



Exploring the experiences of people with disability who access sex worker services, in Australia

- Do you live in Australia?
- Are you a person with disability?
- Are you 18 yrs or older?
- Have you ever paid a sex worker?

** If you answered yes to all four questions you are eligible to participate **

This research aims to prioritise the voices of people with disability, to create an opportunity for people to share your own experiences about accessing sex worker services.

Questions will be grouped into five main areas of **who, what, where, how** and **why**, as well as a final section where you can share **personal stories, opinions and suggestions**.

People of all genders and sexual identities are welcome to participate.

This survey asks you about your personal experiences.

It is up to you how much information you wish to share.

You are not required to provide any personally identifying information.

Your responses are anonymous so can never be linked back to you.

All information about why the research is being done and what it will involve is provided in the [Participant Information Sheet](#).

You give consent to participate in the survey when you send it back. It is free to send it in the mail. No stamp needed.

As it is anonymous, once you submit your answers they cannot be withdrawn.

If you need more space, please use extra paper and attach to this survey

The closing date for this survey is 1st November 2022

All information about this research project can be found on the website: www.pasa-research.com.au

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Interview option

The researcher is also wanting to interview 10-20 people throughout Australia.

The interview will be an opportunity to expand on the answers you have given in this survey, especially if you have had many experiences with different sex workers. You can also provide other information for this research that wasn't asked in the survey.

If you are eligible and interested, you can fill out the form at the end of this printed survey and send back to the researcher in a separate envelope.

Your survey answers will not be linked to your contact details.

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Go in the draw to win 1 of 4 x \$100 eGift vouchers

Everyone who completes this survey can enter the draw to win 1 x 4 eGift Vouchers worth \$100 each (physical gift cards can also be sent if they are easier for people to use).

There is a form to fill out at the end of this survey to enter the draw.

Your survey answers will not be linked to your contact details.

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START OF SURVEY

Eligibility Questions

Do you identify as a person with disability?

- No
- Yes

How would you describe your disability/s?

Have you paid for sexual services from a sex worker, in Australia?

- Yes
- No

Section 1. WHO (demographics)

The following 8 questions are questions about yourself

What is your age? (tick or circle correct answer)

- 18-19
- 20-24
- 25-29
- 30-34
- 35-39
- 40-44
- 45-49
- 50-54
- 55-59
- 60- 64
- 65-69

- 70 -74
- 75-80
- 80-84
- 85-89
- 90-94
- 95-99
- 100+

What State or Territory do you live in? (tick or circle correct answer)

- Australian Capital Territory (ACT)
- New South Wales (NSW)
- Northern Territory (NT)
- Queensland (QLD)
- South Australia (SA)
- Tasmania (TAS)
- Western Australia (WA)
- Victoria (VIC)

**Do you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?
(tick or circle correct answer)**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

**Do you identify as a person who is culturally and/or linguistically diverse
(CALD)?**

(tick or circle correct answer)

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

If yes, what best describes your family background? (Select all that apply)

Tick all the boxes that are right for you

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- Australian or New Zealander
- Caribbean
- Central American
- Central Asian
- Chinese
- Eastern European
- Indian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Middle Eastern
- North African
- North American
- Northern European
- Oceania (Melanesian, Micronesian, Polynesian)
- Pacific Islander
- South East Asian
- South American
- Sub Saharan African
- United Kingdom/Ireland
- Western European
- Prefer not to say
- Any others?

**What was your sex recorded at birth?
(tick or circle correct answer)**

- Male
- Female
- Other
- Prefer not to answer

How do you describe your gender? (tick or circle correct answer)

(Gender refers to current gender, which may be different to sex recorded at birth and may be different to what is indicated on legal documents).

- Man or male
- Woman or female
- Non-binary
- I use a different term (please specify).....
- Prefer not to answer

What is your sexuality? (tick or circle correct answer)

- Straight (heterosexual)
- Gay
- Lesbian
- Bisexual
- Pansexual
- Asexual
- Queer
- I use a different term (please specify)
- Don't know / questioning
- Prefer not to answer

What are your living arrangements? (tick or circle correct answer)

- I live alone
- I live with my parents
- I live with my partner /wife/ husband/ girlfriend/ boyfriend
- I live with my offspring (ie. son / daughter)
- I live with my sibling/s (ie. sister / brother)
- I live with flatmates / friends
- I live in supported accommodation
- I live in a group home
- I live in a boarding house
- I live in a retirement home
- I live in a nursing home
- Other (please specify)
- Prefer not to answer

Section 2. WHAT

The next section has five questions, asking about your appointments with sex workers & the services you paid for

How many different sex workers have you visited, in total?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- More than 10 (please specify)

What age were you when you first paid for sexual services?

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What gender/s were the sex worker/s? (click all that apply)

- Male
- Female
- Transgender (M – F)
- Transgender (F – M)
- Non-binary
- Other
- Prefer not to answer

What services have you paid sex workers for?

(circle or tick all that apply)

- Nude massage
- Hand relief / masturbation
- Oral sex / blow job / French (you receiving)
- Oral sex / blow job / French (you giving)
- Vaginal sex (you giving ie. your sex worker has a vagina)
- Vaginal sex (you receiving ie. you have a vagina)
- Anal play (fingers/ toys in your bottom)
- Anal play (fingers/ toys in sex worker's bottom)
- Anal sex (you giving)
- Anal sex (you receiving)
- Using a Strap-on ('pegging')
- BDSM {Bondage, Discipline, Sadism, Masochism} services
- Sex toys ie. vibrators
- Fantasies / role plays
- Double booking (2 sex workers)
- Double booking (you and a partner [with disability] with 1 sex worker)
- Double booking (you and a partner [without disability] with 1 sex worker)
- Double booking (you and a friend [with disability] with 1 sex worker)
- Double booking (you and a friend [without disability] with 1 sex worker)
- Other (please specify)

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How often do you visit sex worker/s? (tick or circle correct answer)

- No set pattern
- Whenever I can afford it
- Whenever I travel to the same location as the sex worker
- Whenever the sex work travels to my location
- Once a week
- Once a fortnight
- Once a month
- Once every 2 months (every 8 weeks/ 6 times a year)
- Once every 3 months (every 12 weeks/ 4 times a year)
- Once every 4 months (3 times a year)
- Once every 6 months (twice a year)
- Once a year

Section 3. WHERE

The next 2 questions ask about the location of where you receive services.

In which State or Territory have you received services from a sex worker? (circle or tick all that apply). Please write the name of the suburbs or general areas on the line next to your answers.

For example, in NSW you might name a specific suburb (Surry Hills) or a general area (the Inner West). For QLD it could include " Nundah" as a suburb, or 'Metropolitan Brisbane' or 'the Far North Queensland (FNQ) region'.

To maintain confidentiality, the individual suburbs will not be shared in the public findings of this research.

- Australian Capital Territory (ACT).....
- New South Wales (NSW).....
- Northern Territory.....
- Queensland.....
- South Australia.....
- Tasmania.....
- Western Australia.....
- Victoria.....

Where have sex worker/s provided services to you?

(tick/ circle all that apply)

- Brothel
- Massage parlour
- Hotel
- Motel
- My home / where I live
- The sex worker's private workplace (house/ unit)
- BDSM house / parlour
- Private BDSM dungeon
- Safe house
- Hospital
- Rehab Accommodation
- Car
- Other (please specify).....

Section 4. HOW

The next six questions are about finding the right sex worker, organising the appointment, support & payments

How did you locate the sex worker/s?

(Circle / tick all that apply)

- Arrived at the premises and chose from the sex workers available (ie. brothel /massage parlour)
- Sex worker's website / advertisement online
- Newspaper advertisement
- Referral from another sex worker
- Referral / suggestion from another person with disability
- Touching Base Referral List
- Therapist helped me
- Support worker helped me

- Coordinator helped me
- Rehab nurse/ rehab support worker helped me
- Parent helped me
- Sibling (brother / sister) helped me
- Saw the sex worker on Facebook
- Saw the sex worker on Twitter
- Saw the sex worker on Instagram
- Saw the sex worker on TikTok
- Saw the sex worker in the media / documentary / TV
- Approached the sex worker at an event / conference/ performance
- Approached the sex worker in a street (where sex workers stand to meet clients)
- Other (please specify):
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- Prefer not to answer

Please share any other information about how and why you chose the sex worker/s you have spent time with

Have you had any assistance or support to access sex worker services?

- **No** [I organise and meet the sex worker independently without anyone else involved]
- **Yes**

If 'Yes', please tick all that apply

- Someone helps me book the appointment (via email/ online / phone / text / Facebook messenger etc)
- Someone helps me pay the sex worker (gets my money from my bank account/ organises invoice and then transfer of payment)
- Someone helps me get ready for the appointment (ie. Showering/ dressing)
- Someone helps me get my home ready (cleaning the house, getting clean sheets and towels ready, making sure I have enough tissues etc)
- Someone answers the doors and lets the sex worker into my house when they arrive
- Someone drives me to/ from the appointment
- Someone helps me with un/dressing
- Someone helps me with transfers to and from the bed
- Other (please specify)

Please share any other information about the booking process

This could include:

- any difficulties you may have experienced organising the booking, or
- stories about support staff / family that have made the experience either extra special or very difficult.

Where did you get the money to pay for the sex worker/s?

(tick or circle all that apply)

- From paid work / income
- Disability Pension
- Aged Care Pension
- NDIS funding
- Insurance payout
- Guardianship and Trustee releases my money
- Inheritance
- Parent/s paid for it
- Sibling/s paid for it
- Offspring paid for it
- Saved up my money from Christmas/ birthday presents
- Used gift vouchers given to me
- Other (please specify)

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Section 5: WHY

The next three questions ask about your reasons for accessing sex worker services

Why did you decide to visit a sex worker?

(tick or circle all that apply)

- To lose my virginity
- To gain confidence after an accident
- To find out what my sexual functioning was ('if it all still worked') after accident or illness
- To experience specific sexual activities that I can't do with my partner
- To try new or different sexual activities
- I was lonely
- To learn about sex
- I couldn't get a girlfriend/ boyfriend
- To practice how to touch and talk to someone sexually

- Partner / husband / wife had passed away, but I still wanted intimacy / sex
- I enjoy sex and touching!
- All my friends were doing it, so I went with them to the brothel
- Other reasons

Please share any other information about your decision to visit a sex worker.

This could include:

- who you spoke with,
- what you read to help you make your decision, or
- if someone else suggested it as an option for you to try

Do you still see sex worker/s?

- Yes
- No

**You answered 'No'. Why don't you see sex workers any more?
(you can tick more than one answer)**

- I now have a partner / girlfriend/ boyfriend
 - I got married
 - My funding was stopped when I moved onto an NDIS Plan
 - I moved and the new staff won't support me
 - My support worker moved/ retired so I don't have anyone to take me/ organise the appointment for me
 - My preferred sex worker retired
 - I wanted to spend my money on other things
 - My friends / family didn't approve
 - It went against my religious beliefs
 - Other reason/s
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Section 6: Personal stories, opinions and suggestions

These final six questions ask you to share personal experiences and feelings about visiting a sex worker.

They also provide an opportunity to share what you would like others to know.

Your answers can be as short or as long and detailed as you would like.

Apart from anyone who assists you before, during or after a booking, does anyone else in your life know you visit sex worker/s?

This could be friends, family, people you work, socialise or study with or people you chat to in online groups.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

If you answered YES:

Who? What was their reaction when you shared this information with them?

If you answered NO:

Why haven't you told anyone?

Please describe a favourite time or experience with a sex worker that you've had.

This could include:

- how they made you feel,
- what you did during the booking, or
- anything else that contributed to making the booking memorable.

You can share more than one story if you'd like.

Please share any difficulties you've experienced:

- **visiting a sex worker (either before, during or after the booking), or**
- **when trying to book someone who you didn't end up seeing.**

This could include:

- dealing with moralistic or judgemental attitudes
- medical issues
- staffing problems
- transport issues
- lack of availability of sex workers in your area, or
- anything else that you experienced.

What would you like people in the **disability / aged care/ health care / medical sector** to know, to better support people with disability to visit sex workers?

What would you like **sex workers** to know, about people with disability who want to visit them?

What would you like to tell the **general public** about people with disability who want to visit sex workers?



Is there anything else you would like to say?

Thank you for doing the survey

By sending this survey in the mail, you give your consent for your answers to be used.

It is FREE to send this survey using this address:

Reply Paid 75953
Western Sydney University
PASA Research (Rachel Wotton)
Locked Bag 1797
Penrith NSW 2751

*the next page will let you sign up for a chance to win a \$100 gift card

*the last page is if you want to do an interview



People with disability who go to sex workers in Australia

Chance to win \$100 gift card

If you did the survey you can sign up for the chance to win a \$100 gift card.

- Fill in your email address if you prefer an online gift card
- Fill in your postal address if you want us to send a gift card by post
- Fill in your phone number if you want us to call or text you to tell you if you won

Name

Phone number

Email address

Put this form into a new envelope and close it.

Write gift card on the front.

Put the envelope into the big envelope with your survey.

We will not link your contact details to your survey answers.



People with disability who go to sex workers in Australia

Do you want to take part in the interview?

Rachel wants to talk to 10 to 20 people about how it is for them when they go to sex workers.

You might want to do the interview if

- You have been to many sex workers and have lots to tell
- You want to tell us things that were not in the survey
- You have more things to add to the survey

Rachel will call you within 7 days to let you know if you can take part in the survey.

You can ask her questions.

You can work out a date, time and place for the interview together.

Interviews can be done

- In person
- Over the phone
- Online on Zoom, Skype or Teams

Contact details

Name

Phone number

Email address

Your survey answers will not be linked to your name and contact details

Tick the **State or Territory** you live in.

Australian Capital Territory **ACT**

New South Wales **NSW**

Northern Territory **NT**

Queensland **QLD**

South Australia **SA**

Tasmania **TAS**

Western Australia **WA**

Victoria **VIC**

Tick how you want Rachel to contact you.

Email

Phone

Video call on Zoom, Skype or Microsoft Teams

Tick which time is good for Rachel to contact you.

Between 9am and 12pm

Between 12pm and 3pm

Between 3pm and 6pm

Between 6pm and 9pm

Send this form to

Reply Paid 75953, Western Sydney University, PASA Research (Rachel Wotton),
Locked Bag 1797, Penrith NSW 2751

Do not send the form in the same envelope as your survey.