

DAUGHTER FORCED INTO PROSTITUTION

'Pimps' arrested

The National Police have arrested three people in Lanzarote who apparently sexually exploited young women from their native country, Nigeria.

The trio also included a woman who apparently captured her own daughter from Nigeria to make use of her on the holiday island. The ring was discovered after one of the victims filed a complaint. She came to the island as a minor and claims she was forced into prostitution to work off her supposed debt for travel and smuggling costs of €20,000. The women from Nigeria all came from poor backgrounds and were of course promised a better life in Europe. As soon as they arrived, they denounced that their passports were withheld and they had to 'buy' them back. Two women were freed in the course of the arrests. One told police she had to try to enter Spain with a passport issued in Greece in the name of a third person, but the forgery was discovered at Madrid-Barajas airport and she was returned to Nigeria. The woman was apparently taken to Libya overland and put into a rubber dinghy, where the passengers were picked up by the Italian authorities and taken to a refugee camp. From there, it seems the pimps based in Lanzarote contacted her again and brought her to Lanzarote by air, once again with forged documents. Once she arrived, she claims she was sexually exploited.

As part of the investigation, two apartments were searched and numerous false identity documents and other pieces of evidence were seized. Officers also found an accounts book listing the bookings and income made by the young women. ■



Photo: Policía Nacional
 ↑ This Nigerian woman allegedly prostituted her own daughter

FULL MOON FESTIVAL

More than 100 different activities taking place at around 20 different locations in Santa Cruz de Tenerife will provide the best open-air entertainment during the springtime Plenilunio Festival on April 6 and 7.

The entire city centre from Parque García Sanabria to Avenida Francisco La Roche and from Parque Marítimo to the Almeida will become an open-air festival. On Saturday, the streets will be filled with hustle and bustle from 11am to midnight and on Sunday there will be activities for the whole family from 11am to 7pm.

New elements include the Ecofest festival in Plaza de Europa, the Motorrock festival with a car exhibition in Avenida Marítima, a performance by Ariann Music in the Plaza de Candelaria on Saturday at 7pm and Joel Angelino's musical, *Little Red Riding Hood* on Sunday afternoon in the Plaza del Príncipe.

On Saturday and Sunday there will be many productions to watch on the stage.

Plenilunio - streets full of activities



The Plenilunio, a great way to celebrate the spring

Theatre, music, humour and, of course, a varied culinary offer, which will be concentrated above all in the Parque García Sanabria. The city will be bursting with life during Plenilunio. In the Plaza de España, more than 50 craft stalls with modern and traditional creations will provide

an additional attraction. They will be open on Saturday until midnight and on Sunday until 7pm. The Nuestra Señora de África market will also open its doors on Saturday evening for this one night, offering a mixture of gastronomy and music with performances by En Clave de Son and Quimbao

La Nuit. The public transport system will provide extra services during Plenilunio and numerous car parks in the city will offer special rates during the festival. For more information and the full programme of events, visit the website www.plenilunio.santacruz.com. ■

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