

SEX WORKERS: Out of the Red Light & Into the Real Light

The sex work web is a tangled framework filled with cam girls, happy ending massages, pornographic movies, and so much more. For this article, however, we will be focusing on the timeworn profession of prostitution.

Prostitution, at its most basic, is [performing sexual acts for payment](#). Payment can come in many forms and the acts themselves are almost limitless. The topics of legalization and decriminalization of prostitution have been the center of many heated conversations.

What's the Difference?

Simply put, [legalization allows regulation of prostitution while decriminalization eliminates the laws against](#) the act. Regulations could include things such as location, hours, and licensing. Decriminalization prevents police intervention unless other laws are being broken. There are pros and cons to both, of course, but legalization can strongly be argued to maintain the wellness of all involved.



The Real Light

A glaring fact when it comes to prostitution is the unfortunate danger that sex workers face. It is not uncommon for them to be physically and sexually assaulted, forced into drug addiction, or even become victims of sex trafficking. The fear of arrest outweighs the desire to seek help, and the death that finds many may be their only escape.

Benefits of Legalization

In countries that have already legalized prostitution, such as the [Netherlands, time has proven that imposing strict regulations has improved the safety of sex workers](#). Safety and hygiene licenses, plus frequent sexually transmitted disease testing, helps ensure the safety of the customers, as well. The [drop in assault and drug-related crimes](#) is perhaps the greatest benefit among them.

Removing the criminal stigma of sex work also encourages victims of violence to report it, leading to both physical and emotional aid.

The Real Truth

Prostitution is not going anywhere. If you support it, it is not going anywhere. If you are against it, it is still not going anywhere. When you set individual morality aside, you are left with the safety of a person. A fellow human being. Don't we all deserve to stay safe?