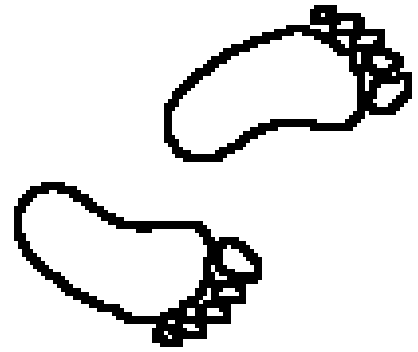


July - September 2017
Issue 94

The Next Step



Canberra Christian Fellowship
(in the Methodist Tradition)

NO

Ephesians 6: 12

"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

Australians are currently being asked the question "Should the law be changed to allow same-sex couples to marry?"

Money seems to be being thrown at the Yes campaign by governments, councils and other organisations with large public profiles, but the **No** campaign appears to be receiving much less support from organisations familiar to the public to present its arguments.

Media reporting is mostly backing the Yes campaign and even when a **NO** case is presented, it seems Yes supporters are given greater time or space to respond to the report.

Contrary to Yes campaign suggestions that the question is a simple one that requires just a 'yes' or 'no' and that it is all about equality and love and that is all there is to it, the **No** campaign is concerned about what such a decision would mean and the consequences that would flow from it should such a change be made. Yes-ers do not want to discuss that and avoid doing so whenever they can.



80+ organisations have come together to form **The Coalition For Marriage** and to present the **No** case.

One of the Coalition For Marriage organisations is The Australian Christian Democrats political party and they hosted a gathering at Parliament House on Thursday 21/9 organised by their A.C.T. party leader Rev. David Kim.



Master of Ceremonies, Aaron Wright (Family Voice Australia) introduced 4 speakers who warned of the dangers of changing the definition of marriage and gave some examples of consequences experienced overseas where such a change has been made.



[A Christian voice for family, faith and freedom](#)

Monica (Marriage Alliance) spoke about what is at stake - freedom of speech.

We are told it is just 1 simple question we have to answer, but the Attorney General's Department have identified at least 60 pieces of legislation that would have to be changed if the answer to that simple question is Yes. Not such a simple result.



Already any disagreement with the homosexual activists' opinions is likely to attract you the label of a "hate speaker".

A USA lady who found she could not, in conscience, sign a form enabling a homosexual marriage was dismissed from her job even though her fellow workers were available to sign the form. She was targeted because her beliefs were known.

A UK man who believed the US lady had been unfairly treated, was kicked out of his social work university course because he was deemed unfit for social work due to his support of her stand.

In Canada a certain University College has required students to agree to a community covenant before enrolling and studying. The covenant includes agreement not to engage in sexual activity outside man/woman marriage. Law students from that college found that on successful completion of their studies, they were refused registration to practice law because of their agreement with that part of the covenant they had signed.

It is not a case of live and let live. IT IS COMPLY OR BE CAST OUT!

Could that happen here?

Alarmingly the Law Society of NSW (and some other professional bodies) has endorsed same sex "marriage" without consulting its members.

In Tasmania Roman Catholic churchmen were prosecuted for distributing a leaflet to families in church schools outlining the church's understanding of marriage and the message "Don't mess with marriage". It was said to be "offensive, humiliating and insulting" by one homosexual activist who complained to the Anti Discrimination Commission.

Rev. Hon. Fred Nile, for 36 years a member of the NSW Legislative Council, was the next speaker.

He was particularly concerned with freedom of religion.

He too mentioned the US lady targeted because of her beliefs by those knowing those beliefs would not allow her to sign the homosexual marriage form and insisting she, not anyone else, do it.

Here in Australia an army officer saw members of the armed forces parading in uniform in the Homosexual Mardi Gras, something they should not do in uniform. He brought it to the attention of the appropriate authorities but it was him that was disciplined and dismissed. He appealed to the High Court but it declined to hear the case.

Fred Nile himself has been targetted. Recently he wrote a letter highlighting the NSW government's handing over of a substantial sum to the homosexual cause. He was summoned to see the Anti Discrimination Board. There, talking with someone else summoned, he discovered his companion was there for simply printing Fred's letter. It seems having an opinion or reporting someone's opinion is grounds for complaint and prosecution.

Paul (Australian Family Association) spoke about the make up and function of families.

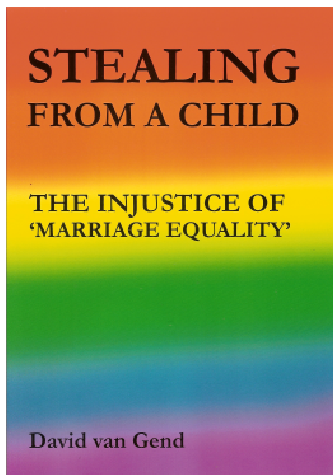
In 2004 Australia led the world in defining marriage in law - a man/woman relationship. While the marriage definition was newly enshrined in law, the understanding of what marriage is did not change from what it was understood to be by generations and generations of people from cultures all around the world.

Christians give respect to all people whatever their life choices may be. They don't necessarily agree with those choices. One Canadian lady who had been brought up by a loving lesbian couple spoke out about her experience. She stated she believed children needed both a mother and a father, but because that did not fit with homosexual ideology, she was prosecuted.

Paul claimed that many homosexual people are not wanting "marriage". There are core activists pushing that agenda. Even the homosexual press some years ago was not interested in the subject.



THE
AUSTRALIAN
FAMILY
ASSOCIATION



David van Gend is the author of a book "Stealing from a child".

He sees the current debate and activists' push as being all about consequences. The homosexual community already have all the rights enjoyed by anyone else.

If the change of definition goes ahead, we will lose the right to say what we believe - we will be out of step with "community values". We are likely to be subject to harassment if we hold unacceptable opinions.

To him we are caught up in a revolution, and the activists' side hates the Church.

Their goal is to control education and silence dissenters. The change in marriage definition they want is all about capturing the legal high ground.

The homosexual activists are not content to merely have their lifestyle tolerated. They want it celebrated.

The book is around 230 pages with many more pages of references. Perhaps not a pleasant read but certainly informative.

“Those of us who once thought that ‘marriage equality’ was just about marriage now realise we were wrong. For the serious LGBTQ activists, it is about capturing the legal high ground from where the entire ‘rainbow agenda’ can be implemented.”

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NO change can win.

When politicians were asked relatively recently to determine the opinions in their electorates, most reported their people wanted no change to marriage.

Those people must send in their votes. Unless opponents of the change encourage participation by the silent majority, the activists will win.

If they win we will be 'out of step with "community values" as reflected in the law' and our views silenced and disregarded.

Services over recent weeks have included the following:



Mr. Trevor Monson



Rev. Paul Tabulutu



Rev. Ron Reeson



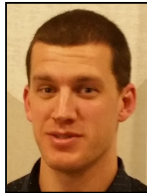
Mr. Roy Dallos



Rev. Michael Pailthorpe



Rev. Bob Prior



Mr. Brett Hillam



Mr. Bruce Boyle



Mr. Phillip Ng



Rev. David McDonald



Mr. Roy Dallos

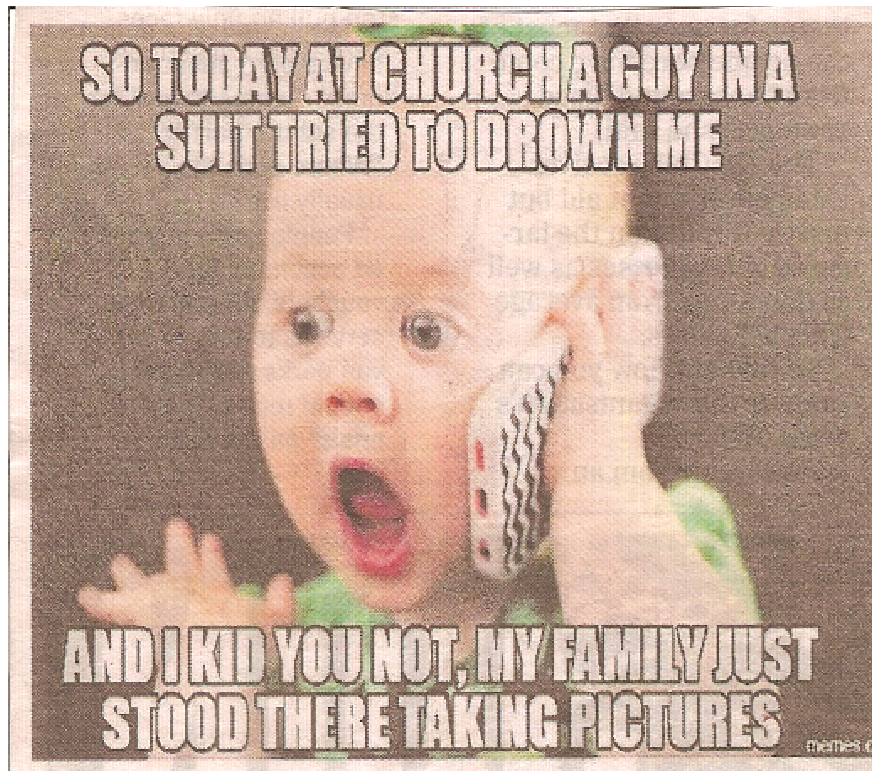


Rev. Phil Anderson



Mr. Jeff Mason

- Sunday 25th June – Mr. Trevor Monson - Gideons
Sunday 2nd July – Rev. Paul Tabulutu - Wait upon the Lord
Sunday 9th July – Rev. Ron Reeson - Prevenient grace
Sunday 16th July – Mr. Roy Dallos - The 10 Words of God, part 8: The sanctity of marriage
Sunday 23rd July – Rev. Michael Pailthorpe - Kingdom patience
Sunday 30th July – Rev. Bob Prior - Follow God's example and be an example
Sunday 6th August – Mr. Brett Hillam - The Blessed
Sunday 13th August – Mr. Bruce Boyle - Being Prepared
Sunday 20th August – Mr. Phil Ng - The Glory of God
Sunday 27th August – Rev. David McDonald - Keep your eyes on Jesus
Sunday 3rd September – Mr. Roy Dallos - The 10 Words of God, part 9: Thou shalt not steal - A lie of integrity
Sunday 10th September – Rev. Phil Anderson - Faith Alone
Sunday 17th September – Mr. Jeff Mason - From small beginnings - 150th year of Scripture Union



Chaplains

Rev. Phil Anderson - Army chaplaincy
Rev. Owen Chadwick - Universities chaplaincy
Rev. Steve Lindner - Campbell High School chaplaincy until 6/10
Rev. David McDonald - A.C.T. Brumbies Rugby Union team chaplaincy
Rev. David Bob Prior - Racecourse chaplaincy
 Please remember Phil, Owen, Steve, Dave, Bob and their chaplaincy work in your prayers.



When Rev. Phil Anderson was with us recently, he mentioned he is no longer chaplain to the A.C.T. Emergency Services. The A.C.T. Government does not want chaplains. Phil also spoke strongly opposing same sex marriage.

Recently I learned that Steve Lindner is leaving his chaplaincy position at Campbell High on 6 October. He has done a wonderful job for the school community in the 9 3/4 years he has been in that role. Scripture Union are seeking someone to carry on that work.

Coming Up

Tuesday Bible Study

Tuesdays at 2-30 pm.
 All welcome - contact Joyce for more information
 Studying John

Prayer Meeting

3rd Monday of each month at **2-30 pm**, usually at Marie's.
 All welcome

Contacts

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Coming Services

We meet at **Holy Trinity Finnish Lutheran Church, Cnr. Gould and Watson Streets, Turner**



Sunday **24th September** at 5pm – **Mr. Rob Nicholls** (Christian Blind Mission)
 Sunday **1st October** at 5pm – **Mr. Roy Dallos**
 Sunday **8th October** at 5pm – **Mr. Mark Warren**
 Sunday **15th October** at 5pm – **Mr. Jude Simion** (Barnabas Fund)
 Sunday **22nd October** at 5pm – **Rev. Dr. Campbell Egan + Hays** (SIM)
 Sunday **29th October** at 5pm – **Rev. Peter Nelson**
 Sunday **5th November** at 5pm – **Pastor Opi Nduati** (iAfrika, Kenya)
 Sunday **12th November** at 5pm – **Rev. Owen Chadwick**
 Sunday **19th November** at 5pm – **Rev. David McDonald**
 Sunday **26th November** at 5pm – **Rev. Jonathan Harris** (Bible Society)
 Sunday **3rd December** at 5pm – **Christmas Carol Service**