Transcript of Lou Cahill’s video about the NMN flyer

This is a transcript of a short video that Lou Cahill, the proposer of Motion 1. ‘Decriminalisation of prostitution’ at the RCN Congress 2019 posted on Twitter on 19 May 2019, the day before the motion was debated.

The flyers that she is referring to are those produced by Nordic Model Now! and distributed by volunteers outside the conference centre in an effort to bring some balance to the debate.

We need to [?] this which is being handed out outside the RCN Conference. First of all, decriminalise pimps and brothel keepers – the vast majority of brothel keepers are sex workers – when more than two sex workers work together then it’s a brothel. Do we think it’s right to decriminalise them? Yes we do because we are talking about keeping women safe.

Normalising the sale of girls – excuse me? We’d never advocate that anyone promote sex work for underage girls. We are talking about adults who are currently working in sex work. No one is advocating for underage girls.

Fails to recognise the inherent harms of prostitution – well it’s because of those harms that we are advocating for decriminalisation.

Makes prostitution into welfare for poor women – welfare for poor women is already sex work because of poverty – not because of demand.

It increases sex trafficking – actually research shows that it doesn’t – that it actually reduces sex trafficking and not increase it and this Nordic Model increases sex trafficking and exploitation.

It lowers the price – yeah it does lower the price because it means that sex workers have to work twice as hard and find it more difficult and are forced into more risky situations and to going condom-less.

And as for this, a brothel next to a McDonalds in Germany. Germany doesn’t have decrim and Germany doesn’t have the Nordic Model so this (she flicks the flyer) is just propaganda. It is about as serious [?] as a leaflet about the MMR vaccine causing harm.