



# BELLA ROBINSON

(401) 525 8757 \* [BELLA@COYOTERI.ORG](mailto:BELLA@COYOTERI.ORG)

## OBJECTIVE

To build and strengthen supportive networks for sex workers in Rhode Island via collaborations with organizations, stakeholders, legislators, and activists nationwide.

[www.COYOTERI.ORG](http://www.COYOTERI.ORG)

## AWARDS/HONORS

- 2019 Red Bandana Award: Social Activism
- 2018 Certificate of Appreciation: Southern Poverty Law Center
- 2014-15 American Sociological Association Community Action Research Initiatives
- 2018 Speaker-National Sex Worker's Summit, LA CA
- 2017 Speaker - Rise Up! Rhode Island, *Sex Workers Rights, RI*
- 2016 Keynote Speaker - *Students Against Slavery*, CT College
- 2013 Award winning film *American Courtesans* – Gina Robison

## EXPERIENCE

### FOUNDER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR • COYOTE RI • 2009 – PRESENT

As Founder established a regional chapter of the national sex workers rights organization and participate in monthly, annually and quarter events and trainings. As Executive Director I oversee programming, staff support, liaison between Sex Workers and policy makers; and develop programs that support, crisis case management, and provide safety for sex workers locally and nationally. Oversee COYOTE Harm Reduction distribution program and the COYOTE CLOSET I organize Coyote RI advocacy and educational initiatives to support sex workers locally and nationwide. Dedicated events planer: Annual December International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers. My responsibilities include Sex Worker Rights training for the following organization: The National Council of Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls, Case Managers and Outreach Workers: Sojourner House, RI (2016), DV & Human Trafficking Shelters, House of Hope (2018), Once Incarcerated Ohio and Once INCarcerated Anonymous. Currently creating Empowerment Curriculum for Rhode Island Department of Corrections to increase reentry success.

### FOUNDING MEMBER ADVISORY BOARD • ALLIANCE TO MOBILIZE OUR RESISTANCE (AMOR) • 2017 – 2020

Founded Alliance with Open Society Communities against Hate Funding Program along with 5 other local coalitions of immigrant, refugee and POC led organizations. Crowdsourcing: legal services, data collection, anti-violence training/advocacy, Cultural Mental Wellness services, fundraising, and mutual aid for all participants within the six organizations.

### ADVISORY BOARD • INCARCERATED SEX WORKERS OUTREACH (SWOP) • 2016 – PRESENT

Membership responsibilities included community outreach analysis, overseeing, and participating in SWOP's reintegration care and services continuity of sex workers in US prisons and jails via transportation, crisis case management, other necessary resources. Mentorship of new sex worker advocates for sex worker rights movement. Developed 'PenPal' program currently incarcerated sex workers

### SECRETARY • THE EROTIC SERVICE PROVIDER'S LEGAL & EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECT (ESPLERP) • 2011 - 19



EMAIL



TWITTER HANDLE



TELEPHONE



LINKEDIN URL

Participated and developed legal advocacy, education, and research materials for sexual privacy rights. Expert identified in New Hampshire decriminalization of Sex Workers Study.

## RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

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Since 2017 I have conducted qualitative and quantitative data for sex workers rights, cultural protections, and harm reduction modalities. My research includes but is not limited to: Nationwide Research Project. Sex Trafficking and Sex Industry in the United States, Lived Experiences sex workers nationwide, and Rhode Island Research Project. [2022 Covid Research](#)

I have been published in various media venues including: ‘The New Virtual Crackdown on Sex Workers’ Rights: Perspectives from the United States, Anti-Trafficking Review April 2019; Co-authored article published in the Anti-trafficking Review, Sex Workers Deserve Dignity and Safe Working Conditions, RI Future December 2016, and Trending Globally: Politics and Policy Podcast – Episode 4 – Sex Work Is Work December 2016

## EDUCATION

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GED • Dixie Hollins High School, FL  
HIV Tester • 2017 • CERTIFICATION  
Sex Trafficking Training • 2014 • ONLINE  
NE REGIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL FOR UNION WOMEN • 2014 & 15  
REGINA V POLK WOMEN’S LABOR CONFERENCE • 2014 • LEADERSHIP  
“TAKING THE CRIME OUT OF SEX WORK” • AUG. -NOV. 2013 • NEW  
ZEALAND SEX WORKERS DECRIMINALIZATION POLICY TRAINING

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE OR LEADERSHIP

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Academic presentations from 2012 – Present: Sex Work and Pornography, Brown University, Cross-Disciplinary Solutions to Human Trafficking, Texas Christian University, *Naming (In)Justice: Rights and Resistance*, Ohio State University, Building Power Now: Global Intersectional Activism, Brown University, *Investigating the Modes of Social Change*, Brown University, *Effects of Criminalization of Sex Work and How to Support Incarcerated Sex Workers*, USF, *Sex Work and Sex Trafficking*, Brown University, *Making Space for Incarcerated Sex Workers*, Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice, Brown University, *Marginalized Populations*, Providence College, *Sex Work and Sex Trafficking*, Department of Political Science, Rutgers University, *Sex Work Stigma: Barriers to Medical Services*, Rhode Island College, *Sex Work Stigma: Barriers to Medical Services*, Alpert Med School, Brown University, *Sex Work and Trafficking*, Department of Sociology, University of Rhode Island  
*Sex Worker Rights and the Trafficking Narrative*, Sociology of Crime and Punishment, Wesleyan College, *The Global Sex Industry*, Department of Women’s and Gender Studies, University of New Hampshire, *Sex Workers Rights*, Southern Connecticut State University, *No Perfect Victims and Survived and Punished* Panel, Allied Media Conference, *RI Sex Worker Survey Findings*, American Association of Geographers and UMass Boston Labor Conference, Presentations at the Desiree Alliance Conference, New Orleans, and *Labor Focused Social Justice Efforts of ESPU*, 5th Annual Desiree Alliance Conference, Las Vegas.