

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

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To whom it may concern, I am alarmed to hear of a discussion to legalise prostitution. Easing or removing of restrictions around sex work would make it easier for men to pay to abuse and degrade women. Rather, we need meaningful exit strategies and public education programs which discourage the purchase of sex. It educates men that abuse of women is unacceptable. Prostitution is a form of violence against women. Prostitution law reform is central to gender equality. Decriminalisation promotes women and girls as objects to be purchased and contributes to misogyny. A society that enables this is not safe for any woman. Women deserve better than a system that normalises men's sexual entitlement and abuse of women. Men need laws which educate them that women are not commodities to be bought and sold. Please save our women and girls!