

HWFAC Seeks Additional Leadership

The HWFAC continues to bring leadership to the sex education area issue in our community, as well as to the contentious Equity Policy development at the Public School Board.

The Lord has placed on many of our hearts the necessity for leadership in other areas of interest concern as well, areas that require fellow Christians to lead. If you are involved, or would like to be involved in the areas of:

1. Intelligent Design,
2. Public Health research,
3. Web site design,
4. Prayer Coordinator,
5. Research of Election Candidates, please let us know.

Being a part of what God is doing in Hamilton is a great blessing and reward, and helps to bring critical information and representation to fellow Hamiltonians so that we can better serve the Lord.

HWFAC Council
Gloria Turner
(905) 662-6952 

The HWFAC and its Mission

TO INFORM, MOTIVATE & MOBILIZE the concerned Community in the area of social issues.

It is evident that Canada is facing a major moral and spiritual decline. We have seen the family attacked from all directions.

Unfortunately, so many family people who share the Judeo-Christian value system do not realize that a war is on - a conflict that will have profound implications on our families today and in the future. Opposing forces are very organized, highly motivated, well funded, deeply committed and very well armed. They continue to break down the very foundation that this Nation was built on and they are accomplishing their objectives. But where are OUR troops?

If we as a body of believers are to be the "salt and light of the world," we must be willing to influence our community by getting involved. If we don't, we will yield to our opponents by default.

The HWFAC is a coalition of concerned families, churches and organizations which

work together in the community to preserve Judeo-Christian family values.

The HWFAC liaisons with the local school boards, hospital boards, members of Parliament (MP's), councilors, media, etc. as a voice for the pro-family people of our local region.

Statement of Purpose

The Family Action Council is a coalition of concerned families, churches and organizations that work together in the community to preserve Judeo-Christian family values in many areas. Some of the areas we will seek to influence are: Education, Media, Politics, Arts & Entertainment, Environment, Church, Justice System, Society, Medicine and Family.

The HWFAC will deal with issues that influence the family as they relate to Holy Scripture.

The Local Church

The HWFAC was designed to help keep the local church up to date with current and national social concerns. It is important that a "social concerns" representative from every church sits on the Council and attends quarterly meetings. This representative can then disseminate this information throughout their church and coordinate church projects such as petitions, letter-writing campaigns, film presentations, speakers, etc.


Statement of Faith

I believe in one God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible, and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;

Who for us men and our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, and was made man and crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered and was buried and on the third day He rose again according to the scriptures and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead. Whose kingdom shall have not end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who together with the Father and the Son,

is to be worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

I believe in one apostolic Church; I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen. Nicene Creed 

For more Information, Please Contact:

President - Jim Enos;
Vice-President - not filled;
Secretary - not filled;
Treasurers: Jim Enos, Gloria Turner
Prayer Chain Coordinator - Gloria Turner 905-662-6952
Special Event/Conference Planning - Lynne Scime;
Media Issues Committee - not filled;
Healthy Living – Jim Enos 905-390-0916
Newsletter Committee - Jodi Vanderwillik 905-765-8602, Laura Young; 905-385-4819
Birthright Committee - Amanda Fudge, Penny Enos;
Declaration of Spiritual Values Coordinator - Danny Legare 905-220-1959

Council Meetings

Your Family Action Council meets on occasion and You Are Invited !! Call ahead to confirm date and location to:
Jim Enos (905) 390-0916

We need your help!!

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Prov: ____ P.C. _____
Church/Organization _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
E-Mail address: _____
___I would like to subscribe to your Quarterly newsletter @ \$15.00 per year.
___I would like to help the HWFAC financially:
___One time gift of \$ _____ or
___a monthly gift of \$_____
___I would be willing to offer my time helping with:___Newsletter ___Prayer Chain
___ Media ___ Office help ___ Other

Please forward to Hamilton-Wentworth Family Action Council, P.O. Box 66714, 38 King Street East, Stoney Creek, ON L8G 5E6.
Thank you.



Hamilton - Wentworth Family Action Council

The Newsletter

Dedicated to Preserving Family Values

P.O. Box 66714
38 King Street E.
Stoney Creek, ON
L8G 5E6

Sexual Orientation Equity Policy Passed by School Board

Our April newsletter announced our May 12 presentation at the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) regarding our opposition to the then proposed Sexual Orientation Strand of the Equity Policy. In addition to the Hamilton-Wentworth Family Action Council (HWFAC) presentation were also presentations by the School Councils' representative and a representative of the Pan-Orthodox Church Council. Each of the 3 presentations were opposed to the Equity Policy and the process by which it was created. We encourage you to visit our website (hamiltonfamilyaction.org) and review these presentations for yourself.

The attendance that evening by the concerned Christian community was excellent. The presentations were respectful yet very strong and factual. HWFAC received a phone call from a trustee following the presentation who commented that our presentation was "very professional and significant." Trustees that evening voted 8 to 2 to send the Policy back to staff for a report at the next Committee of the Whole meeting on June 2. It seemed that trustees had heard our concerns and were prepared to act. We were wrong.

At the June 2 meeting, 5 presentations were made in favor of the Sexual Orientation Strand by Home and School Council, Ontario Secondary School Teacher's Federation, Centenary United Church, GLBT Advisory Committee of Hamilton and Health Initiatives for

Youth Society of Hamilton (formerly Planned Parenthood). Each of these presentations can be found on our website. The GLBT Advisory Committee of Hamilton presentation is discussed in a letter to the editor which was published and is included in this newsletter. In addition to the 5 presentations, the Board Equity Department gave their report in response to process issues raised at the May 12th meeting. Essentially, none of the points raised were addressed sincerely, rather, they continued to stick to their misleading script.

At the end of the night, all but one trustee supported the Equity Policy with Trustee Orban abstaining from the vote after speaking brilliantly about her concerns with the Sexual Orientation Strand excluding heterosexuality. The results were a tremendous disappointment but not a surprise. So what is a Judeo-Christian family to do?

We continue to recommend the abandoning of the public school system where feasible. The Catholic Board has vacancies in many (but not all) of their schools and have assured us they will welcome Judeo-Christian families. Others may opt for private schooling or home schooling. Some however may not have the option of leaving or simply choose to stay and fight.

For those that must or choose to stay, we are continuing to communicate with trustees to determine how parents can

be assured that sexual indoctrination will not occur in their child's classroom. We highly recommend that parents go to our website and download a copy of our Declaration of Spiritual Values which is a great tool for discussion with your child's teacher and provides tremendous insight into who your family is and how some topics conflict with the teachings you are instilling in the home. If a group of 5 or more families can get together, we will come and explain how to best use the Declaration. Many teachers are thankful when presented with the Declaration as it helps them to steer away from topics that they too are uneasy with in a classroom setting.

We believe that the best thing for your child is to leave the public system and in so doing you are also causing the school board to lose about \$8,600 in funding. If 250 children left the system the approximate loss to the Board would be \$2,150,000, which may in fact be the only thing that really matters to them. If leaving is feasible, we encourage you to inform your trustee and Director Chris Spence in writing as to your reason(s) for leaving.

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Letters to the Editor - Reprinted

The following is a letter to Editor published this past summer. It is helpful in helping us to understand the requirements of the Public School Board to accommodate people of all faiths.

School board comes 'out of the closet'

Editorial June 2, 2008

The contributors of this editorial have clearly picked their side on this issue, unfortunately they do not have a true picture of the events as they happened. This is understandable given the information the board presented.

For example, the report of the two by-invitation events is true, but what was not reported were the results of those events. One of the events was an invitation to individuals to provide written submissions to the Steering Committee regarding the draft of the Sexual Orientation Strand of the Equity Policy. 38 submissions were received; 6 supporting, 32 opposed (85%). The second of the events was an invitation for agencies to make video recorded presentations to the board regarding the Strand. 7 presentations were given; 1 supporting, 6 opposed (85%).

The Equity Department's presentation on June 2 did point out the two events but did not mention the results, so the public misconception is understandable.

However, it is the closing 2 sentences of the Editorial which is most troubling and revealing about the writers. However, we believe the best venue for teaching children religious values is in the home and church. Religious tenets of any nature must never creep into our public school system."

That statement shows a great misunderstanding of the requirements of the public education system and its responsibility to all of the public. The courts ruled in the Elgin County case that public education not be dominated by any one faith. The message was that the public system was to accommodate people of all faiths including humanists, not only humanists.

No doubt in this world there are

those who believe that various sexual orientations are inborn, natural and of no consequence while others believe that sexual activity outside the 'union of one man and one woman' is problematic. The public system must now find a way in which to accommodate both views and allow for open dialogue at all times or simply not deal with the divisive issue of sexual orientation at all. Perhaps they may consider the teaching of reading, writing and arithmetic along side of 'do unto others', or would that be a religious tenet creeping into the public system?

Jim Enos
Member of Sexual Orientation Steering Committee

The following is a letter to Editor published this past summer. It is helpful in helping us to understand the need for limits on Equality and Equity

Placing Limits on Equality and Equity

It is encouraging to see that letters to the editor continue to be submitted and printed regarding the recent School Board acceptance of the Sexual Orientation Strand of the Equity Policy. It is a divisive issue and will now be in our children's classrooms.

The root of the problem is understanding the need to place limits on Equality and where those limits must be placed. Most persons, we believe, support the concept that all persons are created equal and are to be treated in an equal manner however, as is clear in any court of law, all behaviours are not equal and therefore are not treated equally. The point of law is to discern between behaviours which are of the common good and those which are detrimental. This is rational discrimination.

In the context of the public school, 'Equality' simply means ensuring that each student has equal access to all school programs and services and 'Equity' is the providing of additional resource to assist those who are not achieving their potential due to some disadvantage beyond their control.

During their presentation in support of the Sexual Orientation Strand, the

representative of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee of Hamilton in speaking of the grade 9 health class stated :

"There's a systematic homophobia that exists in this two week health class. Alternate sexualities are not addressed, not even mentioned, or merely hinted at. The closest you get is a fleeting mention of anal sex, and this is in relation to straight relationships. The health nurses that come in are not even allowed to teach alternate sexualities, if they took the initiative! Why is this? Brendan investigated this, and the answer he got was that parents might be angry at the material, and withdraw their kids from the program, upon which they get no sex education whatsoever. In other words, the school board is letting themselves be intimidated by unreasonable threats. There is no real reason for leaving this part of normal human sexuality out, other than systematic homophobia, and heterosexism."

Here, the LGBTQ Advisory Committee insists that their sexual acts including anal sex be taught as normal during health class and that not doing so is homophobic and heterosexist. They are insisting that society deem all sexual conduct as equal which simply is not the case nor the point of health classes.

A Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Table presented at a 2007 Gay Men and HIV Conference identified that for the Region of Toronto in 2004, 1 in 5 men who have sex with men (MSM) are HIV positive and that by the end of 2008 it will increase to 1 in 4. These infection rates are far above the norm.

All sexual conduct is not equal. Health classrooms, and any school classroom for that matter, must be used to promote healthy living for our students rather than mislead them under the guise of Equality or Equity. Looking out for our children's health is not homophobic; it is wise parenting.

Jim Enos
Chair, Healthy Living Committee
Vice-president
Hamilton-Wentworth Family Action Council

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11th Annual Scavenger Hunt for Birthright

In 1997, as HWFAC began to expose the deeds of Public Health and Planned Parenthood clinics, we realized that a suitable pro-abstinence, pro-life resource would be needed to provide good help and counseling for young women. It was a Focus on the Family article that inspired us to sponsor scavenger hunts on Father's Day weekend each year with all supplies and monies going directly to Birthright. This year HWFAC sponsored the 11th Annual Scavenger Hunt for Birthright.

Last year's event saw 526.5 pounds of infant and maternity clothing and supplies collected along with \$965 in cash, all in one day; a total of 1491.5 points. That was raised by 5 churches. This year's event saw a decrease to 431.5 pounds of supplies along with \$525 in cash for a total of 956.5 points, for 6 participating churches. The top church this year is Calvary Pentecostal Tabernacle in Ancaster who, with a small congregation raised 358.5 pounds of clothing and \$140 in cash for a total of 498.5 points over half of the total. Over the past few years, generally, we have seen the total continue to decline which of course is discouraging. However, it is important to realize that community awareness has increased significantly over this same period and as a result, there are churches who make contributions to Birthright throughout the year and no longer attend the Scavenger Hunt. We believe that the net result may in fact be much higher.

It is important to increase community awareness of Birthright and so we attempt to rotate the Scavenger Hunt to different churches each year. If your church has never hosted a Scavenger Hunt for Birthright, please consider being the host church for our 12th annual on the Father's Day weekend of July 2009. Please consider being a contact

for your church and asking your congregation to participate in next year's event. If you will do that, please contact Amanda Fudge at (905) 385-0239 or Penny Enos at (905) 390-0916. Birthright needs our help to provide for the needs of society's most vulnerable.

Thank you, and may God bless you for your compassion. 🙏

Prayer List – October '08

Please pray fervently for the following:

1. That parents will become informed about the Equity Policy Anti-homophobia strand and challenge their trustees and teachers and/or pull their children from the public education system. That parents who stay with the Public School Board will insist upon respect for Judeo-Christian values and that PACE programs be instituted.
2. That the saints will organize and mobilize the church body toward personal and corporate battle and intercessory prayer against the enemy's schemes to pervert and sexualize our children.
3. That all saints will be bold and courageous as they are 'salt and light' in their communities.
4. That there will be mass confusion in the enemy's ranks and their arguments and schemes will fall.
5. That God would even now prepare future candidates for the role of trustee.

Thank you, prayer warriors, for your faithful perseverance and tenacity. 🙏

- Gloria Turner, Prayer Coordinator

HWDSB Equity Department Recognizes Need for 'Safe' Environment for Judeo-Christian Principled Families

Despite what seems to be a setback with the passing of the Sexual Orientation Strand of the Equity Policy, we refuse to leave the table and have recently entered into further dialogue with school board officials as to how the Policy will be implemented while maintaining a 'safe'

environment for children from Judeo-Christian principled families.

At our first meeting, the Board was informed that already in this school year there have been 3 reported incidents where Teachers in a grade 2 or 3 classroom attempted to 'normalize' homosexuality via books like "Bobby has 2 Dads'. In each case, the Christian child objected to the book and stated that his/her family says that such living is wrong. The teachers in each case told the child his/her parents were wrong. School Board officials were not supportive of the teachers' responses and stated that it is important that such incidents be raised with the teacher and that if a satisfactory response is not offered, then discuss it with the principal. We recommend that you also report any such incidents to your trustee in writing with a copy to our Council.

We asked the officials how this type of situation could be avoided moving forward. While there were a number of avenues discussed which we will bring to you in our next newsletter, one we can share at this time is that the Board will accept letters of notification to the teacher and principal citing your family's objection to any such curriculum dealing with alternate sexuality. In this letter you should request advance notice (2 weeks) prior to any such activity which may involve your child.

We encourage you to prepare such notification immediately and submit it to your child's teacher during a respectful pre-arranged meeting. We suggest that you copy the letter to the principal, your trustee and our Council. If you are not comfortable preparing such a letter, then we encourage you to visit our website (hamiltonfamilyaction.org) and download a copy of our Declaration of Spiritual Values. Please advise us as to how your notice is received. In our next newsletter we hope to provide a full report of our ongoing dialogue. 🙏

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