



ACT!

AGAINST
VIOLENCE
AND SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION

WEBSITE



ADDICTION TO PROSTITUTION AND TRAFFICKING

You don't prostitute yourself because you want, but there can be an addiction related to "trauma bonding" with the trafficker.

What can increase the likelihood of a trauma bonding developing?

The lack of access to housing, healthcare, employment, income, education, or asylum. So, when a woman perceives a threat to their physical and psychological survival at the hands of their trafficker, trauma bonding may occur.

Traffickers may isolate and threaten victims, induce exhaustion, and interfere with their believed or real ability to escape.

A victim may eventually feel helpless and respond to any form of "help" or "kindness" from their trafficker with gratitude and attachment in order to survive.

Inaccessibility to other sources of support or comfort can increase the power of psychological coercion within a trauma bond. Therefore, a victim's social and economic circumstances may contribute to their developing a sense of trust and loyalty towards a trafficker.

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

