

Good day,

I trust this finds you well. To regards to not legalizing Adult Prostitution.

INTRODUCTION

We are a multicultural charity organization that works hands on with women that are working in the sex industry. These ladies consist of prostitutes, sex workers and strippers. Plus minus every 6 weeks we come in contact with around 120-160 prostitutes, sensual massage ladies and stripper ons our outreach. 80% of these girls working in the sex industry has a history of sexual abuse as children already.

DEMAND FOR SEXWORK IN SOUTH-AFRICA

South-Africa is one of the highest users on pornography. Porn feeds the demand for prostitution. We also need to understand how sex addiction works and periphilia. South Africa is home to +- 153,000 sex workers (research done by the South African National AIDS Council (SANAC)2015). Legalizing it will encourage consumers and also abusers. The girls working in the sex industry will let you that they have many men (clients) that abuse them physically and sexually. We have witness the abuse on the bodies of the girls we work with.

What is our Porn Stats in South-Africa?

- The word 'porn' is the most searched word in South Africa
- Pornhub has found that SA watches porn longer on average, than the rest of the world. Ten minutes and 35 seconds - one minute and 39 seconds above the global average.
- Out of their estimated 35 million daily users, 91000 are South African.
- Hollywood releases 11,000 adult movies per year – more than 20 times the mainstream movie production. 40 million Americans regularly visit porn sites
- 47% percent of families say pornography is a “problem” in their home.
- 70% of men 18-24 visit porn sites
- 1 in 3 visitors are women

ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

South-Africa is already struggling with a huge problem of illegal immigrants and Xenophobia. There are many ladies from neighbouring countries that work in the sex industry running away from their own countries because of poverty hoping for a better future and to wake up then in the reality of the sex industry. Some were even tricked in coming here of a better future and then only to be offered a work as a prostitute and not wanting to shame their family and kids home they sell their souls.

In South-Africa we have MANY foreigners involved as PIMPS, MANAGERS, TRAFFICKERS and legalizing prostitution will **draw** these 'so' called 'BUSINESS PEOPLE'. So the money of the sex industry is not staying in South-Africa but going to Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Nigeria, etc. South-Africa has girls jumping the borders illegally from Zimbabwe in a hope of a better future and when not finding work they are forced into prostitution as a last resort to support their family in their home country. We have hands on experience on this.

INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKERS

If South-Africa were to legalize sex work I believe that South-Africa will become a DIRECT TARGET for international traffickers, trafficking girls into South-Africa. These high enforced criminals already uses South-Africa as a home for planning their dark sinful games out of greed of money. South-Africa is an easy target because our current laws on prostitution are not enforced properly.

DRUGS AND THE SEX INDUSTRY

Again we will need to look at the fact that prostitution and the drug trade goes hand in hand. Many of the ladies we work with use drugs to cope with this form of work and to shut down the emotions and abuse that goes hand in hand with this. There are sex clubs that encourage and push the girls to use drugs to please the clients better and to cope with what is going on. Most of ladies we help use drugs.

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EMOTIONAL EFFECT

Research done shows that a lady working in the sex industry whether it be porn, stripping or prostitution suffers from the same level of stress as someone that has gone to war. PTSD - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. These girls will many time wake

up in cold sweat of nightmares, struggling with fear, anxiety, suicidal tendencies, depression, bipolar and other psychological conditions. 89% of women in the sex industry said they wanted to escape, but had no other means for survival.

There are girls in the sex industry that will tell you that in the beginning when they started with sex work they felt powerful and sexy until the reality hit them and they realized the abuse physically, mentally, emotionally and psychologically that goes with it.

Women in the sex industry experience higher rates of...

- Substance Abuse Issues
- Rape and Violent Assault
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- Domestic Violence
- Depression
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- History of Childhood Sexual Abuse (Between 66-90%)
- Lack of a healthy support system
- Economic hardship or lack of education and employable job skills

We can not legalize it by saying this is ok!

CHILDREN AFFECTED BY THE SEX INDUSTRY

My question is where will it stop? Traffickers and abusers are psychologically so sick in their minds that they get children involved for consumers/clients that get a sexual 'kick' out of it. Legalizing the sex industry will just give more freedom for these people with their dark plans and minds. Children are also affected by the sex industry. Please protect our children. Children are groomed into the industry from a young age because of exploitation. We are aware of brothels that have children living on the premises (we have repeatedly called on social workers but NO response). There are sex clubs offering babysitting duties at the club. These children are exposed to the sex industry from a young age which grooms them into the industry. Many of the mothers we work with share the stories of how their mothers were also escorts or prostitutes and that is how they got into the sex industry. It is a vicious cycle. One girl we worked with was dropped off at a sex club in Johannesburg at the age of 15 by her mother

(which is a sex worker) and her mother's words :”This is your life now, you WILL work here.” Today she is 25 and she can't even read the forms given to her at the safe house (I had to read it to her). She has been working in the industry for 10 years now, she has had 3 children, she is addicted to crystal meth and she tried to abort her 7 month baby but the “underground” medical doctor would not do it. She does not see herself as an abused women because her mother that was suppose comfort and look out for her introduced her to sex work. **The average age of entry into prostitution is 12-14 years!**

A BIBLICAL POINT OF VIEW

There are census from 2001 -2016 that shows that 78%-86% South-Africans says that they are christian by religion.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_in_South_Africa)

Adultery is something that has ruined marriages and families. This morning (12 Feb 2018) at 10:10 I sat with a girl working in adult prostitution reaching out to us, trying to get out of the sex industry. She speaks about her anger against men and the brothel of how she wants to arrange someone to drop a bomb on the brothel but care too much for the other girls. She sat there explain how sick someone must be to come to a high Upper Class brothel in the east of Pretoria and arrange their 22 son that is a virgin to come and lose his virginity. Her own son is 17 and she is 40. She says these clients come to her in the session and they are extremely nervous, their conscience telling them that this is wrong but somewhere they lose their minds and they go for it. Today I say the psychological effect of the sex industry on a women, to the same level as someone that has been to war (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder,) The waking up in cold sweat, the nightmares, the faces of the clients and their families and wives flashing before you.

She speaks about one client sharing with her how he is faithful towards his wife and has never commit adultery. This client sits there so nervous and jittery and she deals with the emotions of knowing she is the reason with this adultery and lies in the marriage.

Let us be true to our conscience! Every human being is born with a conscience and we all have a value system telling us what is wrong and what is right. Something in us, tells us that to murder another human being is wrong. Sex work is wrong, our conscience tells us so. Every girl we meet in the industry tells us that she knows what she is doing is wrong but she needs to do it for money, drugs or to pay her debt.

THE CURRENT LAWS ON ADULT PROSTITUTION

I believe South-Africa has good laws in place for adult prostitution. Our problem is that these laws are not enforced. If we enforce these laws I believe it will have a positive affect also on the drug trade. Like said earlier, drugs and prostitution goes hand in hand. The sex industry should be regulated, that will protect our women and children, not the legalization of it. It will take the caution and fear of being caught, away from those on the top level, running this dark dangerous industry and just enhance them and bring freedom.

LEGALIZING IT WILL COMMUNICATE A MESSAGE TO OUR YOUNG WOMEN AND CHILDREN BY SAYING:

- If you can not get a job, do not study, do not dream, do not work harder, take the easy way out and sell your body for sex.
- Do not have good values because fornication and adultery is ok.
- To our student ladies it will say, if you need extra cash to fit into the upper lifestyle that comes with being a student, just sell your body and buy all the things you want.

WE GET THE BEHAVIOUR WE REWARD.

We can not reward this behaviour by legalizing it because it will destroy more and more lives instead of restoring and healing it.

WHAT ARE THE TOPICS WE SHOULD BE DISCUSSING:

1. What is our restoration plan for this families, women and children direct affected by the sex industry?
2. Our NEED for more rehabilitation centers from drugs.
3. More restoration homes for women trying to exit the sex industry, helping these girls through a healing process to be restored back into society.
4. Pay our police better and value them so they do not take bribes from brothel owners, sex club owners, traffickers, drug dealers and syndicates.

5. Employ more social workers. Our social workers are overworked and exhausted. Provide scholarships for students to study Social Work.
6. How do we support and counsel men and women struggling with sex addiction, an abnormality.

I trust that this letter will give you a clear picture of the realities of what we are currently working with in South-Africa.

Warm Regards

Emma van der Walt

Pastor at Living Word Brummeria

emma@lewendewoord.co.za

ARTICLE ON WHAT IS SEXUAL ADDICTION?

Dr. Juli Slattery

A neuropsychologist could give an eloquent detailed explanation of what happens to the brain during sexual addiction. In layman's terms, your body was designed to experience pleasure. There are areas of your brain and body that are wired to bring excitement, euphoria, and feelings of peace and elation. Some people call these the "reward" centers of your brain—God wired your body to reward you and motivate you toward certain actions. For example, after exercising, your body often gets flooded with endorphins that release stress and make you feel great—a.k.a. a "runner's high."

A lot of your body's natural rewards are associated with sexuality. The body's response to sexual excitement and passion is stronger than practically any other natural experience. I believe God designed powerful sexual feelings and rewards to draw us into relationship. If we never had sexual drives and feelings, who would ever want to

get married? As Paul alludes to in 1 Corinthians 7, sexual desire is a primary reason why we are drawn to marriage.

An addiction occurs when we learn to go after the reward without doing the work that the reward is designed to be linked to. Sexual pleasure is designed to be a catalyst and reward for the hard work and risk required in relationship. Enjoying great sex over many years of marriage requires commitment, communication, humility, and effort. Pornography, sexual chat rooms, and erotic novels all allow for a person to experience the physical euphoria without the effort and vulnerability of relationship. They provide a "shortcut" to the powerful reward that God designed for marital intimacy.