



rights4girls

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Greetings friends!

Fall is coming to an end and we've had a busy and exciting past few months. Check out some highlights of our work to defend the rights of our young women and girls.

Rights4Girls in the News

Rights4Girls remains a leading voice on issues of safety and justice for girls and young women in DC and around the country. This fall, we were featured in the following major outlets:

- The [New York Times](#) detailing the potential harms associated with legislation seeking to decriminalize all aspects of the commercial sex trade.
- [ABC News](#) to discuss the wave of full decriminalization bills across the country and their impact on marginalized communities.
- [Ms. Magazine](#) where our *No Such Thing as a Child Prostitute* campaign was featured in an article discussing Jeffrey Epstein and child trafficking.
- The [Miami Herald](#) where we discussed the state's failure to address the case of a police officer accused of sexually abusing several girls, including child trafficking victims.



Policy Wins

Success! The DC Council has decided [not to move forward](#) with a bill that would fully decriminalize the sex trade in Washington, DC, including acts of pimping, purchasing, and brothel operating. R4G testified against the bill, together with our partners [Courtney's House](#) and over a hundred allies, including dozens of brave sex trade survivors who warned of the disastrous impact this legislation would have on our most vulnerable women and girls.

While we are relieved that this bill will not be moving forward this year, we recognize that this is just a small victory in a much larger battle taking place all over the country. Efforts to legalize the sex trade are being considered in several other states, including New York, California, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. **Please consider [supporting](#) our work as this fight continues.** Help us ensure that survivor voices are heard and that the needs of the most vulnerable continue to be prioritized in the policies that impact their lives. [Please give today.](#)



R4G staff and survivors testifying before the DC City Council

Centering Survivors with DVF in NYC

We were honored to share the stage with courageous sex trade survivors and activists for a conversation hosted by **Diane Von Furstenberg**, **Alexi Meyers**, and **Nicki Hilton** to discuss sex trafficking and exploitation in the US. See [more photos](#) from the event, including supporters Amy Schumer and Seth Meyers.



R4G's Yasmin Vafa, with survivors and activists representing Af3irm NYC, Sanctuary for Families, Coalition Against Trafficking in Women, and New Yorkers for the Equality Model

Raising Awareness Around Child Sex Trafficking in DC

R4G has been working with our allies to educate our community about the realities of child sex trafficking in DC. Together with our partners at Courtney's House, we've hosted four film screenings and panel discussions of the documentary film [Nameless](#), educating hundreds of District residents about the harms of child trafficking in DC. We are thrilled to announce that the film, created by our friends at the DC Coalition to End Sexual Violence, is now online and available to the public. Watch and share the film [here](#).



A full house for our Nameless screenings, educating the community about child trafficking in the District

Presentations and Trainings

This fall, we conducted trainings on intersectional justice reform, child sex trafficking and other issues impacting marginalized girls that reached over **1,000 people and practitioners across the country**:

- We co-hosted **two National Judicial Institutes on Domestic Child Sex Trafficking**, one in Scottsdale, AZ in September and another in Pittsburgh, PA this November, training dozens of judges on how to improve outcomes for child trafficking survivors in their courtrooms.
- In November, **we presented at an anti-exploitation summit in Boston** alongside government officials, survivors, and leaders from Sweden, France, South Africa and Ireland.
- In October, **our team led a webinar** on crossover youth entering the juvenile justice system from the child welfare system **for over 500 systems professionals across the country**.
- R4G's **Cherice Hopkins presented on the importance of an intersectional approach to justice reform** at the 2019 Philanthropy Summit, "The Equity Continuum", in October.
- We led a webinar on the intersection between child welfare and child trafficking **for over 300 child welfare and juvenile justice professionals across the country**.



R4G attorneys Cherice Hopkins and Rebecca Burney at various presentations this fall

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Our work would not be possible without our supporters. Thank you for your continued support of our work to defend the rights of our most vulnerable girls and young women.