Appendix 5
Interview Guide for Trafficked Women

-Where are you from (district only)?
-Did you go to school? If not, why?
-Tell me how you came to Kolkata/Kathmandu.¹

-Did you know that you were going to be doing sex work?²
-How did you feel at the time?³
-Do you feel that you made your own decision to migrate?⁴

-How did you to leave the sex trade?⁵ Were you rescued?
-At the time of rescue, were you asked if you wanted to leave by law enforcement personnel and/or NGO officials?
-What happened after you left?

-Have you ever experienced any stigma or discrimination as a sex worker?
-Have you ever experienced any gender discrimination?
-Have you ever experienced any harassment from law enforcement officials?
-Do you feel that you were in control of your decision to remain in the sex trade?⁶
-Do you feel that you are forced to do this job (sex work)?⁷

-What do you feel are your needs for your life?
-Do you want to return to India/Nepal/your home? Why or why not?
-What do you think that the Government of India/Nepal can do to help women who were trafficked for sex?

-Do you have any dreams for your life?

¹ For most interviewees, the response to this question was a narrative that revealed much of the relevant information regarding the process of sex trafficking, for example, background details regarding the interviewee’s early life, whether she was married and the nature of her marriage, whether she had experienced domestic violence, whether she had children, by whom she had been trafficked, etc. I asked questions along the way for clarification.
² The answer to this question often emerged from the previous question.
³ This question was asked at the point in the interview when the interviewee described her realization that she had been trafficked for sex. I asked this question to learn about interviewees’ feelings because although many trafficked women are forced to remain in the brothel upon being trafficked, some are not and make an independent decision to remain or are told along the way and decide to continue on, as I described in the dissertation.
⁴ Out of 85 interviewees, only 1 had been kidnapped.
⁵ This question applied to interviewees who were no longer in the sex trade.
⁶ This question applied to interviewees who had remained in the sex trade.
⁷ Ibid.