

ETHICIAN NEWS NETWORK

1401 19th Street
Huntsville, TX 77340

Reception 936-295-5767
Fax 936-294-0233

e-mail: ghr@cyberclone.net
internet: www.salvationnetwork.org

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ATTN: NEWSROOM/EDITOR

CHURCH LEADER CALLS FOR LEGALIZATION OF PROSTITUTION

For Immediate Release

Contact: George H. Russell 936-891-5245
or 936-295-5767

INTIMATEHEALERS.ORG

Jesus held carnal prostitutes in higher esteem than He did hypocrites and people who prostituted their souls for money, fame, or power. He even proclaimed in Matthew 22:34 that harlots would enter the kingdom of God before those who prostituted themselves against God's will.

Perhaps because His family directly descended from the prostitute Rahab, the great-great-great-great grandmother of King David, Jesus had a soft spot in His heart toward those women in His society who served as intimate healers and companions to those men in Biblical days who could not afford many wives and concubines. (Matthew 1: 1-17)

Prostitution was neither against the Law of God, nor were prostitutes condemned by Jesus. Only the daughters of Old Testament Priests were prohibited from becoming prostitutes. The punishment, even for this transgression was much less severe than for a child who cursed his father or mother. The prostitute daughter of the priest would only be branded whereas the cursing child would be put to death. (Leviticus 20:9)

Today, in America, our hypocritical society and misguided laws condemn, victimize and even imprison prostitutes for carrying out their profession. Only a few rural counties in Nevada give prostitutes the same respect as human beings that Jesus would give.

Because most jurisdictions consider prostitution a crime, prostitutes and their families suffer great abuse and injustice at both the hands of the vice-police and those men who victimize woman in the underworld of the sex trade.

Millions of dollars are foolishly wasted harassing prostitutes: money that could much be better spent on education, health care, and protecting citizens from real crime. Nearly every civilized country in the world has either decriminalized prostitution or legalized it as a recognized profession, thus reducing crime and the trade in sex-slaves.

In those progressive countries that have legalized prostitution as well as in the brothels of Nevada, sexually transmitted disease rates have decreased dramatically. In addition, prostitutes are no longer at the mercy of voyeuristic and sadistic police, Johns, or pimps. They are free to practice their profession

as intimate healers and companions to lonely people or to those who would perhaps commit rape or other sex crimes should their services not be readily available.

The Universal Ethician Church therefore supports Jesus and His care and concern for prostitutes. Jesus never called for any carnal prostitute to be punished in any way for her loving services to others. His only admonition was to an adulteress, not a prostitute. Even then, He forgave her and told her to sin no more. (John 8:1-12)

All caring Christians as well as men and women of other faiths are asked to join with us in freeing America's prostitutes from oppression and victimization by calling for the legalization and official recognition of the world's oldest profession. Let us give America's prostitutes the same love and support that Jesus would give.

George H. Russell
Bishop

George H. Russell, an outspoken opponent of the death penalty, is a resident of Huntsville, Texas, known worldwide as "The City of Death."

He is founder of The Patriot Network, and author of its 35+ web sites located at www.patriotnetwork.org, as well as founder of The Universal Ethician Church, an interfaith ministry with a worldwide following via the church's 275+ web sites located at www.salvationnetwork.org.

Russell, 58, is an educational video producer, environmental activist, historic preservation specialist, photographer, art and antique collector, philanthropist, American patriot and ethician.

Additional biographical information may be found in *Who's Who in America*, through Internet searches, and in other publications. Images of Mr. Russell suitable for downloading for publication may be found at www.salvationnetwork.org.