

proVision Magazine

Terms of Reference

Introduction

proVision is the Scarlet Alliance national magazine created in Australia by and for sex workers. The first edition of proVision was printed in 2006.

proVision is our vision, as sex workers, for an end to discrimination, prohibition and silencing. We are pro-sex work and we have a vision of sex workers acknowledged as skilled professionals, respected for their work. We aim to share our vision of sex work, and of those issues affecting us as sex workers. Usually, our lives and work are envisioned by others in the public sphere, by writers, artists and filmmakers; by theorists and historians; by politicians, media and other policymakers. The stigma against sex workers keeps us silent and in the shadows. When we do speak out, our voices are re/misinterpreted. This is our opportunity to explore our perspectives. Sex workers are encouraged to contribute articles, ideas, artwork, random rants, writings and inspiration.

Scarlet Alliance Mission Statement

Scarlet Alliance, through our objectives, policies and programs, aims to achieve equality, social, legal, political, cultural and economic justice for past and present workers in the sex industry, in order for sex workers to be self-determining agents, building their own alliances and choosing where and how they work.

Editorial Committee

The editorial committee is made up of Scarlet Alliance members. Editorial committee members:

- Review all articles, making a recommendation on whether the contribution is accepted or rejected for proVision magazine, or alternatively suggest content revision.
- Assess contributions based on the information provided in this document, Scarlet Alliance's mission statement and key documents, underpinned by the editorial committee members sex work expertise.
- Attempt to work within the requested timelines and advise when they are unavailable to review content.
- Aim to resolve differences of opinion to achieve a resolution.

Content

proVision includes content produced by sex workers that reflects Scarlet Alliance's values, objectives and aims, as well as approved advertising that supports the costs of the magazine production—the magazine is otherwise unfunded.

The aim is for the content to be a mix of sex worker-created graphics, poems, cartoons, short stories, articles, theory, academic writing, personal anecdotes, reviews, and critique or analysis of media, books etc, collated around an agreed theme.

Content should not:

- Purposefully or inadvertently stigmatise other sectors of sex work or other sex workers. Content should not seek to elevate or 'justify' one way of sex working over others. Scarlet Alliance supports all sex workers right to choose the sector of the sex industry and the manner of sex work that suits them.
- Stigmatise other sex workers behaviours, activities or lifestyle choices including drug use, diverse sexual practices, safer sex practices and what services individuals want to provide in their sex work services – including but not limited to kissing, natural french, anal sex, BDSM and other fetishes/fantasy services.
- Use exclusive language – for example – using women as a euphemism for sex workers. Not all sex workers are female, not all are white, not all are able-bodied, and not all are heterosexual. Contributors are advised that if they are writing specifically of their own experiences, or about particular incidents, in which all the sex workers were of the same gender, then it is acceptable to make that clear by using a phrase like 'the women working at this parlour', but if speaking generally of sex work and sex workers the language used should reflect the diversity of the sex worker communities.

Content must adhere to these basic principles:

- Scarlet Alliance supports the decriminalisation of sex work, increased occupational health and safety focus within the sex industry, and anti-discrimination legislation covering sex workers as the way to improve individual sex workers' experiences of sex work.
- Scarlet Alliance recognises that attempts to abolish, criminalise or over-regulate sex work, particularly through legislative means, reinforce stigma, discrimination and marginalisation.

Process

Theme: the proVision editorial process will begin with a call-out to the Scarlet E-List for ideas for potential themes. The email will also put out a call for anyone interested in being a part of the editorial committee. The Communications Officer will collate the themes and put them all forward to the e-list, calling for a consensus on the most popular idea.

Content callout: the Communications Officer will then put out an official call-out for articles and other submissions, in line with the agreed theme. The call-out will make it clear that submissions cannot be guaranteed publication, and will require anyone interested in contributing to contact the Communications Officer for further information and guidance regarding content specifications.

Look and feel: the Communications Officer will provide a brief to the CEO outlining the intended look and feel of the magazine, resulting in an agreed overall look and feel for the edition.

Structural edit: the Communications Officer will maintain a list of expected content and provide this to the CEO. On receipt of content, the Communications Officer will collate these submissions, perform a structural edit in conjunction with the authors, and then send each one to the Editorial Committee.

Editorial committee review: the proVision Editorial Committee will review all of the submissions and recommend whether the contribution is accepted or rejected, or alternatively suggest content revision based on whether the content reflects Scarlet Alliance's aims and considers the information outlined in the editorial committee terms of reference.

Final copy edit and layout: the Communications Officer will then proceed with the accepted articles, performing a final copy edit and laying out the magazine.

At this point, the Editorial Committee will be welcomed to put forward any layout/image choice/graphic design suggestions for consideration by the Communications Officer.

The Editorial Committee will review the final draft of the magazine and will be welcomed to provide any suggestions or feedback.

Final approval: In line with the Scarlet Alliance delegation of Authority the final draft is reviewed for approval by the CEO.