

# DECRIM IN SA

AN UPDATE ON THE PUSH TO DECRIMINALISE SEX WORK IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## Speeches for the Bill in the Lower House

On Wednesday the 30th of September the Statutes Amendment (Decriminalisation of Sex Work Bill) was addressed in the Lower House by Labor MPs Nat Cook of Hurtle Vale and Joe Szakacs of Cheltenham as well as Minister for Child Protection and Liberal member for Adelaide Rachel Sanderson who referenced the amendments she would like to introduce. Nat Cook spoke about the invaluable community contributions made by workers of the sex industry as well as how any type of criminalisation limits people with disabilities from accessing the services available to them through the sex industry. Joe Szakacs highlighted the many rights of workers that sex workers are unable to access under any criminalisation model and that Rachel Sanderson's suggestion that keeping street-based sex work criminalised would address women experiencing street harassment is yet again holding women responsible for the actions of men.

Another much less notable speaker to the bill was the local member for Schubert Stephan Knoll who did not speak much about sex work and instead focused on an issue that was not being discussed that day - trafficking. Much of what Knoll had to say about his concerns showed how ignorant he remains on the topic he rose to speak on. This member spoke of an industry that he wants to remove completely from society and falsely connected decriminalisation with industry growth by stating that a decriminalisation bill "would see an increase in both legal and illegal prostitution as has been the case and experience interstate". Despite his documented profile on a famous dating website designed to help organise extra-martial affairs Stephan Knoll still chose to speak with authority about what moral and immoral actions should be taking place in society and how he personally believes sex work is not work.

## Support Builds for Decriminalisation



On Saturday the 12th of October SIDAC members handed out flyers to attendees of the SA Labor Party conference. During the conference the state Labor party passed a powerful motion in support of decriminalisation and to help sex worker access their worker rights!

On Sunday the 13th of October Tammy Franks MLC and SIDAC Coordinator Georgia Thain spoke to the SA Greens members at their AGM about the bill to decriminalise sex work. After the AGM was a conference where community groups were able to come together to hear about the work we had been doing this last year. There was plenty of support for sex worker rights in the room!

# DECRIM IN SA

AN UPDATE ON THE PUSH TO DECRIMINALISE SEX WORK IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



SIDAC Member Paula & Nat Cook  
Labor MP



SA Greens Co-Convenor Jody



Member of the Australian  
Unemployed Workers Union



SIDAC Coordinator Georgia, Tammy  
Franks MLC and SIN GM Kat