



STATEMENT OF CHRISTIAN MOTHER BODIES IN MALAWI ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL CASE SEEKING TO LEGALISE HOMOSEXUALITY (SODOMY)

(A Statement to be read in Churches and pro-family gatherings)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Christian Mother bodies in this country, comprising of Episcopal Conference of Malawi (ECM), Malawi Council of Churches (MCC) and the Evangelical Association of Malawi (EAM) in conjunction with other religious groups, would like to inform the nation that the Constitutional Court of the High Court will be sitting on the 23rd May 2023 in Blantyre to determine whether organization’s promoting same sex relationships should be legalized in Malawi. If the court passes the decision that the Government can start registering such organizations, it will mean legalizing same sex relationships in this country.

2.0 OUR BELIEFS

All the religious bodies in this country share the following beliefs about marriage:-

- (a) That it is God who created them male and female. (Mark 10:6-8). He ordained marriage to be between male and female.
- (b) That any relationship contrary to the above is unacceptable scripturally and unnatural and therefore a perversion of Gods own Law.
- (c) God designed that children, as off springs of a marriage relationship between male and female, be brought up under the care of the mother and father, wherever possible.
- (d) That homosexuality practices do exist in our midst but it is an abnormality. We believe such people require our counselling and support to reform.

3.0 OUR CONCERNS

The faith community in this country is concerned with the legalization of homosexuality on the following grounds:-

- (a) Legalizing same sex relationships/marriages will directly infringe on our religious liberties. Once legalized, church leaders will be forced to marry same sex couples in

our churches even against our own spiritual convictions; as is currently the case where such laws have changed.

- (b) Legalizing same sex marriages would promote the moral decay in our society as our children and young people in schools and colleges, including mission Schools, will openly be taught homosexuality as being normal. This is an unacceptable behaviour.
- (c) Homosexuality indirectly threatens the natural family unit which is the hub or core for a strong society. Other definitions of marriages/unions besides male and female is a fallacy and a perversion of natural order.
- (d) Homosexuality is a sin before God. (Lev. 18:22, 20:13; 1 Cor. 6:9, Rom. 1:26-32). Whilst God loves sinners just as He loves everybody else created in His image, He hates sin. Legalizing homosexuality is to “suspend” God’s moral code and establishing our own “standard” which is against His divine word. God cannot smile at nations when they choose disobedience. Malawi cannot afford to rebel against God at a time when we are asking God to heal our nation as we are faced with several calamities and disasters.

4.0 OUR APPEAL

We therefore make the following appeal:

- (a) **The Judiciary:** That the judiciary should not change this fundamental law without consultation of all Malawians.
- (b) **The Faith Community:** Should unite and earnestly pray against legalization and same sex marriages in Malawi. We must sensitize all people of the threat of same sex unions to the natural family and general morality of the country. People must know and stand up to defend the family. Let us use all media outlets and pulpits to bring this awareness.
- (c) **Our Leadership:** That our leaders whether Traditional Chiefs, parliamentarians or the executive should not give in to the pressure for us as a nation to “rebel” against God by legalizing same sex marriages.
- (d) **The International Community:** That the international community should respect our sovereignty as a nation and not dictate values which are conflicting with our religious and cultural beliefs as a people.
- (e) **Civil Society and Human Rights Group:** We are aware that the majority of such individuals in these groups do it for money and not necessarily based on convictions. We therefore urge all groups advocating same sex marriages to seriously reflect on their actions and not be used to cause the nation to sin against God.

5.0 OUR COMMITMENT

The Religious bodies in this country therefore are against the legalization of homosexuality. We are of the view that this is a fundamental part of our law, which if indeed has to be changed, can only be changed by the will of the majority of the citizens of this nation through either a referendum or through the peoples representatives in parliament. To have three high court judges sitting and changing such a fundamental law would tantamount to an infringement of people's rights, values and interests.

We must all stand together as a nation in solidarity to defend the natural family marriage as established by God. We therefore call upon all concerned Malawians to seriously pray to God that Same Sex Unions should not be legalized in this country by the Courts.

On Tuesday, 23rd of May 2023 as the case will be heard in the Court, we request people to sit peacefully outside the High Court in Blantyre silently praying to the God of heaven that Malawi, as a nation, shall seek to live by God's righteousness and not depart from His divine laws governing our morality. (Prov. 14:34).

May God bless Malawi and keep it a land of peace.

EAM,

ECM,

MCC,

15th May, 2023