

Four Freedoms in Freedom Of Religion

for Prime Minister's *Expert Panel*, second of 4 parts

FREEDOM OF THOUGHT, of which Freedom of Religion is part, is now under attack

Freedom of Thought already seems restricted, at least implicitly, and less obviously, by laws and tribunals hampering Freedom of Speech.

Thoughts and Words

Thought is made up of ideas which are expressed in words. Words are learned from parents, relatives, friends, neighbours and institutions like schools. Controlling spoken words is a way of controlling thoughts using these words, especially to limit the range of thinking. Thus Mao Zedong:

If you use our words you will think our thoughts.

He or others developed this further:

If you think our thoughts you will do our deeds.

In *Man's Search for Meaning*, the Viennese psychiatrist Dr Victor Frankl said the ultimate freedom, the freedom that can never be removed by force, even in the most brutal concentration camp (where he formulated his ideas) is *the freedom to choose one's attitude to one's environment*.

Yet he could not pass these ideas on to others without speech or publication.

To preserve Freedom of Thought, and for the common good, Freedom of Speech must be maximized.

FREEDOM OF SPEECH — in the name of Academic Freedom and J.J. Rousseau...

“Academic Freedom” was once a slogan which let university professors and even students utter harebrained or obscene proposals under cover (or excuse) of protecting the development of new ideas.

That's now outdated. University students now need “trigger warnings” lest they get offended, or upset at anything against the prevailing “political correctness”. Protests of former days against government censorship of immoral books has gone into reverse, by banning any opposition to silence it.

Jean Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778) used to be quoted for his strident defence of Freedom of Speech: “I disagree with you completely, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.”

Nowadays, the enthusiastic heirs of his atheism simply hide this embarrassing assertion.

Yet Rousseau would have defended the right to Freedom of Speech of those who “think outside the box” with ideas lacking Political Correctness such as these, now totally unacceptable:-

Governments should treat schooling as “free trade” and let the market decide, let it find its own level..

They should give up control of schooling and sell-off State Schools to parental groups.

Abolish compulsory schooling.

Let “evolution” eliminate the unfit!

Uphold the noble status of fatherhood and motherhood founded in nature itself.

Hold parents primarily responsible for children's upbringing in the civic virtues, on biological, psychological and societal grounds.

Save money in the Welfare Budget by upholding the noble status of the natural family of a man and woman and their children, and their extended family, to help solve societies' problems of the care of the aged, nervous breakdowns, neglected and abused children, delinquent youth and suicide prevention.

These seven non-P.C. utterances might soon attract a prison sentence when one refuses to pay the fines imposed by courts or tribunals — unless genuine Freedom is available for Religion.

Of course, some restrictions on Freedom of Speech may be necessary but should be minimal, e.g. the 8th commandment against slander in its various aspects.

Some complaints to Anti-Discrimination Tribunals seem contrived to persecute or harass Christians on the grounds of “hate speech” and being “offensive”. Other religions are not so targeted. Christians did not lodge complaints for hate speech and offensive words, let alone the violence, used against them in the recent campaign over the proposed postal plebiscite — which was cut down to a straw vote.

Opportunities for malice and revenge abound in dictatorial atheistic regimes. In Stalin's Russia, according to Alexander Solzhenitsyn's *The Gulag Archipelago*, a mere accusation without proof against a neighbour was evidence enough for a ten year imprisonment. Similarly, according to William Shirer's *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*, in Hitler's Germany there was no Freedom of Speech — except for Dr JP Goebbels, the Propaganda Minister. The sinister secret police produced a reign of terror.

Therefore Freedom of Religion is closely linked with Freedom of Speech. If Christians were banned by law from speaking of particular doctrines like the necessity of Repentance and rejection of popular P.C. sins, in order to avoid Hell, then it will be a negation of their Freedom of Religion.

FREEDOM TO PUBLISH one's thoughts

The printer engaged for Dr David van Gend's *Stealing from a Child, the Injustice of 'Marriage Equality'* (2016), just one day before its scheduled launch, refused to print it. Was there intimidation?

Further, Dr van Gend, a general practitioner has already been persecuted over kindred issues.

Will his important book now be banned — or will Freedom of Speech in print be allowed?

The Global Sexual Revolution, The Destruction of Freedom in the Name of Freedom by Gabriele Kuby (German 2012, English 2015) exposes the carefully planned promotion of same-sex ideology and the details of its funding by UN, EU, UK and various US financial giants. Will Australian

bookshops selling it be found guilty of promoting hate-speech?

Dr Paul Kengor's *Takedown, from Communists to Progressives, How the Left has sabotaged Family and Marriage* (2015) treats the history and promotion by modern Freudian-Marxism of same-sex unions.

Long ago, in 1934, anthropologist Dr J.D. Unwin, a non-Christian with no religion, published *Sex and Culture*. He researched the development of sexual behaviour in the history of many major and minor civilizations. Once they ceased to sublimate any of their sexual drives into other creative activities, they doomed themselves to rapid extinction.

[This is Thesis 2]

Further back in the 20th century, Australian author and sculptor Norman Lindsay enjoyed fame (or infamy) for having more books banned by government censorship than any other Australian author. Might we now expect such books to be set as school texts?

Will the Bible be banned for non-P.C. teaching against fornication, adultery and sodomy? Will my publications be banned?

FREEDOM TO ACT on one's beliefs

Freedom to Act is not merely about autonomous acts, but *to act as one ought*, on the will of God. It involves Freedom of Religion, Freedom of Speech, Freedom to Publish.

Christianity is a missionary religion. To be missionary is part of its 'package deal'.

It is of the essence of Christianity to proclaim to all the Good News of Jesus Christ:-

Go therefore, make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you, and behold, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.

Matthew 28:19-20

Christianity respects the freedom of others to choose or reject it. It invites conversion by extolling personal prayer. It persuades by reason and convinces by patience and kindness as example of goodwill. It never coerces. And the history of Christianity is a history of martyrs for Faith, Hope and Charity.

In the early Christian Church, St Peter and other apostles of Christ were put on trial by the Sanhedrin, the Jewish high court. These latter authorities were alarmed at the apostles' claim that the Man they had crucified had risen from the dead, and that His message was spreading like wildfire.

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they wondered; and they recognized that they had been with Jesus.

Acts 4:13

The Sanhedrin had the prisoners taken out while they deliberated, then recalled them and said:

So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

Acts 4:18

When charged for a repeated offence, the apostles were reminded:

"We forbade you to teach in that name yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us".

Acts 5:28

But Peter and the apostles answered,

"We must obey God rather than men."

Acts 5:29

Some modern anti-discrimination activities appear to be a rerun of historic harassment and persecution.

Can judges who do evil by your [God's] friends?
They do injustice under cover of law;
they attack the life of the just
and condemn innocent blood.

Psalms 94 [93]:20-21 (Grail Translation)

Here ends this second quarter of the Submission to the Expert Panel on the Freedom of Religion.

REFLECTIONS ON THE POSTAL STRAW VOTE

miscalled a plebiscite

because voting was not compulsory

THE STRAW VOTE for same sex unions will further negate rights and freedoms. The thought-police and the star chambers will see to that.

Any new law will simply be a further demotion of real marriage, reducing it to mere ephemeral emotional bonds. That's not marriage. It's *Nineteen Eighty Four* lies purporting to be truth, in implement Freudian-Marxism.

The history of philosophy is littered with lunacies from men entrapped in their own half-truths.

These lead to a reverse error with the reaction from homespun folk who say, "Philosophy's all bunk."

In the same way, it is a half-truth to say one is not going to force others to accept one's morality.

To claim this as a moral high ground is a fallacy, just as much as to say philosophy is bunk or that morality a purely personal matter.

It ignores the obvious: lawmakers, judges in law courts and police are all forcing their own moral judgements on others. The old scholastic adage, "Whatever is received is received according to the mode or mindset of the recipient" can be mirrored, "Whatever is uttered is uttered according to the mode or mindset of the utterer." (See *Handouts* n. 156)

So academe, politicians, public servants, police, courts, media who lack sympathy, whether wittingly or unwittingly, for morality or for religion, will impose their own lack of morality or even force an amorality on others, and so prove less capable of giving fair treatment to parents, schools and employees.

It's happening already! The Enemy is at the Gate. We are called to arms — with the weaponry of God, which is the Good News of the Cross: repent, believe, practise Faith, Hope and Charity.

Father James Tierney