



Language Associated with the Commercial Sex Industry*:

- **12:** Notifying others that Law Enforcement is in the area.
- **Automatic:** The victim's "automatic" routine when the exploiter is not physically present.
- **Beef:** Argument that can escalate to physical fighting.
- **Bottom or Bottom Bitch:** the #1 woman who acts as an enforcer.
- **Branding:** A tattoo or carving on a victim that indicates ownership by a trafficker/pimp/gang.
- **Brothel (Cathouse, Whorehouse):** A location where sexual acts are purchased.
- **Caught a Case:** When exploited or exploiter has been arrested and charged.
- **Catch a Fade:** Invitation to fight.
- **Choosing Up:** If a victim makes eye contact with a pimp, the pimp takes ownership.
- **Circuit:** A series of cities among which victims are moved.
- **Cousins In Law:** Victims of pimp partners working together
- **Curb (Kerb) Crawling:** Driving down the street, looking for a "date".
- **Daddy:** Pimp/exploiter/trafficker (male or female).
- **Dates:** Interaction with Johns, Tricks (buyers of sex).
- **Escort:** Dates arranged by telephone or Internet. Can be outcall (victim travels), or in-call (buyer travels).
- **Exit Fee:** An outrageously large amount of money demanded by the exploiter for the victim to leave the life. (Most exploiters do not let their victims leave.)
- **Family or Folks:** The other members of the stable.
- **Fleek:** Looking good.
- **Flexing:** Lying.
- **Head Cut:** Victim beat down by the pimp.
- **Hurt:** Unattractive.
- **In Pocket:** Not speaking to other pimps, or paying other pimps (controlled).
- **Gorilla Pimp:** Controls through force and humiliation and pain.
- **John (Buyer, Trick):** Trades something of value for sex.
- **Kiddie Stroll:** Area that has younger victims.

- **Lit:** Excited or intoxicated.
- **Loose Bitch:** Keeps choosing different pimps.
- **Lot Lizard:** Exploited at truck stops.
- **Madam:** Manages a brothel, escort service or other trafficking house.
- **Out of Pocket:** when an exploited breaks the rules and makes eye contact with another pimp, or when an unaffiliated trafficked individual is harassed to force him/her to select a pimp.
- **Pimp Circle:** humiliation and intimidation by pimps swarming and hissing insults around the exploited, forcing choose up.
- **PI:** Someone else's pimp.
- **Pipeline:** a chain of states through which victims are moved through a series of locations to markets.
- **Reckless Eyeballing:** Looking around instead of looking down.
- **Renegade:** Without a pimp.
- **Salty:** Upset or angry.
- **Seasoning:** Actions to break resistance and maintain compliance. Can include psychological manipulation, physical violence, rape, sleep or food deprivation, threatening a victim' family.
- **Quota:** The amount an exploited must make before returning home.
- **Romeo Pimp (aka Finesse Pimp):** Controls through psychological manipulation.
- **Square/Squaring Up:** trying to get out of "the life" or "the game"
- **Stable:** The group controlled by the pimp
- **Stroll or Track or Blade:** where sex work occurs regularly.
- **Survival Sex:** Exchanging sex for basic needs to survive.
- **The Game or The Life:** The culture of exploitation.
- **Trade Up/Trade Down:** Exchanging victims like objects.
- **Trap House:** Originally used to describe a place where drugs were sold, it has been extended to exploitation, meaning a location where there is only one exit which is heavily guarded. Victims are trapped inside and sex is exchanged for drugs.
- **Turning a trick:** Act of exploitation.
- **Turn out:** Newly involved, or to be forced into exploitation.
- **Wifeys/Wife in Law:** the other "family" or "folks" of the stable.
- **Wire:** A pimp phone tree to share information, or a victim sending money to a pimp long distance.