

Yes, I would like to support the work of Project Respect:

I/We give a regular monthly donation of
 \$15 \$25 \$35 \$50 \$75

other \$

OR/AND

I/We give a one off donation of
 \$125 \$250 \$500 \$1000 \$2000

other \$

I/We would like to know more about Project Respect activities

I/We would like to be a sponsor of Project Respect initiatives

Payment Options (Please tick)

Cash Credit Card

Cheque Please make cheques payable to 'Project Respect'

Please debit Visa Mastercard

Expiry date /

Signature

Title: Name:

Surname:

Organisation:

Address:

Suburb: P/Code:

Telephone h: w:

m:

Email:

Thank you for your donation.

All donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible, a receipt will be mailed to you.

get involved

There are many ways you can support Project Respect and make a difference. **We are asking for your help:**

- **Make a donation** to the work of Project Respect
- **Become a volunteer**, you may want to speak at your University or provide support in the Project Respect office or help with community awareness-raising
- **Lobby** your MP
- **Join the network** against trafficking in women and girls for prostitution

In the next twelve months we need your support to:

- Expand our outreach program to women in the sex industry of Victoria including women trafficked for prostitution
- Open a community enterprise noodle bar and provide survivors of trafficking with long-term sustainable employment
- Expand shelter accommodation for trafficked women, helping them with food, shelter and access to dedicated support workers
- Employ a part-time Project Respect counsellor dedicated to working with women in the sex industry
- Continue our Pathways program for women wishing to leave the sex industry
- Continue our advocacy work on prostitution and trafficking

For more information go to
www.projectrespect.org.au



project
respect
women matter

www.projectrespect.org.au

PO BOX 1323
Collingwood | VIC | 3066

Tel: (+61 3) 9416 3401
Fax: (+61 3) 9417 0833

info@projectrespect.org.au



Printed on Recycled Paper.
This brochure has been produced using a Clean Green Print process which means all the processes involved with the manufacture are guaranteed to have minimal impact on the environment. For more information on this initiative please visit www.cleangreenprint.com

Actors were used for all photographs in this publication.



project
respect
women matter

about us

Project Respect is a non-profit community-based organisation that aims to empower and support women in the sex industry, including women trafficked to Australia.

Established in 1998 we began a direct service conducting outreach and offer support to women in the sex industry across Victoria.

our mission

Our mission is to support women in the sex industry of Australia to help prevent the exploitation and enslavement of women, by the industry.

We aim to see this fulfilled through:

- Empowerment
- Advocacy
- Education
- Activism

our vision

A world where there is no longer demand for prostitution and people trafficking

- Adequate support given to women in the sex industry, including trafficked women, such as access to shelter, health care, legal support, compensation and alternative employment pathways
- Eradication of abuse and inequalities, including between men and women, different cultures and different classes, which underpin and are strengthened by the sex industry
- Individuals, organisations and communities informed and mobilised to support women in the sex industry



our work

At the centre of our work is daily outreach to women in the sex industry including women who have been trafficked into Australia for prostitution. We use a strengths-based model, promoting respect for all women.

our outreach work includes:

- Visits to brothels in Victoria, holistic support and individual counselling
- Referrals and information regarding services for health, housing, the law, child custody, domestic violence, drug and alcohol and other issues
- Emergency accommodation and ongoing support for women who have been trafficked
- Support for education and alternative employment pathways

Complementing our direct outreach services we also take a key role in lobbying the Australian government, advocating for clients to community groups, as well as public education. We are committed to global solutions to the problem of violence against women in the sex industry, and work closely with women in the industry to support them to advocate for themselves and other women.

Project Respect offers specialised training to community organisations, such as health centres and women's services, and government agencies, including police, prosecutors and immigration.

what is trafficking for sexual exploitation?

Trafficking is the movement of a person, brokered by another person through abduction, deception, coercion, or abuse of power or vulnerability, for the purpose of exploitation.

Based on research conducted in 2004, Project Respect has estimated that there are up to 1000 women trafficked for prostitution to Australia every year.

Women who are trafficked to Australia for prostitution are told that they will get good jobs and be able to make money, which they can send home to their families. Once in Australia the nightmare begins, told that they owe a huge debt and they have to 'pay it off' by being a slave. They are subjected to violence, threats and deprived of their freedom of movement.

Often former trafficked women face significant social, legal, economic, cultural and gender related disadvantages. Recovering from the trauma of having been trafficked can take a long time and women should receive support including housing, health care, compensation and long-term visas in the destination country or reintegration assistance for home if they prefer.



feature story

In 2002, Daojai needed money urgently to pay for her mother's health care as she was sick and Daojai's father had gambled away their savings. A friend told her she could come to Australia to do Thai massage and earn good money.

When she arrived, her passport was taken away and she was told that she would have to do prostitution, whatever the customer wanted her to do, including sex with no condom. She argued with the trafficker and tried to escape but the windows and doors were locked and the trafficker was violent towards her. After a few days, she gave in, hoping that she would be able to send some money to her mother and that she could get this over with quickly.

She was told that she had to pay off a large debt bondage 'contract' over 8 months before she could be free. She had to do 1,000 'jobs' to finish off her 'contract'. Another woman who ran away was hunted down, locked in a room without food or drink, and another \$2000 was added to her contract. Daojai saw the violence she would suffer if she ever resisted the trafficker.

Now Daojai still lives in Sydney. She ended up sending a lot of money to her mother but her mother died. Daojai hopes to learn to read and write English and to start a business with a friend.

key facts

- 60% of women encountered by Project Respect speak about either currently living in a violent relationship or having been in one in the past.
- 55% of women encountered by Project Respect speak of either childhood or adulthood sexual abuse.
- The 1000 women kept in sexual servitude in Australia are forced to do prostitution for literally hundreds of men for no pay and no real freedom.

NOTE: Figures are based on 2007/8 statistics taken by Project Respect outreach workers in their direct encounters with women in the sex industry.

