

Dear Sirs,

Please accept our submission for the Senate Enquiry into the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Bill 2012.

Whilst discrimination on some grounds, such as skin colour, is rarely justified; there are instances where discrimination is not only justified, but obligatory. One must, for instance, always discriminate in favour of the good and against sin. The overall problem with this Bill is that in many areas it makes it illegal to discriminate against sin.

For example, the Bible makes clear that God has given only one legitimate sexual orientation to mankind – towards our spouses. In all that we do, we must discriminate between this legitimate orientation, and all others, such as adultery, paedophilia, fornication, and homosexuality.

Similarly, God has assigned each person only one of two genders: male and female. To suggest there are other genders such as transgender, transsexual or androgynous and that a person may identify with a gender not his own is not only foolish but sinful.

This Bill will make criminals of many Christians and others with a functioning moral conscience who simply seek to uphold basic Biblical teaching in all of their lives, including when they are at work or in public. The implications for this law on Australian society are dire. Please recommend that this Bill not be advanced.

Yours sincerely,

Hendrik and Belinda Terpstra