

Dear M Bailey,

I would like to voice my opinion on these bills talking about immunity and legalization of prostitution.

I am a 21 year old male with many female friends who have also shared their opinion on this topic with me. I absolutely do not mean to be insulting when I say, most of the lawmakers and politicians are from times when prostitution was thought of as extremely shameful, even 10 years ago. However, talking to many women 18-25 there is a large majority that are willing to and happy to make money selling their bodies and performing sex acts. Selling nude pictures has become a huge private market for single moms, working young women and some but less college students. Kara Krier of Human Trafficking Victim Services voiced her opinion that prostitution is rarely consensual. I believe that this was true for anyone who tried to get out and thus the people that she had contact with in Victim Services but, that her opinion would be biased upon only speaking to these people that tried to get out.

For my personal opinion, I think that many many women 18-25 would love the opportunity to legally make money from "sex work". However, I think that making prostitution legal in any form would allow pimps to yet again start scaring women into saying they are doing it out of their own accord. There is no way to tell if they are being forced or doing it with their own consent when a woman is extremely scared of a man or women who is controlling her. The only thing we can possibly relate this to for evidence is the prominence of domestic abuse. Even when it is known that something bad is going on, nothing can be done without proof. Without the man or women's admission, this is a very hard thing to come by.

In summary, the mindset around selling your body, pictures and such, or performing sex acts for money has completely changed in younger women. However, by legalizing it, the government would be adding to the ever changing culture that sex with a lot of people and random people is normal and okay. I think that we would have an extreme rise in STDs and pregnancy at a young age. My generation is absolutely horrible at using condoms to practice safe sex.

My personal bias towards this situation would only be that I don't want to see young woman get depressed or stressed about having to make money for school, cars, or even just a house and immediately have the mindset that selling their body is legal and okay. I do not wish for prostitution to be legal out of fear for women's safety and the return of huge gangs around pimping as well as for the sake of our government re-enforcing the terrible idea that letting men dominate you and use you just for cash will make a huge U-turn in the movement for female equality. I also fear that if we legalize it for a certain age, even younger women, 14-18 will see this as another "F the government i own my body" and they will start doing it too. There is a huge stigma from younger and younger women every year that they feel they are ready to have sex and that the government

cant tell them the legal age of consent. Imagine the way their mindset would be influenced if the government told people prostitution was normal.

Thank you very much for your time, feel free to read this at any hearing to get the opinion of someone younger out there. I think it is very important to take into consideration the dangers and the stigma that will be created around legalizing prostitution. The term 'Sex Work' is only an attempt to not relate it to the horrible times that created laws against prostitution in the first place.

Sincerely,
Nate.