

## Executive Summary

### ***Beyond Pimps, Procures And Parasites*** **Mapping Third Parties In The Incall/Outcall Sectors Of The Sex Industry**

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The interest shown by academics, politicians and the media in sex work/workers notwithstanding there is a dearth of evidence-based knowledge about third parties – those individuals involved in commercial sex transactions who are neither sex workers nor clients. In the absence of empirical evidence stereotypes of pimps, procurers and parasites flourish and take on an aura of ‘truth’.

Responding to this lacuna this report:

- Presents detailed descriptions of the various third parties roles and examines how these ‘play out’;
- Unpacks the array of relationships between sex workers and third parties in the incall and out- call sectors and examine in detail questions of power, control, exploitation and service;
- Documents the impact of the (current) criminalization of third parties on sex workers in the incall and outcall sectors

#### ***Organization of the Report***

The report begins with a chapter on *Third Parties and the Law* which presents the legal context and reflects on the breadth of the legal prohibitions that criminalize third parties in the sex industry. Chapter Two, *Why work for or with or hire a third party - What Sex Workers Say* seeks to understand the role of third parties from the perspective of sex workers. The remainder of the report shifts from the question of *what* third parties do to examine what this *looks like* and *how* it ‘plays out.’ This part of the report begins by presenting the organizational models and the three categories of third parties that emerged from the research. The first, *agencies*, hire sex workers and exercise the most control over when and where they work – this relationship is examined in Chapter Three. The second category, *associates*, who work collaboratively with sex workers, is explored in Chapter Four. Chapter Five presents the final category of third parties, *contractors*, who are hired by independent sex workers or agencies to perform specific and specialized tasks. The report concludes with the question that is at the heart our research: what does the criminalization of third parties mean for sex workers?