Johns and Sexual Health
– Questions from a Sexologist

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Why me?

- Harriet Langanke

- sexual health professional since 1991
- Sexsicher.de – a project for and with clients of sex workers since 2002
- research on sex work at Malmö Högskola since 2010
  - investigating web based forums of SWC
What is it about?

- clients of sex workers („johns“, SWC)
- their attitudes towards sexual health
- questions from a sexological point of view
Background?

- SWC are
  - more in numbers than sex workers
  - subject to criminalisation
    - esp. in Sweden; NL (?)
Methods?

- literature review
  - some, but still few sources

- own research
  - focussing internet forums
  - participatory apporach
Why a sexologist’s approach?

- It’s about sex!

- Scientific findings, data and more for
  - other disciplines, e.g.
    - sociology
    - psychology
  - interventions, e.g.
    - STI prevention
    - psychotherapy
    - counselling
What do we know?

- Who are those clients?
- What do they pay for?
- Do they care for sexual health?
Who are they?

- The Everybody Paradigm
  - the average men
    - and/or deviant?
  - ressourceful
    - access
    - money
What are their motives?

- Sex!
- beyond reproduction (?)
- Not only the spur of the moment
What do they pay for?

- GF6
- nonbinding, noncommittal
- any possible sexual service
Do they care for sexual health?

- **in principle:** yes
  - (some, sometimes)

- **performance**
  - virility, potency

- **hygiene**
  - cleanliness, pureness

- **STI**
  - doctors, antibiotics, condoms...
Any possible service?

- Sex...
  - special demands
    - e.g. bizarre

- ...and more
  - encounters
    - e.g. communication
Commercial Sex – Private Sex?

- What are the differences?
  - romance?
  - negotiation?
  - (providing) service / servicing?
    - gender stereotypes?
  - frequency?
  - diversity?

- A defined frame work!
Defined framework?

- socially
  - e.g. legal situation, stigma...

- individually
  - e.g. setting, price...
What do sexologists know?

- SWC are ... (diverse!)
- SWC want ... (sex!)
- SWC need ... (?)
Impact? (legally)

- In theory, commercial sex can be regulated easier than private sex
Impact? (sexual health)

- The more, the better?
- well, ...
More questions?

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