
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council

From: Web NoReply
Sent: January 24, 2021 6:12 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Sunday, January 24, 2021 - 18:11

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Date Sunday, January 24, 2021
To His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name Dean
Last Name Willenborg
Phone Number
Email [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED] Egbert Avenue
City Saskatoon
Province Saskatchewan
Postal Code [REDACTED]
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable)
Subject Oppose the Ban on Conversion Therapy
Meeting (if known)
Comments

I am writing because I am strongly opposed to any sort of ban on restorative therapy for unwanted sexual proclivities, which is currently being considered by City Councillors. This is nothing but an intrusion into the personal lives of private citizens.

This also represents an outrageous encroachment into the religious life of Christians in the community, because it will criminalize support groups for same sex attracted Christians, like COURAGE in Winnipeg and Toronto, which helps Catholics who want to live chastely and to avoid sin. Likewise, the LIVING WATERS spiritual support program that is available in many evangelical Canadian churches is a valuable ministry for members of the congregations who want to follow Christ's call to sexual purity.

To see for yourself what a wonderful spiritual resource COURAGE is for Catholics who want to shake off the bondage of sin, check out their website: <https://couragerc.org/about/>

For LIVING WATERS' go here: <https://desertstream.org/living-waters>

These support groups also have much to offer heterosexuals and I say that from experience. Several years ago, I became aware of a video put out by COURAGE called "Desire of the Everlasting Hills" and it changed my own

life profoundly. The video focuses on the real-life experiences of three people who have found peace in their homosexuality and it was the turning point where I found myself much more empathetic to friends, family, coworkers, and community members who experience life in similar ways. To hear the stories of these wonderful individuals and to see the video, please click the link here:

Desire of the Everlasting Hills on Vimeo

Restorative therapy offers genuine hope to persons struggling with gender confusion or same-sex attraction. And it works. Why would anyone want to ban this? Why would you want to prevent people who are hurting - who are feeling real pain - from getting the mental, emotional, or spiritual resolution they are looking for? With the aid of restorative therapy, they can find peace. A world without hope is dark, so please do not stop men and women from having access to the valuable therapy they need.

Look, there are already laws on the books to punish cases of real abuse. The municipal government should not overstep its bounds. This proposed ban is just a means to lash out at Christians who want to help people follow their faith, helping them reject sinful practices that they believe damage their relationship with God. It would be unconstitutional, cruel, and harmful to Saskatonians to criminalize these church-based ministries for persons struggling with unwanted same-sex attraction.

So, I would caution dismissive and closed-minded activists like Councillor Hill who put their bias on full display by arguing with, instead of listening to the sincere concerns of citizens. I would also caution those who put faith in ill intentioned “experts” like Kristopher Wells for a one-sided validation and promotion of this ban. Instead, please consider the common good of all citizens whom you are mandated to serve fairly and equally. I congratulate Councillor Kurton and Councillor Donauer, who so far have been the only ones who seem to understand the associated risks of moving this forward despite whatever personal feelings they may or may not have. This ban will do more harm than good whether it be for citizens’ best interests, or the legal repercussions that are certain to follow.

Please DO NOT approve the proposed city bylaw that would prohibit Christian ministries or therapeutic clinical treatment.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]