



ACT!

AGAINST
VIOLENCE
AND SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION

WEBSITE



THE FREE CHOICE BEYOND PROSTITUTION

Free choice is a myth based on the idea of individuality: the free, autonomous, and rational individual, solely responsible for each decision. This detachment of

the individual from society and the patriarchal structures results from the historical process of modernity, that progressively posited autonomy, freedom and reason as inalienable qualities of the human being. This perspective presupposes any decision and action as valid insofar as it is a choice of the individual. However, the free choice idea overlooks the context in which decisions are taken it erases structural and physical violence, and resolves ethical dilemmas in the sexual realm, such as prostitution.

“Women are free to sell their bodies”.it is argued following this logic. By presupposing actions and decisions as individual

on the self, free choice depoliticizes prostitution. Under the premise that women “chosen” and “consent” it, prostitution is legitimized as a “paid sexual exchange”. Beyond the alleged choice of prostitution, there is the context in which it emerges. Women within the prostitution system are normally in a precarious situation (legally, economically, socially, etc.); being prostitution the only option to provide for her and her family. Is there free choice when there are no choices?

There is no such thing as buying consent in sex and sex without consent is rape. Prostitution is tarified rape.

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

