# INPUT FOR SR VAWG'S REPORT ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND PROSTITUTION

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Respected Sir/Madam,

On the basis of our study and research relating to the issues we have tried to provide the following inputs -

1. **Provide examples of the hidden forms of prostitution, and explain to what extent they are recognized and dealt with as such?**

* Wife swapping is a kind of new racket which is increasing now a days in the form of prostitution. [Where traffickers run prostitution in name of wife swapping](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/police-bust-wife-swapping-party-on-ecr-arrest-eight/articleshow/105064384.cms). This thing is happening in hidden way. It’s a sex trade where wife is used as a sex commodity. In India we had law relating to deal with human trafficking. But specifically for wife swapping case there is no particular provisions. There is similarity between wife swapping case and human trafficking case to some extent. In most of the cases it women who forced to choose this path to provide economic support to her family or in some cases she does with fear that if she does not agree then her husband will leave her because of the societal taboo.
* Another new form of prostitution which has become common in high class society is Escort. Although many have different view regarding this. But one cannot deny the fact that both provide sexual service in exchange of money. [And cases are their where women were forced to become escort.](https://www.theguardian.com/society/2023/apr/29/vulnerable-uk-women-forced-into-survival-sex-by-cost-of-living-crisis) This need to be checked.
* [Another issues which the researchers would like to highlight here is that recently it has been found out that many women were trafficked from the places where nay kind of natural disaster has been took place.](https://theworld.org/stories/2017-10-05/human-trafficking-hidden-aftermath-natural-disasters) Its mostly the women or the girl who were forced to choose the prostitution for providing economic support for her family. [It’s a kind of gender based which can be seen in the place where natural disaster has been occurred](https://www.preventionweb.net/news/womens-and-girls-vulnerability-gender-based-violence-aftermath-disasters).

**4. What forms of violence are prostituted women and girls subjected to (physical, psychological, sexual, economic, administrative, or other)?**

* Violence against prostitution is not an uncommon issue. But things which is important to highlight here is that what steps should government take to prevent those violation and how to provide remedy for that. [One of the disturbing situations which the sex workers faced is the refusal of the client of using condoms which is not only harmful for the prostitution but also for the client](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3695971/).
* Another psychological issues faced by the prostitute is the refusal of the abortion service. [As cases are their when women approached medical service for abortion, the doctor refused to provide her the medical service because of her profession](https://www.hindustantimes.com/opinion/ensure-sex-workers-in-india-have-access-to-sexual-reproductive-health-services/story-RVTvzu1CealCKvwi8j3WxH.html). These are clear cases of violation of right to equality and right to get medical treatment. Women in such case are forced to choose unsafe abortion practice which is could be danger for her life.

**3. Describe the linkages, if any, between prostitution and the violation of the human rights of women and girls.**

* [The linkages between prostitution and the violation of human rights are intricate and multifaceted](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK585690/). Engaging in prostitution can intersect with numerous human rights violations, including but not limited to physical and sexual violence, discrimination, and the denial of access to healthcare. The commodification of the human body within the sex trade can exacerbate vulnerabilities and hinder legal protections for those involved. The lack of recognition of sex work as legitimate employment further complicates efforts to safeguard the human rights of women and girls involved in prostitution.

**8. How is the issue of consent dealt with? Is it possible to speak about meaningful consent for prostituted women and girls?**

* One can consider the definition given by [The Indian Contract Act, 1872](https://incometaxindia.gov.in/pages/acts/indian-contract-act.aspx) Section 13 and section 14 for consent and free consent for **prostituted women and girls. As if we see then we can find that prostitute lady also does contract where they provide sexual service in return of money .**

**15. What recommendations do you have to prevent and end violence associated with the prostitution for women and girls?**

* Recommendations to Prevent and End Violence:

1. Wife-swapping cases need to be discussed and considered as a serious violation of the right to life with dignity for wives. It is not only a crime against women but also undermines the definition of the institution of marriage.

2. Climate change and natural disasters are concerns for many countries. Incidents of prostitution in areas affected by natural disasters need to be discussed at the international level. These are areas where NGO workers can do significant work. They can interact with families and serve as a channel between them and the government to provide remedies.

3. Medical facilities should be provided to prostitutes with due care and responsibility, as they constitute a vulnerable group in society. If anyone refuses to provide treatment to a prostitute, then, in that case, he/she must be punished for their conduct as it goes against medical ethics.

4. More empirical work should be done [in red light areas](https://touchmekissmee.com/top-10-red-light-areas-in-india/). As through empirical work only actual data can be collected relating to the issues faced by these ladies.

5. Police personnel should receive thorough training to effectively handle cases of violence, rape, assault, and other offenses faced by women and girls involved in the sex trade.

6. Regular free medical check-ups should be conducted to monitor and address sexually transmitted diseases among these women. Additionally, their mental health should be given proper attention and care.

7. Maintaining comprehensive national-level data on women involved in the sex trade or prostitution is essential. This data not only aids in monitoring cases related to human trafficking but also enables the government to address the specific needs of these women. Implementing a separate census for collecting details about these individuals would contribute to a more accurate understanding of their circumstances.

8. The crucial issue that requires attention is the role of poverty as the primary driver of these problems. Economically disadvantaged regions become easy targets for traffickers to exploit women in the sex trade. The government should focus on economically uplifting these areas, seeking assistance from international organizations to address the root causes of vulnerability and create opportunities for a more sustainable and secure future.

Based on the above study, we humbly urge you to consider the importance of addressing these issues to prevent further violations of rights of the women who are engaged in prostitution. Providing all kinds of support and care to those women is of utmost significance. It is essential for both the government and society to collaborate and tackle these challenges in order to establish a nurturing and inclusive environment that promotes the well-being of all individuals

Thanking you

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