

# 'CONVERSION THERAPY' BAN

## Criminalising parents, prayer, carers & counsellors

### A SIMPLE GUIDE ON HOW TO MAKE A SUBMISSION

The proposed ban on 'Conversion Therapy' could end up **criminalising parents, counsellors, and faith groups**. The Select Committee's **online submission** form is the most convenient way to make your submission, **opposing the proposed ban on 'conversion therapy'**. It takes you through the simple steps, and the only part you really must take time to consider is the important section on **why you oppose the bill**, and whether you want to make an oral submission (we recommend you **say 'yes'**). If you prefer, you can also upload your submission as an MS Word document or PDF.

\*\* A link to the **online submission form** can be found [here](#). \*\*

(You can also post your submission, although with the current 'lockdown' that is probably not the preferred method. Post to: Committee Secretariat, Justice Committee, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160)

### FOUR EASY STEPS

- 1. Take time to understand the issue.** Spend some time reading the testimonies and the background info on our website [freetolive.nz](http://freetolive.nz). Talk to friends and family. Pray.
- 2. Write what you want to say** to the Select Committee considering this bill, clearly stating that you **oppose the bill**. Write as little or as much as you want, sharing your views. If appropriate, tell your story and your personal reasons for opposing the bill.
- 3. Go to the online submission form** [here](#). Your personal information will not be published if you use the online process – just your name. If you upload a Word doc or PDF, don't put any personal info on it.
- 4. Press the SUBMIT button.** Done! That was easy. Make yourself a cup of tea or coffee.

### SOME THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN PREPARING YOUR SUBMISSION

The **key concerns** around this bill are the potential **criminalisation of:**

- **Parents** who affirm the biology of their children and oppose gender ideology
- **Consent** and the right to **self-determination, freedom of religious expression**
- **Counsellors, carers and teachers** who offer support to those who request it
- **Places of worship, prayer and pastoral support**, and possibly **faith-based schools** who teach and explain their religion's core values & beliefs

At all times, **be positive, respectful and constructive**. Avoid overly religious language, personal attacks, negative labels, or angry words. Highlight what you are FOR, and why you are opposed to the Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Bill.

If appropriate, **include a personal story** of how you have benefited from counselling for unwanted sexuality or gender issues (or any other relevant issues).

Share your submission with friends and family. It may inspire them to make a submission also. You should consider also **emailing or posting a copy to your local MP**.

It's THAT simple! **Your voice matters. Your submission counts.**

**Don't delay** as submissions close SOON! – **WEDNESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER**.