Top Tips On Safety and Privacy

Whilst most sex work bookings go without incident it's good to be safety and privacy aware. The tips in this leaflet written by online sex workers give you some suggestions about keeping safe and protecting your privacy .

If you find yourself in a difficult or dangerous situation, especially if it's an emergency, always call the police on 999 (it's free) as soon as you are able.

Some phone apps send an automatic 'help' message and some can make a 999 call on voice command. You will find more information on this in our full safety and privacy document.

This leaflet, the main downloadable document and our other safety and privacy resources are also available in other languages.

Safety

Most sex workers have safety measures in place, from before taking the booking to whilst they are at work. Some of the most common safety practices are below.

♦ Do some pre-checks before taking a booking such as running a potential client's number and email through third party safety and warning schemes, like National Ugly Mugs: www.uglymugs.org

♦ Use sex worker forums and other email and number checking systems in addition to the above.

♦ Run a client's name, email address and phone number through search engines - you might find information to help you decide if you want to see them or not.

♦ Always, if possible, have a check-in buddy.

♦ If things go wrong and/or you feel something isn't right, call or alert your check-in buddy or your driver (if you have one) using a pre-arranged system.

♦ If your client becomes aggressive, violent or is attacking you in anyway, try to get away from them if you can. Don't worry about causing a scene - safety comes first.

♦ Have and use a personal safety alarm or panic button. This can give you vital seconds to get away when used correctly.

Privacy

Privacy plays a big part in your overall safety in the sex industry. For example separate identities is a common and effective way to protect your privacy. Below you will find some of the most used practices to protect your privacy.

♦ Have a fake work name.

♦ Always have a separate work phone.

♦ Have separate laptops, tablets and computers that you use for work only if possible.

♦ Have separate work and personal emails.

♦ Always use separate photo images from your personal life and personal profiles on social media and remember that images, numbers, social accounts and names can be searched by anyone on the web.

♦ Have separate social media accounts.

♦ Know as much as possible about any app/website/advertising platforms you use, how they work and their data protection policies.

♦ Pixelate or crop your images to hide identifying information or features in your advertising.

♦ These tips can help but remember as technology changes you'll need to keep up to date. See our main document for further information.

Download the main document from: www.uglymugs.org and www.beyond-the-gaze.com