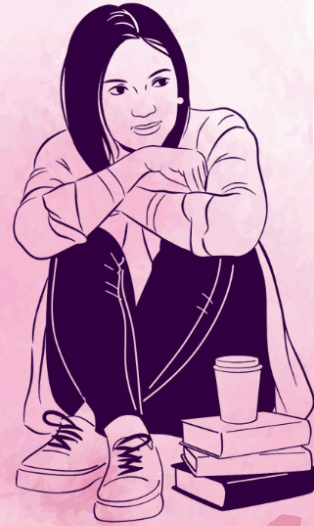




CSE Aware bulletin

Issue 9: **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**



Dear reader,

In this edition, we explore the dual experience of women selling or exchanging sex with the criminal justice system. On one hand, we look at the different barriers that can prevent women from reporting violence, and on the other, what happens when women have been criminalised for selling sex or other activities. To understand this contradictory experience, in this issue you will find:

- Two insights articles delving into women's experiences as victims of a crime and when being criminalised
- Interview with Routes Out on advocating for women who have to engage with the justice system.
- An interview with Julie Swede, a survivor of prostitution who challenged the disclosure of prostitution-related convictions
- And a range of resources and interesting reads with stories and facts about women involved in selling or exchanging sex.

Until next time,

The CSE Aware Information and Resources Officer

“The punters can turn it around on you and say I’ve tried to rob them. If you’ve got a middleaged business man and a prostitute, who are they going to believe? A prostitute on drugs?”

– Grace, from "Sex workers' perception of encounters with police"



CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSIGHTS

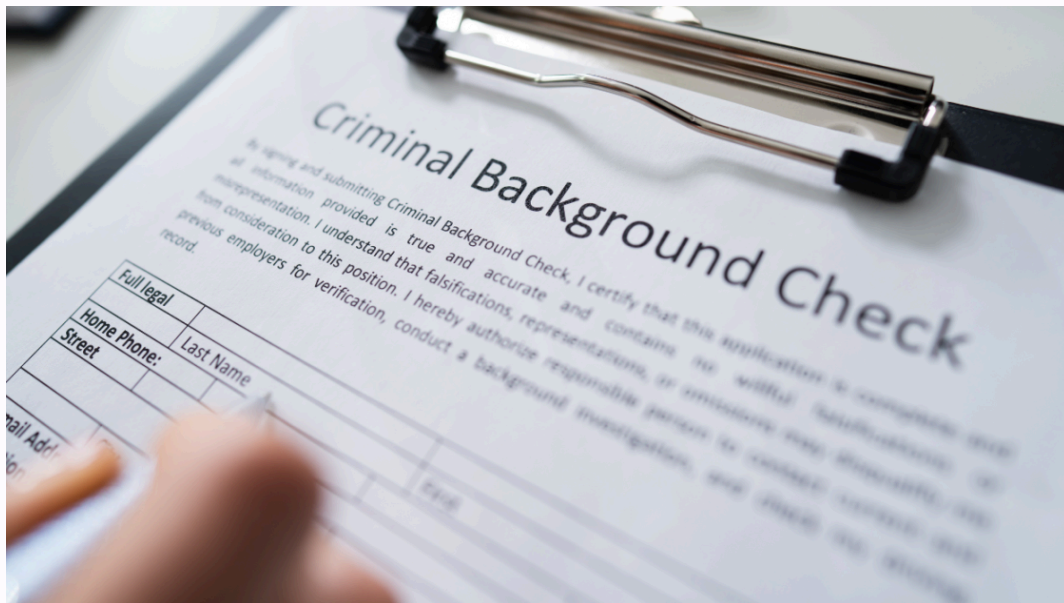
Crimes against women who sell sex



In this first part of our Criminal Justice Insights, we look at the high levels of abuse and violence women can face when selling or exchanging sex and the multiple factors that can prevent women from seeking justice.

[Keep reading](#)

Women, criminalisation and the cycle of vulnerability



In this second part of our Criminal Justice Insights, we look at the other side of women's experiences of the justice system - criminalisation. We discuss the aftermath of being in prison, outline how this can increase vulnerabilities to becoming involved in selling or exchanging sex, and look at the long-term impact of criminal records.

[Keep reading](#)

A WORKER'S PERSPECTIVE

Interview with Sally Hendry from Routes Out

“

When a woman reports violence to a service, it is essential that she knows she is believed, and that the worker does not attach any blame or judgement on her. Let her know she doesn't deserve to be treated badly, reassure her, and tell her it wasn't her fault ... if she has been raped or sexually assaulted and is not ready to speak with the police, we will recommend going to Archway ... and explain the importance of gathering evidence in case she ever decides to report the crime.

Sally Hendry, Case Manager at Routes Out



A worker's perspective

Sally Hendry is a Case Manager at Routes Out, a specialist service for women in Glasgow, and she has been supporting women selling or exchanging sex for over eighteen years. In this interview, she discusses the apprehensions that women can have when it comes to the criminal justice system and explains how women can best be supported to access their rights.

Keep reading

CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESOURCES



Criminal Justice practice points

On this page you will find some steps you can take to best support women involved in selling or exchanging sex to access their rights.

[Read more](#)

Research, reports and other information

[CLiCK bitesize: Commercial sexual exploitation and the law](#)

[I'm no criminal: Examining the impact of prostitution-specific criminal records on women seeking to exit prostitution](#)

[Lord Advocate's guidelines to chief constables on the enforcement of soliciting and loitering offences by purchasers](#)

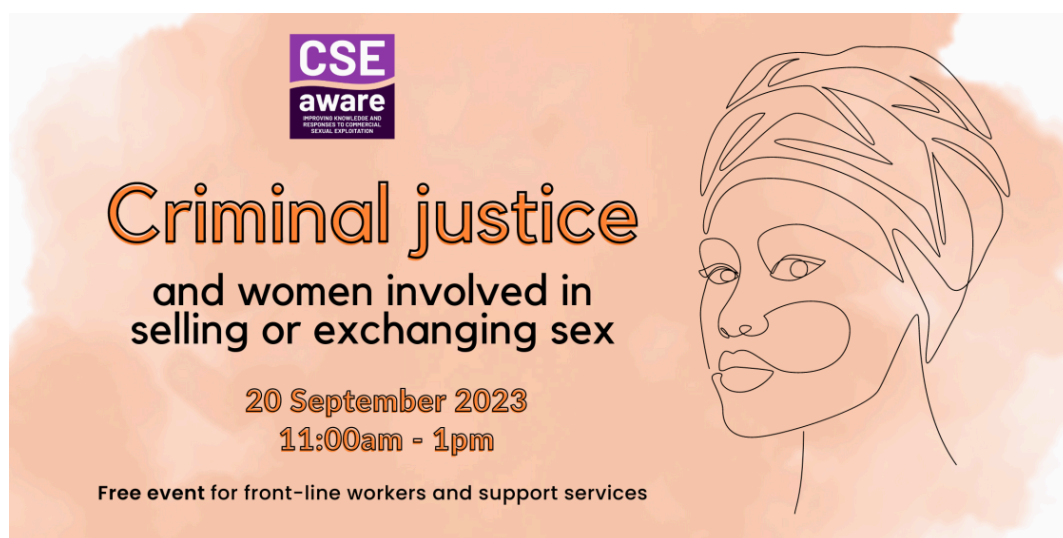
[Report: What judges think about prostitution](#)

[Briefing: Sexual exploitation and access to justice](#)

[More resources](#)

EVENTS AND TRAINING

Webinar: Criminal Justice and women involved in selling or exchanging sex



Wed 20 September 2023, 11am - 1pm

Join us for a free webinar for frontline services where we will explore the needs of women who sell or exchange sex when engaging with the criminal justice system, including good practice examples.

[Register here](#)

Screen debate: 'A Thousand Girls Like Me'

27 September, 5.45pm, GFT Glasgow

The Women's Support Project is organising a screen debate to raise awareness of child sexual abuse. The film 'A Thousand Girls Like Me' follows the story of Khatera, a 23-year-old Afghan woman who confronts her family and the traditions of her country to seek justice after enduring years of sexual violence from her father.

[Click here to get tickets](#)

ON THE BLOG



PODCAST: Julie Swede and the fight to stop the disclosure of prostitution-related criminal records

Listen to our podcast where Julie Swede, a survivor of prostitution, tells us how she and other two women took a case to the High Court to challenge the requirement to disclose convictions of street prostitution to employers in England.

[Listen to the interview here](#)



Using CLiCK Bitesize to raise awareness of Commercial Sexual Exploitation in Fife

In this blog Keri Duffy, Learning and Development Office at Fife Violence Against Women Partnership tells us what it was like to plan and deliver [CLiCK Bitesize](#) sessions to raise awareness of commercial sexual exploitation to services in Fife.

[Read more](#)

INTERESTING READS

[BLOG: Why responsible reporting matters when it comes to commercial sexual exploitation](#)

[COURSE: Power Women: Gender-Based Violence and Leadership](#)

[How online communities are reshaping sex tourism, and the stories of the women affected](#)

[Sex workers sought by University of Nottingham to develop safety tool](#)

[Human trafficking cases in Scotland 'highest since records began'](#)

[Protecting Against Predators: study on the sexual exploitation of children and young people](#)

[FACTSHEET: Victims, Witnesses, and Justice Reform Bill](#)

[The cost-of-living crisis for women living in rural areas](#)

“The police here have a big role to play for women in prostitution. Sometimes they could be the only people you've spoke to except for punters that whole day. They need to treat the person as a human being, to see them as a victim, and not as just committing a crime... I think the girl would be a lot more relaxed, be able to approach the police a lot more, have more faith in the police, trust.”

– Joanne, *Inside Outside*



CSE Aware

an initiative of the Women's Support Project

Adelphi Centre, 12 Commercial Rd G5 0PQ,
Glasgow
United Kingdom

www.cseaware.org

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