POWER & CONTROL WHEEL FOR WOMEN INVOLVED IN STREET PROSTITUTION

ECONOMIC ABUSE
Taking her money/benefits; not letting her have control over the money she earns and withholding earnings; making her pay for her own habits (drugs/alcohol/gambling); not paying the ‘going rate’; fixing ‘thresholds’ on what she has to earn and changing these.

SEXUAL ABUSE
Forcing her to carry out sexual acts ‘as a favour,’ to pay debts or for money/drugs; forcing her to watch or participate in pornography; forcing her to have unsafe sex.

USING ISOLATION
Confining and isolating her; stalking her and monitoring her movements; controlling/preventing communications with friends and family; being the only source of support for her; preventing/controlling access to services.

SEXUAL ABUSE
Forcing her to carry out sexual acts ‘as a favour,’ to pay debts or for money/drugs; forcing her to watch or participate in pornography; forcing her to have unsafe sex.

PHYSICAL ABUSE
Hitting, slapping, punching, kicking, burning and disfiguring her; using weapons against her; forcing or withholding drug/alcohol use.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE
Criticising and putting her down to undermine her confidence; affirming existing stigmas about her; threatening suicide if she leaves and/or doesn’t sell sex; playing mind games; humiliating her, including by openly having sexual relationships with others; withholding affection to control her.

STIGMATISING, UNDERMINING, BLAMING
Threatening exposure to family and children; normalising experiences of selling sex and sexual violence; disregarding the impact of selling sex on her; blaming violence on her; stigmatising her because of selling sex – name calling, blaming her for all her problems.

ENCOURAGING DRUG & ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE
Controlling the quantity of drugs/alcohol they have; preventing agency assistance; sabotaging her efforts to access support; injecting her/getting her high to enable her to sell sex.

USING MALE PRIVILEGE AND ENTITLEMENT
– Telling her how to look and what to wear; dressing her; reducing her to a sexual commodity; sex industry based on male privilege –

USING COERCION, INTIMIDATION AND THREATS
Threatening violence; saying to her, ‘If you love me you will do it’; threatening to leave her; threatening to tell the Police, Social Services and family members about her selling sex; blackmailing her; putting conditions on offers of ‘help.’

POWER AND CONTROL

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