


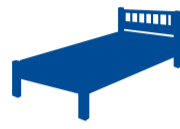

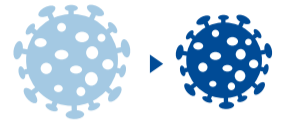














FACTS ABOUT SEX WORKERS AND THE MYTHS THAT HELP SPREAD HIV

THE LANCET series on HIV and sex workers ♀♂♂♂

Misconceptions about sex workers hinder effective HIV prevention programmes

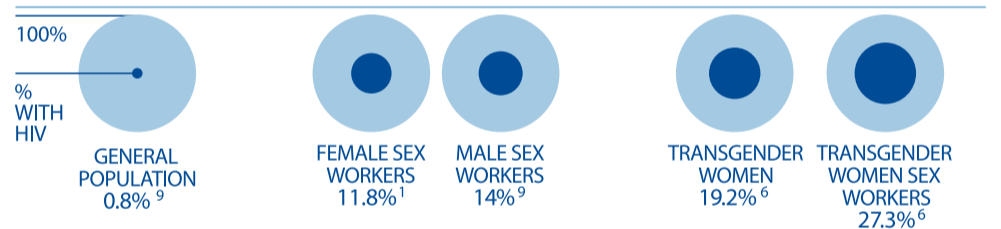
THE MYTH IS...	BUT THE TRUTH IS...	THE IMPACT BEING...	THE MYTH IS...	BUT THE TRUTH IS...	THE IMPACT BEING...
 All sex workers are women FALSE	 Sex workers may be male, female, transgender or non-transgender and from diverse backgrounds ⁷	 Heterogeneity of epidemics across various groups ⁷	 Sex work is not a real job FALSE	 Sex work is officially recognised as an occupation in Brazil, entitling sex workers to labour rights ³	 Community empowerment among sex workers reduced the odds of HIV by 32% ³
 Male sex workers are all gay	 Often male sex workers with male clients don't identify as gay or bisexual and have female intimate partners ⁵	 Heterosexual identity in male sex workers represents increased risk among their non-paying female partners ⁵	 Sex workers won't use condoms FALSE	 Greater success in condom uptake has been reported in sex workers than any other affected population ²	 Condom promotion in South Africa has reduced HIV in sex workers by more than 70% ²
 Transgender female sex workers face the same risk of HIV as male sex FALSE	 Transgender women have distinct biological HIV risks from male sex workers or non-transgender women ⁶	 Transgender female sex workers demonstrate about 1.5 times the risk of HIV compared to male sex workers ⁶	 Criminalising sex work prevents HIV spread FALSE	 Police harassment forces hurried transactions which jeopardise condom negotiation ^{1,4}	 One third of sex workers don't carry condoms as they are used as evidence of illegal sex work ^{1,4}

THE HIV BURDEN

Sex workers have higher burdens of HIV, although epidemics are reflective of, and impact on, surrounding adult populations.

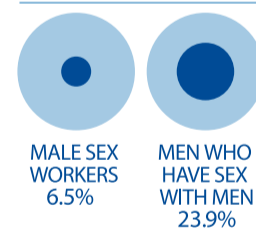
HIV PREVALENCE

WORLDWIDE

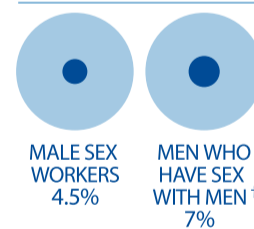


EPIDEMIOLOGICAL TRENDS AMONG MALE SEX WORKERS AND OTHER MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN[†] VARY BY REGION

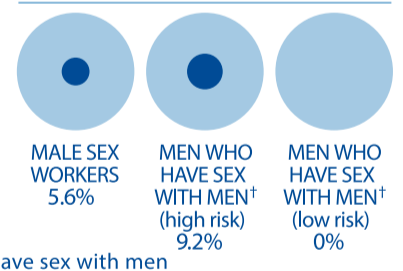
SYDNEY



SHENZHEN

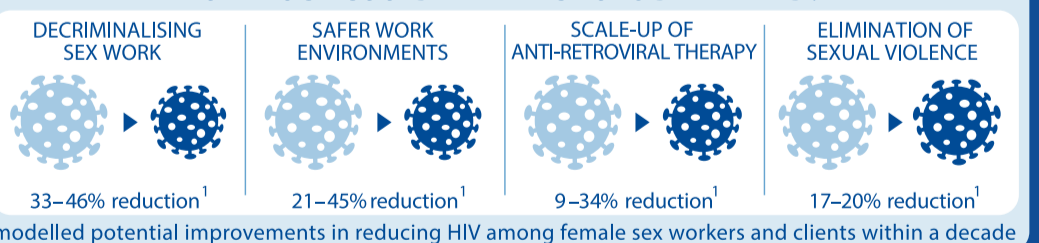


TEL AVIV



[†] men with no history of sex work who have sex with men

HOW MUCH COULD HIV INFECTIONS BE AVERTED?*



modelled potential improvements in reducing HIV among female sex workers and clients within a decade

Read the full series at www.thelancet.com/series/HIV-and-sex-workers
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THE LANCET

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