An Exploratory Study of New York City’s Commercial Sex Industry

Author(s) of Instrument:
Elise White
Rachel Swaner
Emily Genetta
Suvi Hynynen Lambson
Janell Johnson Dash
Isaac Sederbaum
Ariel Wolf

Key References: Publications related to this instrument.


Primary Use/Purpose: This section describes what this instrument was designed to measure.

There has been little rigorous study to date on life histories and experiences of individuals involved in the sex trade. With funding from the National Institute of Justice, the Center for Court Innovation conducted a mixed-method empirical study to fill the knowledge gap. Ultimately, the study’s purpose was to provide an evidence-based foundation for the development of suitable policies and interventions for adults in the sex trade.

Background and Development: How and why this instrument was developed.

The present study unfolded as follows. First, we conducted in-depth, semi-structured interviews with 316 New York City adults who exchange sex for money or other things they need. Through
these interviews, we sought to gain knowledge concerning the life histories of the individuals involved, their involvement in the sex trade, the extent and nature of sex trafficking, and involvement with the criminal justice system.

Second, the study gained the perspectives and policy recommendations of 28 criminal justice policymakers, practitioners, and community representatives affiliated with New York City’s Human Trafficking Intervention Courts (HTICs), a program intended to link court-involved prostitution defendants with services in lieu of standard adjudication and conviction.

Third, we sought to produce policy and practice recommendations drawn directly from those with direct, lived experience of the sex trade (interviewed in the first part of the study) or from stakeholders involved in planning or implementing the HTICs (interviewed in the second part).

**Psychometrics (if applicable):** Any testing of this instrument.

See Appendix F for information on quantitative evaluation.

**Link to Instrument:** Link to the instrument if available.

[https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/251504.pdf](https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/251504.pdf) or see attached.

**Submitted by:** Rachel Swaner submitted this instrument to the CVR Instruments Collection and certified permission to publicly share this instrument.
An Exploratory Study of NYC’s Commercial Sex Industry

RDS Information

1. Respondent Coupon Number/RDS code: ________________________________

2. Interviewer Name: _________________________________________________

3. Interview Date: ______/_____/_______  4. Interview Time: ____________

5. Location of Interview: _______________________________________________  
   □ Bronx  □ Brooklyn  □ Manhattan  □ Queens

Thank you for agreeing to be interviewed. One of the main goals of this interview is for me to learn about your work in the way you think about it, so I want to try to use the words you’d use to describe things.

What do you usually call your sex work?  
What do you usually call your customers?

[From here on out, interviewers use this language.]

Ok, great--thank you. Just to give you an idea of how we’re going to go forward in this interview, we’ll start with some basic questions about your identity, talk about your life growing up, your family and current living situation, and then move into talking about your [RESPONDENT’S WORD FOR SEX WORK] work, your experiences with the police and the courts, and then wrap up with a few questions about education and work experiences, and your thoughts about all this! I realize this sounds like a lot, but I hope this can be more like a conversation. Do you have any questions before we start?

Identity

I have a couple of questions up front that I need to ask about your identity, or how you identify.

6. How old are you now? ____

7. What month/year were you born in? (Specify number) _____ / _________

8. How do you identify your gender?
   □ Cis-Female  □ Cis-Male  □ Transgender Female  □ Transgender Male
   □ Genderqueer  □ Intersex  □ Two-Spirit  □ Other (specify) ____________

9. What is your sexual orientation?
   □ Gay  □ Lesbian  □ AG  □ Bisexual
   □ Straight  □ DL  □ MSM  □ Unsure/Questioning
   □ Queer  □ Asexual  □ Other (specify) ____________________________
   □ Fluid  □ Pansexual

10. How do you identify your race/ethnicity?
    □ Asian/Pacific Islander  □ White  □ Hispanic/Latino  □ N/A
    □ Black/African-American  □ Native American/Alaskan Native  □ Multiracial  □ Other (specify) 
    Please list all races/ethnicities: _________________________________
Housing/Family Past

Let’s start by talking a little about your background.

11. Where were you born? (If respondent was born outside of the continental U.S., skip to Immigration Subsection, Question 17)

12. Where did you grow up? ______________________________________
   a. IF OUTSIDE NYC, Why did you come to New York City?
   b. How old were you when you moved here? (Specify age in numbers) _____

13. What was your home life like growing up?
   a. Did you feel safe there? ☐ Yes ☐ No
      Why or why not?
   b. Were you ever in foster care? ☐ Yes ☐ No
      i. IF YES, when, and for how long? What was that experience like?
   c. IF NO, Were you ever in Family Court? ☐ Yes ☐ No
      i. IF YES, was it related to your parents or living situation?
   d. Were any of your relatives ever involved in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

14. Have you ever had a coming out experience? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   a. IF YES, How old were you when you came out? (Specify number) _____
   b. What was that experience like?

15. Have you ever had a transition experience? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   a. IF YES, How old were you when you transitioned? (Specify number) _____
   b. What was that experience like?

16. Do you still live at home with your parents, guardians, or adults who raised you? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   a. IF NO, how old were you when you first left your family home? (Specify number) _____
   b. When you left [X years ago], what prompted your decision to go?
   c. Are you still in touch with your family? ☐ Yes ☐ No
d. What is your relationship with them like?

*Immigration Subsection*
If respondent was born outside the continental U.S., ask the following questions. If born within the continental U.S., skip to Housing/Family Present, Question 30.

17. How old were you when you came to the U.S.? (Specify number) _____

18. Where did you live before coming to the U.S.?
   a. Is that your home country? ☐ Yes ☐ No
      ➔IF NO, what is your home country?

19. What was your home life like growing up?
   a. Did you feel safe there? ☐ Yes ☐ No
      ➔Why or why not?
   
   b. Did the state ever take custody of you in your home country? ☐ Yes ☐ No
      ➔IF YES, when, and for how long? What was that experience like?

   c. Did the state ever take custody of you in the US (e.g., family court or foster care)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
      ➔IF YES, when, and for how long? What was that experience like?

   d. Were any of your relatives ever involved in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]? ☐ Yes ☐ No

20. What is your legal status?
   ☐ U.S. citizen ☐ Green card ☐ Undocumented ☐ Visa ☐ Unsure

21. Who has your passport/papers right now?

22. Why did you come to New York City?

23. Do you remember your immigration experience and, if so, can you please tell me about it?

**Prompts**
- Did someone help you come here?
- How did you know this person?
- What kind of help did they provide?
- Did you have to give them anything in exchange for their help?
- Are you still in contact with this person?
24. Did anyone help you once you arrived in New York City? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   a. IF YES, what did they do to help you?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prompts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Did they help you with jobs?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Housing?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Immigration attorney referral?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Are you still in contact with this person?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

25. Do you still live at home with your parents, guardians, or adults who raised you? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   a. IF NO, how old were you when you first left your family home? (Specify number) _____
       b. When you left [X years ago], what prompted your decision to go?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prompt</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Did you choose to leave on your own?</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Did you run away?</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Were you kicked out?</td>
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<tr>
<th>Prompt</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Are you close?</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Do you still speak to or see them on a regular basis?</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prompt</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Whom do you financially support?</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Is this related in any way to your involvement in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

26. Do you send money to any family or friends back home? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   a. Please explain.

27. Have you ever had a coming out experience? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   a. IF YES, How old were you when you came out? (Specify number) _____
       b. What was that experience like?

28. Have you ever had a transition experience? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   a. IF YES, How old were you when you transitioned? (Specify number) _____
       b. What was that experience like?

29. If you don’t have legal status here in the U.S., do you want to get legal status? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   a. Why or why not?

**Housing/Family Present**

*And so how about now?*

30. What kind of housing do you currently have?
   - ☐ Private apartment
   - ☐ Emergency Shelter
   - ☐ Foster home
   - ☐ Homeless
   - ☐ Communal living
   - ☐ Public housing/section 8
   - ☐ DV Shelter
   - ☐ SRO
   - ☐ Street
   - ☐ Subletting
   - ☐ House
   - ☐ Room
   - ☐ Couch surfing
   - ☐ School/dorm
   - ☐ Group home
   - ☐ Hasa housing
   - ☐ Other (specify) ____________________
31. Whom do you currently live with? (check all that apply)

- Boyfriend
- Girlfriend
- Spouse
- Intimate partner
- Pimp
- House mother
- Madam
- Friends/Roommates
- Other sex workers
- Wife(s)-in-law
- Other homeless people
- Live alone
- Children
- Other (specify)__________________

32. How long have you lived there? (Specify number of months or years) _____

33. What’s this living situation like?

34. Do you feel safe there?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Sometimes

35. What kind of things about your living situation or whom you’re living with make you feel safe or unsafe?

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<tr>
<th>Prompts</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Are you free to come and go as you please?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Are there house rules or agreements?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- IF YES, who sets them?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- What happens if they’re broken?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Is anyone in charge?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Be aware of signs of physical, emotional, or sexual abuse and follow-up with direct questions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

36. How many places have you lived in the last year? (Specify number) ______

37. Have you ever been forced to leave or been evicted from housing?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  

IF YES, please explain.

38. Have you ever lived in a place as an adult where you couldn’t come and go as you pleased?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  

IF YES, please explain.

Pregnancy and Children

OK, so now that we’re done with the housing and family sections, I’m going to ask you some questions about pregnancy and children. Just a reminder that if you need to take a break, want to come back to them later, or skip questions, just let me know.

39. Are you currently taking care of your own or someone else’s children, either by contributing financially or by being a primary caregiver?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  

a. IF YES, please explain.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prompts</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- How many children do you have?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- How old are they?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Are they your children?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Have any of these children ever been removed from your custody ACS/child protective services?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- How do you handle childcare?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
b. IF NO, do you have or have you ever had children who are no longer in your life? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   i. IF YES, please explain.

   Prompts
   • Are these children still living?
   • How old are they?
   • Are they all your children?
   • Were these children ever been removed from your custody ACS/child protective services?
   • Where do these children live now?
   • With whom?
   • Are you satisfied with this arrangement?

   c. Is your involvement in [RESPONDENT'S WORD FOR SEX WORK] related in any way to your children? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   i. IF YES, how?

   Prompts
   • Are these children still living?
   • How old are they?
   • Are they all your children?
   • Were these children ever been removed from your custody ACS/child protective services?
   • Where do these children live now?
   • With whom?
   • Are you satisfied with this arrangement?

40. (If applicable) Have you ever been pregnant? ☐ Yes ☐ No (Skip to Sex Work History, Question 41)
   a. IF YES, how many times? (Specify number) _____
      IF YES, please explain.

   Prompts
   • Were these pregnancies your choice?
   • Were they the result of unprotected sex with a partner, customer or market facilitator?
   • Were they the result of rape?
   • Were they used to control your behavior in any way?
   • Were these pregnancies related to your [RESPONDENT'S WORD FOR SEX WORK]?

   b. Have any of these pregnancies been ended through an abortion? ☐ Yes ☐ No
      IF YES, please explain.

   Prompts
   • Were these abortions your choice?
   • Did anyone else make you get them?
   • Were they used to control your behavior in any way?
   • Were these abortions legal (in health clinics) or illegal (street abortions)?
   • Were these pregnancies related to your [RESPONDENT'S WORD FOR SEX WORK]?

   c. Have any of these pregnancies been ended through a miscarriage? ☐ Yes ☐ No
      IF YES, please explain.

   Prompts
   • Were any of these miscarriages ever the result of physical or sexual abuse you experienced while pregnant?
   • Were these miscarriages related to your [RESPONDENT'S WORD FOR SEX WORK]?

   d. Have any of these pregnancies ever resulted in the birth of a baby? ☐ Yes ☐ No
      i. IF YES, please explain.

   Prompts
   • How many children have you given birth to?
   • Is your involvement in [RESPONDENT'S WORD FOR SEX WORK] related to your children in any way beyond what we've already discussed
Sex Work History
Let’s just pause for a minute. I know this stuff can be pretty intense, and we’re about to move into the section where we talk about your [RESPONDENT’S WORD FOR SEX WORK], so I want to make sure you’re doing ok. Do you need to step outside or take a break for a minute, maybe get some water or go to the bathroom?

[When respondent is ready to continue] So I’ve already heard some about your involvement in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK], but I’d like to learn more about that.

41. There are a lot of different kinds of commercial sex work. Where did your first experience take place?
   - Street sex work
   - Webcam
   - Brothel/Parlor
   - Escort Service
   - Dancing/stripping
   - Massage
   - BDSM (doms/subs)
   - Pornography
   - Other ______________

42. How old were you then? (Specify number) ____

43. Talk to me about how you got involved in that first experience.

44. Everyone’s path into trading sex for money or things they need is different. What were the steps that led up to your first experience of [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?

45. Was there another person involved in setting up your first experience? ☐ Yes ☐ No

   a. IF YES, what would you call this person and how were they involved?

46. How old were you when you first exchanged sex for money or something else? (Specify number) ______

Now let’s shift gears a little, and talk about your work since that first experience.

47. How and why has your involvement in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK] changed during your time in the industry?

(Do not read list, but fill in based on narrative answer to question 47.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>AGE STARTED</th>
<th>REASON FOR LEAVING</th>
<th>STILL ACTIVE</th>
<th>NEVER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Street sex work</td>
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<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brothel/Parlor/House</td>
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<td>Independent/Working on own</td>
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<td>Pimp-controlled</td>
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<td>Escort Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>TYPE</td>
<td>AGE STARTED</td>
<td>REASON FOR LEAVING</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent Escort</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dancing/Stripping</td>
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<td>Massage/Body rub</td>
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<td>Pornography</td>
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<td>Hotel/Bar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Webcam</td>
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<tr>
<td>BDSM club (Doms/Subs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar baby / sugar daddy</td>
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<td>Other:</td>
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**Current Work/Market Involvement**

*Now let’s talk about your current work [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK] and your [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR CUSTOMERS].*

48. What gender do you [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK] as?
☐ Cis-Female ☐ Cis-Male ☐ Transgender Female ☐ Transgender Male ☐ Genderqueer ☐ Intersex ☐ Two-Spirit ☐ Other (specify) _____________

49. What kinds of places are you [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK] in right now (not in the past)? (check all that apply)
☐ Strolls/Track ☐ Hotels/motels ☐ Outcalls ☐ Brothel ☐ Massage parlor ☐ Own apartment ☐ Dungeon ☐ Strip club ☐ Other ________________ ☐ Parties ☐ Shared rental space

IF OUTCALLS, do you have a driver or a car service company that drives you to dates? Please explain.

   a. Why do you choose these places?

   **Prompts**
   - Safety, privacy, convenience

50. Do you ever go with [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR CUSTOMERS] to other locations, either for sessions or other reasons? Please explain.

51. Where do you get your [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR CUSTOMERS]? (check all that apply)
☐ Referrals from friends ☐ Internet ☐ Pimp/Madam ☐ Agency/Escort service ☐ Referrals from clients ☐ Street ☐ House mother ☐ Massage Parlor Walk-Ins ☐ Referrals from someone at non-sex work job (e.g., bartender, bouncer) ☐ Other ________________
52. Describe a typical workweek for me.

53. Describe your [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR CUSTOMERS] for me.

54. Describe a typical date/session for me, from the point where you first know someone is interested in your services.

55. Of your [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR CUSTOMERS], how many would you say are regulars? (Specify number) ____

56. How often do you see these regulars? (Specify per week or month) ______

Making and Spending Money
Thank you—you’re really sharing a lot of information with me. Now I want to ask you some questions about how you figure out the money part of your work—does that sound ok?

57. In your current work, do your [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR CUSTOMERS] ever pay you with anything besides money? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   a. If YES, Tell me about this.

58. In your current work, who negotiates prices with [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR CUSTOMERS]?
   ☐ Self ☐ Other ________________________
   a. Do any factors affect how much you charge?
59. Do you have a set amount you need to make a week? □ Yes □ No
   a. Who sets the amount that you need to make each week?
      □ Self □ Other ____________________________
   b. How much do you make/week from [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]? ________________
   c. What happens when you don’t make that amount?

60. Who collects the money from your dates/sessions? □ Self □ Other ____________________________

61. Do you get to keep all the money you make from dates/sessions? □ Yes □ No
   a. IF NO, whom do you give it to?
   b. What do you get in return for giving them this money?
   c. What happens when you don’t give them this money?

62. Do you owe anyone money?
   a. Is your debt related in any way to sex work?
      i. IF YES, please explain.

Safety
63. Are there ever conflicts in the places you work? □ Yes □ No
   a. IF YES, describe some of them for me. (Reminder: No names, only categories/roles of people)

64. Have any of these fights ever gotten violent? □ Yes □ No □ Not applicable

65. In these fights, what has your involvement in these been? Have you been physically involved or hurt?

66. Have you ever been robbed or not paid by a [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR CUSTOMER]? □ Yes □ No
   a. If YES, please explain.
67. Have you ever been forced by a [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR CUSTOMER] to do anything you didn’t want to do?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   a. If YES, please explain.

   Prompts
   • Not using condoms.
   • Different sexual acts.
   • Kissing.
   • Going somewhere else.
   • Did you get paid more for doing those things?

68. Are there places—like neighborhoods, certain corners or areas—that you avoid?
   ▸ a. IF YES, why?
   
   b. How do you do this?
   
   c. What happens if you can’t avoid them?

69. Have you ever been threatened or hurt because of your involvement in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   a. If YES, please explain.

70. Have you ever been threatened or hurt because of other aspects of your identity (e.g., gender, race, etc.)?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   a. If YES, please explain.

71. How do you keep yourself safe while you’re working?

   Prompts
   • Do you have rules or agreements you require [RESPONDENT’S WORD FOR CUSTOMERS] to make or understand prior to taking a date?
   • What happens if they don’t respect/follow those rules/agreements?
   • Do you have a strategy for when you collect payment to keep the money safe?

72. What do you think would make your work easier or safer?

Market Facilitators

73. Do you currently have someone who helps you get customers? ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   ▸ a. IF NO, have you ever? ☐ Yes  ☐ No
      i. IF NO, Skip to No Market Facilitator section (Question 86).
      ii. IF YES, ask the following questions in the past tense.

74. What do you call this person?
   ☐ Pimp  ☐ Intimate partner  ☐ House mother  ☐ Madam
   ☐ Daddy  ☐ Folks  ☐ Bey  ☐ Manager/Booker/Dispatcher
75. How did you get to know this [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR MARKET FACILITATOR]?

76. How did you start working with or for this [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR MARKET FACILITATOR]?

77. Describe your relationship with this [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR MARKET FACILITATOR].

78. What is your agreement or arrangement with this person?

79. Do they set any rules or agreements for your [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]? □ Yes □ No

IF YES, what are these?

a. What happens if you or someone else breaks those rules?

b. Who else knows about these rules?

c. How do these rules affect your behavior?

d. How do these rules affect others’ behavior toward you?

80. In what ways is this [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR MARKET FACILITATOR] safe, or helpful to you?

81. In what ways is this [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR MARKET FACILITATOR] harmful, or unsafe for you?
82. [SKIP IF NO CURRENT MARKET FACILITATOR] If you could stop working with or for this [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR MARKET FACILITATOR], would you?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   a. IF YES, what keeps you from doing that?

83. How many others work for your [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR MARKET FACILITATOR]? (Specify number) _____

84. What are the different kinds of [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR MARKET FACILITATORS] out there?

85. What kinds of things do they have in common? How are they different from one another?

*If No Market Facilitator

86. Have you ever been approached by someone who wanted you to do [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK] work for them? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

87. What would/do you call this person?
   ☐ Pimp  ☐ Intimate partner  ☐ House mother  ☐ Madam
   ☐ Daddy  ☐ Folks  ☐ Bey  ☐ Manager/Booker/Dispatcher
   ☐ Business partner  ☐ Friend/associate  ☐ Other ____________________________

88. Have you ever considered working for or with a [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR MARKET FACILITATOR]?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   a. IF YES, Why did you ultimately decide not to?

89. What are the different kinds of [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR MARKET FACILITATORS] out there?

90. What kinds of things do they have in common? How are they different from one another?

Network

Now I want to ask you some questions about other people who also work for [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR MARKET FACILITATOR, if relevant], or who you know who are also involved in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK].

91. What do you call them? [NOTE: FROM HERE ON, USE THOSE TERMS FOR SEX WORK COLLEAGUES] ______________

92. Describe your relationship with those [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK COLLEAGUES].
   a. When/where do you see each other?

93. Do you live together? ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   a. What is that experience like?
b. Are there rules or agreements about how you all interact? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

  i. IF YES, what are they?

  ii. Who enforces them?

  iii. What happens if they’re broken?

94. How many people do you know who are 18 or older who are involved in trading sex for money in New York City? (Specify number if you know, ballpark it if you don’t) _____

95. How many are: (Specify number, not percentage)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cis-Men</th>
<th>Cis-Women</th>
<th>Transwomen</th>
<th>Transmen</th>
<th>Other-gendered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_____</td>
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<td>_____</td>
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<td>_____</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

96. (If applicable) Do any of these people also work for your [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR MARKET FACILITATOR]?

☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ N/A

97. How do you meet these people?

98. Of those people who do the same kind of work you do:

   a. Do you share things with them? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

   b. Do you share information with them about dates and [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR CUSTOMER], police, bad dates? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

   c. IF RESPONDENT IDENTIFIES AS AN IMMIGRANT: Sometimes there are networks of [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK COLLEAGUES] from the same country or ethnic community. Can you tell me about this?

   (Note to interviewer: If respondent says yes to any of these, follow up and ask them about it.)

99. Have you been stopped by a police officer on the street but not arrested? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

100. Has a police officer ever asked you where you were going or what you were doing out at a certain time of day?

    ☐ Yes  ☐ No
101. Have you ever been asked by a police officer if they could check your bag or your pockets? □ Yes  □ No

102. Have you ever been asked by a police officer if you had condoms? □ Yes  □ No

103. Has a police officer ever threatened you with verbal, physical or sexual violence? □ Yes  □ No

104. Has a police officer ever not arrested you in exchange for sex? □ Yes  □ No

105. Has a police officer ever otherwise pressured or forced you to engage in sexual contact? □ Yes  □ No

106. Has a police officer ever harassed you because of your gender presentation? □ Yes  □ No

107. Has a police officer ever taken pictures of you that weren’t related to your mugshot? □ Yes  □ No

108. Would you like to tell me more about any of these experiences?

109. Do you try to keep away from the police?
   →a. IF YES, how?

   →b. How does this change the way you work?

110. Would you ever call the police if you became the victim of a crime while [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]? □ Yes  □ No

111. Do you go to the police when you have trouble, beyond just when you’re working? □ Yes  □ No
   →a. Why or why not?

112. How many times have you been arrested? (Specify number) ______

113. What have you been arrested for?

114. In 2014, how many times were you arrested for prostitution-related charges in New York City? (Enter 0 if none) ______

115. What, in your opinion, makes the police more or less likely to arrest you?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prompts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pictures that you thought might have been for their own use?</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prompts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Changing your location</td>
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<tr>
<td>Changing the way you find potential customers</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prompts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rape, assault, sex trafficking</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Prompts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time of day/week/year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area/neighborhood</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
116. Think about your last interaction with a New York City police officer you had while you were [RESPONDENT'S TERM SEX WORK].

a. Describe it for me step by step.

b. Were you arrested? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   i. Were the officers undercover? ☐ Yes ☐ No
      1. IF YES, Before you learned the undercover officer was a police officer, did you engage in any sexual contact with him or her? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. Before you learned the undercover officer was a police officer, did you consume any alcohol or drugs with him or her? ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. After the back-up team (i.e., arrest team, other officers) arrived, were you allowed to get dressed right away? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable

117. What were the conditions like at the precinct?

118. What were the conditions like when you were waiting to go into court?

**Court Experiences**

*Now I’m going to ask you some questions about what happened if/when you’ve been to court in the past.*

119. How many times have you been to a criminal court in NYC because you were arrested for prostitution, loitering for the purposes of prostitution, prostitution in a school zone, or unlicensed massage? (If none, skip to Health and Needs section, Question 151.) _____

120. Think about your most recent New York City case. Where/what kind of courtroom were you in when it finally ended or resolved?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brooklyn</th>
<th>The Bronx</th>
<th>Manhattan</th>
<th>Queens</th>
<th>Staten Island</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☐ Brooklyn Criminal (downtown, 120 Schermerhorn, lots of different types of cases)</td>
<td>☐ Bronx Criminal (lots of different types of cases)</td>
<td>☐ Manhattan Criminal (downtown, 100 Centre St, lots of different types of cases)</td>
<td>☐ Queens Criminal (lots of different types of cases)</td>
<td>☐ Richmond Criminal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Special courtroom where all the other cases were prostitution-related cases like yours (AP8)</td>
<td>☐ Special courtroom where all the other cases were prostitution-related cases like yours (AP8)</td>
<td>☐ Midtown Community Court</td>
<td>☐ Special courtroom where all the other cases were prostitution-related cases like yours (AP8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Red Hook Community Justice Center</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

121. What year was this? (Specify number) _____

122. Did you plead guilty or get convicted? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

16
123. Regardless of whether you were convicted or not, did the court order you to do anything? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

[a. What were you expected to do?]

124. Did you find this mandate helpful? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

[a. Why or why not?]

125. Please think about that experience, and I’m going to ask you a number of questions about it. For each question, I’d like you to tell me how much you agree with it on a scale of 1 – 5, with 1 being strongly disagree and 5 being strongly agree. Here’s a copy of these questions so you can follow along.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>You had the opportunity to express your views in court?</th>
<th>1 STRONGLY DISAGREE</th>
<th>2 DISAGREE</th>
<th>3 NEUTRAL</th>
<th>4 AGREE</th>
<th>5 STRONGLY AGREE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The judge took account of what you said in deciding what should be done?</td>
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<tr>
<td>During court, you were pushed into things you did not agree with?</td>
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<td>You were treated differently in court because of your age, income, sex, race, or some other reason?</td>
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<tr>
<td>You understood what was going on in court?</td>
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<tr>
<td>You were treated with respect in court?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall, you were treated fairly?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall, you were satisfied with the result of your case?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

126. Throughout this same, most recent case, how respectfully did the following court staff treat you, on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 very disrespectful and 5 being very respectful?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Judge</th>
<th>1 VERY DISRESPECTFUL</th>
<th>2 SOMEWHAT DISRESPECTFUL</th>
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<td>The Prosecutor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Court Staff</td>
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</table>

127. How has that court experience affected your involvement in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?

[a. Why do you think it had that effect?]

**IF THE CASE JUST DESCRIBED WAS AT AN AP8, PROCEED TO QUESTION 128.**
**IF IT WAS IN A TRADITIONAL CRIMINAL COURT PART, SKIP TO QUESTION 137.**
128. You just described an experience in a courtroom where most the other cases were prostitution-related. Have you ever had a prostitution-related case resolved or end in a courtroom where there were lots of different kinds of cases were also being heard? ☐ Yes ☐ No (IF NO, Skip to Health/Needs section, Question 151.)

129. At which of the following courthouses did that happen?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brooklyn</th>
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</table>

130. What year was this? (Specify number) _____

131. Did you plead guilty or get convicted? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

132. Regardless of whether you were convicted or not, did the court order you to do anything? ☐ Yes ☐ No

a. What were you expected to do?

133. Did you find this mandate helpful? ☐ Yes ☐ No

a. Why or why not?

134. Please think about that experience, and I’m going to ask you a number of questions about it. For each question, I’d like you to tell me how much you agree with it on a scale of 1 – 5, with 1 being strongly disagree and 5 being strongly agree. Here’s a copy of these questions so you can follow along.

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135. Throughout this same, most recent case, how respectfully did the following court staff treat you, on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 very disrespectful and 5 being very respectful?

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</table>

136. How has that court experience affected your involvement in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?

  a. Why do you think it had that effect?

**ONCE COMPLETED, SKIP TO QUESTION 146.**

**FOR THOSE WHOSE LAST EXPERIENCE WAS AT A TRADITIONAL COURT, ASK THE FOLLOWING.**

137. You just described an experience in a courtroom where there were lots of different kinds of cases. Have you ever had a case resolved or end in a courtroom where most of the other cases were prostitution-related like yours?

   □ Yes  □ No  (IF NO, skip to Health and Needs section, Question 151.)

138. At which of the following courthouses did that happen?

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<td>□ Bronx Criminal (AP8)</td>
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<td>□ Queens Criminal (AP8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

139. What year was this? (Specify number) ______

140. Did you plead guilty or get convicted? □ Yes  □ No  □ Unknown

141. Regardless of whether you were convicted or not, did the court order you to do anything? □ Yes  □ No

  a. What were you expected to do?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Social service group?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Counseling or mental health services?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Job training program?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Community service?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Jail?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

142. Did you find this mandate helpful? □ Yes  □ No

  a. Why or why not?
143. Please think about that experience, and I’m going to ask you a number of questions about it. For each question, I’d like you to tell me how much you agree with it on a scale of 1 – 5, with 1 being strongly disagree and 5 being strongly agree. Here’s a copy of these questions so you can follow along.

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</table>

145. How has that court experience affected your involvement in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?

   a. Why do you think it had that effect?

   **FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN TO BOTH TRADITIONAL AND AP8 COURTS**

   *Now I’m going to ask you some questions asking you to compare your experiences in the different kinds of courts you’ve been to. The courthouse with all the prostitution-related cases is called AP8. The one with all the different kinds of cases we’ll just call the traditional court.*

146. How would you describe the differences between the AP8 court and the more traditional court?

147. How would you describe the differences between the judge at the AP8 courts and the judge at the traditional courts?
148. I know you’ve already answered this question, but remind me, were you mandated to any programming through AP8? □ Yes  □ No

   a. IF YES, Describe the programming for me.

   b. Do you think the assistance was useful? □ Yes  □ No
      i. Why/why not?

   c. Did you complete the mandate? □ Yes  □ No
      ii. Why/why not?

149. Between the two different courts—the traditional court process and the AP8 court—which did you prefer, and why? □ Traditional □ AP8

Think back to your network, the people you know who also [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK].

150. What do people you know say about how they were treated at the AP8 courts and the services they were mandated to?

Health and Needs
Now we’re going to transition into some questions about your health, because there’s often a link between the things that people experience in life and their health.

151. Do you currently or have you ever had unmet health needs or concerns? □ Yes  □ No

   a. IF YES, what are they?

   b. Are you currently meeting them, or have you met them, outside the traditional healthcare system? □ Yes  □ No  □ Not applicable
      Please explain.

152. Do you have disabilities, chronic illness, or other medical or mental health conditions that you think are related to your [RESPONDENT’S TERM SEX WORK]? □ Yes  □ No

      Please explain.
153. Are you currently using any drugs or alcohol? ☐ Yes (list in chart below)  ☐ No
(Drugs might include marijuana, cocaine, crack, heroin, speedballs (heroin and cocaine together), street methadone, inhalants/whippets, methamphetamines, amphetamines, tranquilizers, hallucinogens, other opiates (morphine, opium, Demerol, rx opiates))

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Age at First Use</th>
<th>Frequency/Amount</th>
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154. IF ALCOHOL, do you typically drink 5 or more drinks at one time? ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ N/A

155. Do you think your experiences with drugs and/or alcohol related in any way to your experiences with [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   → Please explain.

156. Have you ever been involved in counseling or other mental health services? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

157. Have you ever been given a mental health diagnosis? ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   ➔ a. IF YES, Do you agree with it? ☐ Yes  ☐ No
      b. Why or why not?

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<tr>
<th>Prompts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examples:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Depression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Bipolar disorder</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Borderline personality disorder</td>
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Expectations/Future Plans
Thank you for taking so much time talking to me today. This is the last section of the interview, and I’d like to ask you some questions about your school and employment history, and about future plans and goals you have.

158. What is the highest grade you completed in school?
   ☐ ≤ 8th grade  ☐ 9th grade  ☐ 10th grade  ☐ 11th grade  ☐ 12th grade  ☐ GED
   ☐ Some College  ☐ Associate’s  ☐ Bachelor’s  ☐ Master’s  ☐ N/A  ☐ Other (specify)  ___________
   ➔ (IF RESPONDENT DID NOT GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL) When you stopped going to school, what were some of the things that influenced that decision?

159. Are you in school right now? ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   ➔ a. IF YES, How do you balance school and your [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?

160. Is your experience in school related in any way to your [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
   ➔ a. IF YES, how?
161. Do you have any other jobs right now in addition to your [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   a. IF YES, How do you balance your responsibilities for that job with your [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?

   b. IF NO, have you ever worked outside the sex industry?
      □ Yes  □ No (IF NO, skip to Question 163.)
      → IF YES, tell me about where you worked.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prompts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• How long did you work there?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• How did you find that job?</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Why did you stop working there?</td>
</tr>
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162. Is your other work experience related in any way to your experience in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?  
   □ Yes □ No
   → a. IF YES, how?

163. Is there anything you like about [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]? □ Yes □ No □ Not sure
   → a. IF YES, what do you like?

164. Is there anything you dislike about [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]? □ Yes □ No □ Not sure
   → a. IF YES, what do you dislike?

165. What do you think the general population thinks the risks are for people involved in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?

166. What do you think the real risks are for people involved in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]?

167. Are you familiar with the term “human trafficking”? □ Yes □ No □ Not sure
   → IF YES, what do you think it means?

   → Do you now or have you at any time felt that that term fit you or describes your experiences?
      □ Yes  □ No  □ Not sure  □ Had never heard of the term

168. What do you think people who make decisions about arrests and the court process should know about [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK] and the realities of life for [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORKERS]?

169. If you were in a position to make decisions or laws that could help folks involved in [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK] what would they be?

170. Have you ever thought about leaving [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]? □ Yes □ No □ Not sure
   → a. Why or why not? What would you need to do so?
171. Have you ever tried to leave [RESPONDENT’S TERM FOR SEX WORK]? □ Yes □ No □ Not sure
   a. If YES, For what reasons did you return to it?

172. What are your goals or hopes do you have for yourself, for your future?

That's all the questions I have today. Thank you so much for your time and for participating in this interview. We talked about some pretty intense things and people can sometimes feel triggered at the end of these interviews. Do you feel ok to leave? Would you like to talk to a social worker? I also have a resource guide here. Do you have a minute to look at it with me briefly?

FOR INTERVIEWER ONLY:
   Any notes about the interview:

   Should this interview be listened to for possible transcription? □ Yes □ No

   Please take a moment and record other non-verbal or situational details that were germane to the interview (e.g., mannerisms/behavioral cues, location, other people who may have been present or nearby, etc.):