



Cultural Impressions of Employment in the Sex Industry

Zach Cypher

Dana Daas

Sarah Knight

Allison Roup

Defining the Sex Industry

Amnesty International defines Sex Work as acts **“that [do] not involve coercion, exploitation or abuse”**

- Pornography (Video or Still)
- Prostitution
- Escort Services
- Nude Dancing
- Production and sale of Adult Entertainment products (Magazines, toys, etc)

Sex Workers vs. Trafficked Women

According to Amnesty
International

“We do not consider a trafficked woman who is forced to sell sex to be a ‘sex worker’. She is a trafficked woman and deserves protection as such.”

Global Perceptions

The Nordic Model

American Perspectives

International Views



The Nordic Model

Sweden, Iceland, Norway, Germany

- Illegal to purchase sexual activities however not illegal to provide
- Designed to target the exploitation of workers without targeting workers
- Allows for people to choose the industry rather than being forced into it

“There are those who argue that people work at all kinds of jobs that they don’t like because of financial pressure, and that working at sex is no different, But that is not a universally held opinion by the people who have sold sex.”

- Emily Rothman, Boston University

American Perceptions

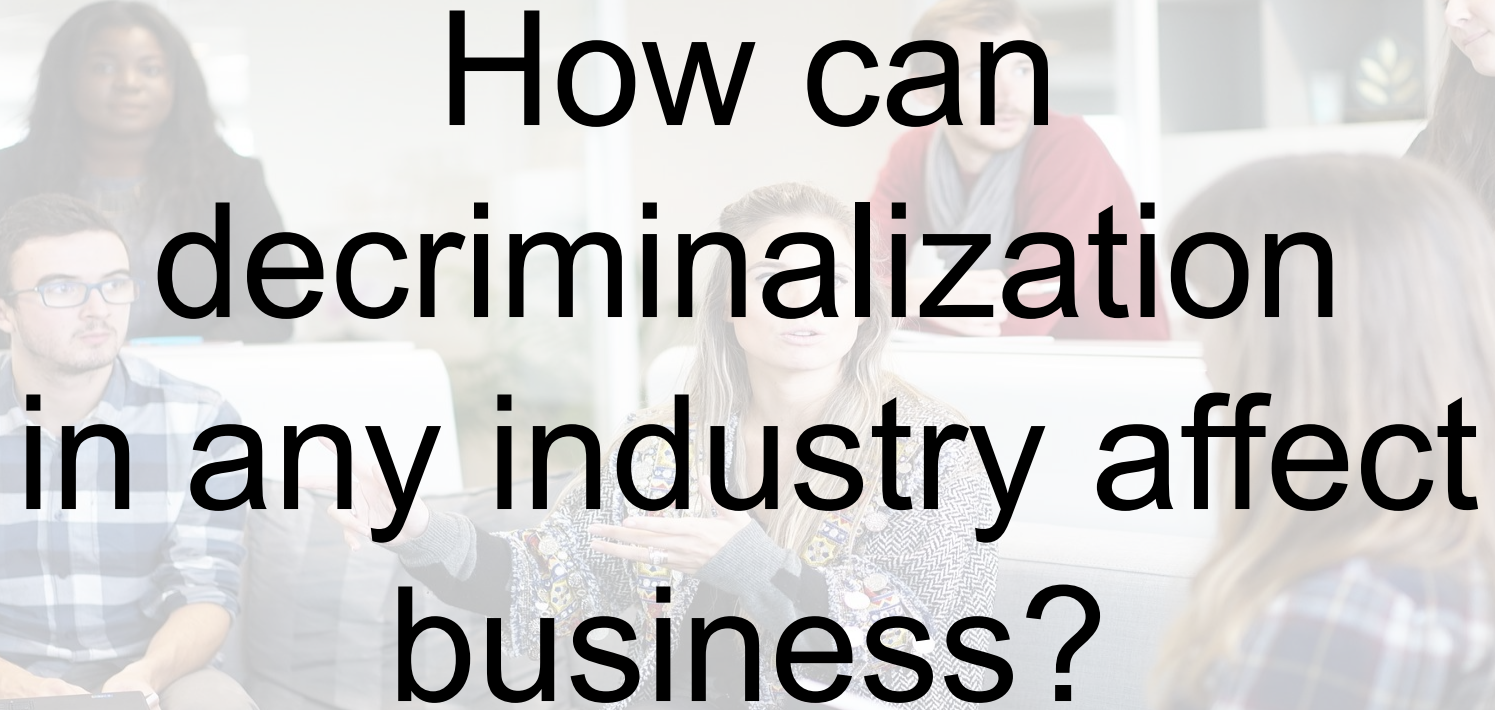
- Composed of many different sub-industries
- Legality varies from State to State
- With the exception of a few rural Nevada Counties Prostitution is illegal
- Decriminalization is a popular concept

Conservative International Approaches

- Often highly illegal
- Workers viewed with significant negativity
- Religious views frequently impact impression of ethics of those in the industry
- Despite illegality, black markets do exist

Interviews Conducted

- US Male, Conservative, 45-55
- US Female, Liberal, 56+
- US Female, Activist, 39+
- Filipina, Conservative, 24
- Dennis Hof late owner of the Bunny Ranch a legal brothel in Nevada addressing Oxford University



**How can
decriminalization
in any industry affect
business?**

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