

SafeSpace circa 2009

- A few women had a vision
- Lived and worked in a neighborhood where there was shaming of sex workers (cameras being installed, legislation being challenged in court system)
- Wanted a space for women where they would not be judged
- Confidential
- No Violence or Exploitation



But SafeSpace is so much more



- Women accessing the space
- Coordinators
- Volunteers
- Students
- Allies
- Key Stakeholders



Relationship to Public Space(s)



Over 50 women interviewed locally who are involved in sex work.
 Not one of them said they wanted policies that governed their involvement in sex work.
 They focused on fostering relationships.
 It's about relationships
 -Public spaces are subject to surveillance and publically policed:

“I try to go and work on the street and it's the cops that wreck our ability to be able to work properly. We have to stand out there a little extra longer because they feel like harassing us.”

“A lot of the girls get a lot of criticism from like public places, restaurants, whatever and it doesn’t even matter. It seems so many people get hated on. Like even they go in to purchase something ... They’re riding them when they’re in the bathroom. It’s so rude that they can’t even put their makeup on, nothing.”

