

EFZ PRESS STATEMENT/ COMMUNIQUE

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION (CSE) AND THE LAUNCH OF THE “PROTECT ZAMBIAN CHILDREN COALITION” PETITION PROCESS

DELIVERED BY

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Salutations: Your Graces the Bishops, Other Senior Clergy Present, Brother and sisters, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Press: Good morning.

We welcome you all to this press briefing, as we issue a Communique on a very important national matter.

Yesterday, we delivered a letter to the office of the Honourable minister of General Education Honourable Dr. Dennis Wanchinga, MP and a copy of the same to the Honourable Minister of National Guidance and Religious Affairs.

The letter is an appeal for the Ministry of General Education to **immediately withdraw** *Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)* from the Zambian Education curriculum. In it, we also notified the Ministry of General Education of the formal launch of an ONLINE Petition dubbed, the ***Protect Zambian Children Coalition***, being a local effort that is a part of the global ‘*Protect the Child Health’ Coalition*, in collaboration with *Family Watch International (FWI)* of USA, who, with similar concerns, have taken a global stand against CSE.

We have highlighted, in our letter, that the aim of the online petition is three-fold;

1. To galvanise voices from a cross-section of our constituents and citizens in general, towards calling upon our Government to **withdraw** from the deceptive Ministerial Commitment on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) that committed Zambia’s schools to teach highly controversial and harmful CSE programs to children in 75 percent of Zambia’s schools.

In this regard, we note that The Eastern and Southern African (ESA) “Commitment” on Comprehensive Sexuality Education was signed without proper consultation with parliament, parents or religious leaders. Every Zambian parent has the “prior right” to direct the education of their children ([see UDHR Article 26.3](#)), and this ministerial commitment violates this critical right.

2. To call attention towards the need to **end** any and all agreements, plans, or projects with known global agencies, foreign governments or foreign-funded NGOs to implement CSE programs, including those which normalize extramarital sexual conduct, especially between children of minor age (whether heterosexual or homosexual), or that include graphic or pornographic materials, that teach children they have “sexual rights” or how to “consent” to sexual acts, or that teach unscientific

gender identity theories (i.e., claiming genders or sexes exist other than male or female or that sex is fluid and can be changed).

3. To call attention towards the need to conduct a comprehensive review of sex and sexuality education programs in Zambian public schools, universities, and teacher training initiatives, including those being implemented under the guise of sexual or reproductive health education or preventing HIV, pregnancy, sexual abuse, violence, using formal, non-formal, or peer-to-peer modalities, both inside and outside of schools, and remove all those that contain any of the common 15 harmful CSE elements.

We have provided evidence from research that demonstrates the lamentable failure rate of CSE programmes in the schools. Accordingly, we have caution strongly that these ineffective and highly controversial CSE programs mostly pushed by foreign entities, are harming Zambia's children and that it must be stopped.

In this respect, the *Protect Zambian Children Coalition* advises the Government of the Republic of Zambia through the Ministry of General Education to **immediately withdraw** the *Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)* which has already been rolled out in classrooms at schools around the country.

In simple terms, CSE, if permitted to run its course, will turn our boys and girls into prostitutes and sex addicts, with no capacity to raise and run families in respectable homes. CSE will produce sex addicts who will be social misfits and causes of major social upheavals in the republic.

The Coalition, which is a part of the global *Protect Child Health Coalition*, and Family Watch International, further appeals to all Zambians in all walks of life to recognize and prevent the lasting damage that *Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)* is designed to do to children today.

Accordingly, the *Protect Zambian Children Coalition* has started collecting signatures for a petition to be formally presented to the Government of Zambia—but it would be preferable for the CSE to be pulled out of the classroom immediately because of its destructive impact.

In our estimation, If not stopped, CSE will dehumanize children and destabilize families, and further destroy foundations of childhood for generations to come.

Stated plainly, *Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)* is one of the greatest assaults on the health and innocence of children, and as such, Zambian parents should not stand by and allow it to unfold further in our schools.

Our letter also explains that this is because unlike traditional sex education, comprehensive sexuality education is highly explicit and promotes sexual immorality and high-risk sexual behaviours to children as healthy and normal practices. CSE programmes concentrate on teaching children how to obtain sexual pleasure in various ways.

CSE programmes are not comprehensive, as they fail to teach children about all of the emotional, psychological and physical health risks of promiscuous sexual activity.

The ultimate goal of CSE is to change the sexual and gender norms of society, which is why CSE could be more accurately called “abortion, promiscuity, and LGBT rights education.” CSE is a “rights-based” approach to sex education and promotes sexual rights to children at the expense of their holistic sexual health.

For these reasons, we call upon all our constituent members and all mature citizens of the nation that we cannot afford to ignore what is happening in the schools.

We will take time now to highlight the following facts about CSE, from our perspective:

HARMFUL CONCEPTS

Here below are some of the harmful CSE concepts which our leaders at all levels should oppose and stop:

- CSE teaches children to masturbate.
- CSE encourages acceptance and exploration of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities.
- CSE promotes high risk sexual behaviours (including anal and oral sex) and teaches that they are safe.
- CSE promotes sexual pleasure and promiscuity as a right for children.
- CSE promotes abortion as safe and without consequences.
- CSE encourages children to experiment sexually with individuals of their own sex or the opposite sex.
- CSE claims that access to “comprehensive sexuality education” is a human right.
- CSE teaches children and youth they are sexual from birth.
- CSE promotes condoms to children without informing them of their failure rates.
- CSE promotes disrespect for parents and religious and cultural values.
- CSE promotes sexual counselling, information or services to minors without parental consent.
- CSE trains children to advocate for their “sexual rights” in laws and policies.
- CSE encourages “peer to peer” sexuality education.

CSE DISGUISED

Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) is usually disguised with names like human rights education, gender equality education, or sexual and reproductive health education or information. CSE is typically taught to children at the youngest of ages, often without the knowledge or consent of their parents.

Since opposition to CSE programmes is increasing as more and more parents around our continent and the world at large are learning about its explicit nature, CSE advocates have started disguising it.

Some CSE programs are called “abstinence plus” programmes when they have little or no focus on abstinence and largely focus on sexual pleasure. Just because a programme is not specifically labelled “Comprehensive Sexuality Education” does not mean it is not CSE. So programmes called “sexual education,” “sexuality education,” “sex education,” or a number of other things, should still be resisted, opposed and stopped.

The *Protect Zambian Children Coalition* knows that government officials are pressured at the United Nations and elsewhere to accept *Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)* and openly support it without ever seeing the actual curricula or understanding its graphic nature.

RADICAL SEXUAL IDEOLOGIES

CSE promotes radical sexual ideologies and behaviours that conflict with the religious and cultural values of most people, which makes it a grave betrayal of children's populations by government officials who should have the future of their nations in mind. For us as a Christian nation, this a very grave matter.

Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) is promoted by very powerful and respected organizations of international repute and some of whom fund major socio-economic programmes in key sectors of the Zambian economy. Even if that may be the case, we call on all Zambian parents and leaders to take a stand, step out and act to protect and preserve our spiritual as well as our cultural values. **We can not sell our future for a "morsel of bread."**

In addition, CSE is heavily promoted at the United Nations gatherings and at national and state legislatures by paid lobbyists of multi-million dollar organizations and businesses that profit from so-called health care services they provide to young people and adults who are sexually active. In fact, it is common for these lobbyists to become members of official UN delegations without the governments understanding the deceptive sexual CSE agenda the lobbyists are intending to promote.

Lucrative "sexual and reproductive health care services" can include sexual counselling, family planning, contraception, condoms, abortion, testing and treatment for STIs, and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, as well as related commodities, pharmaceuticals, vaccines, etc.

The early sexualization of children through CSE can create lifelong paying customers for these services, so this is big business. We call on Zambians to awaken and reject CSE. We know other African countries like Kenya are standing up too and it may very well be time for the African Union to repronounce its disdain for these attempts by foreign donors, on African member States. Gratefully, the Church is leading the way in raising this alarm.

WAR AGAINST CHILDREN

There is a war against our children. That war has been taken silently into the classrooms of our schools, and our children are being turned into sex objects who are being groomed to despise marriage and family, and who are being turned into individuals with no moral sense and no cultural responsibilities.

The *Protect Zambian Children Coalition* therefore calls on all parents, church leaders, community leaders, Members of Parliament, councillors in municipalities and all adults to stand up and tell the Government of the Republic of Zambia to withdraw the *Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)* which is already contaminating and destroying the leaders of tomorrow.

We caution strongly that these ineffective and highly controversial CSE programs mostly pushed by foreign entities, are harming Zambia's children and must be stopped immediately.

We avail ourselves to work with the Government and other well-meaning Zambians to seek ways of charting a new course, for the sake of achieving a posterity that is more assured of a morally stronger and value-sustained Christian nation. Time-tested, alternative family centred sex education options are available.

In addition to the 3 -fold aim enumerated above, the EFZ, along with other church bodies we are already in consultation with, on the *Protect Zambian Children Coalition*, will inform all who are willing to participate, that capacity building support will be provided to enable them carry out the following crucial steps, in the fight against *Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)*:

Step 1 – Equip and Empower: *Gather information and resources needed to safeguard the health and innocence of children.*

Step 2 – Gather and Organize: *Network and join forces with other likeminded stakeholders to address sex education curriculum concerns.*

Step 3 – Prepare and Formulate: *Organize presentations and messaging for effective activism.*

Step 4 – Activate and Advocate: *Launch effective activism within the church and the community.*

Step 5– Sustain and Advance: *Continue all items listed above, improve messaging and streamline activism towards alternative curriculum provisions.*

In **Proverbs 14:34**, we are counselled as follows; “**Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.**” One key meaning of righteousness in the biblical context is **ethical conduct**. We are under obligation to actualise this today for the sake of future generations.

The *Protect Zambian Children Coalition* cautions the Ministry of General Education and alerts the Minister for National Guidance and Religious Affairs to recognize CSE as a diabolical and abominable programme designed to destabilize the moral and spiritual sanity of the only country in Africa known as a Christian nation.

We therefore now formally launch the *Protect Zambian Children Coalition* petition process

And;

We call upon all concerned Zambians whether parents, grandparents, teachers, doctors, counsellors, youths, business people or religious leaders to go to the Website stopcse.org and sign the petition and spread the word.

May God bless our beloved nation, Zambia.