

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Cyber-protest - until the 13th of April

French sex workers are far from being done fighting off the law penalizing their clients.

4 years we've spent facing its consequences. 4 years during which we've been warning about the dangers we're exposed to, counting our dead, suffering ever-increasing violence and screaming without being heard.

Ever since the struggle in Saint-Nizier in 1972, we've often taken to the streets, the signs and the banners to protest in pride and anger. But for the past 23 days, we've been denied access to said streets, as well as our hustle.

Never mind that : we'll take to the Web ! Let's try out a new platform, let's show once again that sex workers can innovate, adapt, and catch you by surprise. For the next 5 days, let's organize with our kin, our friends, and our allies around a common theme, by putting to good use our social networks and their codes.

#4AnsLoiProstitution (*4 years prostitution law*)

This hashtag, being easy to get — even for our most conservative representatives — will be the unifying thread behind this protest. It will be inserted here and there into our communication. It will announce the final date and will rally all of us behind its virtual banner.

Using it in each post isn't a necessity, but it will be the easiest to recognize and amplify.

On the 8th of April, we've called out to Marlène Schiappa, since she thought it #TrèsComplicqué (*very complicated*) to unlock emergency funds for sex workers. We've given proof that this law, the disdain, and the stigma made our existence #TrèsComplicqué (*very complicated*). We won't stop here.

On each day, a new directive will be given, announcing a new action to cast our net further and wider, starting lightly so we can make our point loud, clear, and heavy.

We invite you to create content each day, or at the very least for the themes that inspire you :

- Tweets, threads, Facebook status updates, Instagram posts, blog notes, snaps, and why not stretch ourselves onto Reddit, Imgur, Twitch, or other networks...
- Pictures, edits, illustrations, videos, livestreams
- Sexy things, funny things, anything that's serious and deep or much lighter, anything that you like, that represents you, your banners and chants
- If you're afraid of outing yourself, other people can carry out your words and your content. Organize with those already within the public eye so they can relay your experiences.

Don't know what to create ? Share and amplify what's been posted by your colleagues and allies. Spread this call to protest, this virtual leaflet, in various networks, whether they are relevant to sex work, LGBTQIA+, feminism, unions and activism. Call out to representatives, community leaders, feminist collectives.

We progressively invite you to **change your profile picture for slogans in support of sex workers**. Our suggestion : **Someone I Love Is a Sex Worker**. We're working on finding/designing an image that could be used widely without appropriating someone else's work. If you find such an image, either royalty-free, or which's author would allow us to use, please be sure to share it to us. The Facebook page Par et Pour (*By and For*) has already prompted their followers to do so here : <https://www.facebook.com/Paretpourtds/photos/a.1042713796117032/1333448687043540> You may also choose another slogan such as End Nordic Model or Decrim Now to bring visibility to our demands in connection with #4AnsLoiProstitution (*4 years prostitution law*).

Here are the directives for the next few days :

Thursday, April 9th

Watchword: ANIMAL

Let's hack the Internet with its most formidable weapons: kittens and pussies.

Today we are click-sluts. Who can refrain from sharing photos of cute kittens ? Who doesn't want to see SW reveal their pussy to them? Is there really anything else on the Internet besides porn and pictures of cats ?

Ideas: Cats' video on YouPorn to draw attention to our action. Underlining the fact that our pets are our pimps according to the French law (Article 225-5-2 of French Penal Code).

To denounce the law, SW show their pussies. Of course, only use this one if you feel comfortable referring to genitalia, regardless of the one you bear.

For this day, # are free and playful, for example:

#ProxenateDeCroquettes (#biscuitpimp) #MonChatCeProxénète (#MyCatThisPimp) #
MonChienCeProxénète (#MyDogThisPimp) #MaChatteMonJob #MyPussyMyJob

Friday, April 10th

#MonJobEstLégal (#MyJobIsLegal)

The different forms of sex work are legal, whether we are an escort / prostitute, camgirl / camboy, porn actor/actress, erotic masseur, Professional dominatrix/dominator, stripper, etc. We all have the right to practice and we are required to pay dues and taxes. Why are our rights always violated?

Why is it almost impossible to open a bank account or collect payments for our activities? Why do we risk losing our housing because of our activity? Why is it so complicated to rent a place to exercise safely? Why is it utopian to get a professional insurance, like other trades? Why, in France, do we accept discrimination based on profession?

At a time when Paypal, AirBnb, Le Pot Commun and Amazon are tracking us to get rid of SW on their platforms, free your speech on the discrimination you suffer, even though #MyJobEstLégal Complementary hashtag: #StopDiscrimination

Saturday, April 11th

Watchword : WORK

The COVID19 crisis made many behind-the-scenes workers visible, either because their work is not recognized for its true value, such as cashiers, cleaners or garbage collectors, either because it is very poorly protected as is the entire informal economy sector, or because it is care work that is expected mainly from women, such as caregivers, nurses, but also all housewives, collaborating partners, carers and even those who produce all those masks that the government is unable to provide to carers and to the population.

On this freer and more creative day, we invite you to remember that we are workers and that our work matters! This is the moment to challenge union leaders, to call on them to defend us, to recall our solidarity with precarious workers' movements around the world, to remind them that the sexual and emotional work we do is a real job that deserves pay and respect.

Do not hesitate to make the link with the situation you are experiencing in this pandemic and containment period.

Idées : #SexWork #SexWorkIsWork #BlowjobIsAJob #PayHer #TipHer #FuckYouPayMe #BordelAutogéré (SelfManagedBrothel) #Coronabolo #coronabolition #GiletsJaunes (YellowVests) #NonAuTravailGratuit (DontWorkForFree) #FaitesPayerVosMaris (MakeYourHusbandsPay) #Galériens #Galériennes (SlaveLikeWorking)

Sunday, April 12th – Easter

#MaVieSousLaPéna (MyLifeUnderCriminalization)

Concerned people: This is the time to tell your lives, but especially your testimonies about the penalization law's impact. What were the consequences for you? For your colleagues and friends? How do you see our community suffering from this shitty law?

We will start to publicly release the translation of the community report on the [20 years of the Swedish Sex Purchase Act](#) (Fuckförbundet), a report that says roughly the same thing as the [French interassociation survey published two years ago](#). These two documents contain edifying testimonies that our allies can also share, thus conveying the damage caused by this law.

Profile pictures: on this day we want to see as many sex workers/supporters/allies as possible showing their support with their profile picture in solidarity with sex workers on all social networks, ready for April 13th.

Monday, April 13th

We are still struggling to imagine this day, but for the moment it is a matter of focusing on

#4AnsLoiProstitution

This day should be devoted to challenging decision-makers, the political and media spheres and rallying all our peers and supporters internationally. Le Strass will publish a press release in French and English. We will make the link with the Coronavirus and our request for an emergency fund. It will be the moment to discuss again the evaluation report of the law that the government has never released and the [250+ sex workers who are attacking France at the European Court of Human Rights](#), since it's an issue for all the countries under this scheme in Europe.

We will give more details according to the virtual demonstration's evolution at the beginning of the weekend.

You can freely spread this call to demonstrate among all your networks.