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Audience	College Community, General Public
Stakeholders	Eldership of Portlife Church

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Introduction

Overview

This policy outlines the position statement of Portlife Church with regard to same-sex relationships. Position statements authorised by the Eldership of Portlife Church form part of the values and beliefs for Portside Christian College.

Statement

Whilst it is recognised that same-sex activity and relationships are practiced throughout the world, Portlife Church holds to the Biblical position that same-sex relationships (and, indeed, all sexual immorality) are a sin against God. For this reason, the College will only promote monogamous, heterosexual relationships as the exclusive Biblical ideal for marriage and for the raising of a family.

Portlife Church holds the view that God equips men and women (young and old) with the power of choice, ie that people can choose to accept or reject God’s revealed will, but that God will not support behaviour that is contrary to the teachings of His Word.

Our basic position

The Elders of Portlife Church believe in and present the following basic truths that are to underpin what is taught and encouraged people who directly, or indirectly connected to the Church and its role in all forms of public meetings, services, small groups and counselling within the context of College life.

1. That same-sex relationships contravene the Scriptures and that any form of sexual immorality is a sin against God. (Lev 18:22; Lev 20:13; Ro 1:26,27; 1Co 6:9,10; 1Ti 1:8-10)
2. That the Bible teaches that in Christ and through the power of Christian conversion and through the personal presence of the Holy Spirit there is deliverance and release from sin, including the sin of same-sex relationships. (1Co 6:11)
3. That same-sex relationships are in clear contravention of God's plan for the family and for the raising of children (Pr 22:6)
4. That Portlife Church has the responsibility before its head (the Lord Jesus Christ) to present spiritual laws that underpin Christian living as well as to extend the grace offered by God that leads to healing and liberation from sinful desires and practices such as same-sex relationships. (Ro 1:18, 25)
5. That the Church has a responsibility to maintain Biblical standards even though it may well contravene community values and standards and psychological trends (Ro 12:2)
6. That Christians should not aid and abet others towards permissive and sinful lifestyles such as same-sex relationships, but rather be strong advocates for healing, for deliverance and change. (1Co 6:11) Jesus was most accepting and forgiving of the sinner (Lu 19:10) and provided unequivocal grace (Heb 4:14-16) but did not condone sinful behaviour. (Ro 6:1-4)
7. That the Church does not support same-sex unions nor does it support attempts by the lobby to gain legal recognition of same-sex marriage and/or their attempts to gain access to the adoption laws leading to the adoption of children within those relationships

This position statement is to be read in association with the A biblical understanding of same-sex relationships – Position statement

Prepared by Pr John Poyzer
Senior Minister, Portside Community Church
On Behalf of the Eldership.

Updated by Pr Josh Poyzer
Senior Minister, Portlife Church
On behalf of the Eldership, 22 March 2017

Related documents

Sexuality of staff – Position statement

Policy dissemination and training

Who	Method	Frequency	Details
Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	

Who	Method	Frequency	Details
Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	
Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	

Distribution

Information from this policy should be included in the following documents:

Newsletter

Staff Memo

Handbooks

College

Staff

ELC

OSHC

Change history

Review Date	Amendments
August 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy first approved
October 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated by John Poyzer
March 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated by Josh Poyzer