

The Collapse of Reason and Conscience in the Trinity Law School Dispute

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There are so many things wrong in the unfolding saga of the efforts to crush the Trinity Law School; it's hard to know where to begin. The revelation yesterday that the Province of BC—through Minister of Advanced Education, Mr. Amrik Virk—is considering “revoking” its 2013 approval of the law school before it can open its doors was just one more example of unbelievable arrogance and hostility towards adherents of the Christian faith.

1. Universities are supposed to be places of open inquiry and freedom to explore. To deny that freedom to law students who choose to study at Trinity—knowing beforehand the standards of personal chastity and religious conviction the school requires of its students—is absurd.
2. The refusal of law societies in three provinces to accept the credentials of future graduates of Trinity is nothing short of bigotry. No reference is made to the expected quality of education. Rather, the insinuation is that students who profess the Christian faith and who agree to live by its principles would be somehow unfit to defend, prosecute or judge—a conclusion so mind-numbingly misguided that one can only wonder at the level of self-deception. The shallow excuses given to the public could not deceive anyone thinking clearly.
3. Courts of justice—which are supposed to operate in a fair and unbiased manner—are based on certain fundamental shared convictions. The Preamble to Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms (part of our Canadian Constitution) begins with these words: “...Canada is founded on principles that recognize the supremacy of God and the rule of law...” That would be the God of the Bible, the Creator of heaven and earth. To summarily reject people who recognize His supremacy makes the basis of our justice system untenable. To treat Christian lawyers or law students as second-class citizens is to blatantly disregard the “rule of law” which presupposes that all must have equal opportunity and be judged by the same standards of right and wrong.
4. It is ironic indeed to have this collapse of sanity taking place under a department with the remarkable title of “Advanced Education”. How is it an advance to dictate to a private institution, dedicated to higher learning, what solemn agreements it may or may not make with the students who aspire to acquire knowledge and wisdom within its gates?

We know that the pressure to accommodate shifting lifestyle preferences is powerful. Money and media have now combined with the power of the state to try to squeeze out Christian influence and mould after their own image every institution that might guide young lives or establish norms of social behaviour.

We call on Mr. Virk, the Province of BC and the Law Societies of BC, Ontario and Nova Scotia to admit they have made a mistake, apologize to Trinity and allow the university and its students and professors to get on with the business of studying and teaching law. I recommend that those who have been creating stumbling blocks to the noble efforts at Trinity go back and study the law themselves. They will look long and hard to find any legal merit in their obfuscations. Loopholes are the refuge of manipulators but those who seek to establish true justice will find guidance in the original intent of our Constitution, the time-tested precedents of English Common Law and the timeless wisdom of the Bible from which they sprang and upon which they rest.

The Christian Heritage Party seeks to preserve our heritage of fundamental freedoms and equalities against the many assaults upon these God-given, Charter-affirmed rights.

Join the battle today. Join CHP Canada¹.

Footnotes

¹ www.chp.ca/get-involved