

## Prostitution

The first thing I found interesting was that legalization and decriminalization of prostitution would result in different consequences and approaches to prostitution. Legalization holds its own complexity – should it be legalized on the state or federal level? If it was legalized on the federal level, the US government would be tainted by anti-prostitution supporters for ‘allowing’ prostitution. However, if prostitution was legalized on the state level, each state may have completely different rules, where some are very strict while other are lenient. In my opinion, legalization does not alleviate the problems associated with prostitution as much as it sounds. Kidnapping of young females (and males) could still happen and be forced to get a prostitution license. The best way to go about it is to decriminalize prostitution. Many individuals join because it is their last mode for earning money to survive. They should not be criminalized if caught, but rather assisted in moving forward.

This last point highlights a significant fault in our society. How is it that when somebody has no other options, they can revert to prostitution? Can't we do a better job, as a society, in making sure that everybody who wants to put in the effort and time to have a sustainable lifestyle be able to do so? This is a deep and complicated question. Some would argue that we are trying our best to do just this. Food stamps, Medicaid, government subsidies, state programs for the impoverished, unemployment salaries, etc. If these services are all out there, why do many still join prostitution? It may be because they choose to while knowing these other choices, in which case, it is their decision. Or is it because the aforementioned government and state services are too limited? Sorry for the rant Tobie! Just trying to write down my thoughts. Anyway, I do not know where I am going with this to be honest, but it was fun writing about it!

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