

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Submission to Other Legislation Amendment Bill (w contact details)  
**Date:** Thursday, 8 November 2012 3:57:22 PM

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Please consider this submission in your report on the Youth Justice (Boot Camp Orders) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012. Clause 50, Insertion of section 106C into the Anti-discrimination Act 1991.

I am a sex worker and a sole private operator. I oppose the proposed ammendment to the Queensland Anti Discrimination Act.

I feel personally attacked by the proposed ammendment. It sends a message that my rights, my worth and my dignity are less important than those of other people, just because of my chosen occupation. I believe that for sex workers to enjoy more equal treatment in society, our rights need to be strongly protected. We already face a huge amount of stigma and discrimination because of the stereotypes about us that people believe to be true.

I am a touring sex worker and I often work from hotels and motels in Queensland. When I do so I am always discreet, friendly and polite. I never do anything to jeopardise my confidentiality, or that of my clients. For this reason I take painstaking measures to ensure I am not noticed as a sex worker. I am sure that other guests of the hotels I use are not aware of my occupation, and i am not hurting or inconveniencing anyone.

I choose to work from rented rooms as I like to work in my own space. This feels a lot safer to me than going to the clients house or hotel, or working on the street. When I work from a hotel I am empowered by being in my own space. I know where the exits and phones are. I know there are no other people hiding there, and no dangerous animals, weapons, or any other surprises that could compromise my safety. I know there are no hidden recording devices. By inviting the client into my room I am able to take control of the booking and take the lead. If I was unable to safely and securely work from hotels, without the threat of eviction I feel I would be a lot less safe as I carried out my work.

If I was evicted from a hotel in a small town in outback Queensland after hours with no transport available and nowhere to go I would feel extremely unsafe. If I was faced with exploitation or extortion from an accomodation provider I would also feel unsafe. If I was on a holiday with my family and was evicted from a motel on the grounds of "reasonable belief" I would feel ashamed and hated and this would have a negative impact on my self esteem.

The proposed changes reinforce the notion that sex workers are wothless and undeserving of equal rights to other people in society. This is not true. We are regular people carrying out work from hotel, just like people from many professions do on a regular basis. We are also regular people having sex in hotels, again which is happening all the time. just because there is a connection between these two things for sex workers does not make us undeserving of our right not to be discriminated against.

Please consider our human rights as you consider this ammendment and please do not make laws based on ignorance and prejudice that will harm the livelihoods, well-being and social inclusion of an already marginalised group of people.

Yours Sincerely,

Evie Parker

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