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he Taipei launch yesterday to pel misconceptions surrounding ters, along with other celebrities academic world.

complained that the debate workers in Taiwan had been perficial and praised Chi's tion to greater understanding cial group's needs.

important alization of the sex trade so it monitored by other social said Professor Ning Yin-bin of

University, Central ting the main theme of the in which Chi had painted a icture of exploitation.

utumn Taipei Mayor Chen



Chi Hwei-wen (center) tells of her experiences as a sex worker at a press conference yesterday. The launch of her book was supported by National Central University Professor Josephine Ho (left) and *United Evening News* columnist Tsai Shi-ping (right).

Shui-bian revoked licenses of the capital's more than one hundred legal prostitutes, leading to protests from parlor owners and clashes in the capital's council chamber. Some New Party and KMT councilors moved to block the city's ruling, proposing a two-year period for adjustment.

"People now think that because I

support legal prostitution I am against Chen Shui-bian," said Professor Ning. "I don't care about Chen Shui-bian, we are a social movement ... Politicians come and go. We don't have a political agenda."

The publication of ethnographic study was hailed as a great step forward by United Evening

News columnist Tsai Shi-ping, as well as representatives from Taiwan's gay community.

"At least there's a new voice concerning sex work out there in the marketplace," Ning told the China News. "Before now they were just portrayed as dupes. But this is not the whole picture of their life."