

Basic Detail Report

A female prostitute leans against a

telegraph pole

Date

1969-1979

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

Prostitution was a big problem in Italy in the 60s and 70s after the introduction of the Legge Merlin, which became effective on 20 September 1958. This law revoked the regulation system, and listed places where prostitution is prohibited, such as houses, hotels, dance halls, entertainment clubs or other areas open to the public. What remained legal was street prostitution or independent sex work by a worker in their own home. The effect of the law was to push women out into the streets, becoming more visible, and into private homes. The Legge Merlin became effective on 20 September 1958. It listed places where prostitution was prohibited, such as houses, hotels, dance halls, entertainment clubs or other areas open to the public. What remained legal was street prostitution or independent sex work by a worker in their own home. The effect of the law was to push women out onto the streets, becoming more visible, and into private homes.

Dimensions

Overall: 30.3 x 21.3 cm (11 7/8 x 8 3/8 in.)