

CARE USA's Policy on Working with Vulnerable People Involved in Prostitution and Sex Trafficking

THIS policy defines CARE's approach to working with people engaged in prostitution and transactional sex. All CARE USA staff and programs in country offices managed by CARE USA must act consistently with this policy.


CARE's vision places human dignity at the center of our work. We seek to protect and advance the dignity of all people, especially those who are living in poverty and at the margins of broader society.

CARE's HIV/AIDS programs seek to promote the most effective ways to prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS and to reduce the suffering caused by HIV/AIDS. In order to achieve this outcome, CARE works with many vulnerable groups which, if not effectively reached by HIV/AIDS programs, can become significant drivers of the HIV/AIDS epidemic globally.

CARE opposes any system that causes or facilitates the sexual exploitation of people. We condemn the violence, stigma, coercion, and physical and psychological harms associated with prostitution and sex trafficking. CARE does not promote prostitution or sex trafficking in any way.

CARE recognizes the strong gender dimension of vulnerability to HIV infection, sexual exploitation and violence, and focuses on particular risks to women and children of both contracting and transmitting the virus.

CARE's experience has shown that interventions that address underlying causes of vulnerability are more effective at reducing HIV transmission than narrowly bio-medical or public health approaches alone.

A photograph of a woman wearing a blue sari, smiling, and carrying a large, shiny metal pot balanced on her head. She is holding a smaller metal bowl in her hands.

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