

A Response to the Response to the Critics of the Abbotsford Airshow

The nationally and internationally popular sex trade in recent years has come under increased criticism from many spokespersons, including MCC Canada. Critics make it clear the sex trade is not about love, rather about power relationships, and gross exploitation of people created in God's image.

The debate about this issue has been intense. One faction, the "International Happy Hooker Hoteliers Society" indicate that for the pliers of the trade, where it is legitimated in countries such as Holland and Thailand, it is a means of survival and often a way out of poverty. They tell of numerous employees who have risen above lives of abject misery to prosperous existence today.

They further indicate that the government and society are great beneficiaries through taxes and other forms of derived income. "Besides", said one spokesperson, "we believe we have significantly reduced the incidence of sexual assaults through the rechanneling into legitimate outlet the male libido." He added with a chuckle: "Boys will be boys!"

While we know this kind of sexual activity is not God's primary will, in a fallen world we must acknowledge the strength of the arguments supporting its indulgence by unbelievers. First, men obviously cannot function in a sin-plagued society if they do not have sexual outlets. Further, the Genesis 9 passage is clear about the continued postdiluvian mandate to procreate, besides many other Scriptures. Still more: that Jesus did not tell the woman caught in adultery specifically to stop selling her body, that he did not once tell others likewise to cease from their immoral sexual activity, though doubtless many of the followers were prostitutes - such as Mary Magdalene, that he indicated that prostitutes will enter the Kingdom before the Pharisees, etc., are all indications that God in a sin-laden world has made some allowance for limited sexual promiscuity as intrinsic to the human condition. "Boys will be boys" perhaps most adequately sums up the inevitability of male sexual aggression. This is surely an allowable interim lesser operational ethic for those who reject Christ. (I'm reminded of the prostitute Rahab who is listed in Jesus' genealogy and even by occupation in the Saints' Hall of Fame in Hebrews 11.)

I am an ethical dualist.....

OR:

The nationally and internationally established practice of abortion by legitimate governments has been lamented in recent years by numerous critics, including some MCC Canada spokespersons....

I am an ethical dualist.....

Or....

While some are at least honest about their ethical dualism, Jesus is devoid of such double-think. Such confuse Jesus with John the Baptist in drawing on the Luke 3 passage for an argument from silence concerning military participation. Such arguments in any event are always suspect.

Father George Zabelka was the Catholic chaplain with the US Army air force who blessed the men who dropped the bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. He said this in a Sojourners interview 14 years ago (August, 1980): “The mainline Christian churches still teach something that Christ never taught or even hinted at, namely the just war theory, a theory that to me has been completely discredited theologically, historically, and psychologically.

“So as I see it, until the various churches within Christianity repent and begin to proclaim by word and deed what Jesus proclaimed in relation to violence and enemies, there is no hope for anything other than ever-escalating violence and destruction.”

In the spirit of Paul, who was embarrassingly *ad hominem* in Gal. 1, anathema to ethical dualism!