Youth Justice (Boot Camp Orders) & Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012 Submission 004

From: <u>Maryanne Purple</u>

To: Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

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Research Director Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee Parliament House George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 to introduce new exemptions in relation to accommodation used in connection with work as a sex worker.

## Dear Sir/Madam.

I wish to make a submission to the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee regarding the proposed changes to the Anti-Discrimination Act for sex workers.

I am a sex worker who works several weeks per year in Queensland from hotels. I offer a discrete and loving service to gentlemen who have few options for recieving kindness or sensual experience. My clients include aged pensionors who have saved for months to enjoy skin to skin contact with another, disabled men (and women), and business men who dont have time to foster meaningful relationships etc. Sex work is an ESSENTIAL service in the community. Many people are unaware of this because sex work is extremely private and discrete. Clients of sexual services are unlikely to contribute to this inquiry because they are private and discrete. Sex work is occurring all the time in most hotels and in many private residences.

Commercial sex is the same as relationship sex. To give hoteliers the power to scrutinise every guest as if they might be 'selling it', will put undue pressure on receptionists to be able to discern who is or is not a sex worker. Non commercial sex clients (ie. those having illicit affairs or inviting more than one 'friend' to their rooms) may well be falsely accused of sex work.

What is it about sex work that is fearful for hoteliers? If noise or increased traffic is an issue, then laws around controlling those things are important. To conflate noise with sex work is incorrect in most cases. When I work from hotels in Queensland, I see an average of 4 clients per day. That creates approx 1 extra guest every 6 hours. Some of these guests are appraising the hotel room with a view to booking rooms in the future, creating more business for hoteliers.

I urge you to consider angry and embarrasing situations that may occur from passing the proposed changes to the Act. I also ask you to define what behaviour of sex work it is that you object to and find ways of combating unwanted behaviour without punishing an entire occupation.

regards,

Maryanne Purple

