YouGov

August 26 - 28, 2015

YouGov

1. Paid for Sex
Have you ever paid someone else for sex?

	Total	Gender		Age				Party ID - 3 Point		
		Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Yes	7%	14%	0%	2%	5%	12%	7%	9%	7%	5%
No	90%	83%	97%	97%	93%	86%	88%	89%	90%	93%
Prefer not to say	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	5%	1%	3%	2%
Don't know	0%	0%	1%	—	1%	—	—	1%	0%	—
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Unweighted N)	(998)	(475)	(523)	(182)	(254)	(391)	(171)	(371)	(378)	(249)

	Total	Race			Household Income				Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Under $50K	$50K - $100K	$100K+	Prefer not to say	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Yes	7%	7%	7%	10%	7%	9%	8%	2%	8%	8%	7%	7%
No	90%	91%	92%	85%	90%	89%	88%	95%	90%	91%	90%	90%
Prefer not to say	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%	4%	2%	2%	1%	3%	3%
Don't know	0%	0%	—	2%	1%	—	—	1%	—	0%	1%	—
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Unweighted N)	(998)	(764)	(112)	(122)	(452)	(271)	(137)	(138)	(179)	(221)	(351)	(247)

2. Legalize Prostitution - Pre-test
Do you think that prostitution should be legal?

		Gender		Age				Party ID - 3 Point		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Definitely yes	16%	22%	10%	14%	19%	17%	12%	19%	17%	10%
Probably yes	28%	37%	20%	28%	29%	26%	32%	31%	28%	24%
Probably no	13%	10%	15%	11%	8%	17%	12%	12%	9%	19%
Definitely no	33%	22%	42%	37%	34%	30%	31%	28%	36%	35%
Not sure	11%	9%	12%	10%	10%	10%	13%	10%	10%	13%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Unweighted N)	(999)	(476)	(523)	(182)	(254)	(392)	(171)	(371)	(379)	(249)

		Race			Household Income				Region			
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Under $50K	$50K - $100K	$100K+	Prefer not to say	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Definitely yes	16%	17%	13%	10%	18%	15%	17%	10%	16%	11%	17%	19%
Probably yes	28%	30%	18%	24%	24%	29%	39%	29%	25%	31%	24%	34%
Probably no	13%	14%	10%	9%	10%	19%	11%	13%	15%	13%	11%	13%
Definitely no	33%	29%	44%	45%	36%	30%	25%	34%	30%	34%	38%	27%
Not sure	11%	10%	15%	12%	13%	6%	8%	14%	14%	12%	10%	8%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Unweighted N)	(999)	(765)	(112)	(122)	(453)	(271)	(137)	(138)	(179)	(221)	(352)	(247)

3. Punishment
Who do you think should be punished the most, if at all, for breaking laws against prostitution?

		Gender		Age				Party ID - 3 Point		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Only punish the prostitute	3%	4%	2%	2%	3%	3%	4%	2%	5%	1%
Mainly punish the prostitute	4%	7%	2%	3%	7%	4%	2%	5%	3%	5%
Punish both equally	74%	70%	78%	68%	71%	76%	82%	70%	73%	82%
Mainly punish the customer	12%	11%	14%	16%	11%	13%	9%	15%	12%	9%
Only punish the customer	6%	8%	4%	11%	7%	4%	3%	9%	6%	2%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Unweighted N)	(968)	(454)	(514)	(179)	(247)	(382)	(160)	(361)	(364)	(243)

		Race			Household Income				Region			
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Under $50K	$50K - $100K	$100K+	Prefer not to say	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Only punish the prostitute	3%	3%	—	6%	3%	4%	4%	3%	3%	4%	5%	0%
Mainly punish the prostitute	4%	4%	4%	5%	6%	2%	4%	1%	3%	6%	3%	6%
Punish both equally	74%	73%	79%	76%	74%	73%	74%	75%	74%	74%	74%	73%
Mainly punish the customer	12%	14%	8%	9%	11%	14%	12%	17%	15%	13%	10%	15%
Only punish the customer	6%	6%	9%	3%	7%	6%	7%	4%	6%	4%	8%	6%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Unweighted N)	(968)	(741)	(109)	(118)	(439)	(263)	(134)	(132)	(171)	(217)	(344)	(236)

4. Morality of Soliciting
Do you think that soliciting a prostitute is morally acceptable or morally wrong?

		Gender		Age				Party ID - 3 Point		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Morally acceptable	19%	28%	10%	16%	22%	22%	11%	22%	20%	12%
Morally wrong	64%	54%	72%	64%	57%	63%	76%	60%	60%	76%
Not sure	17%	18%	17%	21%	20%	16%	13%	17%	21%	12%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Unweighted N)	(997)	(473)	(524)	(183)	(254)	(389)	(171)	(371)	(378)	(248)

		Race			Household Income				Region			
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Under $50K	$50K - $100K	$100K+	Prefer not to say	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Morally acceptable	19%	21%	12%	12%	19%	19%	26%	11%	16%	15%	20%	22%
Morally wrong	64%	62%	76%	64%	66%	64%	57%	62%	60%	61%	69%	60%
Not sure	17%	17%	12%	24%	15%	18%	17%	27%	23%	23%	11%	18%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Unweighted N)	(997)	(764)	(112)	(121)	(453)	(271)	(136)	(137)	(179)	(222)	(349)	(247)

5. Reasons for Decriminalization

Below is a list of arguments in favor of decriminalizing prostitution. Please say which ones you find most persuasive. (Select all that apply.)

	Total	Gender		Age				Party ID - 3 Point		
		Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Consensual sex between adults should be free from state interference	42%	55%	30%	31%	46%	44%	44%	45%	44%	35%
It reduces the stigma of prostitution, making it easier to go to the police in cases of abuse	34%	38%	31%	41%	41%	30%	24%	42%	36%	21%
It empowers prostitutes to earn a fair wage from their customers	18%	21%	15%	23%	19%	16%	14%	22%	19%	9%
It empowers prostitutes to be more insistent about healthy sex and sex they are comfortable with	33%	37%	29%	33%	34%	32%	33%	39%	33%	23%
It professionalises the industry, giving prostitutes better access to pensions and employment rights	19%	22%	16%	27%	18%	18%	12%	21%	24%	8%
It allows prostitutes to share information about abusive or unsuitable clients	31%	33%	29%	34%	33%	30%	25%	37%	30%	22%
None of these	21%	17%	25%	18%	17%	22%	28%	13%	22%	31%
Don't know	16%	11%	20%	18%	18%	16%	12%	16%	17%	14%
Totals	(1,000)	(476)	(524)	(183)	(254)	(392)	(171)	(372)	(379)	(249)

	Total	Race			Household Income				Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Under $50K	$50K - $100K	$100K+	Prefer not to say	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Consensual sex between adults should be free from state interference	42%	46%	30%	29%	41%	44%	56%	31%	38%	38%	45%	45%
It reduces the stigma of prostitution, making it easier to go to the police in cases of abuse	34%	34%	32%	39%	36%	35%	32%	31%	35%	27%	31%	45%
It empowers prostitutes to earn a fair wage from their customers	18%	18%	14%	19%	20%	21%	15%	10%	18%	13%	18%	23%
It empowers prostitutes to be more insistent about healthy sex and sex they are comfortable with	33%	35%	23%	28%	34%	34%	37%	23%	30%	29%	32%	40%
It professionalises the industry, giving prostitutes better access to pensions and employment rights	19%	20%	13%	18%	19%	20%	20%	15%	19%	14%	16%	27%
It allows prostitutes to share information about abusive or unsuitable clients	31%	34%	22%	21%	33%	31%	33%	22%	33%	24%	29%	37%
None of these	21%	23%	12%	19%	21%	24%	14%	23%	22%	25%	21%	17%
Don't know	16%	13%	25%	25%	16%	13%	10%	27%	12%	18%	18%	15%
Totals	(1,000)	(765)	(113)	(122)	(454)	(271)	(137)	(138)	(179)	(222)	(352)	(247)

6. Reasons Against Decriminalization
Below is a list of arguments against decriminalising prostitution. Please say which ones you find most persuasive. (Select all that apply.)

	Total	Gender		Age				Party ID - 3 Point		
		Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican
It boosts sex tourism, making towns and cities less safe and desirable	25%	23%	26%	29%	23%	24%	24%	18%	26%	31%
It expands criminal activities related to prostitution, like sex trafficking, drugs and violence	38%	31%	44%	39%	34%	39%	40%	35%	35%	47%
It encourages people to become prostitutes, when it would be better if they had other jobs	22%	23%	22%	25%	23%	21%	22%	23%	21%	23%
Prostitution is exploitative, whether or not the prostitute consents to sex	29%	26%	31%	34%	28%	27%	28%	26%	26%	38%
Violence against prostitutes would increase, regardless of the safeguards put in place	15%	13%	18%	20%	13%	16%	13%	14%	15%	18%
People should not be using prostitutes, but seeking sexual relationships with a partner	22%	23%	22%	28%	21%	20%	24%	22%	21%	26%
None of these	22%	27%	17%	13%	27%	23%	23%	19%	26%	18%
Don't know	15%	13%	17%	20%	13%	14%	16%	17%	16%	12%
Totals	(1,000)	(476)	(524)	(183)	(254)	(392)	(171)	(372)	(379)	(249)

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	Total	Race			Household Income				Region			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Under $50K	$50K - $100K	$100K+	Prefer not to say	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
It boosts sex tourism, making towns and cities less safe and desirable	25%	25%	22%	24%	28%	23%	20%	22%	26%	28%	23%	23%
It expands criminal activities related to prostitution, like sex trafficking, drugs and violence	38%	40%	28%	35%	39%	39%	39%	32%	35%	42%	37%	37%
It encourages people to become prostitutes, when it would be better if they had other jobs	22%	22%	27%	24%	23%	21%	23%	24%	23%	24%	22%	22%
Prostitution is exploitative, whether or not the prostitute consents to sex	29%	31%	24%	22%	29%	29%	30%	26%	28%	30%	26%	32%
Violence against prostitutes would increase, regardless of the safeguards put in place	15%	14%	19%	22%	19%	12%	10%	12%	15%	20%	14%	14%
People should not be using prostitutes, but seeking sexual relationships with a partner	22%	22%	21%	26%	23%	26%	19%	16%	28%	20%	22%	20%
None of these	22%	23%	16%	21%	20%	23%	29%	20%	20%	16%	25%	25%
Don't know	15%	14%	20%	20%	17%	12%	8%	23%	16%	21%	15%	10%
Totals	(1,000)	(765)	(113)	(122)	(454)	(271)	(137)	(138)	(179)	(222)	(352)	(247)

7. Legalize Prostitution - Post-test
Having heard the arguments on either side, do you now think that prostitution should be legal?

		Gender		Age				Party ID - 3 Point		
	Total	Male	Female	18-29	30-44	45-64	65+	Democrat	Independent	Republican
Definitely yes	17%	22%	11%	11%	24%	16%	12%	19%	18%	10%
Probably yes	24%	34%	15%	25%	20%	26%	25%	27%	24%	20%
Probably no	15%	12%	19%	17%	7%	20%	18%	14%	13%	22%
Definitely no	35%	23%	45%	34%	39%	32%	34%	31%	34%	41%
Not sure	10%	9%	10%	14%	10%	6%	11%	9%	12%	7%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Unweighted N)	(996)	(475)	(521)	(181)	(253)	(392)	(170)	(370)	(378)	(248)

		Race			Household Income				Region			
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Under $50K	$50K - $100K	$100K+	Prefer not to say	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Definitely yes	17%	18%	14%	12%	19%	16%	19%	8%	15%	13%	18%	19%
Probably yes	24%	26%	18%	17%	21%	25%	31%	27%	22%	25%	20%	30%
Probably no	15%	17%	10%	10%	14%	20%	18%	10%	16%	20%	13%	13%
Definitely no	35%	31%	42%	48%	37%	31%	25%	39%	32%	32%	40%	31%
Not sure	10%	8%	16%	14%	9%	8%	7%	17%	16%	10%	8%	7%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Unweighted N)	(996)	(761)	(113)	(122)	(452)	(271)	(136)	(137)	(179)	(221)	(351)	(245)