

**A Sociological and Anthropological Study of Cohorts: Women That Prostitute  
Along Lyell Avenue, Rochester, New York.**

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1. Johanna – 24, Black Female. Originally from Buffalo. Came here because of boyfriend and drug activity. Prostituting 4 years, on Lyell because it is an easy pick up and there are always johns. Has 2 children no longer in her custody. Has an active drug habit. In custody on 4 occasions.
2. Conchetta – 37, Hispanic Female. Originally from the Bronx. Came here to stay with relatives. Prostituting 17 years, on Lyell because she used to dance at the Cordial Lounge and long time customers know where to find her. Has 4 children no longer in her custody but visits them on occasion. Has an active drug habit. In custody 6 occasions.
3. Debra “Steaknife” – 41 , Black Female, Originally from Rochester. Lived off Lyell her whole life. Prostituting on Lyell and Jefferson 26 years. “Why fuck for free when you can get paid”. Has 2 grown children also involved in drug activity and various criminal behaviors. Has an active drug habit. In custody 2 occasions.
4. Rosario – 34, Hispanic Female. Originally from Rochester. Came to Lyell around Kodak Country book at age 17 to make extra money for clothes. Feels safe on Lyell. Good business prospects there. Has 3 children that are no longer in her custody but visits frequently. Is in recovery right now from an active drug habit. In custody 2 times.
5. Christina – 34, White Female. Originally from Utica. Came here to dance. Lyell is a good place as any to make money as there are 2 motels that are by the hour. Convenient. Has 1 child that is living elsewhere, who she speaks to on the phone. Has an active drug habit. Has been in custody 4 times.
6. Sarah – 44, White Female. Originally from Buffalo. Came here in the late 1970’s to score heroin with boyfriend off Lyell Avenue. “Had to work to feed the Dragon”. “Where else would I go?” Has one grown child. Has an active drug habit. Has been in custody 8 times.
7. Jennifer – 51, White Male living as a Female. Originally from Texas. Came here in the 1970’s with a friend, who was a female while he was living as a male. Decided to come out in the gay lifestyle and discovered he wanted to be a heterosexual female. Has always had a drug habit. No known children. Works off Lyell because he/she claims “she can pass easily” and there are always tricks. Quick money. Has been in custody 4 times.
8. Michelle – 32, White Female, Homosexual but tricks only straight. Originally from Medina. Was a nurse. Came here to purchase drugs and never left. Has 3 children she never sees. Lyell is “easy”. Has an active drug habit. Has been in custody 4 times.
9. Narcissus – 28, Black Male, passes as a woman. Have also observed him as a man. Homosexual but tricks both ways. Passes as a woman. Originally from Rochester. Came to Lyell where he/she isn’t a “freak”. Has one known child that he/she never see’s. Has a small drug habit, recreational especially with johns. Has been in custody 2 times.

10. Lizette – 22, Hispanic Female. Originally from Irondequoit. Originally came to Lyell Avenue to buy drugs and then made it her workplace as she could have access to tricks and dates and feed her habit. Has 2 children and is expecting a third. Has been in custody 1 time.

11. Marie – 28, Hispanic Female. Originally came here at 16 to dance at the Cordial. From Pittsburgh. Another girl that she was in youthful offender custody with told her about Rochester and how at the time, they didn't ask for identification and proof of age to dance so she came here by bus when she was on furlough from a group home and never looked back. Danced at the Cordial Lounge until her drug habit prohibited her from looking well enough to dance so she prostitutes as the customers knew where to find her. She has one child. Has been in custody 18 times.

12. Deseree – 36, Black Female. Originally from Buffalo. Came here with a boyfriend and onto Lyell to work off his debts from drug sales and gambling. She has since stayed since the rents are cheap and there are many squatters residences where you can sleep for 10.00 a night in the geographic region. Has 8 children that she rarely sees. Has been in custody 6 times.

13. Moriah – 27, Black Female. Originally from Rochester. Came to Lyell because it is easy money and felt that there was enough protection on the streets from brothers to assure her safety. Has 3 children, one in her custody and tricks while he is in school during the day. The child who is 11 knows what she does. She tried traditional jobs but couldn't make enough money and is not interested being on welfare or in the system. Has a small recreational drug habit. Has been in custody 3 times.

14. Chantee – 39, Black Female. Originally from Brooklyn. When she was incarcerated in Albion she heard of other women speak of easy money and easy pickings on Lyell Avenue. When she was released she vouchered out on a bus to come here and automatically found a job tricking. She has 4 children that sometimes she sees. She has a drug habit that drives her to work 24/7. She has been in custody 3 times

15. Shaneequah – 24, Half Black, Half Hispanic Female. Originally from Rochester. Her entire family knows what she does. Has no children and doesn't want any. Always knew about the opportunities on Lyell and decided if she is going to fuck she may as well get paid. She sometimes goes home to stay with relatives but primarily lives off Lyell at drug houses. She has a mild drug habit but is a drinker. Has been in custody 2 times.

16. Toni – 44, White Female. From the neighborhood originally and has tricked since she is a teenager with father's friends. She has 6 children, one is with her presently. The others she never sees. She has a very small drug habit, has a full time job in a soup kitchen but tricks 3-4 times a week for extras. Has been in custody 11 times.

17. Zaida – 39, Half White, Half Hispanic. From Rochester originally. Kodak Country and all of the factories made Lyell the perfect place to trick as there is always money, there were and are 24 hour tool and dye shops to trick off of. It is dark and feels safe as if

you park you are only a block off the main street. She can walk to shops and healthcare. 4 busses that go in different directions are available. It is convenient. Feels like home. She has 4 children that she sees. No drug habit but likes to drink. Has been in custody 6 times.

18. Luisa – 29, Hispanic Female. Grew up in the neighborhood. Knows the ins and outs. Where else would she go? She has 4 children, 2 in her custody. Has a drug habit. Has been in custody 4 times. Her oldest child is 17, and her uncle is the father of that baby. Her family is aware and did nothing to support her from way back.