

“Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act” is now law in Canada (December, 2014). For the first time in Canada, it is an offence to purchase another person for sexual services.<sup>6</sup>

May he judge your people in righteousness, your afflicted ones with justice. [Psalm 72:2](#)

The Federal Government has done the groundwork on Bill C-36. There is still much to be done before this law becomes normative in Canada. Pray for the implementation of the new legislation. Pray that provincial attorney generals, police chiefs and others in authority will champion this law. Pray that good case law will be forthcoming. Pray that media will be well-researched, fair and just in their reporting.

*Defend Dignity exists to end all sexual exploitation in Canada. Commercial sexual exploitation includes: pornography, strip clubs, escorts, massage parlours and prostitution. All involve the selling of sexual services which undermine the dignity of women, men and children and are detrimental to a healthy society. Join us as we unite in prayer and intercession to bring these needs before our Saviour.*

 [defenddignity.ca](http://defenddignity.ca)

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<sup>6</sup> [OpenParliament.ca](http://OpenParliament.ca) :: [Bill C-36](http://Bill C-36)

# PRAYER GUIDE

Highlighting critical prayer needs



**Poverty is a significant risk factor for sexual exploitation and the #1 factor for women becoming stuck in prostitution.<sup>1</sup>**

But those who suffer he delivers in their suffering; he speaks to them in their affliction. [Job 36:15](#)

Many of us praying today do not wake up hungry or wonder how we will pay our bills or keep a roof over our heads. Ask God to help us work for change, give generously and love poor people. Pray that God will bring deliverance to people who are poor.

**Sexual abuse is another significant risk factor for sexual exploitation in Canada. 66% of women sexually assaulted in Canada are under 24 years old (11% are under 11 years old). Half of all women in Canada have experienced at least one incident of physical or sexual violence since the age of 16.<sup>2</sup>**

For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight. [Psalm 72:12-14](#)

The abused and the abuser need healing and hope. Pray that our churches will be safe places of openness and healing. Pray that the darkness, silence and deception of violence will be exposed, so that the light of Jesus can touch, heal and restore.

<sup>1</sup> [Canadian Women's Foundation :: End Poverty](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Canadian Women's Foundation :: Facts About Violence](#)

**Sexual exploitation is all about exploiting vulnerabilities. The most vulnerable people group for sexual exploitation in Canada are Indigenous girls and women. "Although they are only a small percentage of the population, Aboriginal women and girls are severely over represented in sexual exploitation and trafficking in comparison to the general Canadian population" (Seshia, 2005; Sethi, 2007; Saewyc et al., 2008; Sikka, 2009; Farley, Lynne, & Cotton, 2005; Ursel et al., 2007; Barrett, 2010).<sup>3</sup>**

But let justice flow like water, and righteousness, like an unending stream! [Amos 5:24](#)

The tragedies of colonization, displacement from homelands, residential schools and marginalization have contributed to the realities that indigenous people face in our country. Pray that God will show mercy as these wrongs are made right. Pray for protection for Indigenous women and girls. Pray for wisdom for those working for change.

**Addressing the demand for commercial, sexual exploitation will significantly reduce that exploitation. If there were no demand, there would be no supply. Prostitution operates on basic economic principles and is driven by the ability of pimps and traffickers to make money from the people they sell. The average amount of money made from selling one woman per year in Canada is \$280,800.<sup>4</sup> If no one purchased, no one would sell.**

<sup>3</sup> [Canadian Women's Foundation :: Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking of Aboriginal Women and Girls, March 2014](#)

<sup>4</sup> [CISC :: Organized Crime and Domestic Trafficking of Persons in Canada](#)

Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked. [Psalm 82:3,4](#)

The end of sexual exploitation will be advanced when men hold each other accountable and challenge male privilege. Pray that men will rally to defend women and girls, empowering them rather than exploiting them. Pray that God's Spirit will bring conviction and a move towards repentance.

**One of the root causes of prostitution is the pornified culture in which we live. With the global availability of the Internet, we now have a tsunami of sexual, violent images at our fingertips.**

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. [1 Corinthians 10:13](#)

Pornography is now becoming one of the primary educators about sex to our teens.<sup>5</sup> It creates the fantasy that women are made for a man's pleasure and power. Pray that churches will create safe spaces for discussion.

<sup>5</sup> [Fight the New Drug :: 4 Things Porn Teaches about Sex](#)