

## **Ending Demand to End Sex Trafficking: Does it Work?**

*Discussion organized by the Open Society Foundations in collaboration with  
The American University Washington College of Law*

April 12th, 5:00-7:00

**Location:** OSF Offices: 400 W. 59th Street, between 9th and 10th Avenue New York

**Moderator:** Gara LaMarche

### **Panelists:**

- Lisa Kelly
- Pye Jakobson
- Noy Thrupkaew
- Andrea Ritchie

Policy makers across the United States are taking a new look at how to end demand for sexual services as a way to curtail human trafficking into the sex sector. This panel will explore the evidence available about the effectiveness of end demand policies on reducing sex trafficking, and its impact on marginalized populations.

### **About the Panelists:**

**Lisa Kelly** is a doctoral (S.J.D.) candidate at Harvard Law School where her research focuses on family law, criminal law, education law, and sexual and reproductive health law. Her doctoral dissertation analyzes the legal regulation of the child at school and the law and politics of universal schooling. Lisa Kelly is a Frank Knox Memorial Fellow, a Trudeau Scholar, and a Doctoral Fellow of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. She holds a B.A. from the University of British Columbia, a J.D. from the University of Toronto, Faculty of Law, and an LL.M. (waived) from Harvard Law School. After law school, Lisa articulated with the Department of Justice in Ottawa and also clerked for Justice Marshall Rothstein of the Supreme Court of Canada. Lisa recently served as a legal intern with the Sex Work project at Pivot Legal Society in Vancouver, Canada

**Pye Jakobsson**, born 1968, is from Stockholm, Sweden. She is a former sex worker as well as a health care provider with a degree in social psychiatry. She is the founder of the Swedish sex worker organization, Rose Alliance, and has been involved in sex work activism for nearly 20 years, both nationally and internationally. She is also involved in the harm reduction movement where she has been very active in getting sex workers issues on the agenda, especially on a European level. She is currently the project manager of the only HIV-prevention project targeting indoor sex workers in Sweden as well as acting as the expert consultant on sex work for Harm Reduction International, UK.

**Noy Thrupkaew** is a journalist at work on a book on human trafficking and labor exploitation, with an emphasis on workers' resilience and right to organize. As an Open Society Fellow, she investigated the

largest human trafficking cases in the United States, which involve hundreds of Thai farmers and Indian metalworkers working under conditions of severe intimidation, debt, and the threat of deportation. She also examined the complexities of the U.S. guest-worker program and law-enforcement responses to human trafficking for the purpose of forced prostitution in South and Southeast Asia, as well as explored ways to develop greater accountability in counter-trafficking initiatives.

Thrupkaew has worked as a senior correspondent for the American Prospect and is the recipient of Fulbright and International Reporting Project grants. She has reported extensively from Cambodia, Thailand, Burma, Iran, Morocco, and Cuba for many publications, including the Nation, the Guardian, National Geographic, and Marie Claire.

**Andrea Ritchie** is a civil rights attorney and organizer who has engaged in extensive research and, writing, litigation, and advocacy on law enforcement interactions with women, girls and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people of color over the past two decades. She currently coordinates Streetwise & Safe (SAS), a leadership development initiative aimed at sharing "know your rights" information, strategies for safety and visions for change among LGBT youth of color who experience of gender, race, sexuality and poverty-based policing and criminalization in the context of "quality of life" initiatives and the policing of sex work and trafficking. Prior to this, she served as the Director of the Sex Workers Project at the Urban Justice Center in 2009. She also represents women and LGBT people who are or are profiled as being engaged in the sex trades in police misconduct matters.

Ritchie was as an expert consultant, lead researcher and coauthor for Amnesty International's 2005 report Stonewalled: Police Abuse and Misconduct Against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People in the United States. She was also a consultant and co-author for Caught in the Net, a report on women and the "war on drugs" published by the ACLU, the Brennan Center for Justice, and Break the Chains, and Education Not Deportation: Impacts of New York City School Safety Policies on Immigrant Youth, published by Desis Rising Up and Moving (DRUM).

Ritchie is co-author of Queer (In)Justice: The Criminalization of LGBT People in the United States (Beacon Press 2011), [www.queerinjjustice.com](http://www.queerinjjustice.com)<<http://www.queerinjjustice.com>>.