



Donate to Rights4Girls

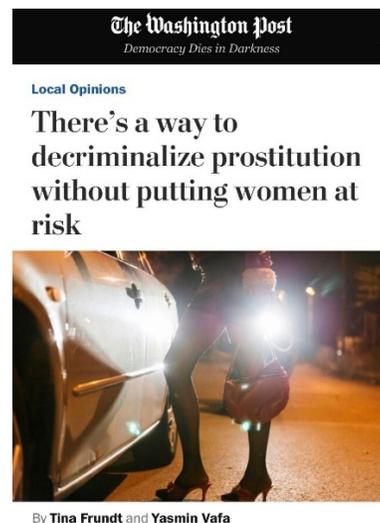
Friends!

Summer is almost over and we've been working hard to ensure vulnerable young women and girls are provided with the safety and support they deserve. It's been a busy and exciting past few months!.

Rights4Girls in the News

Rights4Girls continues to be a leading voice on issues pertaining to safety and justice for marginalized girls. This summer we were featured in national news coverage that **reached over 6.5 million people**.

- Rights4Girls Executive Director Yasmin Vafa appeared on [PBS News Hour](#) to discuss the Jeffrey Epstein case and how it relates to the trafficking cases we see every day.
- The [Washington Post](#) published our op-ed with Courtney's House founder Tina Frundt urging the DC Council to listen to survivors as they consider legislation to fully decriminalize the sex trade. Our work was also cited in this follow up [piece by the Post](#).
- We appeared on [ABC News](#) to discuss Cyntoia Brown's release from prison and the need to continue advocating on behalf of other child sex trafficking survivors who, like Cyntoia, are victims of the 'abuse to prison pipeline'.
- Yasmin also spoke to [Mother Jones](#) on how the Jeffrey Epstein case is painfully common.



DC Film Screening

We remain committed to improving the lives of vulnerable youth in our DC community, including by educating our neighbors about the exploitation of youth of color in the district. In August, we **hosted a screening of *Nameless***, a documentary film we are featured in that was created by our partners at the DC Coalition to End Sexual Violence that explores the realities of child sex trafficking in DC. The packed event was attended by survivors and included a panel discussion featuring local human rights advocates. You can see a trailer for the film [here](#).



Rights4Girls Executive Director Yasmin Vafa and fellow panelists discuss child sex trafficking in DC.

Youth Workshop Series

This summer, DC youth continued to reimagine safety and freedom at our ***Love Us. Don't Harm Us.*** summer youth workshop series hosted in partnership with Black Swan Academy. Youth learned about interpersonal and systemic violence and envisioned solutions to eliminate both.

We also continued our ***Life of Girls*** workshop series for girls who have touched the juvenile or criminal justice system. The goal of this series is to train and empower young women of color to advocate for social and systems change. During these workshops girls learn about the 'abuse to prison pipeline', youth incarceration, trafficking, teen dating violence, and police harassment and practice their advocacy skills.



Youth engage in exercises on the prison system and school discipline at our *Love Us. Don't Harm Us.* workshops.

Presentations and Trainings

This summer, we conducted trainings on justice reform, child sex trafficking and other issues that impact vulnerable girls that **reached nearly 1,000 people across the country**:

- In June, we conducted a workshop on **how to build resiliency for girls** by disrupting the abuse to prison pipeline at the Coalition for Juvenile Justice's annual conference in Washington, DC.
- In July, we presented on the disturbing **connections between foster care and child sex trafficking** at the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges' annual conference in Orlando, FL.
- In July, we spoke to youth advocates on **strategies to end commercial sexual exploitation** at the second annual WorldWE youth summit in Brooklyn, NY.
- In August, we did an **advocacy training for youth activists** in New York City as part of Af3irm NYC's Summer School of Women's Activism: *Decolonize Feminism, Women and Land Not for Conquest.*



Rights4Girls Executive Director Yasmin speaks to youth advocates at the WorldWE youth summit.

Other News

Exciting news! In August, **Cyntoia Brown** was finally released from prison after 15 years behind bars. Cyntoia, a child sex trafficking survivor who was sentenced to life in prison for protecting herself against a buyer, was granted clemency earlier this year. Rights4Girls was honored to support Cyntoia's clemency petition and participate in the national campaign advocating for her freedom. Read more about our thoughts on Cyntoia's case and her release [here](#) and [here](#).

As always, we thank you for your continued support of our work to defend the rights of our most vulnerable girls and young women.

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