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NEWS REPORT

Headline	Qld: Human trafficker to appeal sentence
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Related reports	January 8, 2009 – Sex slave pimp appeals January 8, 2009 – Sex slave pimp appeals jail term

A Gold Coast hairdresser jailed for human trafficking will appeal against his sentence, claiming it was manifestly excessive.

Keith William Dobie, 48, received a five-year jail term in December after pleading guilty to two counts of people trafficking, one count of handling proceeds of crime, and four counts of presenting false documents. He was ordered to serve 22 months behind bars before he is eligible for parole.

The court was told Dobie had forced two Thai women to work as prostitutes so that he could use the money to pay off loan sharks. He lured the women to the Gold Coast with the promise of lucrative wages and luxury living conditions. However, he instead paid the women just \$20 to have sex with up to five men a day. Dobie used the rest of the money the women earned as prostitutes to pay off loan sharks from whom he had borrowed money to finance repairs to his hairdressing salon.

In a hand-written notice filed from jail on Wednesday, Dobie indicated he would be seeking leave to appeal his sentence on the grounds that it was excessive. Dobie will argue that the comparable cases used by Judge Leanne Clare to determine his appropriate sentence were not similar enough to be relevant.

The appeal will be heard at a later date.

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