

January 2014

## Education Policy for 2015

Dear Intercessors

The board of the “Wächterruf” met a few days ago to set guidelines for our prayer ministry this year. In our meeting we decided, as a nationwide prayer network, to give high priority to the support of a critical political issue in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg in prayer. This issue will have serious consequences for the education and development of our children way beyond the local state borders. In the January prayer letter we referred briefly to this issue under the item “Sexual indoctrination of children and young people”. We are now giving you by way of this “Call of the Watchmen – Special Issue” some more detailed information for your prayers. Further information will follow in the course of the year.

### What is the “Education Policy for 2015” in Baden-Wuerttemberg and why is it so important?

The state government in Baden-Wuerttemberg (BW) is currently working on a new education policy for the next ten years. This policy will lay the foundation for what will be taught in all subjects, at all age levels (grades), and in all of the schools. The last education policy in BW in 2004 served as a “blue-print” for other states within Germany. There is a general assumption that this new education policy which is based on “tolerance and acceptance” of “sexual diversity” is fully justifiable and will once again serve as a model for other states.

The education policy for 2015 sets out five main guiding principles – vocational orientation, sustainable environmental development, media knowledge, good health and preventative measures, consumer behaviour. These principles will apply to all subjects and all age levels and will be taught within the framework of “sexual diversity” as the accepted norm.

We are not in any way talking about *intolerance* of people with different sexual orientations. On the contrary, Christian love for one’s neighbour requires us to accept each person just as they are. This does not mean however, that we automatically approve or accept everything that the other person does. Here lies the problem with the education policy. School children will not be educated only to be *tolerant* of an LGBTTI life-style, but also to fully *accept* it. LGBTTI stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, Transgender and Intersexual people groups.

### What does this mean? What is the difference?

- **Tolerance** means: I allow another person to hold an opinion and respect him or her as a person, even when I do not share that opinion.

- **Acceptance** on the other hand means: I adopt the opinion of another person and make a positive value judgement with regard to his or her opinion.

**In the case of this education policy, school children will be presented with a given value judgement and they will not be allowed to form their own opinion. Anyone who does not share this value judgement will be labelled as homophobic and treated as someone who discriminates against others.**

### The consequences of this education policy

School children will learn that all variants of sexual behaviour and inter-relationships are equivalent and of equal worth as normal heterosexual relationships. Ethical considerations are completely ignored and no attention is paid to the negative consequences of an LGBTTIQ life style. With the current collection of guiding principles the education policy is being driven by those who represent the LGBTTIQ lobby (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, Transgender, Intersexual and Queer).

Teachers in BW are expected to embrace this holistic definition of sexuality and suppress any opposing views. The very concept of the heterosexual nature of man and woman is now being challenged. Teachers must introduce school children to a new code of ethics for sexual behaviour in which all LGBTTIQ life-styles are equally worthwhile with no ethical judgement and are considered equivalent to marriage between a man and woman.

From 2015 sex education will be moved from the biology class to the domain of the arts and humanities. In other words, sexual diversity will be taught in future just like German, ethics and social studies.

**If the state parliament approves the education policy for 2015, legal sanctions may be imposed on parents, and potentially on their children, who refuse to be involved in such lessons. Even teachers who are not willing to comply with the education policy can be penalised.**

### The education policy will have these consequences (among others):

- The right of parents to train their own children will be restricted.
- The natural development of children will be endangered – they will be introduced to sexual issues at any early stage (in primary school) which are not appropriate or relevant to their age group and through the teaching of acceptance of sexual diversity they will be totally confused about their own sense of identity.

### An ideological approach to education?

It is a fundamental mistake in a democratic society governed by law to grant special rights to a minority, such as the gay and lesbian movement, which is demanding rights under the banner of “tolerance and acceptance”.

Behind this stands an ideological notion about sexuality – “Gender Ideology”. It denies the creation within nature of two sexes and asserts that sexual orientation is a concept in people’s minds which is open to personal choice and can be changed at will.

Every ideology, be it Communism or National Socialism, always tries to impose its way of thinking onto the next generation. The younger a person is, the less can he or she resist it and defend themselves. And of course no-one may dare oppose the new ideology! It is in fact a duty of the state to protect the citizen from having to live under an imposed ideology. In this case however, we are seeing that the state is trying to push through the ideological aims of a particular interest group.

In the meantime the secondary school teacher Gabriel Staengle has launched a counter initiative. A petition has been launched that demands a fundamental revision of the education policy. This petition has generated an enormous reaction in the media and naturally opposition from the LGBTTIQ lobby. More information about the education policy and the petition can be found on the website: [www.bildungsplan2015.de](http://www.bildungsplan2015.de). The petition is open for signatures until January 27<sup>th</sup> and we have expressly encouraged people to sign. Lists of signatories are also available on the website.

We sense that there is also a strong spiritual battle going on at the national and European level over the education and future of the next generation – with the “Estrella Report” in the European Parliament for example.

#### Prayer:

- **That the petition will be successful and that the education policy will be completely revised.** (Psalm 119 v.9; Psalm 145 v.18-19)
- **That the false assumption that tolerance and acceptance are equivalent will be clearly exposed.**
- **That true tolerance for all the different people groups in our society can be better taught in schools – without the pressure of an ideology.**
- **Wisdom and protection for Gabriel Staengle and the entire team who stand behind the petition. They particularly need wisdom in their dealings with the press.** (Psalm 109 v.1-3)
- **For the media, that they will give balanced reports and only engage in objective arguments.**
- **That many other groups in our society will support the petition and that a broad spectrum of the population will rise up and have the courage to state their opinion.**
- **Thanks for all who have already supported the petition (incl. church representatives, the Evangelical Alliance).** (2 Timothy 1 v.7)

Please consider organising special prayer times for this important issue. We plan to cover all the developments during the coming months in prayer. We will also be calling for special Call of the Watchmen 24/7 prayer.

*Oliver Stozek and Markus Egli*

#### From the German press:

- Evangelical Alliance supports petition concerning homosexuality – FOCUS magazine  
[www.focus.de/regional/stuttgart/gesellschaft-evangelische-allianz-unterstuetzt-petition-zu-homosexualitaet\\_id\\_3529426.html](http://www.focus.de/regional/stuttgart/gesellschaft-evangelische-allianz-unterstuetzt-petition-zu-homosexualitaet_id_3529426.html)
- Churches against more homosexuality in school lessons – DIE WELT newspaper  
[www.welt.de/politik/deutschland/article123740042/Kirchen-gegen-mehr-Homosexualitaet-im-Unterricht.html](http://www.welt.de/politik/deutschland/article123740042/Kirchen-gegen-mehr-Homosexualitaet-im-Unterricht.html)