

Zeitschrift: Der Kreis : eine Monatsschrift = Le Cercle : revue mensuelle
Band: 33 (1965)
Heft: 2

Artikel: Churches move on homosexuality law
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-567865>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 02.05.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

From: *The Guardian, Manchester*, October 22nd, 1964

CHURCHES' MOVE ON HOMOSEXUALITY LAW

Approach to Home Secretary

At a last, depleted, session yesterday, the British Council of Churches, meeting at Hoddesdon, decided to approach the Home Secretary, Sir Frank Soskice, to reopen discussion on the controversial Part 2 of the Wolfenden Report which proposed that homosexual conduct in private between consenting adult males should not be a criminal offence.

Opinion in the council on the desirability of changing the law was divided. The Wolfenden Committee found that *opinion*, generally, was divided when it reported seven years ago. The Rev. J. M. Neilson (Methodist), of Manchester, was anxious lest the council's officers suggest to the Home Secretary that such homosexual *conduct* should no longer be an offence at all.

All sorts of consequences might arise if it were removed from the statute book completely so that it was no longer even a misdemeanour. He feared such action might encourage rather than discourage such activity.

Dr Aubrey Vine, secretary of the Free Church Federal Council, pleaded for delay. He suggested that, before any approach to the Home Secretary, the BCC's advisory group on sex, marriage, and the family should prepare for the council a memorandum on whether any change in the law was desirable. Lord Wemyss and March (Church of Scotland) was against any deputation to the Home Secretary.

But the council, by 25 votes to four, authorised its *advisory* group to discuss with the Home Secretary the «question of implementing some or all of the recommendations under Part 2 of the Wolfenden Report.»

The Rev Kenneth Greet, chairman of the group, opening the discussion, said members were unanimous that since 1957 there had been a steady movement of opinion in the Churches and in society generally towards the view expressed in the Wolfenden Report. No Church was now opposed to some revision of the law though there were divergencies of view in some, particularly the Church of Scotland and the Congregationalists, on the changes suggested. «Even they would, I think, agree', Mr Greet said, «that reform of the law, in the present, more rational atmosphere, ought to be discussed.»

From: *Sir Thomas Browne, Religio Medici, 1642*

I have never yet cast a true affection for a woman; but I have loved my friend as I do virtue, my soul, my God. I love my friend before myself, and yet methinks I do not love him enough; some few months hence my multiplied affection will make me believe I have not loved him at all. When I am from him, I am dead till I be with him; when I am with him, I am not satisfied, but would be still nearer him . . .

HOTEL «VIENNA»

Oosterpark 50, Amsterdam (0) Telefoon 59841

Doppelzimmer mit Frühstück
Alle Zimmer mit kalt und warm
fliessend Wasser
Direkt vom Hauptbahnhof mit
Strassenbahn No. 9 zu erreichen

Double rooms with Breakfast
All rooms Hot and Cold
running water
Connection from Central Station
with Tramcar No. 9

Hotel „Flora“

KERKSTAAT 366
bei der Utrechtschestraat

AMSTERDAM-C.
Telefon Nr. 23 76 23

Einzel- und Doppelzimmer
Uebernachtung mit Frühstück
Alle Zimmer fliessend Wasser

Single and Double rooms
with breakfast
All rooms running water

Directie: Mevr. ANNIE WALDEN

CANNES - FRANCE

Hôtel P.L.M.**

3, Rue Hoche

Propriétaires : Jean et Charly
ex-Casanova

English spoken — Man spricht Deutsch

TUSCULUM

die exclusive Bar im Zentrum von Hamburg

Täglich ab 19 Uhr geöffnet

Hamburg 1, Kreuzweg 6 - Telefon 24 26 07

A Paris: Bar „SIDONI-BABA“

32 Rue Sainte Anne 1^o Arr.

Ouvert de 18 h à 2 h du matin

Fermé le Lundi