

YouGov Survey Results

Sample Size: 1696 GB Adults
Fieldwork: 11th - 12th August 2015

	Vote in 2015					Gender		Age				Social Grade		Region					Decriminalise Prostitution			
	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	UKIP	Male	Female	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+	ABC1	C2DE	London	Rest of South	Midlands / Wales	North	Scotland	Support	Oppose	Don't know	
Weighted Sample	1696	577	475	119	204	823	873	202	429	580	485	967	729	217	551	363	417	148	910	361	425	
Unweighted Sample	1696	523	463	125	222	830	866	133	326	639	598	1130	566	192	597	315	430	162	932	361	403	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Have you ever paid someone else for sex?

Yes	5	6	4	7	7	10	0	1	6	6	5	5	5	6	4	8	4	5	9	1	1
No	93	93	94	93	92	87	99	98	92	92	95	93	93	92	95	89	95	95	91	98	95
Prefer not to say	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	1
Don't know	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	3

Currently prostitution is restricted in Britain, meaning that in some cases it can be legal but in others it is a criminal offence - for example street prostitution and running a brothel. Would you support or oppose the full decriminalisation of prostitution, as long as it is consensual?

Support	54	55	53	61	57	65	43	49	51	54	57	54	53	45	56	56	51	59	100	0	0
Oppose	21	23	21	17	23	15	27	26	20	21	22	21	22	23	21	20	23	16	0	100	0
Don't know	25	22	26	21	20	20	29	25	29	25	21	25	25	32	23	24	25	24	0	0	100

Below is a list of arguments in favour of decriminalising prostitution. Which two or three, if any, do you find the most persuasive. Please tick up to three options.

It empowers prostitutes to be more insistent about healthy sex and sex they are comfortable with	42	42	40	54	38	42	41	44	40	41	43	46	37	41	43	42	39	47	54	26	28
It reduces the stigma of prostitution, making it easier to go to the police in cases of abuse	39	40	40	44	33	38	39	47	36	37	39	41	35	35	41	36	40	37	52	18	27
It allows prostitutes to share information about abusive or unsuitable clients	36	33	37	41	30	34	37	32	36	37	36	38	33	35	37	36	31	45	43	25	29
Consensual sex between adults should be free from state interference	33	36	28	45	45	44	22	33	30	31	38	35	30	32	35	34	32	27	47	13	19
It professionalises the industry, giving prostitutes better access to pensions and employment rights	26	25	30	23	21	30	22	31	25	26	25	28	24	27	25	26	24	32	37	8	17
It empowers prostitutes to earn a fair wage from their customers	15	17	16	15	13	17	13	11	13	20	14	15	16	10	15	17	16	16	21	8	10
None of these	11	13	9	10	14	8	15	13	10	11	12	10	14	13	11	12	12	6	1	37	12
Don't know	14	12	16	10	13	11	17	11	17	15	13	12	18	13	13	14	16	16	3	18	36

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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Below is a list of arguments against decriminalising prostitution. Which two or three, if any, do you find the most persuasive. Please tick up to three options.

It expands criminal activities related to prostitution, like sex trafficking, drugs and violence	37	40	35	37	36	35	38	40	34	37	38	40	32	38	39	34	36	38	34	49	32
It boosts sex tourism, making towns and cities less safe and desirable	27	30	28	35	23	29	26	26	30	28	24	32	21	33	23	29	26	28	27	33	22
Prostitution is exploitative, whether or not the prostitute consents to sex	27	27	28	27	23	23	31	31	26	25	30	28	27	30	25	27	28	31	24	44	20
It encourages people to become prostitutes, when it would be better if they had other jobs	21	25	18	20	21	22	20	28	21	20	19	23	19	20	22	21	22	17	19	32	16
People should not be using prostitutes, but seeking sexual relationships with a partner	11	15	8	14	9	12	11	13	13	11	10	11	12	11	13	9	11	13	9	20	9
Violence against prostitutes would increase, regardless of the safeguards put in place	10	10	12	14	8	7	14	13	8	9	13	10	11	11	10	11	10	10	9	17	6
None of these	20	20	20	19	22	24	17	24	15	22	22	19	22	20	20	22	20	16	30	10	8
Don't know	19	14	23	16	22	17	21	15	24	18	18	16	23	17	20	18	20	20	10	13	43

Having heard the arguments on either side, would you now support or oppose the full decriminalisation of prostitution, as long as it is consensual?

Support	52	53	51	56	59	63	41	46	49	52	56	53	50	46	51	53	52	60	90	4	12
Oppose	23	25	23	21	22	18	28	31	23	22	20	23	23	25	23	23	24	16	3	84	13
Don't know	25	22	27	23	19	19	31	23	27	26	24	24	27	29	26	24	23	25	7	12	75