

Editorial

Male and Female Prostitutes: A Fact of Indonesia

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Prostitution had been being a sexy problem easy to talk about but difficult to be studied in depth because of personal, social, and professional risks a researcher should deal with. Prostitution as a field of study had many problems to be considered. The term prostitute itself was debatable since there were many interests in the choice of using the label "prostitute", "*wanita tuna susila*", "commercial sex worker", or "woman sex worker" and so on. Various definitions of prostitution in Indonesia indicated different perspectives in the society in perceiving prostitution. One perspective considered prostitution as crime, embarrassing the family, and a sin. Another emphasized that prostitutes were family heroes, family bread winners, and were not criminals. Prostitution had been being a beneficial business for every one involved, however, morality became a crucial matter never been considered. The major problem of morality in personal domain was the management of sexual desire. In a wider range, however, prostitution had been entangled with problems of family living and varied complex systems. Intervention to prostitution in Indonesia thus should be based on deep and correct understanding. The conclusion and suggestions along with prostitution in Indonesia map could fulfil further understanding.

Keywords: prostitutes, criminalization, decriminalization

Prostitusi telah menjadi masalah seksi untuk dibicarakan, namun sulit dipelajari secara mendalam, karena risiko pribadi, sosial, dan profesional yang harus dihadapi seorang peneliti. Prostitusi sebagai bidang studi memiliki banyak masalah yang perlu dipertimbangkan. Istilah pelacur sendiri patut diperdebatkan mengingat ada begitu banyak pilihan dalam memilih penggunaan label "prostitute", "*wanita tuna susila*", "commercial sex worker", atau "woman sex worker". Beredarnya berbagai definisi prostitusi di Indonesia menunjukkan perspektif yang berbeda di masyarakat dalam memaknai prostitusi. Salah satu perspektif menganggap prostitusi suatu tindak criminal, memalukan keluarga, dan dosa. Yang lain menekankan bahwa pelacur adalah pahlawan keluarga, pemberi nafkah keluarga, dan bukan criminal. Prostitusi telah menjadi bisnis menguntungkan bagi semua orang yang terlibat, namun, moralitas menjadi masalah krusial yang tak pernah dipertimbangkan. Masalah utama moralitas dalam ranah pribadi adalah manajemen gairah seksual. Dalam kaitan yang lebih luas, tampaknya, prostitusi telah melibatkan masalah-masalah kehidupan keluarga dan berbagai sistem yang kompleks. Intervensi terhadap prostitusi di Indonesia seharusnya didasarkan pada pengertian yang mendalam dan benar. Kesimpulan dan saran-saran serta sebuah peta prostitusi di Indonesia akan melengkapi hal tersebut.

Kata kunci: pelacur, kriminalisasi, dekriminalisasi

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A Social Problem, Koentjoro, 2011) and *Merengkuh Masyarakat Penyandang Penyimpangan Seksual* (Outreaching societies with sexual defiance, Koentjoro, 2014), and some other relevant information.

The term prostitute does not apply only for women but also to men, the main actors of prostitution. One interesting finding of Jaan Wiseman Christie a Dutch