Evidence-Based Recommendations for Researchers





Support Sex Workers' Health & Human Rights



Join the call to decriminalise all aspects of sex work

Why?

When any aspects of sex work is criminalized, sex workers face stigma and discrimination, find it harder to access health services, face abuse and violence, including from law enforcement officers, and become less likely to report crime to the police, and are less able to safely negotiate with clients.

How?

Call to remove all laws, policies and practices that criminalise sex work or are used to punish sex workers so that sex workers can access health services, be able to report crime to police and become meaningfully involved in the development of health and social services for them.



Why?

Partnerships and collaborations with sex worker-led organisations are shown to result in more inclusive and relevant health and social services for sex workers. This is linked to better health and human rights outcomes for sex workers.

How?

Research processes should be designed in meaningful collaboration with sex workers. Collaborating with community-led organisations that work for other marginalised and criminalised groups disproportionally represented within sex work is also extremely important.



Support sex worker-led resilience and evidence-based approaches

Why?

Sex workers show resilience, adaptability and resistance in their work, lives and advocacy efforts. Programmes, policy and research need to work with and build on the knowledge and expertise of sex worker-led organisations.

How?

Research focused on health and social inequities sex workers face needs to consider sex workers as agents and experts in their own lives.

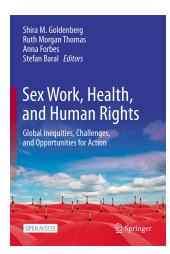
Strengthen sex worker-led organisations' involvement capacity

Why?

Sex worker-led organisations' engagement in research is essential for community empowerment and mobilisation efforts, yet are seriously under-resourced.

How?

Allocate funding for integrated knowledge translation efforts. Many sex worker-led organisations are already engaging in these efforts and simply lack the funding to support them.



Sex Work, Health, and Human Rights: Global Inequities, Challenges and Opportunities for Action is the first global textbook co-written by sex workers, sex worker-led organisations and academics about sex work. Drawing upon community case studies and data from around the world, the book highlights the sustained health and social inequities that sex workers in all of their diversity experienced in 2020.







