

# Protect Survivors, Not Buyers

The **Community Safety and Health Amendment Act of 2019 B23-0318** would fully decriminalize the sex trade, including acts of pimping, purchasing sex, and operating brothels in Washington, D.C.

The measure not only threatens the well-being of vulnerable women and children throughout the DMV area, but will also greatly exacerbate sex trafficking.

## MYTH:

Full decriminalization will stop sex trafficking and improve safety.

## FACT:

- During the 29 year period of full decrim in Rhode Island, out-of-state traffickers brought victims to RI to take advantage of the lack of laws and regulation.
- Underage teens were exploited in the sex industry in RI under full decrim.
- Child sex trafficking was not reduced by full decrim in New Zealand.
- Most women in NZ's sex trade do not feel safer/experience less violence today under full decrim.

In a sample of 100 prostituted women in D.C.:

**42%**

met the criteria for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

**61%**

reported being physically assaulted.

**80%**

reported being threatened with a weapon.

**44%**

had been raped in prostitution, with

**60%**

of these rapes committed by sex buyers.

## SPEAK OUT AGAINST FULL DECRIMINALIZATION!

Sign on to the letter [here](#).

Join us Thursday, October 17th at 10 a.m. at the John Wilson Building (1350 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20004) in Room 412 in protest of the bill.

If you wish to testify against the bill, sign up by e-mailing the Judiciary Committee at [judiciary@dccouncil.us](mailto:judiciary@dccouncil.us) by close of business on Monday, October 14th. In your e-mail, you must provide your name, telephone number, and organizational affiliation (if relevant).