

# **SEXWORK, STIGMA & RESISTANCE**

**IN TIMES OF REPRESSION**

**GUEST SPEAKER:  
GAIL PHETERSON**

**CHAIRWOMAN:  
EM.PROF. INE VANWESENBEECK**

## **PHD THESIS PRESENTATIONS BY**

**DR MARIJE VAN  
STEMPVOORT &  
DR MARJAN  
WIJERS**



AT A TIME OF INCREASING POPULARITY OF CONSERVATIVE RIGHT-WING POLITICS AND IDEOLOGIES, SEX WORK FINDS ITSELF AT THE CROSSROADS OF RIGHTS AND REPRESSION. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SEX WORKERS AND SEX WORK POLICIES? WHAT HAVE 24 YEARS OF 'LEGALISATION' OF SEX WORK IN THE NETHERLANDS BROUGHT US? WHAT DO THE CURRENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS MEAN FOR SEX WORKERS ACROSS EUROPE?

THE SYMPOSIUM AIMS TO BRING TOGETHER ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND SEX WORK ACTIVISM. HOW CAN BOTH STUDIES INFORM US ABOUT HOW WE CAN ACHIEVE THE DESTIGMATISATION OF SEX WORK AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF SEX WORKERS' HUMAN RIGHTS?

### **PRESENTER INTRODUCTION**

**MARIJE VAN STEMPOORT** WILL ZOOM INTO THE UNIQUE POSITION OF STUDENT SEX WORKERS IN THE NETHERLANDS. WHY DOES THE SEX INDUSTRY APPEAL TO SOME HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS? WHAT ARE THEIR EXPERIENCES AND HOW ARE THEY IMPACTED BY THEIR INTERSECTIONAL PRIVILEGE IN TERMS OF RACE, CLASS AND EDUCATION? TO WHAT EXTENT IS THIS RELATIVELY PRIVILEGED POPULATION OF SEX WORKERS WILLING TO CHALLENGE SEX WORK STIGMA? AND WHY DO SOME STUDENTS, BESIDES CHALLENGING CURRENT VIEWS ALSO PERPETUATE EXISTING STEREOTYPES?

**MARJAN WIJERS** WILL DISCUSS THE ROLE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE DEBATE ON SEX WORK LAWS AND POLICIES. SINCE THE 1970S, SEX WORKERS HAVE USED THE HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMEWORK TO CLAIM LEGITIMACY AND ADVOCATE FOR THEIR RIGHTS. HOWEVER, SEX WORKER RIGHTS ARE UNDER ATTACK BY AN INCREASINGLY INFLUENTIAL ALLIANCE OF THE CHRISTIAN AND FEMINIST RIGHT AND LEFT-WING LIBERALS, CALLING FOR THE FURTHER CRIMINALISATION OF SEX WORK. BOTH DRAW ON HUMAN RIGHTS ARGUMENTS, MAKING HUMAN RIGHTS A TOOL OF BOTH EMPOWERMENT AND REPRESSION.



**SeksworkExpertise**  
PLATFORM POSITIEVERBETERING SEKSWERKERS

VERENIGING VOOR VROUW EN RECHT

CLARA WICHMANN



**SHOP**



# PROGRAMME

- 10:30 - 11:00** DOORS OPEN, COFFEE, TEA & CAKE
- 11:00 - 11:30** WELCOME BY DR MARIE-LOUISE JANSSEN (UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM) & OPENING BY EM.PROF. SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT, DIVERSITY AND HEALTH, INE VANWESENBEECK (CHAIR)
- 11:30 - 12:15** PRESENTATION DISSERTATION DR MARIJE VAN STEMPOORT. STUDENT SEX WORK IN THE NETHERLANDS: MOTIVATIONS AND EXPERIENCES. SWANSEA UNIVERSITY (UK) IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM
- 12:15 - 12:30** LAUNCH OF A DUTCH NETWORK OF SEX WORK RESEARCHERS: MARIE-LOUISE JANSSEN
- 12:30 - 13:30** LIGHT LUNCH (VEGETARIAN AND VEGAN)
- 13:30 - 14:15** PRESENTATION DISSERTATION DR MARJAN WIJERS L.L.M. SEX WORKER RIGHTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS: A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD. RIGHTS, RESISTANCE AND MOBILISATION. ESSEX UNIVERSITY (UK)
- 14:15 - 15:00** PRESENTATION BY EM. PROF. GAIL PHETERSON, ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL AND DUTCH SEX WORKERS MOVEMENT, CO-ORGANISER OF THE 1ST AND 2ND WORLD WHORES' CONGRESSES, EDITOR OF A VINDICATION OF THE RIGHTS OF WHORES & AUTHOR OF THE PROSTITUTION PRISM
- 15:00 - 15:30** DISCUSSION AND CLOSING
- 15:30 - 17:00** DRINKS



27/09/2024 11:00-17:00  
UVA  
Oude Manhuispoort  
Room D1.09  
**REGISTER AT:**  
**INFO@VROUWENRECHT.NL**



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