

THE HIDDEN HARMS OF PROSTITUTION: UNDERSTANDING THE EXPLOITATION BEHIND THE INDUSTRY

Prostitution, described as “the world’s oldest profession,” is more accurately understood as a structurally exploitative ‘industry’ that extracts profits from the bodies of vulnerable people through manipulation, humiliation, addiction, and physical abuse. Attempts to regulate this industry do not generate human dignity. The transactional and inherently violent nature of prostitution prevents a balanced power dynamic between the buyer and the person being prostituted, leading to dangerous, often deadly conditions.

The **Equality/Abolitionist/Nordic Model** aims to decriminalize & rehabilitate those who sell sex (individuals involved in prostitution) while penalizing the purchasers of sex, or “johns.” The model also criminalizes third parties who profit from prostitution, such as pimps and traffickers.

42 million people

are estimated to be involved in prostitution worldwide

F. Scelles, 3rd trimester report (2011)

89%

of people in prostitution in the US want to leave prostitution

US Dept. of State (2004)

68%

of people prostituted meet the same PTSD criteria as combat veterans

UNSR Alsalem, R. (2024) A/HRC/56/48

38%

of victims of trafficking are trafficked for sexual exploitation worldwide

UNODC Report (2022) A/77/60

Court convicts 2 men for rape, forcing minor into prostitution

Woman gets seven years in jail for pressurising girl to join prostitution

Written by **Kamal Salyed**
Surat | August 31, 2024 01:27 IST



East New York man accused of raping teen and attempted sex trafficking: DA

BP By Adam Daly

Posted on May 22, 2024

Depraved rapist has destroyed me - victim

12 July 2024

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Phil McCann
BBC News

He had persuaded sex workers to move in with him and then abused, raped and filmed them.

‘Every woman who works as a prostitute is a victim’

Escaping the world’s oldest profession.

By SIGAL BEN DAVID MAY 23, 2019 08:13

“I witnessed a number of gang rapes where the women had to be taken to the hospital afterward.”

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The **Equality/Abolitionist/Nordic Model** recognizes prostitution as a form of gender-based violence and a violation of human rights, aiming to reduce demand and support the recovery of exploited people. By providing social services, healthcare, and job training for individuals exiting prostitution, the Abolitionist Model helps empower them to rebuild their lives, fostering a safer society.

KEY PRINCIPLES OF THE EQUALITY MODEL



DECRIMINALIZATION
OF PROSTITUTED
INDIVIDUALS



CRIMINALIZATION OF
BUYERS AND PIMPS



ACCESS TO
SUPPORT SERVICES



HELP PROSTITUTED WOMEN
AND GIRLS ESCAPE THEIR
ABUSIVE SITUATIONS



ACTIVELY PROMOTE
WOMEN'S HEALTH- BOTH
MENTAL AND PHYSICAL



EMPOWER WOMEN TO LIVE
THOUGHTFUL, HEALTHY LIVES
AWAY FROM THEIR CAPTORS

UN MEMBER STATES THAT IMPLEMENTED THE EQUALITY MODEL



SWEDEN



NORWAY



ICELAND



CANADA



IRELAND



FRANCE



ISRAEL

NON UN MEMBER STATES THAT IMPLEMENTED THE EQUALITY MODEL



NORTHERN
IRELAND



STATE OF
MAINE (US)

UN MEMBER STATE THAT PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED THE EQUALITY MODEL



REPUBLIC OF
KOREA