

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

80th Session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women 18 October – 12 November 2021

Excerpts from the Concluding Observations on the 5th periodic report of South Africa: relevant to and potentially impacting sex workers, collated by NSWP.

Trafficking and exploitation of prostitution

- 38. The Committee recommends that the State party:
 - (a) Address the root causes of prostitution and adopt economic and public policies that support sustainable livelihood options and basic living standards for women and girls in poverty;
 - (b) Eliminate gender-based violence, discrimination and sexual exploitation of victims of trafficking and ensure that they have access to justice, including legal aid and adequate reparations, protection, including shelters, and health care;
 - (c) Provide exit programmes and alternative income-generating opportunities to women who wish to leave prostitution, as well as rehabilitation and reintegration programmes.

Health

- 54. The Committee recommends that the State party:
 - (d) Ensure that women with disabilities, women with albinism, women exploited in prostitution and migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women have affordable access to sexual and reproductive health services, including safe abortion and post-post abortion services, free from gender-based violence, discrimination or harassment.