

Justice for our comrade Natalia Suarez

PRESS RELEASE

What about sex workers' human rights?

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AMMAR Córdoba and Natalia Suarez's family invite the media to a Press Conference at the headquarters of the Círculo Sindical de Prensa (CISPREN) at 365 Obispo Trejo St at 11 am. We want to denounce that both the Police and the Justice system did nothing in relation to our comrade Natalia Suarez being disappeared for 6 days. She was found alive in the city of Alta Gracia, where she works, with traces of having been beaten in her neck and arms.

On Monday 27th her family reported Suarez's disappearance to the police in the city of Córdoba, where she lives. Because of the police's inaction, they went to the Police station in Alta Gracia on Wednesday. In spite of witnesses, and concrete information of the house and the person where Natalia Suarez had been seen for the last time, the police there did not let her family to report the situation. On Thursday, her family asked us to go there as organization, and we started to demand that the police search our comrade. After that, they accepted our demand.

While that was happening, Natalia was found on the corner of Alfonsín St and Libertador St in Alta Gracia with traces of having been tied, beaten and drugged by her captors. It is important to take into account that she was not found by the police that did not look for her, but by her co-workers who notified us immediately.

Once more, it is evident that the police and the justice system act with indifference when women sex workers are victims of gender violence. They even jeer at victims and their families. The same situation happened on Wednesday in front of the First District Police Station when a group of 40 sex workers protested against the inaction of the police to catch a pimp who demands money to let us work on the street, beats us, and threatens us with firearms.

Finally, we want to denounce that even if we are supposed to live in democracy, when poor women are attacked, the health system does not guarantee good quality care. This situation gets worse when sex workers are the ones who want to report that kind of situations.

We are going to keep supporting Natalia's family's demand that the police should catch Natalia's captors and their accomplices. We will keep denouncing the discriminatory behavior of the police and the justice system of Alta Gracia, as well as the lack of response from the area of People's Protection of the Police of the Province of Córdoba, under the responsibility of Mr. Zarate so that a situation like this does not happen again.

AMMAR Córdoba

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