

Dear Members of Parliament,

As members of the Canadian Faith community, we do respect the rights of all Canadian to freely associate and to have adequate information that will help them make good and informed decision on every issue of life. Every person must have a right to know what the consequences of their actions are, not just in the immediate but for the unforeseeable future.

It is on account of these rights that Tobacco producers are required by law to advertise the consequence of smoking on label of their products. The 'Caveat emptor' advert has no doubt dissuaded many would be consumers from falling prey to the temptation to either smoke.

Having reviewed some key portions of the Bill C-6, we are of the opinion that deliberately denying willing persons from having access to counsel and Mentorship on issue of sexuality would not only be injurious to the interest and wellbeing of the people it seeks to protect but would also constitute an infringement on their right to the right form of information which they so desperately require and need in such decisive moment.

As studies have shown, majority of people who contemplate changing their sexuality are either ill-informed about the consequences of their action or are largely in the formative stages of life. They are therefore incapable of making failure proof decisions. As a parent, I have 3 children in various formative stage of life. I know, as a matter of fact, that most of their decision are sieved through the lenses of their mother and mine wisdom. Decisions bordering on spirituality, relationships, dressings etc are just some of the areas where they require our constant input to forestall negative consequences.

And you will all agree that decision about sexuality are not only defining for the moment but also present grave consequences for the future if adequate counsel is not employed.

As the good book say ***'Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety...(Pr. 11:14)***

An attempt to disenfranchise needy and vulnerable people who are genuinely in a confused state of mind will be tantamount to a double jeopardy. For one, these individuals are in a confused state of mind due largely to wrong environmental factors. On the other hands, they are prevented from benefiting from the wisdom of matured and experienced persons who have abundant success stories dealing with similar cases.

While there might have been a few cases of person who have been wrongly counseled and resulting in wrong decision, I believe those few exceptions should not form the basis for denying others the help they so desperately need.