

1. In your evidence (page 22 of Hansard) you said: “We would seek to stress that trafficking for the purposes of sexual trafficking will not end until steps are taken to end the prostitution system. We are in favour of the Nordic model”. What would be the preliminary steps needed to be taken to enable the Nordic model to be introduced in NSW?

The decriminalisation of all prostituted persons

The criminalisation of the purchase of sexual services

The education of the community, and particular men, about the harms and structural inequality for mainly women in the global sex trade.

The ongoing investigation and prosecution of crimes involving trafficking and sexual exploitation of the vulnerable.

The rejection of any form of commercialisation or corporatisation of the sex industry.

The provision of holistic exit programs for prostituted persons, including sustainable long-term funding.

2. Can you nominate which models in the world have been the most successful in enabling women find pathways to leave prostitution?

As discussed in our submission, the Nordic model has been the most successful model in terms of enabling women to exit the sex trade and addressing the problems associated with trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation.

The Swedish government reports highlight that the laws banning the purchase of sex had been effective in reducing prostitution and deterring human trafficking. The report noted that prostitution in Sweden, unlike comparable countries, had not increased and street prostitution had halved in the decade since its introduction. Data showed the number of prostituted people in Sweden was roughly ten times lower per capita than in Denmark.

(<http://www.government.se/content/1/c6/14/92/31/96b1e019.pdf>)

Other countries that have adopted the Nordic Model have also noted its success. In 2014, Norway conducted an independent evaluation of their law after it had been in place for five years. The results showed a 20-25% reduction in prostitution, and street prostitution had nearly halved. (<http://www.eu-norway.org/Global/SiteFolders/webeu/Evaluation.pdf0>)