



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

# January

## Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Stop Trafficking! Newsletter [www.stopenslavement.org/index.html](http://www.stopenslavement.org/index.html)

# Oldest Profession or Oppression?

## What Doesn't Work

Legalization and/or regulation of prostitution, such as in Germany, the Netherlands and Victoria Australia, led to:

- A dramatic increase in all facets of the sex industry,
- A dramatic increase in the involvement of organized crime in the sex industry,
- A dramatic increase in child prostitution,
- An explosion in the number of foreign women and girls trafficked into the region,
- Indications of an increase in violence against women.

## What Works

In a century's deep sea of clichés despairing that *'prostitution will always be with us'*, one country's success stands out as a solitary beacon lighting the way. In just five years Sweden has dramatically reduced the number of its women in prostitution. In the capital city of Stockholm the number of women in street prostitution has been reduced by two thirds, and the number of johns has been reduced by 80%. There are other major Swedish cities where street prostitution has all but disappeared. Gone too, for the most part, are the renowned Swedish brothels and massage parlors which proliferated during the last three decades of the twentieth century when prostitution in Sweden was legal.

In addition, the number of foreign women now being trafficked into Sweden for sex is nil. The Swedish government estimates that in the last few years only 200 to 400 women and girls have been annually sex trafficked into Sweden, a figure that's negligible compared to the 15,000 to 17,000 females yearly sex trafficked into neighboring Finland. No other country, nor any other social experiment, has come anywhere near Sweden's promising results.

Today, not only do the Swedish people continue to overwhelmingly support their country's approach to prostitution (80% of people in favor according to national opinion polls), but the country's police and prosecutors have also come around to be among the legislation's staunchest supporters. Sweden's law enforcement has found that the prostitution legislation benefits them in dealing with all sex crimes, particularly in enabling them to virtually wipe out the organized crime element that plagues other countries where prostitution has been legalized or regulated.



IMPUNITY  
INTERNATIONAL  
for PIMPS &  
SEX BUYERS

NO AMNESTY for WOMEN

## Misguided Support for Women Being Prostituted



In August 2015, Amnesty International voted to support pimps and sex buyers rather than people in prostitution –

90% of whom are not “voluntary sex workers” but people who ended up in prostitution as a last-ditch survival alternative and who urgently want to escape it.

The press have quoted factual errors and Amnesty leaders have lied or misspoken. Two-hundred and twenty scholars and researchers from Australia, Austria, Canada, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Norway, Philippines, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, UK, USA, and Venezuela rejected Amnesty International's policy of decriminalized pimping, sex-buying, and brothel keeping. Instead, based on what is known about prostitution, they support the Nordic model law on prostitution that was enacted in Sweden in 1999. That law decriminalizes ONLY the prostituted, providing them with exit services and support. The Nordic law criminalizes sex buyers and pimps.

For the press release, petition and list of signers, go to: [www.prostitutionresearch.org](http://www.prostitutionresearch.org)

You can support many groups who advocate for prostituted women: abolitionist groups led by survivors of prostitution; groups offering services with an abolitionist perspective on prostitution; groups advocating abolitionist policy and research. Most prostituted women say the help they need includes EXIT SERVICES and ABOLITIONIST POLICIES.

For a complete listing of these groups and their weblinks, see: [www.prostitutionresearch.org](http://www.prostitutionresearch.org)

“In Sweden prostitution is regarded as an aspect of male violence against women and children. It is officially acknowledged as a form of exploitation of women and children and constitutes a significant social problem... gender equality will remain unattainable so long as men buy, sell and exploit women and children by prostituting them.”