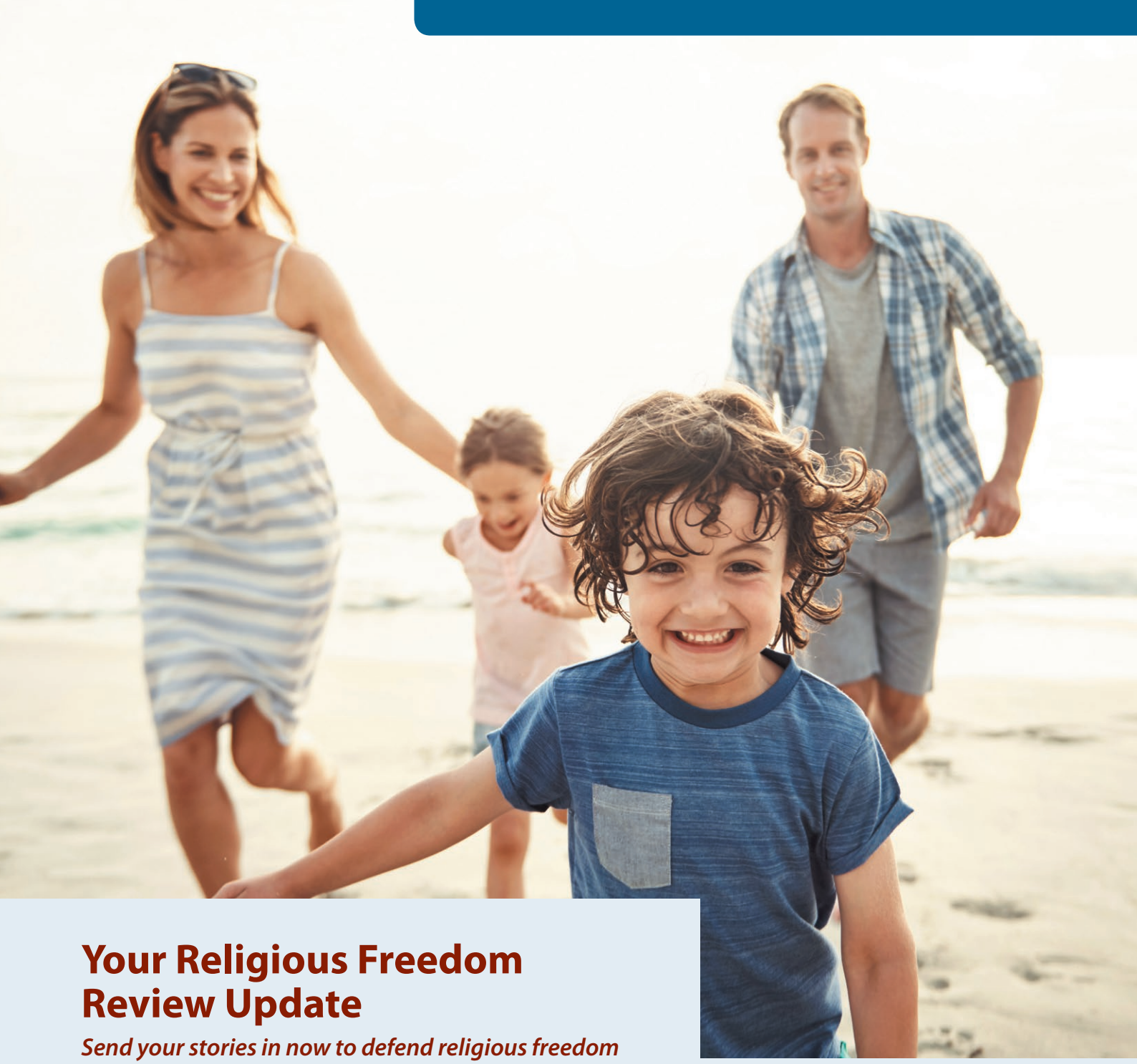
The national magazine of:

FamilyVoice AUSTRALIA

VoxPoint

April 2018



Your Religious Freedom Review Update

Send your stories in now to defend religious freedom

Thank you for your support in empowering your FamilyVoice Australia team to present a submission both in written form and through personal interview to the Religious Freedom Review panel.

The great news is that the panel received more than 16,000 submissions from individuals and organisations in just eight weeks.

As you helped show how important religious freedom is to the Australian public, the panel requested more time to gather evidence – so the Prime Minister has extended their reporting date to 18 May.

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Your Religious Freedom Review Update

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You can help make a difference by sending us any stories you have of how you or someone you know has experienced religious discrimination, so we can provide concrete evidence of the increasing difficulties Christians are facing into the future.

Sarah Dingle, Policy & Research Officer for FamilyVoice Australia, says:

"I met with Religious Freedom Review panellists Philip Ruddock and Frank Brennan recently.

"Philip Ruddock is looking for concrete evidence of hostility/discrimination towards Christians as a part of the Review."

We need to provide interested parties with real-life stories of people affected by faith-based discrimination.

To that end, FamilyVoice Australia has set up a formal record of accounts, written by, or on behalf of, those who have been subject to discriminatory treatment based on their faith/religious affiliation. We need to have clear, factual records that can be verified. Already we have accounts we can present.

Why is sending in your religious discrimination story so vital as we press on to defend religious freedom?



*Got to **www.fava.org.au/myevidence** to report any concrete evidence you have of religious discrimination, so we can defend your freedom to live out your faith without fear.*

Because last December, when new marriage laws recognising same-sex marriage were introduced, the proposed amendments that provided the most basic religious protection were defeated.

As a result, these decisions have effectively undermined:

- Religious and conscientious protections for marriage celebrants;
- Freedom of expression of legitimate beliefs;
- Protections for faith-based charities;
- Non-discrimination in government funding;
- Protection of faith-based schools; and
- Parental rights to withdraw children from certain classes, such as sex education, at school.

So, please send in any concrete evidence you have of religious discrimination against you or someone you know, so we can defend your freedom to live out your faith without fear. Go to www.fava.org.au/myevidence to submit your story. Thank you for your support!



Let's stand up for families

Australian Christians today face an increasingly challenging culture. But together we can stand firm and be faithful by praying for and pursuing FamilyVoice Australia's Five-Step Vision for 2018:

Goal 1: Freedoms of thought and conscience

By preparing our submission to the Religious Freedom Review and engaging our federal MPs.

Goal 2: Parental rights in education

Opposing 'Safe Schools' programs in our kids' classrooms and championing Christian values.

Goal 3: Human life protection

Standing up for the most vulnerable, opposing euthanasia, standing against abortion.

Goal 4: Clean Feed internet in Australia

A campaign to protect our children from the corrosive harm of online pornography.

Goal 5: Empower Christians to faithfully stand for Jesus

Through a Not Ashamed 2018 national tour, a new FamilyVoice Australia website, and a new biblical training initiative to raise a generation with fearless faith in a 'post-Christian' world.

Your voice is being heard

Your support is empowering FamilyVoice Australia to raise an influential voice for Jesus' loving truth on family, faith and freedom through these recent submissions to state and federal MPs:

Protecting the unborn in QLD

New abortion laws are being reviewed in Queensland, but relaxed restrictions will only result in greater loss of life. FamilyVoice Australia's submission calls upon the Law Reform Commission to keep the fundamental human right-to-life uppermost in their minds when considering any 'modernisation' of laws.

Defending religious freedom in the NT

The proposed changes to anti-discrimination law fail to consider the rights of religious and minority groups, while favouring gender-fluid ideology. FamilyVoice Australia's submission encourages the government to balance its proposals in accordance with international human rights law.

Opposing euthanasia in WA and the ACT

Both governments have begun inquiries into laws that allow euthanasia and assisted suicide. FamilyVoice Australia's submissions highlighted the dangers such legislation has created overseas. Our goal: encourage these jurisdictions to reinforce a world-class 'end-of-life care' system that rejects assisted suicide and euthanasia.

Religious Freedom Review

New marriage laws have highlighted the absence of clear legal protection for many fundamental freedoms.



Thank you for raising your voice for Jesus' loving truth about the family, faith and freedom!

FamilyVoice Australia is working with you to provide more evidence to ensure more protection for religious freedoms.

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thank you

for protecting the most vulnerable from euthanasia



You're helping to win a battle for life by enabling FamilyVoice Australia to make a submission to the WA inquiry on euthanasia. Thanks to your support, that submission was presented personally by Ashley Saunders, who made these concluding remarks:

"Good physical and mental health outcomes must centre on a desire to uphold the dignity and worth of patients – and it is for this reason that policymakers should resist any proposal to countenance euthanasia or assisted suicide. These are not forms of medical care and are fraught with unintended consequences.

"Changing the law to allow for assisted suicide or euthanasia cannot improve clinical care… Improving standard palliative care in regular medical practice is the best way forward…

"Killing or taking life as a form of medical treatment would alter the entire culture of medical care in Western Australia, to the detriment of all patients who use the medical system, and the doctors who practice within it."

Together, we can protect human life and dignity in our nation!



From the National Director

Dear Friend,

If there's one thing that defines a family, it's how they love each other.

Our nation desperately needs to know more of that love – the selfless and true kind of love taught and modelled by Jesus.

And that's what you're helping to make happen through your gifts and prayers.

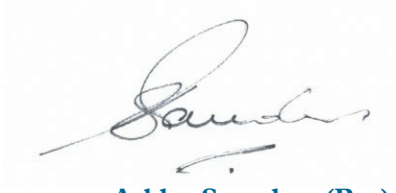
You're not only defending your family, faith and freedom – you're also speaking Jesus' loving truth into our nation's parliaments and policy makers. And that impacts everyone from babies still in the womb to the elderly looking for medical care they can trust.

So, thank you for helping to kickstart all that God has for us this year by helping hit the goal for the "Press On" Appeal. Now we can continue together in strength as a voice for the unborn, for the dying, for freedom and for children, in Jesus' name.

Finally, thank you for making your submission in the early stages of the Religious Freedom Review – and I encourage you to help prepare the submission by sending us details of any discrimination you, or someone you know, has experienced as a result of living out your faith.

Thank you again for helping to raise a Christian voice for family, faith and freedom so our nation can be transformed by Jesus' loving truth.

Your brother in Christ,



Ashley Saunders (Rev)
National Director

Thank you for "Pressing on"!

Thank you for supporting the "Press On" appeal so FamilyVoice Australia can continue being your voice for the unborn, for the dying, for freedom and for children, in Jesus' name. **Praise God, thanks to friends like you, the $100,000 target was met!**

FamilyVoice AUSTRALIA

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We seek to proclaim the goodness and truth of the Triune God as revealed in His Holy Word the Bible, in the person of Jesus Christ, God The Son, and in Creation. We promote God's wise ways for a healthy society where marriage is honoured, human life is respected, families can flourish and fundamental freedoms are enjoyed.