
La prevención de la prostitución como fenómeno social en el municipio Guantánamo a 60 años de revolución

The prevention of prostitution as a social phenomenon in the Guantánamo municipality 60 years after the revolution

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Resumen: El presente trabajo aborda la problemática relacionada con el incremento de la prostitución como fenómeno social en el municipio Guantánamo. Se realiza un diagnóstico de la situación actual, relacionada con la labor preventiva y el enfrentamiento a la prostitución, por los organismos y factores comunitarios decisores, además se valora las relaciones que se establecen entre los problemas detectados y los lineamientos de la política económica y social del Partido. Se ofrece una sistematización de los principales elementos teóricos relacionados con la prostitución como fenómeno social, lo que contribuye a la preparación de todas aquellas personas que intervienen en este proceso.

Palabras clave: Prevención; Prostitución; Grupo de prevención; Asistencia y trabajo social

Abstract: This work addresses the problem related to the increase of prostitution as a social phenomenon in the Guantánamo municipality. A diagnosis is made of the current situation, related to preventive work and the confrontation with prostitution, by the decision-making bodies and community factors, in addition to assessing the relationships that are established between the problems detected and the guidelines of economic and social policy of the Party. A systematization of the main theoretical elements related to prostitution as a social phenomenon is offered, which contributes to the preparation of all those who intervene in this process

Keywords: Prevention; Prostitution; Prevention; Assistance and Social work group

Introduction

The Public Administration, as a complex system of State organizations, is responsible for managing public policies, government programs and providing important services to society, based on laws and legal regulations in force, with a budget allocated with the aim of obtaining economic development.

On the other hand, it has among its functions to monitor the general needs of the population, in order to efficiently satisfy the socioeconomic purposes that lead to an increase in the quality of life, order and citizen tranquility.

The conceptualization of the Cuban economic model, in its updating, exposes and bases strategic objectives; among them, guaranteeing the continuity of our socialism, strengthening the principles that sustain it and eliminating any phenomenon that attempts against its correct implementation, guaranteeing the continuity of a prosperous socialism.

Among the great challenges that the current Cuban society faces, and in particular the Guantanamera, there is the work of prevention that from different angles guarantees the integral formation of the new generations, promotes the formation of values, to exalt the dignity of the human beings, creating a conscience and social conduct of rejection to the manifestations of prostitution as a way of subsistence or economic activity. All of the above has its genesis in the work of community organizations and factors in charge of creating and preserving a healthy social environment.

Therefore, public management must have the capacity to give solution to the manifestations of prone behaviors, which are presented in the communities as a first order element, with the consequent chain of results that causes the preventive work for the desired change and the impact that generates the added value that society needs, to achieve prevention.

The Prevention, Assistance and Social Work, constitutes an important instrument of guarantee to raise the quality of life of the human society, giving, fulfillment to the arranged thing in the Guidelines of the VII Congress of the Party and the Revolution, in the chapter VI SOCIAL POLICY in its articles 116 and 141, as well as the Decree Law 286 "Integration of the work of prevention, assistance and social work" of September 20, 2011, is sustained the implementation of the actions for the fulfillment of the objectives related to the prevention, assistance and social work, as well as to control its execution to all the levels and to inform the results when it is requested.

The implementation of this policy requires reaching out to each person, understanding each situation in its context in order to establish a human relationship and to be able to guide, protect, persuade, transform, act on the causes, and strengthen individual and social conscience. It also allows to raise self-esteem, to promote social incorporation, as a mission

of the social worker who works daily with different problems to which he must find a solution.

For this, it is necessary to execute the integrated work of the members of the prevention and community groups at the base to achieve social transformation, attending to the subjective elements through prophylactic and persuasive work, to avoid the appearance of behaviors that become constitutive of crimes and social indiscipline that break the norms of social coexistence.

Development

The origin of prostitution in history is located in the time when the change from the matriarchal family to the patriarchal family took place; in which the woman suffers a total loss of the power that she had, since before she was the head of the family in charge of the support and protection of the children. As a result of this, she only prepares herself for housework on the one hand, and on the other hand, the economic situation in which the families developed, constituted a breeding ground for the appearance of the oldest profession: Prostitution.

Prostitution is a social phenomenon that disappeared in Cuba with the triumph of the Revolution, as a result of the policies drawn up by the State to transform the various spheres of economic, political and social life, which made it possible to guarantee the comprehensive training of children and young people, giving priority to their care, education and health, particularly women.

In the 1990s, Cuba experienced manifestations of prostitution, the product of the most severe crisis in the history of the Revolution, revealed in a deterioration of the economy that left an imprint on daily life, breaking into the usual forms of social, family and personal organization, conduct and thought, as well as the loss of moral and social values, which altered the traditions and customs, identity and culture of the Cuban society that had embarked on the path of building a more just and equitable society.

Similarly, technological advances, especially mobile telephony and the Internet, the increase in tourism on the island, and the new economic model that is based on self-employment, constitute favorable scenarios for the emergence of antisocial activities such as the practice of prostitution.

Taking into account the increase in this phenomenon in recent times, it is necessary to carry out actions in order to achieve greater integrity in the work of agencies and factors to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in social policy. This social policy is designed to confront these activities of pimping, trafficking in persons, corruption of minors, prostitution and other associated illegal activities, which is why Order No. 1 of January 5, 2011, of the Minister of Interior is established to improve this system.

The Directorate of Community Work specialty within the Ministry of Interior that is responsible for prevention in the community as part of its work, represented in the figure of the Head of Sector, who within its territory develops different actions such as; the search for information and detection of those citizens who are in prostitution or show signs of being linked to these behaviors.

In those cases detected, organizes actions aimed at prevention with the different factors of the community using the Groups of Prevention and Social Care.

From the application of scientific research methods such as surveys, interviews and observation, it was detected that the Prevention Group in its functions shows, insufficiencies in the control and confrontation of these behaviors, which has not allowed the timely identification of the people likely to start the activity or present signs of being linked to this phenomenon in any of its modalities.

The Cuban society has already shown different phases of the exercise of prostitution in all its variants. We cannot speak only of the prostitution of women as the main entity, but of male prostitution as an advancing phenomenon, of which today it is not possible to guarantee an identification of the persons who are dedicated to this activity for an efficient prevention and to achieve timely information to the Groups of Prevention and Social Attention.

Through the application of different methods of scientific research such as the interview, the survey, the systematic observation, the revision of documents as well as the experience of the author for more than 15 years in the work of prevention, it was found that in the municipality of Guantánamo in recent years has exposed an increase in the rate of prostitution, at the end of September 2018 had a total of 100 controlled, 44 more than the previous year, which shows the increase of this phenomenon, more than 50% of the prostitutes in the municipality of Guantánamo are prostituted in other provinces, making it difficult to control these, from 2 controlled by male prostitution at the end of 2017 today the province has 11, figures that increase from the coerced confrontation of the entire country to this phenomenon.

Therefore, it is declared as an objective to systematize the theoretical-methodological foundations that support the social prevention of prostitution in order to improve this process in the municipality of Guantánamo, province of Guantánamo.

Prostitution, a social phenomenon that needs differentiated and emerging attention.

Etymologically, prostitution comes from the Latin *prostitutio onis*, from *prostituere*, to exhibit in public, to put up for sale. They are the sexual relations that a person maintains in exchange for money. The term Prostitution or Commercial Sex Work (CSW) is what encompasses the different categories of commercial sex workers.

It should be noted here that the term prostitution or commercial sex work (CSW) is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as any "activity in which a person exchanges sexual services in exchange for money or other goods" (WHO 1989, cited in Bizarroque-Hidalgo, 2003). In this sense, the "profession", if it can be considered in this way, is explicit by different degrees or types of prostitution, considering its status, location and way of obtaining clients. In some societies, such as those of ancient Greece and modern Japan, this classification may be institutionalized, so that women belonging to different degrees of prostitution receive different training and play different social roles.

Jiménez de Asúa, considers prostitution as "the public exercise of promiscuous carnal surrender, for a price, as a means of living off a person (we say person instead of woman, because men can also be subjects of prostitution, as in the case of homosexuals who

publicly, constantly and for a price, give themselves promiscuously to other men) Jimenez de Asúa, Luis (1942) . With these points of view, we reject all those concepts that limit the activity of prostitution or CSR to the female sphere.

Groisman, defined prostitution as "the trade that a woman makes with her body, giving herself to men for money" Groisman, C. and others. (1999), p. 4 and states that prostitution as an activity emerges as an institution of patriarchy. But it is important to distinguish between patriarchy (or machismo), the organization of prostitutes and those who practice prostitution.

It is often said that prostitution is the oldest trade in the world. The activity is carried out by women and men, regardless of their sexual orientation. While the woman who prostitutes is known as a prostitute, the man is usually named as a cab boy or gigolo.

In recent years, a special type of prostitution has increased, which is called luxury prostitution. Under that name is the activity of sex in exchange for a high amount of money. A service hired by people with high purchasing power who bet, paying high economic amounts, to maintain intimate relationships with women or men very handsome and elegantly dressed.

Much is the controversy that has arisen around this type of prostitution as a significant percentage of celebrities from the world of television, music or film have practiced prostitution of this type, due to the high amounts of money earned by sexual encounters.

The practice of prostitution has different regulations according to the country. In some cases, prostitution is considered a crime and both supply and consumption are punished. In others, only the activity of pimp Masters, W and others is punishable. (1995), refer to them as: "pimps, madams and others who recruit people for prostitution" and the offer of sex in public. There are numerous cases, on the other hand, in which women are kidnapped and forced into prostitution, becoming victims of trafficking networks.

Prostitution always generates a great deal of controversy around the world, because of what it entails in itself and because of the trafficking businesses that are carried out because of it. However, in recent years, research has uncovered a number of truly alarming facts about this activity.

In Spain, for example, it has become known that more and more young men are hiring the services of prostitutes, and if before it was the married men who requested these women more, now it is the young men. But not only that, it has also been revealed that more than 25% of men between 18 and 49 years of age openly admit to having had a sexual encounter with a prostitute.

Prostitutes offer their services in different ways. There are prostitutes who set themselves up in certain corners or parks to be contacted by their clients. In other cases, the offer of prostitution is concentrated in a private place (such as a brothel, whorehouse or lupanar), where men specifically want to hire sexual services.

It should be noted that prostitution does not only involve conventional sexual relations (with penetration), but can also encompass various intimate practices such as oral sex or masturbation.

A woman who offers sexual services in exchange for payment is called a prostitute. This means that prostitutes are engaged in prostitution, a name by which the activity of having intimate relations with paying clients is known.

Prostitutes can perform their activity in different ways. There are women who manage independently, showing their bodies in different places to attract clients. Others work under the orders of a pimp.

Sometimes prostitutes work inside brothels. These venues have spaces where women dance or exhibit themselves to seduce men with whom, once the service has been agreed upon, they go to a private sector to have sex.

The labour and legal situation of prostitutes varies from country to country. In some European countries, prostitution is an activity recognized and regulated by the State: prostitutes must pay taxes and have social coverage.

In other countries, however, hiring the services of a prostitute is a crime, a matter that involves a virtual persecution of the prostitutes, even if they are not accused themselves. It is also common for pimping to be considered a crime.

It is important to highlight the difference between the adult woman who voluntarily becomes a prostitute and the one who is forced into prostitution. In the first case, some find an act of freedom from the woman, even if her body appears to be turned into a commodity. In the second case, the prostitutes are victims of a trafficking network.

The trafficking network is an activity that consists of profiting from the exploitation of persons, generally for sexual purposes, although it also includes forced labor, organ removal, and servitude. It is a perverse and complex part of society, which feeds on constant work and the combination of various forces to keep its action under a veil. This does not mean that it is not possible to see its presence in the street, but that those who could do something to eradicate it refuse to act, to keep their interests safe.

For an innocent person to go from leading a free life to being convicted of belonging to a trafficking network, there is a sequence of well-defined events that these organizations must accomplish with millimetric precision, to ensure that they erase as many traces as possible and conduct their twisted business without risk of being discovered.

There are many stories of young women who, for various reasons, fall into the clutches of a trafficking network and become prostitutes without having sought it out. Society often despises the figure of the prostitute, but in most cases they do not have enough information to make a judgment: regardless of the moral issues that each one may discuss regarding the fact of selling one's body, it is important to consider that many of these women are victims, they do not lead that life of their own free will.

Far from any old-fashioned and uninformed prejudice, a prostitute who takes orders from a pimp does not lead a life filled with pleasure, but must suffer all kinds of abuse and work long hours, enduring the disgust they feel for their clients and the helplessness of not being able to escape from that hell. As if all this were not enough, it is common for the networks to decide to sterilize their prostitutes, to avoid by all means that they become pregnant. As absurd as it may seem, they choose them because they are women and then deprive them of that which makes them women: the ability to lead a life inside.

Today, in Cuban society, prostitution continues to be, due to its complexity and human, family and social implications, one of the priorities of the work in Prevention and Social Care carried out by the National Revolutionary Police (PNR) and the Federation of Cuban Women (FMC), in addition to the measures and actions that must be carried out by the other organizations and institutions with their representatives at different levels, in order to achieve, on an individual basis, the reintegration into society of the controlled persons.

It is still a source of acceptance in some families of these harmful behaviors, based on the benefits derived from them.

The problem of prostitution is a task that has been prioritized during this stage, although there are still some shortcomings in the personalized attention provided to these women and men, their link to study or work, the permanent updating of the characterization, the holding of debates in the delegations where they live, among other actions.

Community participation in the prevention of prostitution and associated crimes has taken a central place in Cuba's public security policies. This situation has its origin in the strong trend of growth in reported crimes, the violence used in them, citizen fear and the apparent governmental difficulty in dealing with these problems. In the face of these problems, participation policies seek to rally citizen support and increase the legitimacy of the institutions responsible for controlling and preventing this phenomenon, which is prostitution.

In this context, the pillars of public policies aimed at reducing prostitution have been rethought, which certainly include the relationship in the community. This has led to greater attention to the community, which has acquired a more important role in policies aimed at this end.

As a result, a change in the prevention paradigm has become popular at the discursive level, towards citizen prevention directly in the community, which in practice has translated into the search for greater community participation in prevention policies for some social phenomena such as prostitution, which should translate into improved relations between the group's actors and the community.

Naturally, the seriousness of these efforts has various national nuances. In some cases, the importance of participation has been reduced to the rhetoric of politicians and public officials, while in others, participation strategies have been formulated that effectively seek to actively involve the population in the prevention of prostitution and associated crimes.

To this end, we will also use the support of the community's Prevention and Social Care factors to develop prophylactic, preventive work on these areas and the people of our interest, with the main objective of contributing to the eradication of the causes and conditions that facilitate the existence of these places and achieve their sanitation.

Within female prostitution there are professionals, semi-professionals and casuals.

- The professionals practice in an open way, which they can do in brothels or houses of appointment, where they live, others, attend some hours or rent a room. They usually stop at a certain time in the same place; walk the streets to select their clientele, work by car looking for customers taking advantage of traffic lights or look for the clientele in part public parks and gardens, hotels, bars, cinemas, digs, luxury restaurants, etc.

- Semi-professionals hide behind a job: waitresses, luxury cabaret waitresses, singers, naked dancers, etc. Call girls work through telephone appointments, either on their own or through associations.

- The occasional ones can be typists, domestic workers, students, housewives, etc., and they work to earn some money or they can do it to keep their job or to promote themselves in some position.

Male prostitution

-Prostitution of male persons does not escape from this subject, it is as old as the female one, because in the Roman era it was already seen how they sold, rented, lent out young men, which increased if they had musical instruction. Male prostitution became so widespread that the Emperor Domitian prohibited the prostitution of children under 7 years old.

-The difference with the female exercise is that generally men enter this world by their own will and know from the beginning what will be their trade; it is temporary and their motives are clearly economic.

Child Prostitution

- This type of prostitution is never voluntary and is accompanied by fear, hunger, drugs and a multitude of other circumstances, which can turn the existence of both a minor and an adult into a real hell that will always surpass our imagination.
- The modes of operation in this case are and are described as follows:
- Recruitment and abduction - Where do children exploited in prostitution come from? Basically they are obtained from: the peripheral belts and marginal areas of the big cities; or from children who have escaped from their homes.
- The industrial belts of big cities are where the pimps dedicated to locating possible victims usually work. Usually they are prostitutes or ex-prostitutes who often depend on a dose of heroin. They take advantage of the economic deprivation of minors and offer them some work or economic help, usually through a bar, a show or a dance group. Once they gain their trust, they are taken to a network establishment where they fall into the hands of the pimp.

- **Retention and kidnapping.** Prostitution organizations use apartments and clubs to hold minors. Once they have fallen into one of them, the real ordeal begins. The girls are locked up, beaten and raped by their pimps for several days. In this way none of them will be a virgin and will have had several experiences before receiving their first client, unless one of them is interested in a virgin girl. On the other hand, the beatings and threats ensure the silence of the girls, often even after their pimps are arrested. At no time do they cease to be watched and cannot go out into the street. Normally they are forced to take drugs to increase their yield or heroin to break them down, turn them into drug addicts and make them dependent on the pimp.
- **Outcome.** The children who fall into the hands of these redoubtable possibilities of escape. If they are not released by the police they may end up being sold abroad and never return. They may be killed when they are no longer useful or fall into an overdose. They may become drug addicts or simply not return to their normal emotional state. A 15-year-old who has gone through this is very likely never to fully recover from the psychological and physical traumas suffered at an age when a human being is tremendously vulnerable while trying to shape his or her personality.
- Child prostitution moves millions around the world. Every year more children and young people join the child prostitution circuit. Argentina is one of the countries with the highest rate according to the UN.* 100 million minors have the child prostitution network in the world.

-However, in the case of prostitution there is a factor to be taken into account, which differentiates it from other social problems, and which implies an evident social responsibility. In order to create and maintain this world, there must be a demand, it is obligatory that members of our social environment want to pay and seek to do so. Unlike in phenomena such as drugs, it is society itself that feeds the creation of the problem with a demand to which those who, as we have indicated, due to being immersed in networks of social marginalization (in turn not treated correctly by the public authorities) see the exercise of prostitution as the only way out. In other words, as a society, we are doubly responsible since on the one hand we create the demand and

on the other, as soon as we do not solve our social problems correctly, we push them to take advantage of it.

Conclusions

This work is the result of our practice and integrating task, aware that the exercise of the Integral Prevention, Care and Social Work demands us to strengthen the humanist essence of Cuban society, where today, with more strength than ever, social policy subsists for the well-being of the human being, for him, with him and from him, as an essential way to continue the course drawn since January 1st, 1959 and for the materialization of the new model of social economic management.

The phenomenon of prostitution is complex and multi-causal, which should be studied from a transdisciplinary perspective, since the concrete decision of women to engage in this activity is not only individual but also psychosocial, in which economic, social, family, psychological and personal aspects converge.

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