

SOAN 241: Sociology of Deviance
Take-Home Examination
January 30, 2008

Professor Samir Khalaf

Papers, as electronic attachments, are due back on Friday February 1st; not later than 6:00 p.m.

Suppose that as a sociologist you are asked to study the changing nature and manifestations of prostitution as a form of deviant behavior. What, in your view, accounts for the survival of the world's oldest profession? What is so *deviant* about it and how can it be humanized by way of alleviating some of its aberrant features? Organize your essay around the following dimensions:

1. What theoretical perspectives would you propose to adopt and why? You should here identify some of the pertinent concepts and premises in accounting for the *contested* and *changing* nature of prostitution.
2. Identify the various dimensions or scope your study is likely to assume. Be explicit in considering some of the substantive issues or problems which merit exploration.
3. What are some of the methodological and ethical issues are you likely to encounter? How do you propose to resolve them? Make reference, when possible, to your readings and/or other comparable studies.