**Prostitution**

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Prompt 1:

*What are the beliefs and what do you think are the sources of these beliefs? Explain your beliefs and if possible, show the sources of your beliefs. Then describe how certain experiences may have contributed to your current belief. The paper should follow the paper guidelines found in the Resources section and be 500-750 words.*

What are beliefs? A belief is accepting that something exists even without proof or that something is true without asking for any evidence to support it being true.My beliefs about prostitution and particularly sex trafficking can be biased, for instance, I believe that most of them are there because they personally like doing it and also that most of them are illiterate or have very little education. Another belief is that most of them come from the ghetto or low-income areas and might be involved in other crimes. “Many active buyers believe that the women “enjoy the act of prostitution” and “choose it as a profession.” (Bindel, J., Vigo, J., & Mukaiwa, M., 2019).

I know I am not the only one who considers it to be true that they might be sick with sexually transmitted diseases and don’t use protection when doing their business. And they are out there infecting their clients with STD's.Most of these beliefs came from different sources but most of them are passed on by society from one generation to the next. Like the belief that prostitutes are all sick, we have been hearing this since the old days and it’s simply because they sleep with a lot of partners a night without using any form of protection.

I came to realize that this may not be all true having watched a documentary covering prostitution. One of them said that they don’t allow clients who doesn’t want to use protection. The source of the belief that prostitutes like doing what they do because they love sex, what we forget is that sex is good when the feeling is mutual between two people. So, thinking about how prostitutes do their jobs, we tend to think that they don’t like what they are doing simply because they barely know their clients and it is clearly out of necessity. “Prostitution is commonly defined as the custom of having sexual relations in exchange for economic gain. Although the sex is traditionally traded for money, it can also be bartered for jewelry, clothing, vehicles, housing, food or anything that has market value.” (Damewood, C. L., & Walker, J., 2019).

People who have a good education should have good jobs and live a good and comfortable life, right? That is what most people think and assume. We also know this is not true because we all know that not all people who had a good educationhave a good life. This is the same with the prostitutes, some of them might already graduated from college or have a degree but due to the harsh economic times and massive downsizing in companies, they find themselves doing the job that they do not like just so they can afford their basic needs. This was confirmed by myself when I recently had an encounter with one of them. As we interacted, I realized that she was a graduate with a degree from a recognized institution and she went ahead to say that she has applied for many jobs to no avail and she still continues to, despite being where she is.

When I said that I believe that most of them come from low-income areas, this is due to the fact that when we judge them we tend to think that being poor and uneducated is where people without good morals come from and this is due to the fact that there is a lot of crime in those low-income areas. As much as this may be true, not all of them were born poor or uneducated. Some come from affluent families and are only doing it because they might have beentroubled teenagers or who may have been rebelling towards their parents. Others are there to sustain an expensive lifestyle or even doing it because their parents are not willing to give them that extra cash. I knew about this when I was watching the documentary on Netflix. Some parents from well-off families confessed that they did not know that their daughters were involved in prostitution or that they were escorts for very rich clients in and outside of town.

From the above experiences, my beliefs have been changed now for the better because now I can relate with them and understand why they are doing these certain things. I also want to educate others about what my experiences have taught me.

Prompt 2:

*Write a 250- to 300-word essay telling of an experience that had an important influence on a belief that you held or hold pertaining to your topic. You should explain your belief, and describe the experience, reflecting on what happened as you tell of its effects. You may want to discuss the sources of the belief. Make sure to apply the information found in your lectures and readings.*

For a very long time, I have had the belief that those who take part in prostitution are in it because they enjoy it and never for a second have ever thought that maybe other factors are beyond their control. That has been my perception until I met one (prostitute) through a friend and we got into a conversation. I was lucky she was friendly and was ready to talk and share how she got into prostitution.

She started out working for some man where he could give her and other girls to clients for a fee and he will pay them on a commission basis. When I asked her how she came to know this guy she said she was taken to him by a friend when she was looking for a job after she was left as an orphan. She told me one of her relatives will take herbecause she was grown and she could fend for herself. Desperate to pay the bills, clothe and feed herself, she said she was ready to do anything.

At first, she was reluctant but she opened herself up and started telling the story how she got into prostitution.Little did she know that she will not be able to leave once she is in. Long story short she has seen girls come and go and she knows her time is coming as she got older. The clients like young girls and she knew when it was time for her to leave. This left me thinking how wrong I was to think so low of prostitution, I realized that they are doing it for their own personal reasons and others might simply don’t have any choice. I came to realize that my beliefs come from what the society paints of the prostitutes without a second thought or even stopping to think about what led them there.

References

Bindel, J., Vigo, J., & Mukaiwa, M. (2019, June 12). The Real Face of Prostitution. Retrieved from <https://www.truthdig.com/articles/the-real-face-of-prostitution/>.

Damewood, C. L., & Walker, J. (2019, November 19). What is Prostitution? Retrieved from <https://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-prostitution.htm>.