

SEX WORK DURING COVID-19

This resource is written for sex workers, by sex workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been adapted from **Sex Work COVID-19: Guidelines for Sex Workers**, a document created by Maggie's Toronto Sex Workers Action Project and Butterfly Asian & Migrant Sex Work Support Network.

COVID-19 is an infection that causes mild to severe respiratory illness. It spreads through droplets (coughing/sneezing/even speaking to some degree) that can travel up to six feet. It can also live on surfaces/objects and can be spread by touching your face after handling an infected surface/object.

This one-pager uses a harm reduction approach to minimize infection risk during in-person, FSSW. If you can move dates online, now is the time. Explore Skype, phone sex or camming. For those of us who can't, read on for some precautions to keep yourself safer and healthier.

SEEING CLIENTS IN PERSON

Frequently wash your hands for 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% to kill germs, before and after seeing clients.

Screen clients before a session: does he have a fever, dry cough, shortness of breath or trouble breathing, fatigue, or recent travel? Just because someone doesn't have symptoms doesn't mean they aren't infected. Asymptomatic people are still contagious, so proceed with caution.



Have clients wash hands and face with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer before a date. If feasible, have the client shower prior to contact. Have tissues on hand for him, and dispose of them immediately in a closed garbage can.

If you have regulars, try seeing them exclusively to minimize new contacts. Screening and hygiene remains the same for both new and repeat clients.

Avoid kissing, saliva exchange, mouth on skin contact, and putting objects in your mouth that the client has touched (including fingers). Consider offering alternative services such as massage or strip-tease, and opt for sexual positions that minimize face-to-face contact (e.g.

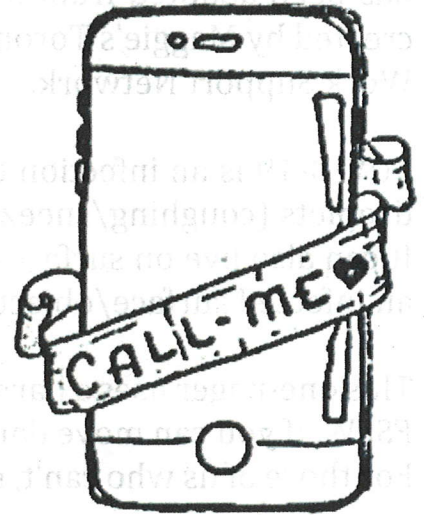


doggy style or cow girl). Get creative: would your client be open to role-play with gloves and a mask?

Avoid direct contact with bodily fluids. Now more than ever use condoms, dental dams/barriers, and gloves. You can get free supplies at Harm Reduction Agencies city-wide.

Avoid sharing cigarettes, pipes, vapes, or drinks with anyone.

After appointments, disinfect work surfaces and any materials that were used. Laundry does not need to be separated from regular wash. Be sure to wash your hands after handling money.



RESOURCES

Maggie's Toronto Sex Workers Action Project: (416)964-0150

Email: info@maggiesto.org Website: Maggiesto.org

Report Bad Dates/Bad Date List: (416)765-6009

Leave a Message if you need a follow up (temporary service)

Email: report@baddatelist.com Website: baddatelist.com

Butterfly (Asian & Migrant SW Support Network): (416)906-3098

Email: cswbutterfly@gmail.com Website: Butterflysw.org

KAPOW: Knowledge And Power of Women: (416)537-2455 x 1361

Non-Urgent, Brief and Supportive Counselling and Referrals

Crisis Services Canada Suicide Helpline: 1-833-456-4566

Toronto Distress Centre: (416)408-HELP (4357)



**PARKDALE
QUEEN WEST
Community
Health Centre**



Unison
Health & Community Services

