

## ***Victim***

I am the victim of SOGI conversion practises here in Tasmania. I have been publicly humiliated by a member of parliament because of my sexuality and gender identity. In a letter to the Mercury on 21st May 2012, the Hon. Cassy O’Connor MP, then Minister for Community Development in the ill-fated Labor/Greens state government, wrote that I lack credibility, lack understanding, hold dangerous views, and spread false information.

I wrote to Cassy O’Connor on 11th June 2012, refuting every point in her letter, and giving her the opportunity to respond to me directly, instead of attacking me in public. I received no acknowledgement of, or response to, my letter. I wrote again on 8th August 2012, and was ignored.

All this was because I had told the truth in a letter printed in the Mercury on 11th May 2012, that people are born male or female.

## ***Another Incident***

During the 2017 marriage postal survey campaign, I set up a sign at a bus stop near my house, saying “Marriage = Man + Woman”

It was continually defaced by LGBTIQA+ marriage equality Yes campaigners, for example:–

- ◆ In a pre-meditated act of vandalism, a lesbian activist and two teenagers brought ready-made additions reading “Wo”, and stuck them in front of the word ‘Man’.
- ◆ Two male LGBTIQA+ Yes campaigners taped over the letters “Wo” of the word ‘Woman’.
- ◆ A group of LGBTIQA+ male youths from a sporting team bus, which stopped so they could urinate together behind the bus shed, used black spray paint to obliterate the “Wo” of ‘Woman’, while repeatedly screaming vile obscenities. This was done with the tacit approval of team officials – the bus waited for this appalling performance to finish, before letting the youths back on, and driving away.

These incidents were all witnessed by passing traffic.

When LGBTIQA+ Yes campaigners saw our determination to repair the sign, their attacks turned to the vehicle. An LGBTIQA+ Yes campaigner deflated all four tyres, appeared to remove some wheel balancing weights, and attempted to interfere with the door locks, so the key wouldn’t fit. He thought no-one saw him, until he had a little visit from the police.

We removed the vehicle, leaving the sign on display. Yes campaigners kept on tipping it over. When they realised we would set it upright almost immediately, these cowards waited until nightfall, and stole it under the cover of darkness.

Despite the local newspaper doing a story with photo, the Mercury refused. I know from web server logs, that Mercury staff downloaded the pictures, but they didn’t print them, because they didn’t want readers to see the truth.

After contacting the local sporting club, and their major sponsor, of whom I am a customer, a carload of drunken louts arrived during the night, pulled out the road sign just outside the corner of my property, carried it across the highway, and laid it down next to my letterbox, as if to say, “You’re dead”.

### ***Scope of Enquiry***

Oh, wait on, I’ve just realised something. There’s me thinking this is an enquiry into SOGI conversion practises. How wrong I am. This is an enquiry seeking to ban conversion from “gay” to “straight”, while totally ignoring the “straight” to “gay” SOGI conversion practises of LGBTIQ+ activists. The TILR has damaged its own credibility by accepting such a biased and narrow-minded brief.

TILR’s 81-page document does not contain a single example of conversion practise occurring in Tasmania, despite Rodney Croome’s claim that it is “still inflicted” here (Mercury, Saturday, November 28, p. 40).

### ***Already Decided***

Your claim to be “consulting with the Tasmanian community” (p. x) is false. This enquiry is deliberately badly timed. Its closing date of 7th January was cynically chosen so that the parents and children whom it is most likely to affect, will not even realise it’s being held.

This is another enquiry whose outcome has been pre-determined. You refer to those “who are subjected” to conversion practises. You deliberately ignore, and are not prepare to consider the fact, that some people have found them helpful.

You state “The TILR notes that prayer or scripture study groups will not necessarily involve SOGI conversion practices.” (p. 5, note 9). Despite your claim to be inquiring into what does, and does not, constitute “conversion”, this statement shows you have already decided that some “prayer or scripture study groups” will “involve SOGI conversion practices”.

Also, your use of the term “survivor” is a misuse of the English language. You are a survivor, only if your life was threatened.

### ***Crime and Possibility***

Having declared it impossible to change a person’s “sexual orientation”, the LGBTIQ+ activists’ demand to criminalise “conversion therapy” becomes pointless. That which is impossible, cannot be a crime. Therefore, the attempted criminalisation is an admission of possibility.

Take anything that is illegal. It is possible to do that thing. The authorities made that thing a crime, because they don’t want people to do something that it is possible for them to do.

### ***Human Rights***

People have the absolute right to discuss whatever they want with their doctor or health care professional. The LGBTIQ+ attempt to interfere with this human right by banning “conversion therapy”, is a violation of medical confidentiality and professional ethics.

Surely existing laws are sufficient to cover any medical malpractice. The patient has the right to consent to any treatment or counselling for any issue, which they themselves have raised with their doctor. And having given consent, the patient is then free to withdraw that consent at any time.

Last year, the Legislative Council unanimously passed the Voluntary Assisted Dying bill, which gives patients the legal right to consent to a lethal drug overdose. If you can consent to a treatment that will kill you, then you have the right to consent to any treatment that will *not* kill you.

### ***Harmful Behaviour***

It’s hypocritical of LGBTIQ+ activists to complain about the alleged harms of “conversion therapy”, when they are busy promoting the harmful behaviour of sodomy. Medical science shows how wrong they are. The anus is the human body’s one-way natural exit for solid waste products. The only thing stopping you from having to wear nappies when grown up, is your anal sphincter. Shoving genitals (real or fake), other body parts, and household objects into it, is going to cause damage.

LGBTIQ+ activists have no right to complain about “harm”, when they choose to ignore basic sex education. The vagina and the anus/rectum are physically close to each other, but couldn’t be further apart as far as sexual activity is concerned. The word ‘vagina’ means ‘sheath’, which should tell us something. A woman’s vagina is designed to receive her husband’s penis. The rectum is part of the digestive system, not a sexual organ. The vagina has a thick lining, is self-lubricating, and has elastic fibres. The rectum has none of these, and also contains M-cells, the target of HIV.

### ***Respiratory Orientation Conversion***

The High Court of Australia upheld “plain packaging” for cigarettes, which covers the entire packet with health warnings and graphic images of smoking-related illnesses. Smokers choose to keep buying them, thereby consenting to this “ROBI conversion practise”, where ROBI stands for “Respiratory Orientation and Breathing Identity”.

### ***Evidence and Dysfunction***

Your statement that “LGBTIQ+ status is not a disorder or dysfunction” (p. v) is made entirely without evidence. You then attribute “depression, loneliness, alienation, increased risk of drug abuse, and suicide” to SOGI conversion practises, before the enquiry has even begun. Does it not occur to you, that the depression, loneliness, and so on, are the result of the dysfunctionality of LGBTIQ+ status? LGBTIQ+ status is disordered and dysfunctional, because it denies the self-evident truth about the human body.

The LGBTIQ+ movement further contributes to the “depression, loneliness, alienation [etc.]” by denying its own members the freedom to leave. Denying this fundamental freedom is the whole point of this enquiry. Any other human institution that refused its members such a free and rational choice, would be rightly called a cult.

### ***Crime and Proof***

If this proposal does become law, and someone is charged with “attempted conversion practise”, how could it be proved? In order to prove attempted conversion, the prosecution would have to prove the existence of the state from which the attempted conversion was made. That is, LGBTIQ+ activists would have to prove in court their claim that they are “born gay”. And the courts, unlike the Anti-Discrimination Commission, must obey the rules of evidence.

## “SOGI Conversion Practices” Submission by Michael Watts, Tasmania.

To be “born gay” is a contradiction in terms. No-one is born to repudiate the process which brought them into existence. The essence of human sexuality, union of male and female, is literally written all over you. Half of your DNA came from your father, who gave you life; the other half came from your mother, who gave you birth.

Moreover, when LGBTIQ+ activists marched into the Hobart police station in the 1990s, with the media in tow, they were happy to risk 21 years in prison for “gross indecency between male persons”. But they will not risk just one year in prison, under Tasmania’s Reproductive Health (Access to Terminations) Act 2013, to try to save the lives of babies whom they claim are “born gay”.

### ***Ignoring the Truth***

This enquiry is really designed to ignore the true issues. There is no proposal from TILR to ban or even restrict the following:--

- ◆ Lying to children that being a boy or girl is only a feeling. LGBTIQ+ activism results greater pressure on vulnerable children to “come out” as transgender, where they can be manipulated into taking puberty blocking drugs, which will stunt their growth, and make them infertile.
- ◆ Puberty blocking drugs, castration, and mastectomy for minors.
- ◆ Drag queen story hours, where men dressed as women read gender pretender story books, and perform actions simulating masturbation in front of young children.

Should you proceed with banning “conversion therapy”, you will be complicit in hiding incidents of child sexual abuse. Recent testimony before a similar enquiry in California shows that homosexual and transgender behaviour in adults is very often a result of early sexual trauma such as sexual molestation, rape, and exposure to pornography.

For example,

- ◆ “Reparative therapy saved my life. I was one of those 5-year-old boys who was sexually abused . . . Very often homosexual feelings arise in puberty because of one’s sexual abuse. . . I didn’t know how to deal with those issues.” - David P.
- ◆ “I did not choose to be sexually abused as a child, but I did choose homosexual behavio[u]r . . . And I spent a lifetime fighting depression, addiction, suicide . . . This bill is designed to condemn children like we were to that same experience. Licensed professional therapists through reparative therapy help sexual abuse victims like me heal from trauma.” - Robin G.
- ◆ “I am a mother whose son who was seeing a therapist to deal with damaging childhood experiences that can lead to homosexuality . . . I vehemently plead with you to reject this bill and give these children – who are now adults -- a fighting chance to avoid a lifetime of psychological pain and serious health issues.” - Diane S.

## **Conclusion**

Radical LGBTIQ+ activists want to make it illegal to offer this help to adults because it contradicts their political agenda. They believe that parents and children should *not* have a choice.

This is absolutely outrageous! There is no other health topic that a qualified health care provider is not allowed to talk about! It is an absurd attempt to limit patients’ choice.

The attempt to ban “conversion therapy” is totally out of touch with recent political and legal developments. Last year, as a result of the “Let Her Speak” campaign, the Tasmanian government changed the law to allow sexual abuse victims to speak out publicly under their own names, without court permission. The proposed ban on “conversion therapy” would reverse this change.

The TILR must not let radical LGBTIQ+ activists to interfere with every Tasmanian sexual abuse victim’s right to speak out, especially where the abuse was homosexual and/or transgender in nature.

Tasmanians suffering from unwanted same-sex attraction have every right to seek life-saving treatment and counselling, without interference from LGBTIQ+ activists.

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