

SILENTLY ENJOYING THE PAIN

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Abstract

A prostitute is a person, "who allows her body to be used for lewd purposes in return for payment". Prostitution is the sale of sexual services, such as oral sex or sexual intercourse, for money. Prostitution the word itself speaks about the plight of a women. It is not a problem which exists in India but exists throughout the world. Prostitution was a part of daily life in ancient Greece. In the more important cities, and particularly the many ports, it employed a significant proportion of the population and represented one of the top levels of economic activity. A prostitute or a tawaif or a devadasi as different times have called them in India are the facilitators of what some people say the "oldest profession of the world". Prostitution. In India prostitution is legal but the other related activities such as soliciting, pimping and brothels are illegal. There are more than 20 million prostitutes in India if a Human Rights Watch report is to be believed - and as many as 35% of them enter at an age less than 18. Prostitution was once upon a time a theme of Indian literature and arts for centuries. But the true face still lies hidden. This paper brings out the Problems faced by Prostitutes in Nagapattinam District of Tamilnadu, South India

Key Words: Sex workers, Problems faced by Sex workers

Introduction:

India is one of the biggest markets for prostitution in Asia with Mumbai alone

accommodating 200,000 prostitutes. Trafficking, sex tourism and 'clandestine' nature of the industry is further imposing problems and spread of HIV/AIDS is on the rise at an alarming rate with woman being more prone to infection. Because of such nature and lack of regulatory body the real magnitude of severity of the actual situation cannot be comprehended. Every hour, four women and girls in India enter prostitution, three of them against their will. There are around 2.8 million prostitutes in the country and their number is increasing, as informed by Lok Sabha.

A prostitute or a tawaif or a devadasi as different times have called them in India are the facilitators of what some people say the "oldest profession of the world", Prostitution. But surely one must not be negative enough to think that this so called "oldest profession" is driven by need of physical pleasure only, but is rather driven by the economic and psychological distresses which contribute majorly to the entry of prostitutes in this profession.

In India prostitution is legal but the other related activities such as soliciting, pimping and brothels are illegal. There are more than 20 million prostitutes in India if a Human Rights Watch report is to be believed and as many as 35% of them enter at an age less than 18. Prostitution was once upon a time a theme of Indian literature and arts for centuries. In Indian mythology there are many references of high-class prostitution in the form of celestial demigods acting as prostitutes. Poverty is one of the main causes which brings