

# Salt Shakers

Helping Christians make a difference

If you are walking with Jesus,  
you will keep bumping into satan.  
If you are not bumping into satan,  
who are you walking with?

June 2011 AD

## IN THIS ISSUE: Vol 17 No 5

	Page
Editorial...	2
How to ordain homosexuals...	3
Vic: Review of Charter of Rights...	7
News & Action...	8
G-rated Billboards...	9
Readers' published Letters...	10
The Silent Sermon...	11
AHRC Report - sexuality and gender...	11
The role of government...	12

## Email Journal subscription. \$25

Around the States	14
Prayer Update...	15
Transsexuality - treatment of children...	16
Embryonic stem cell research review...	17
World News...	18
Ministry News...	19
Salt Shakers Annual Dinner...	20
Resources and Subscription details	21

## Editorial

What was it that Jesus said, Paul said, Peter said and John said, that we must be very careful about?

No doubt many things could come to mind, but in this day of almost instant worldwide communication - and the ease with which anyone can produce a message, even with video clips to enhance them, and then instantly throw them into cyberspace to travel almost endlessly around the world - there is one message that we need to constantly remind ourselves of.

They all stated clearly and unequivocally, 'beware of false teachers and prophets'.

Jesus said, in Matthew 7:14, "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves."

Paul said, in 1 Timothy 1:3-4, "Remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine, nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which cause disputes rather than godly edification which is in faith."

Peter said, in 2 Peter 2:1-2, "But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed."

John said, in 1 John 4:1-4, "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit

that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world."

Despite each one of them warning us, and often on more than one occasion, and despite Peter's clear statement to, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour", Christians today are so easily sidetracked by some 'new thinking'. Instead of asking, 'How does that align with God's own Word?', we are caught off guard because these people have built up reputations as 'nice people' or even shown great skill as evangelists. Sadly, though once they may have said the right thing, their popularity often changes them and it becomes more about enlarging their ministry than holding to an unpopular truth.

Paul put it this way in 2 Corinthians 11:1-4, "Oh, that you would bear with me in a little folly... For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted - you may well put up with it!"

"Put up with it" clearly means, accept it and turn from the truth, and this is sadly, what so many are doing today as the 'Gospel' - that God calls all men to turn to Jesus Christ and repent - becomes more and more unpopular.

Yours in Christ Jesus,  
**Peter & Jenny Stokes**



## How to ordain homosexuals!

In 1999 we printed an important article about the ordination of homosexuals, written by **Keith Drury**.

We have decided to re-print it to help Australian Christians be alert to the same tactics increasingly happening here.

Next month, we will do a follow-up article graphically illustrating the point he makes.

Mr Drury, who, like us, opposes the acceptance of homosexuality, especially in the church, wrote the article in 1995, after following one denomination as it moved closer and closer to ordaining homosexuals. Since then, we have all witnessed more US denominations not

only endorsing homosexuality but openly ordaining homosexuals.

In 1999, we wrote, “What is stated below is happening here in Australia. To win a battle one must know the persuasive deception being used against the church.”

In 2004, Keith Drury added a note to the end of his article - we have included it also, because it reminds us that whilst vigorously opposing something, we always need to be as gracious as possible in our speech and our letters. We also need to make sure we read ALL of an article before commenting! We must not ‘assume’ anything, but carefully check all the details.

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### How to Get Your Denomination to Ordain Homosexuals

#### - A 15 step strategy that will work -

*by Keith Drury*

I don't personally know the people who read this column every week. Perhaps some of you are homosexuals. Or maybe you are straight, but you're pro-homosexual. Either way, perhaps you wish your denomination would ordain homosexuals. If so, then this article is for you, because it tells you how to accomplish your goal. Here is how to get your denomination to ordain homosexuals.

#### **1. Make homosexuality an issue of constant discussion**

At gatherings of ministers, in your publications, at coffee breaks, and on the floor of all legislative sessions keep bringing it up. It doesn't even matter which way the discussion goes. Just bringing it up helps your cause. In any discussion or debate there is always someone who will take the ‘other side.’ This other side will agree with you, or at least be closer to you. Inflexible positions erode gradually. No position changes without discussion. The more you discuss it, the sooner the change. In fact, even this article may help you.

#### **2. Recruit a prominent ally**

Try to get a prominent evangelical to speak out for your side. Not a homosexual, but someone who will speak up for the homosexuals. This creates two clear positions in the evangelical church, enabling people to move a bit toward your side and look like they are on middle ground. They will say, ‘Well, I wouldn't go as far as Tony, but still...’

#### **3. Confuse terms**

Use ‘homosexual’ interchangeably to mean both \*practicing\* homosexual and the homosexual \*orientation\*. Don't let people know which you mean. With such confusion, church people will eventually accept terms like, ‘homosexual Christian’ or ‘homosexual pastor.’

Initially, in publishing and speaking this will mean ministers with a homosexual orientation. However, eventually it can come to include also people who practice homosexuality. It is not that big a leap from

'homosexual Christian' to 'gay minister' or 'homosexual pastor.' This confusion of terms is your doorway to change.

#### **4. Make 'gay bashing' politically incorrect in the church**

While this term originally meant only physical attacks it can be made to mean much more. All terms are elastic. Stretch it to encompass verbal condemnation of homosexuality. Reject 'gay bashing' in all conversations and publications so much so that people fear being called a 'gay-basher.'

You will know you have succeeded when your opponents begin statements on homosexuality with, 'Now I don't want to be guilty of gay-bashing, but...'

#### **5. Equate homosexuality with racism**

This will make people think it is only a matter of time until enlightened society moves forward and accepts homosexuality as normal and rejects our narrow-mindedness. Use the term 'prejudice' often.

Tell horror stories of how homosexuals are treated unfairly.

If you can make this a civil rights issue you will eventually win. There are plenty of folk in the church who remember how wrong much of the church was on slavery and later on civil rights. By making this a civil rights issue, you will win these people over to your side and soften their resistance.

#### **6. Relate homosexuality to divorce**

Divorce is condemned in the Bible but the church lets straight people get divorced and much worse. (Sure, we do so with regret, but, is it not true that evangelicals have come to grudgingly accept divorce as a 'fact of life?')

This is a great gap in the evangelical church's defenses. Push through it. Continually argue

for equal treatment of both homosexual sins and heterosexual sins. The church has gone too far. They will never turn back to again reject divorce - there are too many divorced leaders now. Eventually they will have to admit their hypocrisy and treat homosexual sinners like heterosexual sinners -- accepting them both in the church, even if grudgingly. Make this connection often and loudly. It will embarrass evangelicals and move your cause forward.

#### **7. Steer clear of any 'deliverance theology'**

**If God created a homosexual with these desires, or He won't deliver them, how can God keep them from acting on these urges?**

If the church believes that the inner nature of a person can be changed... so that their drive to commit a certain sin like homosexuality is cleansed or healed, your effort will be dead in the water.

So, fight any such doctrinal notion fiercely. Instead, concentrate on a 'struggle theology' with emphasis on trying to 'get victory' or 'receive help' or on being a 'recovering homosexual.' This will not be difficult today. It is in vogue.

#### **8. Blame God**

Try to get a homosexual to give a testimony about how, in great agony they asked God to deliver them, but He didn't. If God doesn't deliver them from their 'bent to sin' in this area how can they be personally responsible? It must be that God 'made them this way.' If God created a homosexual with these desires, or He won't deliver them, how can God keep them from acting on these urges?

#### **9. Get parents of homosexuals as your allies**

Tell their stories. Get your denominational magazine to print their stories. Even the most conservative Christians become amazingly liberal where their own children

are involved.

### **10. Work first for non-ministerial/non-membership gains**

Start first with the myriad of businesses and auxiliary operations the church now has. It will be much easier to get civil rights and legal protection there. Try placing homosexual employees in church-owned nursing homes, educational institutions, and day cares first. Then, even if these employees come out of the closet, there may be some government and legal protection. Then, later you can argue, 'Well, you permit a homosexual to work over there, why not here in the church too?'

### **11. Advertise the love and devotion of homosexuals**

Remind everyone of what beautiful people homosexuals are. Keep saying, 'They are created in God's image' which will imply they were created homosexual by God.

Tell how homosexuals show up faithfully for choir practice, volunteer for extra work, always pay their tithe in full, and are generous givers to missions. This impresses Christians, and especially pastors trying to grow a church.

Mention that one of the fastest growing denominations in America is the *Metropolitan Community Church* - specifically for homosexuals. You will know you have succeeded when you hear a pastor say, 'Well, to be quite frank, they're some of my best people.'

### **12. Don't fight the word 'sin'**

Most evangelical churches now say that the homosexual orientation is not sin but only the act is sin. That is, their position can be summed up with, 'You might be homosexual, but you don't have to act on

this urge, and if you do it is sin.' Don't fight this. Agree (for now) that homosexual practice is sin. Just simply equate 'your' sin with 'other people's sins' - like strife, greed, malice, bitterness, and gossip.

The secret is to not fight for homosexuality's innocence, but merely strive for its acceptance right along with all the other sins now permitted in the church - for example, 'Some gossip, I commit homosexual acts - one sin is as bad as another.' The evangelical

church's present doctrine of victory over sin is so weak, you'll have them in the corner.

### **13. Tell everyone when the first NON-practicing homosexual is ordained**

Since most evangelicals do not condemn the homosexual 'orientation', but only the act, sooner or later your denomination will knowingly 'ordain a homosexual' (that is, a non-practicing homosexual).

Eventually you will have someone pursue ordination who admits to a same-sex orientation, but who is chaste and promises to stay pure.

When this happens, spread the story. 'We have ordained a homosexual.' The more you say these words, the sooner the day will come when your denomination will ordain a practicing homosexual.

### **14. Get one evangelical denomination to break rank from the rest**

Eventually a fully evangelical denomination will ordain a \*practicing\* homosexual. Or, more likely, someone already ordained will come 'out.' It will probably be a woman (the church has never considered lesbianism as vile as male homosexuality). Perhaps she will have a 'life partner' on a permanent basis, which will be considered a compromise of sorts.

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This couple may even practice some sexual restraint or limits in their relationship. But it will happen. Eventually one evangelical denomination will 'break rank' on this issue - just like they once did with divorce. When this happens spread the story everywhere. It will enable your allies to cite them as a positive example of compassion and understanding.

### **15. Wear them down**

Today's evangelical church has neither the patience nor the time to hold firmly to its convictions. If you stick with it, constantly arguing and gently pushing, they'll cave in. Sooner or later they will make room for homosexuals - including practicing homosexuals - even ordained practicing homosexuals, if you just keep at it.

Is there any denying that the above strategy will work? Indeed, it already is working. This article is based on a study of an actual denomination that gradually moved toward this position. If you follow this strategy it will probably work.

### **HOWEVER, KEEP THIS IN MIND...**

There are many Christians - including me - who will meet you at every point in your unfolding plan and try to head you off from gaining ordination. We will attempt to defeat you.

In fact, that is the point of this article - to expose your step by step plan - to expose your strategy. This article is based on a study of an actual denomination that gradually moved toward the ordination of practicing homosexuals, and I publish it here for one purpose: to help church folk see the strategy of the pro-homosexual-ordination crowd.

The article is posted at <http://www.drurywriting.com/keith/homo.htm> Used with permission.

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*Note Added by Keith in 2004:*

Since publishing this article 10 years ago, I have received well over a thousand emails most of them condemning me and assigning me to hell for being *for* ordaining homosexuals. Of course they never got down this far in the article and after reading a few paragraphs decided to flame the writer and tell them they'd burn in "a hotter hell than the Devil."

Frankly, it has been startling. I am opposed to ordaining practicing homosexuals or adulterers etc... but the hateful condemnation I have received makes me wonder if such folk treat actual non-

**Is there any denying that the above strategy will work?**

Christians this way? The mail I've gotten from folk who read half this article would not win any person to Jesus Christ - but merely make them assume God is a hateful, spiteful creature.

So, while I originally intended this to be an anti-homosexual ordination article, it has taught me how mean and condemning Christians can be. I'm embarrassed.

It is, however, fun when I get such notes... I usually just say "naughty-naughty... you didn't read all the way to the bottom did you?" Their next email is far more humble - but still I am embarrassed at the hate Christians can apparently muster on things like this.

We have always said, "Hate the sin but love the sinner." 95% of the emails I have gotten have no love for me in them - just condemning-to-hellfire rhetoric. Not for the sin but for me! Shame on us Christians.

ANYWAY...if you are one of those folk who did not read to the end before you flamed me, thinking I was actually on the other side... now it is your turn to apologize. (I note that about half do - the rest never are heard from again - interesting huh?)

**KWD** April 2004

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## Vic: Review of Charter of Rights

Victoria's new Coalition government has ordered a parliamentary inquiry into the controversial *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities*, which was passed by the Labor-controlled parliament in 2006. The Coalition parties opposed the introduction of the Charter of Rights.

### *What's wrong with the Charter?*

Soon after the Liberal/National Coalition won the election in November 2010, Attorney-General Robert Clark said the Charter was "riddled with flaws" and promised to make changes.

Of course, we would like to see the Charter totally abolished, since it really undermines the law and doesn't add extra protection for citizens. The *Sunday Herald Sun* editorial pointed out (24/4/2011) that "the Charter has been hijacked by criminals". They noted that "Killers, drug dealers, pedophiles and terrorists have all attempted to use it in long-running legal fights". It is also being used by various activists to promote their causes.

This Inquiry is the first step in rectifying the problems in the Charter. The Charter legislation requires the parliament to review the Charter and its operation after four years. However, we can also give our views on the Charter itself, and express our concerns about having ANY such Charter.

### *The Inquiry*

The Inquiry will be conducted by the Victorian parliament's *Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee*. **The Committee is asking for submissions - they close on Friday June 10, 2011.**

The majority of members on the *Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee* are from the Liberal/National Coalition government. The terms of reference ask the Committee to

inquire into the first four years of operation of the Charter. The Committee is asked to inquire into "2. the effects of the Charter on

- the development and drafting of statutory provisions,
- the consideration of statutory provisions by Parliament,
- the provision of services, and the performance of other functions, by public authorities,
- litigation and the roles and functioning of courts and tribunals and
- the availability to Victorians of accessible, just and timely remedies for infringements of rights.

The Committee also has to consider matters referred to in Section 44 (2) of the Charter:

- whether **additional rights should be included in the Charter**, including economic, social, cultural, children's, women's and self-determination rights.
- whether further provisions should be made regarding public authorities' compliance.

The Committee will investigate the "overall benefits and costs of the charter Act" and "options for reform or improvement of the regime for protecting and upholding rights and responsibilities in Victoria".

**ACTION:** Please make a submission! ALL the 'pro-Charter' groups will be making submissions, saying the Charter is 'wonderful' and that they want 'additional rights' covered. It is VITAL that we have our say, opposing the Charter! For more details, see our website Campaign page.

Submissions can be posted or sent by email to Mr Edward O'Donohue, Chairperson, Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee, Parliament House, Spring Street, EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002. Email: charter.review@parliament.vic.gov.au



## News & Action

### *CRE in Victoria*



The complaint made against CRE in schools (and Access Ministries) was not 'conciliated' at the *Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission*. The Humanists have now taken their case to VCAT and have asked for an 'urgent hearing', claiming children are being discriminated against! Please pray for Access staff at this time.

### *More IVF in Victoria*

In 2009, the Victorian Labor government changed the law to allow lesbians and single woman to have access to IVF in Victoria - they can also get Medicare rebates.

Many lesbians and single women are now using IVF. Since the law was passed, almost 500 of them have used IVF and fertility services. The average age of lesbians and single women using IVF is 39.5 years - two years older than heterosexual couples.

Although single women and lesbians make up a small proportion of IVF services, they make up a large proportion of the people using sperm donors. At Monash IVF, 57 people used sperm donors - 39 were single women or lesbians. [Herald Sun, 18/3/2011]

God designed the natural family- father, mother and their children. Endorsing the creation of children for single women and homosexuals goes against this design.

### *Melbourne strip club loses license*

There are many notorious 'table-top dancing' or strip clubs in the centre of Melbourne. In recent years, drunkenness and violence on the streets late at night has increased in the area around these clubs.

One such venue, *Bar 20*, has just had its liquor licence cancelled by VCAT - police

documented at least 40 incidents of violent and drunken behaviour. The owners plan to appeal - at least in the meantime, Melbourne has one less such venue!

### *Chaplaincy Update*

The hearing for the High Court challenge against chaplaincy in schools will now be held on August 9-11, 2011. The complaint has been made by Toowoomba parent, Ron Williams. A Directions hearing was held on May 9, 2011.



Please continue to pray about this case. Check out this website to find out more details and sign the petition: <http://saveourchaplains.com.au/>

### *Territories power - Inquiry Report*

The parliamentary Committee inquiring into the Greens bill regarding the powers of the territories has handed down its Report.

The vote on the Committee was very close. The Report recommended that the Territories be granted the additional powers that were the subject of the review but made two amendments to the proposed Bill. The five Liberal Senators opposed the Bill and made a 'Dissenting Report'. Labor is divided on this Bill - two Labor Senators made an 'Additional Comment' saying the Bill should not be passed.

**ACTION:** Please contact your State Senators - ask them to vote against this Bill.

### *Freedom of Religion and Belief*

In 2008 the *Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC)* set out to conduct an investigation into 'Freedom of Religion and Belief in the 21st century'. The final Report was handed down on March 21, 2011. Thankfully, the Report does not recommend any form of legislation - whether a 'Freedom of Religion Act', or more anti-discrimination or anti-vilification laws. Instead, it recommends 'education' to teach us all how to 'get along together'.

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## G-rated Billboards

Are you offended at what you see on billboards?

Over the years we've reported on offensive billboards and outdoor advertising and asked you to take action. Sometimes the complaints have been successful... the *Windsor Shoes* ads have been tamed down, the wording on the 'sexual function' billboards was changed (but they're still there for children to ask 'What does that mean?') and so on.

Many people are very concerned at the increasing number of sexually suggestive billboards.

Victorian Liberal MP Sophie Mirabella recently entered the debate. In an address to the *Australian Family Association* last month on 'raunch culture', she called for tougher regulation regarding outdoor billboards. She said that industry self-regulation clearly isn't working. An inquiry into outdoor advertising is currently being undertaken by the *House*



*of Representatives*, and Sophie said big changes are needed.

Sophie said "Even the most diligent parent cannot completely avoid the "sex sells" imagery that children interpret in a much different way than we adults do."

"Do seven-year-olds really possess the ability to recognise that the sexually explicit pose of the woman wearing next to nothing is not a representation of reality, but an unfair and oppressive female stereotype designed to sell a product by appealing to base instincts and employing sly, undergraduate-style 'adult' humour?"

Submissions to the 'Inquiry into the regulation of billboards and outdoor advertising' have closed and a Report is expected soon.

Meanwhile, if you see an offensive or sexually suggestive billboard, please make a complaint to the *Advertising Standards Bureau*, Level 2, 97 Northbourne Avenue, TURNER ACT 2612.

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## More Billboards

On the subject of Billboards, an organisation called *How Good is That* has been posting messages on Billboards in SA, and preparing *You Tube* videos about the issues. Their website is <http://howgoodisthat.org/>

The Billboards feature messages on abortion, taxation and the Commonwealth. One billboard ad says, "The casualty list of every abortion: one dead, one wounded".

Following complaints about this Billboard to the *Advertising Standards Bureau (ASB)*, about 'health and safety' and 'community standards', the ad was banned by the *ASB* and billboards were taken down in early April by the *Outdoor Media Association*.

The *ASB* said "The Board considered that the advertisement's statement "one dead, one wounded", regardless of truth, treats the issue of abortion in a sensationalized and insensitive manner, and that, in the Board's view it is inappropriate to promote such a message on a medium which is able to be viewed by all sections of the community whether they wish to see it or not."

People who support abortion were quick to complain about this Billboard ad - are we prepared to complain about billboards and ads that offend us?

*ASB* decision: <http://www.adstandards.com.au/casereports/determinations/standards?ref=0107/11>

## Counter Culture

The Minister for Immigration, Mr Chris Bowen, tells us that Australia, with its multiculturalism has the best immigration policy in the world. Much of it was copied from the European model of tolerance, which has failed according to the leaders of England, France, Germany and others. What do you with a culture that demands we accept their laws and lifestyle?

Projections tell us the population of this culture will treble or quadruple over the next twenty years in Australia. They plan their expansion like a military operation. Illegal immigration is one strategy.

You and Ms Gillard are on the run, Mr Bowen. A bit of violence and intimidation like burning down immigration centres and you start splashing tax dollars around to appease them. Mr Bowen, instead of building a truly cosmopolitan society, you are allowing a counter culture to take hold.

**Robert Bom**, Rockhampton

*Rockhampton Bulletin*  
9/04/2011

## Climate change is a cyclical event

Linda Zibell (Letters 22nd April) writes that "...human carbon dioxide emissions can cause a greenhouse effect..." The operative word here is "can". There is no denying the greenhouse effect, without it the world would be so cold as to be uninhabitable. However, turning "can" into "does" is not empirically proven.

The point I try to make continually is that climate change is cyclical with a periodicity of roughly 25 years with an overriding cycle of several centuries, typically 400 years, but often longer. That is to say 400 years between ice ages great and small. Ms Zibell quotes the period from 1980 to the present as a time of great warming but ignores the time since 2000 when warming apparently ceased.

It seems also to escape Ms. Zibell's attention that from 1970 to '75 science was concerned about an approaching ice age due to plummeting temperatures. Guess what! They blamed it on industrial pollution!

**Ron Fischer**, Sebastopol Vic.  
*Ballarat Courier* 29/04/2011

## Alcohol in city streets

Jeff Corbett rightly comments ("Guns must be secured", April 18) "No amount of shooters' thrills in inflicting death, injury and misery on animals can justify providing many of the firearms used by criminals to inflict death, injury and misery on the people of NSW".

Likewise, no amount of drunkards' thrills in inflicting death, injury and misery on fellow-citizens can justify opening yet another liquor outlet.

Drinkers who complain when overworked police, paramedics, doctors and hospital staff plead for reduced trading hours might benefit from a long cold spell in the lock-up, instead of being allowed to overwhelm our emergency departments.

To pass the time, they could read about all the damage they are causing to their brains and bodies - if they still have enough brains to understand. Paying for all subsequent hospital and medical treatment may help their comprehension.

When sober enough, they could benefit from the exercise of cleaning up their mess from our streets. Later, they could find some genuine fun in worthwhile community projects.

It may help reduce the annual \$36 billion alcohol-related damage bill.

**Christina Naylor**, Mayfield  
*Newcastle Herald* 20/4/2011

Christina received a special letter-writing pen from the *Newcastle Herald*, with a letter saying that her letter had been judged "the best, most succinct and interesting" letter of the week. Well done!

## 50/50

Thank goodness not all young mothers whinge about child rearing ("Mum's a zombie", March 3). Some are actually stimulated by the exuberance, enthusiasm and energy of their kids. Enjoy them - they grow up very quickly.

**Lenyce Westaway** Navigators Vic  
*Herald Sun* 5/02/11

**Three good letters demonstrating that LOCAL papers are good vehicles for promoting the truth.**

**Lenyce also proves that short letters can certainly pack a punch!**



## Around the states

### SA - Euthanasia

The 'medical defence' bill currently being debated in SA would provide doctors with a legal defence if they give medication which 'hastens' death'. However, doctors acting in good faith are already covered by the law.

The *Law Society* opposed the Bill, saying "the effect of the Bill is to decriminalise murder, manslaughter, assisted suicide and voluntary euthanasia in certain circumstances". They noted that the Bill lacked any of the safeguards that voluntary euthanasia bills usually have.

The real intention of the those pushing the bill was revealed in a letter to us from the co-sponsor of the bill. He concluded "The fight for the right to choose and have a dignified death will continue".

On 5 May, the earlier rushed 'second reading vote' was rescinded and debate resumed. Unlike the earlier debate, when all MPs spoke for the Bill, this time five MPs – two Liberals and three Labor – spoke against it and no-one spoke in favour. The debate continues in the one hour per week allocated for 'private member's bills'. A vote is expected during June or July.

**ACTION:** If you live in SA, please contact your House of Assembly MP - ask them to vote against this Bill. If you have time, contact all MPs. MP details on our website. Send letters to Parliament House, North Terrace, ADELAIDE SA 5000.

### Tasmania - Surrogacy

The *Surrogacy Bill* was passed by the Tasmanian House of Assembly on April 14, 2011. The Bill allows surrogacy for heterosexual married and *de facto* couples, as well as homosexual couples and single women. The Liberals moved several amendments - limiting



surrogacy to heterosexual couples and single women; requiring couples to be together for three years; a minimum age of 25; no overseas surrogacy. NONE of these amendments were passed.

The Bill was scheduled to be debated in the Legislative Council some time after May 24, 2011. Check our website for the latest details on this Bill to see if has been debated yet: <http://www.saltshakers.org.au/take-action/campaigns> If it hasn't been passed, please contact ALL 15 Members in the Legislative Council and ask them to oppose the Bill.



### Victoria - Equal Opportunity

Good news! The new Liberal/National Coalition government has announced

proposed changes to the *Equal Opportunity Bill*, repealing some of the worst changes made by the Labor government.

They will repeal the 'inherent requirement' employment test for Christian schools and organisations, remove the coercive powers granted to the *Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission* to obtain documents, and restore the right for sports teams, such as lawn bowls, to specify that only women (or men) can play in particular tournaments and competitions.



### NSW Election

The Coalition has a majority in the NSW Legislative Assembly, with 69 Members - there are 20 ALP, 1 Green, and three Independents.

In the Legislative Council, there are 42 members – Liberal/National 19; Labor 14; Greens 5; CDP 2; Shooters and Fishers 2. Thus, the 'conservative' side of politics has the majority in both houses.

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# Civil Government Part II

## - The Orderly Government of Romans 13

by Murray Adamthwaite PhD

In my last discussion of civil government I looked at the origin and divine mandate of government according to Scripture, and the implications that has for our view of the proper role and powers of the state in today's world. In this discussion, I want to explore further the proper role of the state: what its rightful sphere is, and when it steps outside that sphere.

The prime passage is, of course, Romans 13, where Paul clearly states that the authority of "the powers that be" (ie civil government) are a grant from God, not from any human source, and certainly not from brute force. Moreover, in line with the observations I made from Genesis 9 in the previous article, civil government envisages a fallen world, where sin is a fact of life. In that context the various roles of soldier, military officer, policeman, politician and the like are honourable professions, and Christians should see them as such. It is no smudge on a Christian's copybook for him to take up a military career, or to enter the police force, contra the fulminations of the pacifist lobby. The Christian must be clear, however, as to the different roles of Church and State: the former is a redeeming agency; the latter a restraining agency. The Church seeks to bring people into Christ's Kingdom by persuasion and prayer; the state proceeds to curb man's excesses by coercion, and warnings of penalties.

Paul's discussion is in many ways surprising: ministers of the Emperor or the Crown – and

all their subordinates – are ministers of God (v 4)! How can this be, you ask, when so many bureaucrats, policemen, and "public servants" make no profession of Christianity at all? The point is that, whether believers or not, they execute God's mandate for civil

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**The Christian must be clear, however, as to the different roles of Church and State: the former is a redeeming agency; the latter a restraining agency.**

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government: restraint of evil and promotion of good. On the latter, Peter summarises succinctly the twin tasks of government: "the emperor... or governors sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right" (1 Peter 2:13-14). Paul teaches the same thing: "rulers are not a terror to good behaviour, but to evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same (v 3)." These points highlight the fundamental role of civil government, viz to restrain evil by use of external means:

coercion, punishments, and the symbols of authority (official uniforms, badges, public buildings, insignia and heraldry). This in turn underlines the basic purpose of the state, that is, to protect its citizens, both from criminals within and enemies and aggressors without. Both require the use of force: truncheons, firearms, and prisons for the criminals; and defence forces, with the best weaponry available, on land, sea, and in the air against potential aggressors.

This observation raises the whole issue of the use of the sword, representing all means of lethal force in general. Paul asserts that

civil government “bears the sword” (v 4). Commentators overwhelmingly agree that he has in view here the sword of capital punishment (by decapitation), whether or not the commentator may like the idea. Nor is this any idle threat: “not in vain” is a figure of speech called *litotes*, where one asserts a strong positive by means of a negative (eg: “not rocket science” means very easy and straightforward). Hence “not bearing the sword in vain” is *litotes* for actual use: the state means business when it faces criminals and enemies! It has both the mandate and the duty of the furious use of force in the face of manifest evil.

Yet here is where the modern state, particularly in the Western world, has abdicated its God-given responsibility. Far from being a terror to evildoers it has become a virtual friend to them. At the behest of left-wing, bleeding-heart lawyers and judges, justice is turned on its head and the victims blamed rather than the perpetrators. We see barristers filibustering with legal technicalities and plea-bargaining to “get the perpetrator off”; we observe judges giving out “feather-duster” sentences which dismay the victims of crime and their families. We see this on almost a daily basis; the criminal justice system, with its “revolving-door” treatment of perpetrators, has become a joke, and the criminal fraternity knows it! In particular, the drug-pusher brigade exploits our soft legal system with enthusiasm, as newspapers have reported from time to time. However, let it be clear: I make no plea for a return to the old days of “off with his head!” or “hang-draw-and-quarter them”. Capital punishment for capital crimes indeed, but done in a humane way, and

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**If the role of the State first and foremost is the protection of the citizens, where does that leave so many other roles, deemed so essential in our modern world?**

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quickly. Short of that, the use of hard labour under supervision (the “chain gang”, if you like), and yes, physical punishments. If one looks, for example, at Singapore, the streets are safe at any time of day or night - due in part to the rigorous use of the rattan cane.

Conversely, the State’s duty is to reward those who do right. Awards, citations, ceremonies and the like for community service, outstanding courage, and achievement in one’s discipline or field of expertise are quite in order, and if they come your way you should accept them. Alas, some Christians, in over-zealous sanctimony, have declined such awards, but such twangs of conscience are misplaced. The Christian in accepting them is thereby concurring with the State in this quite proper role.

If the role of the State first and foremost is the protection of the citizens, where does that leave so many other roles, deemed so essential in our modern world? We see the modern state as a “Father Christmas” style social welfare officer, a sports entrepreneur, a patron of the arts and theatre, a health-and-welfare benefactor, an energy supplier; in short, a service provider in all manner of fields, according to the number of interest groups crying out to government for its patronage and assistance. How many of these are legitimate? I would venture to say that very few of them are. What we have witnessed in the past century is the advent of socialism with its philosophy that “anything you can do government can do better”. But can they? What we have actually seen, particularly in recent years, is a colossal waste of billions of dollars of taxpayers’ money and little to show for it.

The insidious side to this growth of ‘big government’ is the corresponding growth of laws and armies of bureaucrats, whereby they intrude into almost every aspect of life and conduct. Thus, councils can now tell you whether or not you can build a cubby house for your children in your back yard; state governments pass laws against certain types of children’s toys, and against types of speech deemed “hateful”; federal governments institute policies to tell us what sort of light bulbs we can use in our homes, and contemplate laws against various types of food deemed conducive to obesity. Surely, these are individual decisions, but the “nanny state” takes it in hand to regulate these matters, which are properly outside its lawful jurisdiction. I lay it down as a principle, barring reasonable suspicion of a

serious crime (for which they need a warrant anyway), the state’s jurisdiction ends at the front gate!

This issue of the nanny state – a soft tyranny - leads on to where the state becomes outrightly tyrannical and demonic, moving beyond its legitimate and limited role to assume absolute power in rebellion against the God who gave it the status of power in the first place. This will be the subject for the final study.

*Murray Adamthwaite has degrees in history and theology and a PhD in Ancient History; he is a member of Salt Shakers Reference Panel. Murray has a website with articles and information: [archist.com.au](http://archist.com.au)*

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## AHRC Report - sexuality and gender

It wasn’t a surprise to learn that the *Australian Human Rights Commission* has recommended that the federal government enact anti-discrimination laws based on sexuality and gender identity.

The Commission held an Inquiry into this late last year, calling for submissions and holding public hearings in Sydney and Melbourne. Peter attended the Melbourne hearing - only four out of forty participants were opposing homosexual ‘rights’!

Indeed, the Report quotes the homosexual lobby groups extensively, but rarely mentions the submissions by those opposing the homosexual cause. When it does so, it is usually in a critical way.

The Report, published on May 4, 2011, says “This consultation has clearly demonstrated the need for comprehensive protections” and congratulated the federal government on their proposal to implement anti-

discrimination laws based on sexuality and gender identity.

Regarding exemptions for religious organisations, the Report notes “Determining the extent of any exemptions must involve careful balancing of the right to be free from discrimination with the right to freedom of religion and belief. The Commission’s view is that there should be further consultation and careful consideration of this issue.”

The Commission’s Report also encourages the Government to “give consideration to providing appropriate protections from vilification and harassment.”

The Report notes that some participants argued that same-sex marriage should be legal - however, the Report makes no recommendation on that matter.

Report: [http://www.humanrights.gov.au/human\\_rights/lgbti/lgbticonsult/report/index.html](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/human_rights/lgbti/lgbticonsult/report/index.html)



## Prayer Update

### *Continue to Pray for flood victims*

Please continue to pray for those still affected by the floods earlier in the year. In country areas some land is still affected by flood water and many have not been able to repair property, including homes, due to a lack of finances caused by so many years of drought. These areas also need our practical help as well as our prayers.

We recently received the following plea for help in an email...

“Much of the hard clean-up work has been done but what the community really needs now, more than ever, is hope.

“I’d like to see teams of believers travel to flood-affected communities on missions of encouragement. I’d like to see co-ordinated worship teams from the city and other communities coming to put on free concerts of live Christian entertainment, with teams of enthusiastic young people going up and down the street handing out flyers inviting people. I’d like to see

prayer meetings held to pray for a breakthrough for the gospel and the revitalisation of churches - and even the planting of new ones. I’d like to see local Christian care workers and relational evangelists financially sponsored and supported



from outside the community – empowered to work and make a difference in the community in which they live. I’d like to see volunteer maintenance crews of tradesmen come to work on the homes of people who cannot afford to make repairs. And to do all of this openly in the name of Christ. I’d like to see the Church alive, active, vital and at its best, across all affected areas.”

- Pray that Christians and churches will hear the call to go and help flood-affected areas.
- Pray that Christians will have the ability to share their ‘hope’ with others.
- Pray that the remaining flood waters will quickly recede.
- Pray for crops to be successfully planted and for a good harvest.

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

### *Continuing issues...*

#### **Euthanasia - Tasmanian/South Australia**

• Pray that a large majority of MPs will totally oppose legalizing assisted suicide and euthanasia

#### **Climate Tax**

• Pray that the truth re ‘climate change’ will defeat the scare tactics of the global warming activist lobby and earth worshippers.

#### **The push for same-gender ‘marriage’**

• Pray against this continued attack on Marriage and the natural family.

#### **SA – same-sex parenting**

• Pray that the review into same-sex parenting will reject the idea.

#### **Tasmania – Surrogacy**

• Pray that the Upper House will oppose the surrogacy Bill.

**Join us for Prayer and Breakfast**

7.00 am June 30 - at SALT SHAKERS Office

Pray for our nation, its leaders and Salt Shakers

## Transsexuality - treatment of children

by Jenny Stokes

In Australia, any person under 18 who wishes to start receiving hormonal treatment associated with a 'sex change' has to go to the Family Court legal approval.

In the past few years, several such cases have come to the Family Court and been given approval to start 'Stage 1' hormone treatment which stops the onset of puberty (facial hair, breast development etc). These include *Alex* (2004), *Brodie* (2008) and *Bernadette* (2007).<sup>1</sup>

In April 2011, a 10 year old boy was given permission by the Family Court to begin hormone treatment to stop the development of puberty. '*Jamie*' is the youngest child so far to be given permission to start this treatment – the previous youngest was 12 years of age. Justice Linda Dessau said her reason for approving the treatment at this age was that *Jamie* had an early onset of puberty and was starting to have a deeper voice and growth of facial hair.

Fortunately, the judge didn't give approval for the second stage, which is the taking of female hormones which develop female characteristics. Justice Linda Dessau noted that *Jamie* could change his mind and said "I simply cannot determine in 2011, when *Jamie* is still only 10, what is likely to be in her best interests in 2016 or 2017 when she is aged sixteen."

In order to begin Stage 2, *Jamie* and his parents must apply to the Court for a further ruling. Thankfully, Australian Family Court judges have consistently refused to grant permission for the parents to decide on the further treatment themselves, or to grant permission for both phases of treatment

when the child is 12 or 13 – the parents and child have to make a further application to the court when the child is 16 or 17. In the case of *Alex*, a second decision was made by the Family Court, when *Alex* was 17, to allow *Alex* to have her breasts removed.

In two recent cases, the same judge approved both stages of hormone treatment at the same time since the children involved were at an age to start the second phase of treatment. In February 2011, in '*Re Rosie*', a 16 year old girl was given permission to have both stages of treatment in the process of changing to a male. In December 2010, a 16 year old boy, known as '*O*', who has mild Asperger's syndrome, was given permission to have both stages of hormones.

If you think the situation in Australia is bad, with children as young as 10 being given these drugs, in some overseas countries clinics can prescribe

the drugs without any legal oversight.

In the UK, the *National Research Ethics Service* has recently given approval to the UK's only specialist clinic for Gender Identity Dysphoria - the *Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust* in London – to prescribe the puberty-blocking drugs to youngsters from 12 years old.<sup>2</sup> That means they will be able to get the drugs from the clinic without having to get a court order as in Australia. In the USA, several clinics already supply these hormone treatments to children, again with no requirement for a court order.<sup>2, 3</sup>

There is a worldwide push to have these puberty blocking drugs made available to

**A 10 year old boy was given permission by the Family Court to begin hormone treatment to stop the development of puberty**

young teenagers. In 2009, the *Endocrine Society* published a set of Guidelines, which recommended that “adolescents who fulfil eligibility and readiness criteria for gender reassignment initially undergo treatment to suppress pubertal development”.

The Society also proposed that children under 16, who would normally need parental consent, ought to be allowed “treatment” against their parents’ wishes, providing the child has an “adequate understanding” of the treatment.<sup>3</sup>

The *Endocrine Society* based their recommendations on a trial at a Netherlands clinic where puberty blockers have been administered to more than 70 children under sixteen, with one patient as young as 11.<sup>3</sup>

Although the ‘puberty blocking drugs’ are supposed to ‘wear off’ if the child changes their mind, giving these drugs to children as young as 10 reinforces in their mind that they really *are* the opposite gender and increases the likelihood that they will continue towards a full ‘sex change’.

### **High Court Challenge**

Meanwhile two adult males in Western Australia, AB and AH, who were refused permission to have their gender recognised as ‘female’ because they had not had full

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‘gender re-assignment surgery’, have been granted ‘leave to appeal’ to the Australian High Court.

They initially applied for a change in their ‘gender’, to the WA Gender Reassignment Board, but that was refused. The two people then took the case to the *WA State Administrative Tribunal* which ruled in their favour in 2009. The WA government appealed against the decision and the WA Court of Appeal overturned the Tribunal decision in September 2010.

So the next round begins, with the High Court granting AB and AH ‘leave to appeal’ against the decision. The appeal will be heard later this year.

Transgender groups are lobbying the federal government to change the law so that people don’t have to have ‘gender reassignment surgery’ in order to have their gender officially changed.

### **References**

1. Full details of all these cases, with links to court decisions and media reports on our website: <http://www.saltshakers.org.au/issues/gendity-identity/161-transsexualism-australian-legal-cases>
2. Puberty blocker for children considering sex change, *Telegraph*, 15/4/2011.
3. Doctors Urge Puberty Blockers for Children Considering Sex Change - *Lifesite*, 5/1/2009.

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## **Embryonic stem cell research review**

A Legislative Review of the cloning laws passed in 2006 by the Australian parliament is currently underway. In 2002, the federal parliament allowed the use of ‘surplus’ IVF embryos for cloning research. In 2006, the law was amended, allowing the specific creation of embryos so their stem cells could be harvested for research. The independent Legislative Review of these laws was due to be presented to the parliament on May 27, 2011.

Most importantly, the cloning of embryos for research is not needed, with the recent

scientific breakthrough of being able to create *induced pluripotent stem cells* from adult tissue. In their submission, *Australians for Ethical Stem Cell Research* wrote, “We trust that we have made the case that the scientific landscape of stem cell science has changed so dramatically since November 2007 that the argument about the ‘unique necessity’ for cloning no longer applies; that if our Senators and MPs had known in 2006 what we know now, cloning would never have been permitted.”

## World News

### **UK: Fostering**

Eunice and Owen Johns, the couple from Derby at the heart of the Christian fostering controversy, have re-applied to be foster parents with Derby City Council, asking the Council to change its policy on foster carers.

They have written a letter to the Head of Adoption and Fostering at Derby Council and will formally request that the Council re-instate their application to become foster carers. [Christian Concern, 6/4/2011]

### **UK: 'Right to Know' Campaign**

Two UK MPs - Nadine Dorries MP and Rt Hon Frank Field MP - recently put forward an amendment to the **Health and Social Care Bill**. The amendment would guarantee that women considering abortion have access to independent information and advice.

*Christian Concern* says "Crucially, private abortion providers will be barred from providing the counselling. It is likely that when women have access to better information, fewer will choose to proceed to abortion." In early April, *Christian Concern* launched a 'Right to Know' campaign to encourage public support for the amendment.

### **UK: Euthanasia**

Australia's euthanasia advocate, Dr Phillip Nitschke, has been heavily criticised for teaching school students as young as 14 in the UK about his euthanasia methods.

The segments featuring Nitschke are included in a 20 minute film about euthanasia, made by Bristol-based *Classroom Video*, which supplies educational films to almost every UK school. In the film, Nitschke

demonstrates his machine that delivers lethal injections - the film also includes footage of him giving workshops on assisted suicide. [Daily Mail, 16/4/2011]

### **Cloning Developments**

Adult stem cells are being used to grow specialised heart stem cells in a new trial currently being undertaken in the USA. In the clinical trial, a small sample of a patient's own heart tissue is being used to grow specialized heart stem cells. The stem cells are then injected back into the patient's heart in an effort to repair and re-grow healthy muscle in a heart that has been injured by heart attack.

The research is being conducted by husband and wife team, Dr Eduardo Marban and his wife Dr Linda Marban. The research is being done on 24 patients enrolled at *Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute* in Los Angeles and 7 patients at *Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine* in Baltimore.

The results of the trial are expected by the end of 2011. [CNS, 27/4/2011]

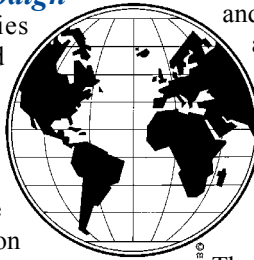
### **USA: Homosexuality**

In an unusual move, the Senate in Tennessee is currently considering a bill that would stop teachers from teaching about homosexuality in Grades 1-8. Senator Campfield, the author of the bill, said his bill aims to stop homosexual activists from pushing their agenda in the classroom. [FOX, 27/4/2011]

The only reason this is even up for discussion is that the Republicans won control of both houses of parliament and the Governor's position in last year's election.

### **Hungary - good constitution!**

Hungary has adopted a new conservative constitution - it includes a ban on same-sex marriage and affirms the "protection of a fetus from conception". The minority parties and activist groups are not happy!



## Ministry News

Dear Friends

This a quick note to request your financial support for *Salt Shakers* to enable us to continue, "Helping Christians make a difference".

Peter and Jenny Stokes and the staff at Salt Shakers get busier as the days grow darker! Marriage and freedom of speech are under attack, the legalisation of abortion is spreading as is the push for euthanasia.

We are mobilising and equipping Christians to speak out on these issues and many others, through the Journal, website and emails.. With four State/Territory elections being fought over the next two years, we are, as always, helping to prepare 'Christian Values Checklists' to help inform Christians.

More recently, Cameron Spink, our Resistance Thinking Co-ordinator has produced a number of videos for Salt Shakers and Resistance Thinking on the key issues. We are still seeking to obtain more equipment to improve the quality and impact of these videos.

The Bible states that "the worker deserves his wages" (Luke 10vs7). Please prayerfully consider what financial support you are able to give Salt Shakers so we can cover the expenses of the ministry and pay Peter and Jenny, Cameron and the team and equip them with the tools to equip you.

If you are able to assist us, please refer to the cover sheet or phone the office.  
p: (03) 9800 2855

May God bless you richly!

**Barney Tomasich**

Chairman of the Board of Salt Shakers

### **ACTION checklist:** Tick the box as you complete the task

Page	Topic	Action / People to write to	Done
7	Vic: Charter Review	Send submission/letter	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Territory powers	Contact state Senators	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	SA: Euthanasia	Contact House of Assembly MPs	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Tas: Surrogacy	Check status - contact ALL Leg Council MPs	<input type="checkbox"/>

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All administration and financial matters

P O Box 6049

WANTIRNA Vic. 3152

Phone (03) 9800 2855

Fax (03) 9800 2655

Email: [admin@saltshakers.org.au](mailto:admin@saltshakers.org.au)

Our office is located at: Suite 4, 675 Boronia Rd, Wantirna, Vic. 3152

Issues & after hours contact

Mobile: Peter 0413 084 145

Jenny 0413 084 146

Email: [peter@saltshakers.org.au](mailto:peter@saltshakers.org.au)

[jenny@saltshakers.org.au](mailto:jenny@saltshakers.org.au)

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# Salt Shakers Inc.

Helping Christians make a difference

## 2011 Annual Dinner

**Guest Speaker: Rev Dr Stuart Robinson**  
**'The Challenge of Islam'**

Stuart Robinson worked amongst Muslims in South Asia before becoming Senior Pastor of Blackburn Baptist Church, now Crossway Baptist Church, for 26 years.

Today, Stuart travels the world teaching Christians how to reach out to Muslims and help them find the Lord Jesus Christ as their own personal Saviour. He also teaches on our response to the growing effort to Islamise the whole world.

He is the author of many books including the Australian Christian best seller 'Mosques and Miracles'. His latest booklet is 'The Challenge of Islam'.

Stuart greatly encouraged Peter and Jenny to start Salt Shakers and has been a constant encourager, Pastor and mentor to them over the last 16 years.

- Date:** Saturday 24 September 2011  
**Start:** 7.00pm: Savouries - 7.30pm: Dinner  
**Where:** The Quest, 137 Mountain Hwy, Wantirna (Mel 63 E7)  
**Cost:** \$55 per person, \$95 per married couple

*Book early - places are limited*



### Salt Shakers 2011 Dinner booking form

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**Craving for Love** - Briar Whitehead

\$25 posted

Briar, formally a journalist, lives in NZ with research scientist husband Neil. They have spent many years researching sexual addiction, its causes and consequences. Briar states, "under the strain of unrealistic expectations many relationships fall apart".

Briar believed that addictive forms of relating, heterosexual or homosexual, can only be satisfied by a radical experience of the love of God. This very human book is the result of years of research correspondence and mentoring of people trapped in addictive relationships

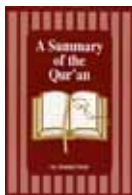


**\*Back by popular demand\***

\$7 Posted

**Religion is for fools** - by Bill Medley

A great evangelism tool - A former comedian and religious skeptic, Bill Medley examines objections to religion in a humorous and surprisingly clever way. He shares his discovery that faith is more than how one feels about it - what matters is whether or not it is true. Bill is now a Christian.



**A Summary of the Qur'an** by Daniel Scot

Special \$10 posted

Daniel provides an overview of the 114 Suras (chapters) in the Qur'an and an introductory study of particular suras or topics. Each Sura is summarised in Qur'anic order with concise descriptions of events, beliefs, warnings, and commands.

Daniel fled Pakistan after his life was threatened because he stood up for his Christian faith. He is now one of Australia's leading Christian experts on the Qur'an.



**Special offer - June only**

Special \$10 posted

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Prices as at June 2011 - Prices may change without notification - \*\* All prices include GST and postage \*\*

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