

17/10/06  
scheme

**16 October 2006**

**STAKEHOLDER PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE CIVIL UNION BILL**

**Date : 16 & 17 October 2006**

**Time: 09h00 - 13h00**

**Venue : Committee Room V454, Fourth Floor, Old  
Assembly Wing**

**MR HP Chauke**

**Chairperson: Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs**

## **CHRISTIAN BRETHERN SUBMISSION ON THE CIVIL UNION BILL**

**MR./MADAM CHAIR, ESTEEMED MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS, FELLOW CITIZENS, WE OF THE CHRISTIAN BRETHERN CHURCH, DEEM IT A PRIVILEGE TO BE HERE THIS MORNING TO PRESENT AND DISCUSS WITH YOU SOME OF THE CONTENTIOUS ISSUES RAISED IN THE CIVIL UNION BILL, ESPECIALLY THE SAME –SEX MARRIAGE PROPOSAL.**

**WE ARE AWARE THAT THIS EXPLOSIVE BILL, HAVING CREATED QUITE A STIR AMONG CERTAIN PEOPLE OF THE LAND, COMPELS US TO PLACE OUR PRINCIPLES, IN A CONTEXT, THAT WILL GENERATE CLEAR THINKING AND MUTUAL RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER. SOME OF THE PRINCIPLES ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

- THE CHRISTIAN BRETHERN CHURCH, BELIEVES IN CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM RATHER THAN IN THE DEHUMANISATION OF THOSE WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE GAY COMMUNITY.**
- THE CHRISTIAN BRETHERN CHURCH ALSO BELIEVES IN OUR HUMAN SEXUALITY. ANGELS MAY BE SEXLESS BEINGS , WE ARE NOT. OUR SEXUALITY THREATENS OR ENDORSES OUR IDENTITY, - THIS SUBJECT DEMANDS AN UNUSUAL DEGREE OF SENSITIVITY.**
- THE CHRISTIAN BRETHERN CHURCH BELIEVES IN THE DOCTRINE OF THE TOTAL DEPRAVITY OF MAN. EVERY PART OF OUR HUMAN PERSONALITY HAS BEEN TAINTED AND TWISTED BY SIN. THIS INCLUDES OUR SEXUALITY**

**WE, TOGETHER WITH OTHER CHURCHES BELIEVE, THAT EVERY KIND OF RELATIONSHIP AND ACTIVITY WHICH DEVIATES FROM GOD'S INTENTION, IS *IPSO FACTO* DISPLEASING TO HIM, AND UNDER HIS JUDGEMENT.**

**THIS INCLUDES:**

- 1. POLYGAMY**
- 2. CASUAL ENCOUNTERS**
- 3. ADULTERY**
- 4. MANY DIVORCES.**
- 5. SAME-SEX MARRIAGES (WHICH VIOLATES THE STATEMENT THAT "A MAN SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE")**

6.

THE CIVIL UNION BILL CONTINUED/2

- THE CHRISTIAN BRETHERN BELIEVES IN THE TWO SEX-SYSTEM AND NOT THE SAME-SEX SYSTEM OF MARRIAGE. THE INSTITUTION OF MARRIAGE, OLDER THAN EITHER CHRISTIANITY OR JUDAISM, AS OLD AS HUMANKIND ITSELF, WAS ENTERED INTO BY A MAN AND A WOMAN, AND IT IS THE COMPLEMENTARITY OF THE SEXES, THAT CONSTITUTE THE BASIS FOR A HETEROSEXUAL MARRIAGE.” ADAM AND EVE, NOT ADAM AND STEVE WERE MARRIED.
- WE BELIEVE THAT THROUGH A HETEROSEXUAL RELATIONSHIP, BOTH PARTIES CAN CONSUMMATE THEIR LOVE, AND PROCREATE THEIR CHILDREN.
- THE CHRISTIAN BRETHERN BELIEVES THAT THROUGH THE TWO-WAY SYSTEM OF MARRIAGE, CHILDREN CAN HAVE A MOTHER AND A FATHER. THIS IS IN KEEPING WITH THE CONSTITUTION, (ACT 108 OF 1996) 28 (1) (b)
- UNFORTUNATELY, THE TRUE FAMILY UNIT CANNOT EVOLVE THROUGH A SAME-SEX MARRIAGE. IT IS POSSIBLE FOR A MAN TO BE A FATHER, BUT, IMPOSSIBLE FOR A MAN TO PLAY THE ROLE OF MOTHER OR WIFE, OR FOR A WOMAN TO PLAY THE ROLE OF FATHER OR HUSBAND. THEREFORE, IT WAS VERY DISAPPOINTING TO HAVE READ, THAT AT CAUCAS LEVEL THE RULING PARTY, HAVE GIVEN THIS BILL THE GREEN LIGHT. MAY A SOVEREIGN MIRACLE OF GRACE, PREVENT THEM FROM GOING FURTHER.

WHICH BRINGS US TO FAMILY LIFE:

IN A PUBLICATION, CALLED THE GAY COMMUNITY NEWS, THE FOLLOWING WAS EXPRESSED:

“...THE FAMILY UNIT- SPAWNING GROUND OF LIES, BETRAYALS, MEDIOCRITY, HYPOCRISY AND VIOLENCE- WILL BE ABOLISHED. THE FAMILY UNIT, WHICH ONLY DAMPENS IMAGINATION AND CURBS FREE WILL, MUST BE ELIMINATED.” (DR. JAMES DOBSON, BRINGING UP BOYS, P. 135)

THE GAY COMMUNITY HAS TRUTHFULLY EXPRESSED WHAT MANY CHURCHES ALREADY KNOW ABOUT FAMILY LIFE. THIS WAKE-UP CALL, HOWEVER, HAS SPURRED CHURCH-LEADERS TO FOCUS MORE ON JUDEO-CHRISTIAN VALUES, AND THE STRENGTHENING OF FAMILY TIES. FAMILY VALUES FEATURES VERY HIGHLY AMONG CHRISTIAN BRETHERN CHURCHES.

THE CIVIL UNION BILL CONTINUED/ P.3.

ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION:

THE AMERICAN ZOOLOGIST, ALFRED C. KINSEY'S FAMOUS INVESTIGATION INTO HUMAN SEXUALITY, LED HIM TO CONCLUDE THAT :

- 4% OF WHITE MEN ARE EXCLUSIVELY GAY THROUGHOUT THEIR LIFE.
- 10% ARE UP TO 3 YEARS
- 37% HAVE SOME KIND OF GAY EXPERIENCE BETWEEN ADOLESCENCE AND OLD AGE.
- THE PERCENTAGE OF HOMOSEXUAL WOMEN HE FOUND TO BE LOWER, ALTHOUGH IT RISES TO 4% BETWEEN THE AGES OF 20 AND 35.
- THESE STATS SHOW THAT ONE'S SEXUAL ORIENTATION CAN CHANGE, FROM GAY TO NON-GAY, FROM NON GAY TO GAY.
- SOME GAY PEOPLE EVEN SPEAK OF A "WIDE -VARIETY OF LIFESTYLES" E.G. MONOGAMY AND MULTIPLE PARTNERSHIPS; PARTNERSHIPS FOR LIFE AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR A PERIOD OF MUTUAL GROWTH; SAME SEX PARTNERS AND OPPOSITE SEX PARTNERS ( JOHN STOTT, ISSUES FACING CHRISTIANS TODAY)
  
- THE ABOVE- POINTS UNDERSCORE THE PRINCIPLE OF CHANGE. IF MEMBERS OF THE GAY COMMUNITY CAN CHANGE EMOTIONALLY FROM ONE STATUS TO ANOTHER, AND THEN AGAIN FROM ONE LIFE PATTERN TO ANOTHER, THEY CAN ALSO CHANGE FROM ONE SPIRITUAL CONDITION TO ANOTHER.
  
- PAUL UNEQUIVOCALLY, STATES THIS IN (1COR. 6:9-11)
- HE REFERS SPECIFICALLY TO PAEDERASTY, (SEUNSSKENDING)
- ONE OF THE OLDEST FORMS OF HOMOSEXUALITY PRACTISED IN THE ANCIENT WORLD.
- HE SAYS TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH AT CORINTH,
- " DO NOT BE DECEIVED, NEITHER THE SEXUALLY IMMORAL, ...NOR MALE PROSTITUTES (MALAKOI) NOR HOMOSEXUAL OFFENDERS (ARSENOKOITA)...THIEVES.. SWINDLERS...WILL NOT ENTER THE KINGDOM... AND SUCH WERE SOME OF YOU"- MEANING SOME OF THEM WERE PAEDERASTS,BUT THEIR SPIRITUAL STATUS HAD CHANGED, SINCE THEY HAD BEEN "WASHED, SANCTIFIED , JUSTIFIED IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS, AND BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD" THEY HAD EXPERIENCED, THE REDEMPTIVE PURPOSES OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS. THEIR SPIRITUAL STATUS HAD BEEN CHANGED

THE CIVIL UNION BILL CONTINUED/ P. 4.

IN CONCLUSION:

SINCE OUR DEMOCRACY, WE HAVE STOPPED READING "CRY THE BELOVED COUNTRY", BUT, "SMILE THE BELOVED COUNTRY." WE ARE NO MORE A DOT ON THE MAP OF THE WORLD, BUT AN EXCLAMATION MARK!

THE DOCTRINE OF PROPORTION , CAUSES US TO FOCUS ON THE "WEIGHTIER MATTERS OF THE LAW", AND TO VIEW ISSUES FROM A PREDICTIVE PERSPECTIVE. COULD LEGALISED SAME -SEX MARRIAGES LEAD TO LEGAL LOWERING OF THE AGE OF CONSENT? THE GERMANS HAVE LOWERED IT TO THE AGE OF FOURTEEN, THE DUTCH TO THE AGE OF TWELVE.

THERE IS A SAYING ABROAD, "SEX BEFORE EIGHT, BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE." THE DEHUMANIZING AWFULNESS OF APARTHEID, WHICH PUT PEOPLE OF COLOUR IN BONDAGE, COULD RESURFACE IF THE STATE IMPOSES IT'S WILL UPON IT'S PEOPLE, BY LEGISLATING IMMORALITY.

OUR CONSTITUTION IS NOT WRITTEN IN STONE. SOMEONE WHO HELPED SHAPE OUR CONSTITUTION , AFTER IT'S COMPLETION; REMINDED US; THAT THE CONSTITUTION, MUST BE TESTED , AND WE ADD CHANGED, IF IT IS DETRIMENTAL TO THE WELL BEING OF OUR CITIZENS. THE PRICE OF LIBERTY IS "ETERNAL VIGILANCE"

IN A SHORT WHILE, WE COULD BE READING, "WEEP THE BELOVED COUNTRY"

SIGNATORIES:

M.C. G. ISAACS.....

MR. N. HENDRICKS.....

MR.W. ACKERMAN.....

MR. I. DAVIDS.....

MR. D. LEE.....

MR. D. HARDISTY.....

MR. M. STRAUSS.....

MR. B. BROWN.....

MR. B. HANKEY . . . . .