

**Submission  
No 30**

## **INQUIRY INTO THE REGULATION OF BROTHELS**

**Name:** Ms Laura [REDACTED]

**Date Received:** 16/08/2015

## **An open letter to the Inquiry into the Regulation of brothels.**

I have a severe physical disability which includes being non-verbal. Despite my disability, I have all the same thoughts and feelings (including sexual desires) as any other woman in her 30's. I've never had a partner, so my options for intimacy have been basically non-existent until recent times. I wouldn't put myself in a sexual situation with just any guy. Having a disability does make me quite vulnerable, and I hate to think what could happen if I got into a bad situation with someone.

I have been visiting a sex worker for approximately a year now. I go to see him about once a month. The worker is trained to work with people with my level of disability. I feel if I couldn't visit him I would have to deal with more depression and sexual frustration. Before starting to access this service, I felt quite depressed. Sexual intimacy was something I had been craving since my late teenage years.

Since going to see a sex worker, I feel a lot happier within myself. It makes me feel valued, and my visits are something I really look forward to. I go to his apartment where he works from, which is convenient and a really nice and very safe setting. I feel my rights to privacy would be affected if I had to go to a brothel. It would also affect the privacy of the support people I require to facilitate my activities.

I believe this service is extremely valuable for people with disabilities to experience something that many people take for granted. Physical contact with another person is a basic human need, and if I didn't have this in my life my outlook on life would be greatly affected.

Laura [REDACTED]

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Could you please only use my Christian name and keep my address confidential.