

TOURISM AND MALE SEX WORK IN THE CANCUN RIVIERA, MEXICO

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Assuming that there is a strong link between tourism and male prostitution in the coastal area of Cancun, this paper sets out to examine the role of tourism in the proliferation of public and private spaces where men offer their sexual services to other men. The data obtained from fieldwork conducted in 2008 and 2014 provided for the classification of gay-friendly homo-erotic and male prostitution spaces in Cancun, as well as a profile of sex workers, including their advertising and contact strategies, the services offered, the nature of the liaison established with tourists and the rates charged. Additionally, health, self-esteem and mobility issues are also addressed.

KEY WORDS: male sex work, coastal area, Cancun.