

A Pastoral Letter on Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation in Canada

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A new pastoral letter from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops' Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace titled "For Freedom Christ has set us Free: Pastoral Letter on Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation in Canada, by the Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace" / "C'est pour que nous soyons libres que le Christ nous a libérés : Lettre pastorale sur la traite des personnes et l'exploitation sexuelle au Canada"

This pastoral letter draws attention to the inherently exploitative and abusive nature of the purchase of sex and insists that in order to protect the vulnerable, this practice must continue to be criminalized: "Treating sex as 'work' masks the physical, psychological and sexual violence inflicted on the prostituted person. Prostitution involves selling something that by its nature cannot be bought or sold and is therefore inherently exploitative."

An infographic version of the letter is available as a PDF in both [English](#) and [French](#).