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NETWORK OF KEY POPULATION SERVICE ORGANISATIONS LTD

REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS EXPERIENCED BY SEX WORKERS DURING THE TOTAL COUNTRY LOCKDOWN DUE TO COVID 19 PANDEMIC- 2020



With financial support from
UHAI -EASHRI and AIDSFONDS



NATURE OF THE CASE; example (Denial of services, Violence/physical harm, Violence/physical harm)

WHEN DID THE INCIDENT HAPPEN.....?

WHAT HAPPENED. DETAILED EXPLANATION OF THE INCIDENT THAT LED TO HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS DURING COVID 19 SITUATION.

.....
.....
.....

IN RELATION TO THE CASE, HAS THE CLIENT ALREADY SOUGHT SUPPORT FROM RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENT?

YES/ NO.

IF NO WHY, AND IF YES, FROM WHERE AND WAS THE CLIENT HELPED?

.....
.....

WHAT IS THE CLIENT'S SUGGESTION OR RECOMMENDATION IN REGARD TO THE EXPERIENCE SHARED?

.....
.....

NAME AND SIGN OF THE DATA COLLECTOR.

Name.....

Sign

Date.....

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GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR THE DOCUMENTATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AMONG SEX WORKERS DURING COVID 19 SITUATION.

ACRONYMS.

ARVS	ANTROVIRUS THERAPY
JEEWAG	JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS FOUNDATION.
LMB	LADY MERMAIDS BUREAU
MAHIPSO	MASAKA KP HIV PREVENTION AND SUPPORT ORGANISATION.
MONU	MEN OF THE NIGHT
OGERA	ORGANISATION FOR GENDER EMPOWERMENT AND RIGHTS ADVOCACY.
RMU	RAINBOW MIRRORS UGANDA
SIU	SCARLET INITIATIVE UGANDA
SWHSI	SOROTI WOMEN HEALTH SUPPORT INITIATIVE
TEU	TRANSGENDER EQUALITY UGANDA
SRHR	SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS
UNESO	NETWORK OF KEY POPULATION SERVICE ORGANISATIONS.
WONETHA	WOMEN'S ORGANSATION NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY.
WWM	WOMEN WITH A MISSION
YRF	YOUTH ON ROCK FOUNDATION

CLIENT'S PROFILE

Client's name

Preferred name.....

Date of birth - YYYY-MM-DD

Age.....

PERSONAL CONTACTS.

Physical address.....

Phone number.....

Email address.....

GENDER AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION.

Gender <i>Dropdown (only single option can be chosen)</i> FEMALE	Female	
	Male	
	Transgender female	
	Transgender male	
	Other	
Sexual orientation <i>Dropdown (only single option can be chosen)</i> HETEROSEXUAL	Bisexual	
	Homosexual	
	Heterosexual	
	Other	
	KP Group <i>Multiple choice (multiple options can be chosen)</i> SEX WORKER	Sex worker
MSM		
Person who uses drugs Does the client identify with being a person who uses drugs?		
Person living with HIV Does the client identify with being a person living with HIV?		
Person living with TB Does the client identify with being a person living with TB?		
Person with disabilities Does the client identify with being a person with disabilities?		
Prisoner/inmate Does the client identify with being a prisoner?		
Migrant/mobile person Does the client identify with being a migrant/mobile person?		
LGBTIQ		
Other (please specify)		
If none of the above KP groups apply to the client, please specify another group		

ANNEX 1.

DOCUMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS CONSENT FORM.

Statement of Consent:

- The purpose of this study has been satisfactorily explained to me, including possible risks and benefits and I was given enough time to think about my decision to take part in this study.
- All my questions were satisfactorily answered.
- I understand that taking part in this interview is voluntary and that I can withdraw at any time.
- I am signing this consent form prior to taking part in any interview activities.
- I give permission to take part in this interview.

Name (print) Signature Date

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND DEDICATION.

NETWORK FOR KEY POPULATION SERVICE ORGANISATION – (UNESO) would like to use this opportunity to thank its funders UHAI - EASHRI and AIDSFONDS for their continued financial support which contributed to the collection of violation stories and publication of this report.

UNESO would like to extend special gratitude to its member organizations/sex work led organizations for the tireless work of mobilizing sex workers and collecting violation stories experienced by sex workers in communities in which they live. UNESO cannot thank you enough for the passion and commitment shown by sex worker leaders in serving sex workers while contributing to building of a strong and unified sex work movement.

UNESO would also like to thank the respondents who willingly participated in the interviews. Their insights were important for the situational analysis of the rights of sex workers in their diversity.

UNESO is also indebted to its staff for all their efforts towards compilation and publication of this report. Finally, this report is dedicated to all Human rights Defenders, UNESO network member organizations, partners, stakeholders and government line ministries including Ministry of health, ministry of gender labor and social development, Ministry of finance, Ministry of defense particular Uganda police Unit and among others in Uganda.

THE FOLLOWING ARE SEX WORK LED ORGANSATIONS, UNESO MEMBER ORGANISATIONS THAT VOLUNTARILY CONTRIBUTED TO COLECTION AND SHARING OF DATA OF VIOLATIONS THEY HAVE HANDLED, THUS COMPILED TOGETHER TO FORM THIS REPORT.



- Conduct community dialogues involving massive campaign and sensitization of communities with particular focus on creating awareness on sex work issues including increasing knowledge and appreciation of the SRHR of sex workers.
- Capacity building through training and sensitization of health care providers on provision of quality and non-discriminatory health care services, encouraging them to adhere to the ethics of modern health care.
- Provide litigation and access to justice for sex workers who have under gone various human rights violations.

CONCLUSION.

Although this report cannot exhaustively report on every case of human rights experienced by sex workers in Uganda, however the foregoing discussion is a clear indicator to show that there are a lot of human rights violations ongoing and sex workers increasingly find it hard to live a new normal life under COVID 19 and beyond. Both the non-state and state actors are responsible for violations of human rights of sex workers. And never the less, both the state and non-state actors are responsible for respecting, protecting and promoting the human rights of sex workers

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS.

To the state actors/government.

- Recognize sex work as work.
- Respect sex workers' work choice and human rights.
- Ensure inclusion of sex workers in decision making processes at all levels.
- Ensure to act on perpetrators of violence so that they may act as examples to others.
- Ensure that issues of non-discrimination are prioritized especially in times of disaster outbreak.
- The department of community health under the ministry of health should intensify training of health care providers on sexual orientation to enable provision of discrimination free health services for every one including sex workers.

To the non-state actors (religious institutions, cultural institutions, Civil Society Organizations and individuals.

- Recognize sex work as work.
- Respect sex workers' work choice and human rights.
- Ensure inclusion of sex workers in decision making processes at all levels.
- Promote the culture of documentation of human rights violations experienced by sex workers and general population to inform evidence-based advocacy and proper planning and programming for the communities.
- Empower the vulnerable communities to be able to report the violations and seek redress whenever their rights are violated.
- Support public education and awareness creation programs on sexuality, sexual and health rights and violence and discrimination and other issues that affects sex workers.
- Establish and strengthen partnerships to support monitoring and documentation of abuses of sex workers in their diversity for purposes of creating evidenced advocacy.
- Create information sharing systems so that reports of human rights violations against sex workers can be used simultaneously by multi parties.
- And strengthen reporting systems, evidence collection and data storage to facilitate easy verification of violations against sex workers in their diversity.
- Capacity building and skills enhancement and agency of sex workers should be undertaken to increase the sex workers ability to negotiate, report and resist violations and seek legal redress whenever violations occur against them.

ABOUT NETWORK OF KEY POPULATIONS SERVICE ORGNISATION(UNESO). WHO WE ARE?

Network of key population service organizations LTD [UNESO] is an umbrella body for organizations led by sex workers for sex workers. Founded in a society that refuses to acknowledge sex work as work, and continues to discriminate and violate the human rights of sex workers. UNESO is mandated to bring together sex work led organizations across Uganda to form a collective voice that will enable sex workers to advocate for their rights. It also exists to create safe spaces where sex workers can convene, discuss and find solutions to the unending challenges that they face within the communities in which they live and work.

UNESO exists to uphold the voices of sex workers in Uganda, and to coordinate and connect organizations that advocate for the rights of sex workers living and working in Uganda.

VISION.

A society where recognition of sex work and respect for human rights of sex workers in all their diversity prevails

MISSION.

To build a strong, unified, well-coordinated sex worker movement in Uganda by empowering member organizations through advocacy and research to enable a free and safe environment for sex workers in all their diversity.

AREAS OF OPERATION.

UNESO is a national network organization with a membership of sex work led organizations spread across the country and that gives the network a national wide advocacy and coordination coverage mandate.

UNESOS STRATEGIC GOALS.

UNESO is a recognized and respected partner, and the voice that advocates for human and labour rights of sex workers in Uganda.

UNESO is a vibrant and united sex worker led movement for and by sex workers to uphold their dignity, and to promote and protect their human rights

Advance the wellbeing and wellness of its members

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.

This report presents a situational analysis of the working environment of sex workers in their diversity in Uganda in 2020 especially during the national lock down due to COVID 19 pandemic. The report analyses the challenges faced by sex workers, and makes recommendations to different partners and stakeholders on improving the sex worker's rights promotion and protection in Uganda.

The overall goal of this report is to establish an evidentiary record of human rights violations faced by sex workers in their diversity during COVID 19 pandemic to facilitating evidenced based advocacy and inform programming to creating favorable social, economic and political environment for sex workers to live.

The specific objectives of the documentation exercise were **1.** To document the experiences of sex workers while exercising their human rights and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights both in community and health care settings during the COVID 19 pandemic situation.**2.** To identify the social, psychological and financial effects of human rights and other SRHR violations of sex workers during the COVID 19 pandemic situation.**3.** To identify and make suggestions for immediate and long-term support needs including policy and programme initiatives to promote human rights and SRHR of sex workers in Uganda.

This report discusses the methodologies that were used for data collection on the different aspects of the situation of sex workers in their diversity in 2020 during the country lock down in Uganda, highlights the purposive and snowball sampling through which key informants / sex workers from the different regions were selected. And the key findings to where a total of 83 interviews were conducted from among sex workers from different regions of the country through UNESO member organizations who did a tremendous work of mobilizing and collecting violation stories from their members /individual sex workers. According to the majority of respondents, commonly violated rights of sex workers during the country lockdown included unlawful arrests and detention, torture, violence and intimidation, restricted and limited access to health care services, security force harassment and community discrimination.

However, despite all the violations against sex workers, the government has been very reluctant to investigate, prosecute, or punish violence perpetrators who committed human rights violations, whether in the security services or elsewhere in government, and impunity was a problem.

Finally, the report presents the key recommendations on how to ensure protection and promotion of human rights for sex workers targeted to different agencies including

Prossy (not real name) told that, when the lockdown was enacted, she had to Kasese to check on her family but she had packed only ARVS that could take her for only one week, so when the ARVS got finished, she went to a nearby health facility to access HIV treatment and she was informed by the health workers at the facility that she cannot be helped because they only have drugs for the PLHIV who are under their care. She then had to walk from Kasese to Fort portal to access ARVs from the health facility to where is registered and under care. When she reached in fort portal, to her dismay she found when the brothel she used to stay in was closed and the brothel managers could not allow her in claiming she is from Kasese boarder and so she might be infected with corona virus and they denied her access to her room and other essential commodities like clothing's and she was left with the only option of going to a stay with a friend.

A sex worker living with HIV went to BUHINGA REGIONAL REFFERAL HOSPITAL for ART refill after she had missed her appointment for 2 weeks and the health worker ridiculed and stigmatized her by telling her not to come closer to the dispensing window because she is a sex worker and sex workers are known for being in close contacts with truck drivers who carry the corona virus. The health worker just thrown the Drugs to her as she never wanted to be in any way close to her.

Daphne (not real names) says, when the total lockdown was announced, the lodge manager ordered all sex workers to vacate the brothels and go back to their homes/families but when they pleaded with him, he accepted with an exception to only those who are not living with HIV, in doing so he pointed out by naming those he suspected to be HIV positive without their consent and ordered them to live the brothel immediately. The ones who were claimed not to be HIV POSITIVE were to stay while he forced them to have unprotected sex with him every day.

On 22/04/ 2020 a sex worker went to hospital to access her HIV treatment including viral road testing and ARVS refill. However, as she approached the health care provider, she noticed a poor attitude and a funny look by the health provider towards her and before she even mentioned anything, she was informed by the health worker to go back home because she has come late and that the health facility will find an alternative way of getting her ART refills and take the viral load testing from her outside the health facility. When she tried to inquire to why she cannot be supported at the moment, the health care provider blasted her and told her to go away and not to waste her time.

On 14th of April, a sex worker from Soroto was raped by 2 police officers who got her in a brothel to where she was caught up during the total lockdown. Because the police officers were aware of the presence of the sex workers at the brothel, so they came in claiming to be checking for security purposes, when the police officer entered her room, they found her half naked and told her to dress up and take her to police while one of the police officers asked her that if she don't mind she can give in sex and be left free. And because the sex worker feared being arrested and knowing that she has no money to secure a police bond, she painfully and unwillingly had to accept to have sex with the two officers. However, even after the heartening sacrifice, the police officers order for her to be taken to the quarantine to where she spent two weeks.

A sex worker got a client and made condom negotiations, however in the process, the client forcefully removed the condom. After the sex act, a sex worker reported the client to the lodge manager but she was not helped, then after two days she started feeling discharge in her private parts to which she was later diagnosed with and STI and received treatment. After one three weeks, she again felt weak like with malaria signs and when she went to the health facility she tested HCG positive (pregnant) and up to now she doesn't know the where about of the client as she doesn't know him.

In May, a sex worker from Malaba got a client who offered to pay for unprotected sex at a very high price or charge. And because money was scarce and she badly needed money to help her take care of her family, we willingly offered the service at a favourable price, however after the act, the client turned against her claiming that she must be HIV positive and that is why she accepted to have unprotected sex and so must have infected him with HIV. The client started fighting her and even took all the money she had with her including what he had just given her.

In April, A sex worker t as well as a primary teacher was thrown out of the house after her husband got to learn about her sexual orientation of being a sex worker. After the closure of public places including the schools due to COVID 19, she was left with no work to earn and couldn't ably take care of her family as the man was a drunkard and irresponsible at home, the sex worker opted to have secretly continue with her sex work business to be able to provide for her family. But when the husband learns about it, he chased her out of home together with their children while she was also pregnant. She was left with nowhere to go and very helpless with four children.

In May, A police officer in Mbale district lured a female sex worker detainee away from the police cells to his home on the pretext that he would arrange her release from detention, but he raped her.

4. HIV and AIDS related Stigma and discrimination.

Although the law prohibits discrimination against persons with HIV/AIDS, however discrimination and stigma against sex workers living with HIV was common especially in the health facility settings and this inhibited sex workers living with HIV from accessing treatment and support. Access to SRHR and HIV services among sex workers living with HIV is crucial not only for their own health needs but also for the treatment and support to reduce the risk of HIV transmission to communities.

government departments, stakeholders, partners and CSOs -KP organizations, recommendations like recognizing and respecting sex work as work, improving inclusion and meaningful participation of sex workers in local and national decision-making process, capacity building for sex workers and stake holders and among others.

INTRODUCTION.

On 22nd march 2020, Uganda registered her first case of COVID -19 and the president since then issued several directives aimed at curbing down the spread of the corona virus, some of which included bun of public and private transport, ban of public and social gatherings to keep social distancing which climaxed to a country total lock down. Therefore, as the norm ,amidst such global uncertainties, the vulnerable and marginalised communities among which are sex workers continue to be affected disproportionately as they require a different set of needs. The situation is more complex especially with the already vulnerable population with underlying health and social issues including high HIV prevalence, high level of discrimination, limited income, mental health issues and unsupportive policy environment and among others.

And to have a clear and conclusive view of how the COVID 19 pandemic has affected the already marginalised population of sex workers, UNESO with financial support from UHAI-EASHRI and AIDSFONDS through Rapid response funds embarked on the process of collecting violation cases from among sex workers whose human rights were violated in different ways so as to generate evidence to inform sex work advocacy and programming in Uganda especially during COVID 19 and beyond.

Therefore, this report is intended to act as an evidence-based advocacy tool in bringing to the fore the marginalization suffered by sex workers in Uganda that are perceived to be actually immoral. It shows violations as perpetrated by the state actors and non-state actors. This report uses the documented incidents to illustrate the violations. It also has recommendations which are intended to improve the observance of the rights of sex workers in their diversity in Uganda.

WHY THE VIOLATION DOCUMENTATION

The violation documentation report was informed by increased violation reports through media reports and outcries of sex work led organizations who had their members (sex workers) being violated every other day. Therefore, the documentation is intended to establish an evidentiary record of human rights violations faced by sex workers in their diversity during COVID 19 pandemic to facilitating evidenced based advocacy and inform programming to creating favorable social, economic and political environment for sex workers to live.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES.

1. To document the experiences of sex workers while exercising their human rights and SRHR both in community and health care settings during the COVID 19 pandemic situation.

2. To identify the social, psychological and financial effects of human rights and other SRHR violations of sex workers during the COVID 19 pandemic situation.
3. To identify and make suggestions for immediate and long-term support needs including policy and programme initiatives to promote human rights and SRHR of sex workers in Uganda.

METHODOLOGY.

The violations constituted in this report were documented by different sex work led organizations / UNESO member organizations spread across the country Uganda. All the contributing organizations do in different ways and capacities handle cases of violations against sex workers. Data collection on violation cases experienced by sex workers especially during the total lockdown was done by sex work led organizations following their mandates and the data collection tool was developed and shared by all contributing organizations to use as a standard tool as it was agreed upon and verified by the sex work led organizations.

The documentation specifically focused on experiences of human rights violations of sex workers in health care facility settings and community settings during the national total lockdown due to COVID 19 pandemic in Uganda. Being that UNESO has a membership of sex work led organizations spread across the regions of the country, therefore the violation cases documented were purposively collected from across the country through the sex work led organizations from different districts and regions of Uganda.

ORGANISATION OF THE REPORT.

This report comprises of an introductory chapter which encompasses the research approach, objective and methodology. the 2nd section presents the key findings of the study with particular focus on the experiences of violations experienced by sex workers in the health facilities, community and violations in homes perpetrated by both the state and non-state actors and the last section draws recommendations and conclusion of the report.

she was attacked by unknown people who ambushed her while she was going home in the evening and while they were beating her, they kept mentioning that she is being punished because she is a sex worker so this should serve as a lesson to her and her fellow sex workers



3. Sexual and gender-based Harassment and Domestic violence.

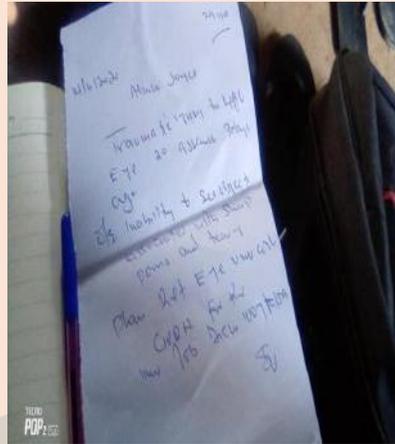
The law also criminalizes domestic violence and provides up to two-years' imprisonment for conviction. The also law criminalizes sexual harassment and provides for penalties of up to 14 years' imprisonment.

Sexual harassment was a widespread issue among sex workers especially those who were stuck in brothels during the total lockdown. There were numerous incidents of brothel managers/landlords and others who demanded sexual favours from sex workers in exchange for accommodation fees and other materials.

Rape remained a common problem experienced among the sex workers especially during this time of the country lock down. The violence perpetrators included both the police and men from the general population. Rape victims often felt powerless to report their abusers, in part to avoid stigmatization, as sex workers are always blamed for causing the rape by dressing indecently as some authorities also claim that sex workers cannot be raped because sex is something they want and do.

On 10th of April, during curfew hours, a sex worker was caught by police while she was going to the nearby clinic to buy Panadol as she had serious headache. Her endeavors to explain to police about her health situation was futile as police threatened to detain her in police cell, as police officer walked her to police, he asked her to rather give in sex than being arrested, something she refused since she was not feeling well but the police officer insisted and forced her in having unprotected sex and after he had to let go.

On 2020-07-04 a sex worker was seriously beaten by her neighbour when she tried to inquire about someone strange in their compound. A sex worker had overheard that the man visiting the neighbour was from ELEGU boarder, the most risk place known for COVID 19 pandemic. So, when the sex worker got concerned and asked her neighbour about the visitor, the visitor himself came out and started beating the sex worker accusing her of getting involved in issues that don't concern her and after all she is she a sex worker. The sex worker reported the violation case to police but she was not helped as the visitor paid a lot of money to police that he was released immediately, However as that was not enough the visiting man came back from police and continued threatening the sex worker. when the sex worker followed up with the case, the police instructed the visiting man to give her some money to access health



On 12th June 2020, a sex worker as well as a peer educator from Gulu received a notice letter ordering for her dismissal from the village or area of residence. This was following the complaints made by the neighbors that she was a sex worker and therefore promoting sex work in the area. As a peer educator she used to mobilize sex workers for HTS services, something that was misinterpreted and looked at by the community people as promotion of sex work. So, the neighbors reported her to the local council who then order her to vacate the village together with the peers /sex workers that she used to mobilize to access HTS services.

On 11th may, A sex worker was physically violated by her intimate partner because she was not able to provide for him the food and yet she also did not have the money because she was no longer working.

The report contains several recommendations, of which are addressed to the government bodies (state actors) and others to the non-state actors including religious institutions, cultural institutions, Civil Society organizations and individuals.

KEY FINDINGS.

Human rights issues included in this document reports of unlawful arrests and detention, torture, violence and intimidation, restricted and limited access to health care services, sexual and gender-based violence, security force harassment and community discrimination and HIV /AIDS related stigma.

A total of 83 interviews were conducted countrywide in addition to virtual group discussions on the effects of COVID 19 situation in specific areas. Out of the 83 violations documented, 25 were verified for the report.

Of the 25 verified violations cases for the report, 14 were perpetrated by state actors while 10 violations were perpetrated by non-state actors. So, police /law enforcement remains the top most perpetrators of violence against sex workers. And within the non-state actors, clients and intimate partners are the most perpetrators of violence among sex workers.

Some of the violations are psychological /emotional violations which usually go unreported by the victims as they normally find it hard to explain and as well cannot easily identified by other parties.

However, despite all the violations against sex workers, the government has been very reluctant to investigate, prosecute, or punish violence perpetrators who committed human rights violations, whether in the security services or elsewhere in government, and impunity was a problem.

1. Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and unlawful arrests.

The constitution and law prohibit such practices. The Anti-Torture Act stipulates that any person convicted of an act of torture may be sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment, a fine of 7.2 million shillings (\$1,920), or both. The penalty for conviction of aggravated torture is life imprisonment. Nevertheless, there are has continued to be credible reports of security forces torture, physically harass sex workers during detention.



On 26th of June in Masaka -Nyendo, 4 sex workers were arrested by police when they were found in the brothel to where they had been stuck /caught up by the total lock down. While at police, the sex workers were not permitted to give statements as obligated as the police officer on duty informed them that statements will be taken from them on the next day. They spent two days at police station without making statements not until when

Also, on 17th June 2020 in Masaka, 3 female sex workers were arrested by police when they were found standing just at the street in the evening. During the arrest, sex workers were seriously slapped, kicked and yet they had not applied any resistance to the arrest. They were detained at police for six days without being introduced to court and later they were asked to get sureties who are not female but should be male. So, when the men came, they were asked by police to pay each 100,000ugshs for sex workers to be released. While detained at police, the sex workers were subjected to cleaning the police cells, mopping the police station offices.

In Ruti- Mbarara district, a sex worker was walking in the evening not yet curfew time when the two police officers caught and arrested her without any reason and when she asked the reason to why she was arrested, she was informed that, she looked to be a prostitute and also idle. She spent a night in the police cell while she was insulted by police officers and the next day she was realised on bond.

On 25th March 2020, a sex worker was coming from the shop heading to the brothel from where she was staying during the lock down, the police officers caught her and order her not to stay in the brothel again so she was ordered to rent out a residential room out of the brothel or walk back to her family home about 150km away from where she was staying. She didn't have money to pay for rent and also couldn't walk back home as she had been denounced by her family after them knowing about her sexual orientation, so she was forced to go and stay with a friend.

In June, a sex work was badly beaten by police officers when she was found in the brothel sleeping, her clothing's were tone apart as they tried to pull her out of bed. This was followed by bullying and insulting her for being a sex worker. she was taken to police to where no statement was made and, in the morning, they asked her to pay some money so that she can be released but she did not have the money so she was released after the paralegal came and secured a police bond for her.



At around 6:00 Pm in the evening, a sex worker was standing along the road side when the police officers pointed at her and mentioned that that is a sex worker. On hearing that, she ran back to her room to where the police officer followed her and started beating her seriously for no reason leaving her with serious injuries, she was taken to police and spent a night there and in the next morning, the police officer told her to pay 100,000ugshs to secure a bond to which she paid because she didn't want to stay in the police cells

2. Discrimination and Societal Abuses:

The law criminalizes rape, which is punishable by life imprisonment. The law does not address spousal rape. The penal code defines rape as “unlawful carnal knowledge of a woman or a girl without her consent.” Men accused of raping men are tried under section 145(a) of the penal code that prohibits “carnal knowledge of any person against the order of nature.”

On 11th July 2020, a sex worker was evicted out of the rented house by the land lord after learning that the latter was a sex worker. The land lord overheard the sex worker sharing her life experiences with her friends who had come to stay with her when they were chased from the brothel because of failure to pay accommodation fees. The landlord went to police and reported his tenant that she is a sex worker and so doesn't want to do anything with sex workers so must leave his house with immediate effect.

It on 6th of June ,a sex worker was arrested because she brought a truck driver, longtime client and a father to one of her children in her house ,when some unknown person or neighbor called the police to get her arrested whereby she spent a night in the police cell and she was seriously warned not to involve her herself with the truck drivers again unless she will be imprisoned again.

On 14/6/2020 Sunday at around 11:00am in Nsambya Ave Maria - Mugwanya zone, a male sex worker was attacked and beaten by a group of angry community members accusing him of sodomising a young boy of 12 years, before attacking him they got information from Lc1 defence area that victims reported him a case claiming that client was sodomising them every day but they feared to report him at police or Lc1 because he was accommodating them. He was seriously beaten by the people and only to be rescued by the LC1 chairman who called police to take him away from the angry residents accusing him of promoting homosexuality and spoiling their children. He was taken to police to where he was charged of homosexuality and detained.

