Fact Sheet

Seeing a Sex Worker



There are lots of ways people can enjoy sex with another person.

Some people see a sex worker to have sex. Sometimes sex workers are called 'prostitutes' but sex worker is the correct name.

A sex worker is paid to have sex with another person. It is the sex worker's job. A sex worker is different to a boyfriend or a girlfriend. A person does not pay to have sex with a boyfriend or a girlfriend.

There are lots of reasons a person might see a sex worker.

Sometimes a person will see a sex worker because they want to have sex but they don't have a boyfriend or girlfriend.

A person can decide for themselves if they want to see a sex worker. It is OK for a person to see a sex worker if they want to. Some people don't want to see a sex worker. That is OK too.



In this picture there is a man thinking about seeing a sex worker. There is also a woman thinking about seeing a sex worker. They are both thinking about the sex they might like to have.

Some people with disability see sex workers

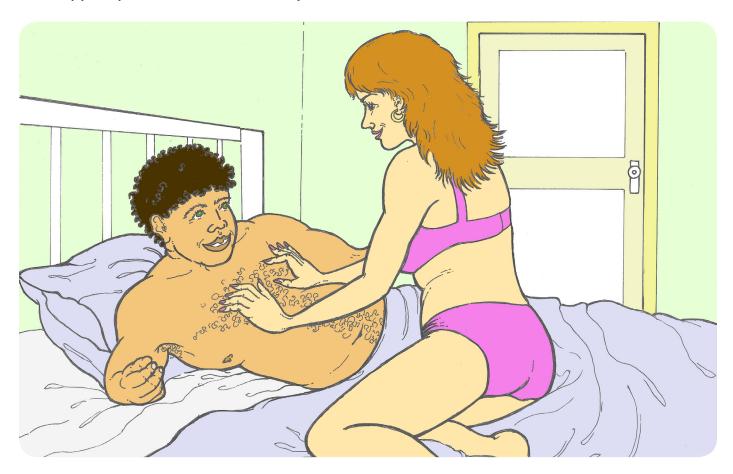
Some people with disability see a sex worker. There are lots of reasons a person with disability might see a sex worker. They might:

- Want to have sex
- Want a sexy massage
- Want to be touched in a sexy way
- Enjoy how it makes them feel.

It is OK if a person with disability wants to see a sex worker.

A sex worker can help a person with disability to learn about sex. With a sex worker a person can practice and explore sex.

If a person wants to see a sex worker but does not know how to find one they should talk to a support person or someone they trust.



In this picture a man is in bed with a sex worker. The sex worker is touching the man's body. They are in a private place.

Sex workers can work from different places

There are a few different places a person can see a sex worker. Some of these places are:

- At the sex worker's place
- At a hotel room
- At a person's own home
- At a brothel. This is a place where people go to have sex with a sex worker.

A person can choose where they want to see a sex worker.

All sex workers are different

There are different sex workers to suit different people.

Different sex workers will do different types of sex.

For example:

- Some sex workers will kiss their clients. Some do not.
- Some sex workers only have sex with men
- Some sex workers will only have sex with women
- Some sex workers have sex with both men and women

There are male and female sex workers. Some sex workers are transgender. For more information go to the fact sheet called 'Transgender'.

A person should find the right sex worker to meet their needs.

A person can choose which sex worker they would like to have sex with.

What does it cost to see a sex worker?

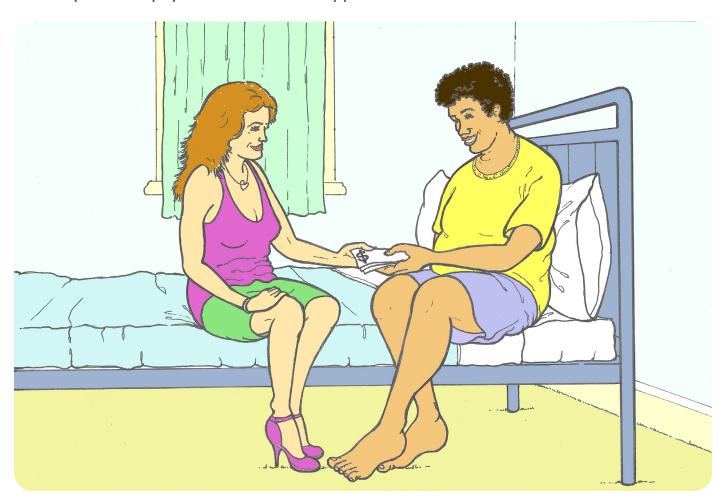
There is no set price to see a sex worker. The price depends on:

- who a person sees
- the type of sex they want
- how much time they spend with the sex worker

It might cost more if a person wants the sex worker to come to their house or hotel room.

When a person makes an appointment with a sex worker it is important to ask how much they need to pay for the service.

A person should have the money ready before they see a sex worker. The sex worker will ask the person to pay at the start of the appointment.



In this picture the man is giving the sex worker money before they have sex.

Getting ready to see a sex worker

A person should have a shower and be clean before they see a sex worker.

A person should have the money ready before they see a sex worker.

A person with disability may want help to see a sex worker. A support worker can help them to:

- Organise and get ready to see a sex worker
- Go to a brothel, hotel or sex worker's place
- Get undressed and into a bed before seeing a sex worker if the person wants them to

The support worker must leave after helping the person get ready. The support worker cannot stay in the room while a person is with the sex worker.

Consent

When a person pays a sex worker to have sex both people must agree to the type of sex they will have. A person should talk to the sex worker about the sex they want when making the appointment.

Both people must say "Yes".

A person can say "No" to the sex worker if they change their mind about sex.

A sex worker has rights too. They can say "No" to sex they don't want.

For more information about consent and sex go to the fact sheet called 'Having sex'.



In this picture the woman is using a communication board to tell the sex worker what she wants.

The law

Some people don't like it when a person pays a sex worker for sex.

A person can choose to see sex worker if they want to. A person can choose not see a sex worker if they do not want to. Both choices are OK.

In NSW the law says a person must be 16 years old to see a sex worker. However, a person must be 18 years old to go to a brothel.

Safe sex

A person should talk to the sex worker about having safe sex.

If a person has a sexually transmissible infection a sex worker can choose not to see them.

For more information about safe sex go to the fact sheet called 'Safe sex and sexually transmissible infections (STI)'.

Where to get help

Touching Base is an organisation that can help a person with disability to find a sex worker. They have a list of sex workers who provide services to people with disability. For more information go to the fact sheet called 'Where to go for help and advice'.

Touching Base also has two stories about seeing a sex worker. They are called 'Tony sees a sex worker' and 'Anna sees a sex worker'. For more information go to the factsheet called 'Resources'.



What you need to know:

- A sex worker is paid to have sex with another person. It is the sex worker's job.
- Sometimes a person will see a sex worker because they can have the sex they like and enjoy.
- A sex worker can give you the support you need to have sex.
- There are different sex workers to suit your needs. You should find the right sex worker to meet your needs.
- In NSW the law says you must be 16 years old to see a sex worker. However, you must be 18 years old to go to a brothel.
- There is no set price to see a sex worker. The price depends on who you see, the service you want and how much time you spend with the sex worker.
- You should talk to the sex worker about the sex you want. You and the sex worker must say "Yes".
- A support worker can help you get ready to see a sex worker. They cannot help you to have sex with the sex worker and must leave the room.
- It is important to have safe sex when seeing a sex worker. Safe sex is using condoms.
- Touching Base is an organisation that can help a person with disability to find a sex worker.