

INQUIRY INTO THE REGULATION OF BROTHELS

Organisation:

[REDACTED]

Name:

Ms T [REDACTED] Caruana

Date Received:

3/08/2015

Partially Confidential

Ms T [REDACTED] Caruana

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It is essential for NSW to show leadership in limiting the transmission of sexual infections to the broader population by promoting the health, safety and autonomy of its sex workers.

Decriminalisation is the strongest way to ensure that sex worker’s human rights are upheld.

A licensing model has not proven to be effective in regulating the sex industry in other states and countries, where large portions of the industry operates in an underground way, leaving the workers there very vulnerable to physical, economic and psychological exploitation.

The scale of the sex industry is not very large, and it is contracting rather than expanding, so current controls are effective. Unregulated operations do pose issues (namely competition and possible neighbourhood impacts) and but a licensing model does not provide any extra controls to prevent this, and instead creates extra disincentives (namely costs, loss of privacy and perceived business interference) to comply. It is also in opposition to the ‘cutting red tape’ business deregulation policies of the NSW and Australian Coalition governments.

Thanks for considering my submission.