

Proposer: Jess Reid
Seconder: Murray Bushell
Date: 26/01/2023



Motion Title: Support for Student Sex Workers

Motion Resolves:

That the Stirling Students' Union supports student sex workers and believes that sex work is work.

To actively campaign in support in sex workers' housing rights, and that NUS Scotland makes this a priority in particular as part of its work campaigning for student housing.

Motion Notes:

That the rapidly changing nature of commercial sex work within the expanding mobility of our population, both spatially and technologically, has changed how the industry and sex workers operate. A change that the law nor the government have kept up with and has become antiquated.

Currently, while there is an eviction ban in place this stipulates that you can be evicted if 'you're being evicted for antisocial or criminal activity' (Shelter Scotland). Due to the fact that currently there is no statutory definition of a 'brothel', but it has been held to be "a place where people of opposite sexes are allowed to resort for illicit intercourse, whether...common prostitutes or not".

The law states in 'Section 33A of the Sexual Offences Act 1956 (inserted by Sections 55(1) and (2) of the Sexual Offences Act 2003) creates an either-way offence of keeping, managing, acting or assisting in the management of a brothel to which people resort for practises involving prostitution (whether or not also for other practices).'

For example; if five students are living together in a flat and one or more are sex workers and their flatmates are aware of this, by law, they are 'brothel keeping' and committing an offence by assisting their flatmate to do sex work.

Motion Believes:

It is right and necessary for both the Stirling Students' Union and NUS Scotland to campaign in support of student sex workers' rights and in particular to seek a change to the eviction ban which prevents sex workers or anyone else from sharing a premise with them from being evicted as a result of their work.

That, if NUS Scotland, adopts this motion and campaigns in support of student sex worker rights, that they consult and work with sex worker support organisations in Scotland and, where appropriate, throughout the UK. This includes but is not limited to; Umbrella Lane, Scot-PEP, etc.