

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

Submission No: 27

Submitted by:

[REDACTED]

Publication:

Making the submission public but withholding your name

Attachments:

Submitter Comments:

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee](#)
Subject: Decriminalisation Sex Work QLD
Date: Thursday, 29 February 2024 9:42:07 PM

HI

It is really important for the safety of sex workers and their families that they be treated like any other business that deals with bodies. The cultural issues produced for the working women and for the clients leads to a disconnected and depressed community, Sex work like nursing and hair dressing and a variety of social interactions is a part of a healthy community. Loneliness is a huge killer in terms of peoples physical and mental well being. Those people who would see a sex worker might act out with drugs or violence at home or in society trying to get releif, or be seen or be stimulated in some way. People are not robots and they require human contact for health. a lot of people do not have the opportunity to do that without sex work.

in its current state it is impossible for women to work safely without issues withe the police and hotels and any services they need to do their job. the current policies leave women open to violence and ostracism.

i would like my name withheld. but you can show this to the committee.

I am a sex worker on and off for 30 years nearly. I have been afraid to work in queensland because of the violence that local community members believe they can do to sex workers because of the current legislations. I have been yelled at and spat at and had very skeptical people when they know what i do. i have been removed from accomodation by security. refunded and not refunded.

i have been threatened by clients that know i am not allowed to work with another. yet working with another is the best way to be safe. someone to know where you are going and when you are coming back.

this is scary work but an important job. Also something that gets a lot of women out of a difficult life patch smoothly. to keep their kids in private school when the husband father wanders off , or giving women he power to leave abusive situations and know they can survive with themselves or with kids on their own.

It is a massive support and a non violent offering of emotional labour. a lot of men prefer an erotic massage to a non erotic massage. just to be touched and the experience is emotional. because the rest of their life they are alone and remote.

currently the laws expose women to extremist views and actions. with decriminalisation women can work like anyone else and not have special conditions that stop NORMAL behaviours that anyone would take for their safety, like have a man around like a driver or a security person , or have a friend nearby or stay in good safe up market accomodation in a good area. AT this stage it is not possible for women to legally keep themselves safe and work.

this is a loss to the women and to the community.

men and women alike are healthier and happier for having the level of intimacy they prefer. this keeps families to gather ultimately at every level and benefits the health immediatly of the clients, the women, and the community,

one of the safest things for me is when i directly as a hotel if i can work there, can i stay , have just a few people visit discreetly. i am super clean and very quiet. sometimes it is fine. but sometimes the person at the desk is so affronted , so shocked, horrified, and a whole lot of stigma comes at me. they shake as if i have asked to rob them or have degraded their property just by words and the idea.

decriminalisation will take away this experience and women can work safely and not need to worry about disclosure to those who are no able to understand this life choice,

we need equal treatment in the eyes of individuals and this starts with councils. and then the medical professions and police follow and then society.

there is enough stigma on women that lingers from a time when women were property and did not have rights to own or work or do what was needed for survival and to flourish.

I know innumerable sex workers who are invisible in their presentation. they have kids in good schools, a normal family car, they dress just like you, they have properties and businesses and this is their side hustle or main gig. Why make that woman, me for example, stand out as a wrong doer, or make me be unsafe just to get the bills paid, when i am just trying to get by and build a secure future and survive the trials of life.

I am trying to make a good life, i had some health crisis that was extremely difficult. Things have been very hard and work has paid bills when there is no way i could work doing anything else.

for me work has been in and out of the centre position. I am grateful for what i learnt in this industry about tolerance. i would hope every woman have the opportunity to know what it feels like to be paid for sex or intimacy. to feel the power and gift of being intensely adored , that you are enough just as you are in that session, and the huge gratitude on a clients face when they have someone just talk to them, just hold their hand. this is more than just massage.

Sex workers are important and their safe passage in the community should be a right for everyone. not to be harassed or targeted or have to make unsafe decisions just to work . What i hope culture has grown to understand by now, is that sex work is helping everyone. These women are not stealing anyones man or spreading any diseases. its clean, clinical, its a job, a job of listening and body servicing. Just like a counsellor is not keeping the clients after hours or the personal trainers arent hanging in th gym with all the bodies they train, its a job that needs to be taken care of with the same laws as anyone else in similar fields.

i hope we can say sorry for who we have been as a society, asking women to hide and feel dirty by targeting with specific rules and regulations that of course never match the need of the worker as they are not written by workers.

We are real people, so many women have had a short time in the sex industry, i wish there were more voices here to speak with a name attached. But given the concerns of retribution women cannot stand up for themselves. concerns that those who hold the power to make a change for the better or a change for the worse will use speaking up to take away children or visa application or university applications, these fears come from the laws that are in place. rules that make sex workers an outsider, something extreme and needing to be tracked and controlled and be separated from friends and support people, not to mention insurances of work health and business and payment systems. Of course with

all the ways society makes us working women stand out like we have to wear a scarlet letter we are afraid.

But this is a moment that things can change. where we can be welcomed, where we can be treated like other people, like good people, like people who need insurance and support and education about health and safety just like everyone else.

Thanks so much.

I am a passionate supporter of Sex Work and decriminalisation is the way to integrate and support sex work in safe way for the women and a cost effective way for community and in a way that is actually functional for both sides.

[REDACTED]

this can be for the committee

or even public

but withholding my name and contact details

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

