

A Brief

by Gloria Rudenberg

Re: Bill C-6,

**An Act to amend the Criminal Code
(Conversion Therapy)**

Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights
Sixth Floor, 131 Queen Street
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Re: Bill C-6, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (Conversion Therapy)

Dear Senators,

I am writing to you today about my concerns related to Bill C-6.

I am for protecting people from being forcibly coerced into changing one's mind about anything. We were created with a free-will and the ability to choose our own paths in life. This is a fundamental right that needs to be upheld in Canada. Although it would seem that protecting this right is the intent of this bill, my understanding of it leads me to believe that this fundamental freedom is actually being undermined. It criminalizes actions taken to help people who want to change their mind. As you know, people may change ideas over the course of their lives many times. What we think about ourselves when we are four is different then what we think at ten or fifteen. And it is again different when we are 25, 50 and 80. Our thinking is fluid and influenced by the world around us. We have a right to change our minds - to like pink when we are four, and blue when we are ten, and black when we are fifteen. Never should we tell someone what you thought when you were a child is what you must think for the rest of your life. And if you do want to change your mind, you may not reach out to anyone for help. That is very controlling and evil. But that is exactly what this bill proposes. We need instead to protect the right of vulnerable individuals to seek whatever help they desire.

I personally know a few people who have undergone a sex change and then, years later, have changed their minds and decided to revert to their birth sex. They weren't coerced by anyone, but in the same way they had chosen to change their gender earlier in their life, they decided that was no longer how they wanted to live. They looked for pastors, counsellors and friends to help them on their journey. Today, they are living happy and fulfilled lives. It was their choice. I pray that Canadians will always have the right to change their mind and seek all the help they want to support them in their choice.

Likewise parents should always have the right to counsel their children, as they have done for thousands of years, through the turbulent childhood and adolescent years. They should be able to be a voice of wisdom and reason, speaking to their children's confusion without fearing government intervention and punishment.

This bill threatens parents, counsellors and clergy who are meant to be that voice of wisdom and healing for hurting people who are trying to sort out their lives.

There are individuals who have changed their minds and have taken the time to tell their stories for you. Please take the time to listen to [this message from Hudson Byblow](#) (a), a man who struggled with unwanted same-sex attraction. Other respectful messages addressed to parliamentarians from those who have twice changed their sexual orientation or gender association can be found [here](#). (b) Also for a more in-depth look at this subject, please watch

independent Quebec journalist Michelle Lizotte's documentary entitled [Censored](#) (c), that was produced earlier this year.

We live in difficult times with a lot of changing ideas, so we need a lot of wisdom to make good decisions. As Senators scrutinizing bills that will become the laws of Canada, and will have serious implications for the future generations, you especially need a great amount of wisdom and understanding. I pray that you will make wise decisions that will support the free will of individuals to choose the outcome of their own lives.

Please do not criminalize parental guidance given lovingly to children who gender-confused or who have undergone a currently unwanted sex change. Please do not criminalize pastoral care and counselling services offered to individuals who are seeking help with sorting out who they are and who they desire to be.

Respectfully,

Gloria Rudenberg

(a) Message from Hudson Bylow

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ec4mZoW1110&feature=emb_logo

(b) Messages from other former trans and homosexuals

<https://stoptheban.ca/testimonies-personal-testimonies-from-ex-gays-and-ex-transgenders/>

© Censored - Documentary by Michelle Lizotte

<https://stoptheban.ca/watch-censored-documentary-on-conversion-therapy/>