

# Legalizing prostitution and its various viewpoints sociology essay

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In the present time, prostitution ranks among the most controversial issue in many countries. There are two groups of people who have different ideas about this issue. Some people believe that prostitution should be allowed to be legalized. Whereas, some people claim that prostitution should never be legalized. The laws on prostitution differ considerably across the world.

Different countries also have the different believe, attitude and culture value.

For example, some group of people might feel that prostitution is acceptable for their society which means people can have the right to choose. In

contrast, some people particularly in Asia society defined prostitution in different meaning. Before go through it, this article will demonstrate the

definition of prostitution. Prostitution is defined a job in which one person provides sexual services for another, in exchange for money. The person

who receives the money for this sexual service is often called a "sex worker" or prostitute. Becoming a prostitute is very easy. Sex workers do not need to

have any training, or even knowledge. Their job simply requires them to sell their bodies any willing buyers. Despite the fact that they make so much

money and it's easy to get started. However, is it ok for us to accept and

allow prostitution to be legalized? Can the social, physical and mental harms of prostitution be decreased or controlled by the government? By reason of

the fact that prostitution leads to lots of consequences such as human trafficking and negative exploitation even it legalized. Therefore, this essay

will demonstrate that the government should not allow prostitution to be legalized because 1)the industry is difficult to regulate, 2)legalization will

promote prostitution, and 3)lastly it doesn't respect the individual rights of women. To begin with, the government should not allow prostitution to be

legal because the industry is difficult to regulate. Even though it was hoped that legalization could control expansion of sex industries, but it has the opposite consequence. In other words, legalized prostitution promotes to massive expansion of illegal sex industries such as street prostitution and brothels. It is not going to stop illegal activities, but more than that legalization solved none of the problems. In Victoria, for example, allowing prostitution to be legal did not solve the increase of illegal prostitution problem. Since the government allowed prostitution to be legalized, they found that a number of legal prostitution has risen from 40 to 94 in 1999. Unfortunately, the number of illegal brothels had also dramatically increased. More than 100 of unlicensed brothels had trebled increase in twelve months (Jeffreys & Sullivan, n. d.). Furthermore, in 2003, there are a least 400 illegal brothels throughout the Victoria (Sullivan, 2005). One reason that illegal prostitution in Victoria had also increase is because of the costs or tax and restriction of legal brothels (Strokes, n. d.). Although, Victoria allowed prostitution to be legal, it could be conclude that illegal prostitution did not disappear from their society. Moreover, when the enormous number of brothels rose sharply, the next consequence will lead to more human trafficking. Another example could be seen in Germany. The prostitute's women avoid to registering with the government, and they continued to involve with illegal prostitutions. Even though the government tries to increase the remote areas of prostitution, some groups of prostitute women did not believe that this solution will solve their problems. Form their opinion; they felt that in areas where prostitutions are legal did not help them in terms of deceasing of physical danger (Farley, 2004). Another problem that

the industry is difficult to regulate is because legal prostitution will promote more sex trafficking. Sex trafficking is defined as practical terms that involves shifting people within local or national borders for the aim sexual exploitation. Some people might think that legalization decrease international and domestic of sex trafficking. In fact, where prostitution is legalized, it is very obvious that there is a greater demand for human trafficking victims because brothel keepers can legally sell prostitute women, and men can legally buy sex acts. Moreover, legalized prostitution industries are one of the root cause of sex trafficking. Every year, approximate 600, 000 to 800, 000 people trafficked across national borders, and 80% of victims are women. More than that, thousands of these female and children are used in purpose of sexual industries or prostitution each year (" The Link between Prostitution," 2004). They may be women and girls who are uneducated, poor and easy to control. In many countries such as Australia, Netherlands and Germany, where prostitution is not illegal, it usually result in lead to demand of sex workers because purchasing sex in these areas is seen as acceptable and normal activity for their society (" Addressing Misconception," n. d.). As a result, to reply increase of demand, traffickers coerce and force more girls and women into brothel. Legalization in New Zealand can be another example which illustrates that legal prostitution promotes more human trafficking problem. More than 8, 000 women who trafficked from other countries and borders are involved in sex industries (Abel & Plumridge, 2001). On the other hand, opponents might think that it is the right of women to choose what she wants to do with her body. According to Audet (2002), in some countries such as Europe and the United States,

some people view prostitution as "sex workers". People think that women in prostitution are similar as other laborers in social, and women in prostitution should have the same rights as others. In addition, there are other organizations such as International Labor Organization (ILO) and Prostitution Alternatives Counseling and Education (PACE) have defined prostitution as an appropriate job for poor women and generally regarded prostitution as a work (Farley, 2004). It can understand that some women have less chance to choose their careers because of their personal reasons such as poverty and uneducated, and they should have a right to choose whatever they prefer. As a result, they need to do whatever they can in order to survive and take care of their family, whether it be legal or not. Nonetheless, although some women voluntary to become a prostitute by themselves, but the result of them are eventual the same as women who were force to do this work as well. To demonstrate, 84 % of all trafficking women said that they moved abroad in order to find careers, and 80% informed that they did not know that they will force to work in sex industries (Gramegna & Laczko, 2003). As same as, the three young foreign women come to Dumai, a city on the island of Sumatra in Indonesia, to hope that they will offered promising jobs like bar tenders. However, when they arrive, they were enforced to engage in brothel. All of them refused to do so and tried to escape, but they were repeatedly hit by the pimps. They were forced to sign a contract illustrating that they had consented (Cunha et al., 2001). To conclude, even women have the right to choose, it seems that women who consented and women who forced are faced with the same results in terms of exploitation and oppression. Furthermore, some people claim that legalization will protect the

human rights of women in the workplace. According to "Workplace Rights," (2012), human rights in a workplace can be defined as human right principles in areas such as equality, fairness, working conditions, employee welfare and so on. Employee should ensure that all of their employers have a positive impact on job satisfaction. As same as prostitution, if it legal, some people said that women will not be harm while working. In terms of physical standard, prostitution women could easily seek assistance from health services (Sullivan, 2005). By allowing prostitution to be legal, the government has agreement with sex business operators. For instance, they require and campaign buyers to use a condom while having sex. The government funding and Federal produce a safe sex education programs for women in prostitution. As from the following argument, I actually understand their points. However, it is obvious that a number of sexually epidemic diseases such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) remain uncontrolled in prostitution (Jeffreys & Sullivan, n. d.). Although, the government offers public health to women in prostitution, but women can derive sexually transmitted diseases from their customers because customers do not use a condom. Cunningham and Christensen (2001) stated that there are 89 percent of Canadian buyers of prostitution denied to use a condom. Another example could be seen in U. S. prostitution, 47 percent of men reported that they preferred sex without using a condom, 73 percent of men agree to pay more for sex without using condom (Cunha et al., 2001). Moreover, 59 percent of sex workers surveyed claim that they do not believe that the legalization made them any securer from assault and rape. Likewise, in the Netherlands, where prostitution is

also legal, 40% of prostituted women suffered sexual violence; 60% experienced physical assaults (Farley, 2004). More than that, prostitution is intensity in and of itself. In terms of psychological health, these women have to suffer with a lot of psychological oppression from both pimps and buyers. Legal prostitution does not help or protect women from injury in prostitution. Some women in prostitution think that oppression or rape cannot happen in prostitution, but it actually happen constantly (Farley, 2004). Furthermore, women in prostitution have to face with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) as a result of being kicked, beaten, or hit in the head badly (Valera & Berenbaum, 2003). From the examples that mentioned above, it is easy to argue that instead of make it legal, but prostitution women do not think that they are offered more protection or their health has benefited under legalized prostitution from the government. In addition, suppose that if prostitution women derive sexual epidemic diseases, then, it also mean that it very hard for them to survive and accept from society because these epidemic diseases are unacceptable for society. It does not seem that legalization will protect the human right of prostitute workers, whether it is physical or mental.