

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

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Submitted by: Marion Hale
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**Submission to the Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee
Regarding the Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation
Amendment Bill 2024**

March 7th, 2024

To: Committee Secretary
Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Email to: HBBMC@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee Members,

I write to you today not just as an individual deeply committed to social justice and the betterment of marginalised communities but as someone who has witnessed firsthand the detrimental effects of criminalised models on such groups. My professional journey has taken me through various roles where I've had the privilege of working closely with individuals and communities impacted by policies that criminalise and oppress, particularly around areas such as sex work and drug use.

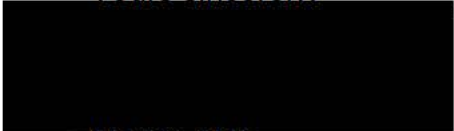
From my experiences, it's become abundantly clear that criminalisation does not solve the issues at hand but exacerbates them, creating cycles of harm and barriers to accessing crucial services. From this perspective, I strongly support the Criminal Code (Decriminalising Sex Work) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024.

This Bill represents a critical step forward in dismantling harmful legislative frameworks that have long stifled the health, safety, and rights of sex workers in Queensland. By moving towards a decriminalised model, we can begin to undo the damage caused by years of misguided policies, offering individuals within the sex work community the dignity, respect, and protection they deserve.

I urge you to consider the weight of evidence supporting decriminalisation as not only a more humane approach to sex work but as an evidence-based strategy that promotes public health, safety, and human rights. This Bill allows Queensland to lead by example, showcasing a commitment to progressive reform and the wellbeing of all of its citizens.

Thank you for considering my submission. I look forward to seeing Queensland embrace this necessary change, ensuring a safer and more inclusive community for all.

Yours sincerely,



Marion Hale

lutruwita/Tasmania 7250

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