

EXPRESSION OF PROSTITUTION IN THE CONTEXT OF CONSUMER SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT¹

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Abstract

In this article the author analyzes the expression of the prostitution phenomenon in the context of the development of consumer society, evaluating the situation of Lithuania in 1990-2010. As prostitution is explained in various theoretical contexts, the distinct adepts of the theoretical perspectives, preserving the inner logic of arguments, represent very diverse explanations of the phenomenon of the prostitution. This article introduces the sociological discourse of the phenomenon of the prostitution; the methodological approach is supported by the theoretical insights of Davis (1994), Giddens (2005), Rubavičius (2010), Pruskus (2010), Norkus (2008). The historical evaluation of the phenomenon of the prostitution and the analysis of the development of the legal basis, which discloses the social-legal construct of the phenomenon of the prostitution in the process of the society, socio-cultural and economical development, the entrenchment arguments of the consumer society in justice are also represented in the article.

Key words: *prostitution, trafficking in human beings, procurement, consumer society.*

Introduction

The phenomenon of the prostitution is comprehensible and interpreted, with references to very diverse attitudes in today's postmodern society. The whole set of theoretical, ideological perspectives could be distinguished, which represent the peculiar attitude towards this phenomenon – moralistic perspective, the perspective of the “social worker”, Marxist, functionalist, “labelling”, feminist and various liberalistic variations of the attitude. The adepts of these different theoretical perspectives, in preserving the logic of inner arguments, represent very distinct analysis of the phenomenon of the prostitution. Naturally, every theoretical perspective stands for the one or the other social class, which has own interests and actively propagates them.

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However, for the effective working of the public administration, without the variety of the opinions – as one of the fundamental features of the democratic society, the parting of the dominant opinion of the society which would enable the institutions to embrace the policy is necessary. Actually, the exploration of any social phenomenon, defiant to the main features of society's state of thereof period, may be very metaphysical and inaccurate. It is necessary to notice two important dates, which signify the fundamental changes of great groups of the society, in the context of the present theme. In consonance, the Western capitalist societies from the 7-8 decades of the 20th century experience the systematic change, which essence is – *the time of commodification of information, the human body and genetic matter* (Rubavičius, 2010). During the time of this period, there were detected the inexhaustible layers of resources in the human body and psyche, which enable the new spring of capital accumulation; the commodification graduate into the range of human body and its “inner” life. The body (alive, dead or frozen), the parts of the body, the components of the organs of the body became valuable commodities of marketplace. The demand of human body in a product market was formed in the countries that accumulated great material resources. Other important date for the formation of the society – 1989. During those years, the Eastern and Western European countries, where the rapid realization of neoliberal economical, social and cultural reform began which was quite controversial, struggle free from the occupation of Soviets (Norkus, 2008). The communist political and economical elite remain in power in the part of the countries of this region (e.g. Lithuania), while taken the helm of free-market reforms started over to build up the political corrupt systems of oligarchic type, which drastically weakened the social leash, enhanced the social disjuncture, and repudiated the society from the administration of the country. By the way, other elite (conservative or liberal) that replaced communistic elite continue to operate that faulty system. The dominant ideology of the individuals of these countries – the imperative of the capacity to sell oneself in the market – the benchmark of the education program, which is solidified in the education system, is being put on the clothing of the personal freedom and free choice. The rapid entrenchment of the ideology of the usage and consumer-oriented ideology enabled to form a new type consumer society during the decade where the usage became the “natural” remedy of the establishment of social organization, social relations and identity. The significance of the usage freedom is undeniable in these societies, while disappearing of the sense of the truth, the ethical evaluation of the remedies, which secure the usage, is rejected as not relevant (Bauman, 2011). Remembering that one of the aims of the reconstruction of the neoliberal society was to emancipate the market and not only it from the supervision of the nation, propagating the idea of the “minimal” nation. Numerous economically, socially, politically, ideologically naïve, weak and defenseless social strata of society that are willing largely to use now and in any means, confronted with the shortage of the resources. The merger of “the hare” and “the wolf” intervened in the united Europe. For the ability to use, the countries of Eastern and Western Europe started to pay by the bodies of young citizens. One of the forms of such a payment – is a widespread phenomenon of prostitution, embryonic forms of which existed in the countries of the Soviet regime.

Aim of the research: to reveal the expression of the phenomenon of the prostitution in the consumer society in the context of development in Lithuania, the legal basis of regulation of prostitution in justice.

Methodology: it is possible to separate series of theoretical, ideological perspectives, which represent the distinctive attitude towards the phenomenon of the prostitution - moralistic perspective, the perspective of the “social worker”, Marxist, functionalist, “labeling”, feminist and various liberalistic variations of attitude. The adepts of these different theoretical perspectives, in preserving the logic of inner arguments, represent very distinct analysis of the phenomenon of the prostitution. Naturally, every theoretical perspective stands for the one or

the other social class, which has their own interests and actively propagates them. The author in this article introduces the sociological discourse of the phenomenon of the prostitution; those methodological approaches are supported by the theoretical providence of Davis (1994), Giddens (2005), Rubavičius (2010), Pruskus (2010), Norkus (2008). The historical evaluation of the phenomenon of the prostitution and the analysis of the development of the legal basis, which disclose the social-legal construct of the phenomenon of the prostitution in the process of society, socio-cultural and economical development, the entrenchment arguments of the consumer society in justice, also is represented in the article utilizing the methods of *literature survey, the analysis of statistics and the analysis of legal documents*.

The phenomenon of the prostitution and its evaluation in the society

The sexual services for the financial remuneration in all civilizations, which had the token money probably, were valid in the form of prostitution (Marshall, 1998). Nevertheless, the great civilizations of East, Antiquity and West adversely assessed that practice and as often as not prosecuted by law the prostitution, which at all times was changing its forms widely existed in various countries, in their distinct social layers. The prostitution was accounted of being “social evil” and “the feature of the degradation of the society”. The philosophers, the religion and national institutions, and society groups were contending against this phenomenon, but it remains. Usually several attitudes can be detected, which assess the prostitution in the society. Some groups apparently resent, outlining their disgust, trying to convince themselves and others that this phenomenon is uncommon and foreign for the society that if people want people could quickly remove it; that permanent moral imperatives exist and it means that because of these deviations or confusions of sexual attractions people’s attitude towards the sexual life should not change. Others state that the human nature and historical experience ensure the immortality of the prostitution. Both these attitudes say little when researching the phenomenon of the prostitution: the derogation of the problem and making it absolute are not prospective methods of the research. It is obvious that misunderstanding of this unusual form of the sexuality, inability to relate it with the valid forms of sexual life, one would not understand the natural sexuality. The containment, restriction, subjection individually with the social need concurrent with the will, of the sexual attraction, which spurts with the aim to prolong the family, is one of the leading aims of the education, which the society ought to solve. The society is vitally concerned to stop the growth of the sexual attraction, while individual will not achieve the particular standard of social maturity (Davis, 1994).

It seems as the attitude towards the prostitution is ambivalent: on the one hand, nobody succeeds to forget that this is nasty, terrible and risky; on the other hand, it seems as if this phenomenon is attractive and at heart it is needed to overcome the inside envy for those, who are indulging in the services, which the prostitution provides.

By publishing the works of Malinowski (1945) in sociology, the attitude entrenched that one or another public institution exists as long as it makes one or another function, which is beneficial for the society. Davis introduced the functional theory, which analyses prostitution as a particular safety-valve, which helps to preserve other institution – family, which is concerned with sexual relations (Davis, 1994). This functional approach with particular limitations for the author of this article appeared as acceptable and according to it this analysis of the phenomenon is accomplished in the modern-day society of Lithuania.

The definition of the phenomenon of the prostitution (Lat. prostitute – to solicit publicly) in the sociological literature yet is not finally formed, though the concept is being used since the 18th century in the literature (Giddens, 2005). The prostitution is definable as sexual intercourse or offer of the body to gratify the sensuality for the material remuneration, in the sociology dictionary (Leonavičius, 1993). This is quite inexact definition, because the

act of prostitution is not only the sexual response, the purpose of which is the receiving of material remuneration. The big part of the society is involved into the process of receiving the remuneration, and especially women. Even the family, which is the most respectable sexual institution, is reasoned by the principle of interchanging: when women by betraying their sexual advantages achieve the wanted economical and social position. The practice of the erotic stimulation on purpose to make a profit has penetrated into the everyday life, but this is not called prostitution. Maybe the essence of this phenomenon could be precisely defined by one fundamental addition – the sexual intercourse with the prostitute does not have such a thing, which is called the spiritual basis of the sexual intercourse – emotion. Consequently, the definition could be slightly complemented. *The prostitution – is scruffy, remunerative sexual intercourses, which are indifferent emotionally.* This definition of the prostitution slightly differs from the author's definition from the newest Lithuanian study about the phenomenon of the prostitution, which sounds like that: the prostitution is the offering of the sexual services for an unfamiliar (and sometimes totally unacceptable) partner for the remuneration without any responsibilities (Pruskus, 2010). The right should be left for the readers to evaluate these definitions. The attitude towards the prostitution actually is universal – the majority of the societies more or less strictly are condemning it. But the hustling is not treated as the criminal offence in the many countries of European traditions, among them Lithuania. The law articles are diverted against the souteneurs and other organizers of this illegal business. Maybe one of the reasons of this phenomenon is that the changes of sexual environment in Lithuania are extremely quickly happening. The Soviet regime gummed up the imperatives of sexual morality of the Victorian times of Western Europe: the sexuality was carefully unrevealed; it was condemned by the conjugal family, who divided it for the serious work of procreation. Not a word about sex. The law on the basis – is legal and multiplying couple. The couple rises as a model, rations, holds the truth, preserves the right to speak by veiling the principle of the confidence. The only accepted place, but utilitarian and prolific place of sexuality in the social place, as in the every house – is the parents' room. What disobeys the principle of the extension of the family and does not adapt to its demands, has neither place, nor right to exist. It was so. Today the mass culture stimulates the importance of sexual demands and values. However, the fulfillment of these demands is quite complicated for the unmarried and for some married individuals.

The institution of prostitution is removing this emerging public pressure. Another supporting reason for this phenomenon could be the fact that public possibility to control sexual expression relates it to marriage and procreation of children is very poor. Moreover, the institutions which declare moral authority, affix some of the men with celibacy, associate sex with love and the procreation of children and this creates difficulties for the part of the public (far broader and active) which desires sexual variety and has a desire for slightly more "different" sexual needs, which needs new, more provocative environment and fast and relatively cheap sexual services without the burden of responsibilities.

Prostitution is both an economical and cultural phenomenon. This activity has the same goals as most of the others – to profitably sell their services. Prostitution has always been a profitable business, so it is today, in spite of public disapproval.

In many countries, the public attitude towards prostitution is different. In addition, this approach has been changing over the centuries. Sociologists have appointed three variables that determine public attitude towards prostitutes: 1) the customers' approach towards the practice of prostitutes; 2) the usage of income from prostitution; 3) the coordination of prostitution industry with acceptable social behavior (Davis, 1994).

550 BC in ancient Greece the Athens reformer Solon suggested establishing *dicterions* (public houses) which were supposed to strengthen the social climate of Athens and protect the

families. Prostitutes were divided into three main groups: *dicteriades*, *pornai* and the *hetaerae* with no strict boundaries between these groups (Дюфур, 1999). These are the *hetaerae* names that remained until nowadays: Sappho, Aspasia, Leonia, Arkeanas, Feoris and Farina. There are also four types of prostitution inherited from the ancient Greece: lesbian, sacred, Chinese and Epicurean. The authors of these philosophical doctrines (Sappho, Socrates, Diogenes and Epicurus) defined the activities of the high-class *hetaerae*. Sappho advocated love between women, Socrates – the spiritual, Diogenes – the brutal physical and Epicurus – voluptuous. *Hetaerae* had a great influence in Athens and other Greek cities. For example Aspasia, the *dicteriade* from Megara was able to influence famous Athenian orator and commander Pericles, who was madly and deeply in love with her. Because of Aspasia the young Athenian women were not ashamed to join the *hetaerae* estate (before Aspasia prostitutes were foreigners or slaves). Aspasia dictated fashion, and styles and topics of conversations, moral decisions (Дюфур, 1999).

In China, during the Zhou dynasty (1100 – 221 BC) prostitution acquired institutional forms. During the second half of the dynasty rein the aristocrats kept a crowd of courtesans, musicians, actors, attendants, eunuchs, who influenced the important state decisions. During the reign of Tang dynasty (618-907 AD) the estate of prostitutes has finally been formed where there were not only the illiterate prostitutes but also subtle courtesans, who were familiar with the art of dance, music and the creation of subtle poetry. At the time, a prostitute preparation system emerged. Small girls were either purchased or just stolen and given to *ciamu* (stepmothers), were trained, and later re-sold into brothels to wealthy guardians. This system was acquired and perfected by the Japanese, whose geishas today look like well prepared social workers rather than prostitutes. Indian *devadasis* – temple dancing girls for centuries not only sang and danced, but were included in the temple prostitution. In India they were essentially the only literate women. Sexual intercourse made in the temple acquired religious ritual significance; income went to the temple.

In medieval Europe prostitution was widespread. It has not been considered as a crime. Prostitution was viewed as a necessary evil. Even the Catholic Church hierarchy often made profit from public houses. This idyll lasted until the Protestant Reformation, which emphasized personal morality and was against any extramarital sexual relations. Because of the spread of terrible venereal disease in the brothels – syphilis, the extent of prostitution declined. At the same time the church handed the battle with prostitution to the state authorities. Nevertheless, despite of the authorities' attempts, sometimes quite brutal, prostitution was not destroyed. Prostitution has not disappeared even in the recent times. Even socialist systems could not fight it. After the collapse of the socialist system, the new democracies were faced with the oldest problems.

Prostitution in Lithuania in 1990 -2010. The public and legal regulation development

Illegal prostitution becomes a special kind of social tension. Prostitution is particularly difficult to control. What is the public's attitude towards prostitution in Lithuania? A sociological survey, with the question "What is your opinion about prostitution" showed that 34% of respondents think that it should be banned, 14% think that not only the prostitutes should be held responsible but also their clients, 11% of respondents think that proper education is a better solution than persecution, 18% would agree with the legalization of prostitution, and the other 18% think that it is a matter of personal interest. As it is possible to see, the opinions vary.

The main arguments that encourage public organizations and public institutions to strictly control the prostitution can be grouped as follows: 1) prostitutes tend to service many

men; 2) prostitutes turn sexual relationships into commerce thus remove the spiritual link; 3) prostitution negatively affects social climate; 4) prostitution spreads venereal disease – hepatitis, AIDS and others; 5) prostitution, as a part of organized crime, worsens the criminal situation; 6) the existence of prostitution worsens the demographical situation of the country (Davis, 1994; Brommberg, 1998; Scott, 2006; Pruskus, 2010).

Probably the most important causes of legal or illegal prostitution business are economic, because prostitution is growing rapidly in countries where women lack the jobs; this is confirmed by the migration of prostitutes from poor countries to rich. Experts from Ministry of Internal Affairs have noted some direct reasons why women become prostitutes: 15% for the “beautiful and funny life”; 15% out of curiosity; 13% because they do not want to work; 11% for the additional money income. So the reasons are not only economical. Perhaps Lombroso was right when in his classification of prostitutes enlisted “born to be prostitutes” (Ломброзо, 1998).

According to the non-governmental organizations “Praeities pėdos” (The Steps of the Past), there are two directions of women trafficking in Lithuania:

- 1) When the woman is bought and sold in Lithuania.
- 2) When the woman is sold to a foreign country.

Both of these directions are important, both require attention. Nevertheless the question arises, can a Lithuanian girl that is working abroad as a prostitute be called a victim? According to the 29 November 1985 United Nations General Assembly Declaration on “Crime and Abuse of Power Basic Principles of Justice” all these women should be considered victims, regardless of whether they have been forcibly taken away or departed voluntarily and knew what they were supposed to do. All these women were somehow deceived, even if physical or sexual abuse had not been used on them.

The directions of Lithuanian citizens’ export abroad are constantly changing. If in the time period mentioned at the beginning the main stream travelled to Israel, Greece, United Arab Emirates, Turkey, now it is Germany, Holland, England, France, Spain and other countries. This is influenced by immigration laws of some countries. In Israel and Turkey the illegal prostitutes are thrown in jail. In addition, some Middle Eastern countries try not to allow single women under the age of 30 in the country without a legitimate man to escort them, so fake marriages, sex tourism, education become increasingly popular, the goal – to enter the country legally and then engage in prostitution.

Demand for these services depends on rudimentary sexual appetite. However, the prostitute is not a primitive mean of satisfying the sexual hunger. Lust, mysterious and provocative environment have their influence. The nature of prostitution is to satisfy the “dark” side of desire. The family, which is often described as a status rather than an authority agreement, limits the diversity of human sexual satisfaction, quantity and methods. A person who pays the prostitute believes that she has to do everything that he desires.

The improvement of economical situation is unlikely to eliminate at least one of the following criteria; secret desire to be satisfied will remain. In addition, the clients of prostitutes are often those who are unable to secure a regular sexual intercourse (due to deformation of the body, blindness, deafness, etc.), soldiers, sailors, criminals, tourists, conference participants.

After the shock of extremely intense prostitution growth in Lithuanian citizens, the public began to respond and compel authorities to take action. Prevailing liberal approach of society to prostitution, slowly began to change into the “social worker” paradigm, which claims that prostitution is evil, but the women who are engaged in it are victims and public must help them to get out of this shameful situation and restore the lost dignity. In 1997 Lithuania adopted the Governmental human trafficking control and prevention program, which is periodically updated and combined for all state and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

in efforts to control this negative process. The Republic of Lithuania developed and adopted legal prostitution and human trafficking interdiction basics: a law providing for criminal liability for a person who is making money on prostitution (Art. 307 CC); for inclusion into prostitution (CC Art. 308); for child pornography (Art. 162, CC); for human trafficking (Art. 147 CC.); and the purchase or sale of a child (CC Article 157). There is an administrative responsibility for prostitution (Ministry CATL 182. Art.). A formal approach to prostitution by CATL (Administrative Code) is expressed in 182 Art. and provides penalties for engaging in prostitution from 300 to 500 Lt. The repetition of the following steps shall incur a fine from 500 to 1,000 Lt, or arrest up to 30 days (Ministry of Administrative Violations Code, 2003). In 2005 amendments to this Article was adopted and came into force which provides for liability to persons who are using prostitution services.

Many of the signs of prostitution coincide with the constituent elements of human trafficking, such as sexual exploitation or recruitment. This is why in the cases of human trafficking the crime is often reclassified as profiting from prostitution or involvement in prostitution. Looking at prostitution and related crime statistics Lithuania in 2004-2010, one can see that during this period such criminal offenses were recorded: profiting from another person's prostitution (Art. 307 CC.) – 246 cases; involvement in prostitution (CC Art. 308) – 83 cases; purchase or sale of a child (CC Article 157) – 24 cases; human trafficking (Art. 147 CC.) – 187 cases. These are very moderate numbers. Probably, it is necessary to accept the view (Nikartas et al., 2011) that the official prostitution and human trafficking crime statistics are only a tip of the iceberg; they observed only part of committed criminal offenses.

It is very hard to determine the true scope of prostitution. Not only in Lithuania, but also all over the world, the data of prostitution and human trafficking extent is sketchy, unreliable, and hardly comparable, because there is no general system of data collection on national and international scale, the problem and definition of concepts is comprehended differently, there are obvious differences in legal regulations. According to the data of Vilnius branch of International Migration Organization, the number of women who are working as prostitutes in Lithuania should be around 3000 – 10000 (Lehti, 2003; Sipavičienė, 2005). However, according to Pruskus (2010), the number of women engaging in prostitution in Lithuania is 4000 – 6000. The factors that are determining the drawbacks of exhaustiveness and objectiveness of the data are related to the specifics of the recruitment into prostitution and human trafficking crimes. These are the crimes that appear in various, usually covered up methods, and are carried out by well organized criminal groups, the victims are intimidated, physically and psychologically abused, restrained. In many cases these methods overpower the possibility, will, and ability of victims to seek help. Consequently, the official statistics are not necessarily accurate and corresponding to current state; on the other hand, it can at least be useful for orienting purposes in an attempt to understand the scope of the problem. The official numbers of human trafficking presented by twelve European countries (including Lithuania) were compared to victimologic study data. It was established that the registered and real victim ratio can be 1/10 or 1/20 (Nikartas et al., 2011). Because of such a big margin of error, it is very hard to analyze the received data. So the question of the real scope of the prostitution or human trafficking remains unanswered. It is thought, that in order to get more accurate information about these crimes, it is important to improve the cooperation between the law and order institutions and aid for the victims of these crimes providing organizations, in addition to establishing the general statistics database of the victims of prostitution and human trafficking.

The development of prostitution in Klaipėda in the context of forming consumer-oriented society

Even though the problem of uncontrolled growth of prostitution is important to the residents of the whole country, in the analysis of this phenomenon it is important to single

out the cities. The prevention and control of prostitution and human trafficking problems are fueled not only by the anonymity of city life, which weakens or eliminates the control of society, but also the new arising incentives to commit a crime in the cities. In the city, as nowhere else, the social inequality emerges; it stimulates the growth of discontent and disappointment, which further stimulates antisocialism. The people are encouraged to buy, receive, use, and have. Klaipėda, while being the biggest port and third city in the country by number of residents, in demographic, cultural, and social views is a very complex system characteristic for its distinctive tension, conflict, and insecurity sources, that are forming the specific expression of prostitution phenomenon.

The material provided in this chapter is taken from Kurmanova's (2003) unpublished report on situation of prostitution in Klaipėda, the analysis of the publications in the newspapers of the city of Klaipėda "Vakarų ekspresas" and "Klaipėda", city police commissariat, and police archives.

Klaipėda having 170 thousand residents (during two decades of independence, because of various reasons the number of residents has decreased almost by 40 thousand that is 20%) is the third city in Lithuania by the number of residents, and the biggest port. Port operations influence resident economical activeness. Klaipėda has well developed transport infrastructure. The city has highway connections to Poland, Russia, Belarus, Latvia, and Germany. Not far (25 km) the Palanga international airport is located, and modernized multifunctional unfreezing port allows to be easily reached. Because of the aforementioned conditions, the sphere of sexual services in the city of Klaipėda became well developed and structuralized. However, a more or less united prostitute community, the representatives of which could voice and fight for their interests in negotiations with city council, has not been formed in the city of Klaipėda. This was caused by inner as well as outer conditions. To inner conditions it is possible to attribute that the subgroup members of this group are not communicating with each other. For example, drug using prostitutes do not consider themselves as prostitutes. Moreover, this group is not numerous, and for it a huge mobility and change of members are common. To outer conditions it is possible to attribute the predominant negative opinion of prostitution phenomenon. Despite the open or covered up promotion of prostitution legalization in Klaipėda press, that took place for a whole decade, the society managed to keep common sense and did not change its views. It is important to state, that this view is aimed against prostitution phenomenon, but not the women that are in that situation. The active position of society, which crystallized in active proceedings of non-governmental organizations, forced local as well as national level politicians gradually create such a legislative base, which more or less forces law and order institutions not tolerate this problem. One does not need to forget that punitive legal means is just one of policy comprising principles of struggle against human trafficking and prostitution. It is understandable that existence of the phenomenon in shadows does not eliminate the problem; however, it also does not allow it to spread.

While trying to determine more effective prostitution prevention means, it is essential to, at least, in general features "draw" social demographical picture of these women. Experts think, that in Klaipėda there are from 250 to 350 women, who work as prostitutes and this group is very diverse. While researching the *ethnolinguistic* characteristics of women in prostitution situation, it is important to note, that more than a half (5-6 out of 10) prostitutes of Klaipėda are Lithuanian and the rest are Slavic. When researching this group in *educational* aspect, it is necessary to note that practically all adults have finished primary school. The major part of the group has failed to gain professional education (e.g. cooks). According to them, the main reason for their unsuccessful attempt is drug use. The minors that work as prostitutes, because of their age and unfavorable social conditions (parents abusing alcohol), do not have formal education yet. When regarding *the age and the experience in prostitution business*, it is possible

to separate several groups. The senior prostitutes (during research having 35 or more years) stated having 19-20 years of experience in prostitution business; the junior prostitutes (25-27 years old) stated, that before engaging into this sphere they have used drugs for 3-4 years and only because of money shortage to satisfy this addiction they started to provide prostitution services. The major and most active group of women providing prostitution services is from 17 to 20 years old. It should be noted that the period of life from 18 to 30 years old is one of most intense in human life; the professional education is acquired, professional skills are forming, starting a family. This period is quite consequential; during it the created foundation for life can determine the rest of the life. When a person fails in this stage, he/she can choose deviant behavior or criminal activities. There also is a small group of minors, who provide their services in port territory. Even though it is dangerous, the *souteneurs* do not avoid working with girls of this age group, because the demand for their services is substantial. If a prostitute does not have alcohol or drug addictions, she can remain in the market even after age of forty, but if she is trying to combine drug use with providing prostitution services, her career span is only 3 to 8 years. Another indicator group is – *home, family, permanent partner*. Adult prostitutes are living with permanent partners in their homes, or some of them are renting a joint apartment. If she is not using drugs, the female *souteneurs* may allow living with her. However, if the girl is minor and uses drugs or does not have permanent sexual partner, she does not have where to live. There can be several sources of such a situation: “forced out of home by parents” or “the time in foster home has come to an end and does not know what to do”. When such situation occurs, they are sleeping in random places, dens, “ditches”, that is everywhere where they do not need to pay money. Prostitutes are making deals in various places of the city: port, rest parking lots of long-distance drivers, bars, saunas, hotels, night clubs, massage parlors, even newspaper ads are used. The city territory is divided into influence zones, which are serviced by one or another group of girls. The services of prostitutes are by representatives of various social levels. The *clients* of low income prostitutes are sailors. The “most profitable” are Filipinos and Russians, because they are non-selective and generous. Another major part of clients is long-distance truck drivers. Among the clients of prostitutes a decent part is comprised of people who do not have permanent jobs, especially young men. The representatives of this category are actively participating in criminal activities. A minor part of clients is comprised by visiting businessmen and officials, in addition to young men from wealthy families. Sexual practices are most various, there is practically nothing unacceptable. *Service prices* vary greatly; from express service in night club restroom for 40 litas to spending a night for 8000 litas. The most popular asked price is 50 euro, or 70 US dollars, or 200 litas. A big part of prostitutes’ income is made by thefts from the clients. Almost half of earned amount is received by *souteneurs* or organizers of this business. The low income drug user prostitutes’ earnings usually are taken away by their partners. Men and women in Klaipėda are working as *souteneurs*. The big part of women *souteneurs* in this business is surprising.

The girls and women that are providing this service are also facing great potential to get infected by AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases, because not all clients are satisfied by sex with condoms. Among women providing sexual services, there are not many that are infected with AIDS (during research there was one); however, with knowledge that among them are a lot of intravenous drug users, it is possible to guess that statistics are not accurate. In an attempt to prevent sexually and through infected syringes transmitted diseases in 1997 in Klaipėda, the first syringe exchange center has been established, and in 2000 – a second one. They give away syringes and condoms. In these centers people, who are prepared for this work and highly motivated, are working, they can provide psychological help and, if girl wants, direct to one or another NGO, where specter of services for women is very wide. In 2003 the social and psychological help center was established in Klaipėda, which provides

complex service for women (social, psychological, medical, intermediating when managing documents, interdepartmental intermediating, intermediating when trying to reestablish relations with relatives, planned program to solve social problems and preparation for living in personal environment, intermediating when looking for work as well as employment, and further relation upholding with the client). Similar scale of services is also provided by Catholic organization "Lietuvos Caritas Klaipėdoje". In the city methadone program is also provided, which is also used by females providing prostitution services. Part of these means is ambiguous, because by exchanging syringes, giving away condoms, and providing easier obtaining of drugs, people not only protect from diseases, but also implement themselves in their activities.

Conclusions

1. After independence from Soviet occupation (1991.03.11) the spread of prostitution was caused by these reasons: *economical* (the growth of unemployment, poverty, lack of social guaranties, the quick growth of economical inequality), *cultural values* (the consumer culture coming to power, general decrease in social well being, devolution of human values, spread of alcoholism and especially drug use), *educational* (low knowledge of market community processes, social carelessness, low enlightenment of youth and police), *negative role of informational means* (advertising, romanticizing, and idealization of prostitution), *legal* (insufficient regulation of prostitution phenomenon).
2. Even though in Lithuania, by taking into account country's historical experience and the experience of the EU countries, a decent legislative base regulating prostitution was created, which cover administrative and punitive responsibility for organizers of prostitution, the receivers of prostitution services, and providers of the services, its functionality is low. The situation may be changed only by active and constant (through non-governmental organizations, pressure to corrupted legislative system of Lithuania).
3. It is thought that the income from illegal prostitution business in Lithuania per year may reach 200 mln litas. Part of this income is commissioned to buying the protection of corrupted officers. Prostitution is becoming a business, which cannot bankrupt in market oriented society.
4. The experiences of women that are in prostitution situation in city of Klaipėda reveal, that the main reasons for their involvement into prostitution are: *economical* (poverty, privation, the wish to have a lot and now, by any means possible to become a consumer that is not separated from closest environment), *psychological* (sexual abuse experienced in childhood, the lack of love and care, formation of low self-esteem, bereavements), and *addiction* to alcohol, drugs.
5. Prostitution leads personality into social, psychological, and spiritual degradation. For this reason it is essential that governmental and non-governmental organizations would have close and focused cooperation in an attempt to neutralize the factors that promote the spread of prostitution phenomenon in consumer oriented society, and constantly form adequate legal base controlling this phenomenon.

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