What is it?
Age verification is a strategy used by online platforms to make sure that everyone who registers on the platform is above the legal age; however, the way that age is verified (providing passport or ID copies) is very problematic for sex workers.

Threats:
Providing passport or ID copies increases the risk of harassment, doxxing and other online and offline violence, particularly in contexts where sex work is criminalised. Age verification requirements create barriers to entry for sex workers, particularly for those who are migrants and racialised, which can limit their ability to earn a living, potentially forcing them into less secure working conditions.

Resistance:
Sex workers can report instances of discrimination or harassment during age verification processes to advocacy organisations. Advocating for the development and use of self-verification tools or other alternatives where individuals can verify their age without disclosing sensitive information can help protect sex workers. Advocating for platforms to adopt data minimisation practices, where only essential information is collected during age verification processes, can help reduce the harm of privacy breaches.