

**Lloyd, Brian**

**From:** Committees  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 15 March 2011 2:56 PM  
**To:** Lloyd, Brian  
**Subject:** FW: Prostitution in the ACT  
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**From:** Alissa Holden [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 15 March 2011 2:47 PM  
**To:** Committees  
**Subject:** Prostitution in the ACT

 A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE	
SUBMISSION NUMBER	25.
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Dear Members of the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety,

I am emailing you because I am very concerned about the sex industry in Canberra, in particular the way it promotes human trafficking and the exploitation of children and women. I believe the fact that prostitution is legalized in Canberra means that the demand for sexual services is increased and legitimized. This in turn gives opportunity for the illegal sex industry to flourish because of the ready supply of customers willing to purchase sex.

ACT legislation promises the protection of human rights. How can the rights of underage girls, trafficked into the sex industry be protected? There are so many issues affecting women and girls that need to be addressed to really discover the impact prostitution has on girls and women, and our society as a whole.

I have been greatly impressed by the Swedish model of prostitution, in which the men who use prostitutes are prosecuted. It is these men who are creating the demand for prostitutes, which is what then gives incentive for the human traffickers to meet the need and make money. Obviously not every case is the same, but I truly believe that there are few women who would choose to be prostitutes, and I know that there are many held against their will.

There are many opinions, arguments, and words going back and forth as this issue is debated. I cannot believe that any one who has a daughter, a sister, or even a girl -friend can sit back and not fight for the lives and freedom of girls and young women trapped in an industry that is deceptive and cunning.

Thank you for your time in reading my opinion. It is shared by my friends and family, who I am encouraging to write to you also.

Yours sincerely,

Alissa Holden