

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

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Parliamentary Inquiry into the Queensland Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

I do not support the Bill because,

Prostitution relies on pornography. The easy availability of porn to everyone including children facilitates the opportunity for them to be groomed into prostitution.

Prostitution incorporates child sexual exploitation. The literature confirms that the younger the girl the more sought after she is.

Prostitution is underpinned by organized crime. The fact that the proposed legislation has made it before our State Parliament indicates that high-profile money and influence of the sex industry is behind it.

Prostitution involves human trafficking. Sex trafficking ranks as the world's 3rd most lucrative crime after drugs and arms trafficking.

Prostitution entrenches inequality between men and women by promoting the objectification of women incorporating exploitation and violence. Almost all prostitution buyers are male.

Whenever the availability of prostitution increases, the incidence of rape in a community also increases. When sex is simply a commodity that can be bought, it will also be stolen.

Regarding prostitution from an OH&S perspective, serious risks to employees have to be eliminated.

If it is a non-essential industry and this cannot be achieved then the industry is closed down.

Prostitution falls under this category because nothing makes prostitution safer, especially not by government regulation. It will simply provide money for the government, and protection for pimps whilst subjecting those providing the "service" (mostly women) to greater harm.

The Nordic model, whilst not a solution to prostitution, appears at present to be the most effective way to deal with this issue. It criminalizes the pimps, traffickers, and purchasers of sex rather than the person being prostituted who is almost always the victim of it all. It thereby reduces the need for people (almost always women) to perform such "work" and it also provides a real opportunity for them to find a way out of the sex trade.

I urge the committee to adopt this model as a means of dealing with the issue of prostitution.

Whilst I have not provided references for any of the claims I have made, a review of the literature on the subject will substantiate such claims.

William Tento

