**SEX WORK AND THE LAW**

Different legislative frameworks are used to criminalise and oppress sex work and sex workers, including oppressive regulatory frameworks. As well as the removal of criminal laws, the struggle for sex work law reform also requires reform of police practice and law enforcement which often includes extortion, corruption, and the discriminatory targeting of sex workers.

**SEX WORK SPECIFIC LAWS: THE 4 APPROACHES AND THEIR IMPACT**

**DECRIMINALISATION**
- Absence of criminal laws prohibiting sex work (including sex workers, clients, and third parties).
- A broad range of reforms focused on the removal of all legal oppression.
- The police undertaking to reform their own practice.

**LEGALISATION**
- Legislation that prohibits laws that aim to impose state regulation and control sex work.
- Mandatory registration, compulsory HIV/STI testing, restricting the number and location of sex work businesses.

**CRIMINALISATION**
- A legislative framework that has laws making sex work or activities associated with sex work a crime.
- It can refer to criminalisation of sex workers, clients or third parties.

**LEGAL RECOGNITION**
- Legal recognition of sex work as work.
- Removal of all forms of criminalisation and other legal oppression against sex work (including sex workers, clients, third parties, families, partners and friends).

**PRINCIPLES FOR A LEGAL FRAMEWORK THAT RESPECTS, PROTECTS AND RECOGNISES SEX WORKERS HUMAN AND LABOUR RIGHTS**

**SEX WORK IS WORK:**

Sex workers call for decriminalisation and all labour rights for all sex workers!