Submission No 66

INQUIRY INTO THE REGULATION OF BROTHELS

Name:

Date Received: 18/08/2015



14 August 2015

The Committee Manager
Select Committee on the Regulation of Brothels
Parliament House
Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam,

Submission: Inquiry into the Regulation of Brothels in NSW

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Inquiry into the Regulation of Brothels in NSW, and for the duration of time afforded to make a submission.

I welcome and support the formation of the Select Committee on the Regulation of Brothels (the Committee) to inquire into and report on the Regulation of Brothels in NSW.

I welcome and support the examination and reporting of:

- appropriate local and state government regulatory and compliance functions for brothels;
- the demarcation in local and state government roles and responsibilities; and
- possible reform options that address the social, health and planning challenges associated with legal and illegal brothels.

As a Town Planner that operates under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, related policy, and the Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plan framework; the cumbersome nature and 'gaps' in the current NSW planning system are evident, and I welcome the notion of reform to:

- streamline the regulatory and compliance functions for brothels in NSW;
- clearly define the roles and responsibilities of levels of government; and
- ultimately improve the health and safety of sex workers.

I welcome and support the considerations outlined in point (3) of the TOR, as they adequately capture what the Inquiry should focus on.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Committee actively engages with the Country Women's Association (CWA) of NSW throughout the Inquiry into the Regulation of Brothels in NSW process.

The CWA of NSW is the largest voice for women in NSW with a membership base of over 10,000 members and endeavours to:

- advocate on behalf of women to all levels of Government;
- provide a forum for the voice of all women in NSW and the ACT;
- improve conditions and the welfare of all women and families, especially those in country areas; and
- support initiatives which enhance the value of country living, especially health and educational facilities

The CWA of NSW Social Issues Committee responds to legislative changes at the State and Federal levels of Government to advocate on behalf of women in NSW.

2. The Committee to note the CWA of NSW as a key stakeholder regarding all matters concerning women, children, families, education, health, welfare, regional NSW, and attention correspondence to:

> Country Women's Association of NSW Social Issues Committee PO Box 15 Potts Point NSW 1335

I thank you again for the opportunity to provide comment relating to the TOR for the Inquiry into the Regulation of Brothels in NSW, and I look forward to reading the report of findings.

