



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Adam

* Last name McAlonan

Email adam-mca@live.com

Phone 5877031184

* Subject Conversion Therapy Debate

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I would like to add my voice to the Current debate on Conversion Therapy. I agree that Conversion Therapy should be banned. In my mind Conversion Therapy is a form of persecution based on ones sexual preference. The Federal Government has said about Conversion Therapy that it is, "immoral", "does not reflect the values of Canadians", and has been identified as "unethical". I urge you council to live up to these Canadian values and not let them ring empty. I want to live in a city that is looked up to for being a progressive place, not one that has the moral outlook of the southern states, and I hope you do too. Thank you for your time.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Aidan

* Last name Bailey

Email theaidanbailey@gmail.com

Phone 5872169358

* Subject Concerning Conversion Therapy Ban (PFC2020-0116)

Dear City Council,

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I'm writing to you with regards to the proposed Conversion Therapy legislation (PFC2020-0116). I believe that this proposed legislation imposes limitations on the LGBTQ2S+ community that will ultimately be harmful to the very people it seeks to protect. While I wholeheartedly agree with the sentiment that those who identify with the LGBTQ2S+ community should be protected from coercion into unwanted therapy, I fear that as-defined this by-law severely and detrimentally limits the counselling options that are available to a member of this community. Moreover, I fear that this by-law introduces a dangerous precedent in restricting democratic freedoms such as freedom of speech and thought, freedoms that the LGBTQ2S+ community has itself enjoyed as it has fought for acceptance in our society.

I respectfully request that you change the wording of this by-law to address forced & unwanted conversion therapy while preserving the legitimate counselling options available to the members of the LGBTQ2S+, as well as the Charter Rights of all Calgarians.

Sincerely,
Aidan Bailey.



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* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am so pleased with Council's intention to ban conversion therapy in Calgary. Please ensure the bylaw is passed AS-IS with no amendments or loopholes, to ensure the safety of everyone. Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Alexandra
* Last name: Hardstaff-Gajda
Email: alijadehardstaff@gmail.com
Phone:
* Subject: Conversion Therapy Ban Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Hi there! I'm writing to express my concern about the Conversion Therapy Bylaw and the ban on Conversion Therapy. I truly hope that the bylaw will be passed as it is written. More details or loopholes or ambiguity is not necessary, just as every beautiful human in this great city does not need to be changed. I hope everyone sees how important that is. Love is love! And I truly believe that Calgary can be a place to move past the bigotry and ignorance that has been seen in this area in the past. The LGBTQ + community does not need to be changed, they need to be supported in every way possible.
Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Amanda

* Last name Labre

Email kuptnik@aol.com

Phone

* Subject In support of a ban...

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

As a born and raised Calgarian, I am shocked that conversion therapy would even be practiced in our great city. I have always known our community to be kind and supportive of each other, and I'm saddened to hear that that may not be everyone's experience. I firmly believe everyone should be able to live freely and with dignity, and fail to understand why this would even need to be banned in the first place (don't we all already know that conversion therapy is morally and ethically corrupt?). No one deserves to be treated with cruelty and/or face hardship just because of who they are. I support a ban for conversion therapy (and a harsher fine than that), and hope that our city remains a caring and supportive community for ALL Calgarians. :)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Amy

* Last name Mykes

Email amykes76@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Bylaw on the banning of conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I support this bylaw, AS IT IS WRITTEN, with NO AMENDMENTS, to ban the practice of conversion therapy in the City of Calgary



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Andrew
* Last name	Brandsma
Email	andrew.brandsma@gmail.com
Phone	4035548510
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Ban Concerns

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hi there,

I've been following the dialogue and updates as it pertains to the upcoming council vote regarding conversion therapy bans.

I'm concerned about the wording being used and the impact it will have on people who are seeking help (of their own volition) and their inability to obtain it should they decide to make a life impacting change to their bodies. Criminalizing doctors, counsellors, pastors or anyone for that matter, for providing support to this community is a massive overreach of government and quite honestly, a dangerous decision for the very community it is intending to help. Providing alternatives in a loving and respectful environment, including requests for prayers and spiritual support, is a hallmark of a supportive and loving society and in no way sparks hate or discrimination to the individual considering conversion therapy or not.

I ask the council at the very least, to consider amending the wording in the current proposal as to exclude support networks from being incriminated for the loving care and support they provide to those in this community who are seeking guidance, advice, or alternatives.

Thank you for your consideration

ISC:

1/1

Unrestricted

May 15, 2020

12:16:35 AM



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Anita

* Last name Afquir

Email abowick@telus.net

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Please stop this archaic form of punishment against people who just want to be who they are!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Anna

* Last name Pederson

Email graceartistry@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am not in favor with the Conversion Therapy Ban, as parents and friends reserve the right to share their beliefs with those they care about. This seems to go against our freedom of speech.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Anthony & Alyssa
* Last name	Dewit
Email	tonymdewit@hotmail.com
Phone	4039928459
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Ban

Dear City of Calgary Council,

We want to thank you for the work that you do as a City Council, and recognize the difficulty in representing and protecting the rights and values of the many citizens of Calgary, with the wide diversity of cultural backgrounds, religious views, worlds views and values.

We also thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the proposed conversion therapy ban. When reviewing the proposed bylaw, we urge you to closely consider the following:

- 1) The rights of all individuals, to choose for themselves what type of counseling or support they wish to seek. If protecting the right of a person to seek counseling or support when exploring or accepting homosexual attraction is important, it must be equally important to protect the right of a homosexual person who is exploring or seeking support in transitioning to a heterosexual lifestyle.
- 2) The rights of people who are asked to provide the above services, in either case.
- 3) The religious freedoms which permit individuals to offer their perspectives and views when requested, in a non abusive or coercive ability, respecting the rights of the individual who is asking for help.
- 4) The reality that while many (especially younger) people have questions about their sexual orientation or identity, this does not mean that they are homosexual and that there will be cases where counselling will help them find their sexual orientation which

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

ISC:

1/2

Unrestricted

May 14, 2020

10:10:35 PM



Public Submission

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may be heterosexuality.

We are Christians, and we believe that every individual has inherent dignity and worth. We believe that all people deserve love and should be supported by law. As Christians we support banning abusive and coercive practices. And we recognize that as Council you must represent and protect all people with their unique values.

For this reason we urge you to amend the proposed bylaw to keep the definition of conversion therapy focused on coercive and abusive practices, that you consult and collaborate with different religious communities, that you protect the freedoms of counselors, and most importantly, that you protect the rights and freedoms of adults and teens to seek out and get the help, advice and support that they are looking for and that they deserve.

Thank you, and may God be with you in your decision and continued work as City Council,
Anthony & Alyssa Dewit



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Bailey

* Last name Davis

Email

Phone (403) 239-9430

* Subject Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion therapy is a barbaric, Machiavellian practice with absolutely zero scientific backing in regards to being a "treatment" for homosexuality. It serves solely as a form of savage abuse unto whomever it is inflicted and has no place within the bounds of a civilized society. The fact that our community is even debating the legality of this primitive exercise is quite frankly, sickening. Conversion therapy is nothing more than a repulsive excuse to instill pointless shame, suffering, and trauma onto human beings.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Becki

* Last name: MRAVUNAC

Email: becki@telusplanet.net

Phone: (403) 540-5884

* Subject: The ban on conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters): I just wanted to voice my support and express that I am in favour of banning conversion therapy. It has no place in today's society and I hope council will do the right thing.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Benjamin

* Last name Butcher

Email BenjaminButcherHimself@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hi! Frankly, it would be foolish to inform the city how I feel about conversion therapy. A much better approach would be to direct the attention of those leading us to the stories which surround conversion therapy. A good case in point would be "Boy Erased". While I have no problem with any consenting adult engaging in whatever therapy they wish to, the reality is that the only obligation any parent has to their child is to mould them as best they can into an incredible being. Sexual orientation has no more to do with whether a person is or isn't amazing than the colour of their eyes.. A ban on conversion therapy protects the lives and minds of the young among us, and is really just an extension of the pre-existing legislated protections for queer people. Be on the side of history which recognizes the humanity of this minority.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Beth
* Last name Hedva
Email drbeth@hedva.com
Phone 4832471441

* Subject End Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
I support the change in by-law...It is long over-due.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Bill

* Last name Skinner

Email tutor.skinner@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear City of Calgary,

I am writing to support the freedom of the people of Calgary to seek counselling of their choice. I am concerned that bylaw limitations on counselling could have unintended consequences that make matters worse for those seeking counsel. I am concerned that limiting forms of counselling, such as through Christian Churches and Charities among others, would have large scale detrimental effects on mental health.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Blesilda

* Last name Bautista

Email blessbautista15@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject City counselling ban the teaching of sexuality

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I strongly agree that we should allow individual to seek the counselling about sexuality immorality and need to teach because it was written in the bible.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Bonnie
* Last name	Mcandrew
Email	bmmcandrew@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Stop conversation therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	There is no use for anything as terrible as conversion therapy. It leads to self harm and suicide As a city we cannot condone anything that causes harm. People can love who they want to love and it's no one else's business. Keep Canada a place where people feel safe and can be themselves.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Brent
* Last name	Sellers
Email	bsellers@hotmail.ca
Phone	4033893518
* Subject	Opposed to current measures proposed regarding "conversion therapy"

To Calgary City Counsel,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the current proposed measures for banning "conversion therapy". I believe that these measures, though they seem progressive, as they currently stand are already outdated. Imposing such a ban using the term "conversion therapy" fails to account for the reality that this term has aged since it was coined, it is a term generally misunderstood and misapplied in our society, and the practices to which it originally referred have already been widely left behind. I fear that the measures proposed will--inadvertently or wrongfully with intent--harm organizations, private practitioners, and faith groups whose counselling practices are not only willfully sought by their clientele or parishioners, but do not in anyway represent the practices of "conversion therapy" which the term was coined to represent.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

It is my belief that any adult should have the right to seek counselling of their choice--especially as it pertains to their faith. Furthermore, any counselling organization or private practitioner should be unencumbered by such a ban--especially as it pertains to the faith they choose to practice--and should submit solely to the accrediting body or college to which they belong. These guardrails protect religious freedom as a pillar of our Canadian society. We must find ways of protecting freedoms without impeding those of others. We can find a way forward protecting the rights of all--and I implore you to seek such a path, beginning with tabling this ban for rewording and reworking based on further research and consultation with the public.

ISC:

1/2

Unrestricted

May 14, 2020

11:18:32 PM



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

Respectfully submitted.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Britta

* Last name Eriksson

Email beriksson@rocketmail.com

Phone

* Subject Ban of conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

This bylaw doesn't need further amendments or debate. It should be passed without hesitation. Let's enter the 21st century, Calgary!



Public Submission

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* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please consider that conversion therapy should be banned everywhere. It's an abhorrent and barbaric practice and anybody speaking in support of it is severely misguided. Invoking religious beliefs is no excuse whatsoever. It's nobody else's business what an individual's sexual orientation and I strongly believe that religion and politics should be separate.



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Caleb

* Last name Van Der Weide

Email caartvanderweide@hotmail.com

Phone

* Subject Freedom of worldview

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am concerned by what I perceive to be an encroachment on the freedom of worldview presented by this bill. By restricting the access that some people have to therapy that is consistent with their worldview, the city of Calgary would be forcing that person to act in accordance with the worldviews of the city legislators, instead of their own. This seems to be a violation of their rights, and therefore should not become law.



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Cameron

* Last name Harris

Email ironrevcam@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban Opposition

SPC on Community and Protective Services
City Clerk's Office
Legislative Service Division #8007
The City of Calgary P.O. Box 2100, Station "M"
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5
Dear Mayor Nenshi and Councillors,
RE: Conversion Therapy Ban, PFC2020-0116

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

This bylaw is over reaching, poorly written and a waste of my tax dollars. Everybody has the right to choose their own therapy and they have the right to leave a church or therapist if they are uncomfortable or anxious.

Also if this is to go through it needs to include the LGBTQ community and others being banned from going into the schools and talking to my kids who are straight about gay and transgender issues. It cannot be one sided in favour of the LGBTQ and their supporters and needs to represent all sides.

In addition this infringes on religious beliefs and freedoms which is protected under the Canadian Charter of human rights and freedoms.

ISC:

1/1

Unrestricted

May 14, 2020

10:03:25 PM



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Carmen
* Last name: Giancarlo
Email: cgiancarlo1@gmail.com
Phone:
* Subject: Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am ashamed to live in a place where conversion "therapy" is still permitted. This is a disgusting practice that needs to cease immediately. How can we say that we stand for equality and against discrimination and yet, still allow our own to be told that something is wrong with them and needs to be changed? Homosexuality was removed from the DSM nearly 50 years ago, yet there remain businesses that gain profit through claiming they can "cure" individuals of their sexual orientation or gender identity change efforts. We know that sexuality is genetic, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms includes freedom from discrimination based on gender, sex, and sexual orientation, and yet these practices remain. We also know that these businesses aren't even effective; rather than changing a person's sexuality or gender identity, they instead cause emotional and psychological harm. This is abuse and must end.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am writing to express my concern with this proposed bylaw. My concern is that it defines "conversion therapy" and "business" so broadly that it would punish Christian pastors, teachers, and counselors for teaching basic Christian sexual ethics. Every individual has inherent dignity and worth and which is why I support banning abusive practices, like aversion therapy. However, I urge you to amend this proposed bylaw to keep the definition of conversion therapy focused only on coercive and abusive practices. Please respect the role of spiritual leaders and do not prohibit them from helping people in need. Please consult with and collaborate with churches and faith-based schools. Let adults and teens get the help and advice they deserve, in accordance with their religious convictions, without interference from the government.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Carolyn

* Last name Bouwsema

Email carolynjbouwsema@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am concerned that the conversion therapy ban will make it impossible for counselors, therapists, pastors, psychologists etc to have conversations with someone struggling with their sexual identity. I do not think that any physical harm should be done to cause someone to not want to be gay or change their gender but am worried that this ban will go too far and not allow professionals to do their job in explaining both sides and the risks involved.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Casey
* Last name Luk
Email caseyluk@gmail.com
Phone 4032578408
* Subject Gay conversion threapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Dear City of Calgary councilors,
We should ban this harmful practice because it would cause psychological injuries and trauma to our citizens. It might aid to the growing unhealthy toxic dystopian video of one's body can lead to suicide or self mutilation. Please safeguard our citizens.
Thank you,
Casey Luk.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Catherine

* Last name Hardy

Email gchardy@telus.net

Phone 4032576018

* Subject Proposed ban on teaching and counselling on sexuality

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

To whom this may concern;

I am very much opposed to the proposed ban on teaching and counselling relating to sexuality, including homosexuality. Not only must our province and country uphold freedom of religion and freedom of speech, but it is also important to allow LGBTQ individuals to seek counsel in whichever way they see fit. Many LGBTQ people seek, and benefit tremendously from, biblical counsel. Any free society must allow for these types of freedoms.

Thank you for giving consideration to my thoughts.

Sincerely,
Catherine Hardy



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Celine

* Last name DeWit

Email celinecdewit@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject No NOT ban conversion therapy!!

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Banning counselling services for conversion therapy is a severe violation of our rights and freedoms. Our country often claims that we have freedom of speech, but it seems like you only have freedom of speech if you have the current popular worldview. There are awesome organizations like Journey Canada that have gotten extremely positive reviews from people I know who have used their services, and by banning these kinds of organizations from working in our city you are severely crippling our city and impinging on our rights. Please reconsider this act!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Chad
* Last name	Vermeulen
Email	hemi331@hotmail.com
Phone	5199690078
* Subject	Bylaw against conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I believe the proposed bylaw against conversion therapy is illogical, unethical and frankly, frightening. To deny a consenting adult access to help they desire makes no sense. To select what constitutes hate speech based purely on the fact that it offends is a scary precedent. William Wilberforce once had a message that offended many, but its offensiveness did not mean he was wrong. The concept of making faith based convictions illegal and making court based defense of such convictions is terrifying. I do not advocate bullying, or even pestering people for their life choices; but making laws that render disagreeing with those people (or even offering to peacefully and respectfully explain why you disagree) against the law is a terrifying attack against a fundamental pillar of democracy, that of free speech.



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* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please Council, use your kindness, compassion and humanity to pass Bylaw 3M2017 as it is written. Everyone deserves to live their best life, no matter their sexual orientation. This world is changing and so should our society's approach to abolish conversion therapy. We need to embrace individuality not attempt to conform people.
#LovesIsLove

Thank you from a caring, queer, human.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Chelsea

* Last name Gustafson

Email

Phone 5878882450

* Subject Regarding the Bill Involving Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Greetings!

My name is Chelsea and I am writing because i share a passionate view against conversion therapy. The practice itself, speaking from personal experience, is dehumanizing, inhumane and harmful. My personal experience with the practice of conversion therapy contributed to anxiety, depression and addiction issues.

Every person should have the safety of gender and sexual orientation expression to live their most authentic lives, no person or organization should have the ability to operate as a business or practice involving conversion therapy or repression of identity.

Thank you for hearing my voice.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Chris
* Last name	Campbell
Email	chrisd_campbell@yahoo.ca
Phone	4035428269
* Subject	Conversion Therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Conversion Therapy should not even be a debate. Any human being who believes conversion therapy is a method of treatment should have to endure the therapy themselves and see if they deem it humane. Religion should play no part in making laws.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Christelle

* Last name Roy

Email chrisroyc@yahoo.ca

Phone

* Subject BAN Conversion Therapy

Hello,

Today I am writing in a short statement in support of banning conversion therapy. My objective reasoning is as follows:

1) Conversion Therapy inherently puts into question the legitimacy and of a person by assuming that something is "wrong" with them and should be "repaired". Someone's sexual identity is never something that should be put up for discussion or debate - this would go against our rights and freedoms as Canadians. A company or organization thinking they can change a person at their core (for a profit no less) is not only unethical but also completely arrogant. No one should be trying to convert anyone. Ever.

2) What people need are support systems in place to care for them and help them on their journeys. Whether that is a community centre, a book club, a youth group, a church, or another social outlet - we all need to feel like we belong. Conversion Therapy spits in the face of every mentor, parent, friend, therapist, and support person who works tirelessly to make others feel whole and accepted. People should be free to seek the help they need in any situation, and when they are ready, but should never have to be subjected to a so called "therapy" that aims to fundamentally change who they are as a person, this is wrong.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

3) Organizations with a historically conservative, anti-individualistic, and paternalistic

ISC:

1/2

Unrestricted

May 17, 2020

1:06:46 PM



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

basis should not hold so much power that would allow them to influence a secular, fair, just, and equal country/city. Government institutions should be separate from institutions and persons of religious and devout agendas and beliefs.

For these reasons, and many others, I would urge Council to be on the correct side of history here and vote yes on banning Conversion Therapy.

Show your local citizens, and your Country that all people are respected and free. This ban is twofold: it allows people of the LGBTQ+ community to be recognized as full humans, and it also doesn't impede on anyone else's right to their freedoms. The only individuals who would seem to have a problem with this By-Law are people who are uneducated/ignorant/mislead or actively participate in discrimination. Show them that we will not stand for it.

Respectfully,
Christelle Roy



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Christine
* Last name: Osgood
Email: cmosgood@gmail.com
Phone: 6049103881
* Subject: Ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hello,
As a young person growing up in Calgary I struggled to fit in. I didn't understand what about me wasn't like my peers, I couldn't figure out what made me different. It wasn't until years later, and another city, that I was able to realize I am queer. I grew up feeling lost and alone and confused because I didn't see anyone like me. Allowing conversion therapy to continue will result in more hurt young women who have to leave Calgary in order to come in to the full, beautiful, queer magic that is their birthright. Please don't force us from our beloved prairie home in order to do so. Let the next generation stay here and share their magic. I promise you won't regret it.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Cierra

* Last name Clark

Email clarkcierraj@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion therapy is an outdated and vile practice. I am shocked it doesn't go against our charter of rights and freedoms. It simply has no place in our city of Calgary or Canada as a whole, and it would be an extraordinarily horrible mistake to not have it made illegal. Sexual orientation and preference is not a choice, it's innately who you are, no matter how it is expressed. It should be as normal as heterosexuality is in society, and should be protected by the "state" regardless of the "church's" position. Separating church and state protects lives. If the city of Calgary prides itself on upholding mental and physical health of its people, this is a starting point to help protect my LGBTQ+ friends and family. If you're not an ally, you're perpetuating hate and persecution.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

It should be the universal understanding of this council that abuse, in whatever form it may take, should not be protected under the law.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Colleen

* Last name Brooks

Email colleenbrooks@shaw.ca

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy of LGBTQ+ individuals

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I would like to lend my support for the banning of Conversion Therapy. As the mother of 2 kids who are both LGBTQ+, it breaks my heart to think of anyone being made to feel they are not okay being themselves. My children are very different, but what they share is that they have been who they are since birth. And in my home knowing who you are and owning it is celebrated. We do t need to ban Conversion Therapy for kids like mine. The people who need us to ban this horrendous practice are those who are powerless, often children, sent to be bullied emotionally and through their faith into being something they are not. Our society is not a civilized society if we allow Conversion Therapy to continue. We know it causes life long emotional and psychological damage. That is not up for debate. We can't pretend there is any part of this practice that is acceptable to subject vulnerable people to. I hope you are willing to step up for those who need you. Send a message that we will not let children or other vulnerable people be told they are damaged and that who they love is evil. It's not okay to let this happen for one more day in this city. Let's celebrate love, not hate. Love is love is love is love. Period!!

Thank you for your time and attention.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Connie
* Last name	Edwards
Email	connieedwards@shaw.ca
Phone	403-252-0377
* Subject	Banning Conversion Therapy in Calgary

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I am in full support of this By-Law. Myself and many other individuals I know have children, family and relatives in the LGBTQ community. I believe we should all be free to love and be with whoever we want regardless of gender. Stifling who we are as an individual only creates more physical and mental issues which puts more strain on our medical/health system which is already taxed. I know individuals with health, mental and physical, that have had a hard time getting help in our system before COVID-19. By not supporting this By-Law I fear what our communities and health system will be like in the future.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Coralie
* Last name	Van de Bruinhorst
Email	cowgirlcoralie.97@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Free speech
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Why has Canada become so intolerant to anybody actually being aloud to speak there mind in the name of feelings



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Courtney
* Last name Tario
Email courtney.tario@gmail.com
Phone 4033545823
* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in shock that this abhorrent "therapy" isn't already illegal already. It has NO place in our world and certainly no place in Canada.

Our city prides itself in being a welcome community for ALL people. Allowing such a disgusting and vile form of torture is the exact opposite of what we pride ourselves in.

It is 2020, we are better than this, Calgary is better than this, and CANADA is better than this.

Please for the love of all things good and right in this world, ban Conversion therapy. Do not allow another poor soul to be subjected to this unproven garbage form "therapy". It is not scientifically backed, and does nothing. Members of the LGBTQ+ community do not need to be converted, there is nothing WRONG with them.

Every single day that the city promotes LGBTQ+ rights while waving the rainbow flag, is a absolute slap in the face of hypocrisy if you are continuing to allow conversion therapy

Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Darlene

* Last name Orton

Email dorton@telus.net

Phone

* Subject FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I request to allow people to freely choose Conversion Therapy if they desire...not all churches or counsellors are bad.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Deanne

* Last name Goodwin

Email deanne_g@shaw.ca

Phone 4035421883

* Subject Conversion therapy ban proposal

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

To Whom it may concern - I support the bylaw to ban conversion therapy AS IS; with no exemptions or loopholes! The language is critical. please understand there must be no wiggle room or loopholes. If there are people doing conversion therapy, will simply call it something else and carry on with the abuse of LGBTQ + people. This isn't acceptable. It must be illegal and punishable as the crime that it is for offenders who practice conversion therapy.

I was wounded and shocked by the homophobic and transphobic rhetoric we heard from many callers and read in the submissions at the previous session; it showed the worst of Calgary. But we also saw the best towards the end. As the last caller Margaret said: 'It is only logical that we create environments and laws that allow ALL of us to flourish.'

Again, let's get this bylaw passed!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Deidre

* Last name Lotecki

Email dlotecki@gmail.com

Phone 5878940822

* Subject Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

To whom it may concern,

Please ban conversion therapy. This is a horrible mistreatment of humankind and it has NO place in our city or world. The fact that conversation therapy is still allowed in our city is terrible and I am extremely upset that this horrible treatment of people is being allowed. This is a complete violation of human rights and you need to ban conversion therapy immediately.

Sincerely,
Deidre Lotecki



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Deniz
* Last name	Donmezer
Email	ddonmezer@mail.greenriver.edu
Phone	
* Subject	Ban Conversion Therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I am from Secular Humanists of Calgary. I support ban on conversion therapy, I think conversion therapy is very inhumane.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hi there. I'm writing to express my views on banning conversion therapy. It's a violation of human rights and so detrimental and toxic to the LGBTQ+ community.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Donald
* Last name	Symbalisty
Email	donnyblue233@gmail.com
Phone	4037744170
* Subject	Do not ban
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I'm not in agreement with the banning of teaching biblical views on sexuality. People should have choices where they can go



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Donna
* Last name	Thompson
Email	djtg@shaw.ca
Phone	403-619-1984
* Subject	Banning of Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I really do pray the right and correct decision is made to ban conversion therapy. It is a horrific and cruel thing to do to any human being. For the life of me, I cannot understand how someone who claims to be christian, religious, God fearing, could want this for another human being. The only reason is their own fear of someone not being 'like them'. Don't let these people ruin lives and hurt others who deserve the right to be themselves.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	edward
* Last name	worthington
Email	edward.worthington@gmail.com
Phone	6478804036
* Subject	support needed
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I believe God made two genders and I believe if someone is having trouble with this than they should be allowed to have counselling. Thank-you



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

If the government puts restrictions on certain ways of raising a child, or speaking with a friend, then how far will those restrictions go? For now, don't talk about gender. What's to stop that from becoming political views? Will religions no longer be able to talk about their faith with others? Will people of certain parties be banned from speaking up? The cost of the freedom of speech was high, with a lot of bloodshed. We are a nation that values the right to speak our minds. Are we even considered free if we can no longer speak freely?



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Eric

* Last name Born

Email

Phone

* Subject RE: Conversion Therapy Ban (PFC2020-0116)

Dear City Council:

I believe that coercion violates the core values of our free and democratic society. Forcing members of the LGBTQ2S+ community to endure unwanted therapy is wrong. It is also wrong to force members of the LGBTQ2S+ and other communities to only say things that agree with state-approved opinions & positions.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

This bylaw goes far beyond simply banning coercive therapy and makes sharing views with another person that are not state-approved an offense punishable by fine or incarceration. This by-law could result in many unintended LGBT consequences down the road that hurt the rights and freedoms of people in the LGBTQ2S+ and other communities.

I respectfully appeal to you to change the wording in this by-law to address forced & unwanted conversion therapy while allowing all Calgarians to keep their charter rights.

ISC:

1/1

Unrestricted

May 14, 2020

10:24:29 PM



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Erin

* Last name Woodcox

Email erin.woodcox@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion therapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

The conversion therapy ban is extremely concerning to me and I am in total disagreement with it being passed. It is deceitful for the City of Calgary to include pastors, counsellors, and others who might disagree with homosexuality and transgenderism as providing conversion therapy. These individuals are often part of faith-based groups (though not always), and provide counselling based on their faith and beliefs, often encouraging and affirming the gender in which people were born (gender assigned at birth). How is this wrong? How can the City of Calgary even consider banning such practices, especially when confused individuals seek it out?! Many transgendered people have indeed reported confusion in their lifestyles, and it is well documented that young adults especially choose their biological gender, often regretting hormone blockers, sex-change surgeries, etc. I implore the City of Calgary to desist from passing any conversation therapy ban. All Canadians deserve the freedom to select a counselor of their choice.



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Francis
* Last name	Routledge
Email	francis.anne.routledge@gmail.com
Phone	4038294842
* Subject	Calgary Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I'm writing in regards to the ban on conversion therapy and I am extremely glad that this ban has been proposed and am hopeful that it will pass. Too many people have suffered at the hands of forceful conversion therapy. It is important to not only address, reason and discuss amongst the council on banning forced conversion therapy amongst children, but the sociological aspects of pressure from a heteronormative society to "fit in" and religions that deem one's existence as lesser and manipulate one into thinking that something is wrong with them. Being gay was once a disorder in the DSM. It's time for Calgary to catch up with other metropolitan areas within Canada and finally step up. It's 2020.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Gavin

* Last name Roberts

Email

Phone 587-435-6745

* Subject Thoughts on PFC2020-0116

Dear Calgary City Council,

I am writing to you regarding the Conversion Therapy Ban (PFC2020-0116). While I could not agree with you more that therapy involving abuse or coercion is appalling and wrong, I believe the current by-law you are proposing goes far beyond the issue of abuse. This by-law infringes on the sharing of ideas and values between adults who have consented to a conversation. I urge you to reconsider the general wording of the by-law and rewrite it to ensure that no Calgarians could be prosecuted for sharing their personal values with another adult in a conversation that both have agreed to.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am also concerned about the effect of this by-law regarding the support of Calgarians who are questioning their gender identity. The wording of the ban suggests that it is only right to support a person towards choosing a new gender identity. However, there are surely many cases where a person may question their gender identity but conclude that the gender they are experiencing is the one they actually are. The wording suggests that these Calgarians are not worthy of support from others if they choose to keep their original gender. You, the councilors, are implying that the only right decision for these Calgarians is to change their gender. I am astonished that you feel comfortable making this decision for all Calgarians in all circumstances. It seems to me that honest and unbiased therapists in Calgary should be allowed to present all options to those questioning their gender identity rather than city council's predetermined decision.

ISC:

1/2

Unrestricted

May 14, 2020

9:47:47 PM



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

Finally, I am shocked and incredulous that as city councilors you believe you have the right to impose broad restrictions on adults who have consented to converse with each other. If you do not recognize this as a direct attack on freedom of speech in Canada, I would ask you where and when you will draw the line.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Graeme
* Last name	Voy
Email	graeme.voy@gmail.com
Phone	4038699063
* Subject	Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Conversion therapy needs to be banned. It should have been done years ago. A religious group should not be able to take advantage and force their belief system on vulnerable youths in our community. A person's value is not determined by their sexual orientation or who they love. Trying to force someone to be who they are not can have a traumatic effect on mental health. Ban conversion therapy!
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* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

It has come to my attention that a discussion is taking place over whether the teaching and counselling with a biblical view has any merit in our society. As a Canadian I feel strongly that there should be provision for faith based groups to be able to receive counselling of their choice, including counselling that relates to sexuality and LGBTQ issues. The Canadian Charter of Rights, freedom of speech and religious freedoms would be seriously compromised if action by any municipality or province banned a person's right to teach or counsel according to deeply held personal convictions. Also, LGBTQ individuals could be prevented from getting the help and support they themselves may be seeking. A free society allows for choice.

Sincerely,
Graham Hardy



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Heather

* Last name Smith

Email smith.hd@gmail.com

Phone 5872245575

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please ban conversion therapy in Calgary.
So-called "conversion therapy," is dangerous and falsely claims to change a person's sexual orientation or gender identity or expression. Such practices have been rejected by every mainstream medical and mental health organization for decades. Minors are especially vulnerable, and conversion therapy can lead to depression, anxiety, drug use, homelessness, and suicide.

Please stop allowing this in our city.

Thank you



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Holly
* Last name	Grinwis
Email	hollygrinwis301@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion therapy ban
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I fully support banning conversion therapy in the city.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Ishnoor

* Last name Dhillon

Email ishnoord1@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject BAN Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion Therapy has been proved, time and again, to an unethical, traumatizing treatment for Queer people. There is no research backing up its effectiveness, it is simply a means to spread fear, hatred and guilt.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	James
* Last name	McLaren
Email	luke@lukemclaren.com
Phone	4038802296
* Subject	Limiting Choice of Counselling Based On Views of Sexuality

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

As citizens of Canada, we are guided by a deep commitment to our Judeo-Christian worldview. This worldview was the foundational in forming our society and legal system. As citizens, and even more so as Christians, we strongly believe in, and promote tolerance and inclusion of all peoples and all religions. Intentionally or not, what our government is attempting is actually discrimination against our deeply held beliefs. We are strongly opposed to the governments of our City, Province, and Country enforcing a biased moral/religious worldview by limiting the choice of counselling we can give or receive. Our Country has traditionally supported and held to inclusion of various viewpoints and respect of all religions. To see these rights being superseded by the state is more than concerning. It is a dangerous precedent. True tolerance doesn't equal agreement, but respect in disagreement. True inclusiveness does not mean forced behaviour, but respect and graciousness for those with whom we disagree.

Every moral teaching has a belief system (worldview) underpinning it. People and governments on any side of any moral argument have a belief behind that argument. "Religion" need not involve a specific God or gods, it is simply what we believe and what informs our moral positions. In that sense, we all have a "religious" belief or view point. To be truly free to practice a "religion" or belief system, true tolerance and inclusiveness is foundational. The exclusive, intolerant view on sexuality that our government seems to want to enforce, is actually part of a very specific worldview/moral/religious belief. This is opposite of what our Country is to stand for.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

I respectfully ask you to reconsider your position understanding how narrow, exclusive, and intolerant it is of many Canadians beliefs. Throughout history, the disasters that societies have experienced when the state becomes the intolerant enforcer of moral absolutes, whether it be atheism, or fanaticism in the name of some god, the implications have been horrific. Please continue to grant, encourage, and model to us as citizens, true tolerance and inclusiveness based on the best traditions and foundations of our free and open society. Let us practice and teach our worldview without the overbearing, rights denying enforcement of a specific religious view advocated by the state. Let us practice our faith without the fear of repercussions from the state.

Respectfully,

Luke McLaren



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Janice

* Last name Cole

Email janicecole@gmail.com

Phone 4037014870

* Subject Ban on Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion therapy" is morally/ethically corrupt and should be illegal. Period.



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jared

* Last name Smith

Email jareds926@gmail.com

Phone 4033899490

* Subject Conversion therapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion therapy has no noted benefits and its supporters refuse to acknowledge the inherent identities of its participants. This has no place in civilized society.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Jeanne
* Last name	Barry
Email	jeanne.michelle.b@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Ban Conversion Therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please ban conversion therapy. It is a horrific practice with an incredibly high suicide rate, and has proved to not only be entirely ineffectual, but causes lifetime mental health issues for those that survive. Its continued existence also promotes the dangerous and incorrect notion that being LGBTQ2+ is bad or wrong.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Jeff
* Last name: Nahuis
Email: jeffco@nucleus.com
Phone:
* Subject: Green Line

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Given how people's work schedules have evolved into more working out of the home since the onset of covid19 virus, maybe city counsellors need to step back and defer any decisions on building the Green Line. Will the downtown offices become even more empty? The downtown office vacancy rate is over 25% already. I believe the Green Line's primary function is to transport more workers into downtown. Companies will seriously contemplate allowing their workers to continue working out of their homes after the virus dust settles. Why would companies want to pay high office rents when staff can work out of their homes. What is the point of building another completely new LRT Line (Green Oine).



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jennifer

* Last name Malcolm

Email jenmalcolm@gmail.com

Phone 4039923279

* Subject How is it even a question?

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion therapy should be banned. It does nothing but hurt people. There's no basis for it and there is nothing needed to convert. I am appalled that this is even up for debate and horrified that the majority are voting to not ban it.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jenny

* Last name Hutton

Email jennyhutton1993@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Ban Gay Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

It's disgusting that Calgary has not banned conversion therapy yet. It's discriminatory and abusing. The City of Calgary needs to make the right choice and ban this "therapy", it's really not a matter for debate.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jenny

* Last name Morrison

Email jennylynnemorrison@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Right to Choose

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Ban torture and abuse. Please do not resources that I as a person may want like counselling, church events, resources and seminars that will assist me in living the life I desire, particularly heterosexually. If the intent behind a conversion therapy ban is to guard a person's right to live as they choose, especially sexually, then reason would require that you indeed guard a person's right to live as they choose, especially sexually!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jesse

* Last name Fortier

Email jessefortier@outlook.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion therapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I support the ban on conversion therapy. Conversion therapy is homophobic, backwards, awful, and should be banned in our city, province, and country



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Jessie
* Last name	Mahoney
Email	bodajessie@gmail.com
Phone	5878882321
* Subject	I don't support
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Conversion therapy should be banned



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jo
* Last name Redmond
Email joba00@hotmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
It's unbelievable that conversion "therapy" isn't already banned in the year 2020. Do the obvious right thing and ban it today.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Joan
* Last name: DEHMEL
Email: joanalice@shaw.ca
Phone: N/A
* Subject: CONVERSION THERAPY

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Canadian Constitution states we are entitled to freedom of speech. Men and women died for this in the WW11. Now people are trying to take freedom of speech away.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jo-Anne

* Last name Beggs

Email bjoannebeggs@gmail.com

Phone 6476090236

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I implore you to ban conversion therapy. As a trauma therapist I've been witness to the damage caused-suicidality, self hatred, relationship issues, under functioning. Personally I've had friends who were subjected to it-same issues plus reckless behaviours due to self hatred instilled & trauma reactions, ie addictions, unsafe sexual practices. As an lgbtq+ person Conversion Therapy is yet another tool of our oppression & violence to which were subjected. There are no psychological grounds to show it effective nor desirable. Affirming people builds esteem, good quality of life & functioning. Conversion Therapy damages & destroys.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Joanne

* Last name Doe

Email

Phone 5875003032

* Subject Concern re: conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
In the new proposed ban on conversion therapy, it is defined so broadly that multiple Christian or other religious counseling resources will soon become illegal, punishable by \$10,000 and a year in jail.
We need more consultation before passing this ban.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Joey
* Last name: Schouten
Email: schoutenjoe@gmail.com
Phone:
* Subject: Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear Members of Calgary City Council
Regarding the proposed conversion therapy ban; I would urge you to not proceed with this particular bylaw. Should an individual be struggling with matters related to sexuality, sexual orientation and gender identity I sincerely believe that the government should not be getting involved. These individuals should be free to seek out counselling or assistance which they believe is in line with their own beliefs, which would include their own personal faith beliefs. I would agree with the majority that any type of counselling or assistance should always be done in a kind and compassionate way and should never include any type of abusive persuasion whether it be physical or verbal. As you move forward in your decision making process, I pray that you may take these words to heart

Respectfully
Joey Schouten



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jonn
* Last name VanBryce
Email jonnvb@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject BAN CONVERSION THERAPY!

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
I urge all officials of power to take a stand against conversion therapy! This must end love is love and no child or person should have ever been told otherwise.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jordan

* Last name Kerner

Email thekernerfactor@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I was so proud when I originally heard that Calgary was going to ban this harmful practice. How can something be called therapy when statistically the outcomes of those who attend are worse? Right now, you have the opportunity to be on the right side of history. You can join the wave and do the right thing and be remembered for it. Please, take a stand against bigotry and hatred and choose love and acceptance



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Joshua
* Last name Blakeley
Email jeblakeley1@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban, PFC2020-0116.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Please see Attachment

Don't ban conversion therapy. The harmful archaic methods are not used anymore. The proposed ban is too far reaching & limits the freedom of choice of Calgarians. It also infringes on the religious rights of all people, straight or LGBTQ+. Do not pass this ban & allow all people the ability to choose the way they want to live their lives.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Justin

* Last name Mccarthy

Email

Phone

* Subject Anti Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I'm Christian faith based. My life and family are guided by God's Word (The Bible). God created a Man and Woman only, he did not create any other sex of human being. Biologically speaking only a Woman and a Man can conceive babies, any other combination of human being sex is against nature. It is not healthy (mentally speaking) for children to hear about having two dadys or two momys and giving them the option to select if the want to be boy or girl. I heard a story, a 5 years old boy having his best friend at school (another boy), and after Christmas break that boy best friend did not exist anymore, now that boy is a girl. The 5 year old boy was in total shock and mentally/emotionally affected. The mom had to find professional mental health therapy to help her son to understand that situation. Please reconsider this decision thinking about the rest of the society not only about human rights for those who want to convert to a different sex.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Kaite

* Last name Goldsworthy

Email kagoldsworthy@shaw.ca

Phone (403) 619-2287

* Subject Ban on Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am writing to declare my full support in BANNING conversion therapy in the City of Calgary. There is absolutely no place for this archaic practice, none whatsoever. It is incredibly harmful and detrimental to the physical and mental health of those they are trying to 'convert'. In my opinion there is no religious or moral ground for condoning this practice. Quite simply put it violates basic human rights, and has no place in our city (or any quite frankly). I sincerely hope that it is banned, and we show the world that our city will not tolerate this practice. Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Karen

* Last name Goodman

Email

Phone 5626935404

* Subject Counseling ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please do not restrict the ability of people in your province from being able to seek help in changing their lifestyle if they so desire it based on the fears or agenda of the homosexual community and associated organizations. It is the right of each individual to seek whatever guidance they deem necessary to live a happy and productive life, and if that requires their selling out biblical or other counseling, they should not be denied.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Katherine

* Last name Main

Email katherine.a.main@gmail.com

Phone 4035421887

* Subject Ban the abuse practice of conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

We must ban conversion therapy. It's shocking that we are even debating this form of abuse. Just as it is now proven that putting prisoners in isolation to "rehabilitate" them has long term psychological impacts akin to torture, this practice is no different. Just as we know the horrendous impact of inter-generational trauma that Indigenous people in Canada have suffered as a result of "civilization" methods, this practice is no different. In seeking to "convert" people through conversion therapy from who they truly are - we are repeating history, traumatizing innocent people and continuing yet another cycle of inter-generational trauma. What will it take for us to protect individual's rights to be respected, honored and accepted as they are? I want to live in a city that believes in people's rights and is not afraid to be a global example of these principles. Come on, Calgary, do the right thing!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Katie
* Last name	Dodd
Email	katie.dodd56@gmail.com
Phone	5872252235
* Subject	Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please continue to follow the necessary steps to ban conversion therapy in our beautiful city. This is required to help make Calgary a safer community for all people.
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Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Katie

* Last name: Hillman

Email: 3hillmanboys@gmail.com

Phone:

* Subject: Unwanted bans placed on teaching and counselling of biblical views.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters): Our family believes all Canadians should have the right to have the choice of what type of counselling we want to have. We do not want any bans put on teaching and counselling of biblical views. After all if we no longer had a choice or if our options were taken away, what does that say about our freedom?



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Kavi
* Last name: Gunawardane

Email

Phone: 4036293476

* Subject: Banning Conversion Therapy Should NOT Still Be a Topic to Debate

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Section 15 of our Charter states that "Every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination and, in particular, without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability." Why are we not protecting our LGBTQ+ community from the despicable damage and strife that conversion therapy causes? Most people do not believe in conversion therapy for race because you literally cannot "change your race." This should clearly be seen the same way when it comes to sexuality. Sexual orientation is not something that one "chooses" to change. I am extremely disappointed that the city that I was once proud to be from is still having to debate on whether conversion therapy should be banned. Queer children grow up struggling to accept who they are because it is issues and "debates" like this that hold them back from expressing themselves fully. Being part of the LGBTQ+ community is not a sin or wrongdoing and should never be seen as such. Please, it is 2020, and this must be put to rest. Ban conversion therapy and make Calgary the accepting city it has the potential to be. It is a shame that Calgary is so behind other major metropolitan areas in terms of basic human decency. It is time we took it upon ourselves to help our LGBTQ+ brothers, sisters, friends, family, and children enjoy their right to feel safe and accepted in their own city.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Because it's homophobic and stupid and a human rights violation. There's really nothing more to it than that. And leave the language in the by-law exactly as it is. Please and thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Leanne
* Last name	Burrows
Email	leannesmith@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Ban
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support the Conversion Therapy Ban AS WRITTEN, with NO amendments!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Levi
* Last name	Roberts
Email	leviroberts0710@gmail.com
Phone	4038501523
* Subject	Concerns about Conversion Therapy Ban, PFC2020-0116

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear Calgary City Council,
I am appalled by how willingly and eagerly you overstep your boundaries. As Calgarians, we happen to be governed by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. There is no need to separate Calgary morally from the rest of Canada. Why do you feel the need to supplant the charter with additional by-laws which limit our freedom of speech? A complex moral issue such as the one you are discussing has profound and far-reaching effects and should be well outside the authority of one city council to implement.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Lina

* Last name Kunina

Email kunina.lina@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Ban Cinverson Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion therapy is inhumane and will not make gays straight or trans people less trans. All it does is create lasting psychological damage. Ban conversion therapy and use the money that goes towards it towards supporting LGBTQ+ community and providing them with actual resources that work. Thanks!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Lisa

* Last name Bridges

Email lisabridges@shaw.ca

Phone 4036519667

* Subject Ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Ridiculous that this is needed in 2020, but please ban conversion therapy



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Lisa
* Last name	Mclver
Email	lisa@fiopt.com
Phone	14037714117
* Subject	Choice

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please allow people to choose the form of help they would like to receive. Taking away people's choices is not part of a democratic society and should not even be considered.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Lisa

* Last name Miguez

Email

Phone

* Subject The bylaw for banning conversion therapy in Calgary

Why the bylaw banning conversion therapy is a good thing, and long overdue...

As a Calgarian and a gay woman, I'm not asking to be your friend. I'm not even asking you to accept who I love. I'm asking you to understand that my "lifestyle" is not a choice and really isn't much different than yours.

LGBTQ+ people contribute as much to society as you - we are your nurses, doctors, teachers, cashiers, bus drivers, contractors and so much more. We love and hurt the same as you. To you, our love for each other is different than what you believe and therefore must be wrong. It is not wrong, it is just different.

I don't live my life as a labelled person. I don't wake up everyday and say, "hey, I'm a gay woman". I work hard, I pay my bills, I buy goods and services, I help my neighbours, and I am in a 21 year loving relationship - no label required.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I don't need to be "fixed". Young people coming to grips with who they are - straight, gay, trans - is part of growing up and finding your place in the world. They do not need to be "fixed". And they certainly do not need to be told that who they are is wrong, a sin or a crime.

It is absolutely your right to practice your set of beliefs/traditions and it is not my right to enforce upon you to change just as it is not your right to force damaging "therapies"

ISC:

1/2

Unrestricted

May 17, 2020

10:38:03 PM



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

upon me or any young person to change us to be who you want us to be. We do not "choose" to be who we are. We just are.

Please step back from your beliefs for a moment and step into your humanity, and your compassion. Try to understand that it's not a one size fits all world. Believe what you believe, but know the damage caused by using your "therapies" on especially vulnerable people is not for the better.

The ban on conversion therapy must proceed.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Lissy
* Last name	Snowden
Email	lissybrosens@me.com
Phone	4038702039
* Subject	Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support this bylaw, AS IT IS WRITTEN, with NO AMENDMENTS, to ban the practice of conversion therapy in the City of Calgary.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Liz
* Last name	Fontana
Email	lizjohnston80@hotmail.com
Phone	4039697281
* Subject	Ban on conversion therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I am in favour of a ban on conversion therapy practices.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Liz

* Last name Small

Email abfabfp@gmail.com

Phone 403 605 4829

* Subject Conversion therapy Vote May 2020

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Not only is conversion therapy inhumane, isolating and significantly damaging to the health and wellbeing of the people directly impacted, it is equally damaging to the communities who allow them to continue. On the contrary, cultures of inclusivity reduce our feelings of isolation and increase our sense of belonging. Inclusivity reduces instances of depression, self harm and suicide, and not just for the gender and sexually diverse, but for everyone. Please vote on my behalf to stop the support of this barbaric practice in Alberta. Thank you



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Lori

* Last name: Roadhouse

Email: witty_lady@yahoo.com

Phone:

* Subject: Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am writing to ask that the City of Calgary passes the bylaw banning conversion therapy. It is my belief, along with support from the WHO and countless psychiatrists and psychotherapists, that conversion therapy is tantamount to torture. It is an egregious human rights abuse. It is physical, mental and psychological abuse, and in some cases, it is also sexual abuse. There is no reason to support archaic and out-dated methods of denying human beings the right to express their inherent and innate sexuality. Conversion therapy does not "cure" anyone of homosexuality, it only oppresses them. Far right-wing and extremist religious zealots must have no influence on the laws of our city, or on the rights of human beings. Just as female genital mutilation is a criminal offence in Canada, so must be conversion therapy. We know better, we must do better, and we must set a high-bar and example for the rest of Canada, and indeed, the rest of the world. Thank you for your consideration.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Lorraine

* Last name Allenbach

Email emaillorrainenow@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Free speech

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

To Whom it may concern - City of Calgary; Please do not ban the teaching or counselling from a stance that disagrees with one group. Canadians should be free to receive the counselling of their choice - freedom of thought and speech are fundamental to the Canadian way and the constitution. If you ban free speech about sexuality, where does it end? When we can no longer dialogue about the things that make us human, we lose our humanity. Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Luna

* Last name Sinclair

Email lunassinclair@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Banning Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

The practice of conversion therapy is immoral and dehumanizing. It is inexcusable to permit the continuation of it in Calgary. We are such a beautiful and diverse city and it is ridiculous that we allow such damaging practices. People who are apart of the LGBT + community are valid and whole and should not be subject to these attempts to force change. It is especially harmful to youth who's brains respond to trauma differently. When you attempt to suppress such a big part of someone's identity it has irreversible affects on their mental and physical health. If we actually support the rights of Calgary's LGBT+ community it is imperative that we ban conversion therapy.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Madeline

* Last name Kich

Email madelineriley00@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Banning conversion therapy.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

This is something that is unacceptable and horrible that this is still taking place in our city, province, country, and in the world. People have the right to be who they are and love who they want with no judgement and without being forced to TRYING change something natural and ok. Please please stop this from happening to people. The trauma, mental health issues, and general effects this causes the LGBTQ+ community face is unacceptable and is disgusting that it still happens today. Who you are and who you love is no ones business besides you and your partner.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Maeve

* Last name Casey

Email maeve.casey73@gmail.com

Phone 4036908108

* Subject Please vote no to Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please vote no conversion therapy I wanted to share this story with you I had conversion therapy done to me after I came out to my parents when I was 7 that I was a girl first they being my parents took me to a children's psychiatrist then they too me electric shock therapy it wasn't until I remember a cap being put on my head my partner said did it look like this by pulling up a picture of it on her phone, she yeah that's a shock therapy cap.By the way this was back in late 70 early 80s We need to stop this.So this never happens to anybody again.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Mandy
* Last name	Hofer
Email	jocelynn.homan@gmail.com
Phone	5872295894
* Subject	Conversion therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I fully support the ban on "conversion therapy". The majority of people who attend are minors being forced by parental guardians. This ban advocates for the acceptance of the LGBQ community and steers away from the oppressive and harmful views "conversion therapy" demonstrates.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Marcia

* Last name Wildeboer

Email marcia.will@hotmail.com

Phone

* Subject Counseling

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

To whom it concerns,
Citizens of Canada must be able to access counseling of their choice, and counselors of every background and religions must be allowed to practise as part of democratic freedoms.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Maria

* Last name: Smolkova

Email: maria.smolkova@yahoo.com

Phone:

* Subject: Allow for free choice of therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I really object to take away people's right to get counseling of their preference. I do not agree that the government should dictate what discussions the citizens are allowed to have and which ones are to be criminalized in such a way. People are always looking for answers to their questions in any type of distress, and need to be allowed to make their own opinion and seek help if desired and as desired. This bill is criminalizing support groups and people who are in advisory positions. People looking for advice or at least someone to talk to will no longer be able to do so as they will be putting themselves as well as the other person at risk of facing penalties. This is no longer a free country. No one is forcing any counseling on anyone, but the people that do want to talk to someone should be allowed to do so freely.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Mariella

* Last name Wynacht

Email mwynacht@yahoo.ca

Phone 4032853911

* Subject Ban on conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
People have the right to make their own decision. It nobody's business if a person decides to get therapy.
Where's democracy?
Therapy or not let the individual decide.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Mathieu
* Last name	Boudreau
Email	mathieu.boud@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion therapy ban
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support the ban on conversion therapy with current writing of the bill.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Matt

* Last name Span

Email monkeywrench_88@hotmail.com

Phone

* Subject Proposed ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Value free speech in its entirety, not just speech that agrees with certain groups of people. There is a ton wrong with the broad language of the proposed ban.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Matthew

* Last name Armon

Email matt.armon@gmail.com

Phone 5878972393

* Subject gay conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

how is this archaic practice still even being considered?!? This dehumanizing practice has no place in our society and the thought of us doing anything less than banning makes me very disappointed.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Maxime
* Last name	Beauregard
Email	maxime@cspaceprojects.com
Phone	1-450-502-8133
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Ban

Dear members of City Council,

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I write to you in this day of International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia to let you know that I believe firmly that the bylaw on the conversion therapy ban should be passed as it is written. I am transgender non-binary and an advocate for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. I don't want any more of my two-spirit, gay, transgender and queer siblings to be tortured and/or die because of who they love or who they are. We do not choose how we were born, we do not choose who we love. You however have an opportunity to choose; you can choose to end suffering, choose to vote for respect and human rights. There's nothing wrong about loving freely and living an authentic happy life. We are all unique, raised with different beliefs, cultures, social classes, education, born with different abilities, bodies, and colours, but in the end we are all humans and we are all valid. I urge you to vote to stop the harmful, abusive and inhuman practice of conversion therapy. Everyone deserves human rights, protect the 2SLGBTQIA+ people against abuse.

Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Maxine

* Last name Tilbury

Email maxinetilbury@msn.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion therapy is a disgusting practice that degrades and traumatizes the victims that are subject to it. It has been proven that these practices do not work and only serve the people who believe they can change something that cannot be changed. A person loves who they love in their heart and should be free to express that without fearing they will be forced or shamed into a "therapy" to attempt to change themselves. These programs try to tell people that who they are is not good enough, is not right, or is not allowed. You are absolutely good enough, are not wrong, and you are allowed to be you. This bylaw absolutely needs to pass. It is our right to be who we are without fear. Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I support the proposed conversion therapy ban bi-law, as is; without amendment. Please let all the voices be heard of those who've suffered from this barbaric practice. Make this historic step forward for all of us- so we can be proud together!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Michael
* Last name	Bogelund
Email	mike.bogelund@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Rulings/Bylaws/Laws Conversation and Council Discussion

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I would like to submit that the act of crafting very wide and loose rulings in the effort to maintain safety for some people will actually have the opposite effect for other peoples, and possibly even those the rulings are meant to help protect. I am not in favour of a ruling that would limit my ability to seek counselling or even informational learning on lifestyle choices - and the current direction of discussions sounds like it would make it very difficult for me to obtain information freely as those who might be able to provide it - either in print or in speech would perhaps be prohibited or limited in their ability to share their information due to possible consequences. It is important to maintain a freedom of access to information equally to making provisions to protect those who need and want protection. Furthermore it would seem prudent that if protection is needed in one direction, it might also be needed in other directions - what about considerations for those who for sake of example are currently identifying as Gay or Lesbian - are they protected from those that would seek to sway them to another lifestyle orientation such as queer? Or how about someone who is currently identifying as heterosexual - any anti-conversion protections should also lay out protection for them to avoid forceful conversion. There is more to be considered here and the subject needs to be looked at from all angles - quick decisions are not wise.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Miles

* Last name Kelley

Email kelleymiles@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Vote if for ban on conversation therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
I can't believe this barbaric process still exists.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Monique
* Last name	Mills
Email	monique_kudu@yahoo.ca
Phone	4034012409
* Subject	Conversion therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	No. Full stop. Conversion therapy should be banned. It's kidnapping and abuse. Mental, emotional and physical abuse. Why is this even up for debate?



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Morgan
* Last name	Van Dam
Email	morgan.micay@hotmail.com
Phone	+14039712588
* Subject	Support for Banning Conversion Therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support banning Conversion Therapy



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Murray

* Last name Lytle

Email mblytle@gmail.com

Phone 4032471716

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am a Calgary resident of 40 years and would like to register my protest against the proposed ban on conversion therapy being proposed by City Council. In the first place, therapy of almost any nature is properly in the purview of the medical profession and not elected officials with no particular expertise in the area of the proposed therapy. In the second place, what is being described as conversion therapy is not what is currently being practiced as conversion therapy and in the third place, the proposed language of the bill is draconian and can be applied to a much broader sweep of private life than conversion therapy. While I am not a legal expert it seems clear that the language goes well beyond what the Charter of Rights and Freedoms would allow and to knowingly force citizens to maintain those rights through expensive legal actions by passing poorly written and overbroad bylaws is surely poor governance and a very bad precedent. Therefore, I am calling on Council to reconsider and pull their proposed bylaw.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Natasha
* Last name: Ramirez
Email: contact@your.doula.natasha.com
Phone: 4032005152
* Subject: Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
To whom it may concern,
I would like to express my concerns regarding the discussions to ban many forms of counselling in Calgary. This goes against the right that any Canadian should have to seek counselling from who ever they wish. Counselling is a unique field and there should be many options offered to Calgarians to find the fit and style that best suits their needs, beliefs and backgrounds.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Nicole
* Last name	Magnuson
Email	nedrader@gmail.com
Phone	4033760702
* Subject	Ban Conversion Therapy in Calgary

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear City Council Members:
I am writing, yet again, to beg my city council to ban conversion therapy for LGBTQ+ youths in our city. There is no evidence that conversion therapy works; the only proof that exists regarding conversion therapy is that it causes lifelong trauma for those forced to partake. I ask that the elected officials of our city take this serious issue, and without perverting the issue at hand with amendments and weak language, take a genuine stand against conversion therapy in this city. I look around, and once again this city is on the back end of history. Let's stop fighting it. I want my elected officials to stand with LGBTQ+ individuals, and make an actual, lasting positive impact in this marginalized community. Enough is enough. Ban the disgusting act of conversion therapy in Calgary. And please, I beg you, end it radically, intensely, loudly, and in a way that leaves zero room for discussion.

Sincerely,
Nicole Magnuson



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Nicole
* Last name: Vanleeuwen
Email: nicolevan89@gmail.com

Phone:

* Subject: Canadians should get the counselling they choose

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters):
Canadians should be able to get the counselling they choose. If they want to believe the bibles view of sexuality that is their freedom! Not a hate crime



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name O

* Last name Meyers

Email ogmeys@gmail.com

Phone 4038278209

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in support of ending the barbaric use of conversion therapy on anyone in the future. Conversion therapy must be stopped and no longer considered for treatment of anyone! Council and the City of Calgary should no longer be in support of conversion therapy!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Owen

* Last name Lewis

Email owen.lewis.geo@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Let people choose for themselves

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

The City of Calgary must allow individuals to seek conversion therapy if they so desire. To prevent this is to deny these individuals the right to self determination aka to freedom of choice. This is particularly true for adults and mature minors. Also, this ban will negatively impact freedom of religion. If an individual comes to their priest, pastor or imam about this issue and desires to be counseled from their holy book, this law would prevent it, this violation the charter right of freedom of religion.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Peter

* Last name Kupisz

Email pkup100603@yahoo.ca

Phone

* Subject "Conversion" therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I believe it's very important that those experiencing same-sex attraction be able to get the therapy and counselling they want. In particular I am very concerned about religious churches and organizations that are not able to provide counselling in line with their religious beliefs. Therefore I ask that you NOT ban (so called) "conversion" therapy.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	R
* Last name	Coulter
Email	russ2156@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion Therapy is From the Dark Ages

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am writing to ask that the City of Calgary pass the bylaw banning conversion therapy. It is my belief, along with support from the WHO and countless psychiatrists and psychotherapists, that conversion therapy is tantamount to torture. It is an egregious human rights abuse. It is physical, mental and psychological abuse, and in some cases, it is also sexual abuse. There is no reason to support archaic and out-dated methods of denying human beings the right to express their inherent and innate sexuality. Conversion therapy does not "cure" anyone of homosexuality, it only oppresses them. Far right-wing and extremist religious zealots must have no influence on the laws of our city, or on the rights of human beings. Just as female genital mutilation is a criminal offence in Canada, so must be conversion therapy. We know better, we must do better, and we must set a high-bar and example for the rest of Canada, and indeed, the rest of the world. Thank you for your consideration.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Rachel
* Last name	Peters
Email	rachelbetpeters@gmail.com
Phone	2505349428
* Subject	Ban conversion therapy.
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please ban conversion therapy. The lives of the vulnerable and oppressed are at stake!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Rachel

* Last name Hernandez

Email

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear City Council. I understand this is a nuanced discussion but careful thought needs to be put into this bylaw in order to protect vulnerable people. I believe it is the right of individuals to seek prayer or counsel from their pastor, counsellor, or parent in regards to same-sex attraction or gender questioning in order to make the best decision for that person and no law should be passed that does not allow each individual to seek counsel as they see fit. We all have the right to seek counsel or prayer from whomever we choose for whatever issue we have.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Rachel
* Last name McMillan
Email rc819883@dal.ca
Phone 780-288-5425

* Subject I support the ban on Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Conversion therapy should be banned everywhere. I appreciate Calgary taking a stance on this. It's an abhorrent and barbaric practice and anybody speaking in support of it is severely misguided. Invoking religious beliefs is poor excuse to dramatize children and young adults. The potential risks of conversion therapy are great and include depression, anxiety, and self-destructive behaviour. Therapist alignment with societal prejudices against homosexuality may reinforce self-hatred already experienced by the patient. Young queer kids need love, acceptance, and support, none of which can be found at conversion camps. Let people be who they want to be!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Rhiannon

* Last name Smith

Email rhismith593@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Support for ban on conversion therapy.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Simply put I full on support the ban of conversion therapy. It is a harmful practice that increases the likelihood of depression and suicide in lgbtq+ youth. We are not broken. There is no way to pray the gay away, and no reason we should be trying to change the foundation of who a human being is. Love is love!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Richard

* Last name Zylka

Email razylka@shaw.ca

Phone 4035197464

* Subject Banning conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

When our son was 4 years old he was sexually abused by a 15 year old male babysitter. We took him to the Children's Hospital to be assessed and were reassured that he was not physically damaged. We were concerned for his psychological well being and wondered if we should follow up with therapy but the medical professional we spoke to said there was no such program and that it was not necessary. Our son grew up and is gay. We can't help but believe that this early experience may have contributed to his sexual orientation. We tried to get some help from an American organization called Exodus when he was a teen and told us of his orientation but he wasn't interested and we dropped it. We love our son unconditionally. If he had asked for our help and was struggling with his sexuality we would have made greater efforts to have him receive counselling. This proposed bylaw would have made that (and perhaps even our parental discussions) illegal. Straight to gay counselling and conversion is apparently not affected by this bylaw which I understand as being discriminatory. If an adult wishes counselling for sexuality issues, it is not the business of government to get between them and the medical intervention that they choose. if a parent wants professional medical help for their child after a deeply disturbing sexual assault they should be able to enlist help without fear of reproach or legal sanction.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Rielle

* Last name Davis

Email rielledavis@yahoo.ca

Phone

* Subject Re: Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

In this day and age, when we live in a democratic country such as Canada, the possibility of conversion therapy still existing is baffling. I am a cisgender heterosexual woman, but I have many friends and loved ones who do not fall into this category. I believe that to deem anyone in the LGBT community as having a 'lifestyle' that they can simply change if they work hard enough is uninformed, misguided, and incredibly harmful. We live in a world where a large portion of our homeless youth are from the LGBT community, and a large portion of our youth who commit suicide are from the LGBT community. When things like conversion therapy are legal, you are perpetuating the hate and harming our children. Our children need better. They need to grow up in a world that cherishes them no matter who they are romantically attracted to. In a country where same-sex marriage is legal, conversion therapy should be banned. Protect our future generation. They deserve it.

ISC:

1/1

Unrestricted

May 16, 2020

10:54:20 AM



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Robyn
* Last name	Baird
Email	robynbaire@hotmail.com
Phone	6049923655
* Subject	Ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	This is an awful dehumanizing practice and I can't imagine ever allowing this to happen to another human being. As a mother I know that all I want is to see my children thrive no matter who they are and this promotes the complete opposite. I can't believe this is being debated. Do the right thing Calgary and stand up for people.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Ryan

* Last name Seggie

Email ryanseggie@gmail.com

Phone 4039889071

* Subject Conversion therapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I cannot believe, as a Canadian and Calgarian citizen, that I am writing this comment today in the year 2020. I cannot believe that in the year 2020, I need to write to my city to express that LGBT conversion therapy should be banned. It's been proven to be a defeating, abusive practice for YEARS, and my city is still having argument over that? Disgraceful. I absolutely implore Calgary to immediately ban conversion therapy, as should have been done years ago when we legalized same-sex marriage. Myself and many others are disgraced and disappointed that our city should even have to question the fact that conversion therapy is unethical.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Samantha
* Last name	Reay
Email	samantha.reay81@gmail.com
Phone	4034627141
* Subject	Conversation therapy ban
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Just because someone disagrees with someone else's life choice should not mean they can force their beliefs onto the one they see as different.



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Samantha

* Last name Templeton

Email samtempl@yahoo.ca

Phone 4034617476

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I would like to lend my voice to others in requesting conversion therapy be banned. The practices are abusive and cruel and have no place in our society. I want to live in a city that accepts all people regardless of their sexuality.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Sandra
* Last name	McNeil
Email	mcneil.sandra@gmail.com
Phone	4034654182
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Ban Bill

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am writing to ask the City of Calgary to pass the bill to ban conversion therapy for individuals who identify as homosexual, non-binary or transgender. In the year 2020 I find it unbelievable that this practice still exists.

Calgary has an opportunity to stand up and do what's right in front of the whole world. Conversion therapy is not only ineffective it causes irreparable damage to one's mental health and sends a message that it is not okay to be the person you were meant to be and to love the person you are meant to love.

Please vote to pass this bill on May 25th to ban conversion therapy in Calgary and send a message to the nation that this needs to be banned federally as well.

Thank you for your time and attention.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Sarah

* Last name Johnson

Email johnsonsarah797@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Banning

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hi! Just so you know, regardless of anyone's religious or personal opinion of homosexuality, allowing this practice to continue is peddling bad (and harmful!) science. I'm really hoping at least one person on whichever committee is making this decision has any kind of a science-oriented mind. Conversion therapy not only does not work, it has been showing to cause long-term psychological (and sometimes physical, depending on methods used) effects on its victims. I'm hoping that actual morality wins the day, and not heavy-handed religious old-school "morality" that is hurtful and has no basis in fact or logic.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Sarah

* Last name Maljaars

Email Sarah.maljaars@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Freedom of Choice in Counselling Services

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hello, it has been brought to my attention that City Council is considering a ban on certain types of counselling to individuals who may be struggling with issues around sexuality, sexual orientation, and gender identity. It seems to me that individuals should be free to seek counselling that they sincerely believe accords with their own best interests, including their faith tradition, and they should not be impeded from obtaining such counselling, provided it meets the ethical and clinical practice guidelines of the appropriate professional accrediting body.
Sincerely, Sarah Maljaars



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Scott

* Last name: McKay

Email: mckaydscott@gmail.com

Phone:

* Subject: Ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I just hope that the council will pass the legislation to ban conversion therapy. This has been a fight that has been going on for a long time and it's time to do what is right. We can't have LGBTQ+ members of our society questioning their own humanity, or people denying humanity to others. In the words of Frank Kameny, "Gay is Good." There is no need to continue to allow groups to tell people in our society that their existence is wrong. Take a brave stand, and protect the dignity of our citizens. Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Sean
* Last name: Vanderveen
Email:
Phone: 403 554 0456
* Subject: Conversion therapy bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

The proposed conversion therapy ban is poorly written and misleading. It is vague and will be subject to broad interpretation; it does not specifically target coercive and harmful practices that are commonly known as 'conversion therapy'. Rather, it appears to be a deceptive and underhanded attempt to broaden the definition of 'conversion therapy' such that ordinary and common practices that Calgarians may currently voluntarily do could be interpreted as prohibited, and punishable by fines and jail. Any bylaw that addresses this topic needs to be precisely worded and narrowly targeted to address compelled, harmful practices, and not violate Charter rights to conscience and religion, right to equality, or right to liberty and security of person. (Any bylaw, for that matter, needs to be precisely worded and narrowly targeted. Anything less is lazy policy-making.)

Further, this doesn't appear to be a matter for municipal government. General health-care policy is the mandate of our provincial government, not local municipal governments. I encourage council to stay focused, and to avoid temptations toward ideological partisanship and high-handedness. However, if you feel compelled or somehow duty-bound to proceed with such a bylaw, I do encourage a serious review of the language and all possible implied interpretations and meanings. A poorly written regulation is worse than none.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Shane
* Last name	Chick
Email	shanec.chick@gmail.com
Phone	14037015517
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Ban
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please vote to ban ALL forms of conversion therapy. It is dangerous, wrong and has no place in our society!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Shay

* Last name Manerikar

Email shay.manerikar@shaw.ca

Phone

* Subject Ban Conversion Therapy!

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Whether to ban conversion therapy should not be a debate that is ongoing. Conversion therapy causes deep emotional and psychological harm, and is based on the oppressive belief that there is something wrong with LGBTQ+ people. Love (and people) should be celebrated, in all their forms!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Sheri

* Last name Young

Email sheri.young@shaw.ca

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear Mayor Nenshi and Members of Council
I know there are a great many things worrying people right now during the pandemic. Unfortunately it appears that some people are using this time to pull back on social progress. Perhaps we could take this time instead to grow. To change the laws to protect our most vulnerable. This is what we are trying to do during the COVID crisis, and it's what we must continue to do now and in the future. Conversion therapy hurts young people who are not fortunate enough to be born into families that can adapt to a child that doesn't meet their expectations. It allows adults to take advantage of the trust our children put into us - that we strive to earn - and tell them they are not good enough, that they were born broken. When in fact none of us are born broken, we are all born with the potential to make the world a better place.
I am in full support of the ban on conversion therapy. We need to provide support to families who have a hard time understanding their children, rather than allowing them to discover the best parts of them selves.
Please put a ban on conversion therapy



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name sherry

* Last name van grootheest

Email ksvang02@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject re: counselling

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hi. I believe Canadians should be able to choose the counselling of their choice. For those who believe in the Bible, they should be able to have access to teaching and counselling of the biblical view of sexuality. please and thank you



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Shetin
* Last name	Adams
Email	shetin.adams@gmail.com
Phone	4033900523
* Subject	Ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

It goes without saying that this should not even be an argument in the year 2020. Members of the LGBT community have been at the forefront of so many pivotal moments in history and contemporary times, and it is a community that deserves to be respected and protected on all fronts. All forms of conversion therapy must be banned and criminalized in Calgary and all over the world to be frank. It is our city council Representatives' responsibility to ensure that every member of our society is duly protected and defended at all costs.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Sonali

* Last name Ritz

Email tammysgeorge@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy by-law

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I believe this by-law is harmful for people that voluntarily seek help. I have friends and family that are LGBTQ that I love deeply and support but I also have other friends that have used counselling to help them revert back to heterosexual relationships for reasons that pertain to their faith, family and whatever other personal values. This is a pro-choice society. Let people chose their help as long as they are not being coerced to do so.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Stephanie

* Last name Harris

Email livingmicahsixeight@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

SPC on Community and Protective Services
City Clerk's Office
Legislative Service Division #8007
The City of Calgary P.O. Box 2100, Station "M"
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5
Dear Mayor Nenshi and Councillors,
RE: Conversion Therapy Ban, PFC2020-0116

Each individual has a right to choose which therapy is best for them. The bylaw first Banning "conversion therapy" is poorly written. If this ban is to go through, which I do not support, then it must include banning groups from talking to my kids in schools about trans gender issues. The bylaw must work both ways, otherwise it must not be passed.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Stephen

* Last name Mcglynn

Email c.mcglynn@live.ca

Phone 4038152361

* Subject Conversion therapy bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am writing to let you know that I feel it is imperative to protect all LGBTQ people, any laws that allow this disgusting "therapy" for lack of a better words to continue is unjust and unnecessary, it is destroying so many people's lives including innocent youth who are allready at a higher risk of abuse for simply being LGBTQ people .
If this type of torture is allowed in Alberta it will without a doubt contribute to anti queer sentiments , and at its starkest it will directly cause many deaths and ruin the lives of innocent people .
Please hear the cry of many people who have sacrificed their lives and marched in the steps of those who fought for the freedoms we proudly enjoy .
We do not need to take a step back in this fight .
Please keep the legislation as is , literally many lives are at stake .
Thank you



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Susan

* Last name Johnston

Email sajohnst@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I want to voice my concern over the debate around the banning of conversion therapy. This is an abhorrent practice that has no place in our city, or indeed, any other city. How can our citizens consider this a safe and welcoming place if this is a practice that we condone? By not condemning it, we are condoning a barbaric and inhumane practice. I encourage city council to ban conversion therapy immediately. Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Sydney
* Last name	Duhaime
Email	sydney.michelle@yahoo.ca
Phone	4039230358
* Subject	Ban conversion therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support the banning of conversion therapy. It is an outdated and harmful practice.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Taryn

* Last name Montgomery

Email tarynjmontgomery@yahoo.ca

Phone 5874372321

* Subject In Support of Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

As a former member of the City's Law Department, a member of the Law Society of Alberta, and a member of the Alberta College of Social Workers, I am shocked and saddened that I even have to write a letter in support of the ban on conversion therapy. I'm also horrified at the amount of valuable time that had been given by Council to fringe groups that oppose something that is the definition of a "no brainer". The fact that persons who have experienced trauma in the context of conversion therapy have had to relive these experiences in order to have conversion therapy banned in Calgary is a further blight on our city that we will have to reckon with for many years to come.

Please do what is right. This is a matter of human rights, not something to be tried in the court of public opinion.

Most sincerely,
Taryn J. Montgomery, B.Sc., JD, MSW, RSW



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Tasha

* Last name Boton

Email tasha.boton@hotmail.com

Phone

* Subject Banning Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I would like conversion therapy to be banned in Calgary. It is barbaric and needs to be illegal not only on a local level but federally as well.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Taylor

* Last name Finnerty

Email

Phone 4033705571

* Subject Ban Conversion Therapy!

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

This is a terrible thing to force a person to undergo. It is horrible and barbaric! The fact that this is not already banned is depressing.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Tim

* Last name Koester

Email koestercommerce@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Forcing someone to do something against their will is wrong. However, restricting someone from expressing their beliefs in a consensual session of counselling or implied consensual religious service is also wrong. In fact, the Canadian charter of Rights and Freedoms protects the right of expression of beliefs. Therefore, I urge the City of Calgary to uphold the Canadian charter of Rights and Freedoms and not place any restrictions on expression of beliefs.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Tim

* Last name Mark

Email timothyjmark@gmail.com

Phone 4034012111

* Subject Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please! I humbly request that your respect the freedom of citizens to choose which partners, lifestyle and Therapy, they choose. To take away someone's choice is not the type of freedom and inclusion that our society is founded upon.

Please!

Tim



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Vanessa

* Last name MacPhail

Email vanessamacphail@gmail.com

Phone (403) 669-6249

* Subject Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Why is this even a question? Conversion therapy should not even exist



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Victor

* Last name Panlilio

Email victorpanlilio@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Proposed ban on certain types of counselling in the City of Calgary

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hello, it has been brought to my attention that City Council is considering a ban on certain types of counselling to individuals who may be struggling with issues around sexuality, sexual orientation, and gender identity. It seems to me that individuals should be free to seek counselling that they sincerely believe accords with their own best interests, including their faith tradition, and they should not be impeded from obtaining such counselling, provided it meets the ethical and clinical practice guidelines of the appropriate professional accrediting body. Respectfully, Victor Panlilio



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Victoria

* Last name Henry

Email Victoria_Perl@hotmail.com

Phone 4034379583

* Subject In Support of Banning Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Good morning,
I have recently been made aware of the conversation to potentially ban Conversation Therapy. I would like to voice my full and complete support in the banning this practice. Sexual orientation is biologically determined, not a preference, and can not be persuaded. To allow this practice to continue is a crime against those who are born anything but heteronormative and causes damage to their psyche, whether they are affected directly by "Conversion Therapy" or not. The sexual orientation of other people does not affect society at large and therapies meant to shame people about their orientation are not useful to the fabric of society.

Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Victoria

* Last name Tisher

Email tori.tisher@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Conversion therapy should be banned. It is not a therapy in any way because it can cause irreparable damage to young people who are LGBTQ+ (a minority population). A therapeutic intervention should never lead to suicide, self harm, or fear. Pass a bylaw that protects our youth from the damage of conversion therapy!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Victoria
* Last name	Wik
Email	roman.victoria.wik@gmail.com
Phone	4038551182
* Subject	Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I think the issue with the current bylaws against conversion therapy is that it assumes that everyone who is LGBTQ wants to be. That might not be the case for all. There may be some who struggle with that as an identity- should their ability to receive client-centered counselling be taken away because society as a whole celebrates LGTBQ identities? I am against someone being forced to 'stop being gay' but there may be people who would choose to see a counsellor about it themselves.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Warren

* Last name Leigh

Email leigh.warrene@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Sorry if this late. PLEASE READ and pass on to city council. Thank you.

Dear City Counselors,

I am writing this as a deeply concerned citizen of this once great and vibrant Canadian city of Calgary. Allow me to be blunt. Please do this city a giant favour and start addressing the many extremely serious issues and problems that are currently plaguing this city instead of trying to placate an extraordinarily outsized political minority that is only is only concerned with protecting itself and pushing its own agenda onto the rest of us. If this bylaw is really about preventing abuse and torture then I suggest you start talking about how to help the increasing numbers of real Calgarians who find themselves afraid for their lives due to being locked down in their homes with a violent spouse, partner or parent, as well as the several organizations devoted to helping such victims of domestic violence. Domestic violence shelters in Calgary have reported a 22-28 percent increase in use of services and requests for help in April due to the COVID-19 lockdown, and those who manage these facilities all have good reason to believe that this is only the beginning.¹ This ban does nothing to prevent abuse; instead it targets members of a particular group who desire to seek out counselling services of their choice.

You have illegitimately forced yourself into the privacy and safety of the counselling room in order to lord it over counselors and psychologists by telling them how they must provide their patients. While of course no one should ever be coerced or forced into anything against one's will, LGBTQS2+ activists are making criminals out of those whose rights they claim to be championing. They are bullying the very members of their own group by making it impossible for them to leave should any one of them so choose. Such behaviour is typically only carried out by members of organized crime and autocratic dictators. Like any dictator, they are doing this

¹ Alanna Smith, *Calgary Herald*, "Calgary homicide reignites discussion on anticipated surge in domestic violence," <https://calgaryherald.com/news/calgary-homicide-reignites-conversation-on-anticipated-surge-in-domestic-violence/> April 30, 2020, Accessed May 13, 2020

through spreading myths and propaganda. It is a MYTH that one's sexual desires cannot and do not change over the course of one's life. Numerous studies have shown this, but they are routinely silenced by those in power for not fitting a politically correct narrative. It is also a myth that one can change something as fundamental as one's gender or sexuality by having superficial surgery and taking some hormone pills. Our gender is woven into our very DNA, into every single cell of the human body. However, these types of treatments are still irreparably harmful and irreversible, leaving their patients with a broken and confused body to go with their still broken and confused mind.

The purpose of “conversion therapy,” when done rightly at the request of the person seeking help, is to lovingly and patiently walk beside this person to provide them with an identity that is rooted in reality, and therefore leads to healing and wholeness. A person’s biological sex should never be despised or rejected; instead, it is to be lifted high, celebrated and regarded as beautiful, as a gift to be forever esteemed and cherished. This remains true even if the person’s mind has trouble and needs help in accepting it. We live in a fallen world, one that is deeply marred by all manner of pain and suffering, as the current pandemic has powerfully reminded us all too well. This suffering extends to the mind as well as to the body. The solution to all this pain is not to delude ourselves and each other into believing we’re something we’re not. It is to align our minds with the truth of who we’ve been created to be. We don’t find this truth by taking hormone pills or by having certain body parts cut off and others artificially attached. We find it by accepting and celebrating our natural, God-given identities, and the glorious roles in this world that accompany them, as they were designed at our inception in the womb.

I’m almost finished; please hear me out. Everything I just said in the above paragraph obviously applies to those struggling with gender dysphoria. However, ordinary SSA individuals

should also be allowed to seek out counseling for their sexual attractions should they so choose. True sexual intimacy can only be found by having true sexual intercourse, and that intercourse by its very nature involves the potential for the creation of new human life, something that cannot happen between two individuals of the same sex. We should not be surprised, therefore, if two same-sex partners decide after a while that they have been left unfulfilled. They have substituted something fake for the real thing and cannot truly become one flesh, as real, male-female sexual intercourse is designed to lead to. While LGBTQ activists claim to celebrate diversity, they are arguing for relationships, and even identities, that are based on sameness. They should, therefore, have the constitutional liberty to seek out help in finding the intimacy and satisfaction that they long for, and of which they have deprived themselves. To deny them this is like telling a pornography addict that he's not allowed to seek a real, lifelong relationship with a woman, because he was born that way, born to spend his life only looking at porn and never experiencing the true love and intimacy that he longs for and that cannot be found via Playboy. This is what this proposed ban before you does to those it claims to help.

Finally, in closing, I began this letter by pointing out the many other, much more urgent matters that this city council should be spending their time, energy and taxpayer dollars on right now. If you reject what I have said about the problems of a conversion therapy ban in general, please at least consider postponing it until this city is back on its feet. I pointed to the issue of domestic abuse. The economy is another area that requires urgent, immediate attention and this has been the case long before COVID-19. I'm sure you are all well aware of the statistics, probably even more so than I am. And yet this council continues to focus on frivolities and fluff. This has been a pattern with it since it was first elected to office. You have driven away investment by punishing hardworking Calgarians and business owners with insane tax increases,

while giving us nothing in return except so-called “art project” eyesores and road construction projects that never seem to end. You have spent most of the last five years pandering to radically left provincial and federal governments (i.e. the Notley NDP and Trudeau Liberals) that have both sought to destroy this city’s and province’s economy even further. Now, you are seeking to trample on Calgarian’s constitutionally protected freedoms of religious expression and association, all to placate and pander to overly powerful political minority that has largely bullied its way into acceptance by slandering all those who disagree with its agenda as hateful, intolerant, narrowminded, homophobic, judgmental bigots. I strongly suggest a change in this pattern before you find yourselves voted out of office in the next civic election, which, if I’m not mistaken, is coming up sooner rather than later. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Warren Leigh
Seminary Student
Once-proud, now deeply concerned Calgarian



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Zane

* Last name Dax

Email neptunium0237@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Re: Conversion Therapy Ban
This letter is in favour of banning any and all Conversion Therapy practice.

This practice is harmful and hurtful to the LGBTQ+ community. Religious belief is often the curtain and guise in hiding behind doing harmful practices as shown throughout history. Organized religions of the world have had to adapt their beliefs to the ever changing world around them. Members of organized religions have begrudgingly embraced some people of the LGBTQ community into its ranks, this shows that it is individuals and their own beliefs are pushing for this harmful practice. The core message of this "therapy" is that the person is wrong and broken, when in fact they are not, the theology is narrow minded.

Teaching a person to hate who they are, who they love and what they feel about their body and self is not therapy in any other context. The time to end protecting hate and harm under the flag of religion needs to stop now, religious freedom exists but just like freedom of speech, is free until it enters hate speech.

I ask that Calgary City Council please ban Conversion Therapy and help protect LGBTQ+ citizens.

Before 1868 there were no heterosexuals, the word was first used in Krafft-Ebing's medical book *Psychopathia Sexualis*.

- Straight, The Surprising History of Heterosexuality, Hanne Blank



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* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

characters)

protect those people with their individual rights to believe as they wish - however, when that belief turns to emotional or physical violence, we must stand strong against such people who would damage others, even their own children, in pursuit of their selfish and unfounded beliefs.

We are not here to debate concepts of 'God' or whether people should have personal beliefs.

We obviously must protect children above all from the catastrophic and long term damage done by such things as 'Conversion Therapy' - as we protect children from their families in cases of violence, sexual abuse or emotional trauma - all of which 'Conversion Therapy' represents - the direct opposite of our educated society as a whole.

With respect, we must honour the positive foundations that they have added to our society - but we must reject the negative influences the minority of individuals are forcing on the majority. The World is watching - as are we.

Darin Howard, Calgary.

Water is two parts hydrogen and one part oxygen. What if someone says, "Well, that's not how I choose to think about water."? All we can do is appeal to scientific values. And if he doesn't share those values, the conversation is over. If someone doesn't value evidence, what evidence are you going to provide to prove that they should value it? If someone doesn't value logic, what logical argument could you provide to show the importance of logic?

- Sam Harris





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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Breffney

* Last name Kreitner

Email bjmkreitner@gmail.com

Phone (403) 903-3827

* Subject Conversion therapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I support the strongest ban on conversion therapy within Calgary that is legally possible. There is a wealth of evidence showing how harmful this practice is and we need to support our most vulnerable LGBTQ+ citizens.

This is not a practice that aligns with our values as Canadians and Calgarians.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Natasha
* Last name: Bodnarchuk
Email: natashacbodnarchuk@gmail.com
Phone:
* Subject: Banning Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am ashamed to live in a place where conversion "therapy" is still permitted. This is a disgusting practice that needs to cease immediately. How can we say that we stand for equality and against discrimination and yet, still allow our own to be told that something is wrong with them and needs to be changed? Homosexuality was removed from the DSM nearly 50 years ago, yet there remain businesses that gain profit through claiming they can "cure" individuals of their sexual orientation or gender identity change efforts. We know that sexuality is genetic, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms includes freedom from discrimination based on gender, sex, and sexual orientation, and yet these practices remain. We also know that these businesses aren't even effective; rather than changing a person's sexuality or gender identity, they instead cause emotional and psychological harm. This is abuse and must end.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Carolyn

* Last name Lefebvre

Email popcan27@hotmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion therapy ban bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hello- I wanted to write to show my support for this bylaw. I hope very much that council will pass this into law, as it is, without any change or amendment. Our LGBTQ community needs us to stand up and protect them from those who wish to change them and do them harm. And I am proud to live in a city that will do just that. Thank you for your consideration.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Aaron

* Last name Dixon

Email aaron.dixon@me.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban PFC2020-0116

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am concerned that with a broad definition of conversion therapy it may contradict the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Where conversion therapy in past has been abused, presenting a poorly defined conversion therapy ban may specifically discriminate against many religious persons and not allow for freedom of conscience and religion, nor freedom of speech. To support inclusion and diversity in our nation it is important that we continue to allow freedom of thought and speech, while protecting ALL people of ALL viewpoints. Our nation has a free market, and should any person want to seek counselling services with opinions different than their own, they should be free to do so. If there is proof of abuse or false advertising or other criminal offences, these should be dealt with under the criminal code.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Adrienne

* Last name Battad-Pallister

Email adriennebattad@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Banning Conversion Therapy - Keep Bylaw AS IS

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please keep the associated and relevant bylaw AS WRITTEN. Amending the bylaw may be potentially damaging to members of the LGBTQ+ community as it would allow for a legal "grey area" in which those who back conversion therapy may take advantage of and thereby put lives and well-being at risk. (Taken from Calgary Pride:) There is no place for conversion therapy, not in Calgary and not in 2020. Not only is conversion therapy inhumane, isolating and significantly damaging to the health and well-being of the people directly impacted, it is equally damaging to the communities who allow them to continue. On the contrary, cultures of inclusivity reduce our feelings of isolation and increase our sense of belonging. Inclusivity reduces instances of depression, self harm and suicide, and not just for the gender and sexually diverse, but for everyone.

ISC:

1/1

Unrestricted

May 18, 2020

2:44:53 PM

From: alyssa.m.reid@hotmail.com
To: [Public Submissions](#)
Subject: [EXT] Bylaw to ban conversion therapy
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2020 8:49:17 PM

Hello my name is Alyssa Reid. I am a masters social work student at the University of Calgary, and a bisexual woman.

I grew up facing the discrimination of the public, as well as an extremely conservative family. I often felt the need to hide who I was because of programs such as conversion therapy. I heard stories from friends about the torture they endured at the hands of their parents and their faith, the people who should have supported and protected them. It didn't change their sexual identity, but it did change the way they felt about themselves. It creates a sense of anguish and inferior self-worth. Trauma that takes years of therapy and support to start oppose. Thus, conversion "therapy" is not only an ineffective and brutal experience, but costly to society as a whole.

I hope that the leaders in Calgary can truly stand behind the members of its LGBTQ+ community, and see the destructive nature of conversion therapy and the evil in allowing it to continue.

Thank you,

Alyssa Reid, B.A.
403-923-8866



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Amrit

* Last name Matharoo

Email amrit.matharoo97@gmail.com

Phone 4037714660

* Subject Ban on Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

As a registered social worker working in the area of children and youth mental health, the detrimental affects of conversion therapy are clear. We know that these so-called "camps" are sites of physical, emotional, sexual and spiritual abuse. As many children and youth are forced to attend during their pivotal years of development, they are often left with deeply rotted trauma. Organizations such as the Human Rights Campaign, the Trevor Project, and other non-profit and government groups have conducted substantial research that has concluded the effects of conversion therapy are harmful and lasting. Knowing what we know, it is our responsibility as a city to ban conversion therapy and lead the way for other cities and municipalities to do the same.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Andrea

* Last name Power

Email andrea.power@auarts.ca

Phone 403-830-5896

* Subject Amendment to sections 43 through 45 of Procedure Bylaw 35M2017

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

"I support this bylaw, AS IT IS WRITTEN, with NO AMENDMENTS, to ban the practice of conversion therapy in the City of Calgary" Please, stop this practice!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Anita

* Last name Denton

Email anita.denton@hotmail.com

Phone

* Subject Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

In 1991 my best friend came out as gay. His parents sent him to a conversion therapy center to try and change him. He came back scarred, deoressed and scared of who he was. We got an apartment together so he no longer had to pretend for his parents and finally be himself. I used ti go with him to bars because Calgary was not, and in many ways is stilk not, a welcoming town for those with alternative lifestyles. We met many people in the LGBTQ community and his story was not new nor the worst, but it took him years to recover from his experiences. This type of therapy doesn't help anyone and is so harmful to the psyche. Please introduce the ban on conversion therapy. This city needs to support all its citizens.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Brad
* Last name	Fougere
Email	bradvfougere@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Proposed Prohibited Businesses Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I would like to voice my strong support of the proposed bylaw to prohibit conversion therapy. My partner's family lives in Calgary, and as a queer person who visits the city, I believe this is an important step toward addressing Calgary's disturbing level of homophobia.
---	--



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Bree

* Last name Dozzi

Email breedozzi@hotmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Ban conversion therapy. It is dangerous and harmful



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Cam
* Last name	Gerrits
Email	c.j.gerrits@gmail.com
Phone	5877779931
* Subject	Conversion therapy bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I believe that Calgarians should continue to have access to counselling of their choice with regards to their sexuality. An individual should have the right to seek counselling from the institution or viewpoint of their choice. I think it would be infringing on an individual's rights to ban or prohibit them from seeking information or counselling from wherever they desire, as an expression of their freedom of thought and speech.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Caryle and Brent

* Last name Barr

Email

Phone

* Subject Support for Proposed Bylaws regarding Conversion Therapy in Calgary, May 13, 2020

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

My husband and I are members of Robert McClure United Church which is an Affirming Congregation. We personally support extensive and enforceable bylaws against conversion therapy of all forms. Conversion therapy is not proven to do much except put people through needless torture-physical, mental, and emotion torture to try to make them become something they are not. We are all individuals with a variety of gifts to make our way in the world. Our sexuality is part of the gift. We want Calgary to be a place where all are welcome to be the best they can be-a diverse, supportive and loving place to live.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	CATHY
* Last name	Boulanger
Email	boulanger.ab@shaw.ca
Phone	4033544525
* Subject	Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Conversion therapy has no place in the world and especially not in our beautiful, diverse, caring and open city. Let us all be a voice and do what is right.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Christopher

* Last name Morris

Email

Phone 5878938246

* Subject Conversion Therapy ban legislation

Calgary Counselman/woman,
Please support the Conversion therapy legislation as it is written, with no changes.
Meaning, EMPOWER people to live as they CHOOSE, whether gay, straight, queer, bisexual, transsexual, pre/post-op, WHATEVER they choose. This is Calgary, Alberta, Canada. First-world and progressive, an example to the world ethically and morally, correct? Prove it. Represent the people, not a small minority with an agenda.
It's disturbing that this needs to be addressed still, but that is what a democracy is for. Let's not regress.

ISC:

1/1

Unrestricted

May 19, 2020

10:29:27 PM



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Corine
* Last name	Jansonius
Email	cjansonius@gmail.com
Phone	403-604-4584
* Subject	Conversion Therapy - I support banning this
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Hi, I've heard that City Council is voting on May 25 on whether to ban conversion therapy. I support this ban, hope that you will vote to ban it! Kind regards, Corine Jansonius



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Courtney
* Last name	Uittenbosch
Email	courtney.uitt@gmail.com
Phone	4039900121
* Subject	Banning Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Conversion therapy has been shown to not only be ineffective, but to have long term damaging effects on an individual's mental health. It should be banned in the City of Calgary
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Dawson

* Last name Cole

Email dawsontcole15@gmail.com

Phone 4035859051

* Subject Conversion therapy Ban PF2020-0116

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

This is a a person attack on the Christians. You are banning part of our religion. You are banning are religious freedom. Shame on all of you!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name DeAnna

* Last name Brushaber

Email dedebrushaber@gmail.com

Phone 5074214491

* Subject Ban on Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Coercive abusive therapy is not ok on any issue and I can understand why the counsel is addressing this issue. However, I cannot understand why the counsel feels it is ok to stir up dissension between religions of this community and the city counsel. The religions of Islam, Judaism, Mormon, Catholic, Christian all uphold marriage as between one man and one woman. To uphold this is freedom of religion and freedom of speech. Please keep the language in your bylaw to address therapy and please do not cause a chasm between our religions and you. Thank you.



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Desiree
* Last name	Pankratz
Email	desireepankratz@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Ban PFC2020-0116

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am concerned that with a broad definition of conversion therapy it may contradict the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. To support inclusion and diversity in our nation it is important that we continue to allow freedom of thought and speech, while protecting all people of all viewpoints. Should any person want to seek counseling services with opinions different than their own, they should be free to do so. Presenting a poorly defined conversation therapy ban may specifically discriminate against many religious persons and not allow for freedoms of conscience and religion, nor freedom of speech.

DRAFT BYLAWS AGAINST CONVERSION THERAPY

I sincerely and wholeheartedly applaud the Calgary City Council for UNANIMOUSLY approving a motion to draft bylaws against conversion therapy.

It is beyond time that some group recognizes and accepts the responsibility to oversee this unbelievable act that is happening in our society.

For too long conversion therapy has been kept quiet; unknown to much of the population; until now. I am beyond happy to hear that those who have been affected by being forced into conversion therapy, have been brave enough to come forward. What a huge step for these broken souls.

It is only recently I learned through our church of conversion therapy. I am appalled that it has been an accepted practice to use on people. It is an unimaginable and unauthorized practice that is taking place.

I ask myself, how could anyone approve of putting their child through something like this? Unfortunately, I do know why, but I can't conceive of this being accepted in this day and age.

Why?

- You want a perfect child. No one is perfect. Parents, are you perfect?
- You are embarrassed because there is a stigma associated with these children. (Who started that?)
- Perhaps one day they will rule the world! God forbid.

Any parent who has a child who is deemed queer, needs to walk in the footsteps of their child. Experience what life looks like to them. Understand who they are as a person. They are your progeny! Accept what a miracle you have created and most of all LOVE THEM, unconditionally. We are all created equal....God created all of us equal and in his image.

What gives anyone the right to change which is meant to be? Can you, as a parent live with yourself for creating such fear and inevitable trauma inflicted to your child - all for your acceptance?

If you are ashamed of your child, or embarrassed to acknowledge this child as yours; the finger points right back at you, not your child. It is **YOU** who needs counseling, not your offspring!

Over the years, I have had many friends who don't fit the perceived "mold". As other friends I had, they have played an important role in my life. I have never seen anything but caring and kindness from them all. Many of these friends turned out to be very educated and talented and would never intentional hurt someone.

I have watched my grandson as he has progressed throughout all the trials and tribulations that he had to deal with. His life has not been easy. I will never forget his words, "Grandma, I did not ask to be born this way." This comment pulled on my heart strings. I know, before he did, that he was queer, but I loved him and have always supported him, and am so happy he has accepted who he is. He is a very gifted, caring and loving young man.

In summary, all you people who cannot accept anyone who is different, which includes other races; how about focusing on major topics that really need to be changed!

- Alcoholics who come home and beat their children
- Abusive people who get high putting others down
- Troubled souls who can't cope with life
- Street people who can't help themselves
- People with mental issues caused by traumatic issues in their lives
- Old folks deserted and left in seniors homes
- The list is never ending

PLEASE, FIGHT A REAL CAUSE, and make yourself feel good for helping others survive from day to day. ***That would be something worthwhile fighting for.***

Please, on behalf of all the "different" individuals in our society, I urgently request that this Council continue to do everything in your power to put an end to this conversion therapy!!

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Marston
marstondj@shaw.ca



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Elaina

* Last name Duska

Email elaina.c.duska@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

This bylaw should be passed by the city - to allow such a practice to continue would be inhumane and unethical. If we as a city pride ourselves upon our openness and acceptance, we must ensure we make choices that prevent minorities from being exploited and abused by the majority. We must strive to protect those most at risk, and not allow religion or political belief to infringe upon basic human rights.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Elizabeth

* Last name Lauder

Email

Phone 403-550-2273

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Everyone born are either male or female. If they want to come out of their confusion and sin then they should have the right to and to seek any council they need or ask for prayer.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Eva
* Last name	Gonzalez
Email	emrgonzalez@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion Therapy is Inhumane
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Conversion therapy needs to stop.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Ginger
* Last name	Andrews
Email	gingerbandrews@gmail.com
Phone	+14034733877
* Subject	Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I do not support to have the bylaw passed to ban conversion therapy
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Heather

* Last name Roe

Email heather.roe1@gmail.com

Phone 4039238235

* Subject Support conversion therapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am writing as a Calgarian to voice my support in banning conversion therapies in Calgary. This is a barbaric and abusive practice.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Isabela
* Last name Gasparini
Email igasparini@shaw.ca

Phone

* Subject NO to "Conversion Therapy" - Pass legislation as written

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear City of Calgary Council:

Please accept this short letter as a request that Legislation regarding "Conversion Therapy" in Calgary is approved as it has been written, with no modification as to water down the absolute and conclusive ban of such absurd concept.

More efforts are needed in supporting the Mental Health of all individuals and families who deal with not being loved and accepted for who they are.

I sincerely can't believe this is even up for discussion!

Thank you,

Isabela Gasparini



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Jaxi
* Last name	Malcomson
Email	jacimalcomson8@gmail.com
Phone	4038803581
* Subject	Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Stop it. Let people be and have their own choices
---	---



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jenn
* Last name Goodger
Email jenn@goodger.org
Phone 4033897216

* Subject Conversion Therapy Ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I support the ban on conversion therapy 100%. Any form of "therapy" that aims to shame, humiliate or guilt a person into denying who they are, and which attempts to "convert" a person to heterosexuality is abusive, cruel, barbaric and absolutely destructive in every way. I wish to add my name to the list of supporters who seek to end this damaging practice. It is a human rights violation, and needs to be against the law.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Jillian

* Last name Isaak

Email infernoresses@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Not only is conversion therapy inhumane, isolating and significantly damaging to the health and wellbeing of the people directly impacted, it is equally damaging to the communities who allow them to continue. Please pass the bylaw against conversion therapy AS WRITTEN, it does not need to be changed



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Calgary Catholic Local 55 ATA

* Last name Teachers Gay Straight Alliance as represented by John Williamson

Email jetwilliamson8@gmail.com

Phone 4034788988

* Subject We support the ban fully

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

As the representatives of a union wing that is public, Catholic, and LGBTQ+ (and including enthusiastic allies) we strongly encourage you to vote for the ban as written. Though a tiny minority of members of our large faith community with misguided views many have reservations, we fully feel that our current Pope and most certainly progressive Catholics like Father James Martin would be completely against such practices. Whatever the rhetoric, we feel they are based on a hateful view of queer identities, akin to torture, and fully accept the widely established scientific claims these practices often do great harm and never do any good.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	JONATHAN
* Last name	PARKS
Email	jonathan@secularcalgary.com
Phone	3065024018
* Subject	Support for a Municipal Bylaw to Ban Conversion Therapy as it is written within Calgary's City Limit

Dear Mayor Nenshi and Council Members,

The Secular Humanists of Calgary urges the City of Calgary to pass the bylaw to ban conversion therapy as it is written. This bylaw does not need to be changed, just as we - members of the LGBTQ2S+ do not need to be changed.

Conversion therapy is a discredited and harmful practice, rooted in false, pseudoscientific religious beliefs about what causes people to be lesbian, gay, bisexual, or trans.

We reject the dangerous claim that one's sexual orientation or gender identity can be changed through therapy. We support the cities efforts to ban the practice.

Last week, we heard numerous callers weighing in to show their opposition for a conversion therapy ban at the Calgary City Council virtual meeting. The origin of their opposition comes from their desire to continue promoting their point of view on life and gender from a religious ideology for those who seek it. We also heard that In every case when a person rejected their own same-sex attraction - it was a result of false information given by a faith community.

* Comments - please refrain from
Many church leaders told us that attempts to criminalize conversion therapy could infringe on their ability to freely counsel those who come with struggles regarding their



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

sexuality and gender identity.

I think we can all agree that the reason most people reject their sexual orientation, or same-sex desires is due to false and damaging information being spread from a faith community. As well as a false message that it can be changed.

Would an adult or child reject their sexual orientation if our society was never taught that same-sex attraction was wrong? I think not!

Modern-day conversion therapy may not be happening as often in a basement cellar with electric cables being attached to a person's genitals under the guise of a so-called spiritual counseling, but whether it is happening in a basement, medical facility, a church auditorium or a pastors office, conversion therapy is torcher, physical, mental and emotional.

To support a communities attempts to eradicate another community of people from our Canadian society is reminiscent of a dark past our planet is slowly emerging from. The widespread of false information against the LGBTQ2S+ community is the source of why many members in our city, province, and country still hold prejudice, discriminating, harmful and even dangerous views against a group of people.

Whether it is labeled gay conversion therapy, restorative therapy, or any other guise



Mayor Nenshi and Council Members
City of Calgary
800 Macleod Trail SE,
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

May 19, 2020

Re: Support for a Municipal Bylaw to Ban Conversion Therapy **as it is written** within Calgary's City Limits

Dear Mayor Nenshi and Council Members,

The Secular Humanists of Calgary urges the City of Calgary to pass the bylaw to ban conversion therapy as it is written. This bylaw does not need to be changed, just as we - members of the LGBTQ2S+ do not need to be changed.

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To support a communities attempts to eradicate another community of people from our Canadian society is reminiscent of a dark past our planet is slowly emerging from. The widespread of false information against the LGBTQ2S+ community is the source of why many members in our city, province and country still hold prejudice, discriminating, harmful and even dangerous views against a group of people.

Whether it is labeled gay conversion therapy, restorative therapy, or any other guise, this practice is inhumane, the psychological damage, deliberately imposed self-loathing, and other impacts have lasting effects on survivors, and the very communities it claims to serve. Conversion or reparative therapy can result in negative outcomes such as distress, anxiety, depression, negative self-image, a feeling of personal failure, difficulty sustaining relationships, and sexual dysfunction, and can even lead to self harm and possibly suicide.

It has been discredited by the Pan American Health Organization, the Canadian Psychological Association and other mainstream medical bodies.

So-called "conversion therapy" is a dangerous and damaging practice that has no place in a contemporary society.

The Secular Humanists of Calgary is calling on all city councillors to reflect on the impact conversion therapy has had on its own citizens and make the right decision to stand for a progressive society, based on science, reason and human compassion. **We ask that you would pass this bylaw as it is currently written.**

Thank you,

What is Secular Humanism:

Humanism is a naturalistic philosophy that rejects all supernaturalism and relies primarily upon reason, science, democracy and human compassion.

Humanism in a nutshell:

1. Putting human beings and other living things at the centre of your moral outlook
2. Seeing the world as a natural place and looking to science and reason to make sense of it.
3. Promoting and supporting human flourishing across all frontiers, championing human rights for everyone.

Jonathan Parks
Executive Director
Secular Humanists of Calgary
jonathan@secularcalgary.com
www.secularcalgary.com
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/secularhumanistsofcalgary/>



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Johnathan

* Last name Tyrell

Email johnnyty14@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Support for conversation therapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

The practice of conversion therapy is abusive and should not be allowed to continue in a Modern, diverse, loving and, accepting city.

There should be no question to ban these practices, they're traumatic. Hearing from individuals who have been forced to undergo these "therapies" and "sessions" only further cements the reality that conversion therapy needs to be stopped, banned, and individuals who choose to run such facilities after the law is passed should be held responsible.



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Julie
* Last name	Walker
Email	fullojw@hotmail.com
Phone	403-968-4816
* Subject	Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hello City Council, I understand you meet next week for your decision on allowing or banning conversion therapy. I believe the very notion of conversion therapy is a form of not only bigotry and a violation of basic human rights, but it is in the same vein as the notion of converting someone from one religion to another, through therapy. If being homosexual was simply a choice, or a result of indoctrination, as religion is, then this conversion therapy would be a process of trying to 'change your mind'. Is this not a form of 'mind control'? Is mind control legal in Alberta? History shows that 'aversion therapy' is one of the best methods of mind control. Using fear or pain to discourage a behaviour, this is used today with Korilean Bear Dogs to discourage bears from specific areas. Is this part of "conversion therapy"? It better not be! The whole notion that you can 'convert' someone in a therapy is inhumane. It is based on a religious assumption that GOD did something wrong with you the first time and that you need to be treated. The fact that we are a multicultural and multi-faith country is not because we mandate "converting" people when they get here, so the idea of converting a gay person to be straight is archaic! My vote is to ban this "dark ages" therapy. Then people can choose counselling, if they feel it is what they need to deal with any internal concerns they may have about being gay, or family concerns or pressure about being gay. Make mental and emotional care safe, by taking away the idea that there is something terribly wrong with a person, so much so that they can be "converted". Rather give them the tools to cope with societies or their families fear based reaction to being gay, so they can adjust to life in our community just as a person of a minority ethnicity, a dysfunctional family or any other situation where acceptance is lacking in the hearts

ISC:

1/2

Unrestricted

May 18, 2020

11:42:26 AM



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

of our community or households due to fear and pain. Thank you for reading my comment on this issue. Kind regards, Julie Walker



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Kate
* Last name	Barker
Email	horsebarker@gmail.com
Phone	4036781898
* Subject	Please pass the conversion therapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

It's come to my attention that people are spreading misleading information in Calgary neighbourhoods opposing the Ban on Conversion Therapy. I am writing to voice my full support of the ban. Conversion Therapy is dehumanizing. I was never exposed to any formal "therapy" regarding my sexuality, but growing up I had a lot of informal conversations with authoritative people in my life who encouraged me to "rethink my feelings" and "suppress this phase" so I could be straight. It led to a suicide attempt when I was 12. At the time, I had NO idea what was happening and I assumed the people around me had my best interests at heart. I felt like a failure because I couldn't be who they said I should be. It was years later (and with the help of actual therapy) that I realized I am who I am, and nothing can change that. This ban will save lives.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Kelly
* Last name Misko
Email kamathact@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Banning conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
It is 2020. Even religious organizations accept every human being for who God made them to be. This is a human rights issue. No conversation therapy should be legal in any case due to sexual orientation. Acceptance of all human beings is the heart and soul of humanity. Please vote to ban this archaic practice.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Ken
* Last name	Brushett
Email	kenbrushett@hotmail.com
Phone	587 2263148
* Subject	Ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Let this letter stand in reference to my support in banning conversion therapy. How we are even debating the basic human right to be the person who we ARE is just beyond me. It is embarrassing to me that we even debate this. We should ban all levels of conversion therapy in Alberta and across Canada
---	--



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Kira

* Last name Bradley

Email kiradbradley@gmail.com

Phone 4039216040

* Subject Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in complete support of Bylaw 35M2017 to ban conversion therapy in Calgary. I support this bylaw as it is currently written and ask that you would vote yes to move the bylaw forward as is with no exemptions or loopholes when it goes before the full City Council.

Sincerely,
Kira Bradley



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Petra
* Last name	London
Email	petrayoung@gmail.com
Phone	4032895893
* Subject	Procedure Bylaw 35M2017

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please, pass this amendment. From the bottom of my heart as an LGBTQIA2+ community member, take away this abomination to protect children here in Calgary.
---	--



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Kris
* Last name	Russell Markin
Email	kgmarkin@gmail.com
Phone	4034679177
* Subject	Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please ban conversion therapy outright. I truly believe that the future will see conversion therapy for what it is - a human rights violation. Calgary has the opportunity to do the right thing - please act.
---	--



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Kurt
* Last name	Phillips
Email	kurt.malleus@gmail.com
Phone	4038235554
* Subject	Ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I'm not a resident of Calgary but I would urge the council to ban this horrible practice. It is pseudoscientific nonsense that does horrible damage to the people it is practiced on.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Leah
* Last name	McClure
Email	leahmcclureyc@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Ban conversion therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Pierre Trudeau famously said that government had no place in the bedroom. Likewise, telling people who they can identify themselves as is not a government debate. It will only harm our population and increase suicide rates.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Leanne
* Last name	Million
Email	leannemillion@gmail.com
Phone	4038911455
* Subject	Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

The idea that we even have to vote to ban such an outdated, ill-informed and cruel practice such as conversion "therapy" in this day and age is staggering to me. Countless studies have shown that those who identify as non-heterosexual and are able to live their intimate lives freely suffer less mental illness and anguish. Sexuality is not something that anyone has the right to dictate to another human being and attempts to change that should be classified as hate crimes and not innocuously and erroneously labeled as "therapy". Fear and ignorance drives others to try and control someone's sexual or gender expression. The citizens of Calgary, I believe, are above that ridiculous, childish, fear-based thinking. People should never be told how they are allowed to feel about themselves or their intimacy. Imagine if this practice was being utilized against heterosexuals. What a hue and cry there would be then! Why? Because we know that it's an infringement on our most basic human rights.

I implore the members of City Council to do the only right thing and pass the ban on the heinous and destructive practice of conversion "therapy".

ISC:

1/1

Unrestricted

May 19, 2020

10:07:46 AM



Public Submission

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Leila

* Last name Sidi

Email leila_sidi@yahoo.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I seriously can not believe that in 2020 the idea of conversion therapy is even on the table in a world class city like Calgary. I call for a 100% can on this harmful and ineffective practice! Support people to have healthy relationships (with whomever they choose) by providing housing, food, public education, and full rounded health care to every person as a basic human right!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Leticia

* Last name Teixeira

Email leticiateixeira136@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject Bylaw 35m2017

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Please allow this bylaw to pass as the way it is written. There are many at risk LGBT kids who are depending on this to pass without amendments or loopholes for their safet.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Lexx

* Last name Ambrose

Email thecheflexx@gmail.com

Phone 4039191113

* Subject Bylaw to ban conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I support this bylaw passing, and wanted to make sure it was heard that this bylaw should absolutely be passed!

Thank you



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Linda

* Last name Price

Email lindalprice@hotmail.com

Phone

* Subject conversion therapy and counselling

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

This letter is in response to the proposed ban on counselling kids on transgender conversion. We have freedoms in Canada, and we also have freedom of religion in Canada. What right do a few people, or a group of city counsellors, have to say that the Bible, the word of GOD in which Canada has been built on for the last 100 or so years, who can say it cannot be used in counselling sessions. No one has the right to take away the word of GOD from among us. I so disagree with taking prayer of Bible teaching away, or even sharing a word from the Bible, his cannot be allowed to happen in our beautiful Canada.

We love our children and grandchildren, and want them to grow up in freedom... not communism. I am so against this.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Liz

* Last name Frazer

Email liz.frazer236@gmail.com

Phone 4038372285

* Subject Ban on Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Good day, I am a resident of ward 8 and I fully support the bylaw banning conversation therapy as it is written and implore all council to vote in favor of this bylaw as it is written.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Lysh
* Last name	Donaldson-Glover
Email	lyshpiekarski@gmail.com
Phone	4038805213
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Ban
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Our friends, family and children deserve to grow up and live authentic lives. WE Shouldn't have to go through ABUSE to live a fake lifestyle. Why are we still talking about this is 2020? We all bleed the same blood, there is enough hate in this world. Pass this Bylaw. I am AGAINST Conversion Therapy.



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Marina

* Last name Giacomini

Email mgiacomini68@outlook.com

Phone +14037002676

* Subject Ban Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Dear Calgary City Council - please vote to ban conversion therapy in Calgary as per the new bylaw being presented in May 25, 2020. There should be no tolerance in our city for a practise that has been proven to not be based in evidence or supported by medical/psychological associations, and that is emotionally damaging and traumatizing to people, particularly youth. Do the right thing!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Mayowa
* Last name Rosanwo
Email mayowarosano@gmail.com
Phone 4039669131
* Subject A Concern from a Young Canadian Man

Hello, I am a 22-year-old student living in Calgary since 2007. I think it's fair as a Calgarian, and Canadian, I express my concerns for impending restriction on our freedoms.

From my own and many other Canadian's perspectives, it seems like our politicians and leaders keep making increasing restricting laws and regulations without any public discourse or a general understanding of the consequences of implementing these laws, regulations, financial programs, etc. It's gotten to the point where you can't help it and you have to speak up.

On Monday, the people of Calgary's city council will vote on the by-law to ban "conversion therapy". Individuals can receive a fine of up to \$10,000 or up to 1 year in jail.

Simply put, this can impend on my freedoms, and here is why.

The freedom for people to talk with others, share, and listen to others' stories can help those who are struggling with sexual behavioral issues.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

One thing that is overwhelmingly common in the homosexual community is sexual promiscuity. This means engaging with different sexual partners frequently. I'm not saying it's a bad thing, you're free to have sex with whoever.

ISC:

1/2

Unrestricted

May 20, 2020

11:49:49 AM



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

However, when you're a young insecure girl/boy/man/woman, you can find security in a community that may take advantage of you because of your willingness to participate in sexual activities. This is emotionally damaging at best and at worst can lead to dangerous or life-threatening situations. We must take an honest look at the situation here. Let's say a young person like me is dealing with sexual confusion, as have I. If that person is raised in a church, they might want to go speak with a pastor about it. They should not have to live in fear that their pastor will be jailed or fined.

The ban on "conversion therapy" is wrong because the narrative of life for all beings since the beginning of time is change. More specifically, voluntary change. This means a person can lead a damaging, pleasure-seeking, sexually promiscuous life that is wholly endorsed by the public. And it's up to the individual to decide whether they want to continue that life or make a change for themselves. So it is wrong to fine and jail people whose only intention is to help people create a better life for themselves.

Please watch this video as it may show you a new perspective to this issue: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v--BuHXVA70>



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Megan
* Last name Turner
Email mlturner@ualberta.ca
Phone
* Subject Banning Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
I am writing in support of the Council's proposed bylaw to ban conversion therapy in Calgary. Conversion therapy is a cruel and unethical practice which causes serious psychological harm to LGBTQ2S+ individuals. It reinforces stigma and causes a great deal of suffering in a practice that is ultimately ineffective. Sexuality and gender identity are not a choice, and is innate to a person. The practice of conversion therapy is just as futile as trying to change a person's skin colour. All it does is reinforce discrimination and false perceptions that anything other than cisgender or heterosexuality is "wrong". Gender and sexual diversity is valuable, celebrated and LGBTQ2S+ individuals deserve to be protected from harm. I applaud Council on putting forth the proposal for this bylaw and look forward to the day we see it in action. Thank you.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Melody

* Last name Scott

Email melody.scott@codedivasites.com

Phone

* Subject Ban Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

This bylaw goes to City Council on May 25. I beg you to pass this bylaw as written. Conversion therapy is inhumane, unnecessary and outmoded. It is something that should have been banned before the 21st century. Gay people are just people who love each other. Please pass this bylaw as written, and show the world that Calgary continues to be the city I love.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Michelle (Mitch)
* Last name: Graham
Email: mitchymoosmagik@gmail.com
Phone: 4039666529
* Subject: Banning of conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I just want to express that I am in full support of the bylaw to ban Conversion therapy. I have lived as a closeted queer for most of my life- and the results of feeling shame and the need to hide a big piece of who I am has led to de estate for results. These include mental health issues and suicide attempts. I am just starting g to live out my truth as I feel I am on a city that has taken steps to support and protect me. However having vicersipn therapy available makes me feel quite the opposite. Unsafe, unwanted. It can never be an option for anyone. It is damaging and life threatening. Please take my words into consideration! to pass the bylaw to ban conversion therapy!



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Monica
* Last name	Mamchur
Email	mmamchur@hotmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Ban conversation therapy
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Please ban conversation therapy. In this day and age, we know better. Conversation therapy puts people's lives at risk. Let people love who they love.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Myrna

* Last name Chorney

Email

Phone 4034786660

* Subject Bylaw for Conversion Therapy ban

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Mr. Magliocca, please vote in favour of the bylaw banning conversion therapy. It does not need amendments which could weaken the bylaw or provide loopholes.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Nancy
* Last name	Lutz
Email	nancy4923@yahoo.com
Phone	4038268533
* Subject	Conversion therapy ban
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	City Council, please protect Calgarians by banning conversion therapy in our city.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Naomi
* Last name: Roccamo
Email: naomi.roccamo@gmail.com
Phone: 4037078723
* Subject: Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Calgary Council,
Please use your kindness, compassion and humanity to pass Bylaw 3M2017 as it is written. Everyone deserves to live their best life, no matter their sexual orientation. This world is changing and so should our society's approach to abolish conversion therapy. We need to embrace individuality not attempt to conform people.
#LovesLove
Thank you.
Naomi



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* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am writing to indicate my very strong support for a ban on all conversion therapy services in Calgary. Being a member of the LGBTQ community, I was lucky enough to grow up in a family that respected my orientation and did not try to coerce or force me to act in any way that was contrary to my nature. We must stand up for all the rights of all Calgarians, Albertans and Canadians to not be subject to pseudo-scientific or faith based therapies, that have been shown to cause much harm. I encourage every member of council to help pass this progressive city ordinance.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Rachel

* Last name Eyers

Email rachgesch@yahoo.com

Phone

* Subject Conversion therapy ban bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Hi, I'm writing to support the ban on conversion therapy, as written in the bylaw that is currently being considered. This harmful practice should have no place here. Thank you.

From: [Rainbow Elders Calgary](#)
To: [Public Submissions](#)
Subject: [EXT] Banning Conversion Therapy
Date: Sunday, May 17, 2020 9:58:22 AM

Dear Calgary City Council,

We, the undersigned, applaud Mayor Nenshi and all of City Council for your brave and bold leadership on February 3rd, 2020, when you unanimously voted for our city's administration to craft a bylaw to protect LGBTQ2SIA+ Calgarians from the unscientific, fraudulent, and harmful practices of "conversion therapy".

On May 13th and 14th, at the SPC meeting on Community and Protective Services, our city's administration delivered a rigorously tested bylaw that aligns with the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, and protects vulnerable individuals from the abuses of so-called "sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression change efforts". This bylaw has been prepared in full consultation with all stakeholders, supported by expert researchers, lawyers, and administrators to create the strongest bylaw possible to protect Calgarians.

Any attempts to amend this bylaw create exemptions and loopholes that are not only unethical, they are dangerous. Any changes made to this bylaw will place people's lives at risk, effectively nullifying an intended prohibition on this harmful practice.

We are writing you as organizational representatives of Calgary's diverse Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Two-Spirit, Intersex, Asexual communities to impore you to stand up for our rights, and for the lives of those most vulnerable to this unethical practice.

To state our position more clearly: This Bylaw does not need to be changed. We do not need to be changed.

During the next City Council meeting, you will be given the opportunity to fulfill your commitment to end conversion therapy in Calgary. Please approve this bylaw as written - without amendments, without exemptions, and with the full support of your belief in the strength, dignity, and humanity of our LGBTQ2SIA+ communities.

Sincerely,

Donna Thorsten

Manager

Rainbow Elders Calgary

--



In the spirit of respect, truth and reconciliation, Rainbow Elders Calgary would like to acknowledge that we live, work and play on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), the Tsuut'ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). This land is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name: Samantha
* Last name: Kivell
Email: samanthakivell@hotmail.com
Phone: 9055318086
* Subject: Conversion therapt

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)
Hi there,
It has been brought to my attention that conversion therapy is still going in in Alberta. I am appalled by this realization. I am an Ontarian, hoping to move to Alberta within the next few years. I hope for better. This is disturbing. Please do something to change this.

From a straight white women



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Sarah

* Last name Freeman

Email

Phone

* Subject Banning conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am in favour of banning conversion therapy and it is time that we move on from a pre-historic, religious outlook on personal business.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Shannon

* Last name Hodgson

Email shodgson916@shaw.ca

Phone

* Subject Proposed Ban on Conversion Therapy

Dear City Clerk,

I am much disturbed to hear that council is about to pass a law prohibiting teaching from certain parts of the Bible, and certain parts of the Koran, punishable by \$10,000 fines and serious jail time in fact. Our country was founded on Christian principals, and Christians (and most Muslims) are peace-loving citizens. I know of No pastor or teacher or priest who would try to "convert" anyone to heterosexual views without that person's consent. Not only that, it goes against the basic principals of democracy to have such a law in place; it goes against freedom of speech and freedom of religion, something many of our refugees came here for.

Consider one example. Say a heterosexual man is having trouble in his marriage because he has become attracted to men. He goes to his pastor for counseling. This man needing help believes in the principals of the Bible. How completely useless it will be for him to go to his pastor for help and for his pastor to say, "I'm sorry, I cannot counsel you what to do. I am forbidden by law to mention God's law on the matter. You'll have to find help elsewhere." This pastor and others like him/her would end up becoming puppets of the state, only saying what they are "allowed to". Or else they would be forced to teach in secret, risking reprisal. This is why people of faith are upset. What right does anyone have to tell me what to believe or not believe? You are accusing certain members of society for being judgmental; how is what this law will do be any less judgmental to people of faith? You are doing the very same thing you are

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500)

ISC:

1/2

Unrestricted

May 19, 2020

10:51:23 PM



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

characters)

accusing us of doing. Please open your eyes.

What values do You hold dear that might be the next thing taken away? We will all be held accountable for the choices we make. Think down the road to what our city and our provinces and our country will look like if basic things like freedom of speech and freedom of religion are taken away. Democracy is what our armed forces have fought for in every war. How sad our veterans would be, and must be, to see what is happening in our beautiful land. Please think about it.

Last, consider that the vast majority of our citizens in Calgary are not LGTBQ; it is a very small, vocal percentage that are pushing for this agenda. It does not make sense to make laws that accommodate the vocal few without considering the ramifications on society at large.

Respectfully yours,
Shannon Hodgson,
Silver Springs, Calgary



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Shannon

* Last name McKenzie

Email kandsmckenzie@shaw.ca

Phone 403-374-0222

* Subject Conversion Therapy Bylaw

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I want City council to know that I Support the Conversion Therapy Bylaw as it is written and I oppose any changes or amendments to the bylaw.
Sincerely,
Shannon McKenzie
Hawkwood, Calgary.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name

* Last name

Email

Phone

* Subject

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

SPC on Community and Protective Services
City Clerk's Office
Legislative Service Division #8007
The City of Calgary P.O. Box 2100, Station "M"
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5
Dear Mayor Nenshi and Councillors,
RE: Conversion Therapy Ban, PFC2020-0116

Each individual has a right to choose which therapy is best for them. The bylaw first Banning "conversion therapy" is poorly written. If this ban is to go through, which I do not support, then it must include banning groups from talking to my kids in schools about trans gender issues. The bylaw must work both ways, otherwise it must not be passed.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Susan
* Last name	Burney
Email	smburney@cbe.ab.ca
Phone	4032824361
* Subject	Conversion therapy needs to be banned

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	Pretty sure my subject line says it all. I don't care semantics, minuscule wording changes, or even discussion. Anyone who is worthy of being human would understand this is a heinous practice, and if they don't, should recuse themselves from this discussion. Conversion therapy needs to be banned. Period. End. Stop.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Sylvia
* Last name	Hawkins
Email	calgarysylv198@gmail.com
Phone	403 235 3832
* Subject	Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	It is unconscionable in the 21st century that the notion of "conversion" needs to be discussed. The thought that someone can "convert" a person's sexual orientation and/or gender identity is as ludicrous as it is abhorrent. Please vote to ban "conversion therapy".
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Talia
* Last name	Potter
Email	talia.potter.yyc@gmail.com
Phone	
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Ban supply

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I support a total ban on conversion therapy and want to see the by-law passed as it is currently written as of May 18, 2020, with no amendments.
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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Tania
* Last name Sablatash
Email tsab@nucleus.com

Phone

* Subject Support for ban on Gay Conversion Therapy

To Whom It May Concern:

My daughter is pansexual. I have a nephew who is gay. People of LGBTQ2+ sexual orientations should NOT be tortured by being forced to undergo Conversion Therapy. It is not ethical. It is not moral. It will not improve their lives. Sexual orientation is not a choice, it is how people are born. Trying to force someone to change their sexual orientation because it does not align with your beliefs is wrong, no matter which religion you practice, or what your personal beliefs are. Conversion Therapy is a harmful practice that traumatizes individuals subjected to it for the rest of their lives. People who are LGBTQ2+ are already marginalized in our society, simply because their orientation is not in the mainstream. Leave them alone. Let them live their lives in peace.

I understand that this legislation still has to pass through Council, and there will be a vote on it this week - please include me as a person who is FOR banning Conversion Therapy in Calgary. The ban is long overdue.

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I will also quote my Councillor, Evan Woolley: "I am asking you from the bottom of my heart... to support these recommendations. When we promote hatred, it is labelled a crime. When we promote self-hatred, it is labelled a "therapy". Promoting self-hatred is not therapy, it is simply the promotion of hatred."

(I would also like to note that neither my daughter nor my nephew share my name, in

ISC:

1/2

Unrestricted

May 19, 2020

12:08:04 PM



Public Submission

City Clerk's Office

case there is concern about either of them being identified in this letter.)

Sincerely,
Tania Sablatash
#1, 2121 - 15 St. SW
Calgary, AB T2T 3Y9
587-439-9517



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Tracey
* Last name	Busge
Email	tracey.budge@live.com
Phone	5875805835
* Subject	Ban Conversion Therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am a parent of 3 beautiful, perfect people. My 2 adult children identify as LGBT+ and I cannot be prouder of them. They are productive, contributing members of our country. They have been fortunate because they were brought up believing that Love Is Love. Many are not so lucky and have been scarred for life due to conversion therapy. It's 2020 and there is no excuse for repeating this barbaric behaviour. We know better. Let's DO better.

Sincerely,
Tracey Budge



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Rev. Tracy

* Last name Robertson

Email tracy@vilya.com

Phone 4038703930

* Subject Banning Conversion Therapy Bylaws

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I 100% agree with the draft bylaw on banning conversion therapy and strongly encourage my Councillor (Ward 10), all other Councillors, and the Mayor to vote to approve the draft bylaws as written and without any amendments.

I've also signed a letter with other Faith Leaders in support of these bylaws to ban conversation therapy of any kind in Calgary.

My church email is tracyrobertson@stthomasunited.ca



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Val

* Last name Matthews

Email vmatthews@shaw.ca

Phone 604-215-0260

* Subject Conversion therapy

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

Having lived in Calgary and came out there as well I can't believe that in this day and age people are actually considering this as a solution to what they consider a problem. Get out of the dark ages and into the world we now live in. Ban conversion therapy.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name Vanessa

* Last name Dixon

Email sweptup@gmail.com

Phone

* Subject PFC2020-0116

* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)

I am concerned that with a broad definition of conversion therapy it may contradict the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Where conversion therapy in past has been abused, presenting a poorly defined conversion therapy ban may specifically discriminate against many religious persons and not allow for freedom of conscience and religion, nor freedom of speech. To support inclusion and diversity in our nation it is important that we continue to allow freedom of thought and speech, while protecting ALL people of ALL viewpoints. Our nation is a free market, and should any person want to seek counselling services with opinions different than their own, they should be free to do so. If there is proof of abuse or false advertising or other criminal offences, these should be dealt with under the criminal code.



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* I have read and understand that my name, contact information and comments will be made publicly available in the Council Agenda.

* First name	Wyatt
* Last name	Johnson
Email	wyattjoh@gmail.com
Phone	4033545550
* Subject	Conversion Therapy Ban
* Comments - please refrain from providing personal information in this field (maximum 2500 characters)	I strongly support the ban on conversion therapy as proposed. It is a harmful practice that has no place in a modern society.