

Reading Questions for November 29

These questions cover four readings (don't worry – they're pretty short!). One is the end of the article we read last Thursday. Another, by Scott A Anderson, is called "Comment on 'Is Prostitution Harmful?' ", the third, by Rosalind J McDougall, is called "Intrinsic Versus Contingent Claims About the Harmfulness of Prostitution" and the last one, by Ole Martin Moen, is called "Prostitution and Harm: A Reply to Anderson and McDougall?" The answers do not have to be turned in. You will probably have to read more than once to get the answers.

*Background:*

We are spending last class and this one discussing prostitution. We've already read some parts of an article by Ole Martin Moen defending prostitution. For today we'll look a little more at his article, then read two criticisms of his article, one by Scott A Anderson and the other by Rosalind J McDougall, and finally we'll read a response to the criticisms by Moen. If we have extra time at the end, we'll also discuss how these issues connect with others we're talking about in this class.

*Questions:*

1. Last Thursday we talked about four of the nine arguments Moen criticizes in his article "Is prostitution harmful". In particular, we talked about the correlation with psychological problems argument, the objectification argument, the exploitation argument, and the male dominance argument. I would like you to pick one of the nine arguments we haven't yet talked about and answer the following questions: what is the argument? What is Moen's response? Is it plausible? Why?
2. What are Anderson's key criticisms of Moen? What are Moen's responses? What do you think – who's right and why?
3. What are McDougall's key criticisms of Moen? What are Moen's responses? What do you think – who's right and why?