As a member of the End Demand Illinois campaign, I applaud the Rockford Police Department for its innovative approach to curbing prostitution (“Five arrested in prostitution sting,” June 25).

The sting that led to the arrest of purchasers will send a strong message to others in the community that exploiting women and children will not be tolerated.

Arresting customers, or “johns,” is a highly effective way to deter people in your community from buying sex. Law enforcement plays a key role in ending the violence that is perpetuated in the sex trade, and we are pleased that Rockford is using effective strategies to end demand.

— Lynne Johnson, advocacy director, Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation

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