

## Professional reorientation

If you have come to the decision to quit sex work, there are various points of contact where you can go, for example the Job-Center. If you want to, we can help you with the first steps.

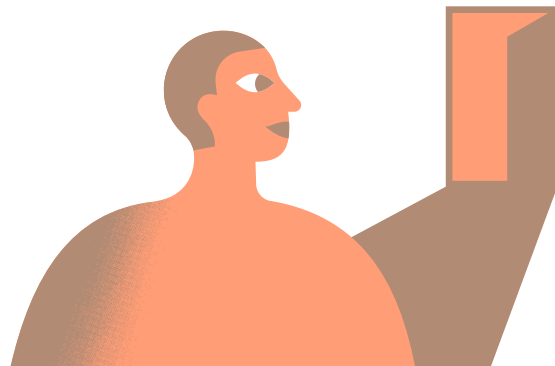
### Some important information beforehand:

In many cases, emergencies, either financial or health related, are responsible for the urge to stop sex work immediately. Try to keep this in mind and try to approach a counselling centre beforehand. Some problems can be solved, when they're small. When it comes to professional reorientation and quitting sex work, there are barriers to overcome.

### A few things you should think about before:

- Do you have a (professional) qualification which you can use and refer to?
- Which personal strengths did you develop over the time, also while doing sex work?
- How much money do you need to meet your daily expenses?

We, allerd!ngs Thüringen, are looking out for former sex workers from time to time to support us with peer-to-peer counselling. Should this interest you, you can gladly get in touch.



## Legal basis

Prostitution/Sexwork is legal in Germany and not against public policy according to the Prostitution Act (2002). The Prostitutes Protection Act (2017) regulates the prerequisites to work in prostitution.

### General regulations for sex workers

- Registration with an authority.
- Regular health counselling.
- Obligation to use condoms.

### General regulations for operators

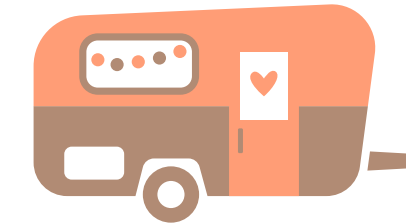
- Official authorisation for prostitution businesses.
- Prohibition of advertising for sex with pregnant women and sex without a condom.
- Prohibition of instructions regarding working clothes, working hours, number and selection of customers.

### What is prostitution trade?

- **Prostitution establishments**, i.e. brothels, clubs, flats, »Laufhaus« or similar establishments.
- **Prostitution vehicles**, such as campers or lovemobiles.
- **Prostitution events**, for example sex parties.
- **Prostitution agencies**, for example escort agencies.

### Appointment flats in which several sex workers are active:

As soon as more sex workers work together, they form a prostitution establishment. An official permit is always required for prostitution establishments.



## Consultation in Thuringia and nationwide

There are specialized counselling centres for sex workers nationwide. You can find an overview here, for example:

[www.bufas.net](http://www.bufas.net)

In Thuringia, you can turn to Aidshilfe for questions about sexual health and STI:

[www.weimar.aidshilfe.de](http://www.weimar.aidshilfe.de)

In the event of an unwanted pregnancy or questions about family planning:

[www.profamilia.de/angebote-vor-ort/thueringen/erfurt](http://www.profamilia.de/angebote-vor-ort/thueringen/erfurt)

In cases of sexual exploitation and human trafficking:

[www.bekom-thueringen.de](http://www.bekom-thueringen.de)

## allerd!ngs

Support Sexwork Thüringen

### Allerd!ngs – Support Sexwork Thüringen

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Beauftragte  
für die Gleichstellung  
von Frau und Mann

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# Information for people who have sex for money

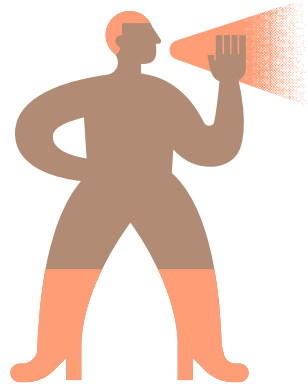


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## Rights and obligations

### Rights

- Sex work is voluntary! No one is allowed to force you.
- You decide on your working hours, your place of work and your work clothes.
- You decide which clients you accept and which sexual acts you offer.
- No one can ask you to work without a condom.
- You can stop the sexual act at any time.
- You have the right to have clients give you the money in advance. You do not have to give it back if the client claims that you have not done a good job.



### Obligations

- If you come from a country outside the EU, you have to check whether you are allowed to work in Germany.
- You have to get a health certificate at an authority and then apply for a registration certificate.
- If you want to operate a prostitution business, you must apply for a permit.
- You have to pay taxes.
- You must have health insurance.
- When you work, you have to take care of your hygiene and use condoms.
- You can get information about your rights and sex work from the registration office or from us as a specialised counselling centre.
- Prostitution may not be practiced in restricted areas («Sperrgebiete»), information on this can be obtained from the registration office or from us.



## Insurances

There are many different insurances in Germany. The largest system is the social insurance:

### Social security includes:

- Health insurance
- Long-term care insurance
- Occupational accident insurance
- Unemployment insurance
- Pension insurance

**In Germany, health insurance is compulsory. This means ...**

- If you work as a self-employed sex worker, you are obliged to be health and long-term care insured. You have to pay the contributions yourself.
- There are two forms of health insurance: statutory health insurance and private health insurance.
- You can decide whether you also want a pension insurance, an occupational accident insurance and unemployment insurance.
- If you carry out sex work as an employee, you are automatically covered by health, care, accident and unemployment insurance. Your employer is legally obliged to insure you and to pay the contributions. The employee contributions are deducted from your salary.



## Self-employed or employee?

You can work as **self-employed** or **employee**. If you are independent, you can choose both your working hours and your place of work. Operators of a prostitution establishment can be legal entities as well as natural persons.

### Employee

- You are employed on the basis of a contract with a specific employer.
- If you are employed, income tax is deducted from your salary, depending on the amount of your salary. Wage tax is deducted from your salary. If you file a tax return, you can claim expenses such as travel to the place of work.

### Self-employed

- If you are self-employed, you must pay tax on your profit.
- If your income is low, you may not have to pay taxes. In most cases a visit to a tax advisor makes sense. You can also contact us for this purpose.
- Write down all your income and expenses and keep all receipts of the things you need for your work, as for example room rent, condoms or laundry detergent. You will need this for your tax return.
- The receipts are also proof of your actual activity as a sex worker. Keep all invoices, rental contracts and receipts for ten years.

### Determination of profit

Annual revenue  
– 19% turnover tax  
– rent  
– insurance  
– laundry detergent  
– condoms  
– etc.  
= profit



## Health Protection and Safety

### Physical aspects

- Protected Sexual intercourse (genital, anal and oral) to prevent infections and sexually transmitted diseases
- PEP/PrEP, rubber gloves, condoms, dental dams, hand disinfection
- Safety during BDSM practices
- Avoid drugs and alcohol during working hours



### Psychological aspects

- Stick to breaks and rest periods
- Ensure financial security, for example in the event of illness, leave or professional reorientation
- Set limits, stick to your taboos
- Stigma, outing

### Security concept when working alone

- Customer screening
- Cover-Up
- Safer sex
- Cash handover
- Anonymity
- Self-defence

Feel free to take advantage of our peer-to-peer counselling or contact us if you are interested in seminars or workshops on the topic.