



The Woman Caught in Adultery - John 8:3-11

The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and made her stand before all of them, and invited Jesus to cast the first stone.

There is an enormous prejudice across the world experienced by women who are caught having sex outside of the marriage bed. Jesus confronts this automatic condemnation *and* the religious leaders who intend to condemn her and stone her to death. The woman stands in front of Jesus, isolated, exposed and (more than likely) naked.

Instead of condemning her Jesus turns the tables. He restores her dignity and turns his male gaze away from her. He asks her accusers for what sin they are accountable to God.

In the world of trafficking and inequalities we are all implicated in the nightmare of trafficking, either as actors or bystanders. We need to see those people who have used trafficked women brought before the judgement of Jesus' gaze – not just those who have pimped, bought and sold, transported raped and beaten.

The male partner is not present in our original story, but today we cannot avoid implicating *all* those who buying and sell her sex.

The woman before Jesus is not condemned. She is brought to a place of safety and understanding. She is given back her future and set on the road for recovery.

This is CHASTE's commitment – to bring women to safety and recovery. And give them back their life.

NOT FOR SALE Sunday is an initiative of CHASTE.

All funds raised will help CHASTE to take forward its work and vision to end trafficking for sexual exploitation.

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