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Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety
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 A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE	
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SUBMISSION FOR THE INQUIRY INTO THE OPERATION OF THE *PROSTITUTION ACT 1992* FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY from the GINNINDERRA CHRISTIAN CHURCH Inc.

A friend of mine brought this to my attention, and after reading it through a number of times, I find that I have to absolutely agree with what it says. So, with a few alterations here and there to better express what I feel, I submit this as my own.

I, Maurice Charles May, of 59 Melba Street Downer, call upon the Australian Capital Territory Government to repeal the *Prostitution Act 1992*.

Do not prostitute your daughter, to cause her to be a harlot, lest the land fall into harlotry, and the land become full of wickedness.

- Leviticus 19 v 29

Prostitution is not some sort of socially acceptable occurrence, however much it may be abstracted in the legislation and policy debates of our land.

It is an ugly thing, and when confronted with the truth of these verses, it is seen for what it is. Every woman who sells her body for the sexual pleasure of a man sells something which was never created to be sold, but to be treasured and valued by her and her husband.

Every female prostitute is somebody's daughter, and the act of prostitution is a personal violation with personal consequences for all involved – even though the *Prostitution Act 1992* would seek to abstract this fact through the legalese that employs in dealing with the issue.

The same moral issues are present when dealing with male prostitution. Any selling of a human body for the sexual gratification of another human being is wrong, and to legitimise it by legislation is simply raising the error to a governmental level.

Legalising wrong does not make it right.

As the verse from Leviticus indicates, legislation is not about pragmatics, it is first and foremost concerned with moral righteousness (i.e. that which is morally right).

Even if we have different ways of trying to define what is right, that legislation ***should*** be morally right is a point which does not need justifying.

The question then to be asked is 'Is the legalisation of prostitution in legislation right? Or is it wrong?'

This submission is not a researched, academic presentation arguing why prostitution

should not be legal in our country, although it certainly would have been easy to mount such a case. Hours could have been poured into such a task (and have been in numerous other studies), but it is unlikely that any argument, no matter how well reasoned and evidence-based, would turn the immoral tide that has spawned this legislation. Instead, this paper simply presents the barefaced truth about the matter.

This submission is not a submission designed to improve the existing legislation in the way that the heavily restricted and qualified terms of reference have requested either.

It is a call to the Government of the Australian Capital Territory to abolish the Prostitution Act 1992.

Any legislation which concedes to the existence of legal prostitution, whether the prostitute is male or female, has already surrendered all moral integrity and effectively takes the position that prostitution is morally acceptable – even if that fact is garbled and covered over in the exquisite legalese that makes up the act itself.

The prostitution laws in this country are a national disgrace, and no amount of so called ethical arguing can cover up that fact. If prostitution is legally permitted, it is implied that it is acceptable.

Please consider seriously the responsibility you have before God and men to exercise your God-given responsibilities and undo the wickedness that is embodied in this legislation.

It is an abomination for kings to commit wickedness, for a throne is established by righteousness.

– Proverbs 16 v 12

One day, all men will stand before God and will have to give an account of themselves. Being given greater responsibility, rulers will be judged more harshly in accordance with the significance of the responsibility that has been granted.

If you do not speak out against this immoral legislation, one day you will have to stand before God and try to tell Him why you thought it was ok to make it legal. Every utilitarian argument in the world will not stand up on that day, and the wickedness of what has occurred in this legislation will be shown for what it is.

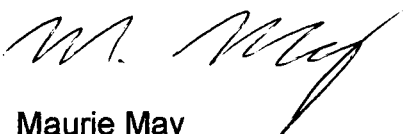
I implore you our government – whom we pray for regularly and respect as the God-ordained authority in this land – to undo this wicked legislation.

You cannot be held responsible for the actions of those who would engage in prostitution, but you will be held responsible for the part that you have to play in the governance of this matter. You cannot change people, but you can govern in a way that is right, and that thus honours God.

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

– Proverbs 14 v 34

Respectfully Yours,



Maurie May

