

青鳥就香港警員對待性工作者態度之調查 (調查報告)

A Survey on Hong Kong Police's Attitudes towards Female Sex Workers
(Survey Report)



About Action for REACH OUT

Background

Action for REACH OUT (AFRO) was officially set up in 1993. We work with women who are involved in the sexual service industry, mainly from Hong Kong, Mainland China, Thailand and the Philippines. We offer an environment of openness and honesty where women can turn in times of need. Our main goal is to assist them to set up their own support group.

Vision and Mission

We believe that for the advancement of society, personal freedom, dignity and basic human rights should be protected and promoted. Society should embrace diversity and to bring about the necessary social changes so that all people can enjoy their basic human rights.

We believe that every woman has the right:

- To fair and just treatment under the law, regardless of her educational, social, religious or occupational background.
- To be free from violence and coercion.
- To safeguard her own health.
- To be used as a commodity.
- To have the terms of her contract honoured and not changed without her consent.

We work for the social inclusion of sex workers and the social recognition of their rights on occupational choices. We also provide support for sex workers to create options and opportunities for their work and daily lives.

Services

We provide sex workers with an integrated service from a holistic approach. We provide direct services, including telephone help line and outreach service on streets, in hair-salons, karaokes, bars and nightclubs. The Drop-In Centre offers a variety of activities including workshops, classes, rights education, peer-educators' training, legal clinic service, health service, counseling and part-time employment. Through our contacts with women sex workers, we aim to raise the awareness of both legal rights and health issues. Our goal is to assist sex workers to build up positive self-images, as well as the capacity for organizing and developing a self-support network.

We are also committed to public education, advocacy and research, aiming to eliminate discrimination against sex workers and to raise sex workers' rights at a social level.

Acknowledgement

We are deeply grateful to all of the respondents who responded to the questionnaire survey and those who shared with us their personal experiences and feelings during the in-depth interviews.

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Chapter One

Background, Objectives and Methodology

Background

Over the past years, Action for REACH OUT (AFRO) has been receiving informal complaints from sex workers, complaining that they experienced impolite and/or unreasonable treatment, during their encounters with Hong Kong Police when they are working or upon arrest/questioning. These include police officers' using foul language and/or physical conflicts, not allowing them to use mobile phone to call family, friends or lawyers for help when they are arrested, not allowing them to read the statement written by the police officers for them, and forcing them to sign statements that they do not agree to.

However, even in such occasions, sex workers seldom choose to approach Complaint Against Police Office to file a complaint. Sex workers are afraid that it may then reveal their work identities, which very probably will lead to discrimination against them since the sexual service industry is usually treated "differently" by mainstream society. In addition, the unpleasant, impolite or even unreasonable and unfair treatments are also one of the reasons why sex workers lose confidence with the police. Therefore they doubt very much whether it is useful to file such a complaint. Moreover, some sex workers are also worried that filing complaint against certain police officers also implies future "revenge" by the police and "targeted action" against sex workers, and they therefore hesitate to do so. As for those who come from Mainland China with visas and work illegally in Hong Kong, they simply dare not complain against anyone or anything that happens to them in Hong Kong, needless to mention a police officer and/or unfair or unreasonable treatment by him.

Seeing this, AFRO launched "A survey on Hong Kong Police's Attitudes towards Female Sex Workers" (from mid-March to late June in 2005), aiming to collect information and opinions from sex workers who dare not file a formal complaint nor report the problems facing them to the public. This survey is to enhance understanding on the interaction between sex workers and the Hong Kong police, and to further investigate how the police treat sex workers and whether/what kind of unreasonable/unfair treatment exist. We hope that the systematic collection and analysis of data can help reflect the precise picture of problems now facing sex workers in Hong Kong. We look forward to sharing the survey result with the Hong Kong police as well as follow-up actions by the police to accordingly improve the current situation. Moreover, we also hope that this survey can enhance understanding and further arouse the

concern of the public about problems facing sex workers in Hong Kong.

Objectives

- To understand how sex workers are treated by the police during their work related encounters.
- To investigate whether sex workers have experienced unreasonable treatment by the police, and if so, what kinds of unreasonable treatment they experienced.
- To investigate whether sex workers are informed about the rights that every person upon arrest and/or questioning is entitled to.
- To identify difficulties of sex workers in knowing and exercising such rights.

Methodology

A survey was conducted by AFRO during the period from mid-March to late June of 2005. We sent out questionnaires (see Appendix 1) to 73 women engaged in the sexual service industry during their visits to AFRO's Drop-in Centre or AFRO's regular outreach activities at their workplaces, and we managed to collect all 73 finished questionnaires back. In addition, we sent out invitations to the 10 respondents who mentioned in the questionnaire that they experienced arrest and questioning by the police for in-depth interview. In the end, we successfully conducted in-depth interviews with 6 of the 10 respondents.

Chapter Two

Background Information of the Respondents

Number of Respondents: 73

AFRO conducted the survey during the period from mid-March to late June of 2005. We sent out questionnaires (see Appendix 1) to 73 women engaged in the sexual service industry during their visits to AFRO's Drop-in Centre or AFRO's regular outreach activities at their workplaces, and managed to collect all 73 finished questionnaires back.

Residence in Hong Kong (n=73)

Residence	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Cumulative Percentage (%)
HK Resident	29	39.7	39.7
Non-HK Resident	38	52.1	91.8
Residence Unknown	6	8.2	100
Total	73	100	

Among the 73 respondents, about 40% of them (29 persons) were Hong Kong residents, which include Chinese and Thai persons. Meanwhile, about 50 % of the respondents (38%) were non-Hong Kong residents, which include women from Mainland China and the Philippines. Residence of 6 respondents was unknown.

Work Place (n=73)

Work Place	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Cumulative Percentage (%)
Streets	40	54.8	54.8
One-woman-brothel/ Hair-salon	6	8.2	63
Nightclub/Bar/Karaoke	27	37.0	100
Total	73	100	

More than 50% of the 73 respondents (40 persons) were street sex workers. Besides, about 8% (6 persons) worked in one-woman-brothels or hair-salons while about 37% (27 persons) worked in nightclubs, bars or karaokes.

Working District (n=73)

Q.1	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Cumulative Percentage (%)
Yau Ma Tei	40	54.8	54.8
Jordan	5	6.8	61.6
Wan Chai	25	34.2	95.8
Sham Shui Po	1	1.4	97.2
San Po Kong	1	1.4	98.6
North Point	1	1.4	100
Total	73	100	

Respondents mainly worked in Yau Ma Tei and Wan Chai. The largest group (40 respondents) worked in Yau Ma Tei, while the second-largest group (25 respondents) worked in Wan Chai. A small number of respondents worked in Jordan (5 persons). Besides, a very small amount of respondents worked in Sham Shui Po, San Po Kong and North Point (one person in each district.)

Chapter Three

Encounters of the Respondents with Hong Kong Police

Encounters with the Police (n=73)

Q.2	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Cumulative Percentage (%)
Yes	13	17.8	17.8
No (Never)	60	82.2	100
Total	73	100	

More than 80% of the respondents (60 persons) had encountered Hong Kong Police. It indicates that it is a shared common experience among the respondents.

Arrest by the Police (n=60)

Q.7	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Cumulative Percentage (%)
Yes	50	83.3	83.3
No (Never)	10	16.7	100
Total	60	100	

Among those who had encounter with police officers in Hong Kong (60 persons), about 17% of them (10 persons) experienced arrest by the police.

Times of Arrest by the Police (n=10)

Q.7	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Cumulative Percentage (%)
Once	7	70	70
Twice	1	10	80
Three Times	0	0	80
Four Times	1	10	90
More than Ten Times	1	10	100
Total	10	100	

Among those who experienced arrest by Hong Kong Police (10 persons), most of them were arrested once or twice. One was arrested 4 times, while another of the 10 respondents experienced arrest more than 10 times.

Lawsuits against the Respondents taken place in Hong Kong (n=10)

Q.10	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Cumulative Percentage (%)
Yes	6	60	60
No (Never)	4	40	100
Total	10	100	

Among 10 of the respondents who experienced arrest by Hong Kong Police, 6 of them experienced lawsuits against them, while the rest of them (4 persons) were not prosecuted in the end (including 3 women from Mainland China, i.e. Respondent A, Respondent B and Respondent F.)

The above-mentioned 3 respondents from Mainland China were brought back to the police stations for questioning. After that, they were not prosecuted but sent straight back to the place of origin without trial. According to Respondent B and Respondent F, before they were sent back to the Mainland, they were required/forced by police officers to sign some papers that they were not allowed to read. Besides, they also witnessed violence/physical abuse against sex workers by police officers inside the police stations. (Please check “Chapter Six: In-depth Interview” for details.)

Detention because of the Lawsuit (n=6)

Q.11	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Cumulative Percentage (%)
Yes	4	66.7	66.7
No (Never)	2	33.3	100
Total	6	100	

Duration of detention because of the lawsuit:

- 1) 2 – 3 days.
- 2) 12 days.
- 3) (Missing information)
- 4) More than 14 days.

Among the 6 respondents who experienced lawsuit(s) against them in Hong Kong, 4 were detained in a police station or a prison because of the lawsuit(s).

Chapter Four

Police's Attitudes towards Sex Workers

Respondents' Opinions on whether or not the Police are Polite to them (n=60)

Q.3	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Cumulative Percentage (%)
All of them are polite	17	28.3	28.3
Most of them are polite	22	36.7	65
Half-half	18	30	95
Most of them are not polite	3	5	100
All of them are not polite	0	0	100
Total	60	100	

Among those who had encounters with the police (60 persons), 65% of them considered most or all of the police officers they encountered polite, while 30% of them considered them half polite and half impolite. Only a small number of respondents considered most of the police impolite.

According to the respondents, their encounters with the police mostly happened during "I.D. checking"¹ and "license checking"² by the police. They considered the checking "general procedure" and that in general attitudes of the police officers were acceptable. However, there were also some police officers who were impolite or even rude. Some of them scolded, insulted or even threatened the respondents when they were checking I.D. or license. Because of their work identities, most of the respondents chose to keep silent, hoping that it would bring them "temporary peace" instead of further troubles. One of the respondents from Mainland China shared with us her experience:

¹ "I.D." refers to identity card of Hong Kong residents or valid passports and traveling documents of non-Hong Kong residents.

² "License" refers to license granting permit for running business for relevant establishments. However, there is actually no particular license required for running a 'one-woman-brothel'. In this case, the so called "license checking" only refers to police officer's visit to the premise to check the up to date condition of the premise and the user(s) inside.

There was a person who had been very impolite. He scolded me. He said, "You are rubbish", "Don't stand here." I am not stealing nor robbing. If I were not doing this business, I would really want to scold him back. But I was afraid that he would take me (to the police station), I dared not say anything. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO)(Non-Hong Kong resident/Streets)

Police's Impolite Treatment towards the Respondents

(Can Choose More Than One):

Q.4	Times of Item Selected
Unfriendly Look	16
Verbal Assault	17
Foul Language	4
Mild Physical Conflicts	2
Other	22

Other (E.g.) :

- 1) *There was a person (police officer) who had been very impolite. He scolded me. He said, "you are rubbish", "don't stand here." I am not stealing nor robbing. If I were not doing this business, I would really want to scold him back. But I was afraid that he would take me (to the police station), I dared not say anything. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO)(Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
- 2) *The tone sounded not quite polite. (Originally in Putonghua, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
- 3) *(The police officer) scolded me "damn fatty, damn fatty, don't let me see you again." (He) also asked me where I stayed. (He) scolded me to death. (He) asked me why I didn't say anything, scolded me "you talk when you bargain with men. Now you are silent when I talk to you. (He) also scolded me "damn whore." (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
- 4) *Somebody says something that is very much unpleasant. Somebody is ok. (Originally in Putonghua, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
- 5) *Somebody's words are unbearable. (Originally in Putonghua, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
- 6) *The attitude of some of them is ok. But they are very cold. (Originally in Putonghua, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
- 7) *(The police officer) said, "Don't stand here. If you stay here any longer, I will arrest you." (Originally in Putonghua, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
- 8) *(The police officer) threatened me. (He) said he could put some heroin inside my bag and he could arrest me anytime. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
- 9) *(The police officers) speak a bit too loud. (Originally in Putonghua, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*

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- 10) *Very icy, very arrogant. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
 - 11) *They said I could not sit in the park. I was not talking to anybody at the time. I was only sitting in the park. I was not afraid of him. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
 - 12) *(The police officers) make trouble unreasonably. They just intercept, use force to check people's identity card. I am only on the street. Sometimes I am really waiting for a friend. They still check me. But the police officers never show his pass. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
 - 13) *They are rude and they speak loudly to you. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
 - 14) *The police officers insulted not only me. They even referred to my ancestors. At that time I was working in XX district (in Kowloon), from 1992-1996. These years I am working in YY district (in Hong Kong Island). Police Officers there are much more gentle and polite. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
 - 15) *Their attitude is rude. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Nightclub)*
 - 16) *"Wei, I am calling you." (The way the police officer calls the informant.) (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Nightclub)*
 - 17) *Very furious. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Nightclub)*
 - 18) *Attitude e.g. policemen. (Hong Kong Resident/Nightclub)*
 - 19) *(The Police say) "If you do not do it right, we can stay longer." (Hong Kong Resident/Nightclub)*
 - 20) *They like taking advantages. E.g. say that they are not married and then touch (the girls). (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Karaoke)*
 - 21) *They are rude. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Karaoke)*
 - 22) *The attitude is bad. They talk as if they were already questioning an offender. They just talk and talk and don't allow you to say anything. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Hair-salon)*

Impolite treatment by the police that the respondents experienced were mainly 'Unfriendly Look' and 'Verbal Assault'. Moreover, the respondents also referred to the police officers as 'rude', 'unreasonable' and 'unbearable'. Among sex workers, street sex workers were more exposed to the police. They were more likely to be verbally assaulted, insulted or even threatened by the police when they were working on the streets. As long as the police officers had identified the street sex workers, they scolded them and forced them to leave the streets even when the women were only standing on the streets or simply passing by, without any intention of soliciting. The act of the police was simply unreasonable and groundless:

There was a person (police officer) who had been very impolite. He scolded me. He said, "You are rubbish", "Don't stand here." I am not stealing nor robbing. If I were not doing this business, I would really want to scold him back.

But I was afraid that he would take me (to the police station), I dared not say anything. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO)(Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)

(The police officer) scolded me “damn fatty, damn fatty, don’t let me see you again.” (He) also asked me where I stayed. (He) scolded me to death. (He) asked me why I didn’t say anything, scolded me “you talk when you bargain with men. Now you are silent when I talk to you. (He) also scolded me “damn whore.” (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)

(The police officer) said, “Don’t stand here. If you stay here any longer, I will arrest you.” (Originally in Putonghua, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)

They said I could not sit in the park. I was not talking to anybody at the time. I was only sitting in the park. I was not afraid of him. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)

(The police officers) make trouble unreasonably. They just intercept, use force to check people’s identity card. I am only on the street. Sometimes I am really waiting for a friend. They still check me. But the police officers never show his pass. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Streets)

What is more unacceptable is that sex workers were even threatened by police officers:

(The police officer) threatened me. (He) said he could put some heroin inside my bag and he could arrest me anytime. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)

Besides street sex workers, sex workers and other workers in nightclubs, bars, karaokes, one-woman-brothels and hair-salons also had encounters with the police when they came for “license checking”. Some of them mentioned that some of the police officers were very rude and some might even make certain unreasonable requests:

The attitude is bad. They talk as if they were already questioning an offender. They just talk and talk and don’t allow you to say anything. (Originally in

Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Hair-salon)

They like taking advantages. E.g. say that they are not married and then touch (the girls). (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Karaoke)

Chapter Five

Unreasonable Treatment and Rights Exploitation by the Police

Police's Unreasonable Treatment towards the Respondents (n=60)

Q.5		Frequency	Percentage (%)
Check your I.D./passport without telling you the reason	Yes	31	51.7
	No	29	48.3
	Total	60	100
Raid the premise in which you stay without telling you the reason	Yes	5	8.3
	No	55	91.7
	Total	60	100
Raid your work place without telling you the reason	Yes	10	16.7
	No	50	83.3
	Total	60	100
Take away your property without telling you the reason	Yes	4	6.7
	No	56	93.3
	Total	60	100
Severe physical conflicts	Yes	2	3.3
	No	58	96.7
	Total	60	100
Other	Yes	4	6.7
	No	56	93.3
	Total	60	100

Other (E.g.)

- 1) *They ask us to leave (the street). (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO)(Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
 - 2) *They are unreasonable indeed. They arrest you without any reason or ground. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO)(Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
 - 3) *They beat me, in the place I work. He beat me because I argued with him. He was using violence. Even in the police station, I was beaten. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*
 - 4) *Once they arrested all of us, 5 local women and 2 from Macau. They didn't have a reason and they didn't tell you the reason. They took us back to the police station and asked us for personal information. I said, "If*
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you are going to charge me with a formal charge, tell me what you are going to charge me with. Only then will I give you my personal information.” In the end they didn’t charge me with anything. And I didn’t give them my information. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO) (Hong Kong Resident/Streets)

The unreasonable treatment by the police that most respondents experienced was “Check your I.D./passport without telling you the reason”. About half of the respondents (51.7%) had such experience. It reflects that some police officers do not respect the rights of persons who are stopped and checked. Some of the police officers may think that there is no need to explain the reason and purpose of their “stop and check” action as long as they affirm that they are police officers. Meanwhile, 16.7% of the respondents experienced “Raid your work place without telling you the reason”. This indicates that police officers do not respect the rights of persons being searched and they do not follow the proper procedure of searching.

Some respondents experienced some seriously unreasonable treatments, including “Take away your property without telling you the reason” (6.7%) and Severe physical conflicts (3.3%). Despite the fact that not a lot of respondents experienced such treatment, it is obvious that there is an urgent need to recognize and tackle such misconduct of police officers.

Times Respondents Experienced the above-mentioned Unreasonable Treatment by the Police in the last 12 months. (n=60)

Q.6	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Cumulative Percentage (%)
Never	23	38.3	38.3
1-2 times	18	30	68.3
3-5 times	13	21.7	90
6-10times	3	5	95
More than 10 times	3	5	100
Total	60	100	

Among the 60 respondents who had encounters with Hong Kong Police, 61.7% experienced unreasonable treatment by the police in the last 12 months. And among them (37 persons), 6 had experienced the above-mentioned unreasonable treatment 6 to more than 10 times in the last 12 months.

Whether the Police Officers Informed the Respondents Reasons for the Arrests (n=10)

Q.8	Frequency	Percentage (%)	Cumulative Percentage (%)
No	6	60	60
Yes	4	40	100
Total	10	100	

Yes, reason:

- 1) *Possession of other person's traveling document. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO)*
- 2) *"You are not welcome in Hong Kong." He didn't say what law I had broken. He said that I didn't break any law but I was not welcomed in Hong Kong. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO)*
- 3) *(Missing information)*
- 4) *(Missing information)*

Among 10 of the respondents who experienced arrests by the police, only 4 of them were told by the police officers the reasons for the arrests. It means that 6 of them were arrested by the police without being informed the reasons. This proves that some police officers disregard the rights of the arrested persons and override the proper and formal procedure of arrest.

Inside Police Station, Whether the Police Officers Informed the Respondents of the following Rights to Which They are Entitled to (n=10)

Q.9		Frequency	Percentage(%)
Told you your right of remaining silent	Yes	0	0
	No	10	100
	Total	10	100
Told you your right of making phone calls to friends, relatives, or lawyers for help	Yes	1	10
	No	9	90
	Total	10	100
Told you your right of requesting an interpreter if needed	Yes	3	30
	No	7	70
	Total	10	100
Told you your right of requesting toilet facilities and break to rest during questioning	Yes	6	60
	No	4	40
	Total	10	100
Told you your right of refusing to sign the cautioned statements	Yes	0	1
	No	10	100

that you do not agree with	Total	10	100
Told you your right of	Yes	3	30
being provided with a copy	No	7	70
of your cautioned statements	Total	10	100

The above figures indicate that police officers do not inform the arrested sex workers the rights that they are entitled to upon questioning. For instance, all respondents (10 persons) who experienced police arrests were not informed of their “Right of remaining silent” and “Right of refusing to sign the cautioned statements that you do not agree with”. Very few respondents were informed of their “Right of making phone calls to friends, relatives, or lawyers for help” (1 person) and “Right of being provided with a copy of your cautioned statements” (3 persons).

Some respondents were told of their “Right of requesting toilet facilities and break to rest during questioning” (6 persons) and the “Right of requesting an interpreter if needed” (3 persons). However, according to the respondents, it was only upon their request that the police officers let them know their rights. It clearly shows how some police officers disregard rights of the arrested/questioned persons. In fact, the respondents were provided by the police with the “Notice to Persons under Investigation by, or Detained in the Custody of, the Police” and were required to sign it. However, according to the respondents, the police officers only showed them the notice after the questioning. And they were required to sign the notice together with other documents but not allowed to read the details.

Chapter Six

In-depth Interviews

Respondent A

Respondent A is a street sex worker from Mainland China. She indicated that among the police offers she encountered, half of them were polite and half of them were not. Respondent A experienced “Verbal Assault” and “Check your I.D./passport without telling you the reason” by the police. In the last 12 months, it happened 1-2 times.

Respondent A was arrested by the police once. In March-April of 2004, the police arrested Respondent A when she was only walking on the street, without any purpose of “soliciting” nor dealing with a customer. In fact, she was even not talking to anybody at the time. The police did not explain to Respondent A why they arrested her.

When Respondent A was brought back to the police station, the police officers did not inform Respondent A of the rights to which she was entitled. Upon her request, Respondent A was allowed to go to the toilet. Respondent could not read the statement written by the police officer because she was illiterate. The police officer did not read it aloud for her either. Therefore, Respondent A did not know the content of the statement at all. In spite of this, she was forced to sign the statement.

Respondent A was not charged by the police in the end. She was arrested and brought back to the police station at around 9 o'clock in the evening. After questing, she was detained in the police station until time the following day. Then she was sent back to Mainland China. According to Respondent A, the condition of the detention area of the police station was barely acceptable. Since there were not many persons in the detention room, it was quite sort of clean. Attitudes of staff there were acceptable. She was offered meals.

Respondent B

Respondent B is a street sex worker from Mainland China. She indicated that among the police offers she encountered, half of them were polite and half of them were not. Respondent B experienced “Verbal Assault” and once threatened by a police officer.

(The police officer) threatened me. (He) said he could put some heroin inside my bag and he could arrest me anytime. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO)

Respondent B experienced “Check your I.D./passport without telling you the reason” by the police 3-5 times in the last 12 months.

Respondent B was arrested once in July 2004. Respondent B was then walking on the street. When she was arrested, she was not talking to anybody, neither “soliciting” nor dealing with any customer. She did ask the police officer why she was arrested. The police officer only told her that “Hong Kong does not welcome you”, without stating which law Respondent B had broken. The police officer said to Respondent B, “You did not break any law. But Hong Kong does not welcome you.”

When Respondent B was brought back to the police station, the police did not inform her of the rights to which she was entitled. She was allowed to go to the toilet upon request. However, after taking the statement, “(the police officer) covered it. They did not allow you to read, and they did not read it aloud for you either. They just asked you to sign it. If not, they would beat you.” Respondent B signed the statement taken by the police in the end. She was afraid that she would be beaten if she was not cooperative enough. Respondent B indicated that. “There was a girl who was beaten by a police officer. The police officer covered his number. They wouldn’t let you see his number. She was beaten seriously, very seriously.”

Respondent B was not charged in the end. She was arrested at about 10 o’clock in the evening. She was detained in the police station after questioning until 3 pm the next day. According to Respondent B, the attitudes of police officers inside the police station were bad. They beat people unreasonably. The environment of the detention room was also unbearable. “There were more than 10 persons in the same room. You eat there. You use the toilet there. You have not even a blanket to cover you.” Besides, Respondent B was also unsatisfied that after being arrested, she was given no chance to go back to the place where she stayed in Hong Kong to collect her personal belongings.

Respondent C

Respondent c is a street sex worker. She is a local Hong Kong resident. According to Respondent C, among the police offers she encountered, half of them were polite and half of them were not. Impolite treatment by the police that Respondent C experienced include “Unfriendly Look”, “Verbal Assault”, “Foul Language” and “Mild Physical Conflicts”. According to Respondent C, the police officers always “make trouble unreasonably. They just intercept and use force to check people’s identity card. I am only on the street. Sometimes I am really waiting for a friend. They still check me. But the police officers never show their pass.

Respondent C experienced unreasonable treatment by the police, including “Check your

I.D./passport without telling you the reason”, “Raid the premise in which you stay without telling you the reason”, “Raid your work place without telling you the reason” and “Severe Physical Conflicts.” Besides, Respondent C also mentioned that, “(the police officer) beat me, in the place I work. He beat me because I argued with him. He was using violence. Even in the police station, I was beaten.” In the last 12 months, the above-mentioned unreasonable treatment happened more than 10 times, on average a few times monthly.

Respondent C was arrested twice. In about the year 2000, she was arrested by a police officer who disguised as a customer. The police officer didn't make known his identify when he arrested her. He wrapped his arm around her neck from behind. Not until later did he tell her that he was a police officer. And in about 2001 or 2002, once when Respondent C and a customer were inside a room, the police officers thrust open the door, burst in and forcefully brought Respondent C and her customer back to the police station. With these two arrests, the police officers did not explain the reason for the arrest to Respondent C.

When she was brought back to the police station, Respondent C was not told by the police of the rights to which she as entitled, such as “Right of remaining silent”. She was not allowed to make phone calls to friends, relatives or lawyers for help. She was not informed of her “Right of refusing to sign the cautioned statements that you do not agree with.” She was asked whether she would need an interpreter and was allowed to use the toilet facilities upon her request. And after the questioning, she was provided with a copy of the statement.

Respondent C was charged with “Soliciting for an immoral purpose” twice. She had never been detained in a police station or in a prison because of a lawsuit.

Respondent C said that at that time she did not know what rights she was entitled to because she lacked knowledge about laws in Hong Kong. The police officers in the police stations would not tell her anything about her rights. She was afraid that if she did not cooperate with the police, they would give her even more trouble. Therefore, even though she could feel that there was something wrong and that both the attitudes of the police and the way they handled the case was unreasonable, she could only accept the “fact”. According to Respondent C, the strategy that the police officers generally employed was “using both hard and soft tactics.” “(They) sometimes beat you, sometimes scold you. Sometimes, they wheedle you.”

Respondent C pleaded guilty to both lawsuits against her. She said that it was because she did not know the law at that time. She thought that since she already signed the statement (which did not completely reflect the truth), it would be useless to tell the judge that she actually disagreed with it. Therefore, she chose to plead guilty, hoping that then the judge would give

her a less severe penalty. Respondent C did not know how to access lawyer service during the first lawsuit against her. It was only until the second time she was prosecuted did she know how to seek help from the Duty Lawyer Service. Respondent C knew that that non-Chinese lawyer made a plea for her for reduction of sentencing. But the interpreter of the court did not interpret for her the plea that the lawyer made and the conversation between the lawyer and the judge. Respondent C therefore could not understand the relevant court procedure. Respondent C was found guilty to both lawsuits against her. After that, she has not been involved in any lawsuit. However, even until now, whenever she meets a police officer of the same district, she is scolded or insulted no matter whether she is working or not. Once, the police officers even took a picture of her without her consent.

Respondent C hopes that the police officers can improve their attitudes towards sex workers. She said, "We are only doing business in private places. We do not affect anybody. We are not thieves. It is unreasonable that the police always set us as their target."

Respondent D

Respondent D is a street sex worker. She is a Hong Kong resident. According to Respondent D, among the police officers she encountered, half of them were polite and half of them were not. Impolite treatment by the police against Respondent D include "Unfriendly Look", "Mild Physical Conflicts." She also mentioned, "(the police officers) are rude and they speak loudly to you."

Respondent D experienced "Check your I.D./passport without telling you the reason", "Raid your work place without telling you the reason" and "Take away your property without telling you the reason". Respondent D did ask the police why they took away her property and how they would handle them. The response she got from the police was, "We mean to take away these. You had better not ask why." Only until later did Respondent D realize that those were taken away to be produced in court as evidence. But the police officers did not tell her the reason at the time they took them away from her. In the last 12 months, Respondent D experienced the above-mentioned unreasonable treatments 3-5 times.

Respondent D was arrested 4 times. Each time when she was arrested, she was not told by the police the reason why they arrested her. When she was questioned in the police station, the police officers did not tell her of the rights to which she was entitled. These include the "Rights of remaining silent", "Right of making phone calls to friends, relatives, or lawyers for help", "Right of requesting an interpreter if needed" and "Right of refusing to sign the cautioned statements that you do not agree with." Besides, in spite of making a request several times, Respondent D was not allowed to use the toilet facilities.

Since Respondent D cannot read traditional Chinese characters, she could not read the statements written by the police officers. Although the police officers did read the statements aloud for her, Respondent D still could not understand as they only read them once very quickly. Respondent D was provided with copies of the statements. But she could not read because they were written in traditional Chinese Characters.

Respondent D was charged with “Soliciting for an immoral purpose”. She was found guilty twice. Respondent D was once detained in the police station for the court hearing on the following day as her request for bail was turned down. During the court hearing, Respondent D pleaded not guilty. Her request for bail was turned down again and she was sent to prison to await the trial. She had to stay in the prison for 12 days.

Respondent D indicated that the attitudes of staff in the detention room of the police station were barely acceptable. In the prison, she was informed that she could seek assistance from the welfare officers. She was also informed of the rules of the prison. Since she was provided with the relevant documents and notices in simplified Chinese, and also with the help from other detained persons, Respondent D sort of managed to understand the content.

Respondent E

Respondent E is a street sex worker. She is a Hong Kong resident. According to Respondent E, among the police officers she encountered, most of them were polite. Impolite treatments by the police that she experienced include “Verbal Assault” and “Foul Language”. In her words, “The police officers insulted not only me. They even referred to my ancestors.’

Respondent E experienced “Check your I.D./passport without telling you the reason” and “Take away your property without telling you the reason.” (Only later did Respondent E realize that those were to be produced as evidence in court, as the police did not tell her the reason when they took her belongings from her.)

Recently, Respondent E was taken back to the police station together with some other women. In the police station, Respondent E requested the police to explain the reason why they took her to the police station. She said to the police that she would not give them her personal information unless they had enough evidence to charge her. When arrested, Respondent E was only standing together with some other women on the street. They did not solicit anybody or “block the way”. The police in the end did not have any evidence to charge them and Respondent E was released. In the last 12 months, Respondent E experienced the above-mentioned unreasonable treatment 1-2 times.

Respondent E was arrested by the police more than 10 times. Each time the police did not tell her the reason for the arrest. Upon questioning in the police stations, the police officers did not inform her of the rights to which she was entitled, such as “Right of remaining silent”, “Right of making phone calls to friends, relatives, or lawyers for help”, “Right of requesting an interpreter if needed” and “Right of refusing to sign the cautioned statements that you do not agree with”. She was allowed to use the toilet facilities upon request. According to Respondent E, the only right that she had been informed of by the police was that she was provided with copies of the statements made after questioning.

Respondent E said that since she knew the rights that an arrested person is entitled to, she would make requests to the police, such as making phone calls to friends, relatives or lawyers, and refusing to sign the statement that she disagreed with and etc. Respondent E indicated that the police in general would not explain to sex workers the rights that they have. Therefore, it only depends on whether sex workers already know of their rights, and whether or not they dare to insist to exercise their rights inside a police station. However, it is not always easy to do so in reality.

Over the past few years, Respondent E has been working in a district in Hong Kong Island. Respondent E said that police officers of that district were in general more polite. For example, at least when she was brought back to the police station of that district, and when she made requests (like calling the lawyer, remaining silent or refusing to sign statements that she did not agree with) based on her rights, the police officers there did not object. Also, the way they spoke to her and their attitudes in general were acceptable. Respondent E found the police officers in that district much better than those in the other district (in Kowloon) where she used to work in.

Respondent E was provided by the police with the “Notice to Persons under Investigation by, or Detained in the Custody of, the Police” each time when she was questioned and she was required to sign it. However, in the more than 10 times of being investigated, only once did the police officer give her the notice before starting the formal procedure of questioning and required her to sign it after reading the details. That was an exceptional experience for Respondent E over the more than 10 times of being questioned. Except for that occasion, each time when Respondent D was questioned by the police, she was provided with the notice only after the questioning had been finished and was required to sign it at once without being provided enough time to read it.

Respondent E was charged with “Soliciting for an immoral purpose” a few times. (She was not able to quote the exact number of times.) In some cases, she was found guilty. She was

detained in a police station and a prison because of lawsuits. Respondent E indicated that when she was detained in the police stations, attitudes of staff there and condition of the detention rooms were just barely acceptable. "If there are not a lot of people inside the detention room, you can still lean on the wall and try to get some rest. Sometimes when there are a lot of people, it may become too crowded to even get some space to sit."

Respondent E hopes that police officers in all districts can be more polite and not discriminate against sex workers. She thinks police officers should more actively tell the arrested persons of the rights to which they are entitled.

Respondent F

Respondent F is a street sex worker from Mainland China. She is married to a Hong Kong Resident. Every year Respondent F comes to Hong Kong with a Two-way Permit to visit her family. After she broke up (but not yet divorced) with her husband, Respondent F started to work as a sex worker in Hong Kong. According to Respondent F, among the police officers she encountered, most of them were impolite. Impolite treatment by the police that she experienced were mainly "Unfriendly Look."

Respondent F experienced "Check your I.D./passport without telling you the reason" and "Raid the premise in which you stay without telling you the reason." In the last 12 months, these happened 1-2 times to Respondent F.

Respondent F was arrested once. The police raided the room she rented and arrested her without telling her the reason. Then she was brought back to the police station. Respondent F indicated that when she was arrested, she was alone in the room. She was not working and there was no other person in her room. Respondent F explained to the police officers that since she just had dispute with her husband, she moved out from the family place and rented that room for living alone. However, the officer simply responded to her, "It is a black-spot here. Don't you know that?" And they insisted on bringing Respondent F back to the police station.

Brought back to the police station, Respondent F was not informed of her rights, such as "Right of remaining silent", "Right of making phone calls to friends, relatives or lawyers for help", "Right of requesting an interpreter if needed", "Right of requesting toilet facilities and break to rest during questioning", "Right of refusing to sign the cautioned statements that you do not agree with" and "Right of being provided with a copy of your cautioned statements." In short, the police did not inform Respondent F of any of the rights that an arrested/investigated person is entitled to.

In the end, Respondent F managed to contact her elder sister who is a Hong Kong resident. Her sister went to the police station, wishing to bail Respondent F out. Her request was rejected. The police told her sister that Responded F was not welcome to stay in Hong Kong, she would be sent back to Mainland China and no bail would be granted. In the end, Respondent F was not charged of anything. She was forced to sign some papers/documents that she did not even have a chance to read. (In the words of Respondent F, "They didn't let you explain at all. If you didn't sign, they would be furious with you.") She was detained in the police station overnight and then sent back to Mainland China the following day.

Chapter Seven

Discussion and Recommendations

Summary and Discussion

Background of the Respondents

A survey was conducted by AFRO during the period from mid-March to late June of 2005. Questionnaires (see Appendix 1) were sent to 73 women engaged in the sexual service industry during their visits to AFRO's Drop-in Centre or AFRO's regular outreach activities at their workplaces. We managed to collect all 73 finished questionnaires back. The 10 respondents, who mentioned in the questionnaire that they experienced arrest and questioning by the police, were invited for an in-depth interview. In the end, we successfully conducted in-depth interviews with 6 of the 10 respondents.

Among all 73 respondents, 29 persons were Hong Kong residents (including Chinese and Thai persons), 38 were non-Hong Kong residents (including women from Mainland China and the Philippines). Status of 6 respondents was unable to be identified.

40 of the 73 respondents were street sex workers, while 27 of them worked in nightclubs/bars/karaokes and 6 of them worked in one-woman-brothels/hair-salons.

60 of the 73 respondents had encounters with the Hong Kong police. 10 of the 60 who had encounters with the police were arrested by them. 6 of the 10 who were arrested by the police experienced lawsuits against them in Hong Kong.

Impolite Treatment by the Police

Among 60 respondents who had encounters with the Hong Kong police, 65% of them considered most or all of the police officers they encountered polite. 30% of them thought half of the police officers they encountered were polite and half of them were not. Those who thought most or all of the police officers they encountered impolite made up 5% of 60 respondents.

For the item "Impolite Treatment", what the respondents mostly referred to were "Unfriendly Look" and "Verbal Assault". Despite the fact that 65% of the respondents who had encounters with the Hong Kong police considered most or all of the police officers they encountered polite, 22 of them raised concrete examples of impolite treatments towards them by the police.

Among them, street sex workers made up the majority (14 persons.) It was mainly this latter group that was subject to assault and personal attack by the police, when they were staying on the streets or simply passing by.

Unreasonable Treatment by the Police

Unreasonable treatment that the respondents experienced most were “Check your I.D./passport without telling you the reason” (31 persons = 51.7%). 16.7% (10 persons) experienced “Raid your work place without telling you the reason.” Some respondents experienced extremely unreasonable treatments, which should be considered misconducts of the police, such as “Take away your property without telling you the reason” (4 persons) and “Severe Physical Conflicts” (2 persons). One respondent was even once threatened by a police officer.

*(The police officer) threatened me. (He) said he could put some heroin inside my bag and he could arrest me anytime. (Originally in Cantonese, translated by AFRO)
(Non-Hong Kong Resident/Streets)*

Among sex workers who experienced unreasonable treatment by the police in the last 12 months, 10% of them (6 persons) had such experiences for 6 – more than 10 times in the last 12 months.

Unreasonable Arrests

Among 10 of the respondents who experienced arrest by the police, 60% (6 persons) were not told reasons for the arrest. Among them, 6 gave in-depth interviews to AFRO. 4 of them in fact were not working when they were arrested. 3 of them were only staying alone inside the premise where they stayed in Hong Kong or walking alone on the street. There was no evidence to prove that they were “soliciting” somebody for an immoral purpose or working in Hong Kong. The arrests by the police were actually groundless. Besides, among these 6 respondents, 1 of them (a Hong Kong resident) suffered violence by the police when she was arrested.

Exploitation of Rights upon Arrest and Detention

After being brought back to the police stations, all respondents were **NOT** told of their “Right of remaining silent” and “Right of refusing to sign the cautioned statements that you do not agree with.” Among them, only 1 respondent was told of the “Right of making phone calls to friends, relatives, or lawyers for help.” 3 of them (all Hong Kong residents) were told of the “Right of being provided with a copy.” About “Right of requesting an interpreter if needed” and “Right of requesting toilet facilities and break to rest during questioning”, usually respondents were

informed only upon their request. 3 and 6 of the respondents were informed such rights respectively.

According to the respondents, they were provided with the “Notice to Persons under Investigation by, or Detained in the Custody of, the Police” and were required to sign it only when the questioning was already finished. No opportunity was provided for them to read the content of it. (There was only an exceptional case.)

Comparative Analysis of Respondents’ Experiences

The experiences of being arrested, questioned and detained of the 6 respondents, who accepted in-depth interviews by AFRO (including 3 non-Hong Kong residents who in the end were just sent back to Mainland China without being charged with anything at all, and 3 Hong Kong residents who were charged and prosecuted and had to attend lawsuits against them in Hong Kong), are very similar. The 6 cases in fact can reflect a typical model of how police officers in Hong Kong treat sex workers – exploiting basic rights of them, as persons under investigation by, or detained in the custody of the police.

Among the 6 respondents, only Respondent B was indirectly told the reason for the arrest. She was told, “You did not break any law. But Hong Kong does not welcome you.” However, through the whole process, Respondent B was not explained how and why she was not welcome. Besides her, upon being arrested, all the other 5 respondents were not told by the police reasons for arresting them.

Brought back to the police stations, all 6 respondents were required to sign the “Notice to Persons under Investigation by, or Detained in the Custody of, the Police” after the questioning was finished, given no opportunity to read the content. Before the questioning started, all 3 respondents from Mainland China were told nothing about the basic rights that any person under investigation by the police should enjoy. Among them, only 2 were allowed to use the toilet facilities upon their request. Among the other 3 respondents who are Hong Kong residents, 2 of them were allowed to go to the toilet, 1 of them was told of the “Right of requesting an interpreter if needed.”

Comparing the experiences of the 3 Hong Kong residents and 3 non Hong Kong residents, the only difference identified is that, after questioning, the 3 Hong Kong residents were provided with an opportunity to read the statement, or the police officers would read the statement aloud for them. Also, they were given copies of the statements. (Even though, all 3 of them were more than once forced /wheedled to sign the statement that they did not agree with.)

Of the 3 respondents from Mainland China, they were given no chance to read the statements at all. Some respondents indicated that the police officers covered the statements so as not to let them see/read the content. They did not read the statements aloud for them, either. The police officers were “furious”. Some even beat those arrested persons who were not cooperative. The number of the police officer was covered therefore the beaten persons were unable to identify the officer(s) to file a complaint.

In addition, some respondents who were detained in detention rooms of police stations indicated that the condition of the detention rooms was bad. When the room was crowded of people, there was even no space for the detainees to rest. Also, the detained persons were forced to eat, rest, sleep and use the toilet facilities in the same small place of the detention room. Attitudes of some staff of the detention rooms were very bad. Some respondents mentioned that they had seen staff of the detention rooms beat the detained sex workers.

The survey result reflects the severe problem of exploitation of basic rights against both local and migrant sex workers (especially street sex workers) during their encounters with the Hong Kong police. Although 65% of the respondents considered most or all of the police officers they encountered polite, there were cases of assaults and threats by the police identified during their encounters.

The problem of exploitation of sex workers’ basic rights during arrest, investigation or detention by the police is now exposed. Besides not telling sex workers the reasons for arrests, after bringing sex workers back to the police stations, the police officers did not inform them of any of the basic rights that sex workers, as other persons, were entitled to. The police officers did not let the arrested sex workers read the written statements, forced them to sign the statements and other documents that they did not have a chance to read, including the “Notice to Persons under Investigation by, or Detained in the Custody of, the Police”. Sex workers suffered misconduct and mistreatment at the hands of the police such as threats, insults and physical assaults. As this survey reflects, this is unjust and unreasonable treatment against sex workers. In addition, the condition of the detention rooms in police stations and attitudes of staff there also deserve further public concern.

Requests and Recommendations

Based on the above-mentioned survey result, AFRO makes the following requests and recommendations to Hong Kong Police:

- 1) Stop immediately all kinds of impolite, unjust and unreasonable treatments towards sex

workers.

- 2) Stop using violence towards sex workers.
- 3) Make sure the arrests of sex workers are reasonable and sex workers are explained the full reasons right upon the arrests take place.
- 4) Make sure sex workers are provided with a copy of the "Notice to Persons under Investigation by, or Detained in the Custody of, the Police" and are given enough time to read the content, after they are brought back to the police stations and before the questioning formally starts. Request sex workers to sign it only when they are sure that they understand. The police officers are responsible to give further explanation of the notice, if needed, to sex workers.
- 5) Make sure proper procedure of case handling is followed by every single police officer. Guarantee that throughout the process of arrest, investigation or detention, sex workers are informed of and are not hindered from exercising the basic legal rights that are listed in the "Notice to Persons under Investigation by, or Detained in the Custody of, the Police", and that they are treated by the police in a just, fair and reasonable way, as every person is entitled to be.
- 6) Improve facilities of detention areas in police premises, including temporary holding areas and detention rooms inside police stations, to improve the current condition where detainees are forced to eat, to rest and to use toilet facility in the same limited space, so as to guarantee the basic human rights of all detainees.
- 7) Stop sending migrant sex workers back to place of origin without trial (through the Immigration Department) in cases where that the police fail to collect sufficient evidence to prove that they are/have been working in Hong Kong. (That means the police are unable to charge sex workers of "Breach of Condition of Stay".)
- 8) Arrange regular meetings with Action for REACH OUT and other NGOs concerning sex workers, in order to strengthen connection and enhance communication.
- 9) Accept sex workers' complaints or cases to seek help filed by concerned NGOs with sex workers' privacy and personal information protected. Follow and handle the case/complaint extensively.
- 10) Provide data/statistics about arrests and prosecutions against sex workers to NGOs concerning sex workers on a regular basis (e.g. every 3 months), so as to facilitate NGOs' better understanding on the current situation and better service coordination for sex workers.
- 11) Arrange concerned NGOs to participate in training for police officers, so as to facilitate communication between concerned NGOs and police officers and to mutually enhance understanding on the sexual service industry as well as interaction between sex workers and frontline police officers.

Appendix One

A Survey on Hong Kong Police's Attitudes towards Female Sex Workers

(Questionnaire)

Hello! Action for REACH OUT is now conducting a survey on Hong Kong Police's attitudes towards female sex workers. We hope that you will spend a few minutes finishing this questionnaire. We hope that the collected data will contribute to an improvement in the situation now facing women in the industry.

Q1. The area you are now working in: _____

Q2. Have you ever had any form of contact with Hong Kong Police when you are working?

- No (End of questionnaire. Thank you!)
 Yes (Go to Q3)

Q3. Are the Hong Kong Police polite to you?

- All of them are (Go to Q5)
 Most of them are (Go to Q4)
 Half-half (Go to Q4)
 Most of them are not (Go to Q4)
 All of them are not (Go to Q4)

Q4. The impolite treatment that you experienced from Hong Kong Police includes (can choose more than one):

- Unfriendly look Verbal assault
 Foul language Mild physical conflicts
 Other (E.g. _____)

Q5. Have you ever experienced the following unreasonable treatment by Hong Kong Police?

- i. Check your I.D./passport without telling you the reason
 Yes No
- ii. Raid the premise in which you stay without telling you the reason
 Yes No
- iii. Raid your work place without telling you the reason
 Yes No
- iv. Take away your property without telling you the reason
 Yes No
- v. Severe physical conflicts

Yes No

vi. Other (E.g. _____)

Q6. In the last 12 months, how many times have you experienced the above-mentioned unreasonable treatment by Hong Kong Police?

- 0 times 1-2 times
 3 - 5 times 6 - 10 times
 More than 10 times

Q7. Have you ever been arrested by Hong Kong Police?

- No (End of questionnaire. Thank you!)
 Yes _____ times (Go to Q8)

Q8. Did the police tell you why they arrested you?

- No
 Yes

Reason: _____

Q9. In the Police Station, did the police officer(s) let you know the following rights to which you are entitled?

- i. Told you your right of remaining silent
 Yes No
- ii. Told you your right of making phone calls to friends, relatives, or lawyers for help
 Yes No
- iii. Told you your right of requesting an interpreter if needed
 Yes No
- iv. Told you your right of requesting toilet facilities and break to rest during questioning
 Yes No
- v. Told you your right of refusing to sign the cautioned statements that you do not agree with
 Yes No
- vi. Told you your rights of being provided with a copy of your cautioned statements
 Yes No

Q10. Has there been any lawsuit against you in Hong Kong?

-
- No (End of questionnaire. Thank you!)
 - Yes (Go to Q11)

Q11. Have you ever been held in detention because of the lawsuit?

- No
- Yes Duration:

Q12. Would you be interested to have a talk with our staff, to share your experience on the lawsuit and/or the detention, and to let us know whether the way the law enforcers handled your case was appropriate and fair? (Data collected will be kept strictly confidential!)

- No (End of questionnaire. Thank you!)
- Yes

Name: _____

Contact Number: _____

~ End of Questionnaire. Thank you! ~

Appendix Two

**“Notice to Persons under Investigation by, or Detained in the Custody of,
the Police”**

A Survey on Hong Kong Police's Attitudes towards Female Sex Workers

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