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**C177****FAX**

**TO:** The Multiparty Negotiating Council

**FROM:** Hugh Wetmore, General Secretary  
Evangelical Fellowship of South Africa  
Contactable during this week 8 - 13 November 1993 at  
telephone (021) 761-6791 and fax (021) 696-3205;  
otherwise at telephone and fax (0331) 44-1080.

**DATE:** 8 November 1993

**NUMBER OF PAGES:** 3 including this page

**RE:** Fundamental Rights

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We are sending this fax again.

Please take special note of this petition as you finalise the issue of Fundamental Rights during the Negotiating Process this week.

It is absolutely essential that the request in item No. 1 be heard.

Thank you

The EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP OF SOUTH AFRICA, with a membership of 20 church denominations (whose constituencies total more than 1 750 000 members), 25 mission agencies and many congregations/individuals, and being itself the national member of the World Evangelical Fellowship (membership exceeding 100 million) with an international lobby on Human Rights, humbly presents this important

## PETITION

### TO THE MULTI-PARTY NEGOTIATING PROCESS FOR URGENT CONSIDERATION AS THE COUNCIL DEBATES THE ISSUE OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

References are to the

7th Progress Report of the Technical Committee on Fundamental Human Rights

**1. EQUALITY 2 (2) Please delete the phrase "sexual orientation" from this otherwise excellent list.**

**Reason: This legitimises not only homosexual behaviour but also other sexual perversions such as paedophile, bestial behaviour. This is contrary to nature (animals do not indulge), to public morals, to the teaching and practice of most world religions, and above all to the laws of God Himself. To entrench this right will undermine the traditional concept of the Family and further exacerbate the decline of society.**

**2. LIFE 3. We are pleased that this right is stated so simply and unequivocally, as we are aware that you are under pressure from some quarters to make an exception in favour of abortion on demand. Having struggled so long**

**In defence of the rights of the marginalised and disadvantaged in South Africa, it would be criminal to allow any exception that would forfeit the lives of the most helpless people of all: the unborn.**

**3. PRIVACY 7. EFSA believes that this clause is helpful in clarifying the debate on Property Rights.**

**4. FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION 9. While believing in this Right as here expressed, we are concerned that it not be abused to permit evils such as: the incitement to commit crime, the freedom for hate-talk and racial slander (cf 11 (2)), pornography, incitement to violence - all of which will destroy the peace-making and reconciling efforts so badly needed in our broken nation. We ask that the wording be revised by legal and technical experts to ensure that this "Right" does not open the way for its free abuse.**

**5. EVICTION 20. This well-intentioned Right is also open to abuse as it presently stands. Non-payment of rent is the usual reason for evicting tenants. If rent is not paid, the owner of the property could go bankrupt and lose the property, while the defaulter stays merrily on, secure that only an expensive court action will be able to evict her/him. Under this threat, people will be less likely to rent out houses/rooms and so there will be less accommodation available to those in the poorest sectors of the community who cannot afford to buy, and need it most. EFSA asks that this be re-examined to eliminate the likelihood of this scenario.**



Hugh Wetmore General Secretary