

JAMAICA COALITION FOR A HEALTHY SOCIETY

Education. Advocacy. Ministry.

E-newsletter: December 2013

Who we are

A group of Jamaican individuals and organisations concerned about promoting and defending Judeo-Christian values as the basis for enriching the social, spiritual, mental, physical and emotional health of the Jamaican society. We serve with others as cultural watchmen for our society and bearers of God's truth and love.

What we do

Raise the public's awareness and understanding of current issues facing Jamaica and the Bible's relevance in addressing these issues.

Confront the prevailing culture with the immutable and infallible truth of the Bible. Lobby those in positions of political, economic and social influence to garner support in safe-guarding and promoting justice and truth.

Mobilise churches and allied groups to further the work of the Coalition through its various activities.

Direct interested persons who have intentionally or unintentionally deviated from a Biblical standard in any of the moral issues above to counselling resources.

What's been happening: JCHS

JCHS documentary launched on Nov 20,2013 *SEX,LIES AND RIGHTS: a seduction of law, medicine and politics.* Written and produced by JCHS as a tool to educate the public on the dangers of repealing or amending Sections 76, 77 & 79 of the Offences Against the Person Act (buggery law) and the negative impact any such amendment or repeal would have on our society. Available to view on [YouTube](#) .Please feel free to disseminate.

❖ Lectures at Tertiary institutions and media interviews

❖ **Public service advertisements and statements:** World AIDS Day (December 1) and International Human Rights Day (December 10)

❖ **International Human Rights Conference, December 7,2013:** *International Law and the Welfare of the Family: the impact of the secular worldview on children,* Jamaica Conference Centre.

Speakers:

Andrea Minichiello Williams, CEO, Christian Concern, UK, www.christianconcern.com spoke on 'New rights' and the war on family

Peter LaBarbera, President, Americans for Truth about Homosexuality www.aftah.org spoke on *The Educational System: the final frontier of contending worldviews*

Dr Michael Coombs, Regional Technical Director, Southern Regional Health Authority, Jamaica, spoke on *The social and economic costs of fatherlessness.*

Rebekah Ali-Gouveia, Caribbean Coordinator, World Congress for Families, Trinidad and Tobago, spoke on *Parental responsibility and the rights of the child: the necessity of balance*

Alison Facey, Public Relations Officer, Love March Movement, Jamaica spoke on *The Youth's Response to the Secular Agenda*

Rev Earl Thames, Convenor of the Concerned Church Leaders Group, Jamaica spoke on *The institution of marriage and its social implications.*

Summaries of the presentations will be available on jchs.org.jm

❖ International Human Rights Day concert on Dec 10, 2013

Emancipation Park. Theme: *Divine Design: Celebrating God the Giver of Perfect Laws and Perfect Rights.* **Speaker: Brian Camenker**, founder of pro-family activist organisation Mass Resistance in Massachusetts, USA. He warned Jamaica of the impending tsunami of upheavals to our social, political and business society should the buggery law be repealed, based on the severe repercussions experienced in Massachusetts which has legalised gay marriage. A booklet documenting the forced changes in Massachusetts is available at massresistance.org.

What's happening: Jamaica

❖ Javed Jaghai v Attorney General of Jamaica

Mr Jaghai filed a constitutional challenge to the Buggery Law and seeks constitutional redress from the alleged abrogation that the Buggery Law impinges on his right of privacy and equality . The trial date has been set for November 2014 .

Caribbean DAWN, a women's pro- gender equality NGO supporting repeal of the buggery law, was granted interested party status. A similar application by Jamaicans for Justice was denied.

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❖ Maurice Tomlinson v TVJ,CVM, PBCJ

Nov 15,2013

The Constitutional Court handed down its ruling on the application by gay rights activist Maurice Tomlinson, challenging the refusal by the television stations to air an advertisement promoting tolerance for homosexuals.

Mr Tomlinson argued that the non-broadcast of his ads was a breach of his right to freedom of expression and right to receive and disseminate ideas under sections 13 (c) & (d) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms of the Jamaican Constitution. The Court ruled that these sections did not give anyone the right to use another private person's property to disseminate any messages. Also editorial press freedom and control gave the stations the right to determine what, when and how they broadcast content relating to issues of public concern, "bearing in mind the cultural, social, political and economic context in which they operate".

Office of the Children's Advocate Child Justice Guidelines, Nov 20,2013

Although an otherwise laudable document, the Guidelines provide for sexual orientation as a prohibited ground of discrimination (Part 1 Principle 4 and Part 2 A 20). The JCHS agrees that all persons, including children, must be treated equally before the law but introducing this concept has the effect of superseding Parliament which had **rejected** the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Charter of Rights during its debates in 2006 (proposed by J-Flag).

The more this phrase is stealthily inserted into Government and private sector documents such as staff manuals, IT MAY ACHIEVE THE NORMALISATION OF HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOUR WITHOUT AMENDING or REPEALING THE BUGGERY LAW !

Statement of intention by Minister of Justice, Senator Mark Golding

At a public forum on human rights hosted by Jamaicans for Justice on November 12,2013, the Minister indicated his intention to review the Sexual Offences Act in 2014, decriminalise teenage promiscuity, and adopt a Discrimination Act including sexual orientation, so as to introduce "new principles of morality" to Jamaica.

What's happening: the World

The Commonwealth of Australia v The Australian Capital Territory (ACT)

The Australian High Court held on Thursday, 12 December 2013 that the *Marriage Equality (Same Sex) Act* 2013, enacted by the Legislative Assembly for ACT, cannot operate concurrently with the federal *Marriage Act* 1961 which does not allow or recognise marriages between same sex couples. Only the Federal Parliament has constitutional power to legislate on same sex marriage. Pressure is now being brought on the Government to allow a conscience vote on the matter and for same-sex "marriage" bills to be brought forward in both Houses of Parliament.

❖ Suresh Kumar Koushal and another v NAZ Foundation

December 11, 2013, the Indian Supreme Court upheld as constitutionally valid, s.377, Indian Penal Code which criminalises 'carnal acts against the order of nature'. This reverses a 2009 ruling which decriminalised homosexuality. The Court said it was up to Parliament to decide whether or not to retain the law. The Government has since indicated its intention to explore how to restore the 2009 ruling.

❖ Although their Government is for gay marriage, 65% of Croatians

voted by referendum on December 1, 2013, to constitutionally define marriage as a union between 1 man and 1 woman.

How you can help:

Please pray for:

- ❖ Exposure of the sexual rights agenda, fabricated incidents and distorted statistics
- ❖ Boldness for Christians, especially in key Government positions and with influential access to leaders
- ❖ Encouragement for Christians in countries where freedoms have been curtailed. Remember other pro-family advocates e.g. Christian Concern (UK), Americans for Truth, and Mass Resistance (USA), and World Congress for Families (Trinidad and Tobago)

Send us your stories:

Have you been negatively affected by secularist policies in your school, workplace or community? We'd like to build up our case studies on the impact on national mores and those who adhere to traditional definitions of marriage and family. If requested, your names will be withheld.

Write or Call in:

Please write to the Jamaican newspapers with letters, articles or comments, or call in on radio programmes to promote family life and human relations as God designed and intended them to be.

Your financial support:

Contributions can be deposited to:
The Jamaica Coalition for a Healthy Society
Scotiabank, 82-84 Half Way Tree Road, Kingston 10
Savings Account # 936 361 Transit # 60145
Swift Code NOSCJMKN

Thank you and may the Lord richly bless you !

Please send your comments, questions or suggestions to
Philippa Davies, Advocacy Officer, jchsadvocate@gmail.com.

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."

2 Cor. 10:4-5 KJV

