



ASSYRIAN AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE PROPOSAL

In his speech to the NSW Parliament on Tuesday 18 March 2014, Rev Nile stated:

Reverend the Hon. FRED NILE [7.24 p.m.]: I draw to the attention of the House the proposed Nineveh Plain Assyrian Province in Iraq. Iraq's Council of Ministers, led by the Hon. Nouri Al Maliki, Prime Minister of Iraq, on Tuesday 20 January 2014 decided in principle to create three new provinces from contested parts of the country. A statement said the Cabinet had "agreed in principle to turn the areas of Tuz, Fallujah and the Nineveh Plain into provinces and the Cabinet will decide after the fulfilment of the necessary requirements". It did not give a reason for the decision. Assyrians have been demanding separate province status at Nineveh Plain for years. Today the Assyrian Christian nation is struggling to impress upon the international community the importance of being distinctly recognised as a nation in need of significant protection and, more importantly, a nation in pursuit of autonomy within the territorial boundaries of a centrally governed Iraq.

More than 750,000 Indigenous Assyrians were slaughtered by the Young Turks during World War I. The injustice continued and in 1932, within 15 months of the enactment of the Declaration of the Kingdom of Iraq—a declaration that guaranteed the rights of persons belonging to national ethnic or religious minorities—Arabs and Kurds were armed by the Iraqi Government and offered one pound for every Assyrian head. Eleven villages were summoned under the pretext of police protection. Assyrians were disarmed after being assured of the "good intentions" of the Government; the population was indiscriminately murdered; priests were tortured and killed; girls

were raped; 65 out of 95 Assyrian villages were destroyed or burnt to the ground; thousands of Assyrians were removed from their homes; thousands were killed, and their killing denied by the Government; the Assyrian religious leaders were deported; a camp was set up, and the Iraqi Government was charged with the task of looking after thousands of Assyrian refugees, but instead they were left destitute and penniless causing death by famine and disease.

As a result of these massacres hundreds of Assyrian families crossed the border into Syria on 21 July 1933, in hope of receiving asylum from the French Mandate of Syria. Some 35 villages were established on both banks of the Khabur River between Hassaka and Qamishli to settle the flood of refugees. Today these people are facing the same fate as Syria and 70 per cent have fled Syria, devastated by the recent rebel attacks on their villages and churches. In similar conditions, more than 200 Assyrian villages were destroyed and their Assyrian population forced into internal and external displacement during Iraq's Saddam Hussein regime.

Today Assyrian Churches are still being bombed and Assyrians are still being killed, kidnapped or assaulted. Assyrians have survived the adversities of history for thousands of years, but their hope, faith and determination cannot continue to sustain them from extinction. Without international cooperation and pressure, having serious regard to this fundamental crisis, their ancient nation will not survive.

The Assyrian Universal Alliance in Australia has lobbied the Australian Federal Government for years to endorse and support the Nineveh Plain province. Many members of the Federal Government spoke in support

of this issue including Mr Chris Hayes, MP, Mr. Craig Kelly, MP, and the Hon. Chris Bowen, MP. Mr Bowen tabled a motion in the Federal Parliament focusing on the Assyrian demand for the establishment of an autonomous province in the heart of the Assyrian ancestral lands in the Nineveh Plains in northern Iraq. I propose to move the same motion in this House:

That this House considers and supports a resolution by the Australian Assyrians that demands the Iraqi Government to accord the new proposed Nineveh Plains Province an autonomous status (self-administrated region) to the Assyrians and other Christian minorities on the land of their ancestors in the north of Iraq (the territory located between the greater Zab and the river Tigris) and demonstrated in the newly created Assyrian region in the said territory shall be administrated and protected by the Assyrians, under the jurisdiction of the central national Government.

This will be absolutely necessary to the security and survival of the Assyrians in Iraq. The establishment of such an Assyrian region as promulgated under article 121 of the Iraqi constitution will allow greater local Assyrian control within the context of their integrated, sovereign Iraqi state. Furthermore, such an Assyrian area would allow for political, educational, linguistic, religious, and cultural protection.

We also call on the Australian Federal Government to use our seat in the United Nations Security Council to adopt a similar motion supporting a new province for the Assyrians in Iraq at this critical time before the next Iraq national election.

REV FRED NILE SUPPORTS NEW EMPLOYMENT CHECKS OF ICAC AND OTHER AGENCIES STAFF

In his speech to the NSW Parliament on Tuesday 28 May 2013, Mr Nile stated in his the following:

INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2013 - Second Reading

Reverend the Hon. FRED NILE [9.13 p.m.]: I support the Independent Commission Against Corruption and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2013. The bill makes miscellaneous amendments to legislation governing integrity and law enforcement agencies. The reforms in the bill are a result of meeting the concerns that have been raised by the Independent Commission Against Corruption. I am pleased that the bill is being passed by the House. It will greatly assist the Independent Commission Against Corruption. I have been a member of the parliamentary committee that oversees the Independent Commission Against Corruption since the corruption was formed.

I appreciate all the work that the Independent Commission Against Corruption does, although I know that not all members do. I believe it

performs a valuable role in our State. The bill meets the concerns raised by the Police Integrity Commission, the Ombudsman and the Minister for Police and Emergency Services on behalf of the New South Wales Crime Commission. The reforms have been requested by these organisations. The reforms will strengthen the integrity of the law enforcement agencies and remove obstacles and red tape that inhibit the efficient discharge of their functions.

The problem that the Independent Commission Against Corruption and others faced was getting information, including criminal intelligence, that could be used to vet applicants to be employed by the Independent Commission Against Corruption. The Independent Commission Against Corruption deals with corruption so it is vital that its staff, investigators and lawyers are incorruptible, they have no corruption in their record, and nor does anyone with whom they are closely associated, including their family. This legislation will enable the Independent Commission Against Corruption, the New South Wales Crime Commission, the NSW Police

Force and the Police Integrity Commission to have the information it needs when vetting future employees.

These law enforcement agencies must have the means to effectively screen prospective employees for their suitability. It will also apply to vetting applicants for positions with the inspectors for each of those three commissions. Other reforms will ensure the Ombudsman has access to information held by public sector organisations, which he requires to perform his functions. The bill also will exempt appropriately trained officers of the Police Integrity Commission from the requirement to have licences or permits for certain firearms and weapons while performing Police Integrity Commission duties.

Finally, the bill will enable judges or former judges of the District Court of New South Wales to be appointed as chairperson of the Management Committee for the New South Wales Crime Commission. This legislation is very important and will allow these organisations to have great confidence that the people they employ have

no criminal record and have no associates who have criminal records. The authorities need to be able to check the associates of the applicants; the applicants may not be aware of the criminal history of their associates. In fact, people who have a criminal history but keep it a secret could deliberately win the friendship of applicants to gain information about their duties for those important organisations that are combating corruption and criminal activity in our State.

We must never underestimate the ability of criminal organisations. They are sophisticated in the way they operate and in their ability to influence people who work in crime enforcement organisations. There must be a constant vetting of staff. I believe any issues about privacy have to be put aside in this matter so individuals can be vetted 100 per cent, so those agencies can be certain that they are employing people they can trust, who have integrity and who have honesty, and so they can carry out their duties according to law. The Christian Democratic Party is pleased to support this bill.

REV FRED NILE SUPPORT NATIONAL ROYAL COMMISSION INTO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

In his speech to the NSW Parliament on Wednesday 11 September 2013, Mr Nile stated the following:

ROYAL COMMISSIONS AND OMBUDSMAN LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2013

Second Reading

Reverend the Hon FRED NILE [3.42 pm]: The Christian Democratic Party is very pleased to support the Royal Commissions and Ombudsman Legislation Amendment Bill 2013. Royal commissions are very important in investigating child abuse cases that have occurred in Australia on a national level; this bill gives the commission the necessary power to do that. We have all been shocked by the allegations of child abuse, many of which have come to light because of the mandatory reporting requirement. This bill will make further amendments to facilitate the operation of the Commonwealth's Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse—the national royal commission—and to enable the Ombudsman to disclose

information and give evidence for the purposes of certain court proceedings.

The national royal commission was established by Letters Patent issued by the Commonwealth Governor-General in January 2013. The New South Wales Governor issued equivalent Letters Patent under New South Wales laws to support the legal basis of the national royal commission. In some cases the national royal commission has been using powers available to it under New South Wales laws, including where it has issued notices requiring the production of documents. The amendments will clarify the powers of royal commissions, including the national royal commission, under section 17 of the Royal Commissions Act 1923, to require the disclosure of information, despite any non-disclosure provisions in other New South Wales laws, and to protect the confidentiality of sensitive information.

I am pleased the Ombudsman has cooperated with this procedure and has requested amendments to enable the Ombudsman and the Ombudsman's office to

disclose information and to give evidence in certain circumstances. The bill implements the Ombudsman's request. I am pleased with the cooperation between the Ombudsman's office and the national royal commission involving New South Wales law. The bill will clarify that royal commissions have the power to require the disclosure of information despite the provisions of any other New South Wales law, unless the other law specifically states that it overrides the Royal Commissions Act 1923. It will also provide that information that might identify the person who reported a child at risk of harm under the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 may not be disclosed to a royal commission unless that person has consented or the royal commission grants leave.

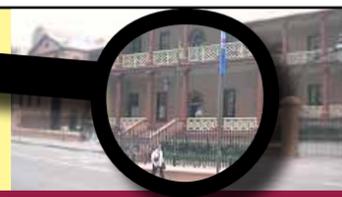
The bill will give royal commissions express powers to make directions restricting or prohibiting the publication of evidence and to hold parts of the inquiry in private. It will enable the Ombudsman and his officers to disclose information or to give evidence for the

purposes of the following legal proceedings: criminal or injunction proceedings against a person who, contrary to the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994, has taken reprisal action against someone who made a public interest disclosure—it is important that witnesses cooperating with royal commissions are fully protected and do not fear reprisal action being taken against them—and any criminal proceedings resulting from investigation conducted by the Ombudsman under the Ombudsman Act 1974, but only if the investigation related to a matter referred to the Ombudsman for investigation by the Inspector of the Police Integrity Commission or the Inspector of the Crime Commission, such as Operation Prospect. The Christian Democratic Party is pleased to support the bill. Hopefully the evidence will identify individuals who have carried out child abuse—no matter what their position in society—so legal action can be taken. Once victims' cases are confirmed before the royal commission they will be able to receive compensation and assistance.



Focus On PARLIAMENT

JULY 2014



Rev Fred Nile Strongly Opposes New Gambling Machines and Votes Against the Bill

In his speech to the NSW Parliament on Tuesday 28 May 2013, Mr Nile stated the following:

GAMING MACHINES AMENDMENT (MULTI-TERMINAL GAMING MACHINES IN CLUBS) BILL 2013

Reverend the Hon. FRED NILE [8.29 p.m.]: On behalf of the Christian Democratic Party, I oppose the Gaming Machines Amendment (Multi-terminal Gaming Machines in Clubs) Bill 2013. The bill will amend the Gaming Machines Act 2001 to allow small clubs with a maximum of 33 gaming machines—I call them “gambling machines”—entitlements to substitute up to five gaming machine entitlements for an equivalent number of multi-terminal gaming machine, known as MTGM, player terminals.

A multi-terminal gaming machine is a gaming machine designed to be played by more than one player at a time and is equipped with more than one player terminal. Each player terminal is taken to be a separate gaming machine for the purpose of the Act and is counted as part of the total number of gambling machines that may be kept by a club. The total number cannot exceed the number of gaming machine entitlements held by the club. Importantly, a multi-terminal gaming machine is typically an electronic version of roulette or blackjack with a virtual croupier or dealer, but it can also comprise many other games. Currently, in this State we are debating how many casinos we should have. By law we have one: The Star, which is operated by Echo Entertainment at Darling Harbour, while James Parker, on behalf of Crown, has submitted a proposal for a hotel and casino development at Barangaroo.

Under this bill the clubs in this State—whether RSL clubs, football clubs, workers clubs and so on, which are already supported by poker machine takings—will now have this electronic version of roulette or blackjack as well. This will make them mini casinos. The people of this State do not want that, nor can we afford it socially or economically. In the lead-up to the last election the Coalition entered into a memorandum of understanding with ClubsNSW. This bill, which is the result of one of the commitments given at that time, will basically expand gambling facilities in New South Wales. This is a bad move for our State. Sadly, our most exploited suburbs are the western suburbs of Sydney, where people gamble

but cannot afford to. In fact, the largest clubs—clubs with more than 1,500 poker machines—are found in our lower economic areas. This legislation will result in increased revenue for the State Government but it is a form of exploitation of those in who gamble. We do not want mini casinos in New South Wales.

Members have probably heard me tell the story about my brother, who is a director and treasurer of the Bankstown Trotting Recreational Club, inviting me to the club. He rang me and said, “Fred, I would like you to come over to the club. I want to show you something.” I asked, “What is that?” He said, “We have just installed another \$2 million worth of poker machines. I am very proud of what I am doing. I would like you to inspect it.” I said, “You know I am trying to close them down.” He said, “I know that but as my brother I would like you to come and have a look at them.” So I went over. Everyone who was busily playing the machines said, “Hi Fred” to me as I walked around. The culture of poker machines is such that people are virtually tied to them. They play them for hours. Often a lot of older ladies play the machines. Perhaps they are lonely and have no other interests so they become attached to playing poker machines. They put whatever money they have—I do not believe they can afford to do it—through the poker machines. Gambling is having a big impact on our society.

I have had a number of discussions with the Premier about this. It is my view that we should conduct a parliamentary inquiry into the social, economic and moral impact of gambling in New South Wales. The Premier is not enthusiastic because the policies of this Government are supportive of gambling and its extension, but he indicated that he would, in principle, consider the possibility of holding an inquiry but not during the Federal election campaign. We do not want to get the issues mixed up with the Federal election, so I agree it will have to be after it. However, I recently saw in the newspapers that the State Government has announced that an inquiry into gambling will be conducted by the Department of Premier and Cabinet. I ask that the Minister seated at the table clarify in his speech in reply the details of that inquiry and whether it will cancel out a prospective parliamentary inquiry. In my view it would be better to have an open, public hearing at which all

interested groups, including community groups, clubs and experts with knowledge of the impacts of gambling, can give evidence.

I am concerned about all areas of gambling in this State. Pleasingly, there has been a backlash against live odds betting during sports broadcasts. The Federal Government has announced that it will introduce restrictions, but it should go further. If I had my way there would be no gambling promotion on television or radio in this State. It is well known that all radio stations have segments where bookmakers give odds not only on horse races but also on which team will win the rugby league, which player will score the first try, which player will kick the first goal and so on. We know about countries such as India and Pakistan where bookmakers bribed players to achieve certain outcomes to suit their business interests—the bookmakers would win and those betting would lose as a result of the rigged games. I am concerned that an expansion of gambling will eventually corrupt our sporting industry. Indeed, players in certain teams in this State have already been approached by bookmakers; we need to crack down on this.

Currently section 61A of the Act restricts the multi-terminal gaming machine holdings of a club to no more than 15 per cent of the venue’s overall number of gambling machines. The bill preserves the original policy objective underpinning the 15 per cent cap on multi-terminal gaming machines—namely, to prevent large clubs resembling mini casinos. But one has only to visit a club to see that the atmosphere is one of a mini casino. It also provides relief to small venues for whom the current 15 per cent cap effectively prevents the operation of multi-terminal gaming machines. For example, a club with only 10 gambling machines would immediately breach the 15 per cent limit if it operated a two-terminal multi-terminal gaming machine. As I said earlier, the bill implements a Coalition election commitment in its memorandum of understanding with ClubsNSW. The Government contends it will not increase the number of machines authorised in an individual club or within New South Wales. It is the view of the Christian Democratic Party that it will expand gambling in New South Wales, and for that reason we will vote against the bill.

Rev Fred Nile Urges Completion of Parramatta to Epping Rail Link

In his question to the NSW Parliament on Wednesday 29 2013, Mr Nile asked the following:

PARRAMATTA TO EPPING RAIL LINK

Reverend the Hon. FRED NILE: My question without notice is directed to the Minister for Roads and Ports, representing the Minister for Transport. Is the Government aware that it has been reported that the Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, has axed the \$2 billion for the Parramatta to Epping railway line. Will the Minister confirm that this project will still go ahead and that Premier O’Farrell will keep his election commitment to build this new line?

The Hon. DUNCAN GAY: I thank the member for his important question. I am not surprised that the Opposition has been quiet on this issue because it had its genesis in the dying days of the Labor Government. When we indicated our priority was for the North West Rail Link and asked to have that money transferred to that project, those opposite refused. They left it on the shelf. I assure Reverend the Hon. Fred Nile that his question is a valid one about which the people of western Sydney would be concerned. The Government has planned to

fund the North West Rail Link. We will stick to that commitment, which was made by the Premier and the Minister for Transport. The Government would have loved to have had Federal Government help in doing that, but the Labor Party does not like western Sydney. We saw the Federal Minister for Finance tell fibs to the papers on the eve of the budget; he knew there was no money—only out there in cloud cuckoo land, somewhere in the dim, distant future but not now when it is needed. He was briefing the newspapers, knowing that his comments on the eve of the budget were wrong.

Members opposite have been denied the right to represent the people of western Sydney. Unlike them, Government members like the people of western Sydney and, as the Minister for Roads and Ports, I am putting a record budget into road construction in western Sydney. As Reverend the Hon. Fred Nile asked a proper question, I answer by saying that the Government’s commitment is to build the North West Rail Link—we will build that. No-one was surprised that the Labor Party pulled more money out of western Sydney, but the Government will push on and build the North West Rail Link, without that money.

Exploring Personal Identity

David Claydon’s new book, “Who Do I Think I Am?” launched.

During the REVIVE Conference at Sydney Showground, David Claydon’s new book, “Who Do I Think I Am?” was launched by Rev Dr Ross Clifford, Principal of Morling College.

David Claydon, from Hornsby Heights, NSW, grew up in orphanages in Palestine and Egypt without any knowledge of his European heritage or even his date of birth. His quest for his own identity led him to write this book, which draws on both Scripture and his own personal journey to explore what true identity is.

Rev Steve Dixon, the Director of Baptist Youth Ministries (NSW/ACT) and Coordinator of Youth Studies at Morling College says about the book, “Into what feels like daily increases of voices screaming a variety of responses to the significant developmental question of identity enters a biblical, personal and holistic voice.”

Throughout the book, significant questions are addressed such as: Am I Important? How Do I Know Who I Am? Does My View Of Myself Impact My Spiritual Health? These and other

questions are answered with a biblical perspective. At the end of each chapter is a list of thought-provoking questions to use for personal reflection or group discussion.

Rev Dr David Claydon spent his early years in Palestine and Egypt, leading to an international and diverse ministry of teaching, speaking and writing. For 18 years he headed Scripture Union, training youth workers throughout East Asia and establishing Scripture Union ministry in the South Pacific Islands. David was Rector of St Matthew’s, West Pennant Hills, Sydney, for six years and then headed up the Church Missionary Society of Australia, also serving as president of the United Mission to Nepal. He currently chairs groups such as the Heads of Churches Conference and the Human Rights Organisation for Middle East, North Africa.

He has edited the Lausanne series A New Vision, A New Heart, A Renewed Call and most recently Islam, Human Rights And Public Policy. Cecily Paterson has written a biography of David and his wife Robyn, called Never Alone.



Focus On PARLIAMENT

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Rev Fred Nile's Enthusiastic Support for Naltrexone Implants Trail

In his speech to the NSW Parliament on Tuesday 22 October 2013, Mr Nile stated the following:

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO 2

Report: Drug and Alcohol Treatment

Debate resumed from 20 August 2013.

Reverend the Hon FRED NILE [5.46 p.m.]: I am pleased to speak to the report of the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 entitled, "Drug and Alcohol Treatment". The report has made determinations principally on the bringing of naltrexone implants to Sydney but also on other issues pertaining to my Drug and Alcohol Treatment Amendment (Rehabilitation of Persons with Severe Substance Dependence) Bill 2012. As members know, that bill was based on a successful Swedish program. Compare that with our failure here in Australia. I wish to thank the chair of the committee, the Hon. Marie Ficarra, for her excellent leadership in a very complicated inquiry. She led the committee with her usual skill.

I am encouraged that my parliamentary colleagues have supported the strong conclusion of a wide variety of addiction specialists and others that it is appropriate to explore funding sources for a comparative clinical trial between naltrexone implants, buprenorphine and methadone. However, given the well-known and widely publicised biases of the Sydney professional elites in this field, special caution will need to be exercised in the oversight of any Sydney-based undertaking. For that purpose, I propose that eminent expert oversight of any such trial be mandated by figures from this country and overseas with a track record in implant naltrexone research.

It seems more than a little paradoxical to me and to many that, while the greatest concentration of opiate dependent or heroin addicted persons is in Sydney, the world's largest naltrexone implant clinic operates in Perth—a whole continent away. As stated in the committee's report, Dr O'Neil has been treating people with naltrexone implants since 2000, reaching a total of 2,211 patients. American academics have stated that if their nation had had a similar opportunity, naltrexone implants would have been brought to market years ago. The overarching questions about Australia's

management of the naltrexone implant, and our treatment of the global pioneer who has developed one of the longest-acting implants available internationally, must necessarily be: Why has it taken us so long? What has been the hold-up? More to the point, we could ask: What or who has been our problem?

One of the most frequently cited witnesses to give evidence to the committee was Dr Alex Wodak, President of the Australian Drug Law Reform Foundation [ADRLF], which, paradoxically, unashamedly aims to decriminalise and legalise drugs in Australia. He is one of the most ardent voices in many discussions of drug policy, especially here in Sydney, and is invariably an ardent advocate for loosening societal constraints on drug use. Note for example the dramatic contradiction between Dr Wodak's quoted comments in the report and the comments of the Cochrane review authors in 2012. Notwithstanding that, Dr Wodak is a highly influential person within the addiction medicine establishment. The report quotes Professors Nick Lintzeris, Alison Ritter and John Saunders. They are also prominent figures within the Australian addiction medical establishment and similarly are on record as being either in favour of some form of decriminalisation or in tacit agreement with the dominant dogma of their establishment.

It is frightening for the Australian people to reflect that when the Therapeutic Goods Administration [TGA] sits to determine the registration of naltrexone implants some of those individuals, whose bias is widely broadcast and well-known amongst insiders or their intellectual kindred, are likely to be on the consultative panel. I would therefore urge in the strongest terms that the committee and the Government write to the Therapeutic Goods Administration strongly advocating that the proposed consultative panel be made up of leading figures with a well-established track record of using and evaluating implant naltrexone both within Australia and internationally, in preference to the usual pro-drug elite here in Sydney. It is hardly surprising that there is a subtle spin placed on much of the evidence given to the committee.

For example, the National Health and Medical Research Council only reviewed evidence prior to 2010—before most of the published trials in this area—yet it is not only

repeatedly quoted, including by Dr Wodak, but also mentioned in the terms of reference. Since it obviously predated the publication of the seven trials of naltrexone implants, it is all but irrelevant. Moreover, serious ethical questions relating to the report, which is obviously foundational to the present inquiry, have been raised. It is understood to have been condemned as incorrect, unbalanced and distorted by leading experts in the field in Russia, England, Norway, the United States of America and Australia—in other words, in every nation with significant experience and published expertise. Yet here in Sydney it seems to form the intellectual basis of the present committee inquiry and report.

The report correctly notes that Kunoe and colleagues, the authors of the 2008 Cochrane review which has been quoted by many of the experts, substantially revised their position in their 2012 paper, and are presently engaged in further revising the Cochrane review itself. None of this would be necessary if the conclusions of the 2008 paper—or, for that matter, the National Health and Medical Research Council review—still pertained. Moreover, the Perth implant has been subject to at least two clinical trials: one in Perth and one in Norway. Both had sufficient patient numbers to comment usefully on safety and efficacy data, and find highly statistically significant improvements attributable to the use of the implants. In other words, a comparative therapeutic trial is not required for implant registration—sufficient data for that would already appear to exist—but would contribute to assessment of its relative place in treatment; assessment of the short term only toxicological profile associated with each pharmacotherapeutic modality; and, of course, its local introduction into the Sydney treatment world.

In any event it is of paramount importance that supervisory oversight for any such clinical trial be provided by leading figures with a well-established track record using and evaluating implant naltrexone either from within Australia or internationally, or else the well-known bias of the Sydney addiction establishment is likely to effectively understate the value of implant naltrexone—as we saw so dramatically in Adelaide in 2002 when there were tests done with the oral formulation of this drug. Moreover,

as correctly noted in the committee report, it is not necessary to have a fully registered implant before a clinical trial can be undertaken. A trial can be undertaken, contrary to claims made in some of the submissions, once the Good Manufacturing Certificate [GMP] has been issued—which is expected in mid-2014—using Therapeutic Goods Administration registration of a clinical trial and a Clinical Trial Notification [CTN] number. It is of the greatest importance that we understand when the report refers to Therapeutic Goods Administration registration as a prerequisite to the clinical trial, it is referring to Therapeutic Goods Administration registration only sufficient to conduct a clinical trial—not full registration for marketing, as this would provide the drug legalisers an opportunity to interfere with the conduct of a trial by commandeering the Therapeutic Goods Administration consultative review process.

As Dr O'Neil is understood to have already filed extensive material with the Therapeutic Goods Administration in relation to the safety and efficacy of his implants, the Australian National Council on Drugs [ANCD] comments are not to be taken seriously. In either event, it is not true to say that no such data exists. As intimated above, a wealth of such data already exists—all of which is very notable for its extraordinary uniform and positive findings. Similarly, the Australian Drug Law Reform Foundation assertion that the special access criteria relating to elevated risk of death does not apply to heroin addicts is false. Their basal mortality rate has been estimated at about 18-fold higher. The rate of death in detoxing patients, or patients detoxing from methadone, is known to be elevated up to 100-fold. Moreover, these same academic voices were amongst the expert panel decrying the three deaths in the Sydney naltrexone clinic.

A study by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre [NDARC] found that for some forms of death the mortality rate was 64 times that of their nationally age-matched cohort. Strong similarities between the Special Access Scheme criteria and those for mandatory treatment were also noted. I urge the Parliament and the Government to take up the recommendation of the committee that there be a naltrexone implant trial, in cooperation with Dr O'Neil and his clinic in Perth.

Christian Persecution: Practice Your Faith While You Still Can

BY THE REV. DR. NELSON PRICE, PASTOR EMERITUS OF ROSWELL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH IN MARIETTA.

The global persecution of Christians has reached a crisis stage. The prime ministers of both England and Israel have spoken about the seriousness of the situation. Most of the pressure on Christians is being precipitated by Muslims.

The slaughter of large numbers of believers in African and Middle East has dramatically reduced the number of Christians in the region. Driving the efforts is a concern in predominantly Muslim countries where significant numbers of young people have converted to Christianity. Thus, Christianity is considered by radical Muslims as a threat to Muslim control.

An attracting feature drawing young people to Christianity is the music. They love the tunes and are buying into the doctrine. The freedom of religion in America is an appealing influence also.

Christians in America enjoy such freedom; most are unaware of the global persecution being suffered by an estimated 100 million believers in 60 countries.

Reported attacks on Christians in Europe are on the increase, especially in the Muslim-dominated areas of England and France.

Not all of the persecution is physical. Having visited Bethlehem in the Palestinian Territory many times, I have developed many friends there. Several years ago, the Christian population in Bethlehem was about 26 percent. Today, it is less than 10 percent. There it is economic pressure causing Christians to leave. Arab money has flooded into the area and they are buying out Christians and imposing other forms of economic pressure.

One successful Christian businessman told me he had been offered 10 times the value of his business if he would sell. He said that were he willing to bargain he could get much more.

The prime minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, said he fears Christians are being subjected to persecution as Jews were under Hitler. He noted Israel is the only country in the region where Jews, Muslims and Christians are free to engage in public worship.

British Prime Minister David Cameron said, "our faith" is the most persecuted in the world and that "I hope we can do more to raise the profile of the persecution of Christians."

The only expression from our president regarding religion in the region has been for him to say we are not at war with Islam. His attitude appears to be if we will be nice-nice to them they will be nice-nice to us. It is not working.

Here in America, Christianity is under a different kind of attack. The entertainment media is a primary source discrediting Christianity. Unfortunately, a minority of Christian ministers have indulged in immoral behavior that tends to discredit the faith. It is such characters as these that are represented in the media. There is a legion of persons who live their faith as consistent advocates of morality and virtue while serving others. These are the untold stories.

In America, special interest groups have pushed and abused the First Amendment to our Constitution to mean separation of God from the universe. Christianity has virtually been forced from the public square and out of our institutions. This is contrary to what the founders intended. They conducted regular worship services in the nation's capital and the Supreme Court building. The Constitution provides freedom of religion, not freedom from religion.

We have freedom of religion for which Christians globally long. To have a freedom and not respect and use it is little better than not having the freedom. Practice your faith, express your convictions, and engage in public worship ... while you can.



Focus On PARLIAMENT

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Citizens' Legislation Action

Rev Hon Fred Nile and the Hon Paul Green are seeking the Lord's guidance and your support in dealing with the challenges and opportunities facing NSW.

CRIMES AMENDMENT (ZOE'S LAW) BILL 2013 (NO. 2)

On Thursday 29 August 2013 Chris Spence MP introduced Crimes Amendment (Zoe's Law) Bill 2013 (No 2) into the lower house with changes to Rev Nile's original Bill. We thank God that this historic Bill was passed by the NSW Legislative

Assembly by an overwhelming vote of 63 to 26, which was remarkable.

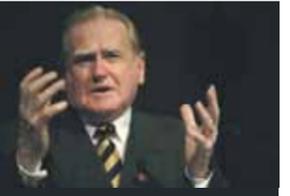
We expected the Zoe's Bill to be debated and passed by the NSW Legislative Council during May but we have encountered fierce opposition by the pro-abortion feminists comprising the "Sisterhood".

However, the Zoe's Bill has clear exemptions for any medical procedure including abortion. The Zoe's Bill also requires the mother to agree to any legal action. Normally no woman would sue the doctor who performed her abortion so it does not affect abortions.

We have received letters and emails of support from concerned citizens: the Most Reverend Anthony Fisher - Bishop of Parramatta; the Most Revd Geoffrey H Jarrett - Bishop of Lismore; NSW Council of Churches; Ministers; Pastors; Australia Christian Lobby; FamilyVoice; Lawyers and QCs.

ACTION: Write to Members of the Upper House to support this important Bill (visit <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parlament/members.nsf/V3ListCurrentLCMembers> for Members' details.

FRED NILE'S PARLIAMENTARY UPDATE



Media Releases:

Rev Fred Nile strongly supports the cancellation of corrupt mining leases

Rev Fred Nile congratulates the St Vincent de Paul Society for their caring service for the needy and underprivileged

Rev Fred Nile Calls for Clean Government at Next NSW State Election

Rev Nile Congratulates New South Wales' Premier Mike Baird

Rev Fred Nile Questions Health Risks of Wind Turbines

#BRINGBACKOURGIRLS

Rev Fred Nile calls for strong drug laws in Nimbin NSW

Rev Fred Nile calls for action to prevent brothels in residential complexes

Rev Fred Nile Condemns Amnesty International

Rev Fred Nile Thanks Parliament for Serious Debate on Prohibiting Alcohol Advertising.

Rev Fred Nile calls for action against increasing child sexual abuse attacks

Rev Fred Nile calls for detailed school accountability of tax payers' funds

Rev Fred Nile strongly supports 21 year imprisonment in Female Genital Mutilation Bill

Rev Fred Nile calls for there-introduction of the title "Queen's Counsel" QC

Rev Fred Nile calls for support for Jewish community and Israel

Rev Fred Nile supports peaceful non-violent protests

Rev Fred Nile calls for action against terrorist suspects returning from Syria.

Rev Fred Nile Supports Condolence Motion for Hon Neville Wran QC

Rev Fred Nile calls for more case workers to protect children at risk of sexual or physical abuse

Rev Fred Nile raises concern about the disability carers welfare

Rev Fred Nile supports the introduction of an Aboriginal Deputy Ombudsman

Rev Fred Nile fully supports ICAC's important role to expose corruption

Rev Fred Nile criticized the 2 year delay in the Mount Penny return to order

Rev Fred Nile commends the successful NSW Police

Association Biennial Conference

Rev Fred Nile establishes the Select Committee on the importance of Home Schooling in NSW

Rev Fred Nile attacks match-fixing in sport and calls for a total ban on sports betting

Rev Fred Nile strongly supports the Crimes Amendment (Strangulation) Bill 2014 to help protect battered women

Rev Fred Nile calls on Attorney-General to review Suresh Nair's release from prison in July 2014

Rev Fred Nile praises Captain Arthur Philip and Lieutenant Matthew Flinders

Rev Fred Nile expresses concern over Green Senator Lee Rhiannon's guilt edged membership of the Communistic Marxist Movement

Questions Without Notice:

Rev Fred Nile urges NSW Government to procure Naval Ship contracts

Rev Fred Nile Questions Health Risks of Wind Turbines

Rev Fred Nile calls for strong drug laws in Nimbin NSW

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Speeches:

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2013 Committees:

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1 – Chairman Fred Nile

Privileges & Ethics Committee – Fred Nile

Procedure Committee – Fred Nile

ICAC Committee - Fred Nile

Bullying Inquiry – Chairman Fred Nile

Gambling Inquiry – Chairman Fred Nile

Child Sexual Offences Committee – Fred Nile

Staysafe (Road Safety Committee) – Fred Nile

Standing Committee on State Development – Paul Green

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 – Paul Green

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3 – Paul Green

Committee on the Health Care Complaints Commission – Paul Green

Member, Select Committee on social, public and affordable housing – Chairman Paul Green

Member, Select Committee on home schooling – Chairman Paul Green