

**Submission
No 99**

INQUIRY INTO THE REGULATION OF BROTHELS

Organisation: Debby Doesn't Do It For Free
Name: The Hon Deep-Dish Debby
Date Received: 19/08/2015

Debbly Doesnt Do It For Free is an national arts and cultural group of sex workers. Our group has been running for over a decade, and has involved sex workers from all around Australia, and also Thailand, Hong Kong and the USA. We have had large-scale successful art exhibitions and performances across the country, with many thousands of attendees.

Debbly Doesnt Do It For Free supports decriminalisation remaining as it is in NSW. Our members have worked across all states and territories. Victoria and Queensland have such limiting regulations and laws that most of our members choose to work outside the law in those states. This means our members are at risk of being harrassed by the police, arrested for their work, and being unable to go to the police in the event of a crime being perpetrated against them.

We are also deeply concerned about the impact Private Investigators has had in New South Wales. Sex workers who have been tricked by Private Investigators have been deeply traumatised by the experience. Its invasive, unnecessary, and we demand an immediate moratorium on the use of Private Investigators to have sex with sex workers.

We urge the committee to recommend the introduction of anti-discrimination laws to protect sex workers in NSW from discrimination. This would improve sex workers access to justice, including sex workers who are migrants and face the added stigma of trafficking-related myths.

Finally Debbly Doesn't Do It For Free would like to see private sex workers to be able to work in small collectives. At the moment Councils are quite random with their approach towards home occupations, particularly when it is sex workers. If Councils treated individual sex workers differently from brothels then we would have more flexibility to share a workplace with other independent workers. In New Zealand up to four sex workers can work together independently. In Tasmania two are allowed. We suggest NSW remove barriers to independent sex workers working in small groups.

Thank you for reading our submission. Our members are able to give verbal evidence to the inquiry, and would love the opportunity to expand upon our experiences. Some of our members are in Victoria, and have specific experience there. We would welcome the committee reaching out to us to engage with our membership.

Sincerely

Deep Dish Debbly