

20 Riverdale Anahilt Hillsborough BT266DH 2nd May 2013

Dear General Synod Member

## Proposed legislation: redefinition of marriage

Accompanying this letter is a small booklet for you to consider as you observe parliament consider implementing legislation on the redefinition of marriage. The booklet is called 'Beyond Critique': The Misuse of Science by UK Professional Mental Health Bodies' by two Anglicans, Dermot O'Callaghan and Dr Peter May. The contributions illustrate how ideology has replaced evidence-based scientific endeavour in submissions made both to the Church of England and to Parliament

This gift has been made possible for you through the generosity of many ordinary individuals, both within and outside of the Church of England, concerned that you listen to their concerns about a very high level of dishonesty in the evidence being put forward in support of this proposed legislation.

If you cannot afford the time to read this document fully, we ask you at the very least to consider three questions:

- 1. Are you able to support a decision which will ignore the clear and consistent scientific evidence that children are best nurtured in families with their biological father and mother?
- 2. Do you support the ethical position of UK Professional Mental Health Bodies, based on the scientifically indefensible statement that there is no instance in which a professional therapist should help to reduce homosexual feelings even when this is a client's choice?
- 3. Are you confident that the grounds exist upon which parliament will be able to protect society from new family constellations that insist on marrying multiple partners?

The imposition of the redefinition of marriage on society based on the misuse of scientific data claiming homosexual practice is an unavoidable patterning, is profoundly misleading.

In your prayerful consideration, we ask you to look very carefully at this booklet so that you are aware of its analysis of the flawed use of science to support this motion.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Davidson, PhD FHEA

**DIRECTOR, Core Issues Trust** 

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