

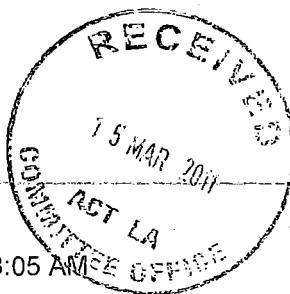
Lloyd, Brian

From: Committees

Sent: Wednesday, 16 March 2011 8:05 AM

To: Lloyd, Brian

Subject: FW: Submission for the Inquiry into the ACT Prostitution Industry



 A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE	
SUBMISSION NUMBER	57
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From: Mark and Rose Ingram [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 16 March 2011 2:53 AM

To: Committees

Subject: Submission for the Inquiry into the ACT Prostitution Industry

Dear Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety

I understand from the Make A Stand website an extension to 31 March 2011 has been granted to make a submission to your Inquiry into the ACT Prostitution Industry. Please accept my submission.

You have the ability to make a difference in the lives of many women. To consider what Jesus would do, rather than bowing to secular pressure. I strongly urge you to exercise your influence for the common good and the dignity of all persons. This could be your finest hour.

I am a Roman Catholic and value the dignity of every human being very highly: prostitution does not.

I am extremely concerned with the sex industry in Canberra and strongly recommend the adoption of the "Swedish Model" for the following reasons:

- In Canberra, since prostitution has been legalised, there appears to be an increase in the illegal sex industry despite the fact that this is the very thing the legislation was supposed to stop.
- Prostitution as it stands does not provide for the equality and safety of women in Canberra, thereby lacking the protection of human rights promised in other ACT legislation.
- Legalised brothels foster an environment where human trafficking can exist, as it increases demand for purchasing sex, which studies show feeds the illegal industry.
- There needs to be research done to discover what actual impact the industry has on the girls including rates of physical abuse, mental health problems, links to child abuse, drug addictions, criminal links, post-effects, health risks of clients, relationship impacts, socio-economic and geographical origins, as well as the impact on men and families.
- The need for exit support programs for prostitutes seeking to leave the industry as the average number of times a girl will try to leave the industry before actually getting out is seven, with many displaying signs not dissimilar to post-traumatic stress symptoms displayed by soldiers returning from battle.
- The government should seriously consider the "Swedish model" of prostitution which has demonstrated great success in Sweden, especially when compared to neighbouring countries. It views women in prostitution primarily as victims, and seeks to prosecute the purchaser of sex - that is the one who creates demand - rather than the supplier.

Please consider very carefully.

Really ask yourself: "Is this the life I would wish for myself, my wife, daughter, sister...?"

And act according to your moral conscience.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully

Rosa Ingram
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Scarborough WA 6019