

thousand new public women every year—and every year that number is secured. From the most conservative figures obtainable, it is a low estimate to say that, in all our large cities and most of our small ones, there is one public woman to every one hundred and sixty of the population—men, women and children; and it is a fact that one-half of these women come from the rural districts and that the vast majority are native-born.

This Directly Concerns You.

Now do you see why I ask you to consider this problem? Putting aside all broad questions of the morality of the human race in general, putting aside all questions of what may happen to young girls in cities at a distance from the place in which you live, I ask you to consider this problem because, through the women of your own circle, through the men they marry or through the children they bear, it is bound, sooner or later, to come to your own door, to enter your own house. I ask you to consider it because it directly concerns your own daughters, your own sons-in-law and brothers-in-law, your own sisters, your own sweethearts, your own body and soul.

What I am now to tell you is a little of *what I myself have seen*, but I do not ask you to accept my unsupported testimony for it. I ask you to subpoena *three corroborating witnesses*. If you doubt the existence of the conditions I am to tell you about, if you doubt that those conditions extend from one end of the country to the other, then: