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Craig Sweetnam · Sheridan Tech

While I can understand that people wish prostituion would just go away there is a reason why it's called the worlds oldest profession. And while those precheaching for abstinence may wish that prohibition will work the on the ground reality is that prohibition has not worked and only makes things far more dangerous.

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Justin McGregor · Top Commenter · UBC Faculty of Law at Allard Hall

The fact that prostitution has existed for so long says nothing about its moral, legal, or social acceptability as a human practice. Slavery existed for thousands of years, yet the fact that it did exist for so long never stood at any point as a valid reason for maintaining its status quo. It's also easy to dismiss the effectiveness of laws when you misrepresent their objective. The current laws criminalizing the activity do not aim to eradicate the trade all together. No criminal law has as it's objective such an unreasonable standard. To argue that a law should be abolished because the conduct it prohibits still occurs would logically lead us to abandoning all of our laws in the Criminal Code. That said, I realize the thrust of your point is that the laws are not just ineffective, but harmful. To that I would say that the laws do not make the trade unsafe; that is a myth. The activity is by its very nature risky, especially when you consider the type of people involved in controlling and using the "service". No man with any ounce of respect for women would pay to have sex with her. And the same characterization can be said about any person willing to work as a "manager" of a brothel, even if legalized. The risks of exploitation, abuse, drug addiction, and rape are inherent in the trade and will not be eliminated by legalizing the whole profession.

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Nefhar Tsaro

This decision is just wrong. There are lots of examples from other countries like Germany of how legalizing brothels has harmed women. And who is considering the safety of the wives of the girlfriends of the men who go to prostitutes and the damage to relationship (and financial) stability. Don't they have the right to safety from sexually transmitted disease and aids and emotional abuse of lies? Does this mean the names of the prostitutes and johns will be publically available so we (non-prostitutes) can chose for our own safety not to go out with men who go to prostitutes?

And there is no broader analysis of how 3rd world prostitutes are literally swamping Canada because it is easy and legal and staying usually by marriage fraud. Do we want our daughters seeing this as a career choice? Can poor women now be forced to work as whores rather than get welfare?

Prostitution is criminal and should be illegal. Then this entire decision can be ignored since it is all based on the fact that prostitution is legal.

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