

**University of Rhode Island**

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**From the Selected Works of Donna M. Hughes**

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## Indoor Brothel List by Senate District in Rhode Island, May 2009

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## **Indoor Prostitution List by Senate District\***

Compiled by Melanie Shapiro and Donna M. Hughes

May 31, 2009

Because of decriminalized prostitution the number of places where there is indoor prostitution is rapidly increasing. Although the following list is only partial, it demonstrates the escalating problem in Rhode Island, particularly since the Korean spa-brothels are known to be connected to Asian organized crime.

### Number of known prostitution venues by city

Providence	30
Pawtucket	4
Middletown	1
Central Falls	2
Cranston	2
Warwick	1

### Number of known existing spa-brothels opened each year

2000 - 1
2001 - 0
2002 - 0
2003 - 1
2004 - 2
2005 - 2
2006 - 5
2007 - 4
2008 - 6
2009 - 10

The venues we were able to document were strip clubs and spa-brothels. We are aware of a number of other indoor prostitution venues such as Latino brothels, nail salons, hotel rooms, and apartments.

The following is a listing of known venues of indoor prostitution by Senate District.

<b>District</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Brothel</b>	<b>Notes</b>
1	Maryellen Goodwin	Beautiful Life 19 Atwells Avenue Providence, RI 02903	An Asian spa-brothel that is prison like: the fire escape is ripped off, there are bars on the windows, and the exits sealed. Beautiful Life has been open since February 2007.
		Cadillac Lounge 61 Charles Street Providence, RI 02904	A strip club where prostitution has been reported by men on an Internet forum.
		Central Health 76 Derry Street Providence, RI 02903	A Korean spa-brothel that has been open since at least 2005. It was one of 31 brothels in a multi-state federal investigation of Korean organized crime sex trafficking and money laundering. The manager was arrested in 2006. Central Health is located near a housing project and a school.
		Club Fantasies 28 Sims Avenue Providence, RI 02909	A strip club. "Johns" report on Internet forums that there is prostitution there.
		Foxy Lady 318 Chalkstone Avenue Providence, RI 02908	A strip club. "Johns" report on Internet forums that there is prostitution there.

		Heavenly Hands 46 Admiral Street Providence, RI 02908	An Asian spa-brothel that has been open since January 2009.
		Lily's Spa 375 Admiral Street Providence, RI 02908	An Asian spa-brothel that has been open since 2004. The brothel owner, Choon Yeol Jeon residence is at the brothel. Women live on the premises. "Johns" say that the women are younger than at other brothels and are rotated faster than other brothels.
		North Main Street Spa 1185 North Main Street Providence, RI 02906	An Asian spa-brothel that has been open since 2000. Connected to Harmony Spa. The president, Naja Ho, is listed as residing at the brothel. The manager, Sumi Ray, was arrested for allowing women to perform massages without licenses. Women live on the premises.
		Sunflower Spa 627 Douglas Ave Providence, RI 02908	An Asian spa-brothel that has been open since July 2008. The incorporator, Chunyu Guo, is listed as living there. Located in a residential area. "Johns" say on Internet forums that the inside is not clean.
2	Juan M. Pichardo	Japan Spa 1021 Broad Street Providence, RI 02905	An Asian spa-brothel that opened in early 2005. Japan Spa is located above a hair salon. One "john" reported a woman at the spa-brothel pleaded for him to marry her and take her back to South Korea.

		J.J. Tuina Bodywork 30 Pontiac Avenue Providence, RI 02907	An Asian spa-brothel located a few doors from Red Rose Spa. Open since early 2008. The president is listed as residing there, a tiny, one floor building. Several women reported to "johns" that they were frightened.
	.	Red Rose Spa 2 Pontiac Avenue Providence, RI 02907	An Asian spa-brothel open since 2007. One of the managers, Hui Pinf Lu, is listed as residing in Flushing, NY, an information and transit hub for Korean sex trafficking. Located at a busy intersection off of Reservoir Avenue a few doors down from J.J. Tuina Bodywork.
3	Rhoda E. Perry	Body Work 91 South Angell Street Providence, RI 02906	An Asian spa-brothel open since March 2009, operating out of an apartment.
		Downtown Spa 385 South Main Street Providence, RI 02903	An Asian spa-brothel that has been open since 2006. It is one of the brothels involved in a Federal human trafficking case in 2006. It was part of a large Korean organized crime sex trafficking ring spanning from Boston to South Carolina. Women are rotated on a network of brothels along the east coast. "Johns" say the women are reluctant to engage in sex acts, but they make them to it anyway. Women were also reported to be sent out for plastic surgery.
4	Dominick J. Ruggiero	Wanskuck Wellness Center 725 Branch Avenue Unit #132 Providence, RI 02904	An Asian spa-brothel open since early 2006. Located next to an adult entertainment store and connected to Wellness Spa in Plainville, MA. "Johns" say they women are held in debt bondage

5	Paul V. Jabour	425 Atwells Avenue Providence, RI 02903	An Asian spa-brothel open since April 2009. It is in a residential apartment.
		Asian Body Work 326 Broadway Street Providence, RI 02903	An Asian spa-brothel open since May 2009. It is in a residential apartment around the corner from an elementary school.
		Bali Day Spa 204 Westminster Street Providence, RI 02903	An Asian spa-brothel open since 2004. The president, Wai K. Lew is listed as residing there. Women live on the premises. It is connected to ABC Spa and Sundance Spa.
		Fuji Spa 417 Atwells Avenue Providence, RI 02903	An Asian spa-brothel that opened in April 2009. It is located in an historic purple Victorian home.
		One Spa 55 Bradford Street Providence, RI 02903	An Asian spa-brothel open since January 2009. Located above the Federal Hill Gazette office in an apartment. It is connected to Down Town Spa. "Johns" say the women here are rotated very quickly. The women live at the brothel.
		Satin Doll 35 Aborn Street Providence, RI 02903	A strip club where prostitution has been reported by "Johns" on the Internet
6	Harold M. Metts	Balloons 257 Allens Avenue Providence, RI 02905	An 18+ strip club. "Johns" say there is underage prostitution there. Club Balloon is open 24 hours a day. In 2008, Angel Varagas of Woonsocket was murdered outside the club.

		Cheaters 245 Allens Avenue Providence, RI 02905	A strip club. ‘Johns’ say there is prostitution there. A 16 year old missing teen from Boston was reported to be stripping here after she was found “bleeding and incoherent” in an apartment where she was being held against her will ( <i>ProJo</i> , June 10, 2009)
		Club Desire 1 Franklin Square Providence, RI 02903	A strip club. “Johns” say there is prostitution there.
		MegaPlex 257 Allens Avenue Providence, RI 02905	A gay bathhouse where prostitution has been reported by men on Internet forums.
		Spa 81 81 Richmond Street Providence, RI 02903	A spa-brothel open since 2007. Was previously QQ Spa, an Asian spa-brothel. Now it advertises American women of non-Asian ethnicities. Spa 81 is located above Club Hell.
		Studio 253 Adult Emporium 257 Allens Avenue Providence, RI 02905	An 18+ nude modeling studio where prostitution is reported by “Johns” on Internet forums.
8	James Doyle II	Daily Spa 508 Armistice Blvd Pawtucket, RI 02861	An Asian spa-brothel that has been open since 2008.
		Far East 72 East Street Pawtucket, RI 02860	An Asian spa-brothel open since early 2007. Hyo Sik Kim, the current manager, has a criminal record. It is connected to Downtown Spa, which was found to be part of a large Korean organized crime and sex trafficking network investigated by Federal agencies

		Harmony Spa 11 Benefit Street #A Pawtucket, RI	An Asian spa-brothel that opened in April 2009. It is connected to Century Spa, North Main Street Spa, and Sundance Spa.
12	Louis P. DiPalma	Lee Health Center 1341 W. Main Road Middletown, RI 02842	An Asian spa-brothel that opened in 2006. A family-oriented business located nearby was forced to relocate because of the brothel.
		Salon 657 Middletown, RI 02842	A spa-brothel with American women.
14	Daniel DaPonte	Century Spa 150 Warren Ave East Providence RI 02914	An Asian spa-brothel that opened in March 2009 and is connected to Harmony Spa. Located in a house in a residential area.
		Shiatsu Spa 254 Warren Ave East Providence, RI 02914	An Asian spa-brothel that opened in January 2009. It is connected to Fuji Spa. Located in a house in a residential area.
15	John F. McBurney III	Pleasant Street Spa 88 Pleasant Street Pawtucket, RI 02860	An Asian spa-brothel that has been open since 2003. Located in a small shopping complex, next to a family pizzeria.
16	Elizabeth A. Crowley	Simple Pleasures 753 Broad Street Central Falls, RI 02907	An Asian spa-brothel that opened in April 2009.



		Sundance Spa 49 Sheridan Street Central Falls, RI 02863	An Asian spa-brothel that has been open since 2006.
17	Edward J. O'Neill	ABC Spa 417 Smithfield Avenue Providence, RI 02904	An Asian spa-brothel that has been open since 2008. It is connected to Bali Day Spa and Sundance Spa. Can be seen from a popular Rhode Island restaurant.
		Mineral Spring Massage & Bodywork 1410 Mineral Spring Avenue North Providence, RI 02904	An Asian spa-brothel that has been open since 2006. Located in a strip mall.
26	Beatrice A. Lanzi	Anne's Garden Spa 415 Atwood Avenue Cranston, RI 02920	An Asian spa-brothel that has been open since 2008. It is connected to Anne's Garden Spa in Brighton, MA.
		Asian Bodywork Center 786 Atwood Avenue Cranston, RI 02920	An Asian spa-brothel that has been open since 2008.

\*Details and references available upon request\*