

To: UN Women
Executive Director
Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka

S-KVINNOR



REGARDING UN WOMEN'S NOTE ON SEX WORK, SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND TRAFFICKING

Social Democratic Women in Sweden find UN Women's note on sex work, sexual exploitation and trafficking deeply regrettable.

We express our full support to UN Women National Committee Sweden and European Women's Lobby and other organizations in their condemnation of the note.

We state that prostitution is not a free choice. In Sweden, and other countries in Europe, purchase of sexual services is a crime.

To see prostitution as any other work is to diminish the structures of power, where the one selling sexual services always is inferior to the one buying or organizing the buying of sex.

Nothing indicates that legalization and organization of prostitution creates greater security for the vulnerable women. The prostitution in itself is the exploitation. Furthermore there is no evidence that legalization would reduce unorganized prostitution – facts rather points to the contrary. When the availability increases the demand does the same, thereby the exploitation gets normalized.

Prostitution in all forms maintains structures of superiority and inferiority. To make a world of equality possible we need to break these structures.

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Regards

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