

there  
would be  
no supply

The Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW) is a non-governmental organization that promotes women's human rights. CATW engages in advocacy, education and victim service projects in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Europe and North America on human trafficking and the sexual exploitation of women and girls. CATW advocates for legislation on the local, national, regional, and international levels that promotes preventive measures and law reform. CATW holds Category II Consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

[www.catwinternational.org](http://www.catwinternational.org)

without  
demand

# Best Practices

## Sweden 1999

A person caught buying sex shall be sentenced to a fine or imprisonment for up to six months. An attempt to purchase sexual services is punishable under Chapter 23 of the Swedish Penal Code.

\*\*Since the enactment of this law Sweden is reporting a 40% decline in sex trafficking.

## Republic of Korea (South Korea) 2004

The Act on the Punishment of Procuring Prostitution and Associated Acts stipulates that anyone who buys sex shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than one year or by a fine not exceeding 3 million won (US\$ 2600). In 2006, a survey found that of the 49 percent of men who had previously used women in prostitution, 85 percent had desisted after the enactment of the law.

## UN Palermo Protocol

The UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (referred to as the Palermo Protocol) contains an internationally accepted definition of trafficking that protects all victims of trafficking, not just those who can prove force. It is the first UN instrument to discourage the demand that fosters sexual exploitation and the trafficking in women and children.

## Article 9.5 Prevention of Trafficking in Persons

States Parties shall adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures, such as educational, social or cultural measures, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, that leads to trafficking.

## Norway 2009

Any person who engages in or aids and abets another person to engage in sexual activity or commit a sexual act, on making or agreeing payment, shall be liable to fines or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both. The Norwegian legislation addresses sex tourism by including the purchase of a sexual act outside Norway. In 2009, 334 buyers were arrested, charged and fined.

## Iceland 2009

Those caught paying for prostitution could face a fine or up to one year in prison. If the victim is under the age of 18, the buyer risks up to two years in prison. Reykjavik has also been successful in closing down 10 of its 13 strip clubs.