

26th May 2013

Dear

**Proposed legislation: redefinition of marriage**

Accompanying this letter is a small booklet for you to consider as you prepare for the debate at Stormont on the redefinition of marriage. The booklet is called '*Beyond Critique: The Misuse of Science by UK Professional Mental Health Bodies*' by O'Callaghan and May. The booklet illustrates the ease with which ideology replaces evidence-based scientific endeavour for the sake of political gain.

This gift has been made possible for you through the generosity of many ordinary individuals concerned that you listen to their concerns of a high level of dishonesty in the evidence being put forward in support of this legislation.

If you cannot afford the time to read this document fully, we ask you at the very least to consider three questions:

1. Are you prepared to make a decision which ignores clear and consistent scientific evidence that children are best nurtured in families with their biological father and mother?
2. Do you support the ethical position of UK Professional Mental Health Bodies, based on the scientifically indefensible statement that there is no instance in which a professional therapist should help to reduce homosexual feelings – even when this is a client's choice?
3. On what grounds will you be able to protect society from new family constellations that insist on marrying multiple partners?

Civil partnerships have provided clear recognition of loving rights for same sex couples. But the imposition of the redefinition of marriage on society based on the misuse of scientific data to support the claim that homosexual practice is an unavoidable patterning, is profoundly misleading.

Before making any decision regarding this matter, we ask you to look very carefully at this booklet so that you are aware of the flawed use of science to support this initiative.

Yours sincerely

Mike Davidson, PhD FHEA  
**DIRECTOR, Core Issues Trust**