**STALKING AND HARASSMENT**

This is when someone is causing you to feel pestered, harassed or under threat of violence by persistently following you or contacting you.

This can be:
- online,
- phone / text
- Following you or turning up at your home or work.

**ANY VIOLENCE OR ABUSE AGAINST SEX WORKERS IS A CRIME—REPORT IT!**

**WORRIED ABOUT REPORTING?**

At SWOP we are happy to discuss different options available to you and offer advice and support. We can support you making a report to the police if you decide you would like to do this.

It is not illegal to work as an escort or to sell sexual services. You cannot be prosecuted for just selling sex if you report an incident or concern to the police.

**RELEASE HELPLINE 0845 4500215 can offer advice on Sex Work and the Law**

ask@release.org.uk

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**MORE USEFUL CONTACTS...**

**The Solar Clinic at SHAC East** (Claude Nicole Sexual Health clinic) in Brighton offers health advice and support for people who have been sexually assaulted. **For more info call the Health Advisers on 01273 523388 (opt 2) Monday to Friday 9am – 1pm and 2pm – 4:30pm.**

**SAFER ESCORTING FOR WORKERS ADVERTISING ONLINE**

WHERE TO GET SUPPORT OR ADVICE IF THINGS GO WRONG

**SEX WORKERS OUTREACH PROJECT (SWOP)**

07801 376158

www.oasisproject.org.uk/services/swop

**Brighton Oasis Project**

Registered Charity Number 10655035
11 Richmond Place
Brighton BN2 9NA

PLEASE CONTACT US AT SWOP OR WRITE TO THE DIRECTOR AT THIS ADDRESS IF YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT OR COMMENT ABOUT THE SERVICE.

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**Worried about HIV? THT DIRECT 0808 802 1221**

**SWOP 07801376158**

Discreet and confidential advice, support and information for women working in the sex industry who live or work in Brighton and Hove area

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**December 17**

International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers

http://www.december17.org/
SIGN UP FOR NATIONAL UGLY MUGS!

Ugly Mugs is a free service which aims to improve safety for men and women working in the sex industry.

- GET ALERTS ABOUT INCIDENTS WITH PUNTERS FOR YOUR LOCAL AREA OR OTHER PARTS OF THE UK STRAIGHT TO YOUR EMAIL OR PHONE.
- NUMBER CHECKING SERVICE: put in your punter’s number and search will tell you if he has been reported to NUM before.
- REPORT INCIDENTS ON LINE TO ALERT OTHER SEX WORKERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

For more info or to make a report, go to https://uknswp.org/um/

YOU CAN ALSO CALL US AT SWOP IF YOU WOULD LIKE HELP WITH SIGNING UP OR ADVICE OR SUPPORT AFTER AN INCIDENT

TRACING SYSTEMS

- TRY TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A “Buddy” / SOMEONE “On Call” WHO KNOWS WHERE YOU ARE GOING AND EXACTLY WHAT TIME YOU SHOULD FINISH.
- CHECK WHAT THEY PLAN TO DO IF THE DON’T HEAR FROM YOU.
- A “FIND MY PHONE” APP WILL MAKE YOU EASIER TO TRACE IF YOU CAN’T GET AWAY OR GET TAKEN SOMEWHERE ELSE. Give the log in details to the person “on call” for you. *ONLY do this if it is someone you trust and make sure you can change the login details yourself.
- DO YOUR RESEARCH BEFORE YOU CHOOSE AN AGENCY: how do they work and what will they do for your safety?

TIPS FOR SAFER INTERNET USE

Don’t just rely on using internet or phone apps to arrange out calls.

You can tell more about a person by talking to them. (Do you like the sound of them? Do they sound old / young/ drunk/ aggressive?)

To avoid problems, find out what they expect from you.

Make it clear what you will / won’t do before you agree to go.

- Make sure you have a phone number: Run it through the National Ugly Mugs number checking service.
- Try to use your own transport—it is risky getting in to a stranger’s car.
- If your face is clear on your profile, it may be possible to trace your personal profiles through facial recognition apps– SO...
- If you have a personal Facebook account make sure you regularly check your privacy settings so that punters can’t find out your private details.
- For personal internet dating outside work, stick to the same safety rules that you would use for work.
- Www.saafe.info- is a website set up by and for independent sex workers. Check it out for safety tips from people with experience.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANYONE TO LOOK OUT FOR YOU, FAKE IT!

Make your punter think someone else knows where you are and that they will do something if you are not back.

Pretend to make a call, or make a call to your personal phone to make it look like you are confirming your arrival.

Set an alarm on your phone that sounds like a ringtone when you are due to finish.

Working from a hotel?, put men’s shoes or clothes out.

CONTACT US AT SWOP FOR MORE SAFETY ADVICE: AND INFO : Call / text 07801 376158