

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT & RESPONSE

STORYTELLING PROJECT PHASE ONE SUMMARY | [TGNC.NOJUSTICENOPRIDE.ORG](https://tgnc.nojusticenopride.org)

Recognizing the continued marginalization and violence that harms and kills trans people — particularly trans women of color — No Justice No Pride (NJNP) began a campaign in July 2017 with a public statement on violence against trans women of color in DC, call-in day to the MPD, and rally and march to fight back against transmisogyny and help protect and support trans people in the District of Columbia — the city with the largest recorded per capita population of trans folks in the U.S. In 2017, a year with the highest identified number of trans folks killed, we wrote a petition that's gained more than 1,000 local signatures.

NJNP has since been involved coalitions that will help us make key parts of our vision of trans justice a reality and is playing a critical role organizing District-wide outreach, public education, and canvassing to generate public support for City Council bills that would make life safer for many trans folks. As part of this project, NJNP has been busy working on a community storytelling project and just finished the first phase with 20 stories collected thru surveys and small storytelling events from impacted trans community members — around the topics of Fare Evasion, Street Harassment, Sex Work, Wellness, Housing and Community Safety — with suggestions to the District of Columbia on how things can be better.

## HERE'S A PREVIEW AT OUR PROGRESS DURING THE FIRST PHASE:

- 70%** of those surveyed identified as Black.
- 50%** of those surveyed identified as Latino/x/a
- 30%** of those surveyed reported having been stopped for Fare Evasion.
- 70%** of those surveyed reported having had or currently engage in sex work.
- 100%** of those surveyed reported experiences around street harassment.
- 40%** of those surveyed reported experiences around street harassment, took place on DC Government Property or on Metro.

**ALL OF THOSE SURVEYED IDENTIFIED AS BEING A TRANS WOMAN OR TRANS FEMME.**

## WHEN ASKED ON EXPERIENCES AROUND STREET HARASSMENT...



THE  
REEVES  
CENTER

*"The repeatedly and viciously misgendered me after numerous polite requests that she respect my pronouns. She then **threatened to call the cops** on my friend and myself"*

"I was at the courthouse & trying to focus on getting my nephew some help and this RANDOM Guy came up to me and said **'you gone let me f—k?'** **'come on come to the bathroom & let me f—k the s—t out of you'**"



SUPERIOR  
COURT OF THE  
DISTRICT OF  
COLUMBIA



SHADY  
GROVE  
METRO  
STATION

"He said 'we was talking to me man to man'"



K ST NE

*"[I] was waiting for [my] food and was approached by a man. Once informed of [my] identity the man **told [me] to get away.** Then On K st, someone pulled up and shouted **'that's a man!'**"*

"I was **forcibly removed** from the "women's" bathroom by a **cis male bouncer**"



UNDISCLOSED

## WHEN ASKED ON EXPERIENCES AROUND STREET HARASSMENT...

“

Since the shutdown[FOSTA/SESTA] it's been hard making money to care for myself. **With backpage & craigslist making 500\$ a night. Without apps 300\$ a night.** Working since 17 years old [3 years], it would be better if the council decriminalize sex work. I feel it would be better.”

“

One of the worst thing that has happen to this young lady is having to sale my body to SURVIVE. The only way to provide for myself was my BODY & PERSONAL ADS ON CRAIGLIST + BACKPAGE (SEX WORK). **USING THOSE SITES TO HAVE MONEY WAS MORE THEN JUST FOR MONEY IT WAS HER ONLY Survival SUPPORT SYSTEM.** “

“

...[I] Used craigslist to keep up with her personal appearance and hygiene. [I] made 300\$ per 2 nights [150 a night] when craigslist officially got shut down [I] made no more than 40\$-50\$ a day”

## IN GENERAL, ARE YOU COMFORTABLE CALLING OR INTERACTING WITH THE POLICE, REGARDING A BAD EXPERIENCE YOU MIGHT HAVE ENGAGING IN SEX WORK?

“Not at all because they're with rude and show no sympathy to the abused”

“F\*\*K NO ! Because there most likely are just going to lock both of us up & just charge us”

“No, because if i were to report abuse and the fact that it was sex work came up, i would face legal ramifications that i couldn't/can't afford”

“No. Cops - in my experience - have only ever made things worse.”

“no. because us trans women will be looked at as men and not actual women”

## HOW DO YOU THINK YOUR ABILITY TO KEEP YOURSELF SAFE WHILE ENGAGING IN SEX WORK WOULD CHANGE IF SEX WORK WERE DECRIMINALIZED?

“it would be more understanding to law enforcement to see the issue & not the sex work”

“I could report abuse without fear of facing consequences for deciding what i do with my body.”

“I would be able to work where I want, I would feel more comfortable accessing medical services if i'm harmed.”

“I would feel free and feel so liberated”

## LOCATIONS OF THE RECORDED EXPERIENCES...

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

DC SUPERIOR COURT.

THE REEVES CENTER.

GEORGIA AVE NW.

PARK RD NW.

K ST NE.

IF ON METRO:

GALLERY PLACE STATION.

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS STATION.

P12.

X2.

ANACOSTIA STATION.

SHADY GROVE STATION.

ADDISON ROAD.

## WHAT WOULD YOU WANT TO TELL CITY COUNCIL ABOUT THIS PROJECT AND YOUR EXPERIENCES IN GENERAL ?

*"This Isn't A Regular Survey Taken By Some Random People. This Is A Voice Coming From Real Lives Especially Our Transgender Community. Over 95% Of The People Who took our survey was Force to Experience Sex work as a survival Support System. 100% Percent Of those who Taken our survey Has Been experiences HARASSMENT. what if your mother, Daughter, aunt, or grandmother Was Apart Of Any Of those percentages. Put yourself in someone shoes for a change. how would you deal with Having to sell your body to eat, Have SomeWhere To Sleep Just simply Provide Everything You Have Now. Then to turn around to get harassed for being YOU. The unbounded freedom that comes from standing firmly on your own path the Freedom To Be Who You Are. We will Get Justice or there Will Be No Peace."*

*"I would want to tell city council that sometimes on the street i feel unsafe because who i am and what i represent as a person first then transgender second. The project it so excellent and also makes transgender really matter and proving that us as a community has a voice. My experience was very eventful and very careful. My experience in reading the survey's i read was basically my whole life in one survey. You have many surveys that people to ask certain questions but you don't have one about how our community is really getting affected. The question i ask myself is what the council is doing right? they are not making sure that the trans people are safe we need more people helping us and more laws surrounding the trans community. They also need to have the trans cop out normally and sex work should just be decriminalized and it just be legal because sex work some people ever know sex work is some people only income. 85% doesn't have a job 50%. is homeless 92% is black. and more people should us girls to go because it two stigmas one trans then we are are colors and different points of town"*

## WHAT WOULD YOU WANT TO TELL CITY COUNCIL ABOUT THIS PROJECT AND YOUR EXPERIENCES IN GENERAL? (CONT.)

*"For past 2 weeks I have been working on this survey that questions the ( LGBTQ) community on common issues such as street harassment, sex work, fare evasion, and housing and by the way look of the results our city council as a whole could do better for the cothe mmunity. As far as the (T) in the lgbtq trans women and trans men experience the most traumatic encounters in all of these situations. For example one of the clients had been surviving off of backpage & craigslist once the shut down came into play she had no other option but k street. She'd be paroled all the time while on k do to jump outs and she fears that she'll get arrested for trying to live. 52% of lgbtq youth are homeless due to loss of family or loss of family acceptance but either or no or they have nobody deserves to be homeless. We need to find a safe space for the lgbtq community to be able to attend to avoid street harassment. Lastly, we need to find a system where all people can ride metro for free for a certain amount of the time or start unlimited smarthip cards so nobody will be affected by fare evasion again."*

**NO JUSTICE NO PRIDE**

# Trans Justice

*\*All responses shown were selected from a larger pool of responses for each question. Responses were collected through two strategies of surveys and essay writing with the help of a small organizing team. Special thanks to the small organizing team and all of the participants. Thanks to Ruby Corrado and Casa Ruby, Trans United, Urgent Action Fund, BYP100, HIPs, Greenpeace USA (DC Staff in particular), ACLU -DC, Black Lives Matter DC, Keep DC For Me, Stop Police Terror Project, Save Our System, Showing Up For Racial Justice DC, Future is Feminist, the Sex Workers Advocate Coalition, API Resistance, Charlotte Uprising, and everyone else who has supported this project and No Justice No Pride's Community Response and Support Project.*

**To find out more, or to support the work please go to  
[tgnc.nojusticenopride.org](https://tgnc.nojusticenopride.org)**