

December 17th

International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers



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This day calls attention to hate crimes committed against sex workers all over the globe as well as to the critical need to remove the stigma and discrimination that is perpetuated by custom and laws that have made violence against sex-workers acceptable. The red umbrella, adopted in 2002 by Venetian sex workers for an anti-violence march, symbolizes resistance against discrimination for sex workers worldwide.

Violence against Vancouver sex workers is a major problem, and this is especially so for those who work on the street. Canada's prostitution laws make sex workers into criminals: these laws must be abolished. Criminalizing sex workers makes them more vulnerable to violence while denying them real access to human and labour rights and police protection.

Support Your Local Sex Worker Organizations

For further information and to help Vancouver sex workers gain their rights and increased access to vital anti-violence, health and education services consider volunteering with and/or donating to these sex worker-serving organizations. Thank you.

BC Coalition of Experiential Communities: bccec.wordpress.com

HUSTLE: Men on the Move: www.peersvancouver.org

PEERS Vancouver: www.peersvancouver.org

PACE (Prostitution Alternatives Counselling Education) www.pace-society.ca

SWAN (Supporting Women's Alternatives Network): www.swanvancouver.ca

WISH Drop-in Centre: www.wish-vancouver.net

ORCHID Outreach&Research in Community Health Initiatives&Development www.asia.bc.ca

