**PHIL 306 – Philosophy and Sexuality -- Second (and final) Position paper**

**Due: by 10AM on Saturday, May 2**

**General Directions:**

Write an essay explaining and supporting your views on one of the following topics.  Write a total of 4-5 pages, typed, double-spaced. Write as clearly and concisely as you can. Explain any technical terms you use. Pretend that, instead of being read by a teacher who has read all the class readings, your essay will be read by an intelligent and well-informed person who has read no such material, and who needs to have the issues explained in a way that does not assume any acquaintance with academic writing about philosophy or sexuality or about the issues you are discussing.

Answer mainly in your own words. Put quotations in quotation marks (and use quotes sparingly). When you borrow a phrase or argument or idea from another writer, give them credit.  You may use any system for referring to other people's work that you find convenient: footnotes, endnotes, or names and page numbers in parentheses.  The requirement is that your reader should be able to easily locate any passage that you quote or paraphrase and that it should be very clear which ideas are your own and which are someone else's.

Make sure that your paper has a clear thesis and that it provides reasons to support that thesis. Devote some of your space to explaining and responding to opposing views. (Since these topics are controversial, there are almost certainly people who would disagree with your position. Probably, one or more of the authors we have read in this class has expressed views that are different from yours.  What arguments would they be likely to make? How might they criticize your position and your reasoning? How could you respond to these criticisms?)

Save your paper as a Word doc and attach it to an email or submit it to the assignment folder in D2L (whichever you prefer)

**Topics**

1. Consider either prostitution or pornography (or both). Suppose that everyone involved in producing and delivering this ‘service’ has given their full and informed consent to it, and there is neither deceit nor coercion involved, is there still something to worry about ethically speaking –perhaps some deformation or degradation or exploitation of the people involved or of human sexuality? Why or why not?
2. All things considered, is it better to maintain legal prohibitions on sex work or to eliminate them?
3. Amia Srivinasan writes, “The question posed by radical self-love movements is not whether there is a right to sex (there isn’t), but whether there is a duty to transfigure, as best we can, our desires.” Is there such a duty? Why or why not?