

Persecution is Here

Persecution has already begun against Christians in Australia. It has been under the radar for some time but it is now coming into the open.

Recently Queensland's Department of Education warned schools not to let students praise Jesus in the playground. They've put out a report advising state schools that they must take appropriate action if they are aware that students are evangelising other students. They have even given examples of what talk to listen for, such as: "knowing about Jesus is a very important thing" and "God, please help us to use our knowledge to help others". They are forbidding students from handing out Christmas cards or even putting up Christmas decorations.

Last week a couple of Christian preachers were summoned to Tasmania's Anti-Discrimination Tribunal for taking the Bible's stance on traditional marriage and homosexuality in their preaching. Two years ago Hobart's Catholic Archbishop, Julian Porteous, was ordered by the tribunal to explain why he had the right to speak against same-sex marriage.

Sydney University's Student Union has threatened to de-register the Evangelical Union (the Christian student's organisation) unless it stopped insisting members declare their faith in Jesus.

Same-sex marriage advocates menaced Coopers Brewery so that they took down a video of Andrew Hastie MP (a Christian) debating same-sex marriage. IBM and Sydney University now punish staff members if they belong to Christian groups that oppose gay marriage.

Last week, an ACL meeting was picketed by activists supporting the Safe Schools program calling attendees "bigots". ACL had to cancel a meeting last year when the hotel venue was threatened.

Andrew Bolt blogs that he wonders what it is about Christians that they are against: *"Is it that stuff about loving your neighbour? Or that instruction to respect the dignity of every human life that makes Christians the enemy of totalitarians?"*¹

Bolt in his article stated:

"The state-funded SBS joined in by banning an ad by Christians defending traditional marriage, yet ran one for an Ashley Madison dating service for adulterers.

The Greens are the political wing of this attack on Christianity, and are demanding churches lose their legal freedom to hire only people who live by their faith.

The media, too, often cheer this war, using as their excuse the sexual abuse of children by some priests and ministers decades ago.

Rarely do they admit the average gap between the alleged offences by Catholic priests and the lodging complaints is 33 years. That suggests the churches did crack down on paedophiles decades ago...

Last week, some even licked the boots of the anti-Christian ABC when it launched yet another attack, smearing churches as the haven of wife-beaters.

This ABC series led off with a ludicrously false claim: "The men most likely to abuse their wives are evangelical Christians who attend church sporadically."

A week after I proved this untrue, the ABC edited its reports to replace that false claim with another: "Overall, the international studies indicate that intimate partner violence is just as serious a problem in Christian communities, as it is in the general community."

Wrong again. Professor Bradford Wilcox, author of the American study the ABC cited as proof, complained "the (ABC's) story...does not square with the evidence that churchgoing couples, in America at least, appear to be less likely to suffer domestic violence".

Although not a Christian, Bolt defended them stating the "Christianity produce better citizens in many

1 – Andrew Bolt, editorial, Herald Sun (July 30, 2017)

ways". He cited surveys which showed that Christians were more inclined to volunteer and donate, and that they were better at keeping families together.

So what is the agenda of the anti-Christian contingent? It is to replace it with atheism, Islam or 'green faith'? We don't know, but the persecution has started.

Are we ready?

Laurence

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