The Church and Human Sexuality: Queer Christians & the Anglican Church

A PRESENTATION TO
DIOCESE OF EDMONTON CLERGY DAY

14 DECEMBER 2023

THE REV. CLARE L. STEWART

of Edmonton Diocese October 21 8th Synod of the 9

RESOLUTION R-3 AFFIRMING LGBTQ2SIA+ PERSONS

It will be moved and seconded:

That the Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton:

- a) Affirms that persons who identify as LGBTQ2SIA+ are counted, along with many other groups, as an historically marginalized group of persons;
- Recognizes there are vastly different biblical interpretations and theologies regarding LGBTQ2SIA+ persons within the Church, but affirms that as followers of Jesus Christ we are called to hold our differences in tension, never losing sight of the commandment to love your neighbour as yourself;
- Acknowledges there is much work to be done in listening and atoning for historical harms to LGBTQ2SIA+ persons at the hands of the Church;
- d) Affirms that LGBTQ2SIA+ persons are beloved children of God, equal participants in the life and work of the Church, and fully worthy of all the Sacraments;
- e) Directs the Bishop, together with the Episcope Circle, to spend time listening to 2SLGBTQ2SIA+ Clergy and Laity to comprehend the spiritual, mental, emotional, social, and physical space in which LGBTQ2SIA+ persons live and their requisite needs;
- f) Directs the Bishop, together with the Episcope Circle, to respond to their time of listening by providing space for wider learning opportunities within the Diocese regarding the historical experiences of, and current needs of, persons who identify as LGBTQ2SIA+;
- g) Directs the Bishop, together with the Episcope Circle to facilitate support to individual Clergy and Congregations as they strive to meet the unique needs of each Parish in their affirming journeys; and
- h) Directs the Bishop together with the Episcope Circle to report to the next regular meeting of Synod on the steps taken to date on the Diocesan affirmation journey, and outline plans for diocesan policies and training.

68th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton October 21-22

RESOLUTION R-4 CREATING SAFE and AFFIRMING COMMUNITIES

It will be moved and seconded:

- That the bishop request and encourage every parish to communicate through their actions, messaging, and outreach that they are an affirming and safe space for members of the LGBTQ2SIA+ community.
- 2) That the bishop ensure every parish is able to provide welcome, support, and sacramental ministry for members in the LGBTQ2SIA+ community, including full access to celebrations of marriage within the diocese.
- 3) That the Executive Council develop policies, procedures, training, and accountability infrastructure to ensure that all clergy and parishes have the resources to make our actions meet the words declared in the diocesan strategic path document *Finding Our Way*.



A Response to Synod's Resolutions & the Bishop's Request

Current Members

- The Rev. Mark Vigrass, chair
- Matthew Mercer-Deadman
- The Rev. Clare Stewart
- Jordan Giggey
- Derek Ware
- The Rev. Sheila Hagen-Bloxham

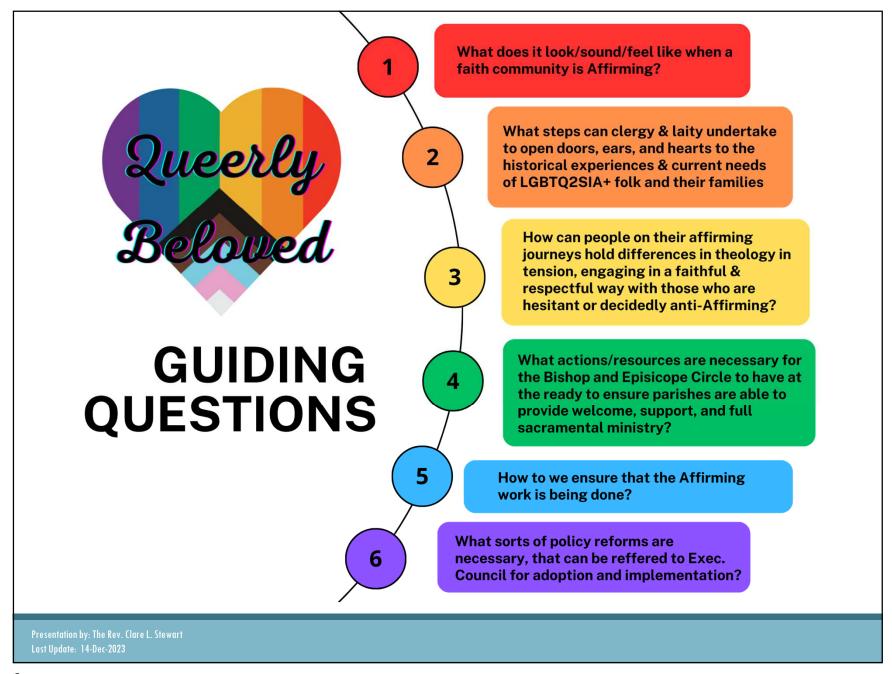


A Response to Synod's Resolutions & the Bishop's Request

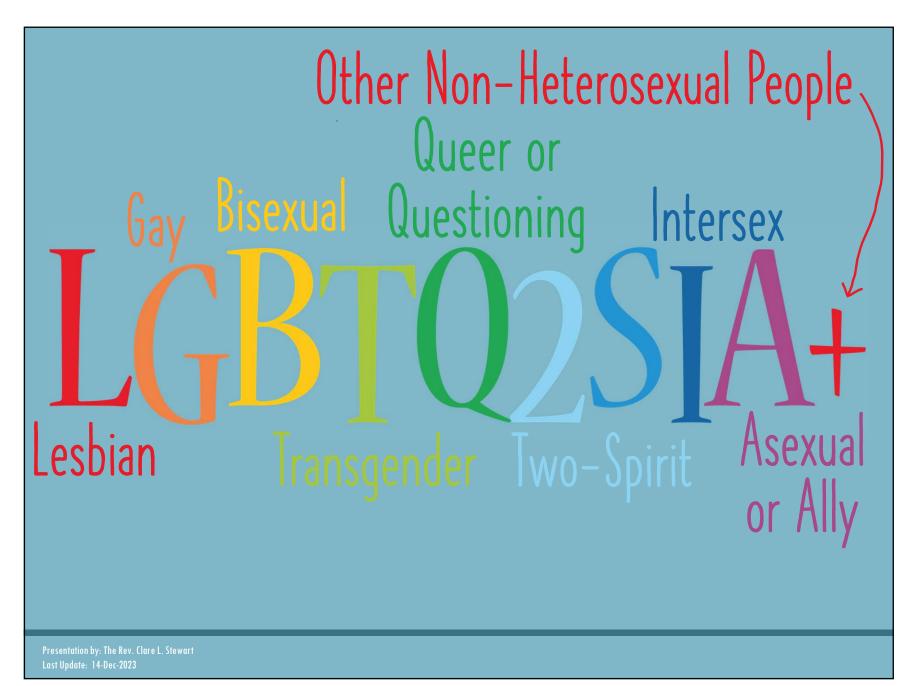
Context

In response to the two resolutions passed, and the ask from Bp. Steve for a "plan" our current task is to get a framework of reference, or outline, as to how the diocese and its parishes and congregations can meet the expectations of the Resolutions passed leading into the next Synod [2024].

Using the Resolutions as a foundation, six guiding questions were formulated to help the Queerly Beloved working group of the Social Justice Committee in focusing our inquiries and efforts to provide initial guidance to next steps.





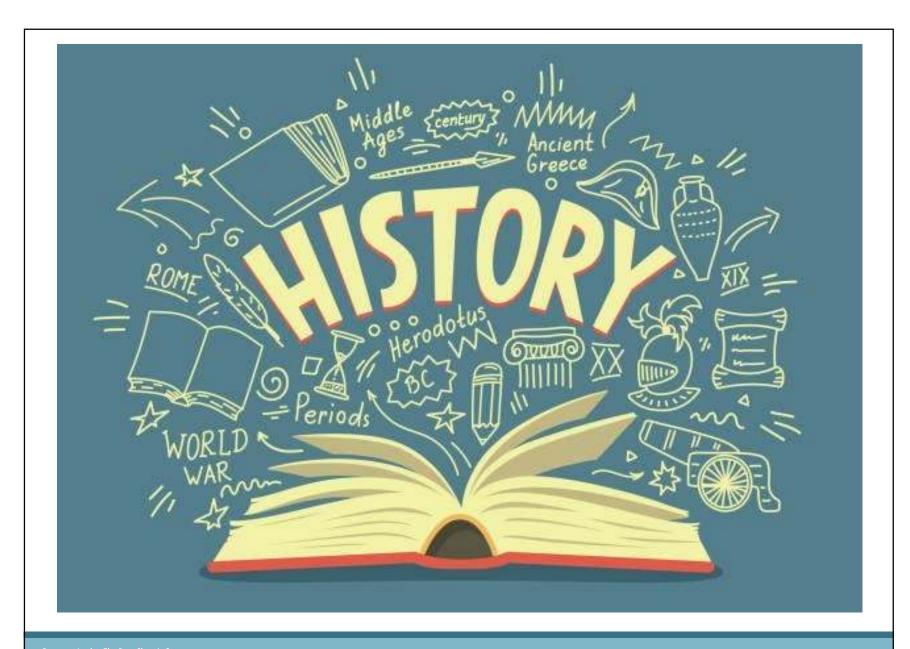


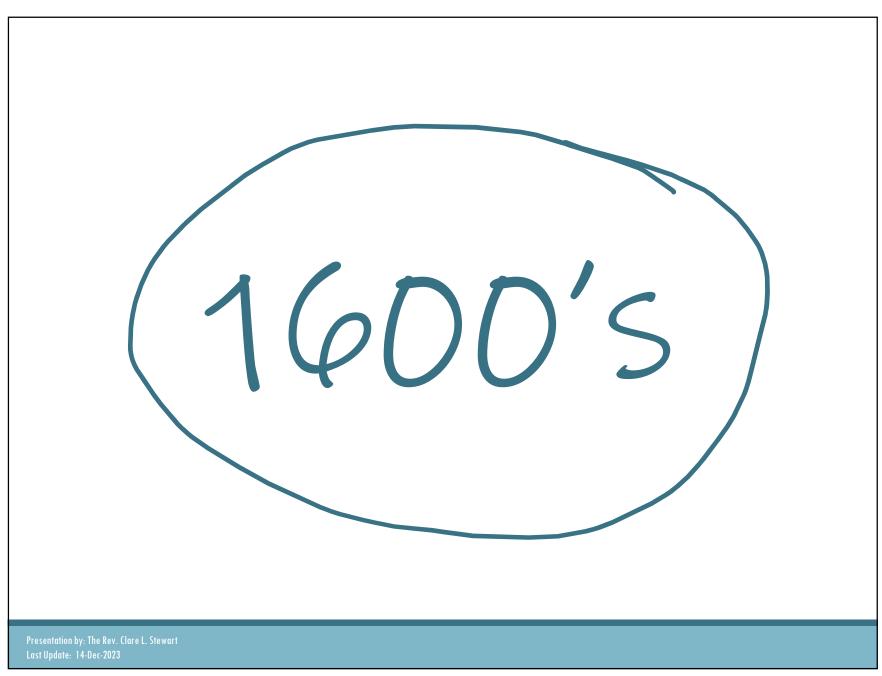






| SHE | HER | HERS | HERSELF | SHE IS SPEAKING. I LISTENED TO HER. THE LAPTOP IS HERS |
|------|---------|-----------|---------------------|---|
| HE | НМ | HIS | HIMSELF | HE IS SPEAKING. I LISTENED TO HIM. THE LAPTOP IS HIS. |
| THEY | THEM | THEIRS | THEMSELF | THEY ARE SPEAKING I LISTENED TO THEM THE LAPTOP IS THEIR! |
| ZE | HIR/ZIR | HIRS/ZIRS | HIRSELF/ ZIRSELF | ZE IS SPEAKING. 1 LISTENED TO HIR. THE LAPTOP IS ZIRS. |



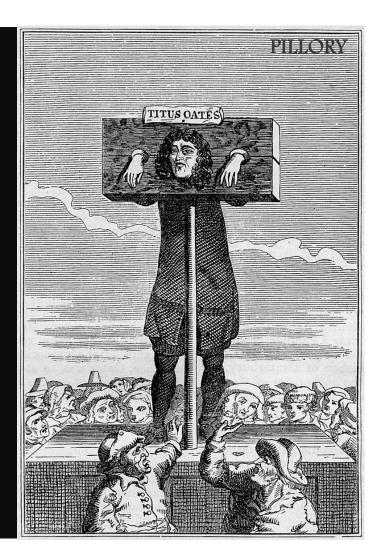


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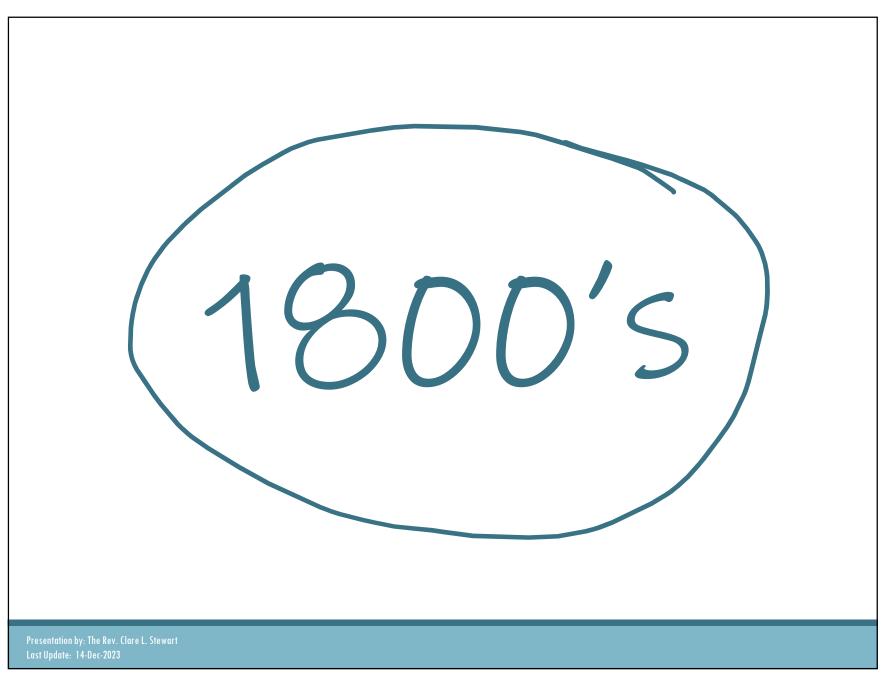
The earliest known instance of a ... conviction in Canada occurred in 1648.

... Records show ... charged
with "crimes of the worst kind"
— a euphemism commonly used
for homosexual acts.

... found guilty and sentenced to death. There is no mention of a second man being charged. ..."



Presentation by: The Rev. Clare L. Stewart





... soldier of the 89th Regiment of Foot testified against two of his comrades and provided a detailed account of their sexual relations.

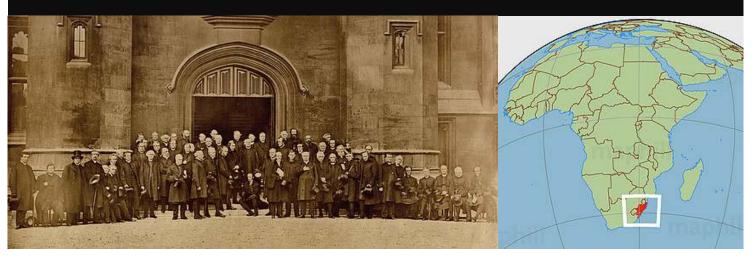
The two were convicted, but their sentence — death by hanging — was commuted (changed) to life imprisonment. Both served about a decade in Kingston Penitentiary."



The First Lambeth Conference was called because of a scandal in the Church in Natal, including a "tolerance of polygamy"



Questions regarding how to ensure colonial churches remain loyal to the doctrine of the "Mother Church" i.e. The Church of England.



A law enacted in 1892 made "buggery" illegal. It also made "gross indecency" between men illegal. The latter essentially made anything that indicated same-sex attraction, including simple touching, dancing, and kissing, illegal.

The Criminal Code, 1892, S.C. 1892, c. 29.

[Unnatural offence.]

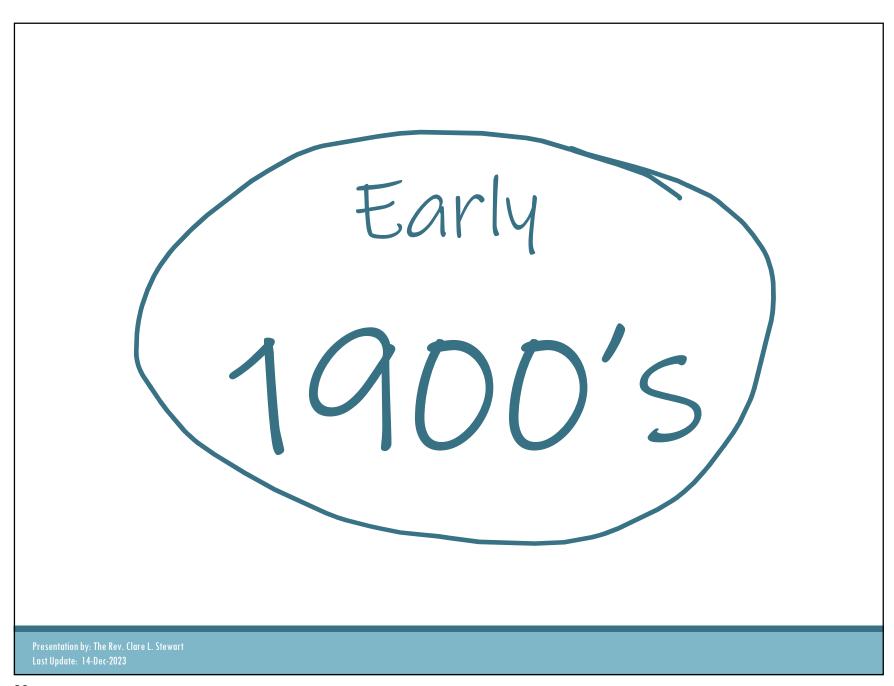
174. Every one is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to imprisonment for life who commits buggery, either with a human being or with any other living creature. R.S.C., c. 157, s. 1.

[Attempt to commit sodomy.]

175. Every one is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to ten years' imprisonment who attempts to commit the offence mentioned in the next preceding section. R.S.C., c. 157, s. 1.

[Acts of gross indecency.]

178. Every male person is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to five years' imprisonment and to be whipped who, in public or private, commits, or is a party to the commission of, or procures or attempts to procure the commission by any male person of, any act of gross indecency with another male person. 53 V., c. 37, s. 5.





Problems of Marriage and Sexual Morality



The Conference affirms as our Lord's principle and standard of marriage a life-long and indissoluble union, for better or worse, of one man with one woman, to the exclusion of all others ...

.. the Conference deplores the common apathy of Church people in regard to preventive and rescue work ~ in relation to sexual delinquency ..."





The Life and Witness of the Christian Community - Marriage and Sex



... emphasizes the truth that sexual instinct is a holy thing implanted by God in human nature.

... emphasizes the need of strong and wise teaching to make clear the Christian standpoint in this matter.

... all illicit and irregular unions are wrong in that they offend against the true nature of love ... and, above all, they are contrary to the revealed will of God."



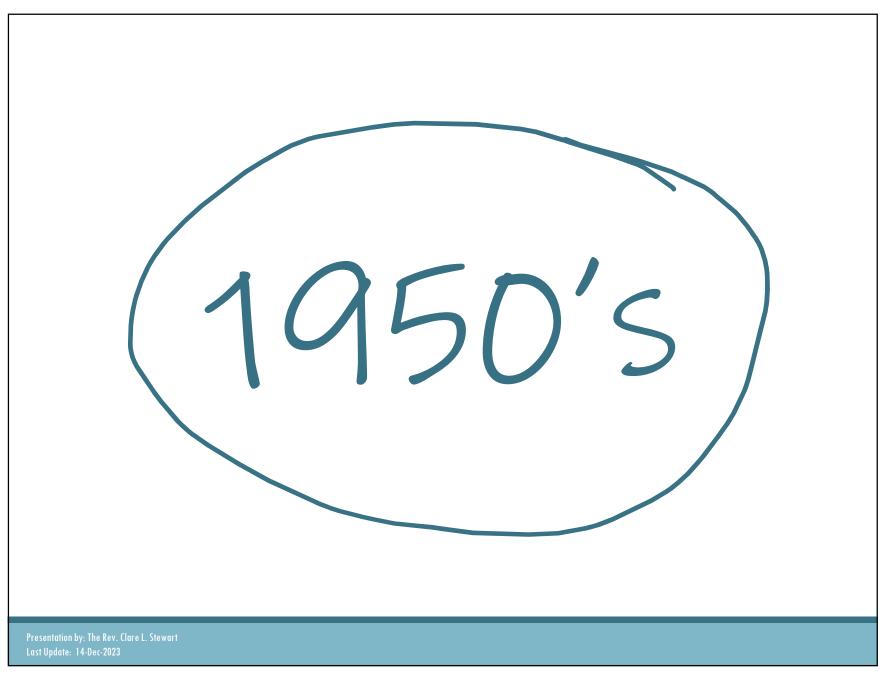


The Church's Discipline in Marriage



Mindful of the needs of those who are in deep distress and claim the Church's sympathy, the Conference urges that ... Churches should consider how best their pastoral responsibility towards those who do not conform to our Lord's standard can be discharged."





The Criminal Code was amended to include women under the gross indecency law by removing the specific reference to men. It also appears the "attempt to commit buggery" provision was removed. The penalty for "buggery or bestiality" was also changed from imprisonment for life to imprisonment for fourteen years.

Criminal Code, S.C. 1953-54, c. 51.

[Buggery or bestiality.]

147. Every one who commits buggery or bestiality is guilty of an indictable offence and is liable to imprisonment for fourteen years.

[Acts of gross indecency.]

149. Every one who commits an act of gross indecency with another person is guilty of an indictable offence and is liable to imprisonment for five years.

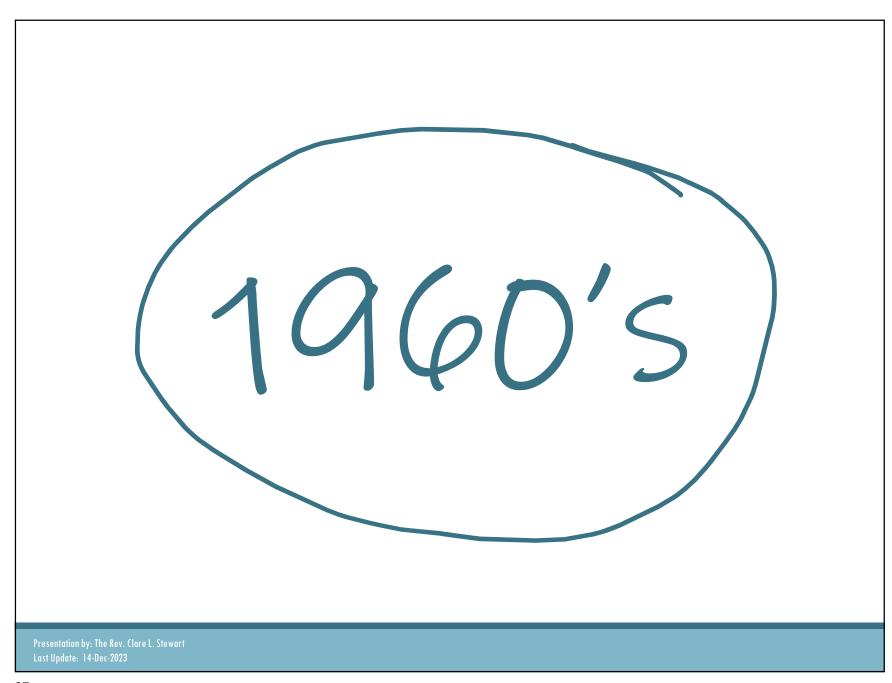


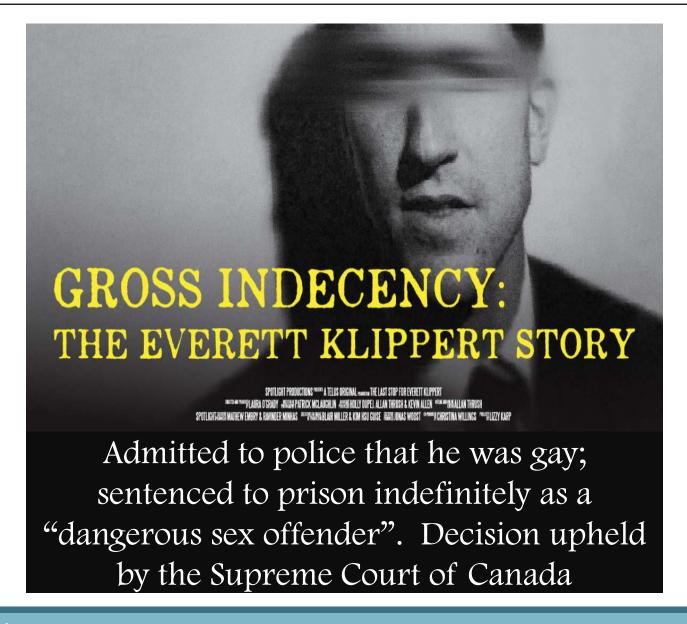
The Family in Contemporary Society

- ~ Marriage
- ~ Polygamy
- ~ The Christian Family
- ~ The Duties of the Laity

... affirms that marriage is a vocation to holiness, through which men and women share in the love and creative purpose of God."

 Nothing explicitly about sexuality, but clear focus on heterosexual marriage and the need for family





... There's no place for the state in the bedrooms of the nation. What's done in private between adults doesn't concern the Criminal Code."

— Pierre Elliott Trudeau JUSTICE MINISTER | 21 DEC 1967



In 1969, the laws were amended following public outrage over the conviction and sentencing of Everett Klippert. Buggery (Sec. 147) and Gross Indecency (Sec. 149) became legal, but only under certain circumstances.

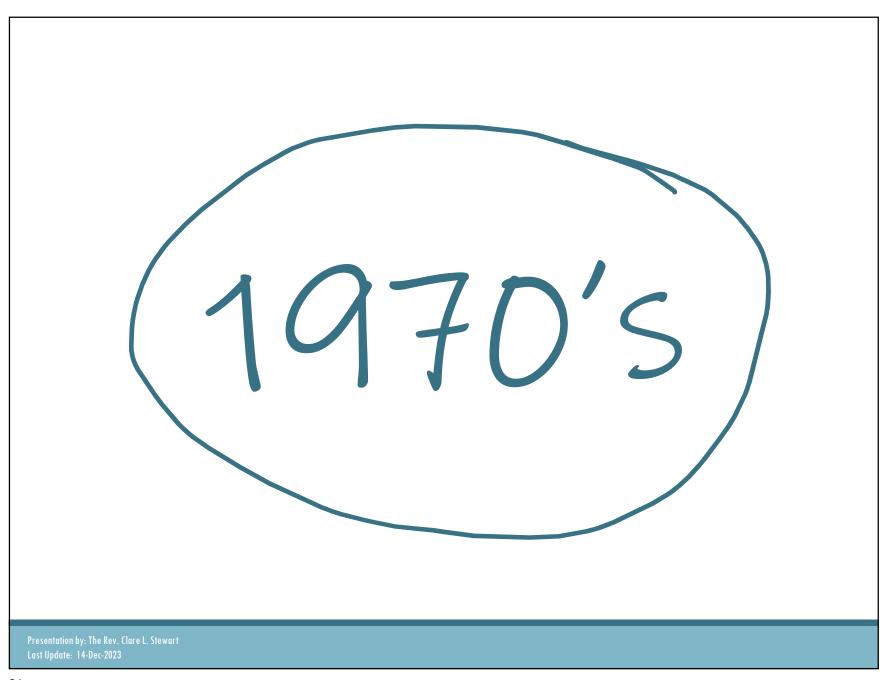
Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1968-69, S.C. 1968-69, c. 38, s. 7.

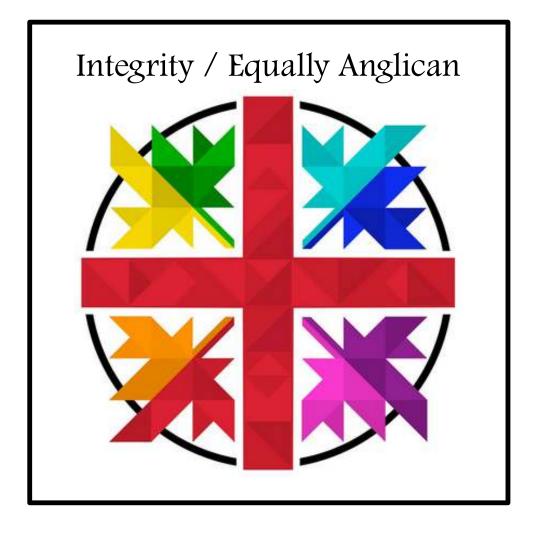
[Exception re acts in private between husband and wife or consenting adults.] 149A. (1) Sections 147 and 149 do not apply to any act committed in private between

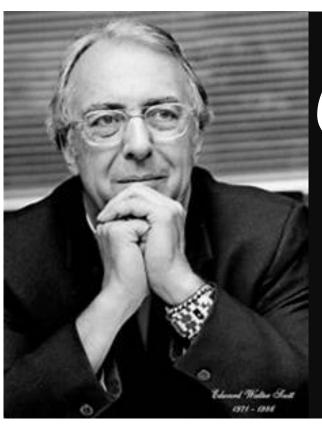
- (a) a husband and his wife, or
- (b) any two persons, each of whom is twenty-one years or more of age, both of whom consent to the commission of the act.

[Idem]

- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1),
- (a) an act shall be deemed not to have been committed in private if it is committed in a public place, or if more than two persons take part or are present; and
 - (b) a person shall be deemed not to consent to the commission of an act
- (i) if the consent is extorted by force, threats or fear of bodily harm or is obtained by false and fraudulent misrepresentations as to the nature and quality of the act, or
- (ii) if that person is, and the other party to the commission of the act knows or has good reason to believe that that person is feeble-minded, insane, or an idiot or imbecile.







Realizing the complexity of ... human relationships and the wide divergence of both popular and informed option, the Bishops ... asked for help and advice ... [regarding] homosexuality in contemporary society."

--- Canadian House of Bishops PRIMATE TED SCOTT | SUMMER 1976

Human Relationships and Sexuality



While we reaffirm heterosexuality as the scriptural norm, we recognise the need for deep and dispassionate study of the question of homosexuality.

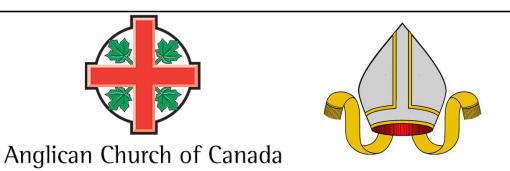
... take seriously both the teaching of Scripture and the results of scientific and medical research.

The Church, recognizing the need for pastoral concern for those who are homosexual, encourages dialogue with them."

God Loves EVERYBODY,

We believe as Christians that homosexual persons as children of God, have a full and equal claim, with all other persons, upon the love, acceptance, concern, and pastoral care of the Church. ... It is clear from Holy Scripture that only the sexual union of male and female can find expression within the covenant of Holy Matrimony. ... We cannot authorize our clergy to bless homosexual unions"

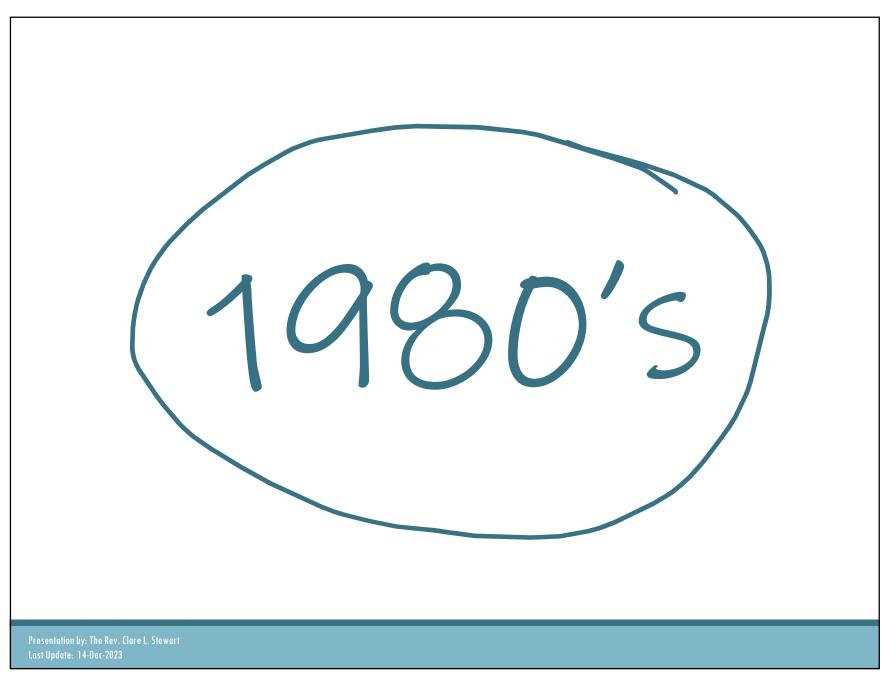
Canadian House of Bishops PRIMATE TED SCOTT | FEBRUARY 1978



The Canadian House of Bishops passes a resolution with 4 parts, including "We will not call in question the ordination of a person who has shared with the bishop his/her homosexual orientation if there has been a commitment to the Bishop to abstain from sexual acts with persons of the same sex as part of the requirement for ordination."

— Canadian House of Bishops

PRIMATE TED SCOTT | FEBRUARY 1979



WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD

35TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION



CHRISTIANITY,
SOCIAL TOLERANCE,
AND HOMOSEXUALITY

Gay People in Western Europe from the Beginning of the Christian Era to the Fourteenth Century

JOHN BOSWELL

WITH A FOREWORD BY MARK D. JORDAN

... groundbreaking work that challenged preconceptions about the Church's past relationship to its gay members."

"it is not readily apparent to modern English speakers with little knowledge of classical languages that the passage of thousands of years obscures, sometime beyond recovery, the exact meaning of words"

In 1985, the law against "Acts of gross indecency" were repealed. However, the status did not come into effect until 1987.

An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Canada Evidence Act, R.S.C. 1985 (3d Supp.), c. 19, s. 4.

["Acts of gross indecency" and "Exception re acts in private between husband and wife or consenting adults" both repealed. Statute came into force 1987.]

The offence of "Buggery and bestiality" was split into two separate offences "Anal Intercourse" and "Bestiality". The age of consent was lowered from 21 to 18.

Note: The offence of "Buggery and bestiality" was split into two separate offences, "Anal Intercourse" and "Bestiality," by An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Canada Evidence Act, S.C. 1987, c. 24, s. 3.

An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Canada Evidence Act, S.C. 1987, c. 24, s. 3.

[Anal intercourse]

- 154. (1) Every person who engages in an act of anal intercourse is guilty of an indictable offence and is liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years or is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction.
 - (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to any act engaged in, in private, between
 - (a) husband and wife, or
- (b) any two persons, each of whom is eighteen years of age or more, both of whom consent to the act.
 - (3) For the purposes of subsection (2),
- (a) an act shall be deemed not to have been engaged in in private if it is engaged in in a public place or if more than two persons take part or are present; and
 - (b) a person shall be deemed not to consent to an act
- (i) if the consent is extorted by force, threats or fear of bodily harm or is obtained by false and fraudulent misrepresentations as to the nature and quality of the act, or
- (ii) if the court is satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that that person could not have consented to the act by reason of mental disability.



Resolution 64, "Human Rights for Those of Homosexual Orientation".



This Conference:

- 1. Reaffirms the statement of the Lambeth Conference of 1978 on homosexuality, recognising the continuing need in the next decade for "deep and dispassionate study of the question of homosexuality, which would take seriously both the teaching of Scripture and the results of scientific and medical research."
- 2. Urges such study and reflection to take account of biological, genetic and psychological research being undertaken by other agencies, and the socio-cultural factors that lead to the different attitudes in the provinces of our Communion.
- 3. Calls each province to reassess, in the light of such study and because of our concern for human rights, its care for and attitude towards persons of homosexual orientation.



Resolution 29

~ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)



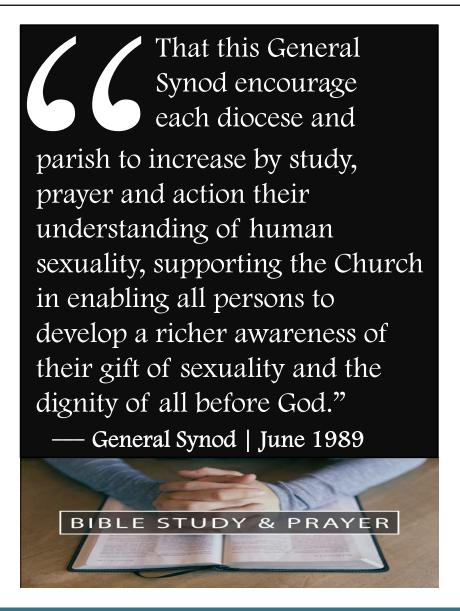
Resolution 34

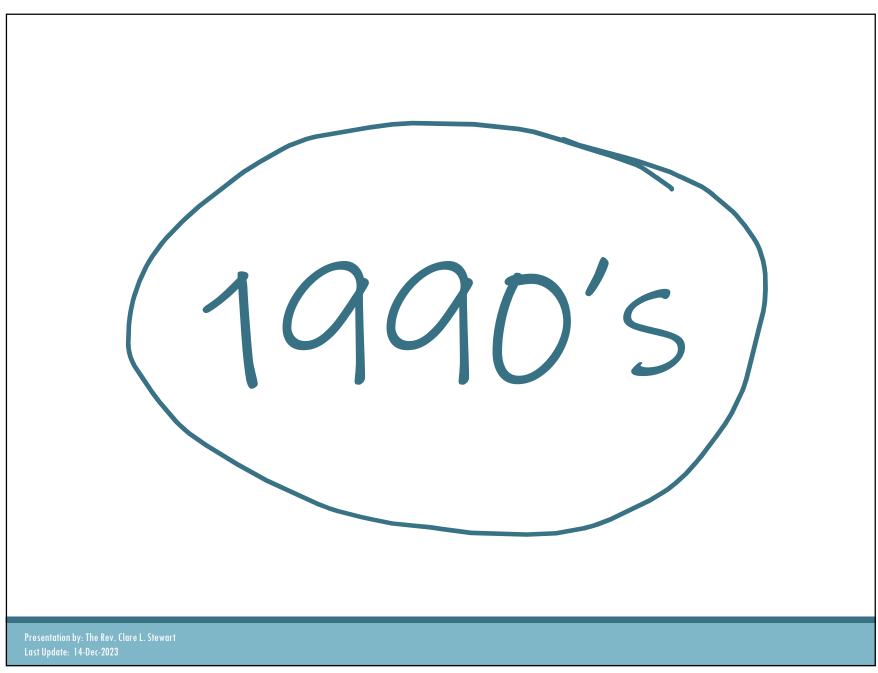
~ Marriage and Family

Resolution 64

~ Human Rights for Those of Homosexual Orientation

- Reaffirms the 1978 Lambeth statements on marriage and the family & on homosexuality
- Calls each province to reassess, in the light of .., study and because of our concern for human rights, its care for and attitude towards persons of homosexual orientation."



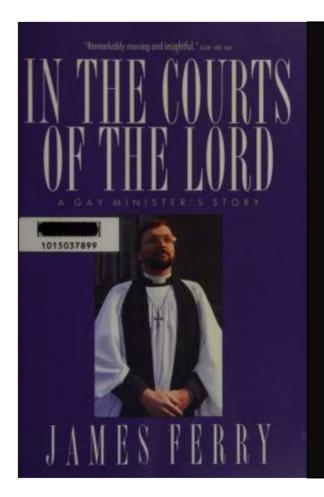


ISSUES IN HUMAN SEXUALITY

A Statement by the House of Bishops of the General Synod of the Church of England, December 1991

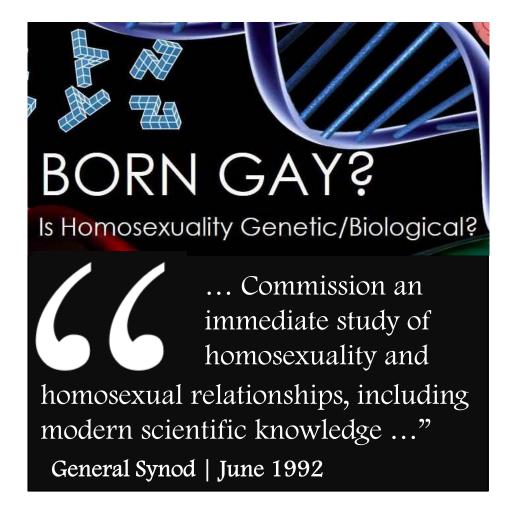


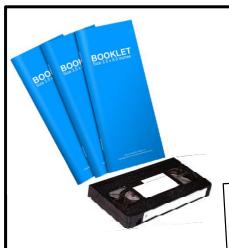
A document called *Issues in Human Sexuality* ... stated that
Church of England clergy were not
at liberty to enter into sexually
active same-sex relationships. The
1991 guidance has not been
superseded. People who are
accepted to train as Church of
England clergy must affirm that
they agree to live in accordance
with *Issues in Human Sexuality*.



The Rev. James Ferry and Archbishop Terry Finlay Diocese of Toronto

- "Inhibited" (barred) him from performing priestly duties in the Diocese
- In 1992, Bishops Court found him guilty of disobeying a superior
- He was "defrocked" (not sure if Deprivation or Deposition)





Hearing Diverse Voices, Seeking
Common Ground:
A program of study on
homosexuality and homosexual
relationships

Seeking to be Faithful in the Uneasy Middle

Terence L. Donaldson Wycliffe College

there is the widespread witness ... that their attraction to persons of the same sex is a given and unchangeable part of their personal makeup—something they didn't choose; something ... they have tried to change, even appealing to God for help; something that they have had to accept as part of who they are."



... initiate broad-based consultations within the Anglican Church of Canada concerning the liturgical recognition of committed monogamous same-gender unions."

TABLED

General Synod | June 1995



... affirms the presence and contributions of gay men and lesbians in the life of the church and condemns bigotry, violence and hatred directed toward any due to their sexual orientation." CARRIED

General Synod | June 1995

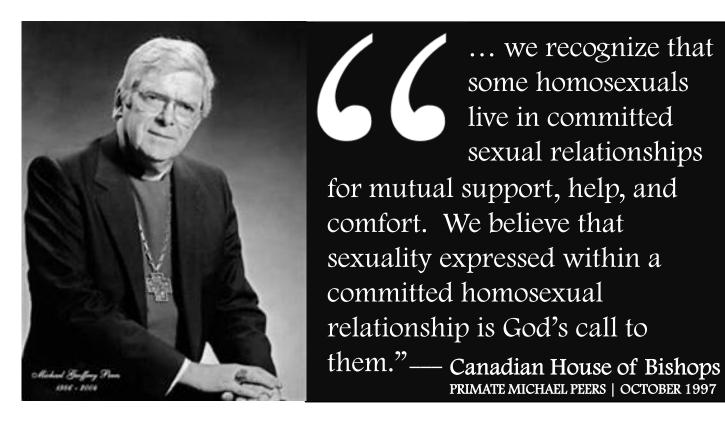
The Kuala Lumpur Statement

Adopted unanimously by the 80 delegates to the Second Anglican Encounter in the South, 10 to 15 February 1997.



The Holy Scriptures are clear in teaching that all sexual promiscuity is sin. We are convinced that this includes homosexual practices ...

We are deeply concerned that the setting aside of biblical teaching in such actions as the ordination of practicing homosexuals and the blessing of same-sex unions [in some provinces in the North] calls into question the authority of Holy Scriptures. This is totally unacceptable to us.





At the Lambeth Conference in 1998 came the landmark Resolution I.10 on *"Human Relationships Sexuality"*



This Conference:

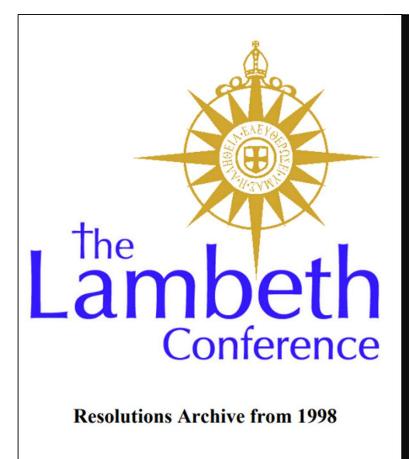
- a. commends to the Church the subsection report on human sexuality;
- b. in view of the teaching of Scripture, upholds faithfulness in marriage between a man and a woman in lifelong union, and believes that abstinence is right for those who are not called to marriage;
- c. recognises that there are among us persons who experience themselves as having a homosexual orientation. Many of these are members of the Church and are seeking the pastoral care, moral direction of the Church, and God's transforming power for the living of their lives and the ordering of relationships. We commit ourselves to listen to the experience of homosexual persons and we wish to assure them that they are loved by God and that all baptised, believing and faithful persons, regardless of sexual orientation, are full members of the Body of Christ;
- d. while rejecting homosexual practice as incompatible with Scripture, calls on all our people to minister pastorally and sensitively to all irrespective of sexual orientation and to condemn irrational fear of homosexuals, violence within marriage and any trivialisation and commercialisation of sex;
- e. cannot advise the legitimising or blessing of same sex unions nor ordaining those involved in same gender unions;
- f. requests the Primates and the ACC to establish a means of monitoring the work done on the subject of human sexuality in the Communion and to share statements and resources among us;
- g. notes the significance of the Kuala Lumpur Statement on Human Sexuality and the concerns expressed in resolutions IV.26, V.1, V.10, V.23 and V.35 on the authority of Scripture in matters of marriage and sexuality and asks the Primates and the ACC to include them in their monitoring process.



Resolutions Archive from 1998

We must confess that we are not of one mind about homosexuality. ...
We have prayed, studied and discussed these issues, and we are unable to reach a common mind ..."

The Lambeth Conference SUBSECTION 3 – HUMAN SEXUALITY | JULY 1998



recognises that there are among us, persons who experience themselves as having a homosexual orientation.



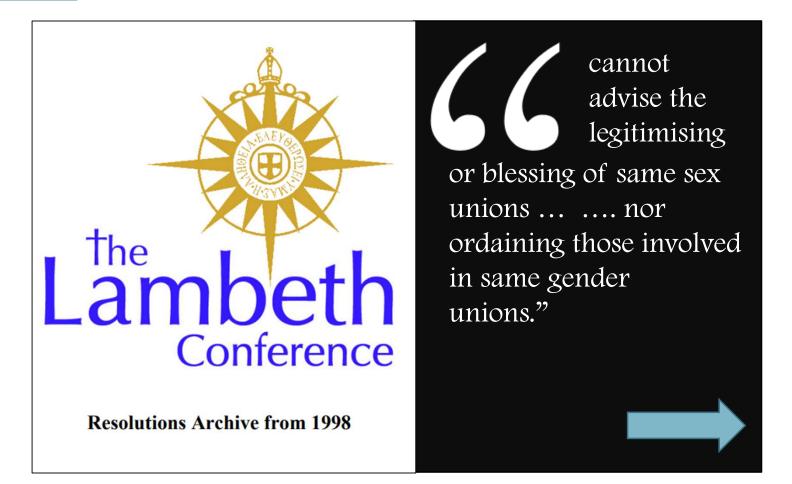
Resolutions Archive from 1998

We commit ourselves to listen to the experience of of homosexual persons and we wish to assure them that they are loved by God and ... are full members of the Body of Christ.



Resolutions Archive from 1998

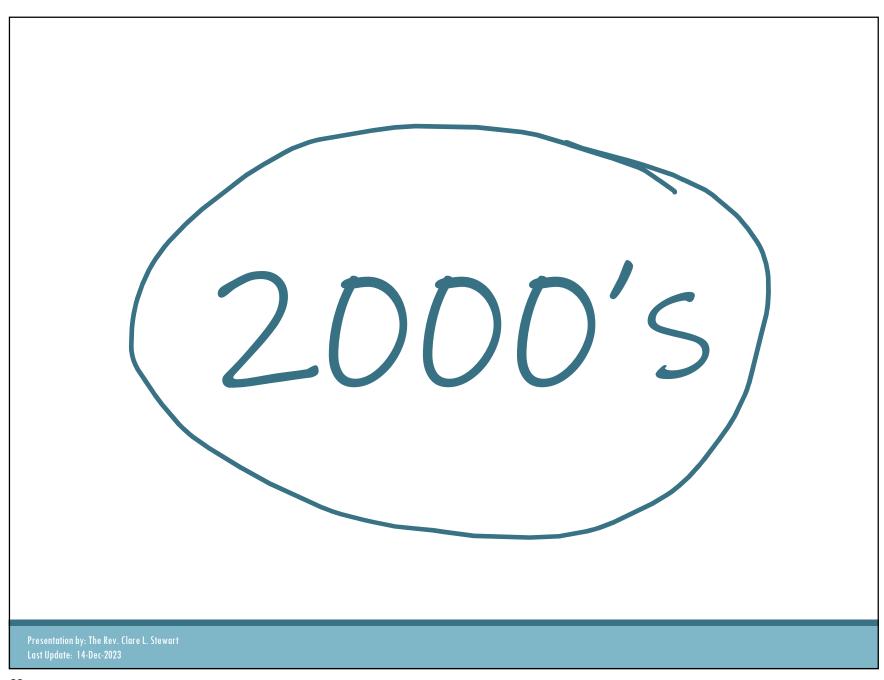
while rejecting homosexual practice as incompatible with Scripture, calls on all ... to minister pastorally and sensitively to all irrespective of sexual orientation and to condemn irrational fear of homosexuals ...

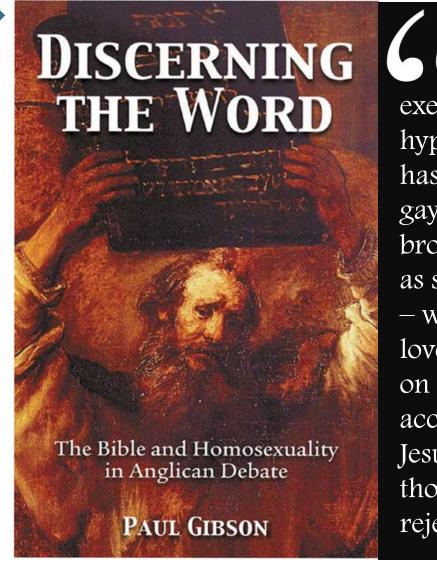




Resolutions Archive from 1998

Notes the significance of the Kuala Lumpur Statement ... and the concerns ... on the authority of Scripture in matters of marriage and sexuality ... asks the Primates to include them in their monitoring ...

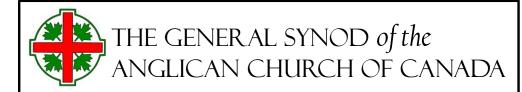




Jesus seems to have been more exercised by sins like hypocrisy ... The time has come to accept our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters not as second class citizens — who must check their love at the door – but on the basis of acceptance with which Jesus welcomed all those whom others rejected."

Presentation by: The Rev. Clare L. Stewart

> 2001



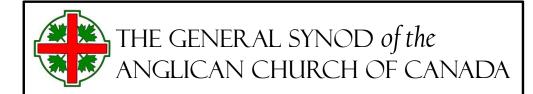
as well as those ...
employed by our church shall be
treated with courtesy, compassion,
fairness and integrity by our church ...
without discrimination on the basis of
age, sex, sexual orientation, family or
marital status, race, colour, ethnic (or
place of) origin, ancestry, disability,
creed or social-economic status."

General Synod | June 2001



The Diocesan Synod of New Westminster approves a motion to allow blessings of same-sex relationships.

Bishop Michael Ingram gives his consent to the motion, adding a conscience clause



... Affirm the integrity and sanctity of committed adult same sex relationships."

General Synod | June 2004



That this General Synod affirm the authority and jurisdiction of any diocesan synod, with the concurrence of its bishop, to authorize the blessing of committed same sex unions."
THIS WAS DEFERRED

General Synod | June 2004



That this General Synod request the Faith, Worship and Ministry

Committee in the next triennium to prepare resources for the church to use in addressing issues relating to humans sexuality, including the blessing of same sex unions and the changing definition of marriage in society."

General Synod | June 2004

The Lambeth Commission on Communion

The Windsor Report 2004



Published by
The Anglican Communion Office, London, UK
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It is really a document about ecclesiology; what is our Theology of Church?

How important is the Anglican Communion to our faith?

Who do we believe ourselves to be as followers of Christ?



REPORT

of the

PRIMATE'S THEOLOGICAL COMMISSION

of the

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

on the Blessing of Same-Sex Unions

The St. Michael Report

concluded that the blessing of committed same-sex unions is a matter of doctrine ... [but] not a matter of what is often referred to as a 'core' doctrine, in the sense of being creedal doctrine."

does not believe that this should be a communionbreaking issue."

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Following the creation of civil partnerships (most of the bishops in the House of Lords voted for the for the legislation), the bishops ... released a statement ... their continued belief that sex and marriage were permissible only between one man and one woman.

... The church would not create a service to bless civil partnerships

...Any priest wishing to enter into a civil partnership themselves had to promise ... they would not have sex

Presentation by: The Rev. Clare L. Stewart





Archbishop Terence Finlay ... has acknowledged he officiated at a same-sex marriage of a lesbian couple in a United Church in Toronto and has expressed the hope that Anglicans would "reflect on this with understanding. ... Diocesan bishop of Toronto, Colin Johnson ... "reprimanded him in writing, admonished him not to do so again, and suspended his licence to officiate at marriages until the end of 2006."

October 1, 2006



When a ... couple seeks our church's reception of their civil marriage, ... it may be possible ... to celebrate a Eucharist with the couple, including appropriate intercessory prayers, but not including a nuptial blessing."

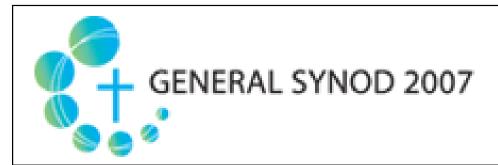
____ Canadian House of Bishops PRIMATE ANDREW HUTCHISON | MAY 2007



That this General Synod resolves that the blessing of same-sex unions is not in conflict with the core doctrine (in the sense of being creedal) of The Anglican Church of Canada."

CARRIED

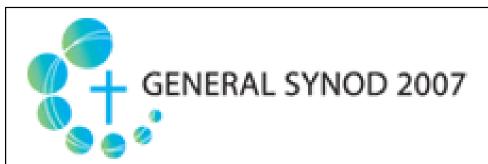
General Synod | June 2007



affirm the authority and jurisdiction of any diocesan synod: a) with The concurrence of the diocesan Bishop; and b) in a manner which respects the conscience of the incumbent and the will of the parish, to authorize the blessing of committed same sex unions."

CARRIED – LAITY & CLERGY DEFEATED – BISHOPS

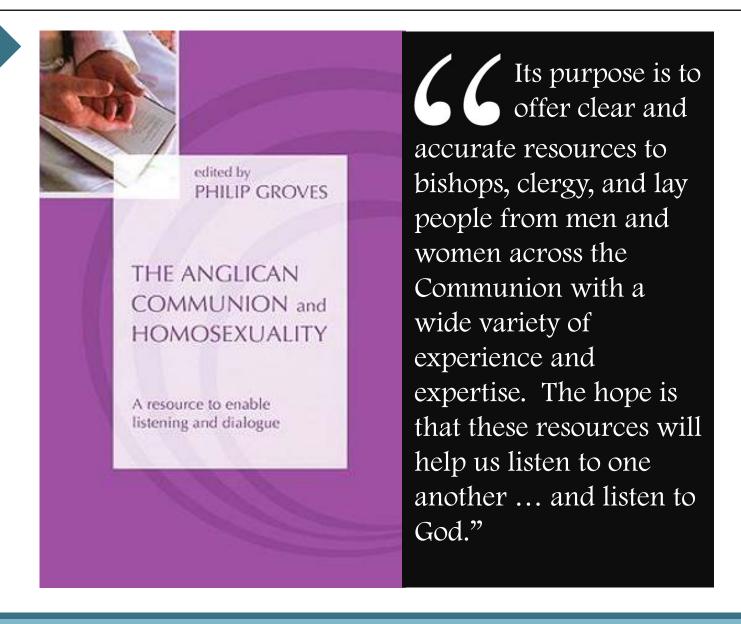
General Synod | June 2007

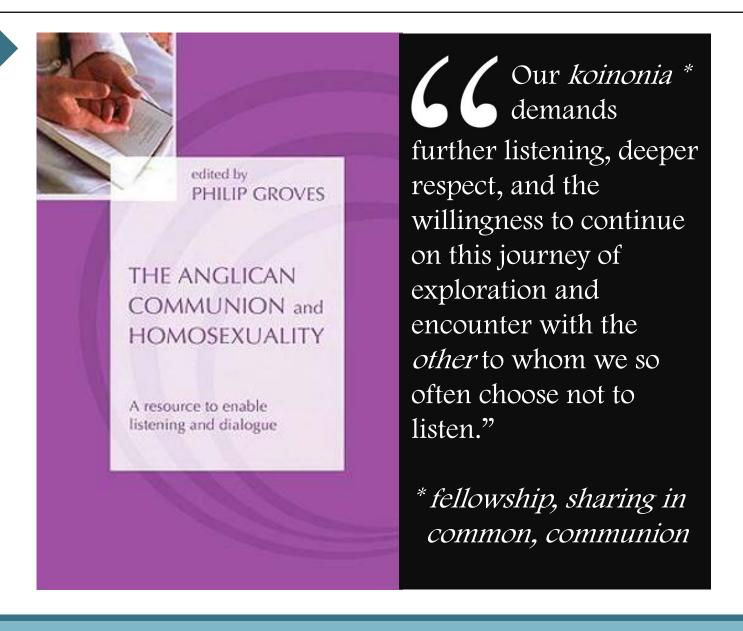


That this General Synod request the Council of General Synod to consider a revision of Canon XXI (On Marriage) including theological rationale to allow marriage of all legally qualified persons and to report back to General Synod 2010."

CARRIED

General Synod | June 2007







Bishop Gene Robinson of the Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire in the USA, and first openly gay man to be a Bishop, was not invited.

He went to England anyway.

Many Bishops boycotted.



Section H: Human Sexuality

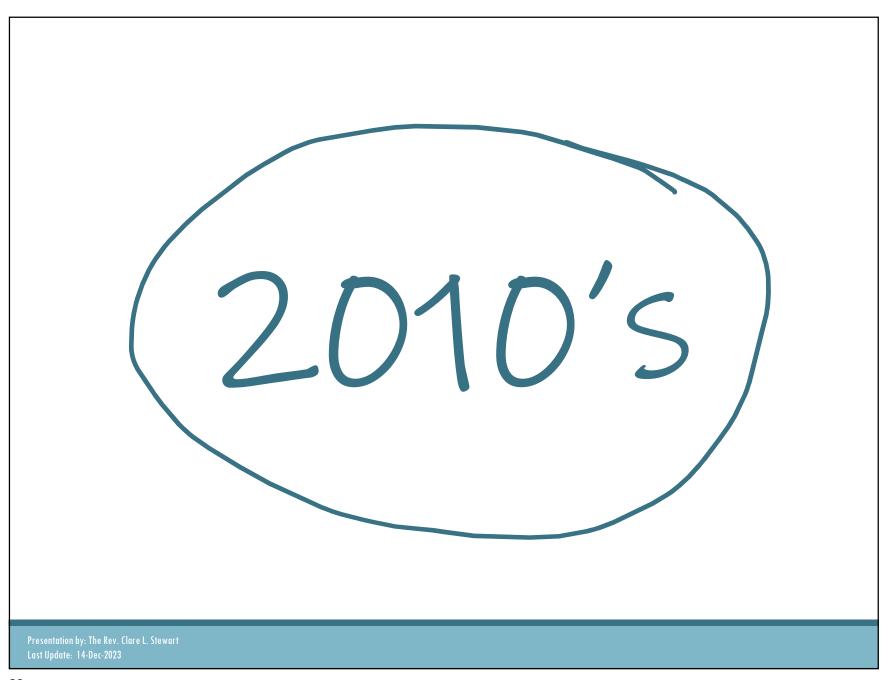
Should have been titled "The Bishop and Homosexuality"

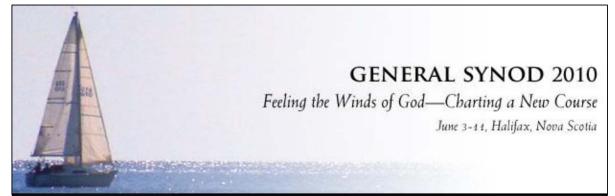


There is confusion about what "the issue" really means.

There are three aspects that would help to clarify discussions:

- How the church evangelizes, disciples and provides pastoral care for homosexual people;
- How and on what basis the church admits people to Sacred Orders
- How the church deals with the first two locally and globally





Our conversation affirmed the full inclusion of gay ... members in our churches ... and the wide range of perspectives on the issue of same gender blessings ... Our dialogue has been a positive and helpful step in our discernment. At this time ...we are not prepared to make a legislative decision. ... despite all our differences we are passionately committed to walking together."

General Synod | June 2010

TORONTO STAR 《

Toronto gay priest James Ferry and former Anglican archbishop Terence Finlay reconcile:

Two decades ago, after Anglican Archbishop Terence Finlay learned priest James Ferry was in a gay relationship, he fired him. Now, they are about to have a reconciliation ceremony.

March 11, 2012



General Synod 2016 to change Canon XXI on Marriage to allow the marriage of same sex couples in the same way as opposite sex couples, and that this motion should include a conscience clause so that no member of the clergy, bishop, congregation or diocese should be constrained to participate in or authorize such marriages against the dictates of their conscience. ..."

General Synod | June 2013

2013 RUPERT'S LAND YUKON Yellowknife ARCTIC **CALEDONIA** ATHABASCA MISHAMIKOWEESH QUEBEC MOOSONEE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA 80 Hayden Street, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 3G2 **LEGEND** See City Diocesan Boundaries Provincial (Civil) Boundaries Produced by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, October 2016. Copies of this map can be obtained from the Communications and Information Resources department: webmanager@national.anglican.ca, Phone: 416 924-9192. Note: list represents the best of my knowledge

The growth in our understanding of human sexuality, both scientifically and interpersonally, helps us to lay aside prejudices and misconceptions."

'THIS HOLY ESTATE'

The Report of the Commission on the Marriage Canon of the Anglican Church of Canada

The experience of same-sex committed partnerships in our midst, clearly manifesting God's blessing and the fruit of the Spirit, are a powerful indication that God's view of marriage may be more inclusive than ours."

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of General Synod

From: David Jones, Q.C.

Chancellor of General Synod

Date: 22 June 2016

Subject: ISSUES IN DEALING WITH RESOLUTION A051

(the motion to amend the Marriage Canon)

Although General Synod has enacted Canon XXI, it does not contain either a definition of "marriage", or a specific prohibition against solemnizing

same-sex marriages. It does refer to the "requirements of civil law", and to persons "duly qualified" to enter into marriage."

22 June 2016

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of General Synod

From: David Jones, Q.C.

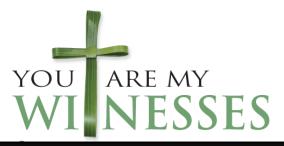
Chancellor of General Synod

Date: 22 June 2016

Subject: ISSUES IN DEALING WITH RESOLUTION A051

(the motion to amend the Marriage Canon)

At the time Canon XXI was enacted in its current form in 1967, civil law did not recognize marriages between persons of the same sex, so same-sex persons would not at that time have been "duly qualified" to enter into marriage; the four references to "man and woman" and "husband and wife" are not surprising. General Synod could not have contemplated same-sex marriage when it enacted Canon XXI." 22 June 2016



- 1) Declare that Canon XXI (On Marriage in the Church) applies to all persons who are duly qualified by civil law to enter into marriage
- 2) Make the following consequential amendments to Canon XXI: ... substitute "parties to the marriage" for "husband and wife"
- 3) add ... A minister may only solemnize a marriage between persons of the same sex if authorized by the diocesan bishop. ..."

PASSED 1st READING IN ALL THREE ORDERS
General Synod | June 2016

2016 RUPERT'S LAND YUKON Yellowknife ARCTIC **CALEDONIA** ATHABASCA BRANDON MISHAMIKOWEESH QUEBEC QU'APPELLE Regina • MOOSONEE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA 80 Hayden Street, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 3G2 **LEGEND** See City Diocesan Boundaries Provincial (Civil) Boundaries Produced by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, October 2016. Copies of this map can be obtained from the Communications and Information Resources department: webmanager@national.anglican.ca, Phone: 416 924-9192.

Bill C-32: An Act to related to the repeal of section 159 of the Criminal Code was tabled in the House of Commons on November 21, 2016.

Which courts have found section 159 to be unconstitutional

Section 159 has been found to violate section 15 of the *Charter*, which guarantees the right to equality, by:

- Ontario Court of Appeal in 1995 (C.M.);
- Federal Court of Canada, Trial Division in 1995 (Halm);
- Quebec Court of Appeal in 1998 (Roy);
- Alberta Court of Queen's Bench in 2002 (Roth);
- British Columbia Court of Appeal in 2003 (Blake); and,
- Nova Scotia Court of Appeal in 2006 (A.S.).

I HAVE CALLED Your BY NAME

⊕ GENERAL SYNOD 2019 - VANCOUVER, B.C.

A Word to the Church
Affirmation #1
Indigenous Spiritual Self-determination

Whatever the action of the church at this General Synod, we affirm the right of Indigenous persons and communities to spiritual self-determination in their discernment and decisions regarding same-sex marriage."

General Synod | July 2019



⊕ GENERAL SYNOD 2019 - VANCOUVER, B.C.

66

A Word to the Church
Affirmation #2
Diverse Understandings of the Existing Canon

We affirm that, while there are different understandings of the existing Marriage Canon, those bishops and synods who have authorized liturgies for the celebration and blessing of a marriage between two people of the same sex understand that the existing Canon does not prohibit same-sex marriage."

General Synod | July 2019



⊕ GENERAL SYNOD 2019 - VANCOUVER, B.C.

A Word to the Church
Affirmation #3
Diverse Understandings and Teachings

We acknowledge the ongoing reality that there is a diversity of understandings and teachings about marriage in the Anglican Church of Canada, and we affirm the prayerful integrity with which those understandings and teachings are held."

General Synod | July 2019



⊕ GENERAL SYNOD 2019 - VANCOUVER, B.C.

A Word to the Church
Affirmation #4
Our Commitment to Presume Good Faith

We affirm our commitment to presume good faith among those who hold diverse understandings and teachings, and hold dear their continued presence in this church."

General Synod | July 2019



⊕ GENERAL SYNOD 2019 - VANCOUVER, B.C.

A Word to the Church
Affirmation #5
Our Commitment to Stand Together

We affirm our commitment to walk together and to preserve communion, one with another, in Christ, within this church, within our Anglican Communion, and with our ecumenical partners."

General Synod | July 2019





Second reading of the vote to amend Canon XXI: On Marriage

Resolution Number A052-R2 Results

| Laity | | |
|------------|----|------|
| VOTE | # | % |
| A. Yes | 89 | 80.9 |
| B. No | 21 | 19.1 |
| C. Abstain | 1 | - |

| VOTE | # | % |
|------------|----|------|
| A. Yes | 60 | 73.2 |
| B. No | 22 | 26.8 |
| C. Abstain | 2 | - |

| | 2000 | |
|------------|------|------|
| VOTE | # | % |
| A. Yes | 23 | 62.2 |
| B. No | 14 | 37.8 |
| C. Abstain | 2 | - |

Did not receive required 2/3 majority in the house of Bishops

General Synod | July 2019

A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA TO GENERAL SYNOD 2019

We, members of the House of Bishops of the Anglican Church of Canada, see the pain and anguish inflicted on LGBTQ2S+ people ... Although the bishops are not of one mind ... We are walking together in a way which leaves room for individual dioceses and jurisdictions of our church to proceed with same-sex marriage according to their contexts and convictions, sometimes described as "local option." 15 July 2019





THE DIOCESE OF EDMONTON

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA
L'EGLISE ANGLICANE DU CANADA

10035 - 103 STREET NW EDMONTON, ALBERTA T5J 0X5

The Right Reverend Jane Alexander, Bishop

TELEPHONE (780) 439-7344 FAX (780) 439-6549 E-MAIL: bishop@edmonton.anglican.ca

July 18, 2019

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ

I write this letter to clarify the situation in the Diocese of Edmonton in regard to marriage in the Church. I received with gratitude the Word to the Church from the Council of General Synod and the affirmations that were proposed and endorsed by General Synod 2019.

All couples who are legally permitted to marry may seek to have that marriage solemnized in the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton. ...On my own authority I have made available to the clergy of the diocese an edited BAS marriage liturgy. ... There will be no special marriage commission or different processes.

18 July 2019

The section in the criminal code related to "Anal Intercourse" was not repealed until September 19, 2019.

Anal intercourse

159 (1) Every person who engages in an act of anal intercourse is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years or is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction.

Exception

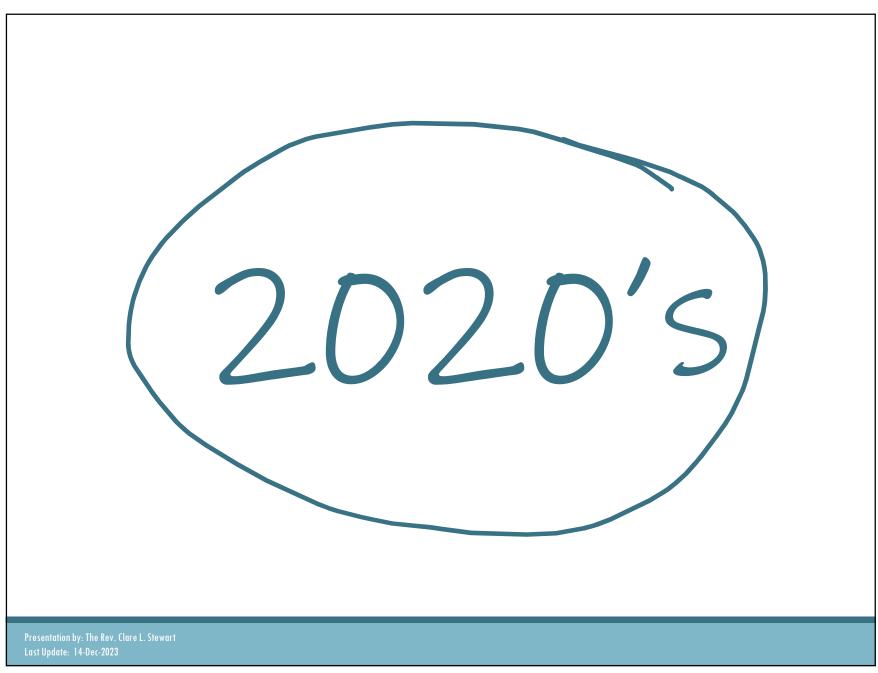
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to any act engaged in, in private, between
 - (a) husband and wife, or
 - (b) any two persons, each of whom is eighteen years of age or more,

both of whom consent to the act.

Idem

- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2),
 - (a) an act shall be deemed not to have been engaged in in private if it is engaged in in a public place or if more than two persons take part or are present; and
 - (b) a person shall be deemed not to consent to an act
 - (i) if the consent is extorted by force, threats or fear of bodily harm or is obtained by false and fraudulent misrepresentations respecting the nature and quality of the act, or
 - (ii) if the court is satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that the person could not have consented to the act by reason of mental disability.

R.S., 1985, c. C-46, s. 159; R.S., 1985, c. 19 (3rd Supp.), s. 3.



Apology to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Two Spirit, Plus Community in the Diocese of Toronto from Bishop Andrew Asbil

You are home, this is your home. You are sisters, brothers and siblings in Christ, fully in this community. I needed to say those words, because they are words that the queer community wanted to

hear clearly spoken. ... As your Bishop, I apologize for the times and ways that we ...



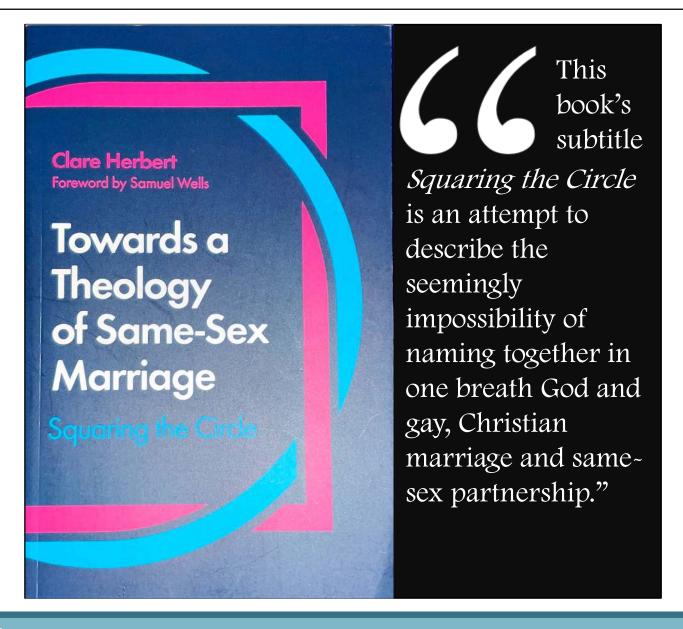


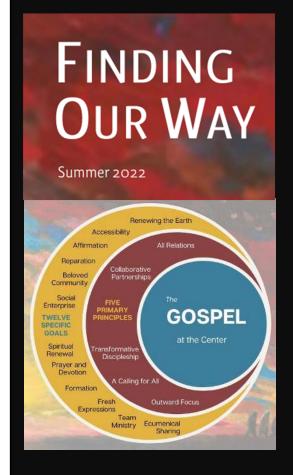
... have failed to honour and cherish you, beloved children of God, made in the image of our Creator, redeemed by the love of our Saviour and embraced by the Holy Spirit. ...

I declare to you now, as Bishop of Toronto, that Homophobia and Transphobia will not to be tolerated in the Diocese of Toronto. ...

I call upon the Anglican Diocese of Toronto to repent and turn from the ways we have mistreated our queer members and to seek reconciliation and healing."

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil, Diocese of Toronto | 21 June 2021





Our Twelve Specific Goals #10 Affirmation

We will affirm and declare publicly, intentionally, and explicitly our commitment to the welcome, safety, and full access of siblings in the LGBTQ2SIA+ communities within our churches and will support these commitments with requisite diocesan policies and training."

Diocese of Edmonton | Summer 2022

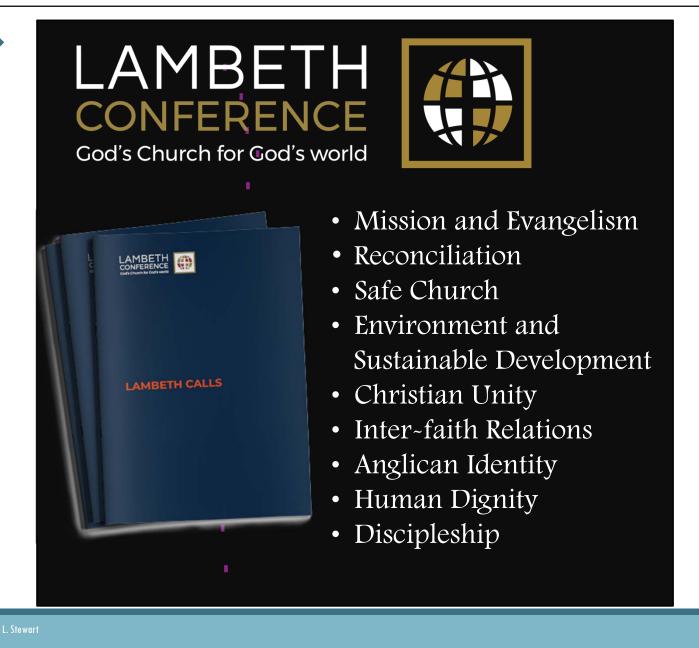




Keith Riglin, Mary Glasspool, Deon Johnson, Bonnie A. Perry, Cherry Vann, Jeffrey Mello, Thomas James Brown, Kevin Robertson

The "unofficial" official photo of the LGBTQ+ Bishops at Lambeth (Scotland, Canada, USA, Wales)

Their spouses were not invited to the Conference.



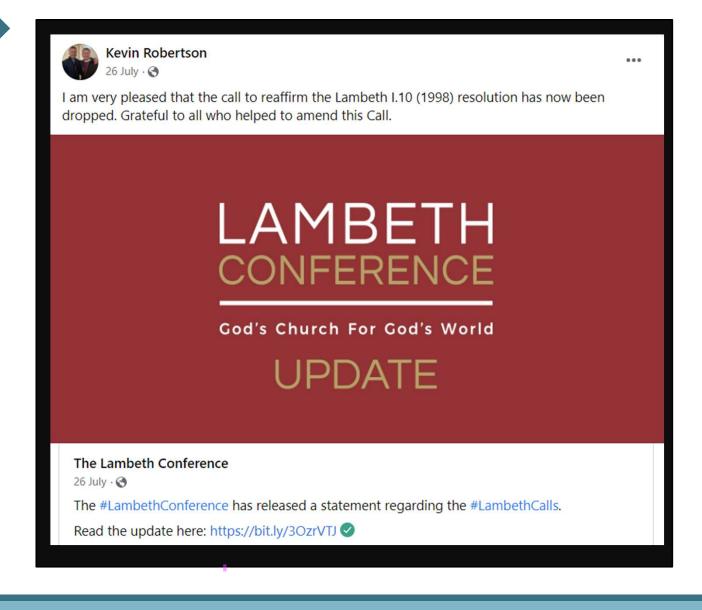
LAMBETH CONFERENCE



God's Church for God's world

I have been shocked and dismayed by the Lambeth Call on Human Dignity which, in part, calls upon the bishops to reaffirm Lambeth Resolution I.10 (1998) ... What is more disturbing is that, as a member of the Human Dignity Call drafting group, I never agreed to this Call ... At no point in our meetings did we discuss the reaffirmation of Lambeth I.10 at the Conference, and it never appeared in any of the early drafts of our work together ...

Bishop Kevin Robertson, Facebook | 24 July 2022



2022

LAMBETH CONFERENCE



God's Church for God's world

LAMBETH CALL: **HUMAN DIGNITY**

2.3 Prejudice on the basis of gender or sexuality threatens human dignity. Given Anglican polity, and especially the autonomy of Provinces, there is disagreement and a plurality of views on the relationship between human dignity and human sexuality. Yet, we experience the safeguarding of dignity in deepening dialogue. It is the mind of the Anglican Communion as a whole that "all baptised, believing and faithful persons, regardless of sexual orientation are full members of the Body of Christ" and to be welcomed, cared for, and treated with respect (I.10, 1998). Many Provinces continue to affirm that same gender marriage is not permissible. Lambeth Resolution I.10 (1998) states that the "legitimizing or blessing of same sex unions" cannot be advised. Other Provinces have blessed and welcomed same sex union/marriage after careful theological reflection and a process of reception. As Bishops we remain committed to listening and walking together to the maximum possible degree, despite our deep disagreement on these issues.

Presentation by: The Rev. Clare L. Stewart

> 2022

LAMBETH CONFERENCE



God's Church for God's world

66

Most of the Call on Human Dignity (including sexuality) is uncontentious. None of us would

would want to argue for

sexual violence in conflict, abuse of the vulnerable or violence against minorities or women...



Lambeth Call on Human Dignity: Read Archbishop Justin's remarks | The Archbishop of Canterbury

2022

LAMBETH



God's Church for God's world

... But paragraph 2.3 is very different. For some here it will be a great relief. There is no attempt being made to alter the historic teaching of the vast majority of Churches of the Anglican Communion. For some, this paragraph will be hugely painful, agonizing emotionally, for it is felt by many to state that who they are and who they love is wrong, that they are less than fully human.

Lambeth Call on Human Dignity: Archbishop Justin's remarks 2 August 2022

2022

LAMBETH



God's Church for God's world

We recognise that many LGBT+ people have historically been wounded by the Church and particularly hurt by the events of the last few weeks. We wish to affirm the holiness of their love wherever it is found in committed relationships."

Statement from Anglican Bishops and Primates who are Keen to Affirm and Celebrate LGBT+ People 2 August 2022



STATEMENT FROM ANGLICAN BISHOPS AND PRIMATES WHO ARE KEEN TO AFFIRM AND CELEBRATE LGBT+ PEOPLE

August 2nd 2022

"So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God." - Ephesians 2:19

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." - John 13:34

God is Love! This love revealed by Jesus, described in the Scriptures and proclaimed by the Church, is Good News for all - without exception. That is why we believe that LGBT+ people are a precious part of God's creation - for each of us is 'fearfully and wonderfully made' (Psalm 139:14), and all are equally loved.

We recognise that many LGBT+ people have historically been wounded by the Church and particularly hurt by the events of the last few weeks. We wish to affirm the holiness of their love wherever it is found in committed relationships.

We therefore commit to working with our siblings across the Communion to listen to their stories and understand their contexts, which vary greatly. However, we will never shy away from tackling discrimination and prejudice against those of differing sexualities and gender identities.

Together, we will speak healing and hope to our broken world and look forward to the day when all may feel truly welcomed, valued and affirmed.

Signed by bishops from across the Anglican Communion including:

Most Revd Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church

Most Revd Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church of the United States

Most Revd Naudal Alves Gomes, Archbishop of Brazil

Most Revd Linda Nicholls, Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Canada

Most Revd Andy Johns, Archbishop of Wales

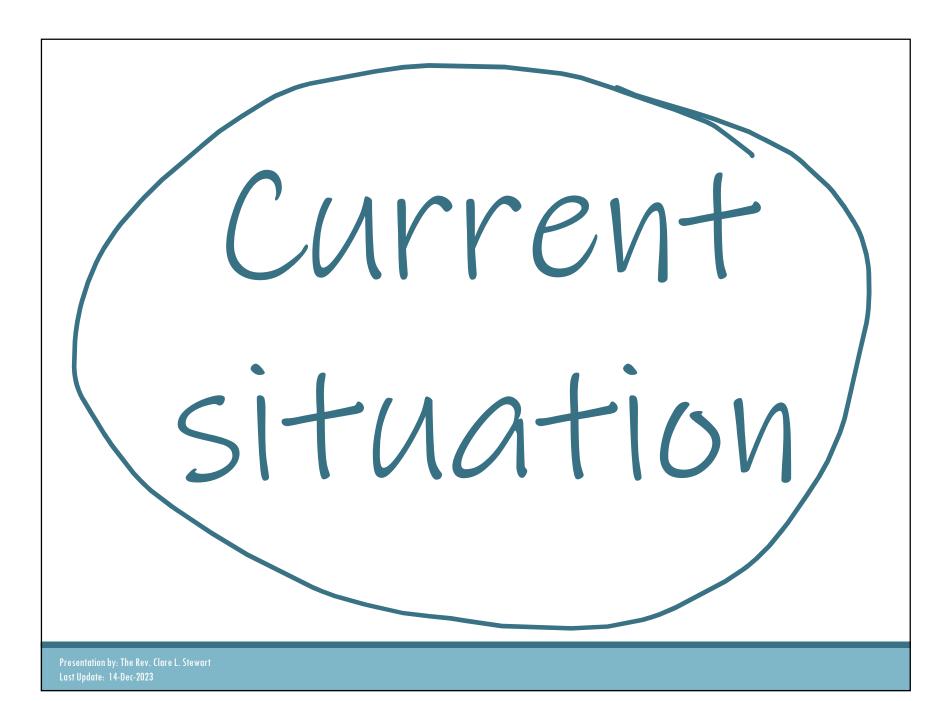
and, as of 1640 BST on August 4th 2022, these additional 170 bishops/archbishops

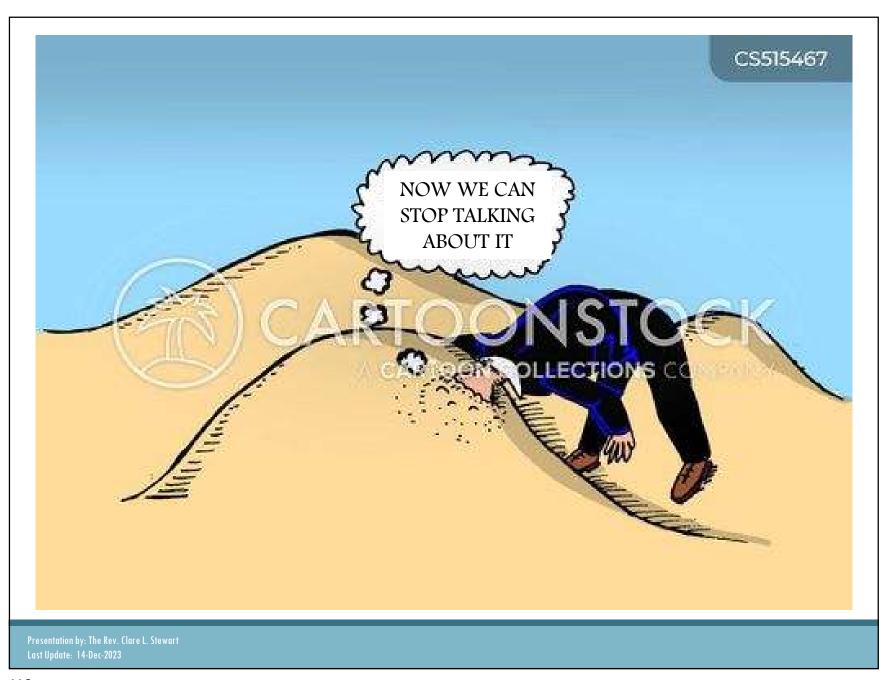


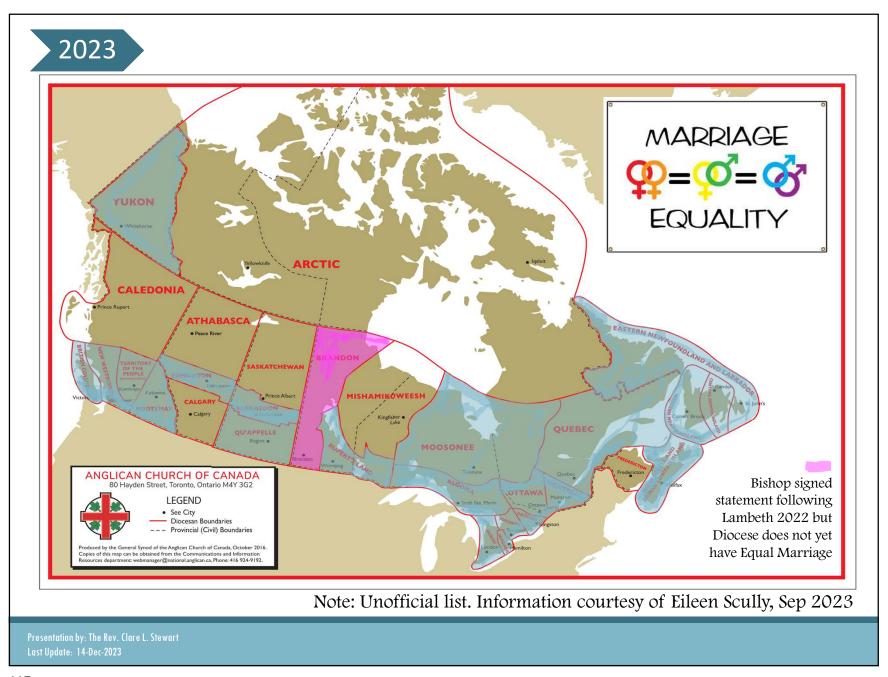
Statement from Anglican Bishops and Primates who are Keen to Affirm and Celebrate LGBT+ People 2 August 2022

Canadian Bishops that Signed:

| The Most Rev. Anne Germond | The Diocese of Algoma ; The Diocese of Moosonee | Canada |
|------------------------------------|---|--------|
| The Most Rev. Dr. Lynne McNaughton | British Columbia Yukon | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Andrew Asbil | Anglican Diocese of Toronto | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Anna Greenwood-Lee | British Columbia | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Bruce Myers | Quebec | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Geoffrey JJ Woodcroft | Rupert's Land | Canada |
| The Rt Revd John Organ | Western Newfoundland | Canada |
| The Rt Revd John Stephens | New Westminster | Canada |
| The Rt Revd John Watton | The Diocese of Central Newfoundland | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Kevin Robertson | Suffragan Bishop, Diocese of Toronto | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Lesley Wheeler-Dame | Diocese of Yukon | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Mary Irwin-Gibson | Montreal | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Michael Douglas Oulton | Ontario | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Nigel Shaw | Anglican Military Ordinariate of Canada | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Riscylla Shaw | Suffragan, Diocese of Toronto | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Sam Rose | Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Sandra Fyfe | Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Shane Parker | Diocese of Ottawa | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Stephen London | Edmonton | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Susan J.A. Bell | Diocese of Niagara | Canada |
| The Rt Revd Todd Townshend | Huron | Canada |
| The Rt Revd William G. Cliff | Diocese of Brandon | Canada |



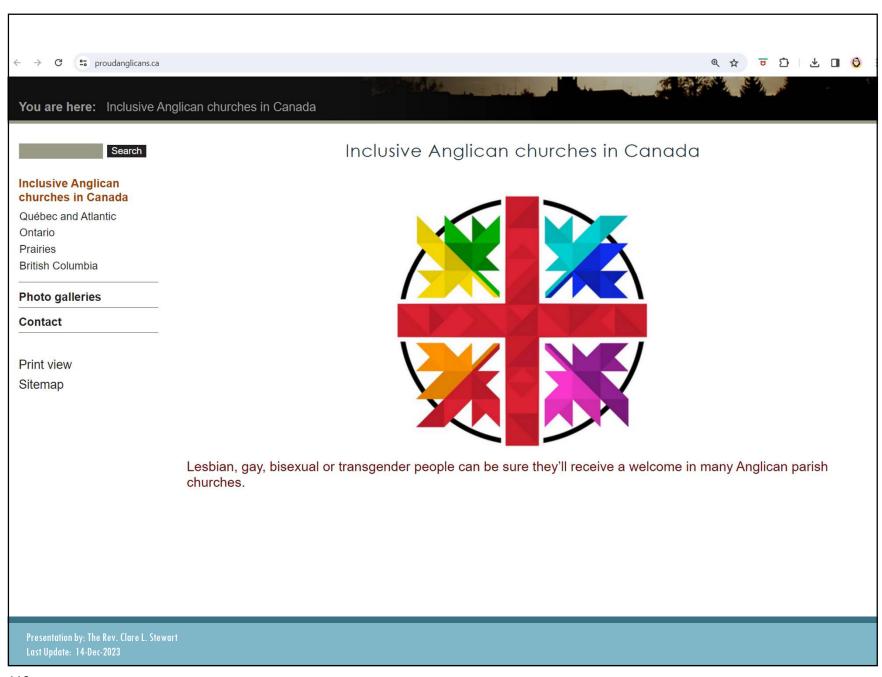






ReconcilingWorks

LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION



Edmonton parishes

All Saints Cathedral

10035-103rd St NW, Edmonton AB T5J 0X5 Sunday Services: 8:00; 9.:15; 11:00 am 780-428-6323 | email | website

Christ Church, Edmonton

12116-102 Ave NW, Edmonton AB Sunday services at: 8:00 and 10:00 am 780-488-1118 | email | website | Facebook

Holy Trinity, Edmonton

10037 84th Ave NW, Edmonton AB corner of 101 St

Sunday services 8:30 and 10:30am; last Sunday of the month, 7:00pm Equally Anglican -- LGBTQ-affirming service 780-433-5530 | email | website | Facebook

St Matthias, Edmonton

6210-188th Street NW, Edmonton just east of Anthony Henday at Callingwood Rd/62nd Ave Sunday services at: 8:30 and 10:00am 780-487-0324 | email | website

St Timothy, Edmonton in Laurier Heights, West Edmonton, 2 blocks south of 87 Ave

8420-145 St NW, Edmonton AB Sunday services at: 10:00am 780-483-5506 | email | website | Facebook

St. Peter, Edmonton

11035-127th St NW, Edmonton AB Sunday service: 10:30am 780-455-3665 | email | website | Facebook

St. Augustine of Canterbury

6110 Fulton Rd NW, Edmonton AB Sunday services: 8 am and 10 am 780-466-5532 | email | website | Facebook

St Luke, Edmonton

8424-95th Ave NW, Edmonton AB Sunday services at: 10:00 am 780-466-2061 | email | website | Facebook

St Matthew, St Albert

125 Larose Drive, St. Albert AB Sunday services at: 8:00 and 10:00 am 780-458-5488 | email | website

North and central Alberta parishes

Immanuel Anglican, Wetaskiwin

5103-46th Avenue, Wetaskiwin AB Sunday services at 9:00 and 10:30am 780-352-2149 | email | website | facebook

Chris Ambidge

info@proudanglicans.ca

