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Ancient practices and the modern trade: A case study of eight prostitutes in Bengaluru, Karnataka, India

Dr. Prashanth G Malur

malur8@gmail.com

Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Bangalore, Karnataka

ABSTRACT

Understanding humans across the globe seem to be simple on the surface level, however, it is quite difficult to understand the complexity of human nature every one exhibit. This depends on the person himself and the person with/ to whom he is communicating, situation, gender, feelings, place of exposure, lifestyle & culture, social exposure, the family upbringing which altogether makes a person think and react at that particular moment, resulting in action. However, inclined sexual instincts among both the genders get them connected through one or the other ways with mutual benefits, which is popularly known as an illicit or extramarital affair. While there is also a large section of women who irrespective of their sexual inclination serve people with their physical needs for mutually agreed money; has been a trade for survival to many of them. While these kinds of relationships between the two genders are not those emerged in the recent centuries, they have references of previous ages survived on the earth. India, since then has witnessed the social culture of an illicit affair between the two genders in various forms such as devadasi, extramarital affair with one or many, which later turned to prostitution. Though the prostitution and devadasi system in modern India is constitutionally banned, the devadasi tradition persists to be in the remote rural areas while prostitution has mushroomed across the country irrespective of their geographies. With a lot more of scholarly articles available, this study attempts to present few cases of women who were interviewed with an effort to understand the lifestyle, earnings, social background, reason to be in prostitution, the treatment and respect they receive and the challenges they encounter every day.

Keywords— Prostitution, Sex workers, Illicit affairs, Extramarital affairs, Gigolo, Call girl

1. INTRODUCTION AND REVIEW

India is a land of diversified cultures, rituals, and traditions which are formed amongst the people of various communities in each of their caste and religion. With rich in its culture, the land was richest in terms of wealth during the period ruled by the kings of various dynasties. India is nevertheless, the land with various mythological stories which dates ten thousand years ago and a few which are five thousand years ago. India is a country with its statesman firmly believing the scriptures of Vedas and Upanishads produced during the ancient times, which is said as the base to the universal humanity and existence. Though it is not easy to mention the origin and existence of Vedas, it clearly seems they are the very earliest written wisdom documents produced by humans (Sadasivan, Subhamoy Das, Manoj; 2017).

The Vedas are considered as the earliest literary record of Indo-Aryan civilization, are also the original scriptures of Hindu teachings with abundance spiritual knowledge forming the highest religious authority for all aspects of Hinduism. Vedas are classified into four volumes, and each of them signifying the way of human being on the worldly earth. Rig Veda is the collection of songs and hymns, containing all the Sanskrit Mantras and the main source of information on Rig Vedic civilization.

Rig Vedic period is also the era which records the origin of illicit and extramarital affairs among the people of those times, who could afford to have an illicit. However, the existence of transactions through currency was said to be non-existent. The illicit love affairs were majorly among those women, who were deprived of physical satisfaction from their husbands, partnering to another male with the mutual consent or for a favor of gifts (Sukumari Bhattacharji; 1987). Nevertheless, the universal beauties of the heavenly gods, kingdom throned by Indra, the King of Gods had Urvashi, Rambha and Menaka called as Apsaras. Taking a close look, these apsaras are the one who is called as prostitutes in today's world. Nevertheless, all these apsaras are highly regarded by gods and the human being (Anuj Kumar, 2016).

In the books of Ramayana- the greatest epic of India, we can get to read that Ravana, the king who abducted Seetha was one among the greatest womanizers of those times who made love with those women who had their consent. He was the statesman who never touched the same women he made love for the second time.

Keeping these substances of the origin of illicit/ extramarital affairs and prostitution, it could be expected that these acts have been one among the societal status and culture since then. However, as the evolution of modern India began, prostitution came under the control of each of its states. Few states in India have legalized prostitution while a lot more have imposed it as an illegal act. However, in a political sense, these illegal acts provide kickbacks to the police and the politicians from those who are visible in the society. A lot more happen with the high and middle class of people, who are available independently at various places. The concepts of service apartments have come in hand for those who make it very private.

With the increase in the view of pornography among both the genders and between the teens up till the aged men, the demand for woman has increased the female trafficking as a business on the grey area of the society. Hence, it was interesting to take up the study and understand the structure of this illegal business which supplies the needs of the user demands. It was also interesting to understand the cobweb of poaching females from various parts of the globe, making them all available in the heart of Bengaluru city, the capital of the state of Karnataka, which has imposed a ban on human trafficking and prostitution as an illegal business. On the flip side of this illegal business, it was humane to know the physical and psychological trauma a woman goes through in the flesh trade.

2. METHODOLOGY

The methodology adopted as the qualitative method to understand the status of prostitution and extramarital affairs from the literature as the secondary data while the primary data on the lifestyle and their agony were gathered by meeting forty prostitutes in a person who was in the trade in the Bengaluru city during the time of research. This paper provides eight cases which were chosen on the criteria of age, region, social status and nationality amongst the forty personal interviews.

3. CASE STUDY

The interview among the four women was conducted with high confidentiality on disclosure of their identity with their real names. They were reluctant to reveal their identity through the photographs. However, to ensure the ethicality, the names of the women referred to in the case studies have refrained from publishing.

The below table gives the information on eight cases which are further discussed in this paper.

Table 1: Tabulation of Cases 1 to 4

Details/ Cases	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3	Case 4
Age	18 years	22 years	23 years	25 years
Education	Not Educated	Graduation	Graduation	Graduation
Origin Location	Mumbai, India	Mangalore, Karnataka	Chennai, India	Mumbai, India
Family Social Status	Below Poverty Line	Lower Middle Class	Upper Middle Class	Upper Middle Class
Individual Social Status	Single working women in trade.	Single working women in trade.	Single working women in corporate. Husband in abroad.	Single working independent women as Airhostess.
Reason for Coming to Trade	Cheated in the name of the job in Bengaluru. In consent with no options	In consent. Easy money and family survival.	In consent. For pleasure, desire & engagement from being alone.	In consent. Pleasure, fun, easy extra money during breaks.
In the Business	For 2 years	For 3 years	For 4 years	For 2 years
Earnings	Rs. 35,000 per month in the year 2015	Rs. 15,000 per day in the year 2016	Rs. 18,000 per day in the year 2016	Rs. 2,00,000 a month in the year 2015
Facilities	Food, Accommodation & Domestic Travel by train.	Food, Accommodation & Domestic Travel by train /bus	Food, Accommodation & Domestic Travel by train /air	Food, Accommodation & Domestic Travel by air
Perceived Ambition	Wanted to lead a normal life at her economic strata.	Be a homemaker at her economic strata.	Be a professional and earn money.	Be a professional and earn money.

Table 2: Tabulation of Cases 5 to 8

Details/ Cases	Case 5	Case 6	Case 7	Case 8
Age	32 years	35 years	45 years	28 years
Education	Matriculation	Master Graduation	Graduation	High School Graduate
Origin Location	Jharkhand, India	Kolkata, India	Bengaluru, India	Russia
Family Social Status	Below Poverty Line	Upper Middle Class	High Class	Upper Middle Class
Individual Social Status	Married working women as a sales girl. Away from family as single earning member.	Married working women. Away from the husband.	Married & separated. Single parent. Working women in a firm.	Single working women in trade.
Reason for Coming to Trade	In consent. For the survival of their family and child.	In consent. For pleasure, desire & fun.	In consent. For pleasure, desire & fun.	In consent. Easy Money/ Survival.
In the Business	For 6 years	For 8 years	For 10 years	4 years

Earnings	Rs. 50,000 per month in the year 2015	Rs. 80,000 per month in the year 2014	Rs. 20,000 per day in the year 2016	Rs. 1,50,000 per week in the year 2015
Facilities	Food, Accommodation & Travel by SUV	Food, Accommodation & Domestic Travel by air	Food, Accommodation & Domestic Travel by air	Food, Accommodation, Drinks & International Travel
Perceived Ambition	Wanted to lead a normal life at better economic strata.	Be a professional and homemaker and earn money.	Be a professional and homemaker and earn money.	Be a professional and earn money.

4. DESCRIPTION OF CASES: (PRESENTED IN THE ABOVE TABLES)

The girl in case 1 hails from a below the poverty line family settled in Mumbai, India. This girl was bought into the trade forcibly after cheating to get a job by an agent and later made her understand what's her job is. The 18-year-old girl who once had the ambition to lead a normal life of her social and economic strata keeps coming into the city four to five times in a year after traveling to Kolkata, Delhi and in other parts of Mumbai. During the conversation, it was found that she was compelled for the first few times without her consent to get her practiced, which legally implies to rape. She was neither given first aid nor any medicine but a box of Vaseline gel and few more condoms for almost a week in her city before sending her to other places. This lean girl was given a stay at a small 2 bedrooms flat where her services were offered for three weeks along with another girl of 22 years hailed from Pune. The three weeks stay in each place between her menstrual cycle each month, fetched her thirty-five thousand rupees from the agent and would easily make the same sum of money by the way of tips. This girl has taken this profession to make her living with her clients, while her family of five members at Mumbai is taken care too. Her contribution to her parent's health and to the education of her two young siblings proved worth her earnings. The agent charges four thousand for one intercourse and six thousand for the second one during a short time and eight thousand to accompany whole night and ten to twelve thousand rupees if the girl is taken out of her location. She has been given the accommodation, food and travel charges by train. The girl serves not more than five people in a day and not more than 8 intercourses. There are experiences of harassments from a few and the caretakers come to rescue but it's risky when it is an outcall mentions this girl.

The second case is of a girl hailing from lower-middle-class family at Mangalore, Karnataka. She is the only daughter of a skilled labor and has chosen this servicing industry almost during the last year of her graduation after her experience with her boyfriend, who indeed helped her get into trafficking. This girl accompanies not more than six people per day with a maximum of ten intercourses during her ten days stay in the city. She, too had the ambition of being a homemaker and has travelled to Mumbai and Andhra other than Bengaluru by air for the same job and has a condition of fifteen thousand rupees per day, for which the agent or a caretaker charge six thousand rupees for a single session and fifteen thousand to accompany the guest's whole night. Apart from a lakh and fifty thousand rupees earning from the agent, an extra pay of almost sixty thousand is earned through tips. This is the easy and huge money of around two lakhs for a ten-day job which takes care of herself, her family and some money for her marriage. Nevertheless, it is tough to manage parents at home when they ask about her ten days absence at home and hence comes to servicing once in three months. This girl, however, mentions to get settled with a family in a year and get away from human servicing.

The girl in the third case is aged about 23 years, who hails from an upper-middle-class family in Chennai, Tamilnadu, residing in Bengaluru city working for a corporate firm after marriage. This girl had the ambition of leading a family life and now takes up the job only during weekends and only with selective customers. She mentions that she has affairs with one of her colleagues as well and she does this to kill her loneliness as her husband is working in abroad and visits her for a month once in a year. It is not just about money to me, it is about the fun which fulfills her desire and being engaged with a companion, however, nothing comes free and makes eighteen thousand rupees per day during the weekend and tips given by the customers. Her earnings from the corporate world are around half a lakh, and she receives almost the same from her husband summing up to a lakh rupee and her earnings through servicing during weekends fetches her almost a lakh and a half rupees. Her total earnings from all sources amount to rupees three lakh in a month and most of her expenses are taken care of by one or the other boyfriends who accompany her. However, her family is not aware of all these and she keeps innocent. This girl gets her close companions to her home during weekdays though not for money but for a matter of pure pleasure. This girl nevertheless puts a condition for travel by air only.

The case four reveals about a girl who comes from the upper-middle-class family residing in Mumbai, India. The twenty-five-year aged independent girl is an air-hostess by profession in one of the renowned international airline company. She has traveled the length and breadth of India and a few foreign countries, gets connected to hook up with clients through the local agents and contacts of her personal choice. Her international client list to gets her connected whenever she finds one night stop over. She meets up not more than six days in a month during her one night stop over and entertains three men at the short time and one man during long hours of outcall or on a whole night basis. She mentions that the flesh trade is just for fun and easy money which is not less than two lakhs including the extra tips in a month since her stint of two years, other than her profession fetching her almost a rupee. Her exposure to the world and experiences confined her to think of what kind of husband she would get and what would be her future; though she was found to be confident. Her food, accommodation during her stay would be only at a three-star hotel and above sponsored by the client or the agent. She never forgets to mention the high-priced gifts she receives from her clients for being their companion. Her rates quoted by the agent depends on the type of customers however, the price starts at six thousand rupees. The girl mentions that she was neither cheated nor introduced by someone else, nevertheless her first experience with her ex-boyfriend and later the signs & moves made by her peer colleagues & friends made her think this for the easy buck during the breaks. She yet mentions that she is happy to have achieved the ambition she perceived of being a professional and earn money.

A thirty-two-year aged woman from Jharkhand, hailing from below the poverty line; married and working as a salesgirl in one of the malls forms the fifth case. This matriculation passed lady is associated in this profession for six years, as she is the single bread earner for the family of her parents, four-year-old son and drunkard husband. Her earning from this profession at nights during weekdays and two full-day and night during weekends fetches her around forty thousand rupees from the agent and her earnings as a sales girl fetches fifteen thousand rupees. However, the tips from clients sum up not more than six-seven thousand in a month. She explains that she sends twenty-five thousand to her family in Jharkhand, and survives here with the earnings as a salesgirl and the tips she gets, while she invests fifteen thousand for her daughter's education and upbringing. And extra income makes her way when she gets acquainted with like-minded customers entering her shop, to hook up after her working hours, which is a very rare case. Fully with consent, on an average, she accompanies between forty-fifty clients in a month. Her food and accommodation are taken care of by the agent or the customer most of the times during the weekends and she stays in a paying guest during weekdays. However, her travel during an outstation call is in an SUV and avoids out state calls. When asked about how she would manage to stay in a paying guest, when she attends evening calls during weekdays; with openness, she mentions that it is the outlook, dressed as an executive, which matters to the neighbor's and the owner, who gets the perception that I'm working in a corporate. Nevertheless, it is sometimes hard to keep a few owners/ their caretakers away from knowing about her extra earnings, as they would take advantage of her. Her family is unaware of her acquaintances in the city and her spouse is never bothered and responsible. The ambition she had was to have a normal life with a better economic lifestyle has been shattered with one single decision taken by her parents to marry her. Her only hope is better upbringing of her child's. She was very clear on what her future would be as a better person. Her obligations to her ill parents have bounded her without divorcing her husband. It is rude to expect parent's demise, but have no other choice to get away from her husband who can make a bad influence on her child.

The next case taken is a master graduate thirty-five-year woman, who came to the city from Kolkata around twelve years ago. This upper-middle-class family woman was married to her husband ten years ago who stays abroad visits her for about two months from the past six years. This independent working woman gets her clients from online acquaintances or through the party and accompanies only during the weekends for her pleasure and to satisfy her desires, which does not go free for her. She was bold enough to accept on her physical need which is on a higher quotient; nevertheless, she does not entertain her colleagues or close group friends. It is quite easy to hook up to people getting through online and casual acquaintances. When asked about the risks with unknown people, she mentions that her first meeting with the guy she chooses would be in a public place and then take the way as they mutually feel to proceedings. She accompanies one client on a day during each of the weekends, which fetches around eighty thousand excluding tips. She prefers out calls at resorts or luxury accommodation, to maintain a low profile at her apartment, where she resides. Gifts from her few selective clients are worth to be more stylish. However, her networks with people belonging to the class who can afford her. When asked about cheating her husband, she says about her husband who does the same. Why not me? Why should I control my desires and instincts, when it is not the same for whom I must be trusted? This educated lady with her full senses mentions that the cultural shift from the westerner's impact is getting extramarital affairs a common relation in the society in the recent days; though it was kept in the shadow earlier, it is quite open now. She has no regrets and lives her life her way.

The seventh case in the study is of forty-five-year lady based in the city since three-four decades, residing in one of the posh locality. This lady owns a consultancy business in corporate training and lives alone in a rich architecture home, while her teenage daughter visits her from Mumbai twice in a year during her holidays; which is also the time to get off from these acquaintances. She does not accompany everyone who comes her way and very choosy. It is neither my core business she mentions. My hookups and one night stands are to please my desires of physical self with those I choose to be comfortable with. It is not a trade for me but neither I give it free, everything has a price in business, however, it is not the same with very few. She gets flat twenty thousand rupees for full night accompanying to one only. She never forgets to mention that nothing happens at her home and none of her acquaintances are aware of her residence. The lady started to get her chosen men ten years ago, and almost a year after separated from her husband. She remained unanswered when asked about her separated husband. She nevertheless says that it may the next 4-5 years I can be with it, though the meetings have come down. She accompanies between two-four in a month, depending upon her mood swings. She with a lot more confidence mentioned that she is happy with her lifestyle and enjoys what she does, with no harm and no regrets. I'm satisfied to be what I thought of- a professional and a homemaker. However, rest all other things are choices of my personal life.

The last case presented here is of twenty-eight-year upper middle class Russian single girl, who is in trade since the last seven years. She stays with her friends in Mumbai since the last four years and visits Bengaluru on an average of three-four times a year and manages to visit other states. Nevertheless, she visits her hometown during Christmas of every year. She says it's just for fun and easy money with all the luxury, she chose to be in this trade. The people here are very aggressive in making love with a foreign woman. They have a varied psychological mindset that we (foreigners) know more and cooperate in all ways. Her official charges for a ten-day package with not more than four-five people in a day is fixed at a lakh and half rupees excluding the accommodation in semi luxury/ luxury hotels or serviced apartments with AC and to & fro travel charges from her Mumbai to the city. She reveals that the tips she makes are almost the same she paid by the agent. The outbound, out-station calls during long weekends are a lot more profitable in all aspects. The agent charges ten thousand rupees per person and easily makes about four-five lakhs. I'm a professional as what I thought to be but in a different industry nevertheless, the money I earn is much better than any other industry she mentions.

5. CHALLENGES

Challenges are part of everyone's life in this materialistic world, however, the challenge faced by a woman in the flesh trade is way different as they are harassed not just physically and sexually but also psychologically. It is very common for women in this service industry to encounter with men of different age groups, strengths, attitude and mental balance. Clients who enter drunk, or

having consumed drugs/ Viagra's, or people with psychic inclination influenced by porn should be handled wisely especially during out calls. There are times where the client cheats the deal paying for one and they need to accompany more for the same cost. There are times where a woman is tortured the whole night by a single man to have the intercourse for more than once and compel them to proceed with different positions. Women have seen sleepless nights and there are times where the clients force them to consume alcohol and have fun when they are hardly conscious. The masculine physical strengths dominate the feminine sensitivity and go through more of a rape during outcall. A few matured independent women get hooked after a few meetings or give their services at a star hotel but the risk is always there. A few women who work under the agent get paid less than the agreed amount and encounter physical and sexual harassments as well. Managing family for being away every month for short durations and keeping their affairs secret for a few is much challenging. The women who work for agents are sometimes overloaded more than their will and wish to accompany. Customers are to be satisfied at any cost to be in the business irrespective of their health and physical fitness.

6. OTHER FINDINGS

1. Every woman is paid based on their looks, physic, and their communication language. The one who knows English along with Hindi and can play fantasy are paid more.
2. Girls who look like models and modern are always in demand.
3. Girls are tipped based on the type of service and cooperation they provide.
4. Outstation calls are way risky but fetch good money and goodies.
5. Each girl is accommodated not more than three weeks and is sent back during their menstrual period.
6. Girls are shifted to other places in the city every two or three days and no one shall stay at one place beyond that.
7. Customer traffic is quite less on weekdays while it's high during weekends and during the end of December.
8. Payment made by the agent to the woman is between 25 to 30 percent on the total money earned from her.
9. Agents keep shifting their locations frequently.
10. The technology has enabled agents to run their business with less or minimal interaction between the woman and the customer. Communication and sharing of photos and location of stay through Whatsapp.
11. In most of the cases, the woman and the customer have one point contact of the agent who is at the location. Neither the agent nor the women are aware of the person who is in the next hierarchy.
12. Payments made by the customers to the agents and by agents to the women are by and large made by cash or PayTM. NEFT transactions are very less though.
13. Agents mention that customers above the age of thirty-five prefer girls of young age, however, none of the agents who were met mentioned to trade with minor girls.
14. Girls between the age of eighteen and twenty-five years are much preferred and are priced high.
15. Agents mention that a customer can get one session of intercourse from two thousand to two lakhs depending upon the girl's profile, age, physical fitness, and looks and so on.
16. A very few take care of their medical needs. Most of them send them back if the women are unwell.
17. Women who don't connect through agents but rather get in touch independently have a different approach. Most of them do not continue to indulge in these activities as a trade or for money but purely for their physical needs. However, the attitude of nothing comes for free or neither they prefer men taking them for granted, makes them accept the money.
18. The high price charged by independent women is to primarily keep everyone away from approaching them and to get the one who can afford as well be mature enough to handle their privacy.
19. It seems that few independent women are comfortable to accompany the same men again, while others just keep it as one night stand.
20. Women are likely to be indulging in another state/ city rather than their place of origin or in the local area. Majority of women in flesh trade from south travel to other three directions while women across the nation visit the city Bengaluru.
21. Mumbai, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Hyderabad, and Chennai are the hot spot cities generating major revenue in the trade.

7. CONCLUSION

Extramarital affairs which emerged in the period of Rig-Veda and till the present day are way different from human trafficking, as by a large there would be mutual consent to each-others relationship status and very minimal exchange of monetary benefits. However, the woman expects the man to be in the gesture of paying in other means and modes like gifts, travel, family maintenance or helping in need and so on. It surely does not depend on money transactions and the affair would be in a long term. These practices have the references to Ravana, the king of Lanka during the period in Ramayana and also in Mahabharatha. The era when India was ruled by Indian Kings and Mughals and even by the British ruling during the pre-independence period also have the references to extramarital affairs by the kings/ rulers or even have affairs with those women who were in flesh trade. However, this practice has its roots to the age's unseen but heard, it has sustained to be the practice of the society even today. Nevertheless, the opportunist human being tapped the need among the poor families having women, who were brought to accompany other men in a physical activity by cheating primarily, made way to trade with the legal currency. As the generations progressed, pouching women to the flesh trade gained the momentum and emerged as a service industry of the dark side to satisfy the physical desires of men.

A keen observation among the women community serving the men using their body for money, diplomatically termed as human traffic or the flesh trade; their stories speak a lot on our country's state of affairs in reducing/ abolishing poverty, enhancing education and employment (including self-employment) on one side, while on the other it is an exploration of shades of grey they undergo in terms of psychological stress, physical pain, harassments, exploitation, sexual assaults, humiliation and the respect they gain between the four walls of a room and in the outside world, once they enter to this industry. It is not only the people who hire them treat them gravely; a few agents are no different.

Depending on the place the women are engaged, the agents make travel arrangements by bus if it is from the neighboring states and train if they come from far off generally but a few who are on high medium and high profile insist on air travel to cut the travel time and get into the business. The agents provide the accommodation depending on their profiles. A two-bedroom house/flat is generally provided for normal or low profile women who charge between two thousand to four thousand in the year 2016, now has an increment of three times on their charges presently. The charges for any medium profile women are between from six thousand to ten thousand are accommodated in service apartments presently, were in the slab of four thousand to six thousand. The charge for high profile starts at a minimum of fifteen thousand and has no upper limit as such. An agent mentions that a one-week international call for a model has fetched her almost half a crore. High profile transactions purely depend on who the customer is and the sponsorship criteria. A politician, bureaucrats, high net worth individuals or a foreign national, there are times where one sponsor for the other during their visits or high profile parties. Everything which is secretive is personally discussed during gatherings and neither of other people around would have a hint on these transactions.

The eight case studies presented here represent the four women met which give an in-depth understanding of them being in this trade. However, the majority were found to be less educated hailing from Maharashtra, Bengal, Haryana, Jharkhand, Assam, Nagaland, Tamil Nadu, Andhra and other cities of Karnataka. Most of them chose this profession for their survival and to help the poverty prevailing in their families. While a few thought had no financial issues, staying alone away or separated from husband & family and the natural human instincts and the close interactions among the men in their contact arouse them with mutual sexual interests. While a few single living women find their partner independently connecting through various dating sites and online connects.

The independent women make their arrangements and have very less fear of the law, unlike for those trading under the agents who mostly are under the radar. However, they have a fear of their neighbors and society. A few of the independent women are registered online to an agency that moderates to match the requirements for them in providing men. In the process, the customer seeking the service would register his membership paying thousand rupees and a refundable privacy deposit of rupees fifteen thousand, to maintain the privacy of the women and refunded by her post service with the man and also pay extra money for providing his services. These independent men seeking women compel them to carry the sexual kit costing rupees sixteen thousand, which is used up to a year. The man providing his service is picked by an executive who escorts to the place of the woman who is in need of the service. A really good man earns nothing less than a couple of lakhs in a month mentions one of the independent women who has availed gigolo services through online agencies.

The Union Ministry of Home and the Law Ministry has given free hand for the state administration to decide on legalizing flesh trade in a regulated manner. Mumbai and Kolkata are the prominent states which have legalized prostitution or flesh trade while Karnataka has banned the same. However, human trafficking and child trafficking is an offense, an adult woman, who has attained the age of 18 is legally permitted to have the free consent of her own in indulging physical activities among the men. It ensures that prostitution is an act by an individual with her own free consent and not to be compelled or cheated by anyone to bring them into the trade.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Supreme Court of India has recommended that sex with mutual interest between people above the age of eighteen is not a crime and do not hold to be illegal. However, child trafficking and prostitution where sex workers are on the streets signaling people at a public place is not permissible. The recommendations of the Supreme Court have not been considered seriously by all the states of India. The state of Karnataka is not left behind banning the flesh trade, however, the trade exists ranking at the 5th position in India. Running this illegal trade generates a cut in personal income to the least grade police officer up to the ministerial level, is the secret truth. This could probably also be the reason to keep the trade illegal, which in case legalized and systematically operated could make an impact on the personal income of the authorities.

I see the trade to be at crossroads. The option we find is either to have or not to have. Banning the trade could well be good on the papers but we must understand that prostitution cannot be stopped on practical grounds in a country like India. However, this is not related to India alone but has been a global issue. Prostitution is legal in over one hundred and fifty countries with suitable amendments and laws to each of its country. However, "Prostitution and the Law: Charting the Indian Course, by Shivam Goel reads, Prostitution is legal in India.

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, does not criminalize prostitution or prostitutes per se; but it does punish acts of third-party facilitation of prostitution, like brothel-keeping, living on the earnings of prostitutes or procuring a person for the sake of prostitution... So long as prostitution itself is not a crime, the individual act of a girl who offers her services on phone cannot be prohibited. If a call-girl does not parade her charms in the public or indulge in soliciting or in other prohibited acts of like nature, she cannot be held guilty.

The Jayamala Committee constituted by the Government of Karnataka to understand the plight of sex workers in Karnataka, too in its report submitted in 2016 recommends legalization of prostitution systematically under the law among the rehabilitation, education for the children of sex workers, legal identity viz., aadhar card, PAN card, driving license, ration card and other facilities specially under the third gender.

Legalization of the trade has its pros and cons, as in other matters. However, a systematic process of accommodating all in one block/ street or in an area according to their class along with common health and security facilities would not only have better control on crime and assaults on a woman but a systematic process follows the revenue of the government. This would also attract the tourism as seen in other Asian and western countries.

9. THE LAWFUL MODEL OF REVENUE GENERATING

To make the process systematic and easy, less of human intervention needs to be cut down to avoid corruption, harassments to both the woman and the customer, the model solely relies on the online platform using a registered official website and an app. However, there would be an option for the walk-in customers who could not book the sessions or those who are not tech savvy or less aware of online services.

However, to make it more professional, all sex workers in the city/ state would be registered with their Aadhar number and biographic and demographic details uploaded with photographs. A registered user id and password would be created for her further transactions. Every time a sex providing woman enters the designated locality, her registration number is updated and hence the automated process would update her slots and availability. The downloaded app on their mobile helps them handy to update their profiles with photographs and new posts. The app/ website would also give the details of their legal earning.

The customer logs in as a registered user or as a guest and selects the woman of his choice and their availability filtered to customized price range and the duration of the session. Once the customer selects the profile he is interested, 25% of the quoted price depending on the session would be paid as an advance booking. The customer gets the verified information and details of the booking and online payment with a One Time Password (OTP) code for the session. On entering the designated place, the customer shall pay 75% of the balance amount and enter the OTP. However, customers walking in shall be flashed with the photos of the available woman and the profile details. The customer shall make an online payment for the service.

The earnings of every woman in spite of having a steep increase shall not attract any tax on their income; however, 25% of the amount shall be deducted from each of the transaction for the maintenance of infrastructure and facilities. The facilities provided include a medical room with the female doctor and nurse attendant and a medical store, common mess facilities for food, water, snacks, beverages, cocktails and alcohol, all at room service.

From the study, we understand then it's just a 25% or less the woman earns while working through an agent who grabs the 75% of the unaccounted amount which constitutes a huge amount for illegal trading a mafia's. Presently women are paid on package/ monthly basis irrespective of the number of customers they serve during the stay. For example, a woman who charges rupees four thousand for a two-hour session, staying with an agent for seven days serving a minimum of four clients, would earn sixteen thousand in a day and rupees one lakh twelve thousand for seven days. According to the study, the amount given to the woman is not more than twenty-twenty five thousand for a week's stay. The rest of the money is taken by the agent and shared to people in the business hierarchy, police and politicians which in turn pockets to black money.

A registered woman would directly be benefited with 75% of the amount instantly for each session. In the scenario of the above example, a woman charging rupees four thousand for two hours session, earning rupees one lakh twelve thousand in seven days would now earn rupees eighty-four thousand and the government would be earning rupees twenty-eight thousand in one week from one moderate sex worker. This system of free trade would not only have lawful control over the trade but provide a safe and secure place for the women. A transparent mode of transaction independently handled by the woman shall uplift the economic strata of the individual being and their family. These earnings for those who have taken this trade as a matter of survival would later prove to be an investment for social reformation.

The model discussed here is considered for implementation after creating the necessary infrastructure of around 1000 houses of various classifications as per customer's preference and the profile the woman carries. This seems to accommodate the women in trade in the city. However, a strict implementation of the law and integrity of sex workers to provide their services in the designated area would make the change in the lives of sex workers. The independent women, who indulge for fun and to satisfy desire, may not be interested to be registered and would be free to in a private place, without disturbing the sentiments of the public in a public place irrespective of the time of the day.

This approach would rather create a moral responsibility of each sex worker to be under the system which would not only give good facilities but safe and secured from harassments which would rather give them more earnings. This would make an attempt to control or stop corruption, with the moral support gained by the sex workers, empowering them with an identity in the society. The model can, however, be made comprehensive from that proposed in this study.

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BIOGRAPHY



Dr. Prashanth G Malur

Ph.D. degree in Visual Media (TV & Films)

Associate Professor- Media

Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Bangalore, Karnataka