

## **PRESS CONFERENCE SUMMARY**

**Emmanuel Community, Rosalino Street, Woodbrook**

**FRIDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2012**

This Press Conference has been called by Lawyers for Jesus and Advocates Caribbean who are being joined by

The Christian Community,

The Hindu Community,

The Muslim Community,

The Bahia Community,

The Orrisha Community,

The Shouter Baptist Community

And various civil society and community groups for the sole purpose of making a statement on matters of national concern and without any Political or Economic Agenda or affiliation

We have joined together on this Platform to speak in one voice and with Compassion without Compromise on the most important issues facing our nation today that is the call of for the Legalisation of Abortion and the legalisation of same sex marriage in Trinidad and Tobago.

The preamble of the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago reads in part as follows:

***WHEREAS the people of Trinidad and Tobago have affirmed that the nation of Trinidad and Tobago is founded on principles that acknowledge the Supremacy of god; faith in fundamental rights and freedoms, the protection of the family in a society of free men and free institutions, the dignity of the human person and the equal and inalienable rights of which all members of the human family are endowed by creation;***

And in addition the rights enshrined in the Constitution include at 4(a)

***The right of the individual to life..***

And the unborn is unable to speak for themselves and in their own defence

WHEREAS we are agreed:

**WE reject the legalisation of Abortion and say that Divine Law forbid the indiscriminate taking of human life;**

**WE reject the legalisation of same sex marriage:**

**WE** therefore call upon the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to be candid with the people of Trinidad and Tobago regarding their Legislative agenda and give full disclosure as to their position on these two issues. This is even more critical as there have been comments made by two senior Ministers of Government which may convey to the public of Trinidad and Tobago that they are authorised to speak on behalf of the Government on these issues.

**WE** are of the view that these are matters which are of National importance and therefore the public of Trinidad and Tobago must be informed, and fully engaged in the discussion on these matters.

**WE** reject the notion that there is widespread support and or a united national demand for the *legalisation of Abortion* and or *the legalisation of same sex marriage* as stated by some vocal Non Governmental Organisations and other interest group.

We have therefore come to present to the public of Trinidad and Tobago a principled and informed response on these National Issues and the presenters today will share on unique and invaluable experiences, as well as the stated position of their constituencies, the proud citizens of this nation where **Every creed and race shall find an Equal place**, and indeed **May God Bless Our Nation**.

Thank you