

MEDIA CONFERENCE
9.30am Friday 22nd November, 2002
Hellenic Centre, 20 Parker St, Northbridge.

**SEX WORKER ORGANISATIONS CONVERGE TO CONDEMN
PROPOSED WA SEX INDUSTRY LAWS AS WORST IN AUSTRALIA.**

Scarlet Alliance, the National Peak body of sex worker projects in Australia have sent their executive as well as delegates from each state and territory of Australia to announce their submission to the government opposing the proposed changes to sex industry laws in Western Australia and release 'Principles for Model Sex Industry Legislation'.

Available for interview at media conference:

- 1 [Maria McMahon](#), President - Scarlet Alliance.
- 2 [Alison Arnot-Bradshaw](#) M.A, B.A (Hons.) Adult Industry Consultant.
- 3 [Carolyn Smith](#), Assistant Secretary, Australian Liquor, Hospitality and Miscellaneous Workers Union.
- 4 [Dr Nancy Hudson-Rodd](#) President of United Nations Association of Australia (WA division) UNAA WA.

"The proposed legislation, with a combination of registration and licensing will discriminate against sex workers – as the only people in Australia required to carry ID cards by the state. The proposed laws will create a cycle of arrest and imprisonment for those unable to enter into the registration system, leaving sex workers open to corruption, abuse and violence"
[Maria McMahon](#) President Scarlet Alliance."

"We can not forget that any changes to legislation has a enormous impact on sex workers. A group who are already marginalised and stigmatised. Any law reform must aim to reduce this marginalisation and stigmatisation. From the research I have conducted with sex workers in Victoria it has been shown it is these two issues that have the greatest negative impact on their working and private lives. With this in mind the Licensing or registration of individual sex workers would be disastrous." [Alison Arnot-Bradshaw](#) M.A, B.A (Hons.) Adult Industry Consultant.

"Workers in the sex industry deserve the same protection and recognition as every other worker. We are disappointed that Labor in opposition opposed the Prostitution Act 2000 but are not taking this opportunity to replace it with workable effective legislation."
[Carolyn Smith](#), Assistant Secretary, Australian Liquor, Hospitality and Miscellaneous Workers Union.

"The Prostitution Act 2000 in WA violates 10 articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including the right to movement, fair trial, safety, employment and privacy. The Scarlet Alliance "Model for Sex Industry Law Reform" document indicates that there are better ways to move forward on this issue." [Nancy Hudson-Rodd](#), President, UNAA (WA) Spokesperson, UNAA (WA)

To view 'Principles for Model Sex Industry Legislation'

http://www.afao.org.au/index.asp?action=articles&id=1233&mm_action=expand_articles&mm_second=&mm_id=665. For more info on what we know of the proposals see www.fpwa-health.org.au/SexIndustryLegislationWA.htm