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Vellacott comments on Report on Prostitution Solicitation Laws

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OTTAWA – Yesterday, the Subcommittee on Solicitation Laws of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights tabled its report. In the report, the Liberal Party, Bloc Quebecois and NDP take the position that prostitution should be at least decriminalized and, in some form, even legalized.

Maurice Vellacott, MP for Saskatoon-Wanuskewin Constituency said, “The Conservative Party makes it clear in the report that we do not support liberalizing our laws on prostitution. The Conservative Party is the only party in the Commons that isn’t advocating the legalization of prostitution.”

Vellacott charged, “The opposition parties are willing to allow the exploitation, abuse and violence that go hand-in-hand with prostitution.”

Vellacott went on to say, “Women are not objects to be commodified. Endorsing prostitution sends a destructive message to Canadian women and young girls. It also sends a perverse message to men about how females are to be treated. The Conservative Party believes that sex is not for profit, that prostitution is exploitive on every level and that women and young girls are not for sale.”

Vellacott noted, “Sweden – which decriminalized prostitution in the 1960s and re-criminalized it in 1999 – learned that decriminalization leads inevitably to more people involved in the industry, human trafficking and child prostitution.”

Vellacott concluded, “We believe that helping women involved in prostitution is encouraging them to leave the trade and targeting the organized criminals who control the sex trade and the purchasers of prostitution who fuel it.”

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For further comment, call (613) 992-1966 or 297-2249