



**Petition to stand behind the natural family and to preserve the statutory laws against buggery and sexual indecency**

**Petition summary and background**

1. The United Nations has adopted a revolutionary approach to the nuclear family which has all but signalled the demise of that foundational aspect of our society which existed even before October 24, 1945 when the United Nations was formed. The nuclear family as we have always known it is under an unprecedented attack and its very existence is threatened. In the wake of the postmodern era which began some 30 years ago, there has been a radical movement by the United Nations to erase the concept of the nuclear family as composed of a man, woman, and children to replace that with relationships between men and men and women and women.
2. Indeed, in some jurisdictions today, the adoption of young and vulnerable children by homosexual couples has been legalised and the results of such a move is deemed as “progressive” in the name of human rights, but one has to question, progressive for whom? Is it progressive for the well-being of a child that he or she be raised by “two parents of the same sex”? Is it desirable that the clear lines of demarcation between a man and woman and their respective roles in family life be obliterated in the name of human rights? Will this promote a healthy society or a confused and unbalanced social disorder which will lead to the destruction of the very fabric of our society?
3. The nuclear family is the bedrock of the society and the distinction between male and female is a fundamental and critical aspect of the framework of our country. However, the United Nations is now placing the nation of Trinidad and Tobago under significant pressure to change its laws in order to accommodate its agenda. As an independent nation, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago will be forced to make a decision one way or another, whether it will cave to the agenda of the homosexualization of society by the United Nations or protect the God-ordained institution of the nuclear family. The people and Government of Trinidad and Tobago must answer this question - will Trinidad and Tobago be one country under the United Nations or one country under God?
4. At present, before the High Court of the Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago, there is an attempt by one, Jason Jones, a member of the gay community, to have *sections 13 and 16 of the Sexual Offences Act 1986*, repealed. These sections set out the criminal provisions and consequences for the offences of buggery and sexual indecency respectively. His argument is that those sections ought to be struck out as unconstitutional on the ground that they interfere with the right of the individual to equality before the law as set out under *section 4(b) of the Constitution*. It is the legal position of the Trinidad and Tobago Council of Evangelical Churches (hereinafter referred to as “the Council”), that *sections 13 and 16 of the Sexual Offences Act 1986*, even with its alterations, are existing laws according to *section 6(1)(c) of the Constitution* and are therefore constitutionally protected. Further, the Council is of the view that the *Sexual Offences Act 1986*, which was passed with the requisite three-fifths majority of the Parliament, safeguards the *sections 13 and 16* from legal attack.
5. As an Evangelical council of churches, our position is that the statutory provisions against buggery and sexual indecency are a most critical safeguard to the moral fabric of the society of Trinidad and Tobago. It is the contention of the Council that if the laws against buggery and sexual indecency are repealed this will ultimately result in an opening of the floodgates of immorality which will spew out into our nation and adversely affect the core of our country for generations to come. In countries such as America and Canada where buggery has been decriminalized, the reach of that legislative change is still having untold effect up until today. In these North American countries, the following has occurred after the decriminalization of buggery:
  - 1) The push for marriage between homosexuals.
  - 2) The insidious attack by the governments and interest groups in those countries to eliminate the rights of parents over their children in public schools by mandating that children are permitted to choose and be referred to by their desired sex.
  - 3) The recognition by the Courts of the right of an individual to perform acts of bestiality.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4) Public schools and LGBT interest groups in the United States advocate for the right of young children to change their designated sex at birth to the desired sex.</li> <li>5) The push from universities and other educational institutions of higher learning for the removal and replacement of traditional gender pronouns with pronouns that are “gender neutral.”</li> <li>6) The arrest of ministers of religion who speak out against the practice homosexuality on religious and theological grounds.</li> <li>7) The adoption of children by homosexual men and women.</li> <li>8) Homosexual couples have initiated litigation against Christian businesses and, in many cases, such litigation has resulted in the closure of those businesses. For example, in the United States, Christians who own businesses such as bakeries are forced to make wedding cakes for gay couples or be subject to judgments and orders of the Court and/or the closure of their establishments.</li> <li>9) The advocacy of subjective gender categories such as “pansexual”, “gender fluid”, and “genderqueer”. The latter referring to persons who may identify as either having an overlap of, or indefinite lines between, gender identity; having two or more genders (being bigender, trigender, or pangender); having no gender (being agender, nongendered, genderless, genderfree or neutrois).</li> </ol> <p>6. All of these actions have been driven by the belief that they are all “human rights” which ought to be protected under the law. The Council is of the view that none of the outcomes listed above are desirable for a healthy, productive, sustainable and righteous nation. As such, the perspective of the religious community in Trinidad and Tobago on the issue of buggery and homosexuality is as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) It is a sexual practice that desecrates the human body and has the grave potential to result in mental, emotional, psychological damage to the human psyche.</li> <li>2) It is a sexual practice that is spiritually abominable in the sight of God, who created us male and female and therefore ought not to be sanctioned by the Government.</li> <li>3) It is a sexual practice that facilitates the rapid spread of disease in a nation and therefore causes an extreme strain on the health care system which in turn results in a drain on the financial resources of a nation.</li> <li>4) It is a sexual practice that opens the way for further immorality and perversions of the human body and mind such as “transgenderism” and “gender fluidity”.</li> <li>5) Human rights are not subjective; they must be objectively determined. It is not in the interest of humanity for two men or two women to marry. It is an abomination and, if ever permitted, would ultimately result in the degradation of the sacred sacrament of marriage as a divinely ordained institution between a man and a woman.</li> <li>6) Homosexuality is not a human right, but in reality, a human wrong for the simple reason that two men and two women cannot procreate to further the human race. This is self-evident. In other words, if that practice were to be accepted by everyone, then the world would come to an end as we know it. As of the year 2017, the fertility rate of Trinidad and Tobago is estimated to be 1.71 by the CIA world factbook. This is well below the 2.1 fertility rate required to maintain the size of the population and prevent depopulation and ageing of a nation. The promotion of homosexuality may further decrease the nation’s birth-rate resulting in a demographic crisis in decades to come.</li> <li>7) There is no scientific evidence to show that homosexuality is determined by genes or that a person is “born that way”.</li> <li>8) God created man male and female and therefore a society which upholds these two objective distinctions will prosper.</li> </ol> <p>7. Having regard to the foregoing and after careful consideration, the Trinidad and Tobago Council of Evangelical Churches hereby petitions the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to stand behind the natural family and to preserve the statutory laws against buggery and sexual indecency in the wake of this unprecedented attack against righteousness, truth, marriage and the traditional family.</p>
<b>Action petitioned for</b>	<p>We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who along with the Trinidad &amp; Tobago Council of Evangelical Churches petition the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to stand behind the natural family and to preserve the statutory laws against buggery and sexual indecency in the wake of this unprecedented attack against the righteousness, truth, marriage and the traditional family.</p>





