

Christian Weekly News 21/03/2025

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THIS WEEK

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- Rally against increasingly deadly suicide bill
 - We need to define sex in law properly
 - Sales sky-rocket as young people buy Bibles
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FEATURED

Rally against increasingly deadly suicide bill

Kim Leadbeater's private members' bill to legalise assisted suicide is currently going through Parliament. Today, Head of Public Policy Tim Dieppe reflected on the happenings in Parliament from the last week, writing:

"This week's debates in the committee scrutinising Kim Leadbeater's Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill demonstrated just how big an impact on society this bill will have."

The most likely date for its crucial third reading is Friday 25 April. At the third reading, MPs will decide whether the bill will become law.

We need as many people as possible to join us outside Parliament to show MPs how important it is for them to reject this bill.

Will you come and join us?

We are still confirming the exact time and location of the rally. But please book your place to confirm that you will join us on the day. That way we can update you with the crucial details as the date of the rally approaches.

Please also invite as many people as you can to stand with us, booking time off work if necessary.

This is a crucial time to stand for life.

If Christians don't stand against suicide now, we might not get another chance.

Read: Assisted suicide bill just gets deadlier >>

Write to your MP, telling them to reject assisted suicide >>

We need an army to resist this: will you be there on Parliament's doorstep?



We need to define sex in law properly

This week, [the Sullivan Review](#), led by Professor Alice Sullivan, recommended separately recording biological sex and gender identity, after finding that UK public bodies have conflated the two in data collection, leading to inaccuracies in healthcare, crime statistics and policy-making.

Christian Concern welcomes these proposals to record sex accurately, but we have been [calling for the government to define sex in law](#) for years.

Sadly, a number of our clients, including the [Darlington Nurses](#), [Dr David Mackereth](#), and [‘Hannah’](#), all lost their jobs for believing that biological sex is unchangeable - a belief that has been vindicated (once again) by a professional report.

The Sullivan Review said:

“We recommend against using the phrase ‘sex assigned at birth’. This phrasing is inaccurate and misleading, as sex is determined at conception and typically observed in utero or at birth...”

Pray that common sense would return to public bodies, pray that the Gender Recognition Act (which allows people to legally change their gender) would be repealed, and pray that our nation would once again recognise that we are uniquely created male or female in the image of God.

[Read: Why the government won't define sex in law >>](#)

[Read: The Sullivan Review >>](#)

Are you part of the Education Revolution?

Christian Concern is hosting its second Education Revolution Conference on Saturday 26 April 2025 in Oxford.

At last year's Education Revolution conference, tickets sold out and we needed to book a bigger venue!

The purpose of this conference is to gather, network, support and equip faithful Christians starting or developing bold initiatives or remaining faithful in the education sphere.

This year, we will also have an additional focus on how university level education might be drawn back to Christ.

With just a month to go until Education Revolution 2025, have you secured your place?

[Book your ticket to Education Revolution 2025 >>](#)

[Visit the Christian Concern Education website >>](#)

[Book your ticket to Education Revolution 2025](#)



Sales sky-rocket as young people buy Bibles

The Times reported that Bible sales are currently soaring among young people in the UK.

In a new video on our YouTube channel, our Head of Public Policy Tim Dieppe explores the apparent increased interest in Christianity amongst young people, and what it might mean for our society.

“Being spiritual isn’t the same as being a Christian, but the fact that Bible sales are going up is surely encouraging, and we need to pray that these people - when they read the Bible - find the gospel and find the truth in it.”

[Watch Tim’s video comment on young people buying Bibles >>](#)

[Read The Times article on Bible sales >>](#)

TAKE ACTION

James 5:16, prayer, and the fight for life

James 5:16 says that the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

How might God respond if every Christian in this nation took time to pray that assisted suicide wouldn't be legalised?

Over Lent, we're sharing short daily prayer points on social media so that you can pray for one minute, once every day.

We're also hosting prayer livestreams every Wednesday from 12:30-1pm on our YouTube channel, where together we are praying that the assisted suicide bill will be defeated.

Have you partnered with us for one minute every day of Lent to *pray for their lives*?

This Lent, pray for their lives

Help us reach 50,000 YouTube subscriptions

Our YouTube channel is full of useful videos including livestreams, case videos of our clients, media appearances, teaching on cultural issues and more.

We've nearly reached 50,000 subscribers now. If you haven't already, could you subscribe to help us reach this milestone?

[Subscribe to our YouTube channel](#)

IN DEPTH

Christian academic: ARC conference fell short

Wilberforce Collective Faculty member and Director of the Crosslands Forum Dr Dan Strange wrote for the Gospel Coalition on his reflections about last month's Alliance for Responsible Citizenship (ARC) conference.

“Amid all the talk of Judeo-Christian foundations, values, and virtues, largely absent were the name of Jesus Christ, the gospel of grace, and the centrality of the church—except for a few notable moments.”

“Without Jesus Christ and the gospel of grace, we don't have Christianity, and we don't have the gospel but an anti-gospel.”

Paul Huxley, our Communications Manager, also previously wrote about our society's need for Jesus - not a Christian-ish veneer - to be central in our nation:

“Jesus and his teaching is the only secure foundation for a just, loving, truthful nation. But more than that, Jesus himself needs to be loved and honoured.”

“Jesus Christ - not religion, not religious freedom, not Christian ideology but *Jesus Christ himself* - at the heart of society.”

Read: Dan Strange's reflections on this year's ARC conference

IN THE NEWS

End of life

After the Royal College of GPs moved its stance on assisted suicide, from being opposed to being neutral, over 250 doctors signed a letter to the Times saying it's "grossly misrepresenting" members and insisting they're not neutral.

Pray that MPs would listen to these GPs' concerns, and that they would vote down the assisted suicide bill that would essentially make doctors killers.

Marriage

The Telegraph reveals that the government is planning to “give unmarried couples the same rights” as married ones, giving “greater protections for those who refuse to tie the knot.”

Pray with us that the dignity of marriage - as a God-ordained institution, not simply a piece of paper - would be recognised and valued in the UK.



Islam

Douglas Murray discusses the severe persecution of Christians in Islamist-dominated nations, asking why the West - and especially Western church leaders - are so silent about these atrocities: “So long as Christian leaders in the West ignore the plight of their own churches... many people round the world will continue to say ‘well if the church doesn’t speak up for its own, why should we speak up for it?’”

Meanwhile BBC’s Radio drama *The Archers* has prompted complaints about a storyline where a Christian character celebrates Ramadan while “sidelining Lent, the Christian season of fasting and reflection, which coincides with Ramadan.”

Focus on Western Islamism highlights Karandeep Mamman’s recent legal win - supported by the Christian Legal Centre, saying it is “a major setback” for those trying to implement an ‘Islamophobia’ ban.

Pray that, in the midst of the increasing Islamisation of the UK, Christians would be bold and faithful witnesses for Christ and vocal in their support of preserving Christian freedoms. Pray also for strength, safety and freedom for our brothers and sisters facing brutal persecution in Islamic countries.



Gender

The BBC reports on a young man, Joshua McParland, who was in the process seeking gender reassignment surgery, but when he became a Christian, he realised “it was wrong to try to change his gender” and he had simply “been ‘running away’ from problems in his life.”

Give praise for this remarkable testimony of God’s life-changing grace, and pray that Joshua’s story would increasingly reveal the deception of transgender ideology. And pray for the other man highlighted in the BBC news story, that he too would find Jesus, live in line with how God made him and know God’s goodness.

Society

Astronaut Butch Wilmore, finally returned to earth after nine months stuck in space, shared how his faith was a bedrock for him during this time: “God is working out his plan and his purposes for his glory... and however that plays out, I am content because I understand that.”

Praise God for Butch’s safe return and for his faithful testimony to God’s grace and sovereignty in everything. Pray that he adjusts well to life back on earth and that many would be drawn to Christ because of his witness.

EVENTS

31 March, London: Legal seminar series kicks off

On Monday 31 March, we're hosting a seminar at our London office on *Legal and Medical Perspectives Through a Christian Framework*.

Roger Kiska from the Christian Legal Centre and Paul Huxley, our Communications Manager, will be informing us as we consider the assisted suicide bill currently in the House of Commons.

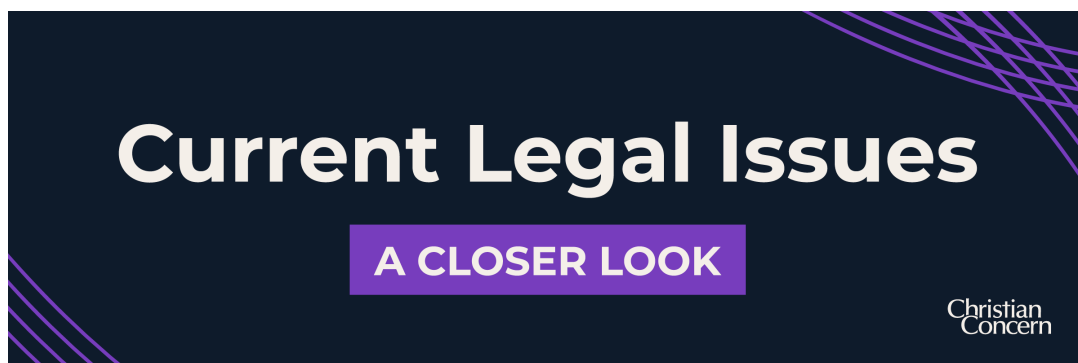
- When: Monday 31 March, 18:00-20:00
- Where: Christian Concern, 70 Wimpole Street, London, W1G 8AX
- Tickets: £10 and include drinks and nibbles

We're excited to launch a new series of these legal seminars, focusing on assisted suicide, freedom of speech and transparency.

While these seminars are primarily intended for lawyers, they are open to all.

We hope you'll join us on Monday 31 March for the first of these three seminars, as we hear from two professionals on how we can engage legally with legislation that threatens life and Christian freedoms.

[Join us on 31 March](#)



5 April, Tamworth: Courageous and Confident

Coton Green Community Church will be hosting a day conference on Saturday 5 April 2025, where Chief Executive Andrea Williams will be sharing about Christian Concern's work in light of the challenges faced by Christians in today's culture.

Andrea will be joined by some of our clients, and will commentate on the current state of our nation, the assault on free speech and the challenge of Islam, and the important work of Christian Concern.

She will also explain how Christians should respond to the issues affecting society today.

Attendees will be encouraged and equipped together to be courageous and confident for Christ in our culture.

[Find out more >>](#)

[Buy your ticket to Courageous and Confident](#)

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