
Subject: Marriage Defence Constitutional Amendment - Please Help!

Dear Saints

The importance of your response to the letter below can hardly be overstressed. Please find a letter by Philip Rosenthal concerning an amendment to the Constitution of South Africa regarding the definition of marriage.

This is the very last legal avenue for Godly justice (on this issue) to be established for your and my children and grandchildren in this beautiful country of ours. If we remain silent and passive in this hour, may God have mercy on us.

This network has informed you how our church leaders have represented us before the Constitutional Court last year, electing a Roman Catholic Cardinal (Wilfred Napier) into the bosom of their delegation.

The Church LOST the case re the Redefinition of Marriage before the Constitutional Court.

Scripture teaches that sin (the representation of pagan gods) in our camp results into losing our wars (Jos. 7).

Let us repent before the King for our folly, and beg for forgiveness. May the sins of this generation not be visited unto our children and their children's children. May they not grow up in an environment like that of Sodom, and like Lot be distressed by the filthy lives of lawless men. (2 Pet. 2:7)

May the image of Father God not be twisted in the minds of innocent adopted children, having to grow up in homes parented by two daddies or by two mommies, or living next door to them.

"... RIGHTEOUSNESS and JUSTICE are the foundation of his throne" (Ps. 97:2).

In Christ

Eben Swart

20 June 2006

Marriage Defence Constitutional Amendment - Please help

On 18 May 06, the Department of Home Affairs replied to our letter dated 13 December 05 that also went to all parliamentarians. They state 'the Department has never advocated for same-sex marriages. The Department has in fact appealed to the Constitutional Court against the judgement handed down by the Supreme Court of Appeal. The Department is unfortunately not in a position to over-rule the decision by the Constitutional Court'.

ChristianView Network thanks Home Affairs for affirming that 'same-sex marriage' is contrary to government policy. This policy is in accordance with the Christian faith, the government's Moral Regeneration initiative and the opinions of almost all South Africans. While it is true that Home Affairs is not in a position to over-rule the Constitutional Court, we argue that Parliament is in a position to over-rule it through a Constitutional Amendment. We feel that the judges have seriously misinterpreted the intentions of the framers of the constitution so an amendment is warranted.

When "sexual orientation" was put into the equality clause, few people if any, anticipated that this would lead to so called 'same-sex marriage'. Many South Africans feel deeply uncomfortable with recognition of same-sex relationships as marriage, because:

1. it is against God's law and order and increases the risk of his judgement,
2. it is bad for children, who need both a mother and a father in a stable home,
3. it is opposed to African culture and tradition,
4. it is opposed to the views of the overwhelming majority of South Africans,
5. it undermines respect for true marriage,
6. it undermines sexual morality, in a context of AIDS,
7. it is a foolish attempt to call something 'marriage' which isn't

real marriage,

8. it would be a bad law that will undermine respect for good law and the state,

9. it will encourage activist judges to interfere more in the legislative domain,

10. it will lead to more extreme proposals to promote various sexual deviances.

There is now a serious urgency to pass a Constitutional Amendment because, on 1 December 2005, the Constitutional Court decided that so-called 'same-sex marriage' would be legal by default in South Africa on 1 December 2006, unless Parliament changes the Marriage Act in accordance with their guidelines. We are running out of time. Thus, doing nothing to stop this would effectively mean recognising so called 'same-sex marriage'.

This Court decision has been condemned by church leaders, traditional leaders and elsewhere in Africa. Uganda has led the way in passing a constitutional amendment against 'same-sex marriage', while Nigeria has passed legislation to this effect. We are also very encouraged by the recent decision of Australia to overturn the previous legalisation of same-sex marriage and by Swaziland's announcement that they will not consider it. Should the South African parliament give in to the Constitutional Court, the South African legislature and executive will lose the respect of their own voters and elsewhere in Africa.

The Constitutional Court has sadly decided that 'same-sex marriage' is required by the Constitution - a ruling that gives no room for compromise. The only option remaining is for the democratically elected legislature to take up its role as representative of the people and amend the Constitution. The South African parliament is thus strongly requested to follow the Ugandan example in passing a Constitutional Amendment to uphold respect for marriage.

Solution to the problem

The legal advice we have been given is that the simplest solution to correct the misinterpretation of the Constitutional Court is to entrench the existing definition of marriage in the Marriage Act, by adding to section 39 (Interpretation) the clause: 'The Constitution shall be interpreted to mean that a marriage is the voluntary union between a man and a woman only.' There are many other alternatives to amend the constitution to solve this problem, but this appears the least complicated. It would preserve the status quo as it is now without implementing the court ruling.

We have five and a half months left to change the Constitution. Please help us!

Please help us in working towards this Constitutional Amendment by:

- Praying for the Constitutional Amendment, privately and in church meetings.
- Pray for God to forgive us for our national sins including promoting homosexuality in our law.
- Write letters to your local newspaper in support of it. (Please do not just criticise Same-sex marriage. You must promote the solution of a constitutional amendment).
- Phone or write to your political representatives.
- Volunteering your time to help support the campaign.
- Donating money towards the campaign for a Constitutional Amendment. (See details below)

Bank: Standard Bank
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Branch code "025009" (Rondebosch)
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or at www.ChristianView.givengain.org

Thank you

Philip Rosenthal

Director

ChristianView Network

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