



How to promote yourself - pretty yet safe?

- When taking photo shots, try to focus on the body and show only a small part of your face; or wear a mask or cover with veil. The blur adds a sense of mystery.
- If you have special identification marks on your body, such as mole, tattoo, scar or birthmark etc, try to hide them as much as you can to avoid being identified.
- Wigs will help improve the profile of your face.
- 4. Dot a mole that makes you look sexier.
- Wearing glasses could make you look cute.

Advertisement on websites:

- If the photos to be posted on the web page are covered by mosaics, put on sunglasses and wear a mask when taking the photo shots to avoid photos being cracked and used for other purposes.
- Customers are just customers, never send them your photos as souvenirs.
- Use a lower resolution for headshots uploaded via your mobile phones. Do not post life photos to avoid unauthorised circulation in the internet.
- Use separate phone numbers for work and own personal use, to avoid being hacked and release of personal information.
- Displaying in public or public platforms of advertisements relating to sex work (e.g. content of services and prices etc) may be considered as a crime in soliciting for an immoral purpose.

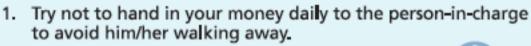
Although faces and bodies are our tools for getting business, protecting ourselves is the priority.



Work for money: rent = \$; condom = \$; food = \$; study = \$, \$\$\$\$\$...... How to use your money wisely?

- Think twice before any purchase. Do you need it or you just want it?
- Set aside money for daily necessities (e.g. rent, utilities and transport etc), save money for future and emergency.
- 3. Not easy money, do not use your hard earn money for gambling.

If you need to split your income with the owner of the workplace,



 Money has no identification. If you need to hand in your money to the person-in-charge, get the person-in-charge to sign to confirm the amount and receipt to avoid future argument.

If you need emergency quack:

Borrowing and lending money between friends is commonly based on verbal agreements. However, it often turns out that the lender is not able to get all the money back or the borrower simply refuses to admit liability. Eventually, it does not only cause monetary loss, but also harms the friendship. Written loan agreement should be used to avoid this situation.

One of the advantages of having a loan agreement in writing is that the terms and conditions are listed in details. There is no fixed format of loan agreement but certain terms and conditions are necessary.

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For examples:	Sampl	E
Loan agreement I, (name), HKID card number on the sum of from (name), HKID card number , the sum of Dollars , in the form of (Cash/Cheque) and will result by (date). [If there is any interest accrued, add the percent signature of Borrower	entage]	

In order to protect both the lender and borrower, it will be better if someone can be found to witness and sign on the loan agreement. The witness should be someone you can trust and he/she may be the key person if the case has to be dealt with in court.

Legally, whether a loan dispute can be settled is determined by many factors. However, making a loan agreement usually helps in protecting both parties.



Traps on Lease and Rental

When renting a unit, many fellow sisters only rely on verbal agreements with the landlords and very often, neglect to agree on details of tenancy agreements.

We suggest dear stipulations with the landlord on the following issues:

- 1. Exact amount of rent
- 2. Rental period
- Conditions to return deposit upon expiry of the rental period
- 4. Payment for utilities and the calculation
- Liability for damages and maintenance if electrical appliances and decorations of the units are included in the rental.

Both the sister and the landlord have to abide to the agreed terms. Verbal agreements are also protected by laws. To protect the interests of both parties, you may choose to record down the conversations.

Some fellow sisters will choose to take a few days off during their menstrual periods. Instead of paying rent for a vacant unit, they will let other fellow sisters work in their units. Some may even put up advertisements on the street to recruit tenants. According to Criminal Ordinance Chapter 200, Regulation 145 "Tenant etc. permitting premises or vessel to be used for prostitution", subletting or lending your unit to other fellow sisters for sex work, no matter you get paid or not is against the law. We are here to caution our fellow sisters, DO NOT openly post advertisements such as One-Woman Brothel to lease your unit!

Further, in case there are illegal activities e.g. letting people take drugs in the unit, the owner or tenant may be held criminally responsible for these illegal acts.



To provide the police patrol encountered your home address?

A police officer required a fellow sister to provide ID and also home address during "license check" without giving any reason! AFRO brought the issue up at a meeting with The Crime Prevention Bureau in 2014.

The Crime Prevention Bureau clarified that if it is only a usual "license check" and does not involve any criminal investigation, sex workers do not have to provide their home addresses. Sex workers can turn down the requests politely. If the police officer insists, ask him/her for the reason or enquire to the divisional police station and ask for help immediately.



Police Power on Stop and Search

Some fellow street walkers reported that non-uniformed police officers took their mobile phones to check for conversation logs while conducting ID checks. Some police officers even called the callers recorded on their phones. Fellow sisters felt their privacy was infringed.

Under Section 54(2) of the Police Force Ordinance (Chapter 232), police officers may stop a person whom they reasonably suspect of having committed, or being about to commit, or intending to commit, an offence. The police officers can also search that person for anything likely to be of value to the investigation of the suspected offence, including mobile phone.

However, police officers must have valid reasons to conduct stop and search and also consider the dignity and privacy of the person.

If fellow sisters are stopped and searched by police officers, the following should be noted:

- Bring your identity cards or valid travel documents when going out.
- Be cooperative and keep calm. Avoid unnecessary fight back. Do not make any sudden movements and get too close to the police officer.
- You have the right to require the police officer to show the warrant card and to call the corresponding police station to verify his/her identity, but remember you cannot touch the warrant card.
- You have the right to remain silent but need to provide accurate information such as name and address to identify yourself.
- If you are arrested, you have the right to be informed by the police officer of the reason of arrest.
- 6. A person can be searched only by a police officer of the same sex. If there is no female police officer nearby, you can go to the nearest police station and the search can be carried out by a female police officer.



Keep a distance from the police?

Have you ever found yourself in a situation where reporting crime to the police seemed necessary, yet you were hesitant to provide personal information to the police?

In order to assist the investigation, a person who reports a crime will be required to provide some basic but crucial personal information such as his / her name, the ID number as shown on the identity card, contact number and address. He/she may be invited to the police station for further investigation, such as an interview or an identity parade. He / she may also be called as a witness in court. Without this personal information provided, the police will still record the crime information, but they will not carry out independent investigation or lay charges.



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The police are obligated to keep all personal information in confidence. When crime happens, fellow sisters please do not hesitate to report it to the police. Don't turn a blind eye to it. Your action can prevent others frombecoming a victim!

Can a client leave his HK identity card as a pledge to a sex worker when he doesn't have enough cash in hand? Have you ever come across this situation? How would you deal with it?

A fellow sister has encountered this situation. After service, the client claimed that he did not have sufficient cash in hand and asked if he could go and get money from ATM nearby. The fellow sister was worried that he might never return and wanted to report it to the police. The client didn't want to get into bigger trouble, he left his HK identity card and mobile phone as a pledge.

The above looks alright. However, according to The Registration of Persons Ordinance section 7A subsection 1(A), any person who

without lawful authority or reasonable excuse uses or has in his custody or possession an identity card or other document issued under the Persons Ordinance, which belongs to another person, he or she commits an offence. Even if the client voluntarily gave his identity card as pledge, this is still an offense. Further the client could even claim that his HK identity card was stolen. Without any witnesses, you may be falsely accused. If you come across this situation, for whatever reason, they have committed an offence by breaching an agreement. You should call the police for help.



Anonymous phone harassment

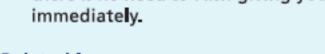
Phone is one of our means for fellow sisters to communicate with clients. However, anonymous phone harassment is annoying. The callers call late at night or while our fellow sisters are working. Some use foul languages and some just keep silent. The callers use different numbers to make these calls, probably from some prepaid phone cards which do not require pre-registration.

Leaving a contact number to a potential customer is an effective way to get more business. However, beware of your personal privacy and try to avoid harassment.

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- Use two separate phone numbers; one for work, one for family and friends. When you are not working, turn off the work number so that your personal life will not be disturbed.
- If you have any doubt with a client or passerby asks for your contact number, ask for his contact instead. To avoid unnecessary phone harassment, there is no need to rush giving your contact immediately.



Related law:

According to Summary offences Ordinance Chapter 228, Regulation 20 "Crime related to telephone, message or telegram", penalty for the following acts can be \$1000 fine and 2 months imprisonment:

- (a) Sends any message by telegraph, telephone, wireless telegraphy or wireless telephony which is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character; or
- (b) Sends by any such means any message, which he knows to be false, for the purpose of causing annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety to any other person; or
- (c) Persistently makes telephone calls without reasonable cause and for any such purpose as aforesaid.

If you receive any of the above messages, remember to keep the message(s) and photos for future investigation or as evidence in court.



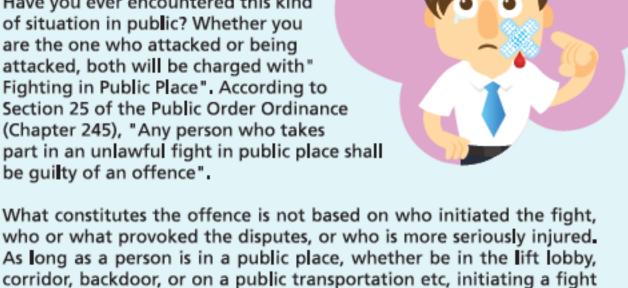
Victim? Abuser?

"I am the victim, not the abuser!"

"She is the one who started it!"

"Why am I being charged? I did not attack her. She hit me and I just pushed her away. It's only self-defense!"

Have you ever encountered this kind of situation in public? Whether you are the one who attacked or being attacked, both will be charged with" Fighting in Public Place". According to Section 25 of the Public Order Ordinance (Chapter 245), "Any person who takes part in an unlawful fight in public place shall be guilty of an offence".



who or what provoked the disputes, or who is more seriously injured. As long as a person is in a public place, whether be in the lift lobby, corridor, backdoor, or on a public transportation etc, initiating a fight or attacking in a self-defense situation may be deemed "Public Fight" that affects the public order. And that person may thus be charged.

The Department of Justice may take various factors into consideration. If it is a trivial case and a first offense, it may "offer no evidence" and a bind over may be sought. A bind over is not a formal criminal conviction. The offender will have to make a promise in the court that he/she will not commit an offense within a certain period of time, and in that case no criminal record will be recorded. However, a bind over is not always granted.

AFRO would like to remind all fellow sisters to take a deep breath and keep calm in case of a dispute. If someone initiates a fight and intends to attack you, run away from the scene, seek help from people nearby and/or call the police for help as soon as possible. Do not attempt to fight back even in self-defense. It may put you in an unfavourable situation.

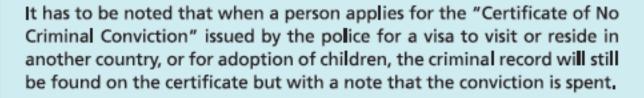


What is a criminal record?

A criminal record is a record of a person's criminal history. If a person has been charged for a criminal offence and has been convicted by a court of law in Hong Kong, regardless of whether the penalty is a fine, imprisonment or suspended sentence of imprisonment, he/she will have a criminal record. This criminal record will be held at the police and the court and cannot be "erased".

However, according to Section 2 of Rehabilitation of Offenders Ordinance (Chapter 297 of the Hong Kong Laws), a person's criminal record can be viewed as "spent" and he/she can claim that he/she does not have a criminal record, if

- he/she has been convicted in Hong Kong of an offence in respect of which he/she was not sentenced to imprisonment exceeding 3 months or to a fine exceeding \$10000,
- ii) he/she has not been convicted in Hong Kong on any earlier day of an offence; and
- iii) a period of 3 years has elapsed without him/her being again convicted in Hong Kong of an offence.



The application of this ordinance is also limited, if this person intends to become a solicitor, a barrister or an account, to hold a license, to hold a certain position in any prescribed office, authorised insurer, authorised institution, bank or approved trustee, the Monetary Authority, the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance, the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority etc., or to work for any judicial office, any office of the discipline services, and any office occupied, or to be occupied, by an officer on or above Point 27 on the Master Pay Scale etc.