

MUSLIM JUDICIAL COUNCIL (SA)

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09 October 2006

The Chairperson
Home Affairs Portfolio Committee
National Assembly
P O Box 15
Cape Town
8000

Submission on Civil Union Bill **B26- 2006**

The Muslim Judicial Council objects to the proposed Civil Unions Bill

Whilst recognising the rights of individuals the Muslim Judicial Council hereby states that it disapproves of homosexual acts and holds it to be abominable.

The institution of marriage is the voluntary union of a man and a woman only. It is through this institution of marriage that Allah blesses us with children and it is this institution of marriage that has been the building block of all societies.

Of our gravest concerns are how the Civil Unions Bill will impact on the rights of children. It is obvious that in same sex relationships the child will be deprived either of a mother or a father and thus be deprived of a normal upbringing. How can those who choose to enter into a partnership that cannot procure children wish to raise the children that are the result of the union between a man and a woman.

The Muslim Judicial Council is also concerned that the religious freedom we enjoy, which allows us to speak against those traits our religion deems abominable, unnatural and a cause of the anger of Allah will be curtailed if such a union be termed a marriage and given all the rights of a marriage. In the future if a Muslim cleric speaks against homosexuality will that also be termed 'hate speech' or 'religious hatred'?

The Civil Unions Bill speaks of a 'registered domestic partnership' and 'unregistered domestic partnerships. The Muslim Judicial Council sees this as granting legality to partnerships outside of marriage. We feel that this is not in the best interests of society and is best left out of the Civil Unions Bill. The religion of Islam abhors sexual relations outside that of marriage.

It is most definitely a small minority who wishes to share the rights of marriage. Granting them their wish at the expense of the vast majority of South Africans can hardly be termed democratic. The Muslim Judicial Council is of the opinion that the spread of homosexuality and lesbianism will invite the anger of Allah, erode the family structure and expose young, innocent children to an unnatural lifestyle.

Yours sincerely



Moulana Abdul Fattaag Carr
Presidential Aide- Muslim Judicial Council





MUSLIM JUDICIAL COUNCIL (S.A.)



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05 October 2006

Committee Secretary
Mr. Rousseau Mangka
P.O.Box 15
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RE: Request Oral Submission on Films and Publications Amendment Bill

(as introduced in the National Assembly as a section 75 Bill; explanatory summary of Bill published in the Government Gazette No 25421 of 1 September 2003)

Dear Mr. Mangka

The Muslim Judicial Council hereby supports the Films and Publications Amendment Bill which is to be tabled before Parliament by the Ministry of Home Affairs. We hereby also request that the Muslim Judicial Council be given the opportunity to render an oral submission at the Stakeholder Public Hearing (16-17 October 2006) regarding the Films and Publications Amendment Bill.

We see the Films and Publications Amendment Bill as a step forward in combating the rampant spread of pornography and all the social ills that result from it. The Films and Publications Amendment Bill goes a long way in ensuring that our children enjoy an upbringing free from the evils of pornography.

We welcome with open arms the inclusion of pornography found in TV programmes, computer games and Internet in the Films and Publications Amendment Bill and hope that this signals the beginning of the moral regeneration that is so sorely needed in our society.

Yours sincerely

Sheikh Achmat Sedick
First Deputy President- Muslim Judicial Council.
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