

Clubs Close & you Put Women out of Work & into Poverty

ACTUALLY it is Lap Dancing that puts women into Poverty

PERFORMERS will tend to do much better financially - and definitely much better emotionally - working in the bar or café that sets up once a strip club shuts down – and was there before it moved in.

70% of dancers MAKE NO MONEY by the end of their shift according to the largest study ever conducted of the UK strip industry ¹

Think 'Strippers Are Loaded'? Find out more here:

<http://www.notbuyingit.org.uk/sites/default/files/Strippers%20Loaded.pdf>

ARE YOU saying a Lap Dancer Couldn't Get Another Job?

A BIG PART of a lap dancer's job is talking with customers, so performers have excellent people skills and are very sociable and engaging. 1/3 are students, many others are multi-tasking single mums or juggling more than one job. These are clearly capable, intelligent young women with their futures before them. They will also be attractive, which hardly hurts on the job-seeking front!

AND GIVEN that we live in a 'gig' economy, there is more work than ever before that offers flexible working, which is cited as one of the draws of lap dancing – just without the exploitation and abuse.

SURELY IT IS PATRONISING to think performers couldn't get another job or do anything else?

WILL CLOSING a Club *Really* have this Effect?

Most lap dancers are 'itinerant workers' – they will work in many different clubs, often across the country. The closure of one club is not going to have much effect.

Researchers have also gone to great lengths to establish that that only a minority of women in lap dancing are full time dancers. The majority have other work in addition or are in further education (1/3).



Yes student fees have created a very real social issue. And that is something the strip trade has been quick to tap into. Clubs in university towns and cities directly target female students as workers and normalise the industry to their colleagues through constant 'student night specials' and discounts.

Is *This* How we Excuse Harm and Exploitation?



ARE WE really going to excuse exploitative work that harms those in it and wider society under the transparently flimsy 'argument' that women will be out of work if they aren't in it?

This is exactly the same excuse that has been used for centuries to support children being sent down mines, sweat shops, child labour and sex tourism: 'If this 'work' didn't exist then these women, men and children wouldn't be able to support their families, therefore we must keep them in it.'

Surely we can do better than *this* for our young women in Great Britain in 2018?

HYPOCRISY Alert!

IT'S VERY telling that the strip industry is rallying around the 'you'll put women out of work' cry. After all, if it cared so very much about its workers being kept out of poverty then why does it financially exploit its performers so badly and not put them all on PAYEE?

Find out more about the financial exploitation by the industry here:
<http://www.notbuyingit.org.uk/sites/default/files/Strippers%20Loaded.pdf>

IT IS Lap Dancing that puts Women out of Work

IT IS LAP DANCING that puts women out of (future) work. When women do leave the industry (after all, stripping isn't exactly a 'long term career' - how many 30 year old lap dancers do you see?). it's often then hard to get any further work. This is partly because of the effect the industry has on performers. But it's also for practical reasons - putting 'lap dancer' on your CV generally isn't an option.

WHAT WE Are Calling For

WE ARE calling on Councils that do close clubs and the Government for a pot of money to support women out of the industry. Apart from this 'being the right thing to do' it is also cost effective, since many women in the strip industry are unregistered and do not pay taxes.

Sheffield City Council is a case in point. It has probably spent in the order of £250,000 in failed legal battles and unlawful consultations (including paying strip club Spearmint Rhino to gather supportive statements from its dancers) to not only keep its one strip club open but to greatly expand the industry. Imagine if it had spent just a fraction of that sum to provide exit support for performers who wanted it when it shut down its one club.

¹ Sanders et al: <http://www.notbuyingit.org.uk/sites/default/files/Sanders%20Initial%20Findings.pdf>