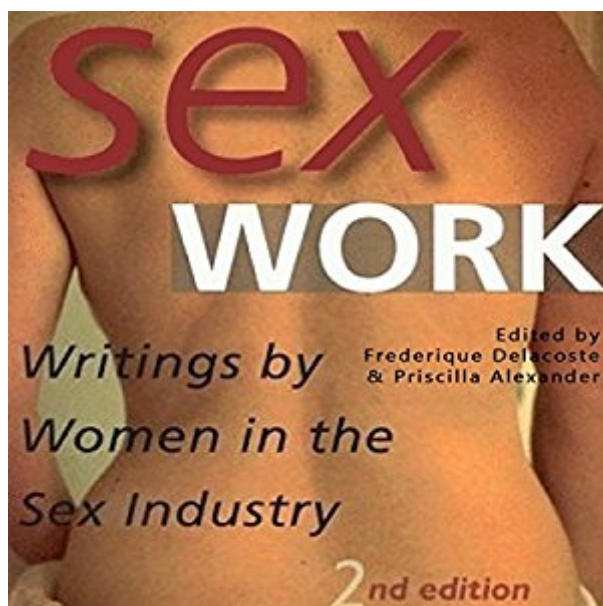


The book was found

Sex Work: Writings By Women In The Sex Industry



Synopsis

A landmark collection of writings by street prostitutes, exotic dancers, nude models, escorts, porn stars, and massage parlor workers. Since publication in 1987, *Sex Work* has generated much discussion and has changed the language we use to talk about sex for money.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

After the success of the first edition, published in 1987, *Sex Work* was expanded significantly in the second edition of 1998. Divided into three major parts, the book brings together over fifty writings by prostitutes, dancers, feminists, and social workers on the subject of work in the sex industry. All are strongly pro-prostitution both morally and ethically. A good majority of the writings detail how the industry as a whole has been very good to the workers-particularly financially. Only a few mention any abuse or personal emptiness suffered as a result of the profession. Essays range from straightforward autobiographies to somewhat pornographic, but all are blunt and very honest. The first and longest section of the book, entitled "In the Life", covers the experiences of sex workers mainly in the Americas and Europe. Through very personal first-hand accounts, the women detail how they decided to get into the industry-and the consensus is clearly financial. Together, the writings in this section paint a portrait of the sex industry as a mechanism for unskilled (or unlucky) women's empowerment and self-dependence. In the second section, "Feminism and the Whore Stigmata", three feminist writers undertake the difficult task of defending prostitution and pornography from the charge that they serve to subjugate women, reducing them to objects in the eyes of men. Playing off the words of the workers in the first section, the theme of this section is that

these women are, in fact, working to achieve everything the feminist movement stands for: self reliance, strength, and a fight against unfounded stigmatism. The arguments go on to explain that feminist condemnation of the sex industry is actually bad for women as a whole.

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