

Cross Party Group on Faith meeting
God and sex – faith groups tackling pornography

Media Briefing Room, The Senedd on Wednesday 8 July 2015 from 12.00-13:15

Present:

1. *Alex Bellamy, work experience*
2. *Darren Millar AM (Chair)*
3. *David Forward - Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints*
4. *Ellana Thomas – Domestic Abuse Project Worker, Carmarthenshire County Council*
5. *Esther Holt, Project Development Coordinator– Care for the Family*
6. *Gwilym Roberts, Chief Executive, Relate Cymru*
7. *Ian Govier, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints*
8. *Jim Stewart, Public Affairs and Advocacy Officer, Evangelical Alliance Wales (Secretary)*
9. *Jonathan Isaac*
10. *Julie Jones, Public Affairs Officer Wales, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints*
11. *Julie Morgan AM*
12. *Karin Cooke, Porn Scars, Naked Truth Project (Speaker)*
13. *Lucy Brown, work experience*
14. *Mary Millar, work experience*
15. *Mavis Harris*
16. *Mia Rees, Assembly Assistant to Darren Millar AM*
17. *Mohammed Asghar AM*
18. *Prad Halai, Hindu community*
19. *Revd Dr Philip Manghan, Catholic Education Service Adviser for Wales*
20. *Revd Elfed Godding, National Director, Evangelical Alliance Wales*
21. *Revd Peter Noble, Chaplain, Cardiff Bay Local Ecumenical Partnership*
22. *Ruth Mullineux, Policy Officer, NSPCC Wales/Cymru*
23. *Saffa Ibrahim, Sef Cymru*
24. *Samina Khan, Co-Chair, Cardiff Prevent Stakeholder Group*
25. *Sarah Witcombe-Hayes NSPCC Wales/Cymru*
26. *Shakilah Malik, Community Education Officer, Cardiff Youth Service, Cardiff Council*
27. *Shereen Aziz-Williams, Director, Henna Foundation (Speaker)*

Apologies:

1. *Arfon Jones, Bible Society and Gobaith i Gymru*
2. *Bishop John Davies, Bishop of Swansea and Brecon*
3. *Carys Moseley, Communications Officer, Presbyterian Church of Wales*
4. *Lisa Gerson, Cardiff United Synagogue*
5. *Revd Aled Edwards, Chief Executive, Cytûn*
6. *Sally Thomas, Ecumenical Officer, United Reformed Church*
7. *Stanley Sofa, South Wales Jewish Representative Council*
8. *Wynford Elis Owen, Chief Executive officer, The Living Room*

9. Gethin Rhys, Cytûn

This Cross Party Group does not make a distinction between group members and external guests with places for meetings being allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

Minutes

1. Darren Millar AM welcomed everyone and noted apologies.
2. The two speakers, Karin Cooke from The Naked Truth and Shereen Aziz-Williams from The Henna Foundation, were introduced and both gave ten-minute presentations on *God and sex – faith groups tackling pornography*.
3. The presentations were followed by a time of discussion and Q&A.
4. Action points from the meeting were:
 - a. To write to Welsh Government asking what consideration has been given to making changes to the licensing system to restrict access to pornography.
 - b. To write to the Education Minister asking what is being done to further develop the curriculum in order to address problems caused by exposure to pornography
 - c. To write to the Education Minister asking if government guidance will be refreshed in order to equip teachers and those in school leadership to tackle the challenges presented by exposure to pornography by pupils and fellow staff members
 - d. To write to the First Minister asking what Welsh Government will do to expand counselling services to prevent pornography addiction and to aid recovery regarding problematic behaviour resulting from exposure to pornography.
5. The meeting was closed by Darren Millar AM with details of the next meeting to be circulated via email by Jim Stewart.

