



## Legislative Council

8/06/88

### SUMMARY OFFENCES BILL

### JUSTICES (SENTENCING) AMENDMENT BILL

#### Second Reading

#### Extract

**The Hon. ELAINE NILE** [6.3]: I support the Summary Offences Bill and cognate bill though I am concerned that the legislation does not go far enough to meet the genuine needs of the people of New South Wales. At the outset I wish to congratulate those new members who were elected to the House in the recent election, especially those who have already made their maiden speeches which have contributed much to discussion and debate in the Chamber. I refer particularly to the Hon. Richard Jones. I also wish to thank you, Mr Deputy-President, the President, who is absent from the Chamber, the Clerks of the Parliament and the staff for help they have provided in the settling-in period. No doubt most new members feel overawed when they are elected to a Chamber such as this. Being a member of the public gallery is very different from being a member of the Council.

It is a privilege and an honour to be a member of this House, having regard to the difficulty experienced by the Call to Australia group in receiving acknowledgment of its candidates in the recent election. The Call to Australia group was censored completely from the news media, including television and newspapers. In one instance stories were ready to go to press in one northern newspaper when suddenly a D4 notice was issued and the stories were removed completely from the copy for that day. Older members of the House will recall that a D4 was used in wartime in the area of censorship. It is a miracle that I am here today representing the Call to Australia group. We realize that the people at the grass roots of society who really care about family life and godly values voted for us.

I wish to thank, first, my husband. Sometimes he is hard to put up with, but I know that I am not so easy to put up with at times. However, we have been married for 30 years. You grow to think alike and even to speak alike, as many honourable members will know. I thank him for the patience he has shown over the years. I also thank the workers in the Call to Australia movement. They are just ordinary men and women who love their families and family life and want the very best for their children. I thank them very much for their work in manning the polling booths at the recent election. Years ago the former Leader of the National Party, Leon Punch, commented on how happy the Call to Australia workers were, especially in his electorate. We took that as a compliment. Their aim is to help in legislating for godly government and for laws that will uphold the traditional family in marriage and protect the family unit from abuse.

The Call to Australia group believes that the family is the most important unit in society and must be protected. Its members think also of the unborn child who cannot speak for itself. During the recent election it was interesting to note that a member of Parliament said that the Call to Australia group had voted in favour of abortion on demand. Until then a vote on the issue of abortion had never been taken; no doubt that example shows that politicians become confused now and then. I wish to read to the House some of the scriptures on which the Call to Australia group bases its family policies. Genesis 2:22-24 states:

And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

And Adam said. This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of man.

Many honourable members will have realized that marriage is a mystical union. When my mother died, my father realized the truth of that passage from Genesis. He said, "I feel as though part of me has gone". Many honourable members have experienced the feeling of becoming one flesh. That is the importance of marriage. Mark 10:6 says, "But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female". Probably that is not acceptable to the feminists who believe that man and woman are one. On the importance

of marriage, Mark 10:9 reads, "What therefore God hath joined together let not man put asunder". The Family Law Act does just that. Proverbs 18:22 says, "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing". I like that passage. Hebrews 13:4 says, "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge".

The Call to Australia group unashamedly bases its policies on the word of God in Holy Scripture. The Summary Offences Bill does not go far enough. Despite the Government being elected with a massive mandate to restore law and order in New South Wales, to make our streets safe, to clean up prostitution in Kings Cross, Darlinghurst, city areas, and especially suburban areas along Canterbury Road, many of the proposed changes in the bill are minor. Born in Waterloo of working-class parents, I am concerned about our city. I was the third child of Luke and Jessie Crealy. My father was one of the original glass-blowers apprenticed to the late "Knock-out" Smith, well known in the glass industry and the horseracing industry, when his operation consisted of one tin shed. My parents were honest and very outspoken. I grew up in an era when some infamous shootings took place in that area.

Sometimes I think that people believe that Fred Nile must have been born in a convent. That is not meant to be a slur on convents. However, the media particularly seem to think that the Niles do not know anything about life. Maybe we know a little more than some honourable members in this House. I can well remember some families and the hardships they had to endure. I recall husbands who would collect their wages at the end of the week, put a little aside for Saturday, and go to the hotel to drink away their money. Although they had seven and eight children, their families stuck together. That does not seem to happen these days. Even though in those days families had problems, there was something about marriage, and families stayed together.

I remember one man from a well-to-do family who was in the legal profession. He went on the bottle and lost his family and his profession. It was a terrible thing to see him always wandering around with a methylated spirits bottle wrapped in a brown paper bag under his arm. Neither my husband nor I have any truck with hotels or clubs opening 24 hours a day. In our own families we have seen people suffering, going down, and not getting up again. I thank God for those days because I believe that we who are older have seen the other side of life. We have seen the goodness that has resulted from families staying together.

Before my marriage I worked as a comptometrist, and after marriage I was a clergy man's wife. I worked also with my husband at Reverend Alan Walker's Central Methodist Mission, at 210 Pitt Street, Sydney. There, we were into the prostitution scene, and kids on drugs. Even in those days two of the Murphy boys would come to the coffee shop that we ran in the city each Saturday night. Fred has been hashed and cut up with a jagged bottle, and so on. Even in those days some of the sharpies would come in and play dumb. They wanted somewhere to hang out and play the pinball machines. That was how the mission operated. It took one group 12 months to get through to those young people. None of them wanted to talk. Yet, they were kids, someone else's children. They belonged to a family.

One night another group of young people came to the coffee shop and were out to get the first group. In the mission that night the lights went out, the tables were overturned, there were bottles flying, and Fred was cut up. The most beautiful thing is that no one was beyond redemption. When the 21 squad arrived they took Fred and all the young people down to Central police station. They were all lined up with bloody faces and bloody clothes. Fred had to go along the line and say who were the good guys. I was proud of them that night because they realized what side they were on, and they turned the tables on the other group.

I remember a 15-year-old girl coming to us, frightened out of her wits. She had become a Christian, but she was in the prostitution scene at Kings Cross. She wanted to get out of it, but she said it was not as easy as might be thought. She said that she had been threatened with being slashed and scarred for life. Of course, that was very frightening for a young girl. Fred and I have had young people in our homes who have had drug problems. One girl came from a religious home. She was introduced to the drug scene in a club by her brother. To keep her habit going she was working as a prostitute at Kings Cross. She was only 19 years of age. We put her in the Langton Clinic twice. However, each time she returned for some reason. On one occasion she came home with an alcoholic with one leg, and of course they played on our sympathy. Finally we took her out of the clinic and sent her to a country Christian establishment at which there was no replacing one drug with another. She had to go cold turkey. Today she is married and has children and is free from her former problem. Young people can be assisted to kick the habit. I believe the

Government should have a clearer policy on helping children who are on the streets with a drug problem.

A few years ago when we were in Israel we visited a drug clinic in Jerusalem. A doctor there said that because Israel was in a state of siege they could not afford to have their young men and young women drugged. He said that they treat drug addiction seriously, and that the only way to cure it is to make addicts go cold turkey. I wish our Government would come to grips with what is happening with young people at Kings Cross and in the suburbs. It is pitiful to see such children wandering around, getting clean syringes, and on it goes. It was suggested in this House and by officers of NACAIDS that young people who have a habit should be given syringes of pure heroin. That is disgusting and disgraceful. They should have children on drugs in their own homes to see the hell that those children and their parents go through.

Prostitution and drugs go together. Fred and I have four children, three sons and one daughter. Two of our sons are police officers. The third is a physical education teacher. Until recently our daughter had worked for more than three years at a rehabilitation hospital. I am a Christian and I do not have any doubts about my faith as it is in the living word of God, Jesus Christ, and in the written word of God, the Holy Scriptures, the Bible. The way I live and what I believe is based on that. At the age of 16 I accepted Christ into my life. I did not grow up in a religious family. A number of years ago I found out that our family included a number of closet drinkers who belonged to the brethren. Maybe that is why my father was not too keen on the church. During the past 30 years we have had some traumatic experiences, but I can testify that Jesus Christ himself, and a personal faith in him and prayer, has taken us through.

I remember one occasion when at the age of 11 months one of my boys had a tracheotomy. From then on until he was about 10 years of age I was taking him backwards and forwards to hospital. On occasions he would simply stop breathing. One day a taxidriver said to me that he thought all we religious people had something going for us and never got sick. Well, the good and the bad suffer the same. I believe that as parliamentarians we should subscribe to the highest ideals in legislation, instead of being defeatist and taking the easy way out by legislating for the lowest common denominator. Governments have been legislating for immorality. At times, Christians seem to have the suggestion that they should not force their morals on society. That belief has contaminated a number of Christians. The previous Government did not legislate for morality; it legislated for immorality. That Government had a real problem. On 4th July, 1987, when Premier Wran resigned his office, he made the following statement on television:

What we did in ten years was to change the lives of people and when you change the lives of people in New South Wales you change Australia.

I shall read that again because it is very important. Mr Wran said:

What we did in ten years was to change the lives of people and when you change the lives of people in New South Wales you change Australia.

I believe Mr Wran was expert at that. By his legislation, and the summary offences legislation in particular, he changed the lives of people in New South Wales. I am not talking about a great conspiracy. If honourable members examine legislation that has been introduced, they will see that it effectively has changed the lives of people. One might ask, what is a change? A change agent can be an individual, an institution or an organization, that sets out to change the four most important things in a person's life—that is, their beliefs, values, attitudes, and behaviour—without their knowledge or consent. If one thinks particularly about what happened following the repeal of the Summary Offences Act in 1979, one will see that the former Government did exactly that. Some changes have been brought about by the news media—that is the television and newspapers—the education system, the New South Wales Teachers Federation, the trade unions, the universities, and political parties.

The attitudes of younger honourable members are possibly different from those of older members. I know we have all softened up in the gradual change. I remember when we brought Malcolm Muggeridge to this country a number of years ago. He used to tell the story—all honourable members would have heard it—of putting a frog in some cold water over a burner. As the water heats up slowly, the frog becomes accustomed to the heat until, finally, when the water is boiling, it is too late for the frog to jump out. That is what we have been like over the past 20 years or more. Society has been changing very slowly, and we have gradually accepted that change, until now the people of New South Wales are screaming out about

prostitution, the education system, the change in values, the kids on the street and the use of four-letter words. All of a sudden everything was hit.

Last year we had a meeting in the Bathurst Red Cross Hall. About 40 students from the college of advanced education met us outside the hall. Some of the male students had inflated condoms attached to sticks. The girls—and indeed the men too—were fairly ragged looking. We invited them into the hall. It was a bit of a shock to the square, Christian people who were there. The students sat on one side of the hall and screamed out four-letter words all night. A family man said, "would you mind taking down those condoms; we find them offensive". The students said, "No way". A young man sang out, "I want my homosexual rights". I said, "You have got your homosexual rights. You may have something else more than you bargain for—AIDS, as well". He then sat down. Those students are the young people who will go out to our schools and teach our children. Yet they cannot see it.

By repealing the Summary Offences Act in 1979 the former Government opened wide the doors by taking away police powers, and brought in the civil liberties do-your-own-thing philosophy. In those early days just after the repeal of the Act a police officer laid a charge against a man who dropped his trousers and exposed himself in front of a family group. I should like honourable members to consider how they might react if they were with their families and young children and something like that happened. The magistrate dismissed the charges because he did not believe the constable was a reasonable person. The same sort of thing happened when a couple of police officers laid charges against nude males on public beaches. Again the charges were dismissed. Some police had their knuckles rapped because of their attempts to enforce the summary offences law. Is it any wonder that the morale of the police has fallen? Not long after the repeal of the legislation some senior police officers resigned from the Police Force because they were frustrated when they could not carry out their duties.

The Call to Australia group has always supported the police in this State. There is always a rotten apple in every barrel. Whatever that barrel might be labelled—whether it be police, judiciary, Parliament, customs—we should still encourage the majority of police, who are good honest men. They protect the community. I suppose the first person honourable members would call if they had a problem would be a policeman. We have been robbed a number of times, even while we have been asleep in our own home. The first person we called for was a policeman. I know a lot of police officers put their lives at risk. I suppose when one is a mother who has two sons in the police force one may have a biased outlook. I remember an incident when one of our boys had just come out of the Academy. Most honourable members will remember the man Munday, who was facing murder charges; he was placed in the Morisset psychiatric hospital, but escaped. On his way to Sydney he abducted a mother and child and murdered them both. He was then seen in the Balmain area, where one of my sons was stationed. That boy, who was 19 years of age, was put at the back entrance of the premises where Munday had been seen. A detective was stationed at the front door. Munday had a shotgun; my son had just a pistol.

As a mother I am very much aware that many young policemen put their lives on the line, yet so often they are denigrated and put down by the media and politicians. I do not know what we would do without them. The Government is making major claims for the proposed Summary Offences Act, yet many of the changes appear to be only cosmetic. I am not going to go into the bill in depth or carry out a great academic exercise. I shall talk about something simple that, sad to say, has been accepted by many people and by both the former Government and this Government—and that is, prostitution. Prostitution is defined in the dictionary as the use of one's body, honour, talents, *et cetera* in abase way; a prostitute is a woman who gets money for immoral behaviour with men, especially for indiscriminate sexual intercourse; and a person who does base things for money. I cannot imagine that any woman in this House would be in favour of legalized soliciting on the streets of Sydney and legalized prostitution. The *Sydney Morning Herald* of Wednesday, 1st June, reported:

The bill for the first time defines the act of prostitution. Under the present Prostitution Act, which is to be repealed, the only offence which a person who engages in prostitution can be charged with is offensive behaviour.

Prostitution will include sexual intercourse between people of the same sex.

That means homosexual prostitution as well. Over the years some honourable members have probably been

to Kings Cross and seen the stable of girls ranged in rows along the main street—little girls, some of them 12 years of age, in their little outfits—completely controlled, selling their bodies to men. I believe that only a man would encourage prostitution. We once referred to prostitutes in Hamburg who sit in windows as being like hunks of meat set up for sale in a butcher's shop. Someone thought that was pretty crude, but a woman on the streets selling her body for money is pretty crude. Honourable members should think how they would feel if one of their daughters prostituted herself. It may not be all right for one of their daughters to do it, but is it all right for someone else's daughter to do it? The role of morality is to set a high standard to which all may aspire. Professor Dunstan of London University put it this way:

Life in society is to be lived above law, not by it. .... Criminal law exists to secure minimum standards of behaviour for the protection of society.

The laws against prostitution must be related to the protection of society. This protection needs to extend not only to individuals within society but also to the great institutions such as marriage on which the whole fabric of our society depends. Professor Mitchell of Oxford University said:

The function of the law is not only to protect individuals from harm, but to protect the essential institutions of a society. These functions overlap, since the sorts of harm an individual may suffer are to some extent determined by the institutions he lives under.

Prostitution has sometimes falsely been termed a victimless crime. Prostitution always has victims. We consider these victims and the harm they suffer because care and concern for present and future generations of Australians is at the heart of this issue. Some years ago the Labor Party held a victimless crime seminar. People who attended that seminar talked about suicide, prostitution and drug addiction as being victimless crimes. All of those things have victims. The persons involved and the families that surround and love the victims are all victims. The female prostitutes who perform sexual acts with men in return for monetary payment are themselves the first victims. The harmful effects of prostitution are attendant upon an increased involvement in the life of prostitution with a correlated decrease in social relationships with others outside that world.

Once the commitment to take money has been made, that female has given up even the pretence of an emotionally valued relationship with the male. The life of prostitution, like other forms of deviance, commits a person at the most deeply experienced level in a world where the private sexual experience has been depersonalized. The prostitute's capacity to return to conventional society is thereby reduced. Some prostitutes marry out of the life, while others drop into occupations at the margin of delinquent communities. Others remain in the system because they have police and prison records; still others because they are drug addicts. Prostitution in nearly all countries is characterized by secrecy, intense occupational involvement and difficulties in leaving the so-called profession. Its ties with the criminal underworld leave the prostitute open to harassment, not only from the police but also from other prostitutes and other members of criminal subgroups. Dr Paul Wilson, the criminologist, conducted a television interview with a prostitute. I should like to read to the House some of the questions and answers, which made up that interview. They are:

Q. When did you become a prostitute? A. About five years ago.

Q. Do you enjoy your work? A. No, frankly, no.

Q. Did you enjoy it when you first started?

A. No I didn't. I enjoyed the money coming in but not the actual sex part of it. Sometimes, rarely, I did.

Q. Do you enjoy the sex ever, now?

A. No, it's just a job. Prostitutes would be ashamed to admit they did.

Q. Does being a prostitute colour your attitude to men?

A. Definitely, because you think that every man you meet is just going to want sex from you.

Q. Does it destroy your capacity to be able to love?

A. Yes, definitely.

Q. Do you find being a prostitute hardens you? Do you regret being unable to take your place with other women?

A. I regret not being able to marry and lead a normal life but I am not ashamed.

Q. Do your clients ask for a lot of perversions?

A. Yes, they do

Q. What percentage of men would ask for these?

A. Eight out of ten.

Most girls who become prostitutes serve an apprenticeship to a more experienced prostitute or a pimp. During this training period, which usually lasts about three months, the girl gets over the traumatic adjustment to exchanging sex for money. She also learns how to solicit customers, set the price, collect the fee, manage the sexual contact and dismiss the customer. In one sample of 33 callgirls all but one commenced with some kind of apprenticeship. Some girls approached longstanding friends to learn their trade and a few had lesbian relationships with their contacts. Those girls who had a pimp as a first contact usually had a romantic relationship with him; but this was not always the case. In other cases the pimp made the first move and solicited the girl.

Teenage girls who drift into prostitution in search of easy money and false glamour become victims. By selling their bodies for depersonalized sex they become cynical towards men, lose the capacity for love and affection and usually destroy any hope for stable marriage. Brutal attacks by clients and pimps are common, and so is drug addiction. Venereal disease is a constant threat which, if undetected, can leave the girls sterile. The pimps, madams and prostitutes who provide the training for this life of degradation are surely guilty of one of the worst crimes of exploitation. Any government that allows that to continue is guilty also of the worst kind of exploitation. The problem is that prostitution has been glamorized by the media, by visits to this country by high-living prostitutes from the United States, by films on television and in movie houses which certainly do not show the sick, sad side of this way of life.

Clients use prostitutes for a variety of reasons. For many men, especially in the lower class, the motive is often simply sexual relief or the opportunity to experience a novel sexual contact—either with a new female or a taboo technique. However, for many other males, more commonly middle-class, novelty of partner and technique are certainly involved. An equally potent factor, it seems, is the lack of future responsibility for the consequences of sexual contact. Psychology suggests that under ordinary peacetime conditions those who habitually resort to prostitutes do so not as a matter of custom or habit but rather because of a deep-seated psychic maladjustment—the same basic kind of regression or infantilism from which the prostitute herself most probably suffers. The prostitute satisfies a psychopathological demand. This bill will not stop prostitutes from soliciting on the streets of New South Wales. For example, how is the Government going to get the prostitutes off Canterbury Road by simply adding the words, "within view from" contained in clause 19 (1)? That clause reads:

A person in a public street shall not, near or within view from a dwelling, school, church or hospital, solicit another person for the purpose of prostitution.

What is to stop prostitutes from soliciting on Canterbury Road outside a car yard, away from private dwellings or homes? A senior police officer has said to us that this new legal concept will be difficult to implement. Does a police officer have to stand on the porch of a house or look through a window of a house to try to spot the prostitute? Perhaps this new so-called tough Summary Offences Bill should be called the spot the prostitutes bill. Was there consultation with the police before this bill was drawn up? I thought the Government may have learned from what happened with Aboriginal land rights. It did not consult with the Aborigines before it stepped into hot water. The Government says it will be an open government. Let it be seen to be an open government so the people will know what it is intending to do. I hope I will be proved wrong, but in my view this bill will need further review and amending as we monitor how it works in practice. The people of New South Wales do not want prostitutes soliciting on the streets for illegal or legal brothels. What will happen to the large number of illegal brothels if there are no police powers to close them down. What happened about the illegal brothel Touch of Class in Surry Hills? The city council tried to close it down. The council went to the Land and Environment Court. Mr Justice McClelland said it was not a moral question but it was a very well run brothel. What has happened about that? Is the brothel still going?

**The Hon. E. P. Pickering:** I do not know.

**The Hon. ELAINE NILE:** I would like the Minister to find out. The people of New South Wales want to know. Are police going to close down the illegal brothels? A report in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 12th May demonstrates clearly that both male and female prostitution will continue on the streets of Sydney after this bill is passed. That article is headed "End of The Wall may put boys beyond help". I

would never have dreamed that I would have to defend young girls or young boys in prostitution, but governments really do not care. I have been to the wall and I have seen boys as young as 13 years of age standing on the street soliciting. The article read:

For the past 20 years men have met each other in the evenings along the famous stone wall behind East Sydney Technical College in Darlinghurst Road, Darlinghurst ....

The Wall, as it is commonly known, is to be "closed down" by the police by August, when the rebuilt St Vincent's Hospice for the terminally ill is due to open ....

Chief Superintendent Bob Stafford, commander of the Kings Cross patrol, said it was obviously inappropriate for people coming to visit dying relatives to be confronted by the young boys. "They've been given the message and they know they have to go," he said ....

Mr Stafford said the police would like to see the boys move close by, to an identifiable area ....

Where is that identifiable area going to be? Will it be in Sydney? Will it be in the Harbour Bridge pylon or outside Parliament House? What a ridiculous situation. They are going to be allowed to solicit. A few weeks ago my husband went to where these young boys were lined up. Everything is very well controlled. A female, about 32 years of age, with a walkie-talkie was bringing the boys out. As the cars would cruise by she selected a boy to go to a car with a certain number-plate. If the Government is going to allow this sort of thing to continue in this State—with the lives of boys and young girls and older men and women at risk—it stands to be condemned. An acquaintance of mine is a homosexual who has come out of this scene. He had been in that scene for many years. Recently he rang me and said: "I have great news. I am clear. I do not have AIDS".

I know a young girl who has just gone to West Germany. She was into prostitution and drugs at Kings Cross. When she knew she was clean she also rang me. People would have no idea what it is like to see these young persons turning away from drugs and prostitution and knowing that they are going to live. AIDS is a terrible thing because it is a death sentence to those who contract it. People in identifiable high risk areas talk about the AIDS bus and it visits the area. Late last year a medical report from Finland stated that it took as long as 14 months before the AIDS antibodies showed up in the blood. I ask what are people doing with these young boys? Do they test them on the spot and say, "You are okay, back into the scene"? Finland has a very cold climate, yet the medical report stated that it took 14 months before the antibodies showed up.

Senator Susan Ryan's federal 1983 Sex Discrimination Act incorporates article 6 of the United Nations Convention report on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. It sets out legally binding nationally accepted principles and measures to achieve equal rights for all women. Article 6, which has been signed by Australia, reads:

Parties shall take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to suppress all forms of traffic in women and exploitation of prostitution of women.

I emphasize those principles. Will the Greiner Government take action to suppress prostitution? About four years ago one of the Catholic sisters from St Vincent's Hospital rang me to say she had a mother and daughter team working together as prostitutes. The girl was 12 years of age. The Catholic sister said: "We have never struck a team like this before: a mum and her daughter prostituting on the streets of the Cross". It shocked this Catholic sister. Is that the sort of thing that this Government is going to allow to continue in this State? I am on the opposite tack to Senator Susan Ryan. I am not a feminist. I think what I have quoted is about the only provision in her bill with which I agree. The Leader of the Government, the Hon. E. P. Pickering, said in his second reading speech:

The most sweeping reforms in the bill are in the area of prostitution, which are contained in part 3 of the bill. Though deplorable in the eyes of many, prostitution is a social fact which has persisted in many civilizations for many centuries. History has shown that repressive legislation has not been successful in its eradication.

We have never tried to suppress prostitution. I have asked police officers whether they have gone out full pelt to try to suppress prostitution and they have said no. I think the police would know best what is

happening. Prostitution was unknown in Australia until the Europeans settled in this country two hundred years ago. The Aborigines were not prostituting themselves before the settlers arrived. The Aborigines learned prostitution from us. What is the Government going to do about prostitution? Are they going to suppress it or are they going to control it? We were in mainland China in 1985 and spoke with the Chinese Minister for Health about prostitution. His comment was that western society is weak and that we try to do all things to all men. He said, "You people in the west do not have the will to act positively and close down brothels". They closed down brothels in China. Prostitutes are being brought into China mainly by western people. Prostitution is not legal in China and the Chinese are stamping down on girls found working as prostitutes.

In the past some people have said it is impossible to eliminate or control prostitution. It is not impossible; it has been done. Brothels in Shanghai were under surveillance for 12 months, and then on a given day the authorities pounced down. All the prostitutes who were taken into custody were counselled and retrained by national women's groups. Some of the prostitutes went into hospitals. So brothels can be closed. It is only a weak government that will not even try to close them. Recently on television at news time I heard the Hon. Ted Pickering say that this Government has the will to act. I am sure that he may try to act to close brothels, but no previous government in New South Wales has ever tried to close them.

I am most concerned at the recommendations from the select committee on prostitution, which was set up by the former Australian Labor Party Government. That committee looked into legalizing brothels. One submission accepted by the ALP Government—and I am sure that years ago the men of the older brigade in the Labor Party would never have accepted the submission— was made by a person called Roberta Perkins. Several years ago Roberta Perkins used to be Robert Perkins. Robert had two sons before he had a sex change. Robert made his submission to the select committee on behalf of the Prostitutes Collective and this is what he or she—or whatever—said:

Prostitutes made better mothers than most other women because they had more time and more money to give to their children. They are night workers and they get very well paid.

What an insult to the mothers of New South Wales that the Government accepted that submission. An article I shall refer to shows how far the acceptance of prostitution has gone. The article entitled "Prostitutes could aid disabled" appeared in the *Australian*. It stated:

Male prostitutes could provide a valuable role in helping disabled women learn about their sexuality, a conference for disabled women was told in Melbourne yesterday. Ms Julie Bates, of the NSW Prostitutes Collective, said prostitutes should be able to visit hospitals and rehabilitation units to sell their services to disabled people.

Prostitutes could use their sexual expertise to help the disabled gain an understanding of personal sexual gratification.

A commercial sex service could be supplied in a sensitive, experienced way if there were a demand by disabled people.

Is this what the Government is aiming to do? That matter is being treated, very seriously. I think the Hon. J. R. Hallam said the other day, speaking to the motion on books studied in the classroom, that if the ALP did not vote for that motion the people of New South Wales would soon know that the Opposition was voting in favour of obscene or dirty books. The same principle applies in this debate. I have made this matter known throughout New South Wales. Recommendation 10.35 of the select committee reads:

That having regard to the principles of planning law and the desirability of local decision-making on the siting and other relevant factors of such premises, local councils be the authority in the first instance to be involved in assessing the situation of individual premises.

That is a recommendation to legalize brothels. Local government will lose the power to say that they do not want a brothel in a particular area. The Touch of Class establishment took its case to the Land and Environment Court to overrule a decision by council. Already 30 councils in Melbourne have had their decisions overruled in similar matters, for Victoria has legislation similar to that which applies in New South Wales. The right of local government to make a decision in these matters has been taken away. More power should be given to local government. Recommendation 10.36 of the select committee is in these terms:



That the term "prostitution" be defined to cover all acts of sexual gratification for payment between persons of different sexes or of the same sex, and to include sexual intercourse, masturbation committed by one person on another, acts of sado-masochism and acts of bondage and discipline.

It is amazing that the police out there on the streets are trying to stop these activities and yet a select committee recommends the legalization of the activities within a brothel. Homosexual and heterosexual brothels could be set up in your local shopping centre. What would that do for the boys coming home after a night on the town? What would that do to young men if that recommendation is given legal effect. Recommendation 10.47 states:

That any person lodging a development application for consent as an owner or operator of a brothel be of good name and character.

I guess the Archbishop of Sydney could lodge such an application; anyone could. I hope that the Government will not legalize that sort of activity in this State. The Leader of the Government, in his second reading speech on this bill, said:

The existence of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, and the method of transmission of this tragic disease, is an additional factor which cannot be ignored when formulating legislation in this area. Prostitutes, both male and female, have been identified as a potential risk group in the transmission of the virus which leads to AIDS. Existing co-operation between prostitutes and health authorities has been responsible for a reduction in the incidence of the transmission of this virus. Excessively punitive legislation attempting to outlaw prostitution completely would have the effect of driving prostitutes underground, thereby jeopardizing existing educational and health programs. This would have fatal implications for the transmission of AIDS.

AIDS is transmitted by promiscuity. I believe that this Government is promoting promiscuity by allowing the prostitutes to stay on the streets. The girls should be taken off the streets. The Government has the power to stop them from carrying on prostitution in houses or wherever. But it will not stop. We all know that condoms are not 100 per cent safe as a precaution against the spread of AIDS and that AIDS is being transmitted to prostitutes. Our children are being taught in the classroom to be promiscuous with the assistance of an AIDS kit. They are told, "Use a condom and you will be safe". That is a flagrant lie. We reject that entire argument.

Prostitutes are one of the highest risk groups in the transmission of AIDS and are helping to spread the disease in the community. If we are to reduce the spread of AIDS, we must campaign to eliminate by every means possible the prostitution industry. It seems that the Government is doing exactly the opposite. For the sake of the prostitutes, the Government should act. I ask the Minister whether prisoners are to be required to undergo a compulsory blood test for AIDS. The son of an acquaintance of mine was sent to Long Bay gaol on a drugs charge. The parents literally went through hell because they thought that he might be homosexually raped. That sort of activity must be stopped in our prisons. Homosexuals or those who engage in that sort of activity should be set apart from the rest of the prison inmates.

I urge the Government to adopt the following policy: take urgent possible steps to eliminate the exploitation of women, teenagers and children through the degrading activity of prostitution; ensure the elimination of the prostitution industry as a major bicentenary project by 1990; arrange for co-operation by community organizations, law enforcement and welfare agencies to implement a program of rehabilitation and re-education, retraining and relocation for all prostitutes by 1990; implement a vigorous law enforcement campaign over the next three years to remove all persons who are exploiting females and or males through prostitution and on drugs, including organized crime bosses, pimps and clients. An education program about the dangers of being a prostitute should be directed particularly at female school students as part of a high school personal development course. The glamour should be stripped away to reveal the exploitation, cruelty, fear, drug addiction, venereal disease, premature ageing, death and suicide.

Commerce, industry, the news media and advertising companies should be recruited in this positive campaign to save women from prostitution. This assistance could take the form of providing employment for rehabilitative prostitutes, of rejecting advertising for prostitution under various guises, such as advertisements for massage parlours and so on. A firm stand must be made now before the prostitution empires fully exploit the electronic age with television advertisements; cable television showing the

prostitutes available for hire; printed tourist catalogues, which are available in New South Wales; letterbox drops and so on. The ultimate consumerism in a materialistic society is male and female prostitutes for sale, of all ages, nationalities and races.

Supporting action is needed to be taken by various State government agencies against brothels, prostitution, including phony operations, such as massage parlours, escort services, callgirls and so on, by the cancellation by Telecom Australia of telephone services and by Australia Post post office boxes used for the purposes of prostitution, as well as the transmission of pornography and illegal drugs. Locations where prostitution is carried on should be simply proscribed by local councils in co-operation with the Police Department. Business and building permits should be cancelled, and an investigation should be undertaken of the reason for prostitution from the customer's point of view, and various solutions should be developed. We could balance male and female populations in areas such as Wollongong through migration and relocation of those in similar national groups. We must encourage a far more positive attitude to this serious, sociomoral problem, and not simply shrug our shoulders saying, "It is all right, Jack" and "It is a fact of modern life". As long as it is happening to someone else we will not worry; it is only when it hits us that we take notice. If we do not take the necessary steps, Australian society could finally collapse in a sea of degradation, exploitation, drugs and crime. Professor Blaiklock gives the following warning:

And thus nations pass away, for commonly in the story of a nation's rise and fall comes a time when the authority of the ideal is questioned. There comes a moment when in the phrase of the great and mordant historian, the Roman, Tacitus, a group discovers that 'what authority had kept hidden' can be challenged and outfaced. Comes 'permissiveness'. It is the beginning of the end, unless, intelligent enough, endowed sufficiently with courageous leadership, frightened enough, or swept by a revival of faith, a people rallies and returns to strength. Unless that happens, 'as surely as water will wet us, as surely as fire will burn,' that people dies. There is always another race, disciplined, moral, rigid in its attitudes, waiting to apply its strong thrust to the crumbling structure. Perhaps puritan, communist China may be that race?

We have spoken and the Government has spoken about prostitution and AIDS. The subject of AIDS touches me personally because I have friends who are dying of AIDS. I have worked with this group of men, women and children who have AIDS contracted through the transmission of poisoned, contaminated blood in hospitals. This Government and the previous Government have put them into a corner like throw-away people. They are frustrated, they are hurt, and they are dying. During the floods in May this year sewage entered the house of one victim. Her house was completely flooded. She called for help but could not get any. At present she is a category B AIDS victim and the lesions are breaking out on her body. She was distraught and said to me, "Mr Greiner has promised flood money. Will Mr Greiner give us blood money?" This woman has two children aged 16 and 17. The youngest, a boy, has threatened to commit suicide. He cannot come to grips with why his mother is dying from AIDS, as she has done absolutely nothing to contract it. So at present she must deal with the stress suffered by that boy and her daughter. I hope that the Greiner Government will provide immediate care and counselling and compensation to these victims.

I have sat in a room with thirty or forty AIDS victims, many of whom are young women with babies. They are all dying. One mother has already lost her daughter in an accident. She said that she wished she had died because her husband and her remaining child will have to go through the stress of watching her die. Yet this Government seems to be giving money to the homosexual community—and these people know it. This woman said to me, "I am not going down to the Albion Street clinic where a counsellor puts a condom on a banana in order to show a homosexual how to do his thing". She said, "I have had it". These people are suffering on their own through no fault of their own. I ask the Government to examine their situation and to think of them as innocent people, because that is what they are. They have even said to me that because no one will take any notice of them or listen to them they will not notify anyone that they have AIDS; and they intend to tell other victims not to notify anyone that they have AIDS. So, in the event of an accident, an ambulance man or a police officer who tries to resuscitate one of these people could become infected by coming in contact with regurgitated vomit or whatever. These people are so hurt that they would go so far as to injure other people. That is very sad. But they were put in this position through no fault of their own.

Other areas of concern emerge. How would the bill stop nude bathing on public beaches? Will it stop nude bathing on Bondi Beach? I believe that the answer is, no. Will the Government put my doubts to

rest by accepting an amendment to the bill? A couple of days ago, one newspaper carried the story of a woman named Francesca D'Espiney who had an appeal upheld against her conviction for wilful and obscene exposure for which she was arrested at Bondi Beach, when wearing nothing but zinc cream and a G-string. Families go to Bondi Beach, and we would like to see the law amended so that they can go there without being offended. We believe that if nudists want to have a beach of their own, they should, but the family beaches should be kept for families.

In supporting the bill I particularly support several clauses. Clause 4 deals with offensive conduct or language, basically the use of four-letter words. We have reached a stage where we hear it coming from children in the schools and on the beaches: I might even have heard it from the floor of this Chamber yesterday. Clause 9 deals with the defacing of walls, the use of graffiti, and damaging shrines. A couple of years ago the war memorial in Sydney was defaced. Six members of my family served in World War II and one served in Vietnam. The latter lost a leg and is still suffering from the emotional consequences of his experience. War memorials should be maintained as sacred sites. Clause 10 deals with the offence of possession of offensive implements, including knives. I am in full agreement with what the legislation intends in that respect.

Clause I I deals with the possession of liquor by minors; clause 15 deals with living on the earnings of prostitution, and clause 28 deals with violent disorder. These clauses deserve support. We cannot live like animals in our society. My opinion might seem harsh to some, but I believe we are training a generation of morons and perverts. This is borne out by what we see on the streets of Sydney today and what we allow in the area of Kings Cross. Permissiveness has been defined as:

....."that state of the spirit in which that which once stirred shame and revulsion is first tolerated, then accepted and finally embraced?" Thus men die. And the way back is to retrace the abandoned path and recover the old standards, faith and loyalty.

Speaking from the scriptures, St Paul said:

Please my brothers, considering all that God in his mercy has done. offer him your person, no dead sacrifice but alive wholly, something God can accept, and the only service you can really render. Stop trying to adapt yourselves to the society you live in but carry on the transformation which began with the new life in your mind so that you can try out for yourself how good, satisfying, perfect, God's will for you is.

In Galatians 6:7 the following statement appears:

Be not deceived. God is not mocked. Whatsoever a man sows that shall he reap.

The same applies to governments. I trust that the Premier and the new Government will take these words to heart and act on them, for whatever seed this Government sows, so shall it reap, and if it sows bad legislation, it shall reap the results of that. But the Government itself shall not suffer, it shall be the people, the families and the young people of New South Wales. The words of the prayer offered in this place state that we are here to advance the glory of God and the true welfare of the people of New South Wales and Australia. I commit myself to that task.