Christian Weekly News 19/06/2025

Christian Concern Weekly News

- MPs set to vote on assisted suicide tomorrow
- Take this last opportunity to tell your MP to say no to assisted suicide
- MPs vote to decriminalise up-to-birth abortion

After months of toil and hardship, our efforts have reached its climax as MPs prepare to vote on whether to legalise assisted suicide tomorrow.

We're sending you Christian Weekly News a day early so that we can focus on the vote tomorrow.

Here's what you can do today in these final moments to stand for life.

Email your MP and tell them to vote no:

You can <u>use our new tool</u> to generate a unique email if it helps. Or you can <u>download our key briefing for MPs</u> and send them a copy to read. It doesn't matter if you've emailed before about this - it's still worth doing. The vote will probably be decided on who turns up on the day.

Share our video now:

We've posted our full dramatic video showing the true cost of assisted suicide on X, YouTube, Facebook and Instagram. Please like and share the video, and reply, tagging your MP and asking him or her to watch the video.

Pray:

We know that this bill will only be defeated if God steps in and spares us. In these final moments, please be persistent in prayer with us that MPs would vote to defeat this bill.

Come to tomorrow's rally:

Join us outside Parliament at Parliament Square and Old Palace Yard tomorrow from 8.30 to 3pm. The earlier you can come, the better, but if you can only come for part of it, still join us.

Watch and share: what killed Aliyah?



Just days before the assisted suicide vote, <u>a prominent campaigner against</u> <u>assisted suicide has died</u> following a long battle with pancreatic cancer.
Philip Bateman, the uncle of our Head of Public Policy Tim Dieppe's late wife, was a vocal critic of the assisted suicide bill, having been given less than six months to live in spring 2024.
He had been interviewed by <u>BBC Breakfast</u> , <u>Sky News</u> and <u>GB News</u> testifying powerfully to the value of life and the goodness of God.
Tim said:
"Philip outlived his prognosis of six months to live by another six months of fruitful time, including television interviews about assisted suicide. We thank God for the 'extra time' and note that this is yet another example of prognoses being wrong.
"Philip loved Jesus, and wanted everyone to come to a personal faith in the Living Lord. He was firmly opposed to legalising assisted suicide because he understood that this is against God's purposes and plans for anyone. He also saw the dangers of pressure on elderly and sick people and criteria for qualifying for assisted suicide being widened over time."
Read more on our website

The Bible says, "You shall not kill." Good and just laws echo the same truth: that the intentional taking of innocent life is wrong.

On Tuesday, MPs voted to decriminalise mothers who induce their own abortion in England and Wales. They also rejected a vote to require in-person consultations for abortions.

If the bill passes unchanged through the House of Lords and receives Royal Assent, then England and Wales would legally allow women to perform DIY abortions at any stage of pregnancy. Women who get an abortion, even up-to-birth, would <u>no longer be investigated by police</u>.

Our Head of Public Policy Tim Dieppe unpacks the <u>legal ramifications of abortion</u> <u>decriminalisation</u>.

Chief Executive Andrea Williams responded: "How can we call ourselves civilised when we do this to our own children?"

Please pray for our nation. Pray that the legalisation of being able to kill any unborn child in the womb would mark a turning point and provoke a revival. The Devil always over plays his hand; please pray that the brutal reality of abortion upto-birth would lead ultimately to the abolition of abortion altogether.

A Call to Moral Reformation: Let us protect life and uphold truth



On Sunday (22 June), Progress Pride flags are set to replace the Union Jacks currently flying on Regent Street in central London, which commemorate VE Day and the sacrifices made in World War Two.

Andrea Williams spoke to The Telegraph, highlighting the pro-trans ideology promoted on the LGBTQ+ flag:

"This ideology has been discredited by the Cass review, the closure of the Tavistock, and most recently Supreme Court ruling. When will the Crown Estate catch up with the rest of society?

"We will continue to urge Westminster City Council to stop allowing these displays in 2025 and in the future so that everyone can feel welcome in Regent Street and the surrounding areas."

Read: 'Wokeminster Council' approves Progress Pride flag on Regent Street

There are limited places for a week's work experience with the Christian Legal Centre, starting on Monday 28 July.

We are <u>inviting applications by CV and covering letter to our Legal Centre</u> by Friday 27 June.

Priority will be given to law students.



MPs are on the verge of legalising assisted suicide this week.

If that happens, countless people will feel pressure to end their life, even if they want to 'die trying to live', like our dearly missed client, Sudiksha Thirumalesh.

<u>Sudiksha tragically died on 12 September 2023</u> after suffering from a rare genetic mitochondrial disease that caused chronic muscle weakness, loss of hearing and damage to her kidneys.

But the condition did not affect the functioning of her brain, and the Christian Legal Centre stood with Sudiksha as she battled not just her illness, but the system that was supposed to be protecting her, in the fight for life-saving treatment.

However, hospital doctors argued that Sudiksha's refusal to trust the judgment of her doctors and to accept her immanent death amounted to a "delusion."

Sudiksha wanted to die trying to live rather than give up.

She said: "I am in a race against time to escape from this system and the certain death it wishes to impose on me; but I am a fighter and will continue to fight. I trust in God and will not give up hope."

The only way to keep people like Sudiksha safe is to <u>act now to stop state-</u>sanctioned suicide.

Read: The tragic case of Sudiksha in light of the assisted suicide bill

Becki Bruneau overcame cancer and a serious brain injury - and is still living today even though medics told her that she was going to die.

<u>Becki is a friend of Christian Concern</u>, and this week her survival story was put forward to Kim Leadbeater on BBC Newsnight, as <u>a direct counter to the assisted suicide bill</u>, which offers people suicide if they have been given a terminal diagnosis.

In addition, we received a story of God's miracle working from a supporter this week (sent to us with permission, anonymised):

"A beautiful lady, mother of 4 children, attends church ... She is humble, gentle, a Godly woman. Our children were in school together.

"A year ago, in March, she was diagnosed with colorectal bowel cancer, stage 4.

"She was told it could be 'managed' with drugs and treatment, but that there was no cure.

We know that terminal diagnoses are not absolute. Please continue to pray with us for the defeat of the assisted suicide bill tomorrow, so that people are protected from being encouraged to prematurely end their lives.

"Today, she testified in front of the congregation, that she is certified completely cancer free."

Watch: Becki Bruneau's story put forward to Kim Leadbeater >>



7/10

Our client, and leading Darlington Nurse, Bethany Hutchinson, was interviewed by Spiked this week - discussing the Nurses' case <u>after they were forced to share a changing room with a biological male</u> who boasted about trying to get his girlfriend pregnant.

"It's fair to say that there is a cultural disregard for women's safety and women's concerns."

We continue to pray that the NHS would accept the Supreme Court's ruling that women are to be defined by biological sex, and finally grant safe spaces for their female workers to change in.

Read more >>

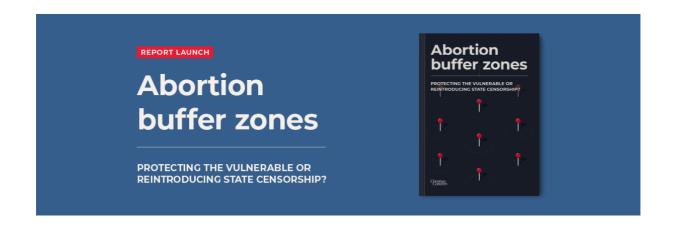
The Prime Minister announced a <u>full inquiry into grooming gangs</u> this week after reading the report by Dame Louise Casey.

Fiona Goddard is a victim of the grooming gangs, and told Sky News that <u>more than 50 men raped her</u>.

Like Anna and Fiona, victims want the government's inquiry to bring justice to the predators, but victims "will also want clear accountability of the people and organisations who failed to act when they reported their abuse - and an understanding of why, so often, authorities fail to protect these vulnerable girls."

Tim Dieppe, our Head of Public Policy, has been saying for years that <u>the Islamic connection to grooming gangs must be fully investigated</u> and not covered up. He was quoted in <u>Focus on Western Islamism's article on the report</u> which highlights the report's failure to consider religious elements to the abuse.

The Times: Grooming gangs still at large but victims aren't believed >>



Join us on Monday 30 June for our report launch on the case against abortion buffer zones.

The report, commissioned by Christian Concern and the Christian Legal Centre and authored by Dr Martin Parsons, offers an in-depth legal, ethical, and human rights analysis of this growing area of UK legislation.

Christian Hacking will be at the launch; he is the first person in the UK to be arrested for praying within an abortion buffer zone.

Tickets cost £10 and include drinks and nibbles.

Book your ticket to the report launch: 30 June

The darkness in our society is great. All around us, we are seeing the consequences of rejecting God's good ways: disorder, brokenness and death.

We are in a fight for life, for family and for freedom. But there is hope. In the midst of fast-moving cultural changes, we have an opportunity to stand up, speak out and shine his light in this dark world.

God is calling his people to awake and arise. Are you ready to respond?

Connect with like-minded Christians in Bristol on 4 October 2025 as we gather for **Awake, Arise** — a day of teaching, worship, prayer and testimonies that will encourage and equip you to:

- Look up and see Jesus, the Lord of all
- Wake up and understand the battle around us
- Rise up and bring the hope of Jesus to the heart of society

It's time for God's people to awake and arise. Will you answer the call?

Save the date: 4 October 2025