

Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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I find it quite staggering that the Queensland Government is considering the complete legalising of prostitution in this state. Yes, we all acknowledge that prostitution has been around since the dawn of recorded history, and yes, we all acknowledge that it could not be eradicated entirely. There will always be people, mainly men, who are prepared to pay for sexual favours. Are there not enough prostitutes in Qld currently? It seems that brothels will soon be able to be operated in any suburb, in the same street as growing families. Please spend some time visualising the scene. There will be children playing in yards and teenagers walking home while men (mainly) are parking cars and walking into a brothel. It's beyond dispute that some of these men will be 'low life' - the sort of people nobody wants their children near. If this proposal goes ahead, it's just a matter of time before children, particularly teenage girls, are 'noticed' by one of these creeps who are regular customers. As a teacher who has taught careers to 15 - 18-year-old high school students, would I be required to teach sex work as a legitimate career? I've little doubt that the answer to this would be 'yes'. What about if there are students of faith in the class who find this totally offensive? Before you formulate your response of 'bad luck for them', what if some are from a faith other than Christianity? Oh, that's a different matter, isn't it? I assume they would be given an exemption. Let's identify the real reason for this proposal - it's part of an ongoing attack on the traditional family. Why else would anybody want brothels in family neighbourhoods? Ian Belz