

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

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To Whom It May Concern, I would like you to reconsider going ahead with Decriminalising Sex Work (Prostitution) for the state of Qld. But instead consider the Nordic/ Equality Model. The reasons being I believe the Nordic/Equality model is safer for the women (who you are trying to protect), empowering (as it gives them more choice), better for the community (which should be the focus for any government) and reduces trafficking of women and girls (when supply decreases, so does demand) You only need to compare Germany (full decriminalisation) and Sweden (Nordic Model since 1999) to see my above statement is true and correct. Germany with a population of 70,000,000 has 400,000 prostituted persons which is 1 per 175 people. Sweden with a population of 10,000,000 has 600 prostituted persons which is 1 per 15,000 people. This statistics clearly show that when women are given a true avenue to exit prostitution that they will. Decriminalisation does NOT set them free but enslaves them instead (which seem from the statistics above)

Currently there are laws on what the pimps and sex buyers can/can not do and your government is wanting to take this away and let them have free rein with no accountability. This is outrageous and totally against human rights for these women. When you decriminalise the sex trade, it is announcing that buying sexual access to other people and profiting from their prostitution are now considered acceptable. Do you want this on your watch? Researchers conducting a nine-country peer-reviewed study interviewed 854 prostituted who reported experiencing a staggering amount of physical violence within prostitution. For example, 64% had been threatened with a weapon, 73% had been physically assaulted and 57% had been raped (which, in this context, means unwanted sex for which they were not paid) of the 57% (483 people) who had been raped in prostitution, 59% (286 people) had been raped in prostitution 6 or more times. Many other studies found similar results.

Please do NOT introduce a law that will exploit vulnerable people, create PTSD and complex trauma, and increase sex trafficking. I do not want this for Qld and I'm sure if given the chance to hear the truth on what happens behind closed doors, the majority of Qlders don't either. I have contact with many survivors from the sex trade that would be happy for you to hear their side of the story. As normally, they are not given a chance to speak. Please listen so we can make our community a safer place. Imagine QLD being the first state of Australia where domestic violence against women dropped, and there was a culture of respect towards women in the community. This is only possible with the Nordic/Equality model. (Sweden and other countries are examples of this) Let's respect and honour women!