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International Fellowship of Christian Churches

T E L E F A X

ATTENTION: MULTI-PARTY NEGOTIATION
PROCESS

FAX: 397-2211

DATE: 12 October 1993

FROM: RON STEELE

RE: BILL ON HUMAN RIGHTS

It has been drawn to our attention that the issue of "Equality" is being strongly debated by the special committee and we would like to make some input on the section which makes mention of "sexual orientation", which is a reference to "Gay Rights".

We would urge the committee to delete any reference to "sexual orientation" as the inclusion would go against the general and normal moral code of the majority of South Africans.

We believe that the rights of the individual are reasonably satisfied by the rest of the clause and would give sufficient protection to Gays.

We believe that the inclusion of "sexual orientation" could be exploited by extreme elements of the Gay movement. For example our over (600) churches condemn the practise of homosexuality on Biblical grounds. Neither would we allow any practising Gay to hold office in any of our churches. Would this be interpreted as "derogating" and "unfair" under a Bill of Rights?

We must add that although we condemn the practise of homosexuality, we do continually reach out to them with the gospel and some of our churches are actively involved in ministering to homosexuals and those who are suffering from AIDS.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ron Steele', is written over a horizontal line.

REV. RON STEELE
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