

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]

To: Charity Info <charityinfo@gov.bm>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Wed, 17 May 2017 09:02:15 +0000

Subject: Charity Status - Preserve Marriage

Good day,

I am writing in support of the Charities status of Preserve Marriage being approved. I have attended their Town Hall meetings, watched the informative videos on their website, attended the information sessions with international Special Guests Dr Tony Evans and Dr Ryan Anderson and appreciate that with the topic of same-sex marriage there are always two sides of a story. Out Bermuda has a side... and you have granted them Charity Status to tell their story. I believe that Bermuda deserves the right to have both perspectives heard with the granting of Charity Status for Preserve Marriage. Please don't stifle this two sided discussion. Let the public have the opportunity to hear both sides.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts in support of Preserve Marriage receiving Charities status.

[REDACTED]

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]

To: Charity Info <charityinfo@gov.bm>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Tue, 16 May 2017 23:56:52 +0000

Subject: Preserve Marriage Status

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing to support the application submitted by Preserve Marriage for Charity Status. I fully support their beliefs and ideals that marriage should remain between a Man and a Woman and they have been a public benefit and instrumental as our collective 'voice' for the many thousands of Bermudians who feel this way.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
To: Charity Info <charityinfo@gov.bm>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Tue, 16 May 2017 17:23:33 +0000

Subject: Preserve Marriage Renewal

Dear Charities Commission,

I have been surprised to learn that the decision to renew charity status to Preserve Marriage is still outstanding.

As a member of the public I have benefitted from this charity. I am a mom, grandmother and also a youth leader and very much appreciated the concise and detailed information about the roles of both a mom and a dad in the life of a child. A little girl needs a dad....and a little boy needs his mom.

Our society and culture has prospered and grown on the foundation of traditional marriage between a man and a woman. Perhaps this was a fact we took for granted but Preserve Marriage helped me and I am sure many others understand why Government is in the business of marriage...why does it matter to the government when many other Christian norms such as baptism don't. Marriage between a man and a woman benefits society.

We live in a diverse community and although we may have differing views on many issues Preserve Marriage has always been professional in all its communications.

I would hope that their application would be looked at favorably. Please acknowledge receipt.

Kindest Regards,

[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]

To: Charity Info <charityinfo@gov.bm>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Tue, 16 May 2017 15:30:01 +0000

Subject: Charity Status Renewal for Preserve Marriage

Dear Charities Commission,

I understand the Charities Commission have been considering the renewal of the charity status for Preserve Marriage since March 2017.

I have personally benefited from Preserve Marriage who have been very active within our community openly educating the public on reasons why we should preserve marriage which is very important to me having been married for almost 25 years. I am extremely thankful for the work they have been doing including allowing me to have a voice.

Preserve Marriage represents a cross section of our Bermudian community including Christians and non-Christians.

Preserve Marriage have openly campaigned their views and beliefs and have even be called upon by the Bermuda Government to be a part of the recent court case.

As you review the charitable status for Preserve Marriage please consider what has been shared and allow them to continue to function as a charitable organization for our diverse community in accordance to the Charities Act.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
To: Charity Info <charityinfo@gov.bm>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Sun, 2 Apr 2017 15:25:25 +0000

Subject:

I am writing in to support the Preserve Marriage in their application for charity status renewal, as well as any other dealings they have as I am a great believer and supporter of retaining normal marriage between a man and woman and anything else I feel is just plain wrong, simple as that.

If those other groups (Rainbow something or other, or the LBG?? group) who are "for" gay marriage can be granted charity status then so should Preserve Marriage, that is only fair and democratic. To not grant them the same rights (especially given that the MAJORITY of people voted against gay marriage in the Referendum, let's not forget that VERY IMPORTANT point!) goes directly against fair and democratic practices in Bermuda.

I am and always will be against gay marriage and will support any group that opposes bringing that here to Bermuda. If these people have to get married, they can go elsewhere to do it, not here. The people have spoken loud and clear that we do not want it here, simple as that.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]

To: Charity Info <charityinfo@gov.bm>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Fri, 31 Mar 2017 12:13:08 +0000

Subject: Preserve marriage

Dear Sir

I stand with Preserve Marriage because it has been the norm for society around the world and still is for the majority of nationalities. Marriage has only become perverted in the western world over the past 20 years and especially the last 10 in my view. Marriage is between a man and a woman in my view and also the majority of the world.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
To: Charity Info <charityinfo@gov.bm>  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
Date: Fri, 31 Mar 2017 02:35:09 +0000  
Subject: Supportive of Preserve Marriage  
Dear Sir:

I write this letter to express how I have benefited from the information provided by Preserve Marriage, and why I support their re-application for charitable status.

I found it educational and beneficial to learn about recent court cases at the European Court of Justice that dealt with the very issue we are now grappling with in Bermuda. Largely as a result of Preserve Marriage's public awareness campaigns I have become aware of these facts. In particular, I learned with great interest about the Oligari case that went before the European Courts. This provided valuable information that was not being widely discussed as part of the public debate that helped to frame the issue better and gave me a different perspective on the matter. This is useful. If we are under a regime, we should take into account the decisions made there.

Second, I am supportive of Preserve Marriage's re-application for charitable status because they are a vital voice for a large segment of the population, they help to provide another perspective and balance to what I find to be largely a debate where only one perspective is being heard. The group has conducted itself well in the face of significant name calling against it and against what I believe are unjust accusations against it.

In order for us to have an informed, constructive dialogue about issues of national and personal importance, I believe strongly that we need to hear all perspectives on a matter. No person or group should be silenced simply because they have an opposing view. If this were the case we would not have a functioning democracy or much of a marketplace of ideas.

Preserve Marriage helps to further that dialogue in Bermuda by respectfully stating the case for those who are in support of maintaining traditional marriage.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]  
To: Charity Info <charityinfo@gov.bm>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Thu, 30 Mar 2017 23:55:20 +0000

Subject: Preserve Marriage Charity

To whom it may concern, I am thankful for the work that preserve marriage have done so far in bringing so much relevant information to light regarding the importance of preserving traditional marriage in society and how this benefits and protects society as a whole. I admire the way that those involved with the preserve marriage cause in Bermuda have upheld what they believe, whilst at the same time engaging with people of a different opinion in a caring manner and a listening approach. I believe preserve marriage should be allowed to remain a charity.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]

To: Charity Info <charityinfo@gov.bm>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Thu, 30 Mar 2017 20:37:06 +0000

Subject: re: Preserve Marriage Charitable Status

To the Chairperson and Members of the Commission,

As a Bermudian Educator for some thirty-five years (now retired) I feel it important that all aspects of historical and present-day views of sexuality should be readily available to inquiring minds.

Unfortunately, in today's society, it appears that the loudest voice gains the most attention ... particularly in recent years in the print, social, and TV/Radio media. So much so, that it would almost seem that homosexual/bisexual relationships are the only loving/caring ones and those who support heterosexual marriage are bigoted and hateful.

The historical and religious concept of marriage as between a man and a woman is worthy of preservation in our society. Well-rounded education allows for all available information to be readily accessible ... which is what the Preserve Marriage group is endeavouring to do. As with any reputable charity, they are seeking to support the welfare of Bermudians by making available information and help for the thousands who have signified their support for the historical/traditional/religious view of marriage between a man and a woman.

I support the petition of Preserve Marriage Bermuda to receive Charitable Status.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]

To: Charity Info <charityinfo@gov.bm>

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Thu, 30 Mar 2017 15:41:46 +0000

Subject: Preserve Marriage Bermuda

Dear Sirs,

I write in support of Preserve Marriage Bermuda's application for charitable status. I unreservedly support the work they are doing in educating the public on the origins and significance of marriage, strengthening the understanding of the family unit and clarifying the uniqueness of traditional marriage.

Further, with my experience as a father, husband and uncle, businessman and former minister of government, I believe our community desperately needs values that are principled and that stand the test of time. Traditional marriage is irrefutably good for society and I further believe that conjugal marriage is a bedrock principle of civil society.

In my opinion the work of Preserve Marriage is vital in building a stronger society and, as such, it has never endorsed or promoted hatred or divisiveness despite the false accusations leveled at them. The aims of the organization are pure and good and, therefore, their application can only be supported by the commissioners. A refusal of the application would represent an unfair and profound interference in the rights of a significant number of Bermudians who support the traditional marriage view.

I certainly hope their application is successful.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 3:17 AM  
To: Charity Info; Charity Info; Glen Mello  
Subject: Preserve Marriage

Image (789).jpg 309K

To the Charity Commissioners,

I am writing with respect to the impending re-registration of Preserve Marriage, registration number 983 and to voice my support for its charitable purpose.

Though I cannot – and do not - claim to be an expert on the work that you do, with respect to the official Charitable Purposes and Public Benefit guidelines issued by the Registry General and the Charity Commissioners, it seems clear that Preserve Marriage serves the charitable purpose of the advancement of religion – specifically, with respect to raising awareness and understanding of religious beliefs and practices.

While the Biblical paradigm of marriage – as defended by Preserve Marriage – has been the prevailing definition of marriage for literally millennia, it has sharply fallen out of favor in public discourse in recent years. Christianity itself is being cast in a harsh light over a genuine misunderstanding for the bases of this belief, which stems not from hatred or bigotry, but rather firm religious conviction rooted in a belief in a divinely created order and adherence to the precepts of holy scripture. When a sector of the population seems bent on using this issue as a touchstone to engender hostility against religion in general and Christianity specifically, an organization like Preserve Marriage is critical to promote a respectful understanding, if not agreement, with the belief system of tens of thousands of Bermudians.

Though the issue of marriage is but one small part of the rich tapestry of Christian belief, to silence this very prominent vehicle of that belief would have a chilling effect on all religious charitable institutions in Bermuda – and even, perhaps, the concept of religious freedom itself.

It is therefore my fervent hope that your esteemed body would affirm the granting of the re-registration of Preserve Marriage.

Yours Faithfully,  
[REDACTED]

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<https://www.avast.com/antivirus>

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\*\*\*\*\*

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED]

Date: 4/27/17 10:49 AM (GMT-04:00)

To: "Burgess, Teika M." <[tmburgess@gov.bm](mailto:tmburgess@gov.bm)>, [info@preservemarriage.bm](mailto:info@preservemarriage.bm), [mbassett@ibl.bm](mailto:mbassett@ibl.bm), Mark Hall <[mhall@wol.org](mailto:mhall@wol.org)>, Anthony Philip <[amphilip@gmail.com](mailto:amphilip@gmail.com)>

Cc: "Eve, Taylor T." <[tteve@gov.bm](mailto:tteve@gov.bm)>, "Lightbourne, Antoine T." <[atlightbourne@gov.bm](mailto:atlightbourne@gov.bm)>, "Pennyman, Aubrey" <[apennyman@gov.bm](mailto:apennyman@gov.bm)>, "Caines, Dwayne A." <[dacaines@gov.bm](mailto:dacaines@gov.bm)>, [dduncan@td.bm](mailto:dduncan@td.bm)

Subject: RE: Preserve Marriage Bermuda

Hello Mrs Burgess, Ms. Eve, Mr. Lightbourne, Mr. Pennyman and Mr. Caines,

Thank you for your email. We have outlined all that you have questioned in point II which clearly demonstrated the public benefit that Preserve Marriage has fulfilled to the community at large. However, we will present what is requested in further detail. This has included town-hall meetings, seminars, youth and adult events, marriage enhancement initiatives, etc.

There is most certainly a public benefit to the community. Please keep in mind that any representation within the courts or politically is in direct line with being able to support and carry out our mission. It is also to prevent the privatization of one's beliefs or convictions despite their religion. Other approved charities that are seeking to advance same-sex marriage in Bermuda have actually initiated the matter both politically and legally. In most cases, we are responding on behalf of the general public who desire to maintain traditional marriage.

On two other occasions, we intervened on behalf of the Bermuda Government. Most recently, we were served an invitation, by order of the judge, to intervene to represent public interest. We do not see this at all as straying away from our mission, but actually being backed in a corner to represent it, so that we can continue to educate the public on this matter.

Our public representation is diverse and multi-ethnic, consisting of persons in Bermuda from all walks of life and it is our hope that the Commissioners will clearly see that whatever move we make is as a support to the public interest and not at all deterring away from it.

We clearly understand that there has been outside pressure placed on the Commission by those who desire to introduce same-sex marriage in Bermuda. Unfortunately some of this pressure has been ongoing from a reporter for the Royal Gazette, who has brought much public attention to only some of Preserve Marriage's activities, while neglecting most of our community engagement and educational initiatives. However, it is our hope that this would not influence the Commission to place an undue standard on Preserve Marriage and not the other entities that support same sex-marriage and have initiated both political and legal action for their cause as a registered charity.

We simply understand that if an organization's mission is to uphold either position for public interest, (traditional marriage or same-sex marriage) some form of political and or legal involvement is inevitable. This is due to the fact that laws in Bermuda are changed by Parliament and the legislature. In each case, Preserve Marriage has been responding to others, which included approved charities, who have initiated legal change in the law as it pertains to marriage.

However, it does not detract from Preserve Marriage being a public benefit to the community. Countless members of the public have thanked us for educating them about the benefits

traditional marriage provide to society. These came as a result of the various activities that we have held for both youth and adults, teaching the public that one can stand for traditional marriage while denouncing hate and bigotry. Countless members of the public also expressed their gratitude for Preserve Marriage, following our informational sessions which gave a balanced interpretation of what the European Convention has clearly ruled. Without these sessions, only one perspective of the debate was being presented.

This has been a highly debated national discussion. Preserve Marriage has worked tirelessly with our team of doctors, lawyers, educators, sociological professionals, international business leaders and spiritual leaders to provide well researched scientific, legal, sociological, and spiritual considerations to the public square on the topic of marriage and society in a way that brings balance to the conversation, while showing love and respect to those with whom we disagree.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.