

ANALYZING AND EVALUATING RECENT PROSTITUTION LEGAL CHANGE IN CANADA: THE VALUE OF ROBUST MEASURES AND A RIGOROUS METHODOLOGY

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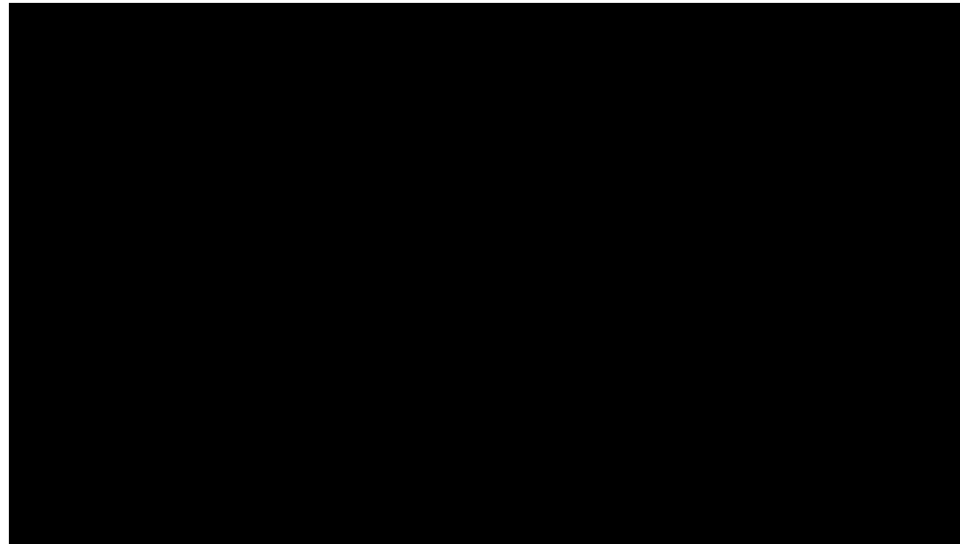
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Bill C-36, Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act





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- Inherently linked to exploitation
- Linked to violence
- Related to the objectification of the human body
- Related to commodification of sexual activity
- A threat to the equality of Canadians
- A threat to human dignity
- Related to the harms that threaten communities.



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Exploitation: Definition



Exploitation

\$39,500 Median income of sex workers

\$30,180 Median income of Canadians



Exploitation by managers

About 25% of sex workers worked in managed settings (35% of clients had ever arranged for a sexual service through a third party)

Managers: Sex workers in their employ paid about 1/3 of their average fee to owner of the business.



Exploitation by partners

50% of the workers in intimate relationships were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with their relationship.

Majority of partners worked at least 20hrs/week at paid job

Median Income: \$35,000



Exploitation by clients

Sex workers:

2/3 told us that they controls the term and conditions of exchange

12% felt that clients has more power in exchange

2/3 felt they get their way in a disagreement with client



Violence: risk is very high

By client in the last 12 months:

8% Threatened with physical violence
or weapon

14% Taken or tried to take something by
force

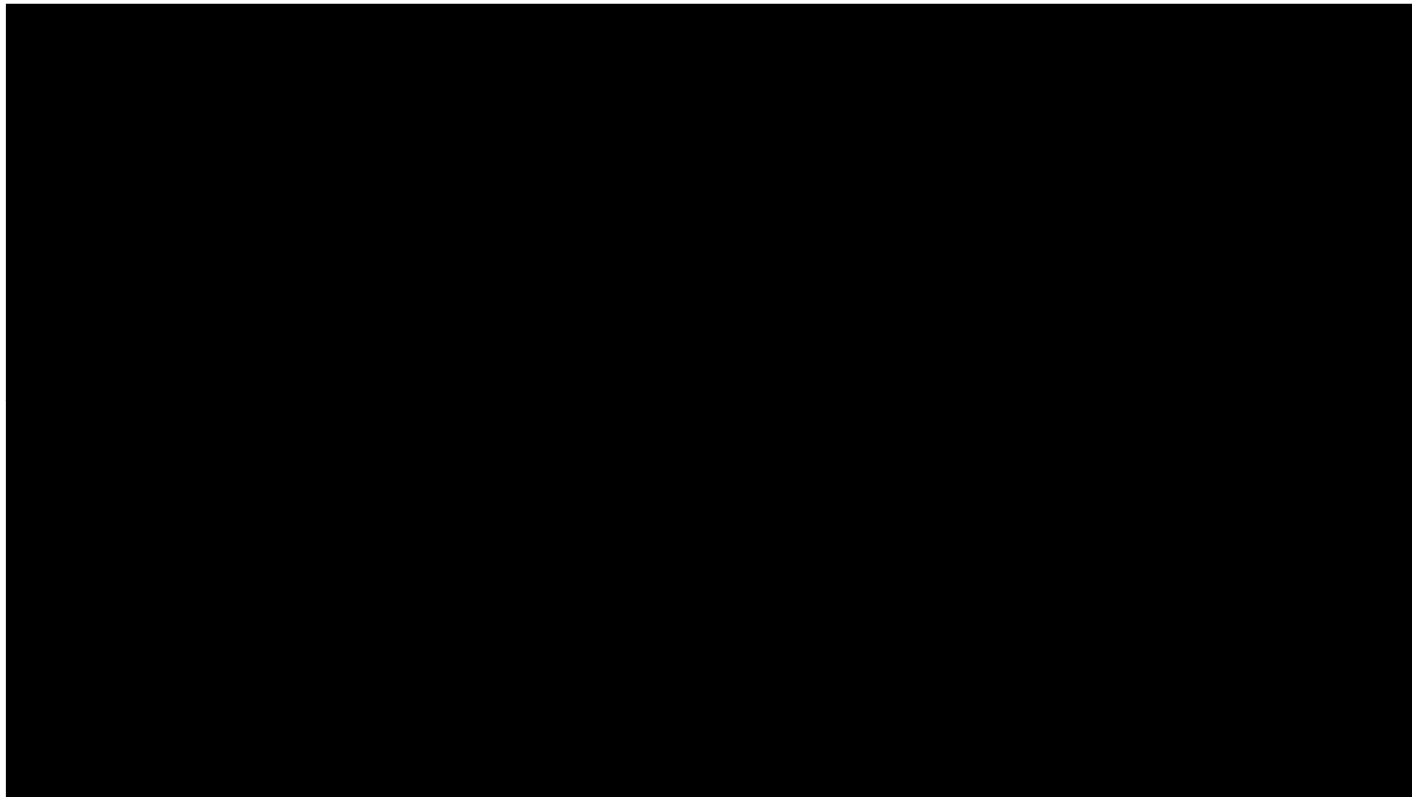
16% Forced or attempt to force sexual
activity

19% Unwanted sexual touching

25% Verbally abused or harassed



Bill C-36: Improve Safety for Prostitutes?





Violence and risk of injury

Emergency room nurses (last 5 shifts):
40% Threatened with physical violence
22% Physically assaulted
0.5% Sexual assault

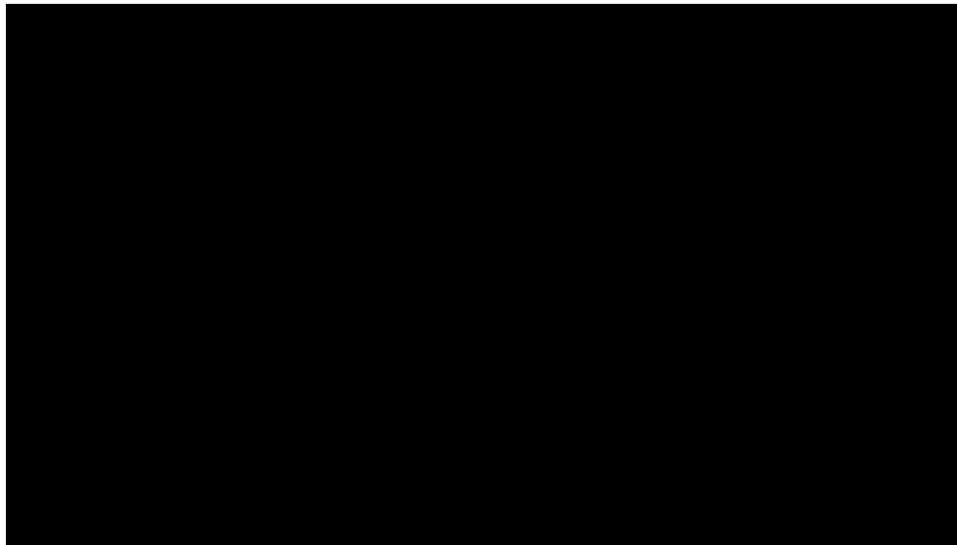
Workers compensation board premiums:

\$0.60	Unlicensed massage personnel and escorts
\$10.71	Steep slope roofers



Commit sociology?

- <http://www.tubechop.com/watch/6253762>





Prostitution and Morality Politics

- Experts have limited authority
- Resistant to facts
- Emotionally charged
- Ruled by an explicit ideology
- Symbolism of policy formulation is more important implementation

Wagenaar and Altink (2012: 279)



Where to go from here....
