

The two cases presented on the previous pages are of high ranking law enforcement officers- **men who were former police chiefs and county sheriffs (not deputies).**

The **inmates they raped and used as ‘sex slaves’ were not prostitutes**, at least it not so indicated in the articles.

If THESE ‘pillars of the community’ **with SO MUCH to lose**, were willing to risk their careers and the years of respect and admiration from their communities and fellow law enforcement agents around the country- just to be able to extort the female inmates for sex, threatening to kill them or harm their families if they told anyone... how could we expect non- high ranking law enforcement agents and corrections officers/ prison guards to behave differently toward the vulnerable sex worker women and teens in their custody?

Especially when it is the inmates who are punished for reporting the abuse and rapes, rather than those who abuse and rape, and **neither the courts, the prosecutors, the governors, members of congress, senators and prison officials show much concern for the inmate victims or seem at all inclined to stop this abuse...** Is it not to be expected that corrections officers, jail guards and prison wardens feel entitled to abuse those whom society has cast away and deemed “bad women” or “bad girls”?

As shown by recent reports, **juveniles are just as likely, if not MORE likely, to be victims of sexual assault and rape at the hands of their jailers while in custody.**

Inmate rape is so widespread, so entrenched in the prison system, that those corrections officers/ jail guards who rape and sexually assault inmates do not feel the need to hide their activities from other prison/ jail personnel. Despite new measures introduced to combat rape in prisons, such as **The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)** which was passed in 2003 and has finally been officially implemented, the issue of rape and sexual assault in prisons is largely ignored according to organizations such as Women in Prison Project, the Coalition for Women Prisoners, and Just Detention International who monitor the prison rape situation.

If prostitution is like rape, and rape by those who are in charge of the lives of prostitutes and inmates goes unpunished, what are we to think of the argument that prostitution should remain illegal because it is ‘like rape’? Are those who promote this argument actually saying- ***“in our opinion, prostitution is like rape and if you don’t believe us, we will make certain you get raped by the system so you will understand what we mean...”***?