



UNI-T VOIX POUR LES VALEURS CHRÉTIENNES

UNI-T A VOICE FOR CHRISTIAN VALUES

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November 13th, 2020

Cabinet of the Parliamentary Leader of the Government of the Minister of Justice
and
Mr. Minister of Justice,
Louis-Philippe-Pigeon Building
1200 Church Road
Quebec, Quebec
G1V 4M1

Subject: Request to participate in the special
consultations of
Bill 70

Greetings Minister,

Our organization, UVVC: *Uni-T A Voice for Christian Values*, represents thousands of Quebec citizens (Christian churches, members of those churches, citizens not members of churches but who believe in the same values promoted by UVVC) who wish to promote and protect the values and heritage that have shaped Quebec. We believe in the values protected by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms. Thus, we believe that freedom of religion, freedom of the press, freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, and freedom of conscience, as well as the autonomy of individuals, must not only be protected but also respected.

We are writing to you in connection with Bill 70 which seeks to penalize and even criminalize conversion therapies through excessive fines of \$5,000-\$150,000, possibly indirectly leading to imprisonment for those who cannot pay such amounts.

We are appalled that this bill, which was tabled on October 22nd 2020, was the subject of a particular parliamentary committee **rather than a public commission**, which has been expedited and to which the groups covered by this prohibition have not been invited to testify. The vast majority of organizations and individuals invited to testify and file a brief are those promoting LGBTQ ideology.

Your government is aware that people in Quebec who offer sexual reorientation assistance, services, or practices are, among other things, theistic faith communities. This is demonstrated in the brief presented to Deputy Minister Guilbault in May 2018 by the Association Rainbow Alliance ¹entitled "Who Wants to Cure Homosexuality?" ²**In this brief, the people covered by this issue, and covered by the bill, are listed on pages 9 to 11, namely Christians, religious communities, and other non-denominational organizations.** Moreover, this dissertation is, in our opinion, the only study carried out in Quebec based on the experience of **only 7 people**,³ if we can afford to call it a study.

However, during your particular consultation, none of these organizations mentioned in the pages 9 to 11 were consulted or were invited to file a brief which, in our view, is **a significant breach of the democratic consultation process governing this bill.** The consultation, in this context, seems to us to be biased, since the people affected by this bill have not been heard.

Considering that the vast majority of organizations and individuals invited to make representations are those that promote LGBTQ ideology, the government will be unable to make an **informed decision** on the subject having been unable to hear testimonies from people who have benefited from these therapies nor representations of the full extent of North American research that reveals some of the benefits of conversion therapies (Socarides; Nicolosi; Effects of Therapy on Religious Men Who Have Unwanted Same-Sex Attraction, 2019).⁴

¹ <https://arcencielquebec.ca/nos-publications/>

² [https://arcencielquebec.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Memoire Qui veut guérir homosexualité.pdf](https://arcencielquebec.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Memoire_Qui_veut_gu%C3%A9rir_homosexualit%C3%A9.pdf)

³ <https://ici.radio-canada.ca/new/1101621/homosexuality-homophobia-therapies-conversion>

⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_W._Socarides

⁴ <https://www.josephnicolosi.com/>

⁴ AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/ECBAVCSC/081618SOCEStudySantero WhiteheadBallesteros (2018).pdf

⁴ <https://www.christianpost.com/news/therapies-unwanted-same-sex-attraction-effective-study-soce-conversion-therapy-apa.html>

⁴ <https://www.josephnicolosi.com/>

We are concerned that this government is furtively attempting to pass bills that have a significant impact on many citizen *charters* and that affect fundamental charter rights, which is unjustified in the context of a pandemic when everyone is occupied with other things..

We hope and ask that you re-open the consultations in order to obtain testimony from the individuals and organizations covered by this bill, either through oral representations or through the tabling of briefs.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathalie Michaud', with a stylized, flowing script.

NATHALIE MICHAUD
Legal Director of UVVC