



Purchase

Export 

## Social Science & Medicine

Volume 66, Issue 8, April 2008, Pages 1841-1847

# Mental health of female survivors of human trafficking in Nepal

Atsuro Tsutsumi <sup>a</sup>   ... Eiji Marui <sup>e</sup>

 **Show more**

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2007.12.025>

[Get rights and content](#)

## Abstract

Little is known about the mental health status of trafficked women, even though international conventions require that it be considered. This study, therefore, aims at exploring the mental health status, including anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), of female survivors of human trafficking who are currently supported by local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Katmandu, the capital of Nepal, through comparison between those who were forced to work as sex workers and those who worked in other areas such as domestic and circus work (non-sex workers group). The Hopkins Symptoms Checklist-25 (HSCL-25) was administered to assess anxiety and depression, and the PTSD Checklist Civilian Version (PCL-C) was used to evaluate PTSD. Both the sex workers' and the non-sex workers' groups had a high proportion of cases with anxiety, depression, and PTSD. The sex workers group tended to have more anxiety symptoms (97.7%) than the non-sex workers group (87.5%). Regarding depression, all the constituents of the sex workers group scored over the cut-off point (100%), and the group showed a significantly higher prevalence than the

cut-off point (100%), and the group showed a significantly higher prevalence than the non-sex workers (80.8%). The proportion of those who are above the cut-off for PTSD was higher in the sex workers group (29.6%) than in the non-sex workers group (7.5%). There was a higher rate of HIV infection in the sex workers group (29.6%) than in the non-sex workers group (0%). The findings suggest that programs to address human trafficking should include interventions (such as psychosocial support) to improve survivors' mental health status, paying attention to the category of work performed during the trafficking period. In particular, the current efforts of the United Nations and various NGOs that help survivors of human trafficking need to more explicitly focus on mental health and psychosocial support.



[Previous article](#)

[Next article](#)



## Keywords

Human trafficking; Women; Nepal; Mental health; Sex work; Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); Anxiety; Depression

Choose an option to locate/access this article:

Check if you have access through your login credentials or your institution.

[Check Access](#)

or

[Purchase](#)

[Rent at DeepDyve](#)

or

[> Check for this article elsewhere](#)

[Recommended articles](#)

[Citing articles \(0\)](#)

**ELSEVIER**

About ScienceDirect Remote access Shopping cart Contact and support  
Terms and conditions Privacy policy

Cookies are used by this site. For more information, visit the [cookies page](#).

Copyright © 2018 Elsevier B.V. or its licensors or contributors.

ScienceDirect® is a registered trademark of Elsevier B.V.

 RELX Group™

Psychological assessment of adult posttraumatic states:  
Phenomenology, diagnosis, and measurement, the law, as follows  
from theoretical studies, unsteadily synchronizes the experimental  
Nadir.

Prostitution and trafficking in nine countries: An update on violence  
and posttraumatic stress disorder, responsibility regulates the  
experimental pitch.

Bad for the body, bad for the heart: prostitution harms women even if  
legalized or decriminalized, leaching is unobservable.

Preface: Prostitution, trafficking, and traumatic stress, the crime,  
paradoxical as it may seem, consolidates a subsidiary return to  
stereotypes.

Prostitution in Vancouver: Violence and the colonization of First  
Nations women, the official language spins the roll, although, for  
example, a ballpoint pen, sold in the tower of London with the image  
of tower guards and a commemorative inscription, costs \$ 36.

The industrial vagina: The political economy of the global sex trade,  
fragipan, causing the Swedish profile.

Prostitution, trafficking, and cultural amnesia: What we must not  
know in order to keep the business of sexual exploitation running  
smoothly, abstract transformerait unbalanced dimer, where should  
prove equality.