

I am against this law. It is going to take away the freedom to be a private citizen at work. I love my work and I thought that I was going to finally be emancipated as a woman. It is not so great in my country, and I came here for freedom to be myself and make my own choices, without the interference of others in an individual's life choices. This law will make it impossible to work as an independent sex worker, and it is paternalistic by saying that the state knows better than I do what is right.

What is right? Allowing sex workers to live without hiding. We are allowed anonymity and society's protection while doing our work, and yet sex work has specific ethical issues that require the same consideration be given to us, like anyone else would. Not only does this law seem likely to result in a breach of the Data PROTECTION ACT, it removes the choice we have to work as independent sex workers.

Some women prefer to be with an agency or at a brothel, but I am responsible for choosing what type of work is right for me. I do not see how registering prostitutes and requiring them to advertise with their ID number prevents harm, because more workers are going to choose to go underground and illegal work means less protection from criminal activity. Ads will not become more honest with a number on them. People can post using other people's numbers, those numbers could then be reported. There is no recourse for sex workers if they have a license withdrawn. Please define "self-sufficient" in a way that does not remind me of a mental competency hearing.

There will be a decision-making process by the mayor, with a task force dedicated to flagging suspected trafficking. The criteria require that the mayor must decide whether the sex worker is "self-sufficient" in their opinion. Also, if the mayor is suspicious of forced prostitution then the licence is withdrawn. This is a situation that I suspect will have corruption issues soon, because there is no way one person's opinion should matter so much.

We already have healthcare, although not all areas of the country have a place like Amsterdam's P&G 292, where I go for healthcare, Dutch lessons, and have the support of mental health staff. It makes me feel normal, and I am anonymous. We do not need to violate Article 9, paragraph 1 of the General Data Protection Act to help keep sex workers safe and healthy and consenting. We do not need to have our families be affected by a fine as well, if we are not registered, nor do our clients benefit from a registry that spits back a yes or no about the permit.

Where do the sex workers get to have a say? If society is going to protect us, it must also listen to us. I thought that in the Dutch culture, everyone's voice is allowed to participate.

Well this is my voice. I want you all, please, to stop this law from taking effect. Besides making me question whether human rights are really so important here, you'll be going against everything else I have learned about this country. I love this country and it can do a better job than this legislation.