



## ***Hamilton - Wentworth***

### ***Family Action Council***

DEDICATED TO PRESERVING FAMILY VALUES  
BOX 105, BINBROOK, ONTARIO  
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#### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **HWDSB DISCUSSIONS REGARDING EQUITY\ANTIRACISM POLICY SUPPORTING GUIDELINES**

**Date:** June 9, 2004

**Time:** 8:00 a.m.

**Place:** Trustees Lounge

**Present:**

Bill Torrens, Consultant	>	HWDSB
Chuck Reid, Superintendent	>	HWDSB
Steve Whyte, Pastor	>	Paramount Alliance Church
Gord Norman, Pastor	>	King's View Community Church
Raj Sandhu, Pastor	>	Meadowcreek Community Church
Roy Pierce, Pastor	>	Crossfire Assembly Church
Jim Enos, Vice-President	>	Hamilton-Wentworth Family Action Council
Gloria Turner, Research Director	>	Hamilton-Wentworth Family Action Council

**Objective:** *To discuss concerns regarding the Equity\Anti-Racism Policy and Supporting Guidelines*

#### **Superintendent Reid**

- Faith groups were not invited to be participants for Racism portion of Equity Policy
- HWDSB consultation process is that HWDSB identifies groups whom they invite; the consultation is not an open invitation
- Toronto District School Board was looked at closely as a possible model for Hamilton
- Toronto had serious problems including fistfights among various communities
- The Equity Committee will **not** go back to the definition of race as defined by the Ministry
- The policy is passed.

#### **Reverend Pierce**

- This policy is just the thin edge of the wedge, what is it leading to?
- HWDSB has moved the standard.
- Reverend Pierce sat with Superintendent Reid last winter and has great respect for Supt. Reid's ability.

### **Reverend Raj Sandhu**

- Strongly recommends that HWDSB return to the traditional definition of race, either the Ministry definition or the Strengthening Hamilton's Community Initiative definition

### **Superintendent Reid**

- Policy is passed, guidelines are not; committee continues to have the authority to make changes
- Based on the fact that the guideline definition of race is not consistent with the Strengthening Hamilton's Community Initiative, Supt. Reid will recommend to the committee consider revising the definition to align with SHCI
- Supt Reid would report back to HWFAC with the committee response

### **Gloria Turner**

- There are several additional re-definitions of words contained within the guideline glossary, which are cause for concern.
- What is the goal in re-defining key words? Why were trustees not made aware of these re-definitions and the reasons they were re-defined?
- Mrs. Turner would prepare a list of re-definitions with comparative dictionary definitions and brief expression of concern for each and forward the list to Superintendent Reid to discuss with the committee.