

2nd submission Sex Discrimination Amendment (Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Intersex Status) Bill 2013

Dear Senators,

Further to my previous submission, the following quoted article reinforces my concern that we are heading for a suppression of true freedom in this country.

UK: Christians To Choose – Conscience Or Job

After hearing Christian counselor Lesley Pilkington (61) speak at a Christian conference on sexuality, Patrick Strudwick approached her for counselling. He claimed to be 'a believer' who was unhappy about his homosexuality and interested in the 'reparative therapy' involving counseling and prayer that she had spoken about. After two sessions, Mrs Pilkington discovered that Strudwick was actually a fake client: a homosexual activist-journalist working undercover in a 'sting'.

After Strudwick's 'story' hit the mass media, Mrs Pilkington was charged with professional malpractice. The British Association for Counselling & Psychotherapy (BACP) has now informed Mrs Pilkington she will lose her senior accredited status as a counsellor. Mrs Pilkington told the Telegraph, 'There is a wider agenda that diversity and equality, which is supposed to be what our society upholds, is upheld for everyone except for those who have traditional Judeo-Christian values. I think that is very disturbing.' As noted by the CEO of the Christian Legal Centre, Andrea Minichiello Williams: 'Lesley has been penalised because she was targeted as a Christian and because she believes that people are free to choose to change their behavior if they wish.'

In the UK, as in the USA, Christians unable to affirm homosexual lifestyles are increasingly being forced to choose between their conscience and their jobs. If this situation does not change, then submission to a totalitarian state ideology will ultimately be a requirement that will force many Christians out of many roles and professions.

Pray for an awakening, and that Western Christians will stand firm in faith, trusting the Lord in all things. 'If you are not firm in faith, you will not be firm at all.' (Isaiah 7:9b ESV)
+ *Religious Liberty Prayer Bulletin* | RLPB 161 | Wed 30 May 2012.

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Again I urge you to resist a biased and overwhelming agenda of the hard left political sector, academia and parts of the media to impose, for some bizarre reason, a hegemony of homosexual and "GLGBTIQ" "rights" that will trample on those of, I regret to have to say, normal people. Dr Tiffany Jones' submission has one basic but unfortunately fatal flaw—that the conditions of humanity that her paper encompasses are sad ones originating in genetic and other aberrations, and that need help, not precedence over normal healthy family and social life.

Imposition of such precedence is unconscionable, and to my mind unconstitutional—Section 116, "The Commonwealth shall not make any law for establishing any religion, or for imposing any religious observance, or for prohibiting the free exercise of any religion..."

You can't get any more basic and inherent right of exercising religious freedom than in the expression of the high ideal of marriage as symbolizing the love of God to mankind.

This subject is too big for me to dilate upon, except to say that the christian message, as truly practised, gives such help as "GLGBTIQ" people, indeed all of us, need, and life in abundance. That is why many of us will continue to support Christian schooling and family life, reaching out to "GLGBTIQ" people where possible, but not pretending that these conditions can ever be normal.

Yours faithfully,