

² Quoted in <https://www.evangelicalfellowship.ca/Resources/Government/2020/Bill-to-Ban-Conversion-Therapy>.

contemplated in the text of Bill C-6; thus, something like a youth Bible study on relationships/sexuality might indeed be construed as a practice that speaks to a “predefined goal” if it challenges attitudes towards non-heterosexual attraction or sexual behaviour.

It is vitally important that anyone—regardless of their age—who is genuinely asking questions relating to their sexual identity can legally get the support they choose. In its current form, the definition of “conversion therapy” in Bill C-6 will put limits on the kind of support to be obtained from counselors, friends and even family on matters relating to sexual orientation and sexual identity, resulting in less freedom for individuals, not more.

Please fix the definition of “conversion therapy” in Bill C-6 to:

- Ban coercive, degrading practices that are designed to change a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity;
- Ensure that no laws discriminate against Canadians by limiting what services they can receive based on their sexual orientation or gender identity;
- Allow parents to speak with their own children about sexuality and gender, and set house rules about sex and relationships;
- Allow free and open conversations about sexuality and sexual behaviour; and
- Not criminalize professional and religious counseling voluntarily requested and consented to by those wanting to order their sexual lives in accordance with their religious or personal convictions.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Anderson