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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
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Comments:

Having been a visitor since 1997, I recently purchased a NON TVR home in Lahaina. I am on island about 3-4 times per year.

Accosting and Targeting More Women

I am a 55yr old female who now has female friends aka vistors that come to enjoy my little home, vacation and experience the beauty of Maui. Since Front St is a must, avoiding these "barkers" can not be avoided. I have personally felt that they are more inclined to aggressively target older women, like myself. I have actually witnessed it while waiting outside shops for friends while they shop. They do accost men but not nearly as much as women and more aggressive with older women. Whether its a male or female cosmetic salesperson, it's still quite intimidatong. 2 years ago, one even referenced my age group, adding that I "should be taking more care of myself due to my age". That's insulting.

Takes Charm Away From the Quaint feel of Lahaina

They are often on the sidewalk, waiting like hawks, and if they aren't, they are right at the doorstep like a predatory animal choosing their prey. When they do hang out on the doorstep, it reminds me of a trip once to San Fransisco where there were many gentlemen clubs, and the dancers hung out at the doorstep trying to entice everyone to come in. It's the same EXACT experience. This cheapens the Aloha spirit of Front st, Lahaina and Maui. This type of aggressive behavior and type of mulitple businesses of this nature gives the feel that you are in a big city and NOT on an Hawaiian Island where there is sacred land, rich history and beautiful culture. It's horrible to take away from all of that.

Aggressive Tatics Harm Neighboring Businesses

The countless times I've been accosted, I tend to pick up my walking pace so that I can hurriedly pass this intimidation and humongous pressured feeling I get. Who likes to feel pressured while they are on vacation or out with friends for a shopping day, lunch, dinner?? I **abhor** feeling pressured like that. That awful!! Also the negative connotation that lingers after...WHILE you are passing the next storefront. They engage you even before you hit their cosmetic space, then they continue to engage you well after until you have passed them and sometimes passed the next business storefront. In summation, I am a business owner myself, if I was a business owner seeing this happen next door, and potential customers continued to being harrassed while crossing my storefront, I would not be happy. If I walk past these businesses fast, I wonder how many tourists are doing the same.

How Many Times Do I Have To Say NO

I'd say a polite "No Thank You" should be enough. But it's NOT! The second time should drill it home, right? Nope. Third time a charm? That's laughable. They are very, very aggressive and seem to block out what you are telling them. I have had them even take steps to follow me past their storefront. I now look at them square in the eye and tell them "Dont start with your barking" Do I like being rude like that, no, it's doesn't feel good. Their pushy sales tatics have forced me to go out of my comfort zone and cut them off from the very start now. Wonder how many other people feel this way?

PLEASE consider banning these types of businesses with these types of annoying, ultra aggressive salespeople. Those businesses screams tourism. Which Maui has done a great job of not turing into Waikiki/Honolulu ...yet. Plus, there is no Aloha given by them.

Many people don't go to The Valley Isle to buy cosmetics. They go for the beautiful beaches, wonderful hikes, lush valleys, slowed pace, the charm, Hawaiian culture, history and most importantly ...the Aloha Spirit.

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