



least, been worthwhile? A street prostitution census conducted in Vancouver from 1982 through 1993 suggests that while street prostitution abated for a few months after the introduction of the communicating law in December 1985, by the latter half of 1986 the number of people visible on the street had returned to the level of the summer before, and has been rising ever since.

Much more disturbing is the apparent impact of the new law on violence against street prostitutes. Over the past six years, 1 in 20 women murdered in Canada was a known prostitute. From information in police files and newspaper reports, we have compiled statistics on murders of sex trade workers in British Columbia from 1960 through 1995. The first murder during this period occurred in 1975. From 1976 to 1980 there were four more, and from 1981 to 1985 another twelve. Then, from 1986 through 1995 there were more than fifty, the overwhelming majority of

