

women's support project



RESOURCE LIST: COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION



The Buyers by Myrna Balk ©



WORKING AGAINST VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Credit

Myrna Balk grew up in University City, Missouri. She attended the University of Iowa where she majored in art and sociology. At Case Western Reserve University, she received a Masters degree in social work. In 1968, she first went to Nepal to visit friends who were in the Peace Corps. That was the beginning of her interest in Asia. She had numerous jobs in social work, including teaching at Boston University, Simmons College School of Social Work, and St. Xazaviors College in Kathmandu, Nepal. Her art work has been shown in China, Hungary, Nepal, India, Boston, Cleveland, and New York City at the United Nations.

After attending the women's meetings in China, her art became more political. She has been awarded grants from the Cambridge Arts Council and Brookline Commission for the Arts. Myrna continues to travel, and to campaign against sexual exploitation.

An exhibition of Myrna's work on prostitution and trafficking was held in Glasgow in 2006, to accompany the Women's Support Project conference 'Challenging Demand'.

Thanks to Myrna for permission to use her work.

RESOURCE LIST: COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

The Women's Support Project provides a telephone support and information service on violence against women. We also offer direct support to women who have experienced male violence, or whose children have been sexually abused. We have a resource library that is available to those affected by violence, as well as to members of community groups, professionals, students and researchers.

The resource library includes information on:

- Child sexual abuse and incest
- Support for women whose children have been sexually abused
- Sexual abuse of boys/information for male survivors of childhood abuse
- Domestic abuse
- The impact of domestic abuse on children
- Rape/sexual violence
- Sexual harassment
- Prostitution, pornography and other forms of commercial sexual exploitation
- Self-confidence and self-esteem
- Self-injury
- Over-coming the effects of violence and abuse.

Further information on resources available can be found on our website www.womenssupportproject.co.uk

There is no membership fee for the resource library. The usual loan period is four weeks for books and one week for a video or DVD, although this may be extended on request.

We are not able to offer a drop-in service, so please contact us to arrange to visit. We can also post out materials, although we may have to make a charge for postage, depending on the circumstances.

We are happy to provide information on helpful materials, and on suppliers, for those wishing to purchase materials.

Please contact us for further information, or to arrange to visit. See back page for contact details.

A. Reading on Prostitution

A1. Child Prostitution

One way street. Retrospectives on child prostitution

By Margaret Melrose, David Barrett & Isabelle Brodie

Pub. The Children's Society, London, 1999

Interviews with 50 people who became caught up in prostitution as children. They describe how and why they first became involved, and what enabled them to leave or forced them to continue. Many took up prostitution as a means of survival, but once involved found themselves trapped in a way of life, which was hard to escape. Includes recommendations for the voluntary sector, education and social services, policing and the law.

Anchors in floating lives.

Interventions with young people sexually abused through prostitution

By Margaret Melrose with David Barrett (Ed)

Pub. Russell House Publishing, UK, 2004

Contains historical and literature reviews, an action research model, a model for working with young men, recommendations for future policy and practice.

Whose daughter next?

By Anne Van Meeuwen, Sara Swann, Diana Mcneish and Susan SM Edwards

Pub. Barnardos, London, 1998

This report draws on practice experience to suggest how workers can support young women and help them to find a way out of an abusive experience. Reveals why girls become involved in abuse through prostitution and how difficult it is for them to seek help or escape their abusers. The report also identifies how the law could be used more effectively to prosecute the men involved in abuse through prostitution.

A2. Prostitution: Theory, Research and Practice

The Idea of Prostitution

By Sheila Jeffreys

Pub. Spinfex 1997

Sheila Jeffreys argues "prostitution is a choice for the men who abuse, rather than for the prostituted woman". An important book which explores the questions: is prostitution legitimate work for women, or is men's use of prostitution a form of sexual violence? Highly recommended.

The Industrial Vagina

The political economy of the global sex trade

By Sheila Jeffreys

Pub. Routledge, UK & USA 2009

The industrialisation of prostitution and the sex trade has created a multibillion-dollar global market, involving millions of women, that makes a substantial contribution to national and global economies. The *Industrial Vagina* examines how prostitution and other aspects of the sex industry have moved from being small-scale, clandestine, and socially despised practices to become very profitable legitimate market sectors that are being legalised and decriminalised by governments. Sheila Jeffreys demonstrates how prostitution has been globalised through an examination of:

- * The growth of pornography and its new global reach
- * The boom in adult shops, strip clubs and escort agencies
- * Military prostitution and sexual violence in war
- * Marriage and the mail order bride industry
- * The rise in sex tourism and trafficking in women.

She argues that through these practices women's subordination has been outsourced and that States that legalise this industry are acting as pimps, enabling male buyers in countries in which women's equality threatens male dominance, to buy access to the bodies of women from poor countries that are paid for their sexual subservience.

Not for Sale. Feminists resisting prostitution and pornography

By Christine Stark and Rebecca Whisnant (Eds)

Pub. Spinifex Press. Australia. 2004

A collection of essays by more than thirty writers and activists from around the world, many of which detail the reality of prostitution and pornography for those exploited by these systems. Whereas some of the essays look at how activists have challenged these systems, others also explore the challenges they face in the modern day by technological advances and a powerful pro-prostitution/pornography lobby.

Pimps Up, Ho's Down

Hip-hops hold on young black women

T. Denean Sharpley-Whiting

Pub. New York University Press, USA. 2007

Sharpley-Whiting, a feminist writer who is a member of the hip-hop generation, interrogates the complexities of young black women's engagement with a culture

that is masculinist, misogynistic, and frequently mystifying. Beyond their portrayal in rap lyrics, the display of black women in music videos, television, film, fashion, and on the internet is indispensable to the mass media engineered appeal of hip hop culture, the author argues. And the commercial trafficking in the images and behaviours associated with hip-hop has made them appear normal, acceptable and entertaining – both in the United States and around the world. She questions the impacts of hip hop's increasing alliance with the sex industry, the rise of groupie culture in the hip hop world, the impact of hip hop's compulsory heterosexual culture on young black women, and the permeation of the hip hop ethos into young black women's conceptions of love and romance. Its goal is to turn down the volume and amplify the substance of discussions about hip hop culture and to provide a space for young black women's voices to be heard – in all of their contradictions, complicity, and complexity.

Prostitution & feminism. Towards a politics of feeling

By Maggie O'Neil

Pub. Polity Press, Cambridge, UK, 2001

Explores the theoretical debates on prostitution and the relevance of these to the everyday lived experiences of women working on the streets. Includes personal accounts from women.

Prostitution, power and freedom

By Julia O'Connell Davidson

Pub. Polity Press, UK, 1998

Aims to examine the nature, meaning and consequences of the bonds, which prostitutes enter into with clients and with other third parties, and to consider the power relations, which are associated with and reproduced by these bonds.

Prostitution, Trafficking, and Traumatic Stress

By Melissa Farley (Ed)

Pub. The Haworth Press, USA, 2003

Most of the chapters of this book consist of case studies or surveys of prostitutes in many different countries on six continents. The authors conclude that these women entered prostitution in their teens; were neglected and abused as children; work under conditions that are dangerous, disgusting, and demeaning; lack the economic, educational, or emotional resources to leave their virtual enslavement; are threatened by the law, whether as illegal immigrants or as criminals; use drugs to lessen their emotional pain; and become dependent on

these drugs. The book also indicates that society is more interested in protecting the health and welfare of clients than of these prostitutes.

Sex Work

A risky business

By Teela Sanders

Pub. Willan Publishing, 2004

This book does not take an anti-prostitution stand but is useful for an understanding of the sex work approach. The book looks at off street prostitution and the risks women experience and how these affect their personal lives.

Sex work now

Edited by Rose Campbell and Maggie O'Neil

Pub. William Publishing, Devon, UK, 2006

This book does not take an anti-prostitution standpoint. Offers 'an overview of female sex work and policy in the UK.' Very out of step with current government approaches to prostitution. Useful only for increasing awareness of the 'sex work' approach.

Sex work on the streets: prostitutes and their clients

By Neil McKeganey & Marina Barnard

Pub. Open University Press, England, 1996

A detailed description of street prostitution, based on work carried out in Glasgow. Includes direct quotes from women working on the streets.

Stripped

Inside the lives of exotic dancers

By Bernadette Barton

Pub New York University Press, USA, 2006

What kind of woman dances naked for money? Bernadette C. Barton takes us inside countless strip bars and clubs, from upscale to back road, as well as those that specialise in lap dancing, table dancing, topless only, or peep shows, to reveal the lives of exotic dancers. Going behind the stage and into the dressing room. Based on over five years of research at clubs around the country, particularly in San Francisco, Hawaii, and Kentucky, "Stripped" offers a rare portrait of not just how dancers get into the business, but what it is like for those who choose to strip year after year. Through interviews and first-hand observation, Barton recounts why these women began stripping, the initial excitement and financial rewards from the work, the dangers of the life – namely, drugs and prostitution – and,

inevitably, the difficulties in staying in the business over time, especially for their sexuality and self-esteem.

Tackling street prostitution: towards a holistic approach

By Marianne Hester & Nicola Westmorland

Pub. The Home Office Research Study 279, London, 2004

Presents key findings and recommendations from the Crime and Disorder associated with Prostitution Initiative, which was part of the Crime Reduction Programme (CRP). The Initiative provided seed funding to 11 multi-agency pilot projects to address street based prostitution. The projects were grouped and evaluated by their main intervention type into 3 groups: policing and enforcement, protecting young people and providing support to exit.

The wisdom of whores

Bureaucrats, brothels, and the business of AIDS

By Elizabeth Pisani

Pub. Granta Books, London, 2008

Elizabeth Pisani is an epidemiologist whose challenging book presents some very well known arguments on the issue of HIV/AIDS and critiques how different approaches and strategies have failed to address the problem. The title is meant to convey the variety of sexual experience and the savvy that attaches to it. The book does not focus enough on the role of gender inequality and the absence of female autonomy in relationships but does yield fascinating insights into the interlocking universe of bureaucrats and sex work and NGOs and ultimately into the AIDS pandemic. There are a number of references to women and men involved in prostitution and whilst these are not from a feminist perspective, they do highlight the ongoing risks faced by those made vulnerable by economic policies.

A3. Prostitution: Trafficking

The Natashas. The new global sex trade

By Victor Malerek

Pub. Vision Paperbacks, London, 2004

Details the tragic lives of women and girls trafficked into the global sex trade. Focuses on Eastern Europe, but also contains information from Europe, Israel and North America.

Poverty and trafficking in human beings.

A strategy for combating trafficking in human beings through the Swedish international development cooperation

Pub. Department for Global Development, Sweden, 2003

Sweden is one of the countries that has paid attention to the problem of trafficking in human beings, and has taken measures to combat it both at a national level and in other parts of the world. Includes chapters on: The causes of human trafficking; Measures to combat human trafficking; Strategic considerations and priorities.

Sex Traffic; Prostitution, crime and exploitation

By Paola Monzini

Pub. Zed Books London, 2005

Monzini explores traffickers' exploitation of women and girls through prostitution and connects the women's vulnerability to failing economic and legislative systems. Good overview of global situation.

Sex trafficking

Inside the Business of Modern Slavery

By Siddharth Kara

Pub. Columbia University Press, New York, 2009

Every year, millions of women and children are abducted, deceived, seduced, or sold into forced prostitution, made to service hundreds if not thousands of men before being discarded. Generating huge profits for their exploiters, sex slaves form the backbone of one of the world's most profitable illicit enterprises, for unlike narcotics, which must be grown, harvested, refined, and packaged, the female body requires no such "processing" and can be repeatedly consumed. In this first-of-its-kind journey, Siddharth Kara investigates the mechanics of the global sex trafficking business across four continents and takes stock of its devastating human toll. Since first encountering the horrors of sexual slavery in a Bosnian refugee camp in 1995, Kara has taken multiple research trips to India, Nepal, Burma, Thailand, Vietnam, the United Kingdom, Italy, the Netherlands, Albania, Moldova, Mexico, and the United States.

Stopping traffic.

Exploring the extent of, and responses to, trafficking in women for sexual exploitation

By Liz Kelly & Linda Regan

Pub. The Home Office, Police Research Paper 125, London, 2000

This study is primarily based on a survey of police forces, placing this within the wider context of national and international law and policy. It estimates the number of women trafficked into conditions of sexual slavery, explores the ways in which they are trafficked and the responses of all relevant agencies, especially law enforcement agencies, in tackling and preventing such trafficking.

A4. Prostitution: Women's Experiences

Fiona's Story: a tragedy of our times

By Irene Ivison

Pub. Virago, London, 1997

A powerful and important book, written by Irene Ivison whose daughter was prostituted and murdered. Describes her struggle to protect her daughter after she had been 'targeted' by the man who prostituted her.

Lyn: A story of prostitution

By Lyn Madden & June Levine

Pub. Attic Handbooks, UK, 1993

Lyn Madden worked for twenty years as a prostitute, mostly in Dublin. Her career ended on the night she watched her lover and pimp, John Cullen, throw a firebomb through the window of Dolores Lynch's home. Dolores, who had 'escaped' from prostitution some years previously, perished along with her elderly mother and aunt. This is a fascinating, devastating, and quite agonisingly touching book.

Memoirs of a sex industry survivor

By Anne Bissell

Pub. Cleopatra International Publishing, USA, 2004

Anne Bissell became involved in prostitution when she was seventeen. She tells the gripping story of how she managed to escape the sex industry.

The map of my life

The story of Emma Humphreys

Edited by Julie Bindel and Harriet Wistrich

Pub. Astraia Press, London, 2003

Collection of powerful writing which documents the life of an abused teenager in care who became exploited into prostitution and beaten by her pimp/'boyfriend' to the point where she was driven to kill him. Includes contributions from Beatrix Campbell, Judith Jones, Julie McNamara and Rosie Fitzharris.

Motherless. A true story of love and survival

By Karina Schaapman

Pub. John Murray, UK, 2007

Karina Schaapman, now a well known Dutch politician, describes how the death of her mother, combined with a neglectful and abusive father, resulted in her becoming involved in the sex industry in Amsterdam.



Many Children by Myrna Balk ©

B. Reading on Pornography

B1. Pornography: Theory, Research and Practice

Pornography: men possessing women

By Andrea Dworkin

Pub. The Women's Press, London, 1981

Andrea Dworkin looks at the meaning of pornography, and the power of men in pornography. Shows clearly that the question is not "Does pornography cause violence against women?" Pornography is violence against women. A very important book. Highly recommended.

Pornography and sexual violence: evidence of the links

Pub. Everywoman, London, 1988

The complete transcript of public hearings on pornography held in Minneapolis in 1983. Looks at the evidence for links between pornography and acts of sexual violence and abuse. Interesting.

Pornography Related Sexual Violence: A Review of the Evidence

By Dr Catherine Itzin

Pub. University of Bradford, 1991

One of a series of very useful papers by Dr Itzin, this includes information on sexual violence in the production of pornography, how pornography influences attitudes to women, links between pornography and rape, recent research.

Power surge: sex violence & pornography

By Susan G. Cole

Pub. Second Story Press, Canada, 1995

Cole analyses the many forms of violence against women. "Power Surge" surveys the movement against pornography and sexual violence, its strategies and their usefulness in our times.

Take back the night: women on pornography

By Laura Lederer (Ed)s

Pub. William Morrow and Co Inc. USA, 1980

A collection of articles, interviews, research and calls for action. Includes articles on child pornography, racism, and women's action against pornography.

Pornography. The production and consumption of inequality

By Gail Dines, Robert Jensen and Ann Russo

Pub. Routledge, New York, 1998

An examination of the politics, production, content and consumption of contemporary mass-market heterosexual pornography, with the aim of offering an understanding of pornography's role in the cultural construction of gender, racial and sexual identities and relations.

Pornography. Driving the demand in international sex trafficking

By Captive Daughters Media, USA, 2007

A collection of essays which include chapters on; Defining the problem; Economics and the industry; Research on pornography and defining the harm; Racism, trafficking and pornography; Documenting the cultural phenomenon; Law and enforcement; Setting the activist agenda.

B2. Theory, Research and Practice

Children who don't speak out: about children being used in child pornography

By Carl Goran Svedin & Kristina Black

Pub. Scandbook, Falun, Sweden, 1996

The researchers interviewed ten children identified from the Huddinge (1992) and Norrköping (1993) operations when German police seized pornography produced with Swedish children. Looks at the effects of the abuse and the police investigation on the children.

Dangerous Relationships. Pornography, Misogyny and Rape

By Diana E. H. Russell

Pub. Sage, 1998

An original, powerful, cohesive, compelling, and smart theory of the ways pornography casually promotes sexual abuse." Includes: defining pornography; pornography as woman hatred; pornography as a cause of rape.

Getting Off

By Robert Jensen

Pub. South End Press, Cambridge MA, USA, 2007

Robert Jensen launches a powerful critique of mainstream pornography that promises to reignite one of the fiercest debates in contemporary feminism. At once alarming and thought provoking, *Getting Off* asks tough but crucial questions about pornography, manhood, and paths toward genuine social justice.

The Evidence of Pornography.

Related harm and harm-based equality approach to legislating against pornography without censorship.

A briefing paper.

By Dr Catherine Itzin

Pub. University of Bradford, 1992

Outlines the evidence of pornography related harm, and a new harm based legal definition of pornography.

Making Violence sexy: feminist views on pornography

By Diana E.H. Russell (ed)

Pub. Open University Press, London, 1993

This book presents in Part I testimonies of six different women working in the pornography industry. In Part II five more theoretical essays are presented from men and women. Part III presents the feminist research on pornography and violence against women. The concluding Part IV describes various initiatives and actions against pornography. A very interesting and comprehensive book on the subject.

Pornified: How pornography is transforming our lives, our relationships, our families

By Pamela Paul

Pub. Henry Holt & Co, USA, 2004

This publication explores the impact of pornography on the men who use it and those around them. Based on the research undertaken by Pamela Paul, in conjunction with Harris Interactive, the book also comprises of a combination of interviews with men and women and examples of other research.

Pornography and difference

By Berkeley Kaite

Pub. Indiana University Press, USA, 1995

Analyses the visual code of images used in pornography and asks questions about masculinity and masculine sexuality.

Pornography: women, violence and civil liberties

By Catherine Itzin (Ed)

Pub. Oxford University Press, 1993

A collection of articles on: pornography and power; pornography and evidence of harm; the law; censorship; and civil liberties. Very powerful, and recommended for anyone seeking information on the harm caused by pornography.

B3. Pornography: Women's Experiences

How to make love like a porn star. A cautionary tale

By Jenna Jameson with Neil Strauss

Pub. Harper Collins, New York, 2004

The autobiography of Jenna Jameson, who the book labels the 'Queen of Porn'. Brought up by her father, she describes how "As a teenager drawn into a chaotic world ruled by rape, abuse and murder ... I plunged into a downward spiral of addiction". The book also covers Jenna's introduction to pornography and her extensive experience of that industry.



Perilous Journey by Myrna Balk ©

Videos/DVDs

Hardcore

By Principal Films 2001

Running Time 60 mins

A film about an English woman, Felicity, who went to Los Angeles to realise a dream of becoming a porn star. The reality was very different. A harrowing film, but invaluable in highlighting the realities of the industry.

Lilya 4-ever

A film by Lukas Moodysson 2002

Running Time 105 mins

Set in a dismal suburb somewhere in the former Soviet Union, this is the story of a teenage girl named Lilya whose best friend is a glue-sniffing street urchin, Volodya, and whose mother has recently run away to live in America, abandoning her. Eager to start a new life, Lilya is excited when her new boyfriend, Andrei, asks her to move to Sweden with him, but she doesn't get what she bargained for when she gets there, in this bleak story mired in the gloom of deceit, prostitution, rape and suicide.

A difficult, but vitally important, movie.

The Price of Pleasure: Pornography, Sexuality and Relationships

Directed and Produced by Miguel Picker and Chyng Sun

Co-Writer and Associate Producer: Robert Wosnitzer

The film features the voices of consumers, critics, and pornography producers and performers and paints both a nuanced and complex portrait of how pleasure and pain, commerce and power, and liberty and responsibility are intertwined in human relations. The film examines the unprecedented role that commercial pornography now occupies in U.S. popular culture and provides a holistic understanding of pornography as it debunks common myths about the genre.

The film features interviews with scholars of mass media (Gail Dines and Robert Jensen), economics (Richard Wolff), and psychology (Dr. Ana Bridges); writers on pornography and popular culture (Ariel Levy and Pamela Paul); producers and performers from the pornography industry (John Stagliano, Joanna Angel and Ernest Greene); and a former stripper/porn performer-turned-author (Sarah Katherine Lewis).

Stella Does Tricks

A film by Coky Gledroyc 1996

Running Time 95 mins

One of many prostituted children on the streets of London, Stella is a virtual prisoner of her sleazy, paternalistic pimp, Mr. Peters. Realising that she must make her escape, Stella hooks up with Eddie, a young drug addict, to confront the ghosts of her past and make a clean start. She soon learns, however, that escaping a past such as her own is precarious. Forced to turn one last trick, Stella seizes a perfect opportunity to wreak revenge on her pimp and finally gain freedom.

Mysterious Skin

By Tartan Films 2004

Running Time 101 mins

Two Kansas teenagers, Neil and Brian, share a childhood trauma but their responses are radically different: Neil hustles tricks, while Brian, who can't remember what happened, believes he was abducted by aliens and left with "missing time." As both try to make sense of their lives and Brian struggles to find out the truth, *Mysterious Skin* builds to an emotional pitch that some viewers will find uncomfortable and others will find liberating. The characters of Neil and Brian have a fullness that lifts *Mysterious Skin* above most examinations of sexual abuse and trauma.

Web Sites

<http://www.prostitutionrecovery.org>

A website to help people escape the life of prostitution, survive, and recover from its long-term effects, and to provide education about the effects of prostitution on those used in it, and its effects on the larger community.

<http://prostitutionresearch.com/>

This site offers information and research on women abused through prostitution. Highly recommended.

<http://www.ecpat.org.uk>

Website of End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and the Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes.

<http://againstpornography.org>

Includes excellent list of links to other anti-pornography sites.

<http://swapcampaign.co.uk>

Information on the work of Scottish Women Against Pornography.

<http://womenssupportproject.co.uk>

Information on the work of the Project, including resources available.

<http://www.nostatusquo.com/ACLU/dworkin/>

A selection of Andrea Dworkin's writing.

[http:// www.cwasu.org](http://www.cwasu.org)

Training, consultancy and research from a feminist perspective.

<http://catwinternational.org>

Information on prostitution and trafficking.

<http://www.myrnabalk.com>

Website of Myrna Balk, artist and campaigner against sexual exploitation.

<http://stoppornculture.org/home.html>

An excellent website with research links, resources and advice on using anti pornography resources.

http://www.sagesf.org/html/survivor_voices.htm

The Standing Against Global Exploitation Project – or the SAGE Project – is a nonprofit organisation aiming to end the commercial sexual exploitation of

children and adults (CSE/CSEC). SAGE is a unique collaboration between law enforcement, public health, social services, and private agencies. SAGE is also unique in that it is one of the few organisations that was created by and for CSE/CSEC survivors.

How to contact the Women's Support Project

Our telephone line (0141 552 2221) is normally open from 10.00am–4.30pm, on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and from 2.00pm–4.30pm on Wednesday. Our minicom (0141 552 9979) allows deaf people to access our information service. See below for email and website details.

We are not able to offer a drop in service. If you would like to visit the Project, whether for support or to access the Resource Library, please write, email or phone to ask for an appointment. Our office at 31 Stockwell Street is wheelchair accessible by lift. If you require an interpreter and would like us to arrange this, please let us know when you ask for an appointment.

Copies of the Project's policies, including confidentiality, complaints, child protection and equal opportunities, are available on request. If you would like to be added to our mailing list for information on events and training, then please get in touch.

For further information on the resource library, or to arrange a visit, please ask for Isabell Robertson.

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