

Legal Prostitution

As people say, prostitution is the oldest profession, it is also the least understood. It is probably immoral. The sex industry indubitably plays an important role in society by providing an outlet for unrequited desire. But it is surely in need of regulation. Currently, its practitioners keep all their profits (since they are taxed) and contribute nothing to the proliferating health problems they engender. So why don't we just treat prostitution like any other business: regulate it carefully in terms of safety and working conditions, tax it adequately, and promote it as a part of the tourism industry? Everyone would gain: consumers would not have to worry about disease, and suppliers would not have to be concerned with the various dangers associated with criminal activity.

Vocabularies:

Profession-An occupation or career

Indubitably-Too apparent to be doubted, unquestionable

Immortal-Not to be forgotten, everlasting

Unrequited-Not reciprocated or returned in kind

Proliferate-To increase or spread at a rapid rate

Discussion Points:

(1) If the government decided to clamp down on prostitution, could the institution actually be destroyed? Why or why not?

(2) If the red-light districts were effectively eliminated, would the number of rapes and other sex crimes increase?

(3) What's wrong with legalization of prostitution and imposing taxes on it?

(4) If prostitution were legalized, what would be the effects?