

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



CHRIS DAVIES
MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Mr E Goodman
Campaign Against Censorship
23 Budgen Drive
Redhill
RH1 2QB

Dear Mr Goodman

Thank you for your recent letter regarding prostitution and your kind words.

My Liberal Democrat colleagues at Westminster are more than aware of my position and of the laws in Holland which I recommended as a model on which to base our own.

With regard to the Sex Offences Bill, I have read your comments and think you might be interested to hear the Liberal Democrat position regarding the bill which can be summarised thus:

- *The law must draw a clear distinction between activities that take place in private between consenting adults, and behaviour that is abusive or exploitative.*
- *Those who offend against children and vulnerable adults must receive the strongest penalties.*
- *Most abuse takes place within the family and the Bill should make it plain that sex offences which take place within the home will be treated with the same seriousness as sex offences between strangers.*
- *Where sex offenders are too dangerous to be released they should remain in custody. We favour a system under which dangerous people are held indefinitely and the court is periodically required to review the need for continued detention.*
- *In many cases unacceptable behaviour can be treated and kept in check by intensive supervision. It is to this Government's shame that the only residential treatment centre in the community closed last year.*

I hope this information is helpful and let me wish you the best of luck in your endeavours.

Yours sincerely

Chris Davies MEP