

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

**Submission No:** 54  
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**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

QLD Prostitution Decriminalisation Bill March 5, 2024 To the Parliamentary Committee I believe Queensland does not need a larger, easily accessible sex industry. High School students are at a particularly emotional time of life and in my opinion would be vulnerable to exploitation at a disturbing rate. The current increase in sexually transmitted infections is already concerning and sexual exploitation only increases the risk of infection and serious future health problems. A larger sex industry will mean higher rates of sex trafficking, increased violence and abuse of individuals who are being prostituted, as well as higher youth crime rates. Sex Work should never be seen as a legitimate career choice offered to high schoolers no matter the age. Decriminalising prostitution and giving any Government regulatory responsibilities, will in my opinion, create an environment where sexual exploitation will be 'normal' in all areas of life here in Queensland. Some, although not all of my concerns are as follows: Create regulatory confusion and serious oversight issues; Increase rates of sexually transmitted infections; Increase the risk of exposing vulnerable groups, particularly minors to exploitation and human trafficking; Increase the likelihood of assaults and other violence whilst 'working'; Increase substance abuse and all that this produces in those who are vulnerable, with no assistance; Undermine the accepted societal moral values by normalising sex as a commercial transaction thus negatively impacting the family, which is the basis of our society; Facilitate the grooming of children with sexually explicit activities and materials and ultimately into prostitution; Perpetuate the objectification of women, which comes with enabling solicitation in public places. This exposes more women and young girls to unwanted sexual advances; Hinder law enforcement efforts to investigate the exploitation of children and vulnerable adults for prostitution or sexual servitude in brothels; Allow anyone to set up a brothel irrespective of their background; Prohibit landlords and motel/hotel owners from refusing to lease or hire premises because they are used for prostitution; Enable brothel owners to recruit workers at schools and university career events; Permit street soliciting anywhere and at any time without repercussions; Allow prostitution advertising of any manner to occur, including the display of prostituted women in shop windows.