

Statement from Core issues Trust

The Counsellors and Psychotherapists (Regulation) Bill 2014-2015

3 December 2014

This week sees a return to parliament of the Counsellors and Psychotherapists (Regulation) Bill 2014-2015, presented by MP Geraint Davies and supported by a range of politicians.

The Bill attempts to reflect a similar pattern in the USA. Yesterday the Washington D.C. Council banned therapy wrongly termed 'conversion' therapy for minors, following California and New Jersey. The action follows an attempt to define such therapy as 'torture' at the United Nations' Committee Against Torture (CAT) in Geneva last month.

The Bill now before the UK parliament both calls for a ban of therapeutic support for people who experience unwanted homosexual feelings, and criminalises any individual, whether professional or not, seeking to help any person who wishes to reduce homosexual practices or feelings. There are no exceptions to this ban: not even individuals in opposite sex marriages wishing to remain in their relationship so as to maintain their homes and families, or those who hold to traditional Judaeo-Christian values.

Dr Mike Davidson, Director of Core Issues Trust, points out that the Bill is wrongly named: it is not about regulation – which the Trust supports - but about banning and criminalisation. He said:

"In reality what we see in the motive of this Bill, is brazen determination that all UK citizens, regardless of whether they are of a faith or no-faith background, be forced to embrace a socialisation process that seeks to overthrow Judaeo-Christian values that have underpinned the western world for centuries. This is further evidence of the rise of the pansexual agenda, and a return to a pre-Christian world where the unique contribution of Jewish tradition in relation to homosexual practice is being finally repudiated. It is the latest sophisticated manifestation of a new anti-Semitism that also seeks, as it did in the days of the rise of the German National Church, to strip the Christian Gospel of any vestige of the Jewish heritage which includes a call to sexual purity and rejection of homosexual practice. A similar purging is underway in British culture, both sacred and secular, as 'British' values replace Christian values. Christians who hold to the historical teachings of the Bible are called to find ways of respecting the different values of others, other than by assimilation, and by avoiding what Christian tradition, built on its Jewish foundation, firmly rejects. This Bill attempts to close down dissent and ultimately attacks the freedom of individuals to resist homosexual indoctrination.

Recently, Core Issues Trust wrote to all Westminster Politicians¹ in the Lords and Commons, bishops in the Church of England, and the Church of Ireland and also Roman Catholic bishops², providing a copy of the 2014 booklet "What the Research Does and Does Not Say: Is therapeutic support for unwanted same-sex attractions harmful?"³ The letter requests politicians to consider the valid aspirations of individuals who seek to move away from homosexual practices, including those who choose to remain married to their opposite-sex partners, who seek to maximise their heterosexual potential.

Core Issues Trust believes that the present Bill is a wake-up call to both Church and State of the imminent danger that we may lose some important freedoms not on grounds of scientific evidence but because of ideological pressure, and the misguided notion that such a measure will protect the vulnerable. Rather the measure is likely to lead to an increase in informal practices, without professional scrutiny and with little access to supervisory safeguards.

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¹ [4 November 2014: House of Lords and Commons, Westminster.](#)

² [29 August 2014: Bishops: Church Of England, Ireland and Roman Catholics.](#)

³ [Available for download.](#)