

REAL Women of Canada | www.realwomenofcanada.ca

Volume XXXVIII | Issue No. 10 | October 2019

JUSTIFIED PUBLIC CONTEMPT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS TRIBUNALS

There was a time when human rights, dignity and the worth of a human person were commonly understood concepts across all nations. This was reflected in the UN Declaration of Human Rights passed in 1948. This common standard of human rights upheld: the right to life, equality before the law, the right to be presumed innocent, the right to free movement and mobility, that the family of a man and a woman was the natural and fundamental unit of society which was entitled to protection by society. Freedom of opinion and expression and freedom of peaceful assembly were also listed as universal rights. Canadians should be proud of the fact that one of the individuals who drafted this wonderful document was a Canadian from Montreal, John P. Humphrey, former dean of McGill University Faculty of Law. Putting these rights together in one document was a major achievement.

That was then. This is now.

Human rights today has nosedived into lunacy. No better example of this is the 16 complaints made to the BC Human Rights Tribunal by a transgendered male who identifies as a female, although he has retained his male genitals. His birth name is Jonathon Yaniv, but he now goes by the name of "Jessica".

Yaniv is a most peculiar person. He has recorded his telephone conversations with mostly economically and culturally marginalized women, who were trying to earn extra money for their families by carrying out female waxing services from their homes. When Yaniv shows up at the small business operating out of the home, where there are often small children present, he demands that the beautician wax his genitals, which are decidedly male. When they refuse to wax his male parts, for religious or cultural reasons, or because they are not trained to do this specialized procedure, Yaniv accuses them of discrimination and advises them that he will bring a complaint against them before the Human Rights Tribunal. To avoid this catastrophe, some of these women have paid over sums of money to Yaniv. He asks for \$8,000 in compensation but has settled with sums ranging from \$1000 to \$5000. It is an easy way for Yaniv to enrich himself.

Immigrant women are not his only targets, as he has also laid a complaint against Christian activist, Bill Whatcott, for referring to Yaniv as "he" in his sidewalk preaching and in his flyers. Yaniv claims that this has caused immense injury to his "dignity" and "self-respect" and is demanding \$35,000 in compensation.

Although there are 16 women who have not been intimidated by Yaniv into handing over money to prevent charges against them, the hearings on Yaniv's complaints have now begun.

Significantly, the Canadian mainstream media have remained silent about Yaniv's exploitation of these marginalized women. The exceptions are the National Post and the Toronto Sun. The CBC, Global News, CTV, Winnipeg Tribune, etc. have all remained entirely silent on this travesty. The reason for the silence is that Yaniv, as a transgendered man, has rights according to the mainstream media that should be upheld. These "rights", that is, "gender identity and expression", were recently invented and imprecisely defined. No one clearly understands what these terms mean, or, for that matter, actually believes in them. This "right" nonetheless, has caused havoc in the lives of 16 culturally and financially marginalized women and others as well. These complaints have made Canada a laughing stock around the world.

Yaniv is no innocent complainant. He has written on social media discriminatory comments against immigrants, especially Asians, calling them untruthful, and insisting they have unclean habits. Yaniv has also exhibited a perverted interest in young girls under the age of 12 and their menstrual processes. He appeared before the Township of Langley Council in BC to request an LGBT topless swim for young people 12 and over, which parents and guardians would not be permitted to attend.

Why is Yaniv being permitted to display such offensive and

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disgusting behaviour? The reason is, he identifies as transgendered and can do whatever he apparently likes, with impunity. As Yaniv himself has stated, he has power to silence his critics. "I have power. And lots of it. I know how to use my words, and really shut down the haters one after another."

What is even more revolting about this case is the fact that the BC Human Rights Tribunal agreed to proceed with these frivolous complaints, stating that Yaniv has experienced "genuine" and "pervasive discrimination."

It should be noted, however, that one of the reasons the Tribunal may have accepted these nonsensical complaints is likely due to the fact that transgenderism is providing a whole new avenue of work to expand the Tribunal's empire and justify its existence.

As a result of these and other complaints, human rights have degenerated, as Tribunals cater to shrill demands from special interest groups that expect social and economic entitlements. This exploitation is contrary to fundamental, inalienable human rights according to the tradition of individual freedom and self-government. That is, human rights have become "privileges" granted to "special" citizens.

The Tribunal continues to insist that it exists to protect such people as Yaniv. Its acceptance of Yaniv's complaints, however, has further degraded the very idea of human rights. These Tribunals have become the subject of derision by the public. They have lost all respect and can be regarded only with contempt.

U.S. CORPORATIONS PUSH ABORTION

"An employee having a baby means higher costs.... In short, giving birth to babies is bad for business and abortion is good."

On June 10, 2019 more than 180 business owners and CEOs, including Twitter's, signed a letter, published as a full page ad in the New York Times, promoting abortion rights. Other companies included MAC Cosmetics, H&M and The Body Shop. One of these companies, called Seventh Generation, even sells baby care products! These companies employ more than 108,000 workers. The ad was placed under the banner, "DON'T BAN EQUALITY: It's Time for Companies to Stand Up for Reproductive Healthcare."

This ad was puzzling since many of these corporations are not typically considered far-left organizations.

Ironically, it turns out that only two of these corporations are listed among the top 180 companies offering paid maternity leave for women. In other words, these companies are not really supporting women, but are, instead, protecting their own bottom line. This is because parental leave imposes a cost on these companies. The disruptions of time-off (even earned) for doctor's appointments, managing morning sickness, and staying healthy during pregnancy are a drain on a company's revenue. Many of these employers offer a bare minimum maternity leave. Others offer nothing at all.

For these companies, the math is simple. An employee having a baby means higher costs and less profit for the company. Abortion is a convenient way of minimizing these costs. In short, giving birth to babies is bad for business and abortion is good due to the fact that a female employee can terminate her pregnancy on a Saturday and return to work the following week.

Hence, the reality is that the companies listed in the ad are not there for altruistic, but, rather, for financial reasons. The companies are sending women a clear message by this ad. An abortion is good for business, and "health, independence, and ability to fully succeed in the workplace" is what really matters. That is, women are being encouraged to put their jobs above the lives of their unborn child. As the ad states, "Restricting access to comprehensive reproductive care, including abortion, threatens the health, independence and economic stability of our employees and customers". The ad continued, "Simply put, it goes against our values and is bad for business."

As a result of this attitude, many pregnant, employed women suffer discrimination. This appears to be a pervasive problem in the Western world. In September 2018, the European Parliament warned about this difficulty in the workplace. A recent study in Spain found that 89% of female employees experienced employment discrimination because of pregnancy. The problem is that the inclusion of women into the labour force has been encouraged without taking into account the vital stages of women's lives. All those women who want to be mothers are harmed when they experience serious harassment. During pregnancy, this can negatively affect their physical and psychological health.

THE LINK BETWEEN OUR CULTURAL VALUES AND ABORTION

This controversial ad would not have been possible without changes that have taken place in our culture, which shapes our behaviour. Our Western culture today tells us that children are barriers to a happy life and personal fulfilment, which must include a successful career, material goods, and the luxury to live an affluent lifestyle, unburdened by family and childcare responsibilities.

Religion, which encourages families and children, is in decline. Recent research suggests that some of the recovery of fertility and decrease in abortions in Eastern Europe in recent years may be due to a "retraditionalization" of values and religion. Basically, as Eastern Europe has broken away from the expected path of progressive change toward secularism and individuality, after decades of Soviet repression, its fertility rate has risen. Attitudes and values matter. **†**

A MAJOR PROBLEM— THE MENTAL HEALTH OF OUR ADOLESCENTS

Studies are showing that our adolescents are the loneliest generation in our history. Anxiety and depression among our youth have become a severe problem. In fact, the increase in mental illness among adolescents has become epidemic and is nothing short of staggering. For example, in a survey of over 600,000 U.S. adolescents, it was found that, from 2009 to 2017, major depression surged 69% among 16 to 17 year olds, and jumped 71% among 18 to 25 year olds.

Tragically, this has led to a significant increase in suicide for these young people. In the U.S., the suicide rate for 18 to19 year olds climbed 56% from 2008 to 2017. The suicide rate for Canadian youth, according to an article in the Canadian Medical Association Journal, (June 2012) entitled Suicide among Children and Adolescents in Canada: 1980– 2008, indicated that suicide rates in Canada are increasing in female children and adolescents. That is, the number of girls committing suicide in Canada has increased 54% over a 30 year period. Statistics Canada disclosed in 2017 that in the previous decade the suicide rate among girls increased by 38%, while male suicide decreased by 34%. While males are twice as likely to commit suicide, women account for 42% of all suicide deaths under 20 in 2013, whereas in 2003 they accounted for just over a quarter of suicides. The rate of suicide attempts among women is three times more than men and there are 20 suicide attempts for every successful suicide (Statistics Canada 2012).

Other behaviours related to depression have also increased. These include self-harm, such as cutting, as well as hospital admissions for suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts.

What has caused this problem among adolescents? When questioned, teenagers admit that anxiety and depression are the major problems, and that bullying, drug addiction, alcohol, poverty, pregnancy and gangs are a concern, but less so.

It is always difficult to determine the actual causes behind trends, but some possibilities seem less likely than others. The troubled economy and job loss, the two typical culprits of mental distress, don't appear to be the cause.

Although the increase in mental health issues occurred around the same time as the opioid epidemic, this crisis seems, almost exclusively, to affect adults over 25 years of age and not adolescents.

There is one societal shift over the past decade, however, that is influencing the lives of today's teens and young adults more than any other generation: the spread of smartphones and digital media, like social media, texting and video gaming.

There can be no doubt that internet porn has also had a detrimental effect on young people. Sadly, today's adolescents are often found in front of a screen, sitting alone in their room, observing the sexual activity of others, but not being involved themselves in human interaction. Neurological circuits are created that are ruled by the norms of pornography. Consequently, a result of this digital age is that our young people have become collateral damage. It is true that older individuals also use these technologies, but younger people have adopted them more quickly and completely, and the impact on their social lives has been more pronounced. In fact, the technological age has drastically restructured their daily lives.

Specifically, compared with their predecessors, teens today spend less face-to-face time with their friends and more time communicating electronically. Study after study has found that this is associated with their mental health issues. This is because when people are physically in the presence of another person, they experience a marked increase in healthy feelings. It is an obvious problem, therefore, that younger generations now prefer to connect through a screen, which also causes them to lose face-to-face social skills.

This is not to suggest that adolescents are solely responsible for their distress. Where are their parents in this? Are they too busy, too tired, or are they too closely attending to their own devices to monitor their children's habits in this regard?

Adolescence has always been a difficult time. Trying to settle their future, find romantic connections and comparing themselves to peers, who seem to be doing better, according to their Facebook and Twitter platforms, causes major anxieties. Therefore, close parental attention and support are necessary—and are often absent.

HELPFUL CONSIDERATION FOR ADOLESCENTS

Policy makers should pay heed to a study by Harvard's School of Public Health, published in the *American Journal of Epidemiology* (September 2018). Its findings may be politically incorrect in that the research provides evidence of the positive role played by traditional religion on the development of youth health and welfare.

This Harvard study joins a multitude of other studies with similar findings, which have overwhelmingly found that people of faith tend to be less depressed, less anxious, and far more able to handle their lives than non-believers. For example, an earlier study was published in the journal, Canadian Psychiatry (May 2013), in regard to adolescents in the province of Nova Scotia. This study showed that religion and the frequency of religious service attendance lessened depression risks among adolescents. The study concluded that religious attendance independently predicts lower depression among girls. Among boys with depression, religious attendance predicted a lower likelihood of being depressed in follow up interviews. In the journal, Annals of Behavioural Medicine (Dec 2016), a study was published indicating that women who had frequent religious service attendance had the lowest risk of developing depression. It is noted, however, that this study, which included a total of 48,984 U.S. nurses, whose mean age was 58 years, did not deal with adolescents, but the study at least indicates the strong influence of religion on female depression.

According to a study, published in the official journal of

the American Association of Suicidology in 2014, other protective factors against adolescent suicide include academic achievement, enjoying school, parental and non-parental connectedness (trusted adults), supportive friendships, involvement in sports and school engagement and safety. It is important to note that liking school was more a protective factor for females, while feeling safe in school was more a protective factor for males.

Youth suicide in Canada is the second leading cause of death in Canada for ages 15 to 24. (Statistics Canada, 2015a). Additionally, there are more suicide attempts by youth than by adults. It's a troubling time for society. **†**

THE WE MOVEMENT IS DANGEROUS FOR ADOLESCENTS

"The WE Movement has greatly changed ... and has become a social engineering organization, which indoctrinates youth into a mindset that is contrary to wholesome, healthy traditional values."

In 1995, the WE Movement was started by 12 year old Craig Kielburger, while he was a student at a Catholic school in Thornhill ON. He was joined by his older brother, Marc. The latter is now Harvard and Oxford educated, and is considered the brains behind the organization, while charismatic Craig is the face of the WE Movement. Their organization was originally called "Free the Children", but was later changed to the WE Movement.

The purpose of the organization is to energize youth to change this world by fighting child poverty and oppression internationally. Its international development work includes providing clean drinking water and access to education for youth. The organization believes that human power alone can rid the world of its problems.

On the surface, this organization appeared to be trustworthy. However, that is no longer the case. The WE Movement has greatly changed in the past few years, and has become a social engineering organization, which indoctrinates youth into a mindset that is contrary to wholesome, healthy traditional values.

It does this by providing WE Day rallies in major cities, such as Ottawa, Vancouver and Toronto, and in the U.S. and the U.K., whereby celebrities are invited to connect with youth. These are not just <u>any</u> celebrities. They include speakers and musicians, who promote homosexuality, abortion and alarmist environmentalism, for example, rap artist Kardinal Offishall, who glorifies loose living and sexual promiscuity. Another celebrity is hip hop artist Big Sean, whose profanity laden repertoire is riddled with lyrics portraying women as "bitches" and "whores", whose only value is in pleasuring men. His songs also include approval of prostitution, pimping, rape, oral sex and illegal drug use. U.S. rapper Macklemore's music promotes homosexuality (over 200,000 students streamed to Macklemore's concert in Toronto in October, 2016). His rap song, "Same Love", supports same-sex marriage.

Academy Award winning actress Marlee Matlin, who is a "passionate advocate of gay rights" and supports the LGBT

community in all its demands, actress Jennifer Lopez, whose slinky performance in Vancouver in 2014 stunned her audience, and U.S. activist, pro-abortionist and feminist, Chelsea Clinton, have all been speakers and performers at WE Movement events. Actress Mia Farrow, who promotes abortion, was also a celebrity guest. Sophie Gregoire Trudeau, who chaired a panel in Vancouver in June 2019 at a feminist conference to raise money for international abortions, was also a speaker at a WE Movement event. The above are just a partial list of the speakers and entertainers invited to the WE Movement events, who are presented as role models for impressionable youths.

The Kielburgers' organization also hired a homosexual stripper, Michael David Lorsch, to manage its leadership programs. He has frequently spoken at Catholic and public schools in Ontario and has led trips for youth overseas, serving as the Manager of leadership programs. He resigned when his homosexual stripper activities were made public. The WE Movement sent out a statement at the time lamenting the fact that Lorsch had to resign, and defended his former stripper activity.

In 2011, on Mother's Day, the Kielburger brothers signed a manifesto denouncing the then Conservative government's decision to cut funding to International Planned Parenthood Federation. In this manifesto, the organization described International Planned Parenthood Federation as "an organization that provides reproductive health services abroad", and that the Conservative government's action was a "paternalistic refusal to offer women in Africa the same rights offered to women in Canada."

The Kielburgers' annual WE Day rallies are attended by thousands of teens from Catholic and public schools across Canada. The organization is active in over 16,000 public and private schools, recruiting students to join the "WE Movement".

The WE Movement lists the Toronto Catholic and District School Boards, Halton Catholic and District School Boards (ON), and Edmonton Catholic and District School Boards (AB) as educational partners to the organization, as well as the Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools in the U.S.

The WE Movement has degenerated into a dangerous organization, leading huge numbers of young people into a totally wrong understanding of life and dignity of human beings and respect for others. It should be banned from both public and Catholic schools. \ddagger

SIMPLE THINGS MATTER—THE FAMILY DINNER TABLE

Sometimes the simplest changes in the family can make a significant difference. Several recent studies indicate that there is evidence that family meals can have an impact on children's eating habits, diet and health. For example: <u>The Family</u> <u>Meals with Young Kids</u> was an online Australian study, completed by parents in 2014. The study measured the frequency of shared meals across the day, duration and location of meal times, parental modeling, and parents' perceived importance of the evening meal. It found that the frequency of having everyone in the family present for the evening meal was greater in the higher socioeconomic families. Most children in these families consumed breakfast (73%), lunch (56%) and dinner (82%) at a table. Less than half of the children (36%) watched TV during meals more than once a day.

A further study published in the Canadian Family Physician, Feb. 2015, entitled, <u>Systematic review of the effects</u> of family meal frequency on psychosocial outcomes in youth, found that a positive relationship existed between frequent family meals and increasing self-esteem and school success. Irregular family meals were associated with disorderly eating, alcohol and substance use, violent behaviour, and feelings of depression or thoughts of suicide in adolescents. These surprising conclusions were backed up by another study in the U.S., <u>Associations between Early Family Meal Environment Quality and Later Well-Being in School-Age Children</u>, published in 2017 in a journal by National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), a branch of the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. This study found a positive link between family meals and child and adolescent health.

Incredibly, according to this study, family meal environment quality at age 6 predicted higher levels of general fitness, and lower levels of soft drink consumption, physical aggression, oppositional behaviour, nonaggressive delinquency and reactive aggression at age 10.

Further, a study published in February 2018, entitled <u>Intergen</u> erational Transmission of Family Meal Patterns from Adolescence to Parenthood: Longitudinal Associations with Parents' Dietary Intake, Weight-related Behaviors, and Psychosocial Well-being, conducted at the University of Minnesota Medical School, found that young adult parents who reported having regular family meals as adolescents and as parents, or who started having regular family meals with their own families, reported more household dietary, weight-related, and psychosocial advantages compared to young adults who never reported having regular family meals.

All these findings suggest that family meals have long term positive influences on children's well-being.

The problem, however, is that family meals are declining. This is not surprising, especially in families with young children, with children's extra-circular activities, such as hockey and soccer practices, music lessons, etc., limiting family and meal preparation time. This problem increases when both parents are in the paid workforce.

According to an article in an American magazine, <u>The Atlan</u>tic, June 13, 2019, a recent survey of more than 1,000 American

adults showed that the family dinner table is becoming a far less popular place to eat. These findings will no doubt apply to Canada as well. The Atlantic survey found that less than half of those surveyed said they eat at a table when eating at home, and instead, the couch and the bedroom were more popular places to eat dinner. Not surprisingly, 30% of respondents cited the couch as their primary place to eat at home where the TV and other screens are available, with other members of the family eating separately. According to a 2013 U.S. nationally representative National Public Radio poll, only half of American children sat down to eat dinner as a family on a typical evening. This survey has been confirmed by other surveys, such as the one commissioned in 2019 by the manufacturers of Pretzel Crisps, which found that 49% of Americans say that they regularly watch television while eating. This is called "zombie eating" which means staring at a screen while eating. According to this survey, the average American only eats three meals per week at their kitchen table. A similar situation appears to be occurring in the UK. A recent survey there about family habits found that a third of the families in the U.K. sit in complete silence during mealtimes and that 44% say they stare at their iPhones during their meal.

It seems that technology has so transformed our lives that family members are retreating into his or her sterile world, when one in five respondents in the U.K. survey reported that they would rather be watching television than talking with family members!

This troubling situation has been intensified by busy families often relying on ready-made food options, which makes people less inclined to set the table and gather everyone around it. Also, modern homes are moving away from a formal dining room as a separate space, with an increase in open kitchens. Whatever the reason, it seems that dinner time together at the table is being reduced by families, to the detriment of the children's well-being.

Given that psychosocial dysfunction is one of the most common chronic conditions among children and adolescents, families should be educated on the benefits of having regular meals together. **†**



This cartoon, by Brian Gable, was published: on March 2, 2015 in The Globe and Mail.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear supporter of REAL Women of Canada:

Welcome to the October 2019 issue or REALity and the September/October 2019 Issue for those of you who receive our print copy by Canada Post every two months.

Once again, thank you to all of you who submitted suggestions for a new motto for REAL Women of Canada. The Board is exploring the possibility of replacing the present motto, "Women Building a Better Society", which we have had for many years. Some examples of submissions from our supporters are, "REAL Women

Championing Real Issues", "REAL Women: Love, Life, Liberty", "Defending the Beauty of the Traditional Family", and "REAL Women Care-for each other, for society and for children". All submissions will be taken under consideration.

Our 2019 Fall Fundraising Campaign is in full swing. Please refer to the ad in this issue, as well as to our website. Many, many thanks to those who have contributed so far. No amount is too small, no amount is too large. Our goal is to raise \$100,000 by January 1, 2020. This revenue is urgently needed to allow us to continue our task of speaking on your behalf, whether in the courts, in the media or in various levels of government. Stay tuned throughout this Campaign, for our frequent on-line updates and success stories.

Drag Queen Story Hours are raising their ugly heads in public libraries across the United States and in Canada. These are story hours advertised for children under 12 years of age, and consist of people, usually men, dressed in drag, in grotesque attire, and sometimes performing inappropriate gestures, reading stories with overt sexual tones. The stories promote the LGBTQ+ lifestyle, especially the transgender lifestyle. These presentations are entirely inappropriate for young children. Monitor your local public library's Events' webpage. If you see these events advertised, please write to your library's Board of Directors and ask that these events be cancelled. There have been success stories in the US, where protests have been able to stop these events.

For those of you who are reading this on-line, before the Federal Election on Monday, October 21, please remember to VOTE. If you need a ride to your polling station, call a friend, your local electoral office or riding association, to request a volunteer driver. Vote for a Party that may have the best chance to elect pro-life candidates that could influence their caucus and/or that have the most pro-life/ pro-family friendly policies. Refer to our 2019 Federal Election pamphlet for some guidance.

We are so utterly grateful that our supporters never fail to step up to the plate, whether it's taking action to make our country better for families or supporting pro-family work through financial contributions.

Best regards,

Pauline Guzik, National President

\$100,000 CAN BUY **COFFEE FOR EVERYONE** AT A BLUE JAYS GAME.



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