

Lloyd, Brian

From: Committees
Sent: Monday, 21 February 2011 9:33 AM
To: Lloyd, Brian
Subject: FW: Legalised Prostitution - A Disaster



From: Axel Beard [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 18 February 2011 2:27 PM
To: Committees
Subject: Legalised Prostitution - A Disaster

Dear Inquiry,

I am writing to you to talk about the grave problem legalised prostitution poses. The recent events surrounding Janine Cameron highlight the inherent problems with legalised prostitution. Advocates for legalised prostitution often claim that the control the government is able to take over prostitution mediates the abuses inherent within the industry. Aside from being offensive towards victims of sexual abuse, this is also patently false. Despite the legalisation of prostitution, the vast amount of the ACT's prostitution continues outside of the government's regulation (by some estimates up to 90%). Inasmuch, the time has come to ask what can be done instead.

Rather than returning to an outlawed industry where women are abused outside of the law, I urge you to consider the Swedish model. Under this model, the men paying for sex are those prosecuted, rather than the prostitutes. This model has seen the numbers of women being trafficked for sex in Sweden drop to between 400 and 600, compared to its neighbour Finland's 17 000.

In conclusion, I urge the ACT Legislative Assembly to look at different options regarding prostitution. Ignoring ideology, and focusing on what is actually occurring, the point must be ceded that the current regime of legalised prostitution has failed badly. Clearly, something different needs to be done. It is therefore that I urge the Senate to consider the Swedish model and, in so doing, protect the thousands of women potentially harmed by these disastrous laws.

Kind Regards,

Axel Beard

 A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE	
SUBMISSION NUMBER	3
DATE AUTH'D FOR PUBLICATION	23/02/2011

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21/02/2011