

SENATE PASSES HOMOSEXUAL **“HATE CRIMES” BILL**

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

By Sam Kastensmidt

<http://www.reclaimamerica.org/Pages/News/newspage.asp?story=1761>

Note from pastor Kevin: The handwriting has been on the wall for the past couple years that this legislation is coming to America. It is already in place in Canada, Europe and Australia; where hate crime laws have been used to arrest and fine Christians who are being obedient to the Great Commission. The following article states that if this law is enacted in America (I believe it is only a matter of time until it is) that it will have the affect of silencing pastors and Christians. The Lord Jesus did not say to:

Matt 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

if the government said that it was allowable. He commanded us to be salt and light. Therefore, it is my desire to continue to teach and preach the truth of God's word to the church, and to the dying world, no matter what laws are enacted by our leaders. I hope you will also; people's souls are at stake.

I also hope you will contact your representative and voice your opposition to this legislation.

One month after Canada passed a law potentially criminalizing biblical texts that denounce homosexuality, the United States Senate has passed a "hate crimes" bill, which may eventually be construed to criminalize biblical texts that denounce homosexuality.

Senators Ted Kennedy (D-MA) and Gordon Smith (R-OR) introduced this as an amendment to the Defense Authorization Act, making it more difficult for politicians to oppose.

The bill forces the government to impose special fines upon a person when they have committed a crime that "is motivated by prejudice based on the race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability of the

victim."

The legislation comes as a result of emboldened leadership within the homosexual community. After the legalization of same-sex "marriage" in Massachusetts, homosexual advocates are now attempting to achieve special rights and status within America — at the expense of Christians.

To learn more about the homosexual movement, please view the Center's Homosexuality *FASTFACT*.

Bill Potentially Equates Bible to "Hate Speech"

Pro-family advocates believe that this law could be used by activist judges or political ideologues to blur the line of religious liberty. The Bible unequivocally denounces the homosexual lifestyle as an abomination. Would this be considered hate-speech?

Following in Canada's Footsteps

One month ago, Canada approved similar legislation, which was aimed at preventing all language that could lead to the "incitement of hatred" toward homosexuals. The bill was dubbed the "Bible as Hate Speech" bill by pro-family advocates, who warned that such legislation could criminalize portions of the Bible that denounce homosexuality.

Already, in a disturbing example of the implications of this bill, one Canadian court has upheld a fine against a Saskatchewan newspaper publisher for running an advertisement that listed the various Bible verses dealing with homosexuality.

<http://www.reclaimamerica.org/pages/NEWS/newspage.asp?story=1799>

Canadian Charged with "Hate Speech" for Listing Bible Verses

Monday, June 07, 2004

By Sam Kastensmidt

In the Saskatchewan Province of Canada, the Court of Queen's Bench has affirmed a 2001 ruling of the human rights tribunal which imposed a fine on a man for submitting a newspaper ad that cited four Bible verses condemning homosexuality.

Hate Crimes Law Breeds Christian Censorship

The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code prohibits any form of expression that might "incite hatred." Hugh Owens, of Regina, Saskatchewan, and the Saskatoon Star Phoenix were found guilty of violating this law. As a punishment for posting four biblical citations, Owens was forced to pay damages of 1,500 Canadian dollars to each of the three homosexual men who filed the complaint.

The rights code is supposed to make exceptions for a person's religious beliefs, but an activist court has ruled that opposition to homosexuality is not a tenet of the Christian faith. Rather, the commission ruled that Owens had exposed the homosexual men "to hatred, ridicule, and their dignity was affronted on the basis of their sexual orientation."

Contents of the Advertisement

The ad listed references to four Bible passages:

- Romans 1
- Leviticus 18:22
- Leviticus 20:13
- 1 Corinthians 6:9-10

To the right of the verses, an equal sign was placed between the verse references and a drawing of two males holding hands. On top of the drawing was the universal nullification symbol – a red circle with a diagonal bar running through the middle.

Owens Addresses the Ruling

"I put the biblical references, but not the actual verses, so the ad would become interactive," he stated in an interview with the *National Catholic Register*. "I figured somebody would have to look them up in the Bible first, or if they didn't have a Bible, they would have to find one."

The Catholic newspaper stated, "Owens denies that as a Christian he wants homosexuals put to death, as some inferred from the biblical passages." He simply believes that their "eternal salvation is at stake."

Court Provides Illogical Reasoning for Decision

Justice J. Barclay wrote in his opinion that the human-rights panel "was correct in concluding that the advertisement can objectively be seen as exposing homosexuals to hatred or ridicule."

"When the use of the circle and slash is combined with the passages of the Bible, it exposes homosexuals to detestation, vilification and disgrace," Barclay


said. "In other words, the biblical passage which suggests that if a man lies with a man they must be put to death exposes homosexuals to hatred."

Take Action!

Contact your elected officials and urge them to oppose all legislation that might eventually lead to preferential treatment or Christian censorship. You may reach them at:

U.S. Capitol Switchboard
(202) 224-3121

Source List:

"Bible Verses Regarded as Hate Literature," *WorldNetDaily*, February 18, 2003.
 http://www.worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=31080

In Sweden, a pastor was arrested at his church after he began reading Bible verses about homosexuality.

In Britain, an Anglican bishop was placed under criminal investigation for suggesting that homosexuals can change their sexual orientation.

<http://www.reclaimamerica.org/pages/NEWS/newspage.asp?story=1450>

British Bishop Threatened for Suggesting Homosexual Rehabilitation
Tuesday, November 11, 2003

By Sam Kastensmidt

British Anglican Bishop Peter Forster is currently being investigated for violating a new "hate crimes" law after telling a newspaper that "Some people who are primarily homosexual can reorientate themselves."

The *Manchester News* reports, "[During] the weekend, a complaint was made to police that his remarks—made to his local newspaper and reported by the *Manchester Evening News* on Saturday—had caused offence and could allegedly be described as 'hate crime.'"

Pro-Homosexual Advocates Denounce Forster's Biblical Position

Immediately, homosexual activists launched an aggressive campaign to condemn Forster's comments. Richard Kirkler, the General Secretary of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, labeled Forster's comments as being "inflammatory and offensive."

"It is those who think like Dr. Forster, not gays and lesbians, who have a problem," Kirkler told reporters. "Dr. Forster's prejudices will not be solved by a visit to the doctor, nor will lesbian and gay people go away and get cured to help him live with them. Only Christian fundamentalists devote their energies in this direction."

Law Enforcement Investigates Biblical Teachings

Assistant Chief Constable Graeme Gerrard issued the following press release: "We are aware of the article put in the *Chester Chronicle* and have received a complaint. We will examine the issues raised in the complaint and speak to the reporter and the bishop before considering any further action."

In response to the ensuing investigation, Bishop Forster clarified, "I would encourage [homosexuals] to consider that as an option, but I would not set myself up as a specialist on the subject—that's in the area of psychiatric health."

The Bible Tells of Homosexual Rehabilitation

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 reads, "Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals... will inherit the kingdom of God. And such **WERE** some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God." In Paul's letter to the church in Corinth, he notes that some new Christians were former homosexuals. Thus, Paul's letter to the Corinthians offers undeniable evidence that homosexuals are capable of rehabilitation.

Unfortunately, many in the homosexual movement would like to censor the Bible and prevent Christians from freely exercising the tenants of their faith.

Source List:

"Get Cured Bishop Under Police Investigation," *The Rainbow Network*, November 10, 2003.
<http://www.rainbownetwork.com/content/News.asp?newsid=3907>



"Police to Quiz Gay Row Bishop," *The Manchester News*, November 10, 2003.
http://www.manchesteronline.co.uk/news/stories/Detail_LinkStory=72507.html

Recently in Tennessee -- even without this law in effect -- two men were arrested for carrying large wooden crosses during a "Gay Day" Parade. The men were charged with "disorderly conduct" and "interfering with a special event."

Men Arrested for Carrying Crosses at Gay Day Event

Thursday, May 13, 2004

<http://www.reclaimamerica.org/Pages/NEWS/newspage.asp?story=1721>

By Sam Kastensmidt

On May 8, at the county's "Gay Day" event in Dayton, Tennessee, police arrested two Christians as they were fastening the beams of one of their ten-foot crosses, which they often use in parades around the nation in order to draw people to Christ.

"Gay Day" Parade Seeks Retribution

In March, the Rhea County Commission had instituted a complete ban on homosexuality, which was rescinded after only two days. In an act of retribution, roughly 400 homosexuals from around the nation descended upon the town of 6,200.

Christians Denied Freedom of Speech

According to officials within the Rhea County Jail, police officers asked several Christian demonstrators to leave the event. Eight of the demonstrators left quietly, but Brian Charles O'Connell of Crystal River, Florida, and Michael Joseph Seimer of Chattanooga, Tennessee, defended their right to evangelize. Without incident, they were arrested and charged with "disorderly conduct" and "interfering with a special event."

They were both freed after posting the required \$500 bond, and they must appear before a judge this Friday.

"This is the first time I have been arrested for being a Christian," noted Seimer. "I think it is a really bad thing that we can be arrested for expressing our views."

Dayton Police Chief Kenneth Walker admitted to reporters, “They wanted to go down to protest, and we told them they couldn’t. They were arrested; that’s it.”

Take Action!

To voice your concerns to Rhea County Commission, please write or call:
Frank Welch – City Manager
(423)775-1817 or

Rhea County Commission
1475 North Market Street
County Courthouse
Dayton, TN 37321-1267
(423)775-7801

Bob Knight, director of the Culture and Family Institute, believes that if this legislation is passed, it will undoubtedly be used to “muzzle public discussion of homosexuality and even someday silence pastors.”

Rights of Homosexuals to Trump Rights of Others

Knight commented, “It’s a very dangerous bill, because it adds ‘sexual orientation’ to hate crimes law, and it greatly expands federal jurisdiction.”

If passed, this law would give priority to those investigations, trials, and sentencing guidelines concerning violent crimes against homosexuals, while heterosexuals will not qualify for similar priorities under the law. “If your grandmother is mugged, it won’t be a big deal [unless she is a lesbian],” Knight noted. “And the law enforcement authorities may have to put more of their revenues toward the mugging, say, of a homosexual guy walking down the street. Both deserve protection, but certainly the gay guy doesn’t deserve more than your grandmother.”

Unfortunately, under this proposed legislation, the rights and protections of homosexuals would take priority over heterosexuals — as newly minted citizens of heightened importance.

Take Action!

Do not allow this legislation to go unopposed. Contact your elected leaders in Washington and express your opinion regarding this legislation. Also, contact President Bush and urge him to veto this legislation should it reach his desk.

U.S. Capitol Switchboard

(202) 224-3121

President George W. Bush
(202) 456-1414

Also, contact House Majority Leader Tom DeLay. Encourage him to vigorously oppose this legislation when it reaches the House. You may reach him at:

Representative Tom DeLay
Majority Leader Office
H-107 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
(202)225-4000

Source List:

“U.S. to Follow Canada Again — This time on Homosexual Hate Crime Law,”
LifeSite Daily News, May 27, 2004.
<http://www.lifesite.net/ldn/2004/may/04052702.html>

“CFI: Hate Crime Bill Could Criminalize Biblical Truth,” *Crosswalk News*, May 28, 2004.
<http://www.crosswalk.com/news/1265152.html>

“ ‘Bible as Hate Speech’ Signed into Law,” *WorldNetDaily*, April 30, 2004.
http://www.worldnetdaily.com/news/article.asp?ARTICLE_ID=38268