

Resolution 1: Prostitution & Human Trafficking

Submitted by: SGP Youth (member organization), Perspectief (member organization)

Topic: Prostitution and human trafficking

The General Assembly of ECPYouth,

Noting with concern that:

- 84% of human trafficking to Europe is for sexual exploitation (prostitution)¹;
- 62% of women in prostitution report having been raped ²;
- 9 out of 10 women in prostitution would like to exit the system but feel unable to do so;
- 68% of the women in prostitution meet the criteria for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in the same range as victims of torture undergoing treatment ³;

Considering that:

- Legalizing prostitution inevitably leads to an increase of human trafficking;
- Since Sweden implemented a zero-tolerance for buyers of sex in 1999;
 - Rape and domestic violence have not increased;
 - Violence against prostitutes hasn't risen;
 - The percentage of Swedish men who buy sex has dropped significantly;
 - Prostitution has not been hidden from police, hence sellers have to advertise in order to get buyers;
 - Human trafficking has declined⁴;

Believing that:

- Every person should be protected from any form of mental or physical abuse;
- Every person should have the right to determine his or her own future;
- Sexuality and intimacy are inextricably linked to love and do not belong in exploitative situations;
- According to the principles of equality, freedom and inviolability in the Odessa Declaration, all people are equal and valuable, therefore no person should be able to buy another person's body, this violates the freedom and dignity God has given every human being;
- God created the human being in His own image, and every human body is a temple of the Holy Spirit;

Calls upon ECPYouth and its members to urge national governments to:

- Criminalize the buying of sex;
- Set up and subsidize effective exit programs that provide men and women working in prostitution with

¹ "Trafficking in Person to Europe or sexual exploitation" In *The Globalization of Crime – A Transnational Organized Crime Threat Assessment Report*. UNODC, 2010.

² Farley, Melissa. 2018. "Risk of prostitution: When the Person Is the Product." *Journal of the Association for Consumer Research* 3(1): 97-108. <http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/pdfplus/10.1086/695670> (also available via <https://prostitutionresearch.com>).

³ "200 civil society organizations launch European debate on the abolition of prostitution", European Women's Lobby, accessed January 22, 2018. URL: <https://www.womenlobby.org/200-civil-society-organisations-launch-European-debate-on-the-abolition-of?lang=en>

⁴ "Bramham, Daphne. 2016. "Outlawing the purchase of sex has been key to Sweden's success in reducing prostitution," *Vancouver Sun*, September 21. Accessed January 22, 2018. URL: <http://vancouversun.com/opinion/columnists/outlawing-the-purchase-of-sex-has-been-key-to-swedens-success-in-reducing-prostitution>

all necessary means to exit this industry;

- Set up and subsidize effective programs that provide these men and women help with employment, housing, training and give debt assistance;
- Roll back the legalization of prostitution;
- Aim for effective criminal justice approach by specializing law-enforcement, public prosecutors and judges in the arrest and prosecution of pimps and human traffickers;

Stimulates ECPM and its member organizations to take the above-mentioned measures as well.