

November 2011

Dear***** *****

Nothing About Us Without Us is a loose collective of sex workers, we support each other through an e-list and a website and we have members all over Australia. Our members in WA have asked the group to write to you about what is wrong with Porters Bill.

1) Introducing police as regulators of sex workers lives in WA will have a terrible effect on sex workers access to justice. By criminalising all sex workers in all suburbs, including regional areas, Porter is leaving sex workers with no choice of where to work, and in the hands of police. The police are simply not the right authority to deal with workplace matters. Sex workers do not support this.

2) Forcing sex workers to work in licensed premises and to give names and addresses to brothel owners is a recipe for disaster. No one would want to hand over their confidential information in this industry, particularly when we are not covered by anti-discrimination protections. Sex workers do not support this.

3) Criminalising all sex workers who are on a work visa in WA is not fair. If a person has gone to all the trouble to be compliant with DIAC requirements to work in WA, why does Porter want to punish them by criminalising them? Where are these sex workers supposed to work? The laws force them to work illegally.

We are concerned that all of these points will simply lead to corruption in the sex industry in WA. In our experience in Victoria and Queensland this model of law reform has failed, and it will be an expensive and devastating failure for sex workers in WA as well, if it is passed.

We support your opposition to the bill. If you have any questions please write us an email and let us know

Thank you
Yours sincerely

The NAUWU Collective
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