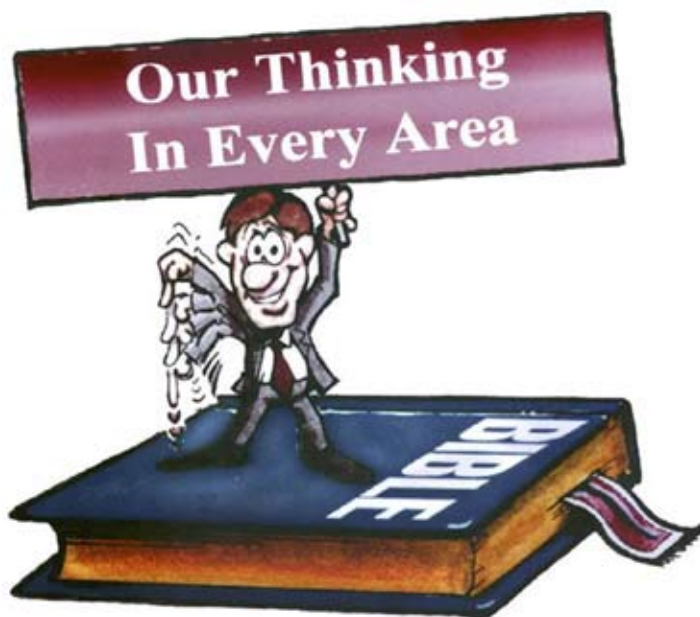


Salt Shakers

Helping Christians make a difference



May 2008 AD

IN THIS ISSUE: Vol. 14 No. 4

	Page
Editorial...	2
Underground Church in Australia?...	3
News Update...	6
ACT Civil Partnerships...	7
Decline in abortion rates...	8
Abortion: Legislation and Numbers...	9
Letters in Print...	10
Consequences of Cannabis Use...	12

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Government changes & 'consultations'...	11
Prayer Update...	14
What is 'Apologetics'?...	15
Planned Parenthood and Abortion ...	16
It's a strange (sick) world...	17
Free speech under attack...	18
World News...	19
Ministry News...	20
Resources and Subscription details	21

Editorial

There is an old saying that “imitation is the sincerest form of flattery”, but today there seems to be a growing amount of imitation that is not flattery. Imitation by using Christian terminology to promote ‘other’ ideas - many of them very unchristian, that would suggest they were actually mocking rather than complimentary.

When glancing through *The Age’s* special ‘Earth Hour’ magazine I was confronted with, “**Act now or repent forever**”. Wow! How astonished I was to see an evangelical statement in *The Age!* But alas, it was not ‘Christian evangelicalism’ being promoted, it was the new ‘earth religion’ of ‘global warming’ and the dire consequences of ‘eternal repentance’ were not for sin, but for not turning your lights out.

Well, we must confess that we did not turn our lights out on Saturday April 5 - But we are now in front for about 75 years because on the following Wednesday, not only did our lights go out but the whole electrical supply to our home shut down thanks to a storm. Lights, fridge, TV, microwave, the lot, even the gas heating because it uses an electric fan, and nothing came back until Saturday evening.

Were we being punished for not turning off our lights on the previous Saturday for 1 hour? Do we now need to “repent for ever” as Tim Flannery suggested?

Was this wild storm, just 4 days after Earth Hour, actually God saying “Look what I can do - you guys think you can save the planet because nobody else is in control. Well have a look at this! Wham!x!x! - take that!”

Now I know God could do that, but I don’t think that is the answer either.

Thankfully, we have a great God who does not make us pay 75 times for one sin, in

fact we only have to repent once for any sin because He has already done the rest, on the Cross 2,000 years ago.

He paid the price for all our sins and although confession and repentance are regularly needed as we walk this degenerating earth, there will come an eternity, not of repenting but of rejoicing and fellowship with God, Jesus, and all those who are in the Lamb’s Book of Life.

Sadly, today there are those, even in the Christian church, who do not seem to believe God is in control, that He, “has the whole world in his hand’ as we used to sing. There are even many who do not believe that there is a Hell awaiting those who do not repent and believe on the name of the Lord.

In the last month we have seen the Victorian and WA governments pass legislation to further normalise immorality. In WA they legalised prostitution and in Victoria they passed the Relationship Register for both heterosexual couples who do not want to commit to ‘marriage’ and, even worse, for homosexual ‘couples’.

What is it that makes some politicians vote for immorality despite mounting evidence that immorality cannot be contained once given a government’s stamp of approval?

Money, plain stupidity, self interest or is it that we have simply elected people who fall into the category described by Paul in Romans 1: 21-23 *‘For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.*

Let us pray that they will repent.

Yours in Christ Jesus
Peter & Jenny Stokes

Underground Church in Australia?

Has it ever crossed your mind that one day we will be forced to have an ‘underground’ church in Australia? A church that ‘hides’ because it will not abide by laws that tell it who they can and can’t employ or what it can and cannot say. A church where people meet in private because there are those who will ‘dob you in’ for actually standing on clear Biblical teaching, for saying “Jesus is the only way”, or for discerning that God calls some lifestyle choices SIN?

It might come as a shock to know that this could already be a lot closer than you think. Especially for those who were not involved in the failed battle to prevent the Racial & Religious Tolerance Laws being introduced in Victoria 7 years ago.

Have you noticed that freedom is being eroded away before your very eyes?

Yes, right here in the land of ‘freedom and democracy’. Yes, in this nation, built on the great ‘Westminster’ model of government - ‘of the people for the people’. Yes, where we have people elected to ‘represent’ us under a Constitution that states they ‘humbly rely on Almighty God’ to guide them.

Unfortunately, we have people in our governments today who want to ‘lord’ it over us more than ever before. They now want to REMOVE the exemptions and exceptions to discrimination laws that allow people ‘of conscience’, people with principles based on their religious text, to make their own value-based judgements. Yes, you and me.

Noah Webster, a committed Christian, who wrote the *Original American Dictionary of the English Language* in 1828, claimed to have coined only one word - *demoralize*, which he defined: “To corrupt or undermine

by Peter Stokes

the morals of; to destroy or lessen the effect of moral principles on; to render corrupt in morals.”

Webster also stated “*An immense effect may be produced by small powers wisely and steadily directed.*”

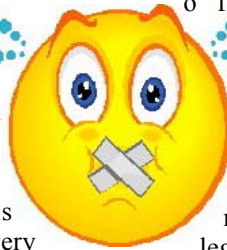
It is just as true that ‘An immense effect may be produced by small powers UNWISELY and steadily directed’.

This seems to me to sum up the whole intent of anti-discrimination law. It might well have started with a genuine desire to remove unhelpful ‘attitudes’ regarding race or gender, those characteristics that are innate, but we have moved way beyond that today. We are now seeing a host of UNWISE legislation that is taking away our freedom of conscience and thought.

Australian governments want to ‘dictate’ to us who we can employ, how we must think, and even how we must act - even in the church. Even when that means forcing us, through the law, to act or think in a way that is contrary to all those great Christian ideals this nation was founded on.

This is not good news of course, but remember, I am not trying to be ‘prophetic’ in the sense of revealing a Word from God about the future. I don’t have to ‘hear a special Word from God’ and neither do you. We just need to become aware of what is actually going on around us right now.

Religious freedom is now under threat like never before across Australia. Ask the Queensland Christian schools and churches, who are now unable to refuse to employ an adulterer, a homosexual or even a witch as long as they keep their ‘activities’ to their ‘private’ time!!



Just this month there has been a media storm over a Brisbane Anglican school saying 'No' to boys taking their 'same-sex partner' to a school formal. Queensland's Anti-Discrimination Commissioner Susan Booth immediately stated that sexuality discrimination was unlawful, and that applied to private and public schools as well as other organisations.

The Victorian government, thanks to State Attorney General Mr Hulls, is NOW REVIEWING the exceptions and exemptions in the Victorian Equal Opportunity Act. He wants to take away the freedom of Christians to act according to their conscience and their beliefs.

Once discrimination became an issue of 'law', rather than 'education', it became an imposition, a matter of 'control' by government and a loss of people's freedom. This is control that governments are not meant to have over their people. The sort of control we condemn today in countries like China and North Korea, Iran and Burma.

The 1995, the Victorian Equal Opportunity Act, had 5 attributes: sex, race, disability, marital or parental status and religious and political beliefs or activities.

Today there are 17 'discrimination' 'attributes' in the Victoria Equal Opportunity Act (Tasmania and the ACT have 20, Qld 17, WA 15, NT 14, NSW 12 and SA 10).

In Victoria they are; age, breast-feeding, carer status, disability/impairment, gender identity (whatever sex they 'think' they are), industrial activity, lawful sexual activity (including homosexuality), marital status, parental status, physical features, political belief or activity, pregnancy, race, religious belief or activity, sex, sexual orientation, and personal association with someone who has, or is assumed to have, one of these personal characteristics.



These laws even say that businesses cannot advertise specifically for a woman or a man, or even a Christian or an atheist. As New Peninsula Baptist Church discovered a few years back, when they applied for an exemption to be allowed to specify that they wanted to only employ Christians to work in an outreach Ministry they set up at arm's length from the church. The Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) refused to grant one.

Had it been specifically part of the church, the outcome may have been different, BUT even that vague possibility will disappear if Mr Hulls removes the exceptions.

Mr Hulls has openly stated he does not like ANY 'discrimination'. Greens MPs have stated the same thing. (It would take another whole article to deal with that crazy philosophy) but what Hulls appears to like even less than discrimination is the fact that churches and religious groups have been allowed some exceptions/exemptions to current anti-discrimination laws.

We need to look very closely at this issue because it really does have the potential to send the Christian church - or that part of it that will not compromise - underground.

When we fought the Religious Tolerance Law 7 years ago, some Christians supported that law so long as they were given an 'exemption'. We said then that they would not be worth the paper they were written on - and they are not.

Even with the exception, some churches/Christian groups have handed out printed disclaimers at meetings, distancing themselves from well-respected speakers. Some of these speakers have refused to have their messages/lectures recorded because of the laws we already have.

Imagine how much worse that will become if there are NO exemptions or exceptions.

Bit by bit we have lost our freedom. Put simply, most people do not realise how close the 'underground church' could be.

Let us unpack a few terms to put this into perspective: (From Webster-Miriam on-line dictionary).

Discern: Means 'to recognize or identify as separate and distinct'.

Discriminate: Is to **discern** right from wrong; to use good judgment; to make a difference in treatment or favour on a basis other than individual merit.

If ALL 'discerning' is banned, or even just that relating to the items on the EOC lists, what does that mean to Christians?

Is all discrimination actually wrong? Of course not. The Bible tells us to "*See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, [ideas] which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.*" Colossians 2:8

Clearly, there are good and bad ideas.

Paul states in Phillipians 1: 9-11 "*and this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more **in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best** and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ - to the glory and praise of God.*"

The review being done today in Victoria will affect churches most in the area of employment of staff and the use of premises by others. But we predict that if exceptions and exemptions are removed in these areas there will be a gradual flow on until all areas of church life are affected.

Justice Michael Kirby promotes the acceptance of homosexuality and has said "we have to get that message over to the leadership of churches and of the State in order to ensure that the instruction which is

the source of denigration and discrimination is changed". He is a High Court Judge, but one with a personal interest in the normalisation of homosexuality.

A Baptist Church minister from Orange was taken to the NSW Tribunal for opposing same-sex marriage. A Christian school in Victoria made an out-of-court settlement rather than fight a case of sexuality discrimination. Teen Challenge have had a 'gender discrimination' and a 'homosexual discrimination' case taken against them.

We have also had the 5 year, very expensive, 'Two Dannys' religious vilification case, a witch who made a complaint against a Christian member of a local Council and the paedophile witch who took a discrimination case against Prison Victoria for allowing Alpha into a prison and then took vilification cases against the Salvation Army and Alpha.

In the UK we recently saw a Bishop fined more than A\$100,000 for not employing a self-confessed

homosexual. In Sweden, Pastor Ake Green was sentenced to prison for preaching that homosexuality is a sin - this was overturned on appeal but the court still maintained he had disobeyed Sweden's law.

There are many more examples of what could happen here before too long to those who will not bow the knee to the god of this age - the god of no discernment.

Ironically, you can legally advertise a brothel today but you can't specify that you want to employ a man or a women. Let us never forget that good laws are based on God's Word, not man's ideas.

If some Christians are ducking for cover now, with exemptions in place, what will they do when there are none?

What will you do? Give in - or fight, **perhaps from underground.**



News & Action

Tasmania: Liberals & hate speech

The Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Tribunal has accepted a complaint from a Tasmanian who alleges there was 'hate speech' in material published during the state's 2006 election. The Anti-Discrimination Commissioner, Sarah Bolt, had rejected the complaint but Martine Delaney took the complaint to the tribunal and they have agreed to investigate it.

The alleged 'hate speech'?

Ms Delaney alleges that the Liberals breached Tasmania's incitement-to-hatred laws by declaring same-sex marriage to be "socially destructive". Complaints of 'inciting hatred' have also been lodged against "members of the Exclusive Brethren, and Timber Communities Australia for similar materials distributed in the 2006 state election and 2007 federal election respectively." [TGLRG Media release, 28/2/2008]

Pray that the complaints are not upheld.

Cloning: ACT and WA

Cloning has been legalised in the ACT. The Legislative Assembly of the ACT passed the *Human Cloning & Embryo Research Bill 2007* by a vote of 10-7 on 8 April. Several amendments, aimed at restricting the Bill, were moved by MP Mrs Vicki Dunne but were defeated.

In Western Australia, the Legislative Assembly passed a similar cloning Bill, the *Human Reproductive Technology Amendment Bill 2007*, last September. The Legislative Council is currently debating the Bill - debate will continue on 6 May.

ACTION: If you live in WA, please contact your 5 or 7 MLCs asking them to oppose the Bill. Contact details: <<http://www.saltshakers.org.au/html/P/13/B/109/>>

WA: Human Rights

The WA government has decided not to enact a Human Rights Act at present.

You might rightly ask 'Why not?'

It wasn't because they decided this sort of legislation was not good for WA.

WA Attorney General Jim McGinty said, when the Committee presented the report on their inquiry into establishing a Human Rights Act, that he would prefer a national human rights scheme, "Ideally human rights should be shared by all Australians and not be subject to change when you cross State borders. Human rights protection is an objective best pursued at a national level."

The WA wants to contribute to federal government's Attorney General Robert McClelland national consultation on a national Bill of Rights. Mr McGinty said "It seems sensible that further consideration of a State-based charter await the outcome of Mr McClelland's federal consultation."

Vic: Relationship Register

On 10 April, the Victorian Legislative Council passed the Relationship Bill by a vote of 29-10.

WA: Prostitution Bill

The WA government's Legislative Council passed a law to legalise prostitution on Monday 1 April. The *Prostitution Amendment Bill* was passed by just ONE vote - 14 to 13. [*West Aust*, 2/4/2008]



The deciding vote was that of Shelley Archer - a former ALP MP turned Independent. Late last year she had decided not to support the prostitution legislation, but says she changed her mind because the government promised to fund sex and drug education in the State's North-west. But after the Bill was passed the government told the *West Australian* that they had made NO firm commitments!

ACT Civil Partnerships

Homosexual groups are continuing to lobby the ACT government and Chief Minister Jon Stanhope, asking them to persist with their proposed *Civil Partnerships Bill*.

They held a public rally in Canberra on 29 March and Cabinet minister Andrew Barr, a homosexual, told the rally the government was in discussions with the federal government. The ACT government told the homosexual community it is not backing down over this legislation.

Andrew Barr said "We state categorically we are committed to this civil partnership legislation. Good government is about good social policy. We're showing leadership in the ACT and will continue to campaign. Thank you for turning up and supporting the ACT government in what is a difficult and complex negotiation we're involved in. We get the message very clearly that you want us to stand firm. If we back down, it will be perhaps 20 to 30 years before this issue gets raised again."

One of the sticking points is the federal government's opposition to having official 'ceremonies'.¹

In an attempt to appease the federal Attorney General and



the PM, the ACT government is considering a 'mobile registrar' who would travel to same-sex civil union celebrations and complete the paperwork on the spot!

An online petition was launched, asking the Senate not to overturn the ACT law.

Wayne Morgan, a law lecturer at ANU and a homosexual activist who was involved in drafting the Tasmania Relationships Bill and the ACT Civil Union/partnership Bill, recently wrote an insightful article showing how all of the schemes - whether called civil unions, civil partnerships or relationship registers - are essentially the same.

Read his article on *Online Opinion* at <<http://www.onlineopinion.com.au/view.asp?article=7134&page=0>>

ACTION: If you live in the ACT, it is vital that you contact your 5 or 7 MPs and ask them to oppose and vote against ANY formal registration of same-sex (and heterosexual) relationships - whether a 'civil partnership', 'civil union' or 'relationship register'. Contact details: <<http://www.saltshakers.org.au/html/P/13/B/111/>>

1. Plan to take civil unions on the road, SSO, 2/4/2008.

Academic independence?

The independence of our academics is under threat following action taken by the University of Queensland (UQ). They asked an academic to 'apologise' to a drug company!

Andrew Gunn, a senior lecturer in general practice at UQ made statements critical of **Gardasil**, the 'cervical cancer drug', on an ABC program. Gardasil has been developed by CSL and the University of Queensland. CSL complained to the UQ vice-chancellor.

The UQ registrar then wrote to Andrew Gunn asking him to 'apologise' to CSL and say that they were 'personal comments' that were not authorised by the university!!

So much for academic integrity!

References: *Queensland Uni succumbs to drug company pressure, Crikey, 4/4/2008. At <http://www.crikey.com.au/Politics/20080404-Queensland-Uni-succumbs-to-drug-company-pressure.html> [includes letters]. The original ABC 'Perspectives' interview is at <http://www.abc.net.au/rn/perspective/stories/2007/2108059.htm>*

Abortion: Legislation and numbers

Abortion continues to be on the national agenda, with Victoria and Queensland facing legislation to 'decriminalise abortion'. In Victoria, the Victorian Law Reform Commission has given their report to the government on how to change the law to reflect the current practice of abortion. The government has to table it within 14 sitting days - by 11 June 2008.

ACTION: Everyone in Queensland and Victoria needs to contact the MPs on this vital issue! Please ask them to oppose the decriminalisation of abortion. MP contact details at < <http://www.saltshakers.org.au/html/P/13/B/0/>>

Meanwhile, new data from a national survey has revealed that young women in Australia today are far less likely to have had an abortion than those in their thirties. Only five percent of girls born between 1976-1990 have had an abortion, which the researchers say is comparable to the rate of abortion for their grandmothers. This is a major drop from the 14 percent of women born in the 1970s who have had abortions.

Dr Julia Shelley from Deakin University conducted the research, which studied the reproductive history of 4,500 women of

all ages over their lifetime. The study is called the 'Australian Longitudinal Study of Health and Relationships'. She said that the abortion rate for young women is "so low it harps right back to the time when abortion was illegal and rarely practised".

The fact that young women are less likely to have had an abortion is good news!

However, the question we need to ask is 'What reasons did the researchers give for the decline in abortion rates?'

The fact is they really don't KNOW the reasons for the decline. Dr Shelley told the media that increasing condom use and the nation's newfound enthusiasm for having children were *possible* reasons. She said the recent rise in the birth rate *could* have influenced younger women to keep their babies. She credited sex education, and the fear of getting HIV/AIDS as reasons for the increased use of condoms.

The researchers did not mention the **baby bonus** paid to mothers. That has had a significant effect on the birth rate, for women of all ages!

References: *Abortion rates in decline*, Daily Telegraph, 19/3/2008.
Study Details: <<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/7/139>>

Pro Life Conference: 10am-5pm - 17th May

Organised by Endeavour Forum Inc

Venue - Thomas More Centre, 582 Queensberry St., North Melbourne 3051.

A wide range of expert speakers make this an important event - as Victoria debates the **decriminalisation of abortion**.

Speakers include: The Hon Robert Clark, Shadow Att-Gen (Vic), Mrs Kath Woolf, Dr David Baartz, Mrs Margaret Tighe, Mrs Denise Mountenay, President, Canada Silent No More, Mrs Jane Byrne and Mrs Jenny Stokes.

Full details of speakers on our website: <<http://www.saltshakers.org.au/html/P/504/B/0/>>

All welcome, \$20 per head includes lunch.

RSVP essential, Ph: Prue Oldham 9583 6835 or Gabrielle Walsh 9326 5757



Abortion and mental health problems

The Royal College of Psychiatrists in the UK has changed its position concerning the link between abortion and mental health.

New evidence has convinced the Society that having an abortion may place some women at risk of developing mental health problems.

The previous position, last reviewed in 1994, maintained that the risk of psychological problems that come from following through with the pregnancy outweighed those of having an abortion.

They still haven't fully confirmed the link between abortion and mental health problems, despite compelling recent evidence of the link from New Zealand researchers. The college now says the "Mental disorders can occur for some woman during pregnancy and after birth. The specific issue of whether or not induced abortion has harmful effects on women's mental health remains to be fully resolved. The current research evidence base is inconclusive – some studies indicate no evidence of harm,



whilst other studies identify a range of mental disorders following abortion."

One particular importance is the fact that the College is now suggesting that women who seek an abortion should undergo counselling if doctors have concern for their mental health.

The Royal College also says that a woman should be provided with information so they can give 'informed consent'. In the statement they say "The Royal College of Psychiatrists recognises that good practice in relation to abortion will include informed consent. Consent cannot be informed without the provision of adequate and appropriate information regarding the possible risks and benefits to physical and mental health." They suggest that 'patient information leaflets' should be reviewed to include this information.

References:

RCPSYCH Statement: <<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/members/currentissues/mentalhealthandabortion.aspx>>

Medical News, 23/3/2008. <<http://www.news-medical.net/?id=36536>>

Some good news! Children's ad code

A new advertising code, which bans sexualised images of children under 14 in ads, has been announced by The **Australian Association of National Advertisers** (AANA). After conducting a review and considering submissions from 26 groups - parents, health and government - the AANA adopted the 'Children's Advertising & Marketing Communications Code'.

New regulations will ban the sexualisation of children in advertising which is published or broadcast in any form. The code says

advertising to children must not include sexual imagery that breaches community standards, or imply that children are sexual beings. Ads must also not state or imply that owning a product will enhance a child's sexuality.

This is welcome news. Interestingly, the Senate is currently conducting an Inquiry into the sexualisation of girls in the media. They will publish their report in June.

Check out the new AANA Code: <<http://www.aana.com.au/childcode.html>>

Go out and say thank you

It was good to see the letters of good, kind words about the late Mr Ron Moore.

However, this brought home to me the value of sharing kind and good words to people who are alive and can hear the words.

How easy is it to say to some one, 'well done', or 'that was a great job' or 'thank you so much for helping'. Is someone near you now to offer sincere words to?

Thank you for a good reading paper.

Mrs Judith Bond, Glen Alpine

Macarthur Advertiser 2/4/2008

Time to Get Tough

To cut down speeding and alcohol road use, take away the offender's drivers licence completely for a year. Not just double demerit points. Get real tough, maybe this will wake them up.

Mrs Judith Bond, Glen Alpine

Illawarra Mercury 29/3/2008

50/50

The appointment of the new Governor-General because she "captures the spirit of modern Australia" sounds much like the lawyer in *The Castle* arguing, "It's the vibe".

Jeremy Peet, Belgrave

Herald Sun, 15/4/2008

50/50

PARDON me for stating the obvious, but we've had a First Lady for over 50 years. Her name is Queen Elizabeth.

Peter Stokes Forest Hill 3131

Herald Sun & The Age, 15/4/2008

Sunday Herald Sun 20/04/2008

There's something deadly in the air

If I was a restaurant owner and knowingly included more than a score of cancer causing chemicals and other toxic substances in the meals I served my customers, I would be shut down and prosecuted immediately.

Why then can cigarette manufacturers include ingredients such as arsenic, cyanide, benzene, cadmium and many other dangerous and addictive poisons in their products, and have their customers create highly carcinogenic smoke that they suck into their lungs and then blow over anyone near them?

David G. Westaway, Navigators, 3352

The Ballarat Courier 09/4/2008

Human rights in danger of erosion'

Freedom of association is a human right included in constitutional law based on the premise that it is the right of adults to freely choose their associates for whatever purpose they see fit. This concept has been included in several national constitutions and other human rights instruments, including the US Constitution, the European Convention on Human Rights, and Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms. It is a freedom Australians have always held dear.

But this freedom has been under sustained attack in Australia, from minority groups who believe Christian churches and schools should not have the right to refuse employment to those whose beliefs and lifestyles are diametrically opposed to the teaching of the churches.

Sections 75, 76 and 77 of the Equal Opportunity Act of 1995 allowed exemptions to religious bodies in the area of employment. Now, an 'Exceptions Review' has been set up, by the Justice Department, and one of our most cherished freedoms is under real threat. Should Christian schools be forced to employ atheists, pornographers, overt adulterers or homosexuals? If readers feel the answer is no, I believe they should contact their local Member of Parliament, now.

Arthur Comer, Sebastopol 3356

The Ballarat Courier, 18/4/2008



Every member of Federal parliament who spoke during the debate on the abortifacient drug RU486 lamented Australia's high abortion rate.

Because of the rate 4,000,000 Australians are missing from our landscape.

The call for an international moratorium on abortion demonstrates such concern is not confined to Australia.

I would have thought the inclusion of this issue and representatives well versed in it would be at Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's 2020 Summit.

Instead, Dr. Caroline de Costa, best known for being the first to gain a licence to use RU486, has been invited.

Denise M Cameron, Pro-life Victoria

Sunday Herald-Sun, 13/4/2008

Take a chill pill, don't get hot under the collar.

With the global warming/climate change blitz in the media, it's no wonder many people, and especially those with anxiety complexes, are being stressed as to their future, on a daily basis.

This can lead to all sorts of damaging outcomes such as obesity due to comfort eating, binge drinking and excessive use of TV and computer games to escape their perceived reality of hopelessness.

But is all this global warming hype actually all it claims to be? Maybe not.

In March 2008, over 500 scientists, economists and scholars met in New York and released the Manhattan Declaration.

This stated, "There is no convincing evidence that the CO2 emissions from modern industrial activity has in the past, is now, or will in the future, cause catastrophic climate change." It just didn't get reported in the mass media.

So if you've developed Climate Change Anxiety Syndrome, ignore it, go buy an ice cream and chill out.

David G. Westaway, Navigators, 3352
Geelong Advertiser 10/04/2008

Look to Asia

How easy for us Aussies to be handed something on a plate, like a baby bonus.

Families in Asia reply on support from families, not the Government.

Where are the Aussie families who will support a mother with a baby?

Mrs Judith Bond, Glen Alpine

Illawara Mercury 22/3/2008

Macarthur Advertiser 26/3/2008

Letter writing competition heats up

It's great to see so many good letters from Christians being printed in the newspapers and more Christians writing comments on newspaper web sites. WELL DONE! (The comment column re the Anglican Church Formal had over 1,000 comments so these are clearly becoming very popular ways for people to become active.)

Our competition runs to the end of the year and is based on the number of letters WE RECEIVE that have been printed. You need to supply the name and date of the newspaper, the heading given, and the text AS PRINTED.

Many of the above letters and comments are stimulated by our E-News emails, so if you do not get the E-News, sign up today by sending your email address to us at peter@saltshakers.org.au

Wise MPs support the majority

Most residents would not share the negative sentiments expressed in the piece "NO-GAY ZONE" April, 10 2008.

With a La Trobe University study stating that only 1.2% of Australians identified themselves as homosexual it is clear that the vast majority would not support the sort of social engineering undertaken by the Victorian government in recent days to 'normalise' that which is clearly unnatural. Neither two men or two women can have sex naturally so those wise MPs voting against such social engineering - possibly even including one Labor MP who did not show for the vote, are to be congratulated.

As someone who likes to holiday in the south west of Victoria I am glad to know that these men voted against the unnatural.

Evidence for above statistics - 2003 'Sex in Australia' survey.

Peter Stokes, Melbourne

Warrnambool Standard 16/04/2008



It is high time these discrimination commissions were done away with. They, not average Australians, are the greatest engine of discrimination we have. In the **Churchie** case, the Commission's attack on the school discriminates against the majority of Australians who oppose homosexuality; and the majority of schools which believe part of their role is to inculcate good behavioural standards. These Commissions are an offence against morality and commonsense.

Dallas Clarnette, Melbourne

The Courier Mail, 15/04/2008

Consequences of Cannabis Use

by Jenny Stokes

The evidence continues to mount that cannabis use has dangerous consequences.

Researchers have followed more than 8000 Brisbane families with children who were born at the **Mater Hospital** in Brisbane between 1981 and 1983. Interviews at regular intervals with the mothers and children provide valuable information about behaviour and its causes. The outline of the study and research have been published in Journals and on the hospital's website¹

Mental Health

Research has shown there is a link between cannabis use and mental health problems. However, one of the questions often asked is 'Did the cannabis use cause the mental health problems or did the mental health problems lead to the cannabis use?'

Professor Jake Najman, who started the Mater Hospital study, has analysed the data relating to children who have become drug users and says the study found those children 'disproportionately' had mental health problems. The advantage of the Mater Hospital study, he says, is that it can be determined whether the mental health problems occurred before or after the drug use began. He has found that the data shows that the cannabis use led to the development of the person's mental health problems.²



Lung cancer

Researchers from the Medical Research Institute of New Zealand have found that people who smoke cannabis regularly have a much higher risk of lung cancer.^{3,4}

The researchers asked 79 people with lung cancer under the age of 55 about their exposure to various risk factors for lung cancer, including tobacco and cannabis. They selected 324 controls randomly from

the electoral roll, matching them by age to the cancer patients. They took into account the fact that people who often smoke cannabis also smoke tobacco.

The study found that people who smoked more than one cannabis cigarette a day for 10 years, or two a day for five years, were about six times more likely to develop lung cancer than those who didn't smoke cannabis at all. They found that for every year a person smoked one cannabis joint a day their risk of getting lung cancer was increased by an additional eight per cent.

The researchers said that cannabis smoke contains twice the level of carcinogens compared with tobacco smoke. Other factors that contribute to the increased risk are that cannabis smokers inhale more deeply and don't use a filter. They concluded that one joint of cannabis equates to about 20 tobacco cigarettes for lung cancer risk.

A high number of young people with lung cancer had smoked cannabis regularly. The researchers concluded that "long-term cannabis use increases the risk of lung cancer in young adults".

Next month: What factors make a young person more likely to use cannabis?

References:

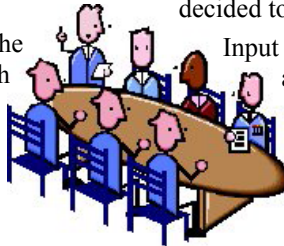
1. Mater-University of Queensland Study of Pregnancy (MUSP): <http://www.socialscience.uq.edu.au/index.html?page=15531&pid=52276>
2. UQ Family Study, ABC Radio 612 Brisbane, 29/1/2007. Summary at <http://www.socialscience.uq.edu.au/index.html?page=52276&pid=52276&ntemplate=316>
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Government changes & 'consultations'!

Prior to the election we noted some of the consequences of having the ALP in power at the federal level as well as in every state and territory. The recent Summit brought together many people, but was it representative of the whole community? Was it to endorse ideas promoted by Mr Rudd, such as the republic and child care? Kevin Rudd promised to “modernise Federal-State relations, by ending the blame game and pledging a modern federalism.”

Mr Rudd has held two meetings with the premiers - the ‘Council of Australian Government’ (COAG). They are presenting a united front to achieve change. They met on 20 December 2007, and again on 26 March. At that meeting they came to an agreement on the Murray-Darling water system and adopted strategies to change the state-run public hospital system.

The **Attorneys-General** from the states and territories met with federal Attorney General Robert McClelland on 28 March - the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General (SCAG).



Their proposals?

Surrogacy: They “agreed to develop a unified framework for the legal recognition of parentage achieved by surrogacy arrangements” - based on these principles: “commercial surrogacy will remain illegal, non-commercial surrogacy arrangements will be lawful but agreements will be unenforceable, informed consent of all parties is essential, mandatory specialist counselling and court orders will be available recognising the intended parents as the legal parents where the surrogacy arrangement meets legal requirements and is in the best interests of the child.”

They plan to release a Consultation paper.

R-rated games: The SCAG meeting looked at changing the Classification guidelines to allow R-rated computer games. They decided to conduct a ‘consultation’!

Input will be asked for in the months ahead on these two matters. Stay tuned!

SCAG Communique: Media Releases, <<http://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/www/ministers/robertmc.nsf/Page/Home>>

Family First - Senate Inquiries

Family First Senator Steve Fielding has proposed a number of private Senator’s Bills - Senate Committees are currently conducting Inquiries into several of these.

One is a Bill to implement a national drink container recycling program. He says that paying a deposit for containers will lift container recycling rates from 38% to 85%. SA already has such a scheme. The Senate Environment, Communication and the Arts Committee is holding an “Inquiry into the management of Australia’s waste streams”.

Submissions are due by 23 May.

Details: <http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/eca_ctte/aust_waste_streams/index.htm>

Other inquiries initiated by Family First:

Binge Drinking – asked for information labels on alcohol products and alcohol advertising restrictions. [closed 20 March]

Pokies - phasing pokies out of clubs and pubs by imposing a federal tax.

Submissions due 13 June.

Details: <http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/clac_ctte/poker_machine_harm_reduct/tor.htm>

Prayer Update

Prime Minister and Cabinet

Pray for Prime Minister Kevin Rudd as the federal government prepares the Budget.

Pray that the government will balance their priorities and control spending.

Governor-General

Pray for the newly appointed Governor General Ms Quentin Bryce as she prepares to take up her role later this year. The appointment of a woman to the role has been the subject of much media analysis. Ms Bryce is married with five children and five grandchildren. She is currently the Governor of Queensland.

Of some concern are a few of her previous

roles: Vice-President of the Queensland Council for Civil Liberties, a director of the Family Planning Council of Queensland, Queensland Director of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission and federal



sex discrimination Commissioner. She actively supported abortion by speaking at a 1998 meeting in the ACT to oppose the Osborne Bill, which legislated for waiting periods and for information to be given to women seeking an abortion.

* Pray that Quentin Bryce will be Governor-General for all Australians.

* Pray for the current Governor-General Major General Michael Jeffery, as he and his wife Marlena complete their term.

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 2 Chr. 7:14

Persecution of Christians in China

Christians in China are reporting increasing persecution in the lead up to the Olympic Games. Last year the number of Christians reporting persecution increased; more than 400 pastors of underground churches were imprisoned.

Some ministers in the 'official' state-sanctioned Three-Self Patriotic Movement churches also reported being persecuted for not following the set guidelines that dictate what can - and what cannot - be said.

We have all heard about the protests

against the Chinese crack-down in Tibet as the Olympic torch travels the world. But has anyone heard the leaders of the West, including our own Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, make a stand regarding the persecution of Christians in China? We sent an email on this during April, urging people to ask Kevin Rudd to make a stand regarding this persecution by China. See our website at <<http://www.saltshakers.org.au/html/P/302/B/507/>>

Please pray for Christians in China as they suffer persecution for their faith.

Join us for Prayer and Breakfast
Pray for our nation, its leaders and Salt Shakers
6.30 am every Thursday morning at SALT SHAKERS Office

What is 'Apologetics'?

by **Bill Muehlenberg**

Apologetics is simply the defence of the Christian faith. The term comes from the Greek word *apologia*, which is used in a number of places in the New Testament. The noun means an answer, a defence, or a reply. The verbal form of the word means to defend, to make reply, to give an answer for, or to legally defend oneself.

Its most famous usage comes in 1 Peter. 3:15: "Be always ready to give an answer (a defense) for the hope that lies within you". It is also used in such places as Acts 22:1; Phil. 1: 16; and 2 Tim. 4:16.

Apologetics can be described in three ways. One, it is about building bridges to non-believers, to find common ground and language with which to converse with them. Two, it is a sort of pre-evangelism, in which the ground is prepared for people to be able to receive the gospel message. Three, it is about giving honest answers to honest questions.

Negatively, apologetics removes barriers to faith. It deals with the various objections and obstacles to the faith. Positively, it explains what Christianity is about and presents the case for God and biblical truth. It presents the attractiveness of the Christian faith.

The capable apologist knows two things well: he knows what he believes and why, and he also knows his audience. He has an understanding of the secular culture around him, and can relate biblical truths to the world at large.

There is an outward focus to apologetics, in that it defends the truth of the Christian worldview and answers objections raised by critics. But it also has an inward focus, namely to strengthen the faith of believers. It shows them that their faith rests on solid

ground, a firm foundation.

Thus for both believers and non-believers, the reasonableness, rationality and coherence of the Christian truth claims are presented in the apologetic task.

Apologetics is important today because most non-believers are biblically illiterate and don't even think or speak the way we do. Thus we need to build bridges to them, and finds ways to reach them. Paul did exactly this at Mars Hill in Corinth, as we read in Acts 17. He did not quote Scripture to the Greek pagans, but sought to find common ground. Thus he quoted from

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Greek philosophers and poets, and sought to prepare their minds and hearts for the biblical Gospel. On the other hand, when he spoke at Jewish synagogues, he straight away made use of Scripture, since the common ground was already there.

Apologetics is a means to an end. It is important to keep in mind that we are not just trying to win arguments, but to win people. Some people simply use intellectual objections as a smokescreen for their selfish lifestyles which they don't want to give up. Jesus said (in John 3) that people did not come to the light because they loved darkness rather than light, and their deeds were evil.

But many people (believers as well as non-believers) have honest questions which deserve honest answers. That is our duty, as I Peter 3:15 reminds us.

Bill Muehlenberg teaches apologetics, theology and ethics at Bible Colleges. He runs a ministry called Culture Watch. <www.billmuehlenberg.com>

Planned Parenthood and abortion

Last month the Australian government announced funding, through AusAID, for a program to help deal with sexual and reproductive health. The \$3 million SPRINT program is to help women in “Crisis and Post-Crisis Situations in East, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific”.

Although there was no mention of abortion, the words ‘sexual and reproductive health’ can often be ‘code’ words for abortion.

Even more concerning was the fact that Bob McMullan MP said “I am pleased that we are to be working in partnership with the **International Planned Parenthood Federation** (IPPF) and their partners from the University of New South Wales and Australian Reproductive Health Alliance...”

This is concerning because ALL of these groups actively promote abortion.

International Planned Parenthood was formed from a group founded by Margaret Sanger who promoted the acceptance of birth control and ‘reproductive rights’ in the USA in the mid-20th century. IPPF provides abortions in the USA and worldwide.

Recently Planned Parenthood was accused

of racism, when a set of revealing recordings were released. Lila Rose, a pro-life student and reporter at UCLA, conducted an undercover investigation. She worked with an actor, who phoned Planned Parenthood clinics in seven states, asking if they would accept a donation that was *specifically* to provide for abortions of black babies. All of the clinics agreed to accept such targeted donations. No employees objected to the request, even when the actor said the reason was to “lower the number of black people”.

Meanwhile the US government provides more than \$300 million to Planned Parenthood! And the Australian government is working with them as ‘partners’!

Family Research Council reported on the results of Lila Rose’s investigation. Along with their detailed report, they have posted transcripts and audio of the actual interviews with Planned Parenthood clinics, along with two 5 minute video montages, on their website. See <<http://www.frc.org/get.cfm?i=WA08B47>>

SPRINT program: <http://www.aid.gov.au/media/release.cfm?BC=Media&ID=1711_6538_8819_8412_9040>

Lambeth Conference Boycott

Many conservative Anglican bishops have decided to boycott the Lambeth Conference in July 2008 because of increasing division over the ordination of homosexuals.

Lambeth is the Anglican Church’s conference of bishops that is held every ten years at Lambeth Palace, the home of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams.

Sydney Archbishop Peter Jensen has decided not to attend. He says many Anglican bishops, in particular from Africa, will not attend.¹

Why aren’t they attending? The main reason is the decision of the North American Episcopalian church to ordain Gene Robinson, a practising homosexual, as a bishop. Although Gene Robinson will not be attending, they are concerned that those who *endorsed* his ordination will attend.

The archbishops and bishops who are boycotting Lambeth will hold an alternative meeting in Jerusalem a few weeks earlier.²

1. *Lambeth boycott needed to stand by biblical view, SMH, 5/2/2008.*

2. *Religion Report, 20/2/2008.*

It's a strange (sick) world... by Jenny Stokes

Pregnant 'man', a father and daughter having a child?

How much worse can it get?

This month has seen an increasing number of cases of degraded behaviour. That should not surprise us, since the Bible tells us that as people turn away from God - and His instructions for life - that is exactly what happens. [Romans 1]

The 'pregnant man'

Well, Thomas Beatie isn't really a man. He is a woman who, 10 years ago, started taking male hormones and removed her breasts. But, according to some governments (including Victoria's), he is legally entitled to register as a 'man'. So Thomas, as a man, then married Nancy. Nancy couldn't have children, so Thomas, still intact below the waist, decided to have children. Thomas went off the hormones and became pregnant.

Thomas obviously wanted to make an issue of this. Prior to the coverage by the regular media, Thomas initially wrote an article for *The Advocate*, a homosexual newspaper in Washington DC.¹ Thomas concluded "our situation ultimately will ask everyone to embrace the gamut of human possibility and to define for themselves what is normal."

The media then picked it up and he was interviewed by Oprah.²

Incest

Meanwhile in Australia, 60 Minutes featured a father and daughter who were involved in incest - John and Jenny Deaves. The program heralded them as a normal family with a **healthy** 9-month old child.³ But they OMITTED the fact that an earlier child had died a few days after birth from a

congenital heart defect. Which is precisely one of the reasons WHY incest is illegal.

The couple originally claimed they not known each other, and met up when she was 31 - but it was later revealed she had contact with her father several times during her teenage years.

John Deaves claimed 'it's all about love'.

Jenny Deaves said "It's everybody else out there in society that has the problem, we don't have the problem".^{3,4}

John Deaves said "I knew it was illegal, of course I knew it was illegal but you know, so what?"

She said "We are just asking for a little bit of respect and understanding and to be left to live our life like we are, like we do not go and walk in and impose on anybody else's life". In other words, they want to do exactly what they want! By appearing on the media, they show that they want society to endorse their behaviour!

Back in March 2008, before their situation hit the media, they had appeared before a

judge in South Australia on incest charges. They had been found guilty, ordered not to have sex with each other, placed on a 3 year \$500 good behaviour bond and placed under the supervision of a Court Corrections Officer. None of that was reported in the initial 60 Minutes story!

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1. *Labor of Love, The Advocate*, 26/3/2008.
2. *She's pregnant, but she's a man, SMH*, 26/3/2008.
3. *Forbidden Love, 60 Minutes transcript and video*: < <http://sixtyminutes.ninemsn.com.au/article.aspx?id=441583>>
4. *John and Jenny Deaves: Society has a problem, not us, Herald Sun*, 14/4/2008.
5. *SA District Court transcript*: < http://www.courts.sa.gov.au/sent_remarks/sr/0320_deaves.htm>

We are just asking for a little bit of respect and understanding

Free speech under attack across the world

by Jenny Stokes

Freedom of speech and freedom of religion continue to be under attack.

The Victorian government's Justice department is currently 'reviewing' the exceptions and exemptions in the state's Equal Opportunity Act. There are three religious exceptions: for churches, schools and individuals based on religious doctrine. Various groups want them to be removed. After considering submissions (closed 18 April) the Justice Department will prepare some recommendations. We will have to wait and see what they say!

See our report at <<http://www.saltshakers.org.au/html/P/302/B/506/>>

Meanwhile, religious freedom is under threat around the world.

'Defamation' of Islam

The Organisation for the Islamic Conference (OIC), a body representing all the Muslim nations of the world, met in Senegal in March. Delegates were given a large report prepared by the OIC which "recorded anti-Islamic speech and actions from around the world". The report concluded that Islam is under attack and that a defense must be mounted. It urged the creation of a "legal instrument" to crack down on defamation of Islam. [AP, 14/3/2008]

If such laws were implemented by nations, or the United Nations, it would lead to a loss of free speech, since considered criticism of Islam is often labelled 'Islamophobia'.

US Legislator targeted

When Oklahoma legislator Sally Kern spoke at a Republican club meeting about her concerns that the homosexual agenda was destroying the nation and that young school children were being indoctrinated into believing that the homosexual life style

is normal she didn't expect a backlash!

Lifesite (1/4/2008) reported that the comments were taped and posted on You Tube, and she was targeted by some large and radical homosexual groups. She received more than 27,000 hate filled e-mails and was verbally ambushed by homosexual radicals at public meetings.

But she didn't back down. More than 50 pastors rallied at the Oklahoma State Capitol on 2 April to support her, along with Concerned Women for America, American Family Association and the Eagle Forum.

Attack in College classrooms

Last month, Joy Clements wrote about her university classrooms and how attending Summit helped her to defend her faith.

Professor Lee Carter, at Glendale Community College in the USA, is a lecturer who openly criticises Christianity in his classroom. Last October, he launched an all-out attack on Christian students, their parents and Christianity itself in a philosophy class. He identified Christians as the "religiously insane," told Christian students their parents lied to them and said Christians would nail Jesus to the cross if He came back.

One of the students in the class was the daughter of James White, a lecturer at Westminster Theological College in the USA. He runs Alpha and Omega Ministries and writes, lectures and debates on issues such as homosexuality and Islam.

James responded, issuing a challenge to the College to deal with the lecturer. If you would like to read about James White's action, see <<http://www.aomin.org/aoblog/index.php?itemid=2602>>



World News

Sweden: Homosexuality

In Sweden, the government has appointed an **Ombudsman against Discrimination on grounds of Sexual Orientation** (in Swedish it has the acronym HomO!)

The Ombudsman and the office and staff are paid for by the government - but the Ombudsman is independent and is able to give policy advice to the government. The Ombudsman's role is "to counteract homophobia and address discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation in all areas of Swedish society".

The first Ombudsman, Hans Ytterberg, has been appointed by the government for a six year term.

Is he a neutral person who can look impartially at the issue?

Well, he was president of the national Swedish organization for homosexual rights, RFSL, between 1988 and 1991.

The organisation is now busily making submissions to the government, calling on the government to introduce same-sex 'marriage'.

HomO - <http://www.homo.se/o.o.i.s/1210>

Mexico: Abortion

Mexico legalised abortion one year ago in April 2007. The Mexican National Pro-Life (Provida) Committee has asked the Mexican Supreme Court to hold public hearings on the legalization of abortion and the Court has agreed - 6,400 abortions have been performed in Mexico in the past year and

Provida say that they have information that 22 women have been injured and 8 have died as a result of abortions since then. [Lifesite, 4/4/2008]

California: Home Schooling

On 28 February 2008, a California court ruled that parents who do not have 'teaching credentials' do not have a rights to home-school their children.

A national outcry ensued. Dr. James Dobson of Focus of the Family called it an 'egregious decision'.

The good news is that the same California Appeals Court, the Second District Court of Appeal, has agreed to reconsider its decision

in response to a request from the Alliance Defence Fund, a group that monitors and challenges legal matters relating to religious liberty and morality.

A couple who homeschool their children but have no teaching credentials have initiated the review of the decision. The court has

invited state and local education officials and teachers' unions to provide the court with written arguments. The re-hearing will be in June. [Citizen Link, SF Chronicle, 27/3/2008.]

UK: Blair & homosexuals

Tony Blair is actively supporting Stonewall, a homosexual lobby group in the UK. Last year he was the keynote speaker at their fundraising dinner. [Lifesite, 4/4/2008]

Catholic groups thought he may have had a change of heart following his 'conversion' to Catholicism in December 2007.

But no such change! At the recent Stonewall dinner, the opportunity to have tea with Tony Blair secured a bid of \$40,000 in an auction!



Ministry News

Peter and Jenny continue to be very busy. Emails, E-News, preparing the Journal and updating and adding to the website are constant tasks.

We are grateful to all those who work with us. Kerrie and Nathan look after our administration and finance, Emma works on the Resistance Thinking web site and emails with some help from Nathan. We were sorry to lose Emily who joined us part time last year - she has left to take up a full time position in her chosen field of fitness training. We will miss her warm, youthful personality and enthusiasm and her skills with Photoshop that helped us complete our

brochure last year.

Invitations for speaking engagements have been much slower this year, but with four major pieces of legislation expected in Victoria this year, Peter & Jenny are extra-busy with writing submissions, contacts with MPs and monitoring bad legislation by federal and state governments across the country.

Peter and Jenny will be the guest speakers at the *The Choices of Life* annual dinner in Sydney on Saturday 21 June. For details of the dinner, phone (02) 9499 5108 or email info@choicesoflife.com.au

Please uphold the whole Salt Shakers team in your prayers and please also give a thought to financially assisting us so that we can continue to "Help you make a difference".

ACTION checklist: Tick the box as you complete the task

Page	Topic	Action / People to write to	Done
6	WA - Cloning	Contact members of Legislative Council	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Civil Partnerships	ACT - Write to ALL MPs (5 or 7)	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Abortion:Vic/Qld	ALL MPs	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Senate Inquires	Recycling, pokies - submissions	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Defying Death - Zakaria Botross - Apostle to Islam

\$20

By Stuart Robinson & Peter Botross

"Stuart Robinson has done a valuable service to the Christian church in bringing the life of this extraordinary Christian to our attention. Read it, and imagine what might happen to your church, your city, even your nation should God find the availability of a Zakaria Botross in us." Dr.Allan Meyer Careforce Church, Melbourne

21 Reasons Why Gender Matters

Full colour Booklet \$5

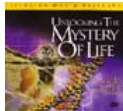
This is a must read for parents and young adults. Parents need to know the truth so that they can then help their children understand the truth about being male and female. Young adults need to know the truth because they are being bombarded with 'Gender Confusion' in magazines, in the movies and from social engineers in the classroom.



Student version
DVD

Unlocking the Mystery of Life - DVD

Student/educational version \$10



This amazing DVD shows life's complexity and the clear evidence of design in the most basic, yet most prolific of life's smallest components.

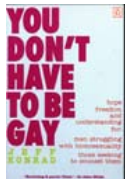
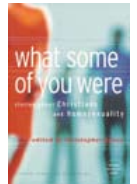
This DVD reveals the myth of evolutionary theory using science, not religion. For those who do not believe in a creator, it will start challenging their thinking that we are here by chance.

What some of you were: stories about Christians and homosexuality

\$25

by Chris Keane (from Liberty Christian Ministries),

Despite what the secular media and the homosexual community say, there are many homosexuals who do not wish to embrace a homosexual identity. In this book, some of them share their struggles and the way God has brought about change in their lives. You will also read how family members have coped with having a homosexual or transsexual person in their family.



You Don't Have To Be Gay by Jeff Konrad

\$22

You can overcome same-sex feelings and desires and this book leads the way. Birthed out of his own struggles, the author seeks to educate people on the root causes of homosexuality and offers sound counsel on changing one's homosexual identity. Based on a series of letters written to a struggling friend, You Don't Have to Be Gay is both informal and personal.

(Warning: Some readers may find parts of this book offensive.)

Little Feet or Little Hands - lapel pins - \$3.50 each or 6 for \$15

Combination **F** **H**

Remind people what their feet looked like at just 10-12 weeks after conception.

Discrete conversation starters - Just wait until they ask "what are they?"



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