



My Drift

Title: Nevada Prostitution

Written by: Jerry D. Petersen

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Disclaimer: *The following story may or may not be true. The character's names are made up by me.*

The events in this story unfold in the late 1960s. Fast Al and Big Pete are old Navy buddies currently living and working in Salt Lake City, Utah. Since both are single and like to drink a few beers (make that a lot of beers in Big Pete's case) now and then like on Monday through Saturday. Like most other people in Utah, they would rest on Sundays. Besides that, the bars were closed on Sunday. Their favorite bar was a Country and Western establishment called the "48 Lounge". The owner of this bar was an ex-professional wrestler named Bill G. who was a stocky 300 pounds of muscle and he didn't take any crap from anyone. In the "48", there was no fighting, loud arguments, or swearing. Bill was happy to throw you out if you didn't abide by his rules. The Jukebox only played slow country and oldies but goodies music. This was not your typical cowboy bar!

The primary reason Al and Pete liked the "48" so much was the 3 perfectly maintained regulation size pool tables. Al and Pete were two of the best pool players in the Salt Lake City area and it was a rare event when an outsider came

into the “48” and beat one them in 8-ball. Al and Pete would normally play the first to win 6 games of 8-ball (They called it a Race to 6). The loser had to buy dinner that night when they were done playing pool and drinking beer.

Approximately once a month, Al and Pete took the short trip out to Wendover, Nevada to stay 2 or 3 nights and play their pool match and do a little gambling. Wendover is on the Utah-Nevada border 123 miles straight west across the Great Salt Lake Desert on US Interstate Highway 80 from Salt Lake City and takes about an hour and a half at 80+ miles an hour.



Wendover Nugget

There are five large casino-hotels in Wendover, but Al and Pete always stayed at the Wendover Nugget because it had the best pool tables. Sometimes while staying in Wendover, Al and Pete would drive the 60 miles on I-80 West over to Wells, Nevada. Wells is the closest town (from Salt Lake City) with legal brothels (Cat Houses). They have two of them in Wells called Bella's Gentlemen's Club and Donna's Ranch. It was always fun to visit Nevada's Cat Houses to check out the girls and drink a few beers. Al and Pete liked Donna's Ranch the best because Bella could be a little pushy at times.

Wells (population 1290) is located at the junction of Interstate 80 and US Route 93, approximately 50 miles east of Elko, Nevada. The Union Pacific Railroad also runs through Wells. Like most towns in Nevada, it is out in the middle of nowhere in the desert. Just in case the people of Wells they didn't have enough problems surviving, a magnitude 6.0 earthquake occurred near Wells at 6:16 AM on February 21, 2008 causing significant damage to businesses and homes.



Wells, Nevada

Well, there are two businesses in Wells that survived the earthquake and are thriving while the rest of the town is slowly dying. Yes, you guessed it – the two brothels are doing a booming business. Most of their customers come from Utah.



Bella's Gentlemen's Club



Donna's Ranch

When you arrive in Wells, you might have a little trouble finding the brothels since they are located about a mile away from the main town district. But don't worry, just ask the first person you see, and they will be happy to direct you. Al and Pete didn't have any problem since they had been there before several times. The dirt road to the brothel starts just outside of downtown Wells and winds around until you find yourself in a large field with only the two brothel buildings in it. When Al and Pete arrived, they bypassed Bella's and went straight to Donna's Ranch. There were 3 cars and 4 pickups in front and four 18-Wheelers out in the field about 50 yards away. Donna's Ranch had a "trucker's special" going on where they could get free coffee, a shower, and a discounted rate on a sleeping companion.

Back in the late 1960s, there were 32 legal brothels in the state of Nevada. As of this writing in 2020, there are only 21. All of the brothels operate in basically the same manner. When Al and Pete arrived at the front door of Donna's Ranch, they had to ring the buzzer and wait for either the manager or doorman to open the door to make sure you are old enough and presentable enough to enter the establishment. Fast Al and Big Pete were allowed in. The front part of the brothels looks just like a regular bar. There was a long bar and 3 tables with chairs. The price of beer was a little high but not too bad when you consider the entertainment factor. Al and Pete paid \$5 for each beer. If you want to buy one of the girls a drink, it was also \$5.

The Cat Houses in Nevada are open 24 hours a day 365 days a year and they are about the only places with no slot machines or other gambling devices. Every Cat House has a lady boss or manager who runs the place. After serving the drinks, she asked Al and Pete if they wanted to see a menu? No food is served in the brothels but "Yes" they have a menu describing the services offered along with the prices. Prices started at \$100 and went up to several thousand dollars. Al and Pete decided they must have lived a shelter's life since they didn't know what half of those sexual activities consisted of. Next, the lady boss asked if they would like a line-up? This is where all the available girls come out and line up for you to check out and chose one if you so desire.

Al decided to just drink his beer, but Pete spotted a girl at the end of the line that was not beautiful but looked a little wild and interesting. Pete picks her and asks if she wants a drink and talk for a few minutes. She was more than happy to accept. Pete found out that her name was Jane and she was a married schoolteacher from Iowa. She was at Donna's Ranch on a two-month contract that paid her \$20,000. Jane stated that this was just a job to her, but she did enjoy the work most of the time. She asked Pete if he wanted a little tour of the place. Pete accepted and they went in the back.

The front bar is nothing special, but the back is roomy, fancy, and quite elaborate. Jane showed Pete the central living area where the girls could lounge, watch TV and get something to eat. Next, she showed Pete a room with several large Jacuzzi tubs. Then Pete and Jane went to the dungeon where the torture chamber was located. Jane said she would enjoy some pain if Pete was willing to inflict it and pay for it. Pete was not into this kind of fun, so they continued the tour which ended up at Jane's room. Each girl has her own room where she lives while working at the brothel. Pete and Jane finally agreed on a more conventional activity and 30 minutes later Pete rejoins Al in the bar. Al comments on Pete's cheerful manner and Pete replies with something about having a happy ending.

Hope you enjoyed the Fast Al and Big Pete story and learned a little bit about Nevada's brothels. Now, let's learn more about them.

Nevada "Legal" Active Brothels

Under Nevada state law, any county with a population less than 400,000 residents, as of the last decennial census, is allowed to have licensed brothels if it so chooses. Incorporated towns and cities in counties that allow prostitution may regulate the trade further or prohibit it altogether.

Currently seven out of Nevada's 16 counties have active brothels (these are all rural counties). Currently, there are 21 legal brothels down from its peak of 35 in the early 1980s. Brothels can't be located within 400 yards of a school or a place of worship.

Nevada Brothel Locations and County Map



State law prohibits prostitution in Clark County (which contains Las Vegas), and under county or municipal law in Carson City (an independent city), and these other counties: Douglas, Eureka, Lincoln, Pershing and Washoe (which contains Reno). The other 10 Nevada counties permit licensed brothels in certain specified areas or towns. All 10 of these rural counties have had at least one legal brothel in operation prior to 1971, but many of these brothels were

financially unsuccessful or ran afoul of State health regulations. As of today, only seven counties have active brothels, while the other three (Churchill County, Esmeralda County and Humboldt County) no longer do.

Prostitutes must be at least 18 years old and must be employed by their own free will. The brothels and their employees must register with the county sheriff and receive regular medical checkups. Brothels have existed in Nevada since the old mining days of the 1800s and were first licensed in 1971. The legendary Mustang Ranch operated from 1971 through 1999, when it was forfeited to the federal government following a series of convictions for tax fraud, racketeering, and other crimes. It has since reopened in 2006 under new management.

Nevada law requires that registered brothel prostitutes be tested weekly (by a cervical specimen) for gonorrhea and Chlamydia trachomatis, and monthly for HIV and syphilis; furthermore, since 1988 condoms are mandatory for all oral sex and sexual intercourse. Brothel owners may be held liable if customers become infected with HIV after a prostitute has tested positive for the virus. Currently, no Nevada sex worker has ever tested positive for HIV. Women live at the brothel and work a legally mandated minimum of nine days for each 14-day work period.

Nevada has laws against engaging in prostitution outside of licensed brothels, against encouraging others to become prostitutes, and against living off the proceeds of a prostitute.

Below is a list of the current 21 active licensed brothels in Nevada:

County / Town	Brothel Name	Comments
Elko Carlin Elko	Dovetail Ranch	Won the 2011 Small Brothel of the Year Award.
	The Desert Rose	Opened in 2014 replacing the No. 1 Geisha Brothel.
	Inez's D&D Bar	D&D stands for "Dancing and Diddling".
	Mona's Ranch	First Nevada Brothel with Internet site. Originally built as a family home in 1903.
	Sue's Fantasy Club	Sue's is regarded as the nicest brothel in Elko.



Inez's D&D (Outside view)



Inez's D&D (Inside view)

Wells	Bella's Gentlemen's Club	Opened in 1950 as the Hacienda Ranch. It has been owned since 1981 by Bella Cummins.
	Donna's Ranch	This is where the wild west still lives. Open 24 hours a day since 1869.
Lander Battle Mountain	The Desert Club	Opened in the late 1800s. Reputed to be the smallest brothel in Nevada.
Lyon Mound House	The Love Ranch	Formerly known Kitty's, it is owned by Dennis Hof the star of HBO's Cathouse.
	Moonlite Bunny Ranch	Opened in 1955, the ranch is located near a stop on the original Pony Express.
	Sagebrush Ranch	The original Sagebrush burned down and a new lavish facility opened in 2001.
Mineral Mina	Kit Kat Guest Ranch	Located 7 miles east of Carson City in the town of Mound House at 48 Kit Kat Drive.
Nye Amargosa Valley	Wild Cat Brothel	Formerly the Playmate Ranch that closed in 2010 and re-opened as the Wild Cat in 2013.

<p>Crystal Pahrump</p>	<p>Cherry Patch</p> <p>Love Ranch</p> <p>Chicken Ranch</p>	<p>Sometimes referred to as the Alien Cathouse or Lathrop Wells. Formerly called Mabel's Whorehouse and Madame Butterfly's. Opened in 1976 as close to Las Vegas as legally possible.</p>
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<p>Storey Sparks</p>	<p>Sheri's Ranch</p> <p>Mustang Ranch</p>	<p>Unlike other brothels, it styles itself as a resort with a sports bar, tennis courts, a spa and outdoor swimming pool. (See header picture on page 1)</p> <p>The original Mustang Ranch was forfeited to the federal government in 1999 and closed. The new Mustang Ranch opened in 2006.</p>
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<p>White Pine Ely</p>	<p>Stardust Ranch Big 4 Ranch</p>	<p>One of two remaining brothels in the "Bronc Alley" red-light district on High Street. One of the oldest brothels in Nevada opened in the 1880s as Rainey's Dance Hall.</p>
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Big Four Ranch in Ely, Nevada

Lamar Odom and the Love Ranch Brothel

Are you ready for another story? No, this story is not about Fast Al and Big Pete. This is a true story about former NBA great Lamar Odom who was found unconscious at the Nevada Love Ranch brothel in 2015. Do you remember reading about it? Lamar Odom has been hailed as a 'walking miracle' by doctors. The LA Lakers player – who was previously married to Khloe Kardashian – survived 12 strokes and six heart attacks while in a three-day coma – after he was hospitalized for a drug overdose. He is lucky to be alive.



Lamar Odom and Khloe Kardashian

Here is the story behind the story. Odom, 35, had contacted the Love Ranch brothel in Crystal, Nevada (which is about 70 miles outside of Las Vegas) to rent a VIP three-bedroom house on the ranch for four days. He also paid for two prostitutes, identified as Cherry Ryder and Madison Montag, to be with him 24 hours a day during that time. Odom clearly wanted companionship as well as sex. The total amount he paid for all this was \$75,000 dollars.



Odom (a known drug user) had used a lot of cocaine and 10 doses of a Viagra-like medication in the three days there before he lost consciousness. On that faithful third day he told the two girls he was tired and wanted to be alone. They left to go back to the main brothel building. Several hours later, one of the girls went back to the house to check on Odom. She found him laying on the bed and he was unresponsive to her attempts to wake him. She thought he was dead and called the brothel manager Mitzy Jones. Jones took one look at Odom and called 911 where she told the dispatcher, "They need to hurry, please, because he's got blood coming out of his nose, white stuff coming out of his mouth and we can't get him to wake up. He's, like, almost not breathing."

An ambulance took him to nearby Desert View Hospital, where he was initially treated; too big to be airlifted via helicopter, the 6-foot, 10-inch-tall Odom was then transported via Pahrump Valley Fire and Rescue Ambulance to Sunrise Hospital in Las Vegas. Odom was put on life support and doctors didn't expect him to live. But he did! Khloe, who had tried to save her marriage for as long as she could in the face of Odom's cheating, his disappearances and his increasingly destructive substance abuse issues before finally filing for divorce in December 2013, flew immediately to Vegas to be with him. She stated, "I was told he had four hours to live,".

When Odom got out of the hospital weeks later, he sought treatment for drug and alcohol addiction. After that, he pretty much disappeared from public view for a few years. But, just a few months ago, Lamar Odom, 40, announced that he was engaged to his personal trainer Sabrina Parr.

That Viagra-like medication Odom took was ten 1,875-milligram doses of a packaged supplement called Reload 72-Hour Strong Sexual Performance Enhancer for Men. Just in case you have an extra \$75K in your pocket and are planning to visit a Nevada brothel, don't take this sexual performance supplement with booze and cocaine.

Should Prostitution Be Legal in Licensed Places like Nevada's Brothels?

PRO (yes)	CON (no)
<p>Jessi Winchester, former legal prostitute and political candidate, wrote: "If prostitution were legalized outright, in addition to current legal brothels in Nevada, zoned areas of communities could be designated for the industry. Privately owned and licensed establishments where security would be mandatory could rent licensed prostitutes a workplace. Taking a lesson from Europe, these districts would not be near homes, schools, or churches. Expanded legal options would offer those currently working in illegal avenues an alternative workplace."</p>	<p>Melissa Farley, PhD, Founding Director of the Prostitution Research and Education, wrote: "Prostitution is violence against women and is Bad for the Body and Bad for the Heart". "Prostitution Harms Women even if Legalized or Decriminalized". "Women like those working in the Nevada brothels (ringed with barbed wire or electric fencing) are physically isolated and socially rejected by the rest of society."</p>
<p>Fiona Godlee, MB, Editor of the BMJ (British Medical Journal), wrote: "Properly licensed premises would mean that the worst aspects of the sex trade - child prostitution, trafficking, and slavery and the exploitation of vulnerable people - could be tackled. Licensing premises would encourage sex workers' access to health and social care."</p>	<p>Veronica Monet, prostitute and author, in a Mar. 26, 2006 interview on the Suicide Girls website, said: "Most of the brothels do not care about the women who work for them. They care about the clients who are paying them. I don't like legalized brothels. I have nothing against the women that are working in this system but the women who work in legal strip clubs and legal brothels do not benefit from any kind of labor rights."</p>
<p>George Flint, Senior Lobbyist for the Nevada Brothel Owners Association, wrote on its website: "I'm a big fan and supporter of the brothels based largely on the fact that legal and</p>	<p>Anastasia Volkonsky, Founder and former Project Director of Prevention, Referral, Outreach, Mentoring, and Intervention to End Sexual Exploitation (PROMISE), in a Insight on the News article "Legalization</p>

regulated works so much better than the obvious alternative. Making prostitution illegal does not make it go away. Our only choice as relating to prostitution is legal and successfully controlled or sadly, what happens without the benefit of what we do have in ten counties of rural Nevada: uncontrolled sex for sale activity with all the crime, drugs, and exploitation that is rampant in the illegal environment."

Wade Lieseke, former Sheriff of Nye County, Nevada, was quoted as saying:

"In my county, I don't have a prostitution problem because it's legalized. Why would anyone go to a street hooker if they can go to a brothel where it's regulated? They would have to be crazy."

the 'Profession' Would Sanction the Abuse," wrote:

"Behind the facade of a regulated industry, brothel prostitutes in Nevada are captive in conditions analogous to slavery. Women often are procured for the brothels from other areas by pimps who dump them at the house in order to collect the referral fee. Women report working in shifts commonly as long as 12 hours, even when ill, menstruating or pregnant, with no right to refuse a customer who has requested them or to refuse the sexual act for which he has paid. The dozen or so prostitutes I interviewed said they are expected to pay the brothel room and board and a percentage of their earnings -- sometimes up to 50 percent. They also must pay for mandatory extras such as medical exams, assigned clothing and fines incurred for breaking house rules. And, contrary to the common claim that the brothel will protect women from the dangerous, crazy clients on the streets, rapes and assaults by customers are covered up by the management."

I don't know where you stand on this issue, but I know for a fact that Big Pete is all for legalized Prostitution and Brothels like those in Nevada.

Bigdrifter44@gmail.com

Bigdrifter.com