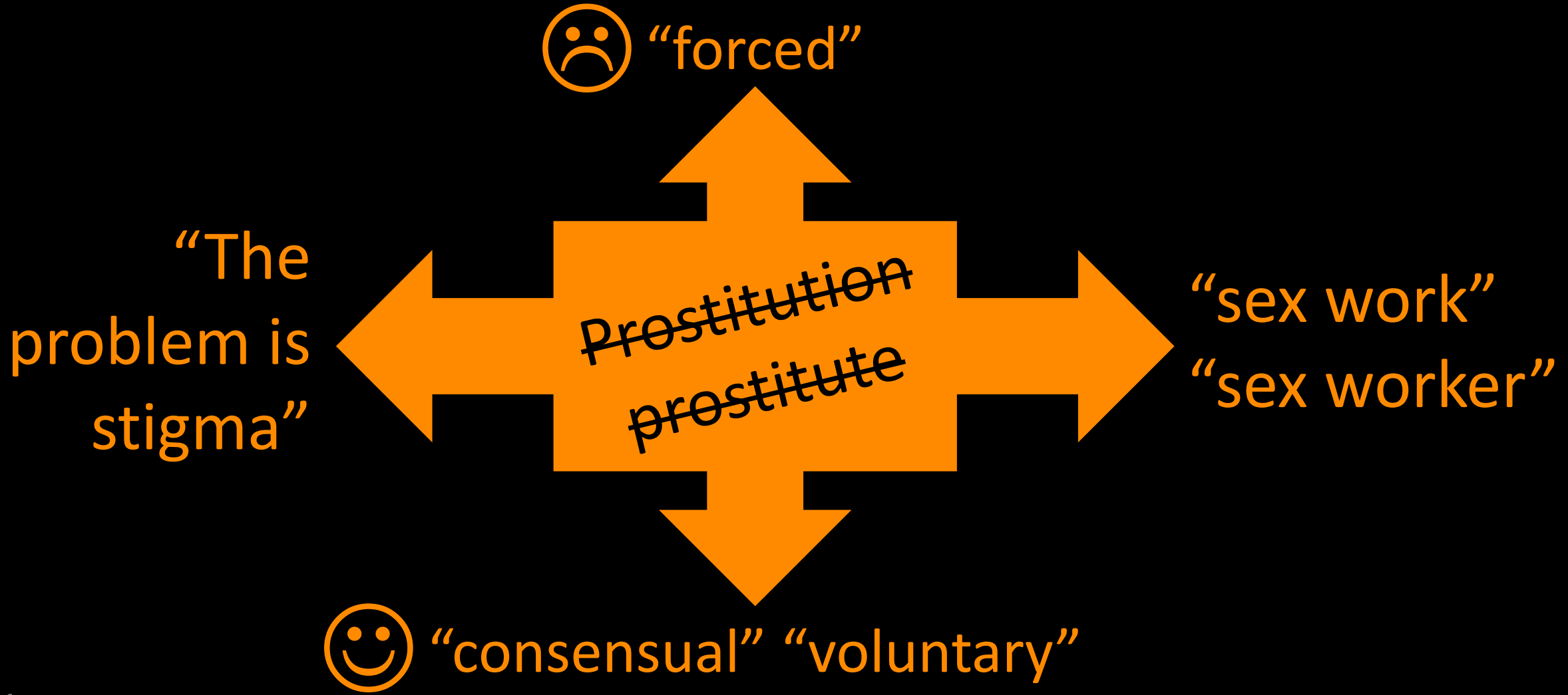
Tactics of the asbestos lobby

- Redefining things when evidence is overwhelming
- Setting up PR organisations under neutral names like the Asbestos Research Council
- Vilifying and harassing scientists who published inconvenient results
- Hiring scientists who claimed there was no risk

Tactics of the sex trade lobby

- Redefining things to obscure the reality
- Setting up lobby groups under neutral names like the International Union of Sex Workers
- Vilifying and harassing those who speak out about the inconvenient reality
- Funding academics who claim there is little or no risk

Redefinitions to obscure reality



ADVISED

BY

PIMPS



Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

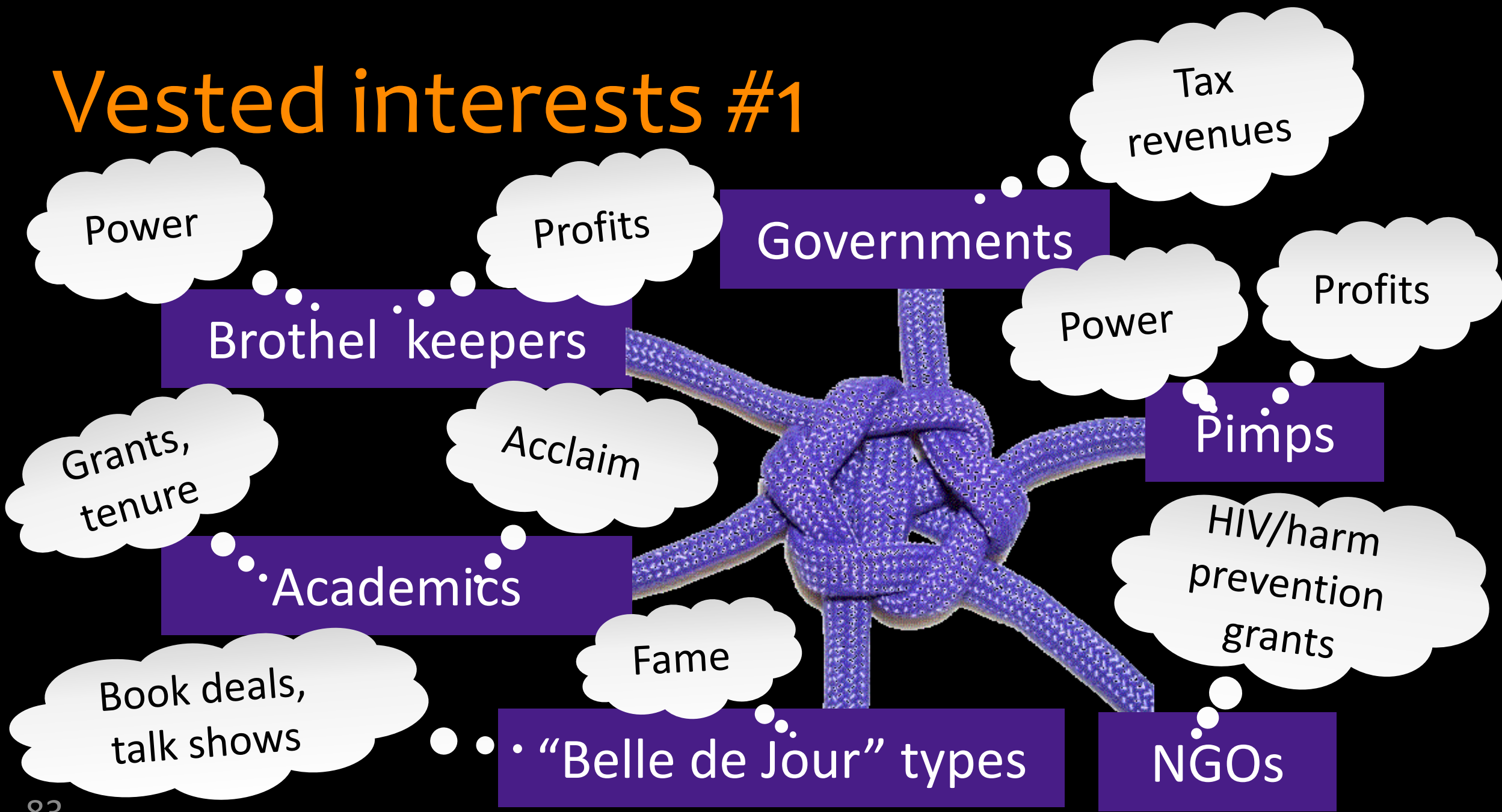
UNAIDS

UNICEF • UNDP • UNFPA • UNDCP
UNESCO • WHO • WORLD BANK

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



Vested interests #1



Vested interests #2



Men



Harvard Study

“Warmth of relationships throughout life have the greatest positive impact on life satisfaction.”

– Dr Robert Waldinger, study director

A scenic landscape featuring a range of rugged, snow-covered mountains in the background. The mountains are reflected in a calm, blue body of water in the foreground. The sky is a clear, deep blue. The overall scene is peaceful and majestic.

The Nordic Model?

(also known as The Sex Buyer Law)

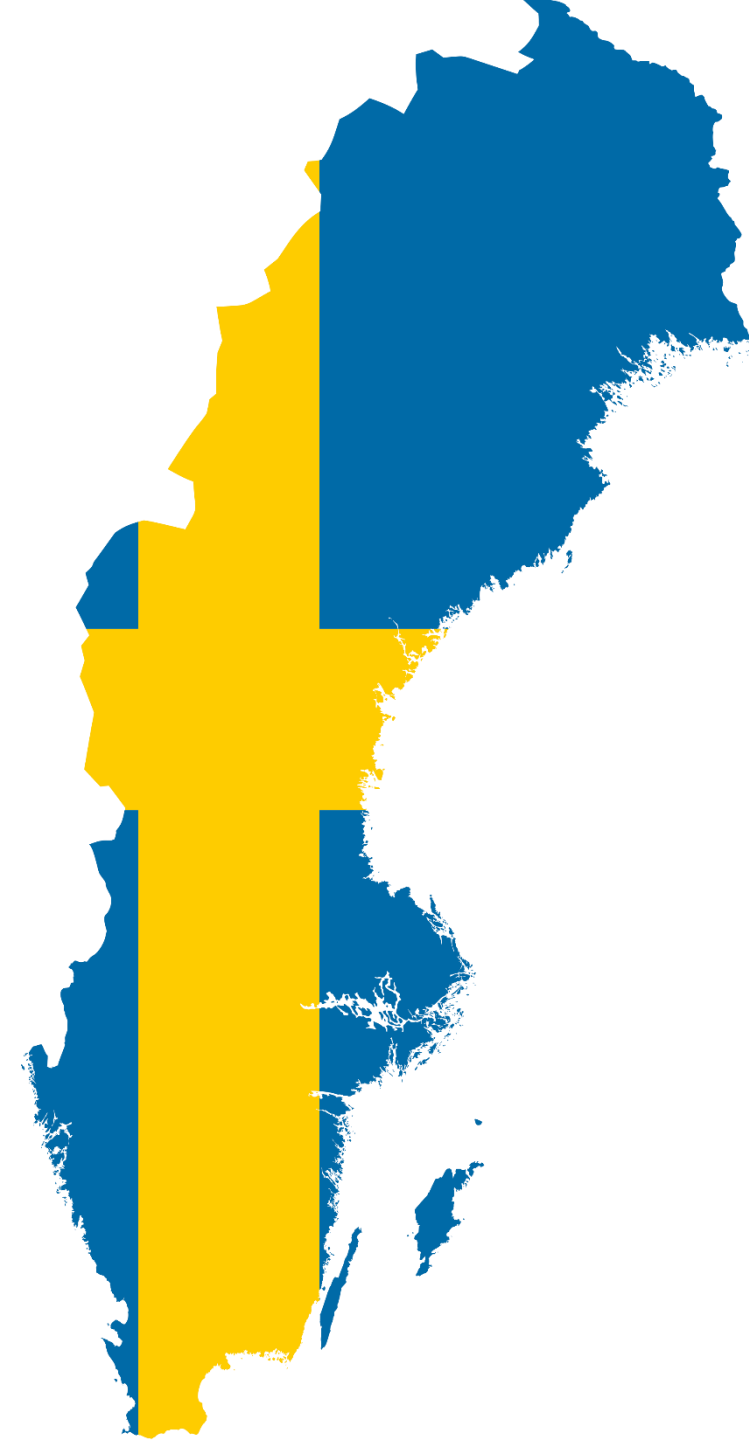
The Nordic Model: Recap

1. Decriminalise those who are prostituted
2. Provide services to help them leave
3. Prostitution buying becomes a criminal offence



The Nordic Model

- Introduced after research revealed:
 - Extent of women's suffering
 - Punters' ignorance of the consequences of their actions
- Idea to criminalise buying to deter men
- Aim was to change social norms

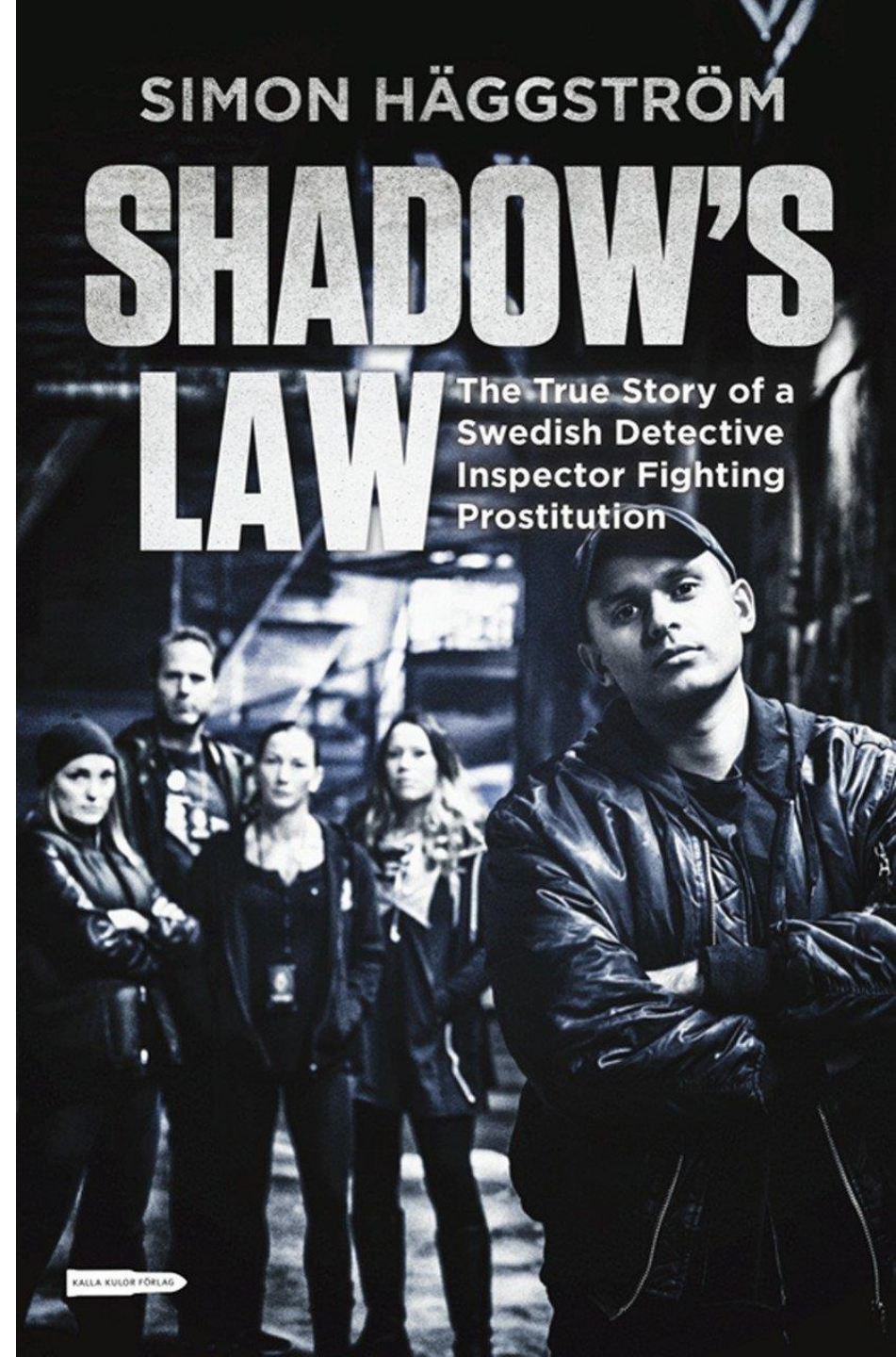


Social norms



Implementation

- Training for police and officials
- Public education campaign
- Investment in policing punters
- Investment in services for the women
- Addressing poverty and inequality



Results in Sweden #1

- Decrease in prostitution
 - No evidence it has gone “underground”
 - Hostile destination for international sex traffickers
- Widespread public support

Results in Sweden #2

Harm reduction:

*“The Swedish law is bad for business
but good for my safety.”*

– Woman in prostitution in Sweden

Results in Sweden #3

“Her coming in is a sign she’s considering that she, for once, needs something. When she’s so used to being used, this is an important sign.”

– Midwife in Stockholm prostitution service unit

Ipswich



Every £1 spent saved the public purse £2

What can you do?

- ✓ Raise awareness among friends and colleagues
- ✓ Arrange a showing of this slideshow in your local community, church, political, or activist group
- ✓ Lobby your MP and local councillor
- ✓ Propose a motion in your political party or union



Find
Out
more



<http://nordicmodelnow.org/>



@nordicmodelnow



nordicmodelnow/

Questions?