



Government Equalities Office

The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP
Minister for Women and Equalities
Government Equalities Office
20 Great Smith St
Westminster
London
W1P 3BT

E GEO.Correspondence@geo.gov.uk
W www.gov.uk/geo

Catherine McKinnell MP and Elliot Colburn MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

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Dear Catherine and Elliot,

Thank you for your letter of 27th July 2020 concerning conversion therapy.

This Government is committed to banning the abhorrent practice of conversion therapy in the UK. As the Prime Minister has said, this practice has no place in civilised society.

We are considering both legislative and non-legislative options to end conversion therapy practices for good. My officials are reviewing the current legislative framework and, where conversion therapy practices are not already unlawful, we are looking at the best ways to end them and support victims. We will also publish research that looks at the scope of practices and experiences of those subjected to conversion therapy.

The Government does not intend to prevent LGBT people from seeking spiritual support from their faith leader in the exploration of their sexual orientation. However, we will not support the use of conversion therapy in any context, spiritual or otherwise.

With regards to discussions with other countries, my officials have been in touch with a number of jurisdictions that have recently introduced measures to end conversion therapy and more who intend to do so. As I hope you will appreciate, these discussions are confidential and as such I am not able to share the full details at this stage.

I would like to assure you and petitioners that my officials are working at pace on the matter and we will outline plans to end conversion therapy practices in due course. This is a complex matter and we are taking our time to get it right.

Thank you for your letter.

Best wishes,

THE RT HON ELIZABETH TRUSS MP
Minister for Women and Equalities