

**Submission
No 140**

INQUIRY INTO THE REGULATION OF BROTHELS

Organisation: Northern Territory Aids and Hepatitis Council (NTAHC)
Name: Mr Kim Gates
Position: Executive Director
Date Received: 24/08/2015

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

To whom it may concern,


The Northern Territory AIDS and Hepatitis Council (NTAHC) Inc. is the key Non-Government not for profit organisation working in the area of blood borne viruses, education and support in the Northern Territory.

We have had the opportunity to read the SWOP NT submission to the Select Committee. SWOP NT is the recognised peak body for sex workers in the NT and represents their views. NTAHC endorse SWOPS call for the decriminalisation of sex work.

NTAHC endorse SWOP NT's comments, namely that:

- Decriminalisation is the best practice model of sex industry regulation as it brings high rates of compliance, minimal opportunities for corruption, increased transparency and improved safety for sex workers.
- Decriminalisation also removes the threat of police corruption. Licensing models rely on police as the regulators creating an environment where police corruption is possible.
- The risk to decriminalisation in NSW is an issue that potentially affects all sex workers in Australia. Currently sex worker organisations and projects look to NSW as the leader in sex industry regulation in Australia having successfully implemented the best practice model of decriminalisation resulting in positive health and safety outcomes for sex workers.

Yours sincerely,



Kim Gates
Executive Director