



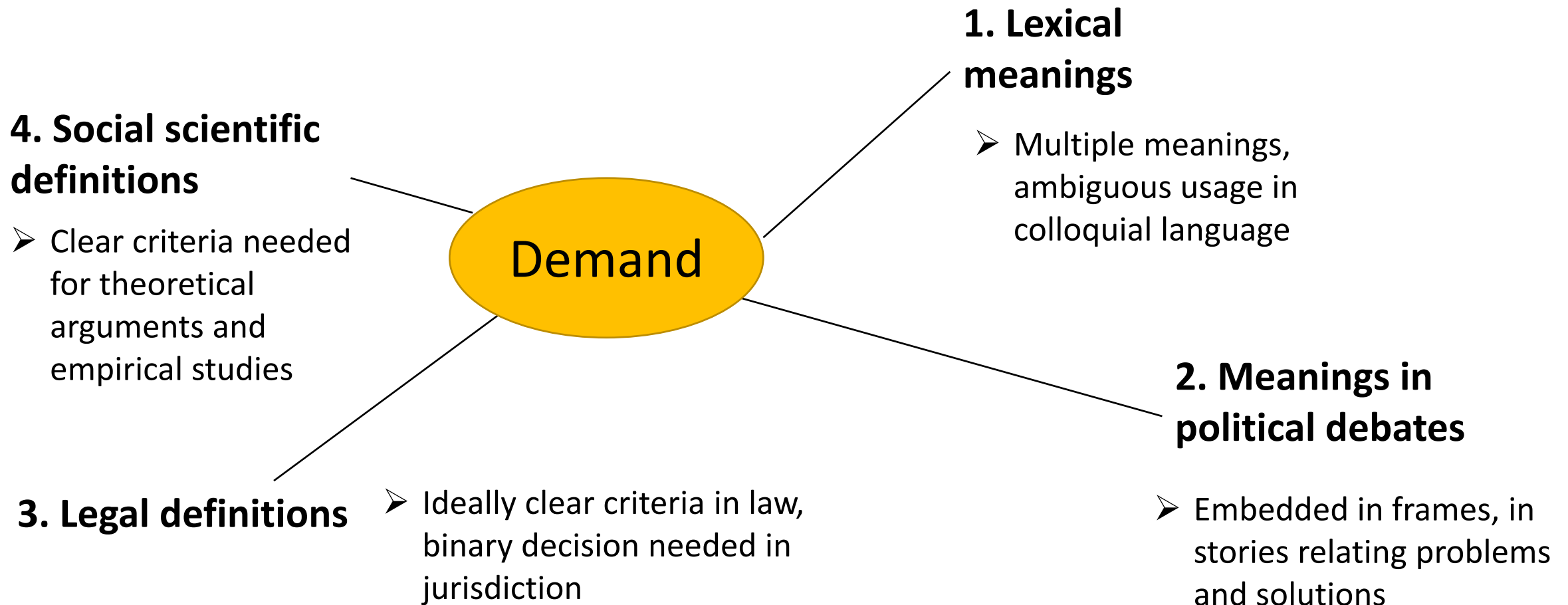
Demand in anti-trafficking debates in the field of sexual services – ambiguous concept, targeted measures?

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DEMAND REDUCTION IN RELATION TO TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
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Meanings and definitions



Contents of presentation

- Taking stock of implications of lexical, political, legal and scientific usage of demand
- Considering implications of consistent use of demand as willingness and ability to purchase a good or service

1. Lexical ambiguity – make the dictionary test in your language

| Nouns | |
|------------------|---|
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ der Bedarf |
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ die Forderung <i>pl.: die Forderungen</i> |
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ die Frage <i>pl.: die Fragen</i> |
| ▶ demand [econ.] | ▣ ▶ die Nachfrage <i>pl.: die Nachfragen</i> |
| ▶ demand [elec.] | ▣ ▶ die Leistung |
| ▶ demand | ▶ der Rechtsanspruch |
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ die Anforderung <i>pl.: die Anforderungen</i> |
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ die Abforderung <i>pl.: die Abforderungen</i> |
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ der Anspruch <i>pl.: die Ansprüche</i> |
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ die Einforderung <i>pl.: die Einforderungen</i> |
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ das Erfordernis <i>pl.: die Erfordernisse</i> |
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ das Verlangen <i>no plural</i> |
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ der Abruf <i>pl.: die Abrufe</i> |
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ die Aufforderung <i>pl.: die Aufforderungen</i> |
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ das Begehren <i>pl.: die Begehren</i> |
| ▶ demand | ▣ ▶ die Vorgabe <i>pl.: die Vorgaben</i> |

➤ Different translations indicate different meanings of the word

Example translations into German, abbreviated screenshot from <http://dict.leo.org/german-english/demand>

2. Political origins of demand arguments in anti-trafficking context



Grounded in debates on prostitution

- Historical abolitionists
 - Aimed at abolition of state regulation of prostitution
 - Criticized double moral standard: Tolerance of male clients, sanctioning of prostitutes
 - State should neither interfere in private vice of prostitution, nor license brothels
- End-demand initiatives (“Neo-abolitionists”)
 - Prostitution as violence against women
 - “Ending demand”-campaign = focus on clients – criminalising the purchase of sexual services, re-educating men

3. Demand as legal concept with regard to trafficking



National laws

Definition in law, interpretation by jurisdiction

- ... does not exist in many countries

International legal obligations

State obligation to discourage ‚demand‘ in Palermo Protocol

- Introduced in the last session, promoted by end-demand-initiatives in network of feminist NGOs
- without definition

Demand clause in Palermo Protocol



“States Parties shall adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures, such as educational, social or cultural measures, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to discourage the **demand** that fosters all forms of **exploitation** of persons, especially women and children, that leads **to trafficking.**”

United Nations General Assembly, Annex II, Article 9 (Prevention of trafficking in persons), paragraph 5

demand ⇒ **exploitation** ⇒ **trafficking in human beings**
consumption ⇒ **production** ⇒ **recruitment**

4. Social scientific concepts – Observations on usage in academic texts

- Markets as most evoked context: Demand in the sense of willingness and ability to purchase a good or service or a captive person, correlate supply
- *“Employer demand” in the sense of authoritative claim to someone’s work (as demand for labour of those who are unable to freely retract)*
- *Demand in the sense of (illegitimate or illegal) preferences or tastes of consumers (as express preference for teenage prostitute)*
- *Demand in the sense of social norms (social demand of masculinity)*
- *Demand as want, wish or need to buy a specific good (as feel or need for a service)*
- *Demand as filler word (reducing demand ~~for~~ trafficking)*

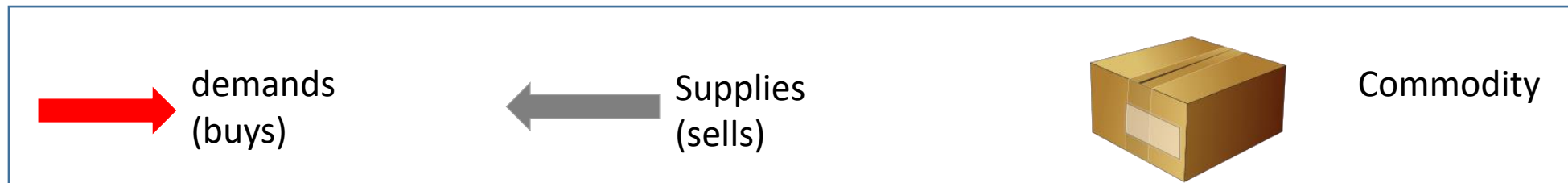
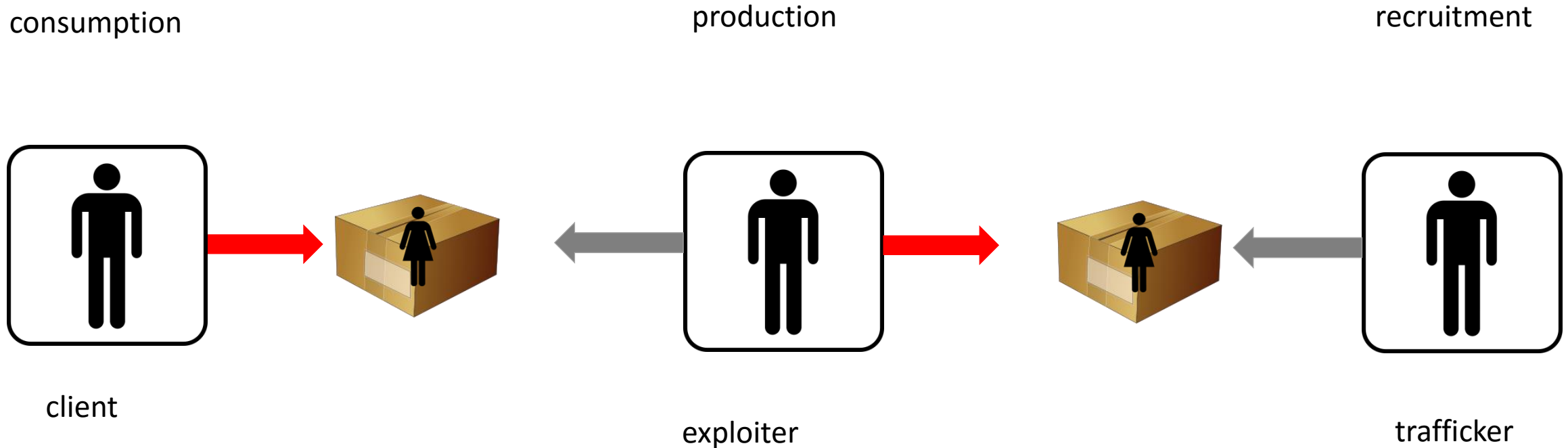
Considering implications of
consistent use of demand as
willingness and ability to purchase a
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Terminological suggestion and immediate implications

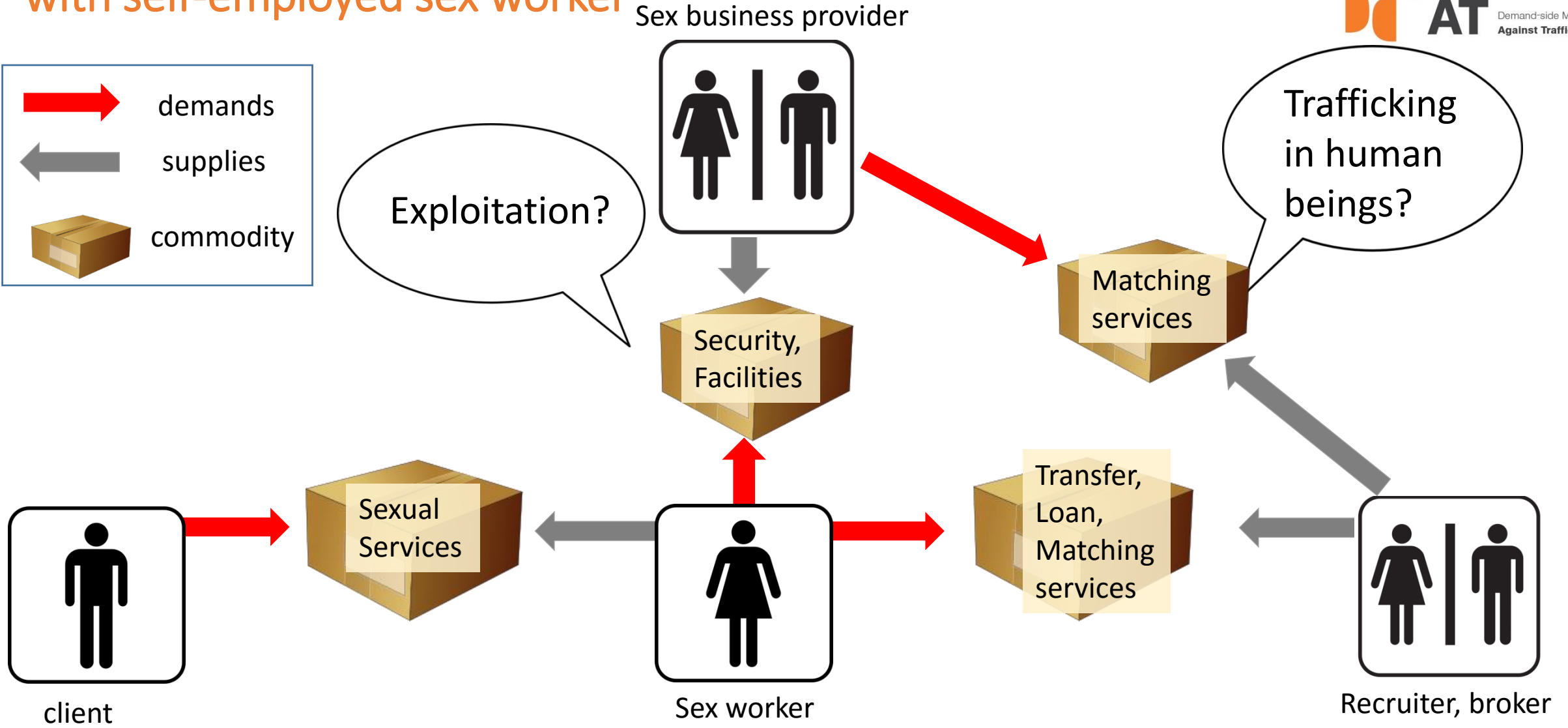
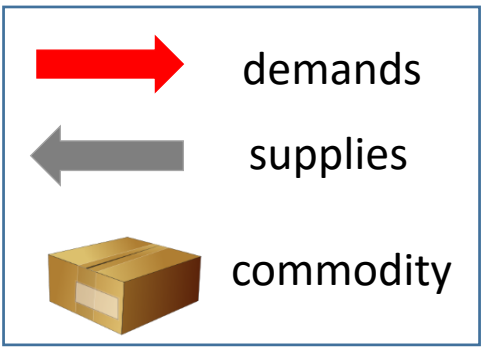
“willingness and ability to purchase a good or service”

- Clarification needed on who wants to buy what from whom
- Same person can be demander in one market and supplier in another
- Factors such as taste or income influence demand
- Supply and demand terminology is easy to apply for spot markets (meal, ticket, sexual service)
- Markets establish long-term contractual relations (labour, credit, housing)
- Relations are shaped by loyalty, voice and exit opportunities (Hirshman)

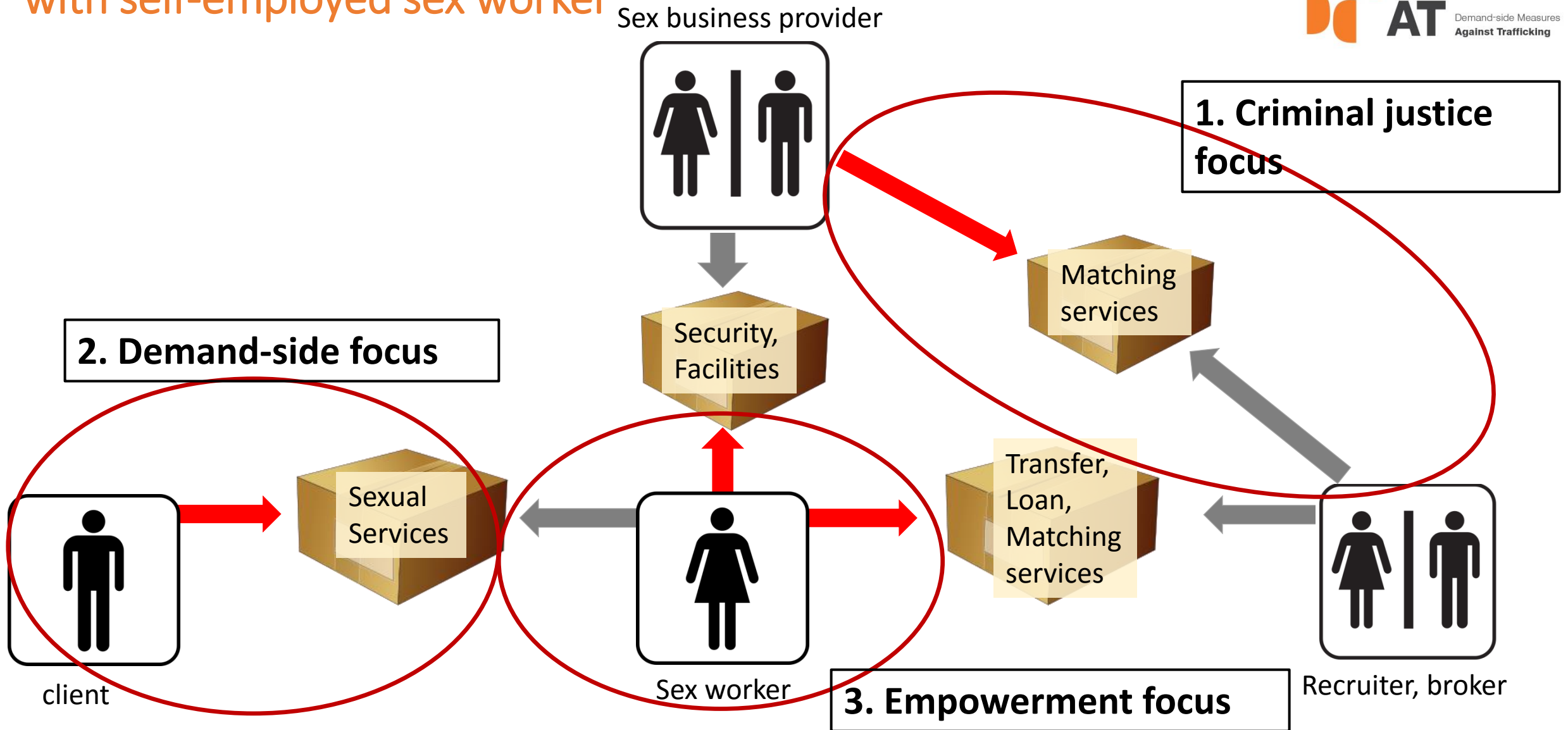
Demand and supply in a setting with human beings as traded good



Demand and supply in a complex market setting with self-employed sex worker



Demand and supply in a complex market setting with self-employed sex worker



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Three approaches to combat trafficking in a market perspective



1. Criminal justice focus (exploiter and trafficker)

- a) Prove market relations as fake (coercive) and sanction THB, rescue victims
- b) Prove abuse *in* market relations (e.g. usury)

2. Demand-side focus (client)

- a) Criminalise purchase of (specific) sexual services, sanction, discourage spending
- b) Engage with clients to identify unlawful demand (e.g. for sex with minors or other forms of forced prostitution) and to promote fair respectful interactions

3. Empowerment focus (sex worker)

- a) Support weaker market side, whether demand or supply
- b) Help to change or exit abusive relations, whether market or personal



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